

Hampshire Bird Report 2022



Hampshire Ornithological Society

Published November 2023



Hampshire Ornithological Society

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The Hampshire Ornithological Society has three broad aims:

- To promote the recording and study of bird life in Hampshire and to publish the results in its annual Bird Report.
- To use these results to encourage and support the conservation of wild birds and their habitats in the County.
- To foster a wider interest in the recording and preservation of Hampshire bird life by organising a programme of indoor and outdoor meetings, by publishing a magazine three times a year and other forms of publicity.

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The annual subscription is £16 for Ordinary, Joint or Family membership; £5 for Junior membership (under 18) but free for under 21 in full-time education. Full membership information is given on page 257 and on the HOS web site: www.hos.org.uk.

Hampshire Bird Report 2022



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**Hampshire
Ornithological
Society**

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Chair's Report 2022

Thankfully the year was free of restrictions and we were able to make the most of Hampshire's birding opportunities, and with persistent warmth throughout the year, all months except December were warmer than the 1991-2020 average. But the indications are now much clearer than before that the warming climate is having impacts on some of our key species. One potential example is the Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, which is vulnerable to earlier springs. Hampshire is the best county in Britain for this species which was the subject of a dedicated HOS survey during the breeding season. Details of the results can be read on pages 236-241.

This is a good example of how we can all work together to chart the changing trends in the county, and also how we can help add to the national picture compiled by the BTO. Indeed sightings received by HOS increase every year and with over 400,000 records submitted for 2022 we have an amazing resource. However, as the map of records shows once again, there are many inland areas for which we receive few records. Let's all make a point of reporting more from the areas in which we live. This is an area that HOS is starting to look at and our President, Chris Packham, has urged us to do more in inner city areas too.

Once again my thanks go to everyone who has worked hard to create this 2022 report. It has been compiled very efficiently by Mike Chalmers and his team, allowing all of us to read about last year's birds in time to get our 2023 records together.

A small team in HOS reviews planning applications that may have an impact on the county's birds, and we are grateful to colleagues at HCC's Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre for their assistance with this.

We supported several research projects in 2022 and a summary of the grants made can be found on page 256. While we often support larger projects managed by charities, I do want to remind everyone that individuals can seek support if they have a study that needs help. You can find details of this on the HOS website.

Last year I reported that Martin Pitt had agreed to succeed me in my other role as County Recorder. That change has now happened, and as I complete the process of handing over I wish him well, and I also want to thank everyone who helped me in my thirteen years in the role. In particular I want to thank Alan Cox for taking on the huge task of data management a few years ago. I was also helped by three Assistant Recorders over the years – Nigel Jones, Mark Painter and Amy Robjohns. Thanks also to the many people who have sat on the Records Panel since 2010. Your decisions and guidance have ensured a fair but thorough process in assessing record descriptions.

The phrase "think globally, act locally" is used a lot. To that end, county bird clubs play a key role in monitoring our birds and this report is by far the best evidence of that. If you have submitted records for it I thank you, and if you haven't, then please make sure that your birding knowledge is not lost. Please send us your records.

I wish you good birding in the year ahead.

Keith Betton, August 2023

Editorial and Acknowledgements

Surveys and other fieldwork resumed pre-pandemic levels and this is reflected in the four main papers which are all based on or include fieldwork in 2022.

Following this Editorial and the Chair's Report, there is an obituary to Tony Hale, a prominent Hampshire bird-watcher who played a key role in the early days of HOS. The regular feature on the Review of the Year changed hands this year. Richard Carpenter stood down due to his departure from Hampshire and I thank him for his many years of service. I am pleased to welcome Tom Jordan who has taken over. Tom is already well known for his summaries of sightings in each *Kingfisher* and for his blog.

The introduction to the Systematic List repeats the same three tetrad maps to illustrate the distribution of records, the numbers of species and the footfall of observers. These allow comparisons to be made across the county of changes to coverage between years, especially during the ups and downs of 2020 and 2021 due to COVID. The species accounts also include a range of graphics to illustrate significant trends in selected species, mostly using either WeBS counts, BirdTrack reporting rates or maps to illustrate the distribution of records and numbers at tetrad level.

Following the Systematic List the ringing report is included for 2021. This was deferred from last year due to programme considerations. Next there are four main papers, one short paper and two notes. The first main paper is by Trevor Codlin and Marcus Ward and summarises the results from a survey of breeding Ringed Plovers, a species threatened by loss of habitat and excessive disturbance in its few remaining coastal sites. It also describes the measures taken at Hayling Island to protect breeding birds including the provision of fencing for which funding was allocated from a HOS grant but not subsequently used. The second paper is by Lizzie Grayshon and summarises her research findings to date studying breeding Redshanks, another threatened lowland breeding wader, in the Avon Valley. This is an ongoing project over several years and uses GPS trackers funded by HOS grants. The third by Ken Smith, Rob Clements and Linda Smith presents the results of a county-wide breeding survey of Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers, a species which is doing well in the New Forest but appears to have declined markedly elsewhere. The objectives were to identify breeding numbers and trends at all historic sites and produce an updated estimate of the breeding population. The last by Pete Durnell and Ed Wiseman gives the history of the breeding gull and tern species in the North-west Solent and identifies current trends and future threats including sea-level rise and Bird Flu.

The short paper contains a description of the first Black Duck in Hampshire found and identified by Alan Lewis. This was the only new species added to the county list in 2022. This is followed by a note by Graham Stephenson describing the extraordinary inland sighting of a Cory's Shearwater at Tweseldown watchpoint. The final note is the regular annual summary of HOS grants for projects in 2022.

The production of this report is a team effort which each year relies on the expertise and willingness of a large number of volunteers. Thank you all for your contributions. It begins with the submission of records by observers who are listed in Appendix 2 to the Systematic List. In addition to records submitted directly to HOS and those posted on the Going Birding in Hampshire website, BTO provided Hampshire records from their national Breeding Bird Survey (BBS), BirdTrack (BT) and Garden BirdWatch (GBW) surveys; visible migration data were obtained from the Trektellen website; waterbird survey data (WeBS) were provided with the agreement of the WeBS Partnership of WWT, RSPB, BTO and NCC. Additional information was received from Living Record, eBird and the reserve staff and volunteers at Langstone Harbour islands, Farlington Marshes, Titchfield Haven, Needs Ore, Keyhaven/ Pennington Marshes, Blashford Lakes and Fishlake Meadows.

Keith Betton oversaw the vetting and input of records for his last year as Recorder. He was supported by the Records Panel whose members are named with other HOS Committee members after the title page. Alan Cox, as HOS Data Manager, was responsible for the CoBRA2 database and all its various outputs, Janet Shelley transferred sightings from the Needs Ore log and Jane Calderin helped transcribe handwritten record sheets. WeBS data were prepared by John Shillitoe (coastal sites), Keith Wills (inland sites other than Avon Valley), John Clark (Avon Valley) and James Parkin (Chichester Harbour). Robin Findlay provided results from the Heronries Survey, 2Js Ecology made available results from the Thames Basin and Wealden Heaths (TB&WH) Breeding Bird Survey and Jane Calderin summarised the findings from the New Forest Winter Bird Survey (NFWBS).

My sincere thanks also go to the writers of the individual species accounts in the Systematic List, the majority of whom have been carrying out this task for many years. The quality of the accounts depends upon their skill, accuracy and knowledge, and the time they give up each spring/summer to write their accounts is much appreciated. There were two new writers this year. Nigel Matthews took over from Andrew Walmsley and Kevin Sayer took over some of my species to allow me to take over gulls from Bob Chapman. I welcome Nigel and Kevin to the team and thank Andrew and Bob for their contributions in recent years. As a result of these changes, the writers' team this year comprised the following, in alphabetical order, in addition to myself: Mike Armitage, Keith Betton, Geoff Butler, John Clark, Rob Clements, Trevor Codlin, Alan Cox, Tony Davis, Mark Edgeller, Philip Fawkes, William Legge, Andy Lester, Nigel Matthews, Tim Norriss, Graham Osborne, Andy Page, Martin Pitt, Andy Rhodes, Amy Robjohns, Kevin Sayer, John Shillitoe, Jeremy Smallwood, Barry Stalker, Marcus Ward and Simon Woolley. Individual writers are identified by their initials in italics at the end of each species account. In addition, Table 1 was prepared by John Clark, Table 2 by the GBW team at BTO, Tables 3, 6 and 7 by myself (the first based on BBS website data), Table 4 by Jane Calderin, Table 5 by John Shillitoe, John Clark and Keith Wills, and Table 8 by Graham Stephenson, David Thelwell and Steve Keen.

Thanks also go to Keith Betton for his Chair's Report and all our other authors of papers and notes. Our regular illustrators, Dan Powell and David Thelwell, have again generously donated their artwork for the frontispiece and elsewhere in the report. Thanks are also due to Alan Lewis who, as Photographic Editor, has been responsible for sourcing and selecting the excellent photographs which add interest and make the report so much more attractive, and to the individual photographers who generously submitted images and are acknowledged both in the contents list and in the captions to each photograph. The following team of proof-readers and reviewers all identified errors and made valuable comments: Keith Betton, John Clark, John Cloyne, Andy Collins, Alan Cox, Tim Doran and Andy Johnson. Particular thanks go to John Clark for his comprehensive and detailed review of the Systematic List and papers.

Any outstanding errors or omissions are mine alone. Rob Still has again been responsible for design and production editing. Keith Betton arranged the advertisers and Nicola Whitmarsh is responsible for sales.

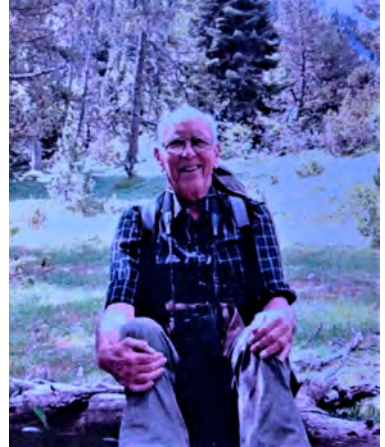
Lastly, a reminder that digital back-copies of the Hampshire Bird Report are available on-line on the HOS website. I hope you enjoy reading this report and I welcome any constructive feedback.

Mike Chalmers, August 2023

Tony Hale (1939-2022)

Tony started his bird-watching career as a small boy, possibly as early as the age of eight, encouraged by his parents and later by a schoolmaster. He was a Hampshire man through and through being born in Winchester and brought up in Sparsholt. Later the family moved to Houghton. His father was from Stockbridge.

By the late 1960s he had joined the Ornithological Section of the Hampshire Field Club and in the 1970s became the Indoor Meetings Organiser arranging various talks including one at Winchester jointly with the RSPB. Unfortunately the members were not particularly keen on going some distance at night and the meetings died out by the late 70s. However, Tony continued to be active leading outdoor meetings and carrying out surveys at Stockbridge Marsh. He was also involved in the separation of the Ornithological Section from the Field Club and the foundation of HOS, and was one of the few surviving Committee members from that time. He remained on the Committee for many years and, together with Ralph Cook and Len Weatherley, became the glue which held the non-scientific bulk of the membership together.



Following his marriage to Elisabeth, he went to live in the Romsey area where he remained until his death becoming part of an active group of birders based in the district. He was always generous but careful in sharing information and also spent much time exploring and birding in the New Forest.

He had always taken an active part in his local church and following his retirement from BT this led to his extensive travelling which started with a trip with the Church to Uganda, principally visiting schools and local clergy but with birding on the side. This awakened the travel bug and he and Elisabeth continued to go on birding holidays until his 80th birthday in Oland, Sweden in 2019, many European holidays being taken in a camper van crammed with provisions. His longer trips were mainly with Naturetrek and included countries in North and South America, Asia, several in Africa, one on their own to Fiji, Australia and New Zealand and ending with a cruise to Spitzbergen.

Tony was always keen on his British List so kept in close touch with Ron King ("Chunky") who worked with Tony's father in the Winchester Telephone Exchange, useful for sending out rare bird information. He did, however, have a number of problems in his later life. His eyesight was not of the best combined with the fact that he often was looking the other way when an unusual bird flew over. These disadvantages became more pronounced when his hearing started to deteriorate and it was often difficult to get him onto a bird. Despite this he succeeded in amassing a list of more than 400 species in Britain and enjoyed his birding right up to the end finishing with the Dipper in Romsey at the end of May just a few weeks before his death.

Penny Raynor

Review of Birds in Hampshire in 2022

Tom Jordan



Wigeon and Brent Geese (Dan Powell)

A total of 252 species was recorded in 2022 including one new species – a Black Duck in May and June.

January was mostly mild with lower than average rainfall, although there were some frosts.

Regular winter scarcities included the Ring-billed Gull at Ibsley Water, which remained until March 14th, and the Ferruginous Duck on Kingfisher Lake, seen only until January 23rd. More brief was a Green-winged Teal at Normandy Lagoon on 27th only. A Black Brant was in Chichester Harbour, remaining until the start of April. At least six White-fronted Geese were present, including three at Pennington Marshes and two at The Vyne on January 1st. Up to eight Velvet Scoters were around the mouth of Southampton Water while three Black-throated Divers were in Chichester Harbour until 23rd. A Leach's Petrel was in Southampton Water off Netley on 4th. Only one overwintering Great Grey Shrike was found in the New Forest, in the Backley Bottom area. A Richard's Pipit was found in Loddon Valley on 17th, remaining until 30th. The only Yellow-browed Warbler was at Warsash from 22nd to February 2nd. In a continuation of late 2021, Bramblings were found in good numbers, with possibly over 4,000 present in the county. The highest numbers in January were 400 at Broomy Inclosure, NF and 300 at both Mark Ash Wood, NF and Queen Elizabeth CP. The first Snow Bunting of the year was at Hook-with-Warsash on 22nd.

February was mild but with higher than average rainfall as a series of named storms moved through at mid-month.

It was predictably not a month of great change but a few new arrivals were found. A Red-necked Grebe in Hayling Bay on 9th and an Iceland Gull over Meonstoke on 14th both proved to be the only records of the year. The highest Spoonbill count of the winter was on 4th when 19 were at Needs Ore. A first-winter Caspian Gull was at Fareham Creek from 8th-22nd, with presumably the same individual seen at Farlington Marshes on 19th. Another Caspian Gull, this time an adult, was in the north-east at Burnt Common on 14th. On 18th a Snow Bunting was at Hill Head and on 26th a Whooper Swan was on a fishing lake at Bishopstoke.

March started rather cold but became milder and more sunny from the middle of the month.

New winter visitors included two Caspian Gulls using the Ibsley Water roost, a first-winter from 5th-10th and an adult on 19th. The Whooper Swan seen in late February was refound at St Cross, Winchester on 30th and remained into April. The first Osprey of the spring was at Keyhaven on 5th. A few days later the first Garganey arrived when two were at Edenbrook CP on 8th. Exceptional numbers of Garganey were subsequently seen on 21st, when there were 30 past Sandy Point and 17 past Hill Head plus six at Pennington Marshes and five at Posbrook. The month ended with the first rarity of the spring when an Alpine Swift was over Brownwich on 29th.



Bullfinch (Dan Powell)

April had a cold start followed by a warmer spell from 12th to 24th, after which temperatures fell again.

A number of spring overshoots were found. The first Hoopoe of the year was at Brinken Wood, NF on 8th and for the third year in a row another visited the upper Test Valley, being seen from April 15th to July 17th. A Black Kite was at Martin Down on 20th, a Red-rumped Swallow was over Posbrook Floods on 22nd and a Blue-headed Wagtail was at Pennington Marshes on 30th. Wader passage included the first two Curlew Sandpipers at Titchfield Haven on 18th. The first Arctic Skuas were off Hurst Beach and Hill Head on 10th, after which approximately 102 were recorded during the spring, a significant increase on 2021, and the first Pomarine Skua was off Hurst Beach on 29th.

May saw largely unexceptional weather, although there were thunderstorms on occasion.

The Itchen Valley Whooper Swan appeared at Alresford Pond on 1st before returning to St Cross, where it was last seen on 10th. As is usual for May, spring overshoots continued to be a feature of the month. These included a Hoopoe at Braishfield on 6th, a Serin over Hurst Spit on 7th, a Woodchat Shrike at Hackwood Park, Basingstoke on 15th, a Bee-eater over Frame Heath on 19th, two male Red-footed Falcons at Furzey Brow, NF on 21st and a Great Reed Warbler at Hook Lake on 24th. At the end of the month a Common Rosefinch flew over Sandy Point on 29th, only the third record for Hampshire. On the same day, the only county first for the year was discovered when a Black Duck appeared at Needs Ore, where it remained until June 19th. Scarcer waders included a Temminck's Stint at Pennington Marshes on 8th and a Red-necked Phalarope at Salterns Marsh on 26th, both of which were the only records for the year. An unseasonable Long-tailed Duck was on Ibsley Water from 27th-31st. On the sea it turned out to be a bumper year for Pomarine Skuas with 74 recorded during May. Most were on 9th, when 61 were seen, with Hurst Beach recording the highest count of 52. The first Roseate Tern was tracked east at four sites on 9th and there were later two birds off Sandy Point on 25th and Hill Head on 29th. One of the most exciting discoveries of the year came on May 13th when a pair of Dippers was found nesting in Romsey, the first confirmed breeding in the county since 1992. One juvenile successfully fledged, with the last sighting on June 10th.

June was mostly fine and settled, including a warm spell mid-month.

The month began with a Roseate Tern off Hook-with-Warsash on 4th. This was followed by a pair again off Hill Head from 21st-24th. It turned out to be a quiet month for rarities with a Red-footed Falcon at Somerley Park from 21st to July 8th the only notable find.

There was mixed news for breeding birds. Shoveler bred again with single broods at Farlington Marshes and Titchfield Haven and in addition at The Grange Lake, and Teal bred at Titchfield Haven and Lower Test Marshes. One pair of Pochard raised young at Needs Ore and three pairs bred at Fleet Pond whereas only one brood of six Goosander was observed in the Avon Valley. Swifts had a good year with Hampshire Swifts reporting no declines at any monitored colonies. Turtle Doves held at least eight territories in total at three sites but the only successful breeding was a juvenile reported at Chalton Down. Stone-curlews established 26 territories raising at least 12 young, similar to last year whereas a total of 79 pairs of Avocet hatched at least 51 young, a slight increase on last year. A breeding survey revealed 55 pairs of Ringed Plovers at 24 sites raising 39 chicks with highest numbers and success rates at Needs Ore using nest cages to protect from predators. A separate survey of breeding Little Ringed Plovers found 30 pairs at 21 sites raising at least 31 young. Curlews established 38 breeding territories in the New Forest study area but predation was very high and only five young are known to have fledged. Overall 3,610 pairs of Black-headed Gulls attempted to nest in the North-west Solent but again suffered high predation by foxes. On the other hand the main colony of 2,751 pairs in Langstone Harbour on the RSPB Islands was more successful with 1,302 young fledged. Total numbers of Mediterranean Gulls were similar to last year as a result of a reduction to 673 pairs in Langstone Harbour RSPB Islands being offset by a major increase in the North-west Solent to 610 pairs. Sandwich Terns breeding numbers were lower with only 85 nests at the main site in the West Solent with very low productivity due to predation and possibly Bird Flu. Little Terns fared better with at least 15 pairs at three sites raising at least ten chicks. Common Tern numbers were lower than last year with 115 pairs on the coast raising around 50 young plus 22 pairs inland at Ivy Lake and Testwood Lakes. A pair of Roseate Terns attempted unsuccessfully to breed in the West Solent. Cattle Egrets occupied seven nests at Langstone Mill Pond but only five breeding attempts raised young. Territorial behaviour was observed at seven Honey Buzzard sites but breeding was only confirmed at three. Despite less fieldwork in the New Forest, 28 Goshawk nests were found and 42 chicks ringed. Marsh Harriers were noted at ten locations in the breeding season although breeding was not confirmed at all sites. A survey found 296 Lesser Spotted Woodpecker territories in the New Forest and 18 elsewhere. Peregrines bred at 24 localities with 15 pairs fledging 33 young. Single pairs of Black Redstarts each raised two young at Southampton City Centre and Portsmouth Naval Base.

July was notable for a record-breaking heatwave around the middle of the month, which also resulted in very dry conditions.

The month started with a Caspian Tern that flew past Normandy Lagoon on 3rd and ended with another rare tern when a Whiskered Tern was found at Fishlake Meadows on 31st, staying until August 4th. From the 7th there were regular sightings of a Roseate Tern from Hill Head, Hayling Oysterbeds and Black Point, Hayling. On 17th a Serin was found singing at Ferny Knap Inclosure, NF.

August was also hotter than average, with a particularly hot spell in the second week which culminated in thunderstorms.

A juvenile White-winged Black Tern was at Rockford Lake from 19th-20th, while another juvenile was off Pennington Marshes on 20th. At Hill Head tern roost Black Terns peaked at 14 on 25th. The only Pectoral Sandpiper of the year arrived at Pennington Marshes on 27th and remained until Sep 9th. Two Wrynecks were found, at Ober Heath on 12th and Hook-with-Warsash on 25th. A notable arrival of Pied Flycatchers began around Aug 11th, when three were at Sandy Point and singles were at a further four sites, after which there were 138 further reports by the end of September. At the end of the month a Purple Heron was found at Sopley on 31st.



Kingfisher (Dan Powell)

September started with fine weather before becoming cooler and more autumnal.

In the first few days two Spotted Crakes were found, one at Farlington Marshes on 3rd and one at Titchfield Haven on 5th. The Farlington bird shared the edge of the reedbed with a Bluethroat that was seen from 2nd-4th and again on 10th. A juvenile Caspian Gull was at Browdown on the 3rd. On 4th a Cory's Shearwater was picked up flying past Sandy Point. There was a good influx of Curlew Sandpipers in the early part of the month with peak counts of 16 at Lymington-Keyhaven and 13 at Farlington Marshes. On 19th a Night Heron flew over Romsey Abbey. A good number of Wrynecks were recorded with records from 13 sites, all singles apart from two at Lepe on 21st. Red-backed Shrikes were at Blackfield on 19th and Homsley on 25th. The month ended with a Spotted Sandpiper found at Farlington Marshes on 28th remaining until Oct 6th, the third for Hampshire.

October was warmer than average, with sunny periods and regular rainfall.

Several other rarities were found during the month Two female Ring-necked Ducks were at Wellington CP on the 7th. A Dark-eyed Junco was identified in a garden in Farnborough on 27th. Scarcer migrants included four Yellow-browed Warblers, all between 22nd-28th, a Tree Sparrow over Tweseldown on 31st and a Snow Bunting at Needs Ore on 22nd. Numbers of Little Stints reached a peak in the early month, including up to nine at Pennington Marshes. Returning winter visitors included two Black Brants on 8th, one at Chichester Harbour and one in Langstone Harbour, with the latter regularly recorded at Farlington Marshes thereafter.

November was generally mild before becoming colder at the end. The south coast experienced extremely high south-westerly gales on 1st and further windy conditions on 7th-8th.

The main feature of the month was storm-driven seabirds. On 1st there were three Leach's Petrels off Hill Head and one off Milford on Sea. One of the most remarkable records of the year was on 4th when a Cory's Shearwater flew over Tweseldown over 50km from the sea. The next wave of seabirds came on 8th with four Leach's Petrels off Milford on Sea and another off Chilling. The only Long-tailed Skua of the year was seen chasing a Leach's Petrel off Milford, while a Grey Phalarope appeared on Ibsley Water from 8th-9th. An influx of Little Gulls also took place, with the highest count being 23 off Sandy Point on 9th. There was a further

flurry of seabirds towards the end of the month when further Leach’s Petrels were off Milford on Sea on 24th, Sandy Point on 26th and Needs Ore on 27th. A Sooty Shearwater was seen from Needs Ore, Hill Head and Stokes Bay on 26th and two Pomarine Skuas were off Hurst Beach from 26th-28th. Single Grey Phalaropes were seen at Black Point on 25th, Southsea Castle on 26th and Farlington Marshes from 28th to December 8th. Late passerine migrants included Yellow-browed Warblers in gardens at Warsash on 5th and St Cross, Winchester on 11th. Winter arrivals included a family of five White-fronted Geese at Farlington Marshes from 30th remaining until 2023. At Ibsley Water two first-winter Caspian Gulls were seen in the roost from 9th until the end of the year. A Great Grey Shrike was at Pig Bush on 19th. Snow Buntings were at Hurst Beach from 24th-27th and at Hill Head on 30th.



Great Grey Shrike (Dan Powell)

December was unusually cold, with a particular cold spell from 13th-18th, before wetter and milder conditions took over.

The most notable record was a drake American Wigeon at Efford Lake, Pennington from 15th-24th, the first since 1999. Scarcer winter visitors included the regular Ring-billed Gull returning to Ibsley Water from 4th-6th and two Great Grey Shrikes at Holmsley Ridge on 17th. A Black Brant was at Fareham Creek on 25th. White-fronted Geese were recorded with six at Dibden Bay on 11th and five at Testwood Lakes on 16th, in addition to the five at Farlington Marshes. Five Velvet Scoters and a Long-tailed Duck were in Langstone Harbour. A Tree Sparrow arrived at Chilling on the 8th and remained into 2023.

Appendix

The monthly and cumulative totals of Cat A-C species in Hampshire during 2022 are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
In month	171	167	177	201	202	180	183	183	196	188	186	169
Additions to year list	171	5	13	29	13	0	3	4	7	3	3	1
Year to date	171	176	189	218	231	231	234	238	245	248	251	252

Systematic List of Species

Introduction

General information and terminology

Species categories, sequence, taxonomy, vernacular and scientific names comply with the BOU maintained British List (revised 10th Dec 2022). Alternative IOC English names are also included in parentheses after each BOU name in the headers (based on v12.1 at Jan 2022).

Each species account begins with a brief statement of its status in Hampshire. These use certain terms that have an approximate numerical range attached to them, as shown below, based on average numbers in recent years.

Status	Breeding pairs	Winter/passage	Status	Breeding pairs	Winter/passage
Very rare	Fewer than 5 records	Fewer than 10 records	Moderately common	101-1,000	201-2,000
Rare	Less than annual	Less than annual	Common	1,001-5,000	2,001-10,000
Very scarce	1-10 per year	1-20 per year	Numerous	5,001-30,000	10,001-60,000
Scarce	11-100	21-200	Abundant	30,000+	60,000+

For most species monitored by the monthly Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS), the means of maxima for up to four periods of five successive winters are given. For rare species, three numbers are given in parentheses after the status statement. These refer to the total numbers of individuals recorded (i) prior to 1950, (ii) between 1950 and 2021 and (iii) in 2022. All records of rare species that appear in the Systematic List have been accepted by BBRC or HOSRP as appropriate. Numbers of records of rare birds have been updated in line with the recently published Rare Birds of Hampshire. Observers of species with fewer than ten records per year, or of unusual events or record numbers, are credited by their initials in the Systematic List.

In addition, for resident and regular visiting species, the conservation status is given in brackets based on the following European, national and county classifications.

ET	European threatened – included in Annex I of the EC ‘Birds Directive’ (2009/147/EC).
CR	Critically Endangered in European Red List of Birds, Birdlife International, 2021
EN	Endangered in European Red List of Birds, Birdlife International, 2021
VU	Vulnerable in European Red List of Birds, Birdlife International, 2021
NT	Near-threatened in European Red List of Birds, Birdlife International, 2021
Schedule I	Included in Schedule I of the UK Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981
Red	Red-listed in UK Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC5), see <i>British Birds</i> 114: 723-747
Amber	Amber-listed in Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC5)
Green	Not categorised under any of the criteria for Amber and Red (BoCC5)
S4I	England most threatened – included in Section 41 of NERC Act, 2006 (updated 2014)
HBAP	Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Species, 1998

The accounts for some species, particularly those monitored by WeBS, include tabulated monthly maxima for various localities. These are either the core monthly WeBS counts or a higher count if recorded on a different day. For species well monitored by WeBS, the final row in each table shows the cumulative monthly totals of the official WeBS counts at all locations, not just those which are listed. They represent the best available estimate of the

county population for each month. In the tables, any locality that is indented is a sub-site of the site above. Complete WeBS counts for Chichester Harbour (Hampshire and Sussex) are tabulated for some species for information but are not included in the county total nor do they form part of the species account; only the WeBS sub-totals for the Hampshire sectors are included in the county total. Where localities within Chichester Harbour, e.g. Black Point, regularly report higher counts than WeBS on different dates, these may also be tabulated. WeBS counts for Eversley and Yateley GPs include the whole sites including gravel pits on both sides of the River Blackwater, and similarly WeBS counts for the Avon Valley from Ringwood downstream to the county boundary at Sopley also include birds on the Dorset side of the border. However, rarities are only included in the HBR text if present within the Hampshire parts. Sites in tables are usually arranged coastally from east to west and then inland from west to east. Footnotes to the tables indicate thresholds for concentrations of international and national importance for each species. These are defined as 1% of the north-western European winter or passage population and 1% of the British winter or passage population of that species respectively. An asterisk in a table or text indicates a record count for the site. Blanks indicate either that no visit was made to the site or that a visit was made but no birds were recorded.

Information from the Thames Basin and Wealden Heaths Breeding Bird Surveys is summarised in the species accounts and presented in more detail in Table 1. Data from the BTO Garden BirdWatch survey of Hampshire gardens are included in selected species accounts. These comprise information from some gardens where weekly counts were made of all species and others where only presence was recorded. A summary of the data for all species is presented in Table 2. Findings from the BTO Breeding Bird Survey in Hampshire are summarised in Table 3 including average coverage and densities. Results of the New Forest Winter Bird Survey are given in Table 4 and the dates of WeBS counts at each site are summarised in Table 5. The first and last dates of winter and summer visitors are included in the Systematic List but are also summarised in Tables 6 and 7. These tables also show average arrival and departure dates for migrants. Finally, Table 8 summarises monthly movements at migration watchpoints.

Occasionally, reference is made to the term 'bird-days' in the Systematic List. It is used to give the sum of the numbers of birds recorded at a well-watched site over a given period, e.g. totals of 3, 2, 1, 2, 4, 0, 2 recorded over a week would indicate 14 bird-days, although the number of different individuals involved could actually be anywhere between 4 and 14.

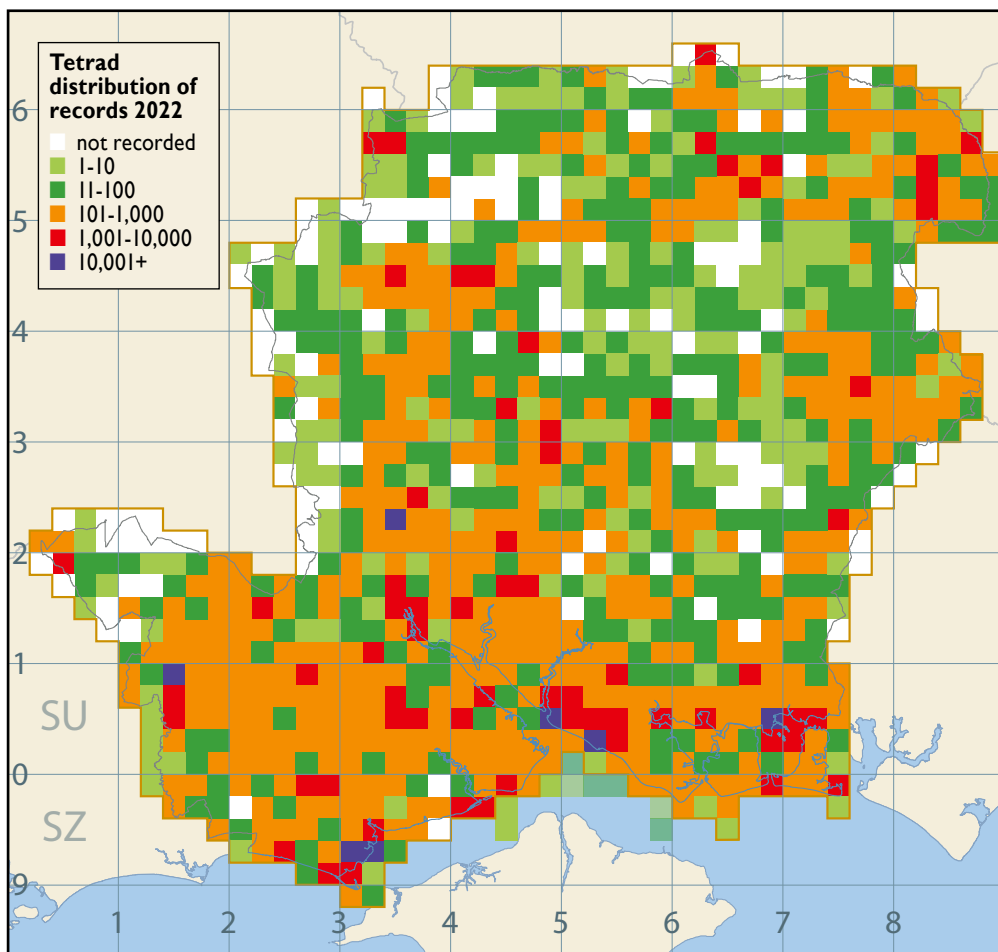
Sources of data

Each species account is written using records from the Society's CoBRA2 database (County Bird Recording Application). This year's database contained 445,202 records, very similar to 447,744 in 2021) from the following range of sources in descending order of magnitude: BirdTrack (48.0%), eBird (29.8%), BTO Garden BirdWatch (5.6%), Going Birding website (4.0%), HOS Recorder (including all spreadsheets, correspondence and rarities submissions) (3.5%), WeBS counts (3.5%), BTO Breeding Bird Survey (1.7%), Trektellen (1.5%) and others (each <1%).

Note that many counts from both BirdTrack and eBird may refer to aggregate totals along routes of various lengths, and not flocks or concentrations at fixed points. Similarly, BBS registers all adults along two one km transects within selected one km squares (monads) during the breeding season. Similarly, totals of movements at the migration watchpoints are usually aggregated over several hours. These differences need to be appreciated when interpreting the species accounts.

Coverage

A total of 2,287 observers contributed records to the database plus a number of separate groups. This was an increase of 27% over last year. Analysis of previous records has highlighted the large differences in coverage between the separate parts of the county. The highest numbers of records, as usual, were submitted for the coastal areas, main reserves and the

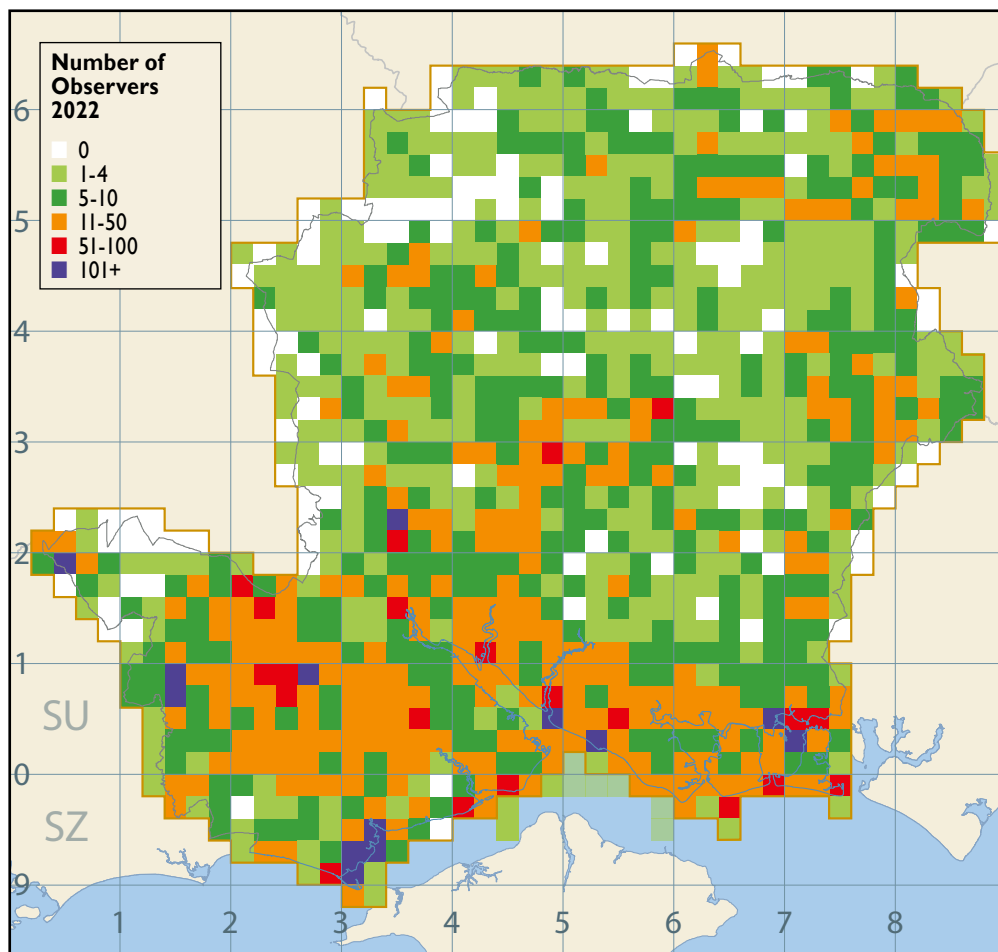


Number of records in HOS 2022 database for each tetrad in Hampshire

New Forest. There were 73 tetrads with over 1,000 records, with the highest concentrations in the south. At the top end there were seven tetrads with over 10,000 records each. The highest was again Farlington Marshes with 23,218 followed in descending order by Titchfield Haven/Hill Head, Pennington Marshes, Hook-with-Warsash, Blashford Lakes, Keyhaven Marshes and Fishlake Meadows.

The following maps illustrate coverage of records and species numbers at the tetrad (2km square) level. Note distribution maps for selected individual species at the tetrad level are also included in the relevant species accounts.

Whilst the focus on the coast and major rivers and lakes results in good coverage of wetland species, the same cannot normally be said of woodland or farmland birds, particularly on the chalk extending diagonally across the county from the south-east to the north-west. One measure to illustrate this is the total number of tetrads across the whole county for which records were received. This total was 958 (977 in 2021) which represents 88.8% of the 1,079 maximum number available including all the partial tetrads around the edges and some marine squares. Although slightly down on last year, it still demonstrates the high degree of coverage achieved.

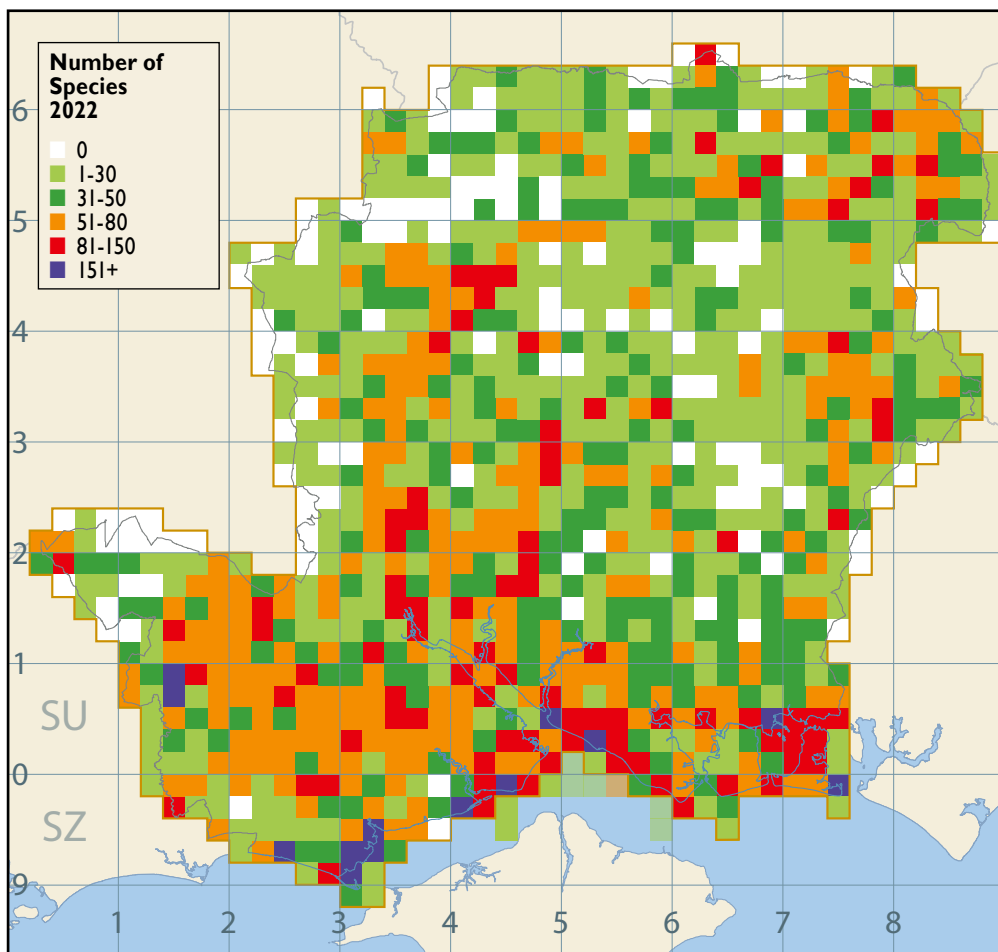


Number of observers submitting records in HOS 2022 database for each tetrad in Hampshire

For the third time, a map has also been included to show footfall in 2021. This is the number of observers submitting records for each tetrad. The highest count was 281 (233 in 2021) at Farlington Marshes followed by 12 others with over 100 observers. Out of these, the only other four with over 200 observers were, in descending order, Titchfield Haven/Hill Head, Pennington Marshes, Blashford Lakes and Fishlake Meadows. It is no surprise that many of these popular tetrads also produced the highest numbers of records and species.

Like the last two years, a further use of the CoBRA2 data has been to produce a map showing the number of species recorded in each tetrad in 2022. There were 27 tetrads (30 in 2021) with 120 or more species, mostly across the south. At the top end there were only two tetrads with over 180 species compared to four in 2021. These two were at Titchfield Haven/Hill Head (198) followed by Needs Ore (186). There were a further 11 tetrads with over 150 species. As well as indicating the local diversity over the whole year, these totals also reflect the intensity of coverage at the named sites as illustrated by the other maps on distribution of records and footfall.

For the third year many of the species in the Systematic List, particularly residents, have information on their distribution within the county measured by the number of tetrads and ten km squares (hectads) in which they were recorded. Any species recorded in 50 or more



Number of species in HOS 2022 database for each tetrad in Hampshire

ten km squares was effectively distributed throughout the county even though it may not have been logged in all partial marginal squares, some of which had very small areas. The increased number of “full-list” records from BirdTrack, eBird and Living Record continued to boost the numbers and geographic distribution of records, especially for commoner species.

Categories A, B & C

Brent Goose (Brant Goose) *Branta bernicla*

Dark-bellied Brent Goose *Branta bernicla bernicla*

Numerous winter visitor; a few summer.

Amber, S41, HBAP

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	16,628	14,590	13,793	17,056	14,007

WeBS totals were below the recent average at both ends of the year, particularly in February (when poor weather prevented a meaningful count at several locations), November and December. National data for the 2021/22 winter showed that 12,176 Brent Geese were aged with 3.24% first-winters recorded and a mean brood size of 1.52 young per successful pair (Neil Calbrade, BTO, in litt.). This accounts for the below average numbers. At the end of the year, seven local counts totalling 1,807 held 199 first-winters (11.0%). This small sample is clearly not representative as the December total was the lowest for that month since 2010.

Monthly maxima in various areas are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	8,977	8,134	6,590	125	1	2			16	1,504	4,964	7,997
Hampshire sectors	2,532	2,171	2,748	54	4	3	5	6	350	1,400	1,080	1,936
Langstone Harbour	3,781	1,850	4,638	221	10	7	3	4	100	934	2,919	3,324
Portsmouth Harbour	1,934	691	2,075	53					8	269	1,710	736
Titchfield Haven area	1,500	360	400	83	9				30	322	795	800
Hamble Estuary	900	461	585	204	4				20	247	450	950
Itchen Estuary	127	90	95	129	60				1	59	118	15
Test Estuary	24	89	102	6	60						120	100
Hythe-Calshot	869	339	572	76	16					12	192	129
Beaulieu Estuary	1,126	1,264	928	293						12	1,014	1,276
Sowley-Lymington	120	300	200	104						20	49	377
Lymington-Hurst	2,000	600	1,316	74	1	1				200	919	1,250
WeBS count totals	11,815	7,604	12,847	948	25	3			17	2,451	8,925	9,695

Sites of international importance: 2,400+; national importance: 910+.

Eastward spring passage was well-recorded at Sandy Point as usual with 2,407 east on 31 dates between Mar 3rd and May 10th with peaks of 416 on Mar 8th and 764 on Mar 17th. Passage was also logged in the west of the county off Barton on Sea with 281 east on 17 dates in the same period. Daily totals at Barton only once exceeded that at Sandy Point which shows that most of the birds seen off Sandy Point were winterers from Hampshire sites. Noteworthy autumn movements were recorded at Lepe where a total of 1,155 moved west on seven dates between Oct 22nd and Dec 9th with a peak of 489 on Oct 25th.

Inland records involved two at Fishlake Meadows on Jan 22nd, one south of Avon Causeway on Jan 28th, an adult at Ibsley Water on Nov 13th and possibly the same individual with Canada Geese at Bisterne on Dec 11th. (JMC)

Light-bellied Brent Goose *Branta bernicla hrota*

Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant.

Amber

Around ten were recorded in the early year with records from Langstone Harbour/Farlington Marshes (1-2, Jan 1st to Mar 29th), Chichester Harbour (Northney, Jan 3rd and Black Point, Jan 27th), Beaulieu Estuary (Park Shore, Jan 16th; Lepe, Jan 26th and Needs Ore, Mar 9th), Hurst Beach (Jan 26th) and Portsmouth Harbour (Jan 27th to Mar 3rd with a family of five at Fareham Creek, Jan 29th).

Spring passage sightings totalled 14 with singles east with Dark-bellied Brents at Barton on Sea on Mar 22nd and 23rd, one at Lepe on Apr 1st, six at the Lymington Estuary on Apr 17th, one in Langstone Harbour on Apr 26th, singles east at Barton on Sea and Stokes Bay on May 1st, one in Chichester Harbour Entrance on May 2nd and one off Weston Shore on May 7th.

A minimum of four was recorded in the late year with records from Langstone Harbour (Oct 8th to Dec 21st), Hill Head (2 W, Nov 1st), Weston Shore (Nov 8th and 9th), Black Point (Nov 10th) and Hook-with-Warsash (Nov 18th-26th)

The monthly totals are shown below. (JMC)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
11	2	6	8	4					1	3	1

Black Brant *Branta bernicla nigricans*

Formerly rare but now a very scarce winter visitor recorded annually since 1999. (0,48,1)

An adult was in Chichester Harbour from Jan 5th to Apr 1st (PNMR *et al.*, photo) and was joined by a second from Feb 8th to Apr 1st. A different bird, possibly a hybrid, was in Langstone Harbour on Mar 7th (NC). One returned to Chichester Harbour on Oct 8th (m.o, photo) and another was in Langstone Harbour on the same day (m.o). It was regularly recorded at Farlington Marshes throughout the winter (JC, photo). Finally, one was in Fareham Creek on Dec 25th (PK). (ALR)

Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*

Moderately common resident and common partial migrant.

Winter period	1997-2004	2004-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count		2,529	3,346	3,455	4,157

WeBS totals in January and September-December suggest a county population of around 4,000. However, other counts often exceeded the WeBS counts, particularly at Lymington-Hurst where a maximum estimate of 1,100 was made on Oct 29th (EJW). This is the highest count since 1,200 roosted at Fleet Pond on Sep 30th 2001.



Black Brant, Farlington Marshes, Dec 3rd (Ashley Howe)

Monthly maxima at regularly used sites where counts exceeded 200 are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Langstone Harbour	721	300	167	143	102	146	167	140	200	503	500	450
Titchfield Haven area	333	316	88	57		62	280	540	486	120	400	600
Beaulieu Estuary	750	425	259	241	200	340	185	100	51	128	335	90
Lymington-Hurst	1,000	300	176	233	263	600	384	492	320	1,100	1,000	750
Avon: Sopley-Ringwood	585	385	334						389	549	272	488
Avon: Ringwood-Fordingbridge	262	276	76					90	227	150	185	140
Blashford Lakes	153	13	101	111	71		372	75	220	69	70	57
Lower Test/Eling/Bury Marshes	200	100	80		125	737	575	327	600	347	149	324
Testwood Lakes	51	27	12						117	195	239	22
St. Mary Bourne	16	24	46	19	62	1	15	1		1	258	219
Upper Itchen Valley	36	73	48	29	27	24	40	175	137	355	185	48
Tundry Pond	85	30	55	19			28	100	460	206	204	245
Heath Pond, Petersfield	54	21	21	15	32	56	81	140	282	490	43	5
WeBS count totals	3,906	2,361	2,079	1,120	903	2,583	1,513	1,473	3,671	3,694	3,938	3,796

Counts in excess of 200 elsewhere were 300 at Hook-with-Warsash on Jan 22nd, 280 at Tanners Lane on June 18th, 266 at Busta Triangle on Aug 18th and 260 there on Sep 1st, 255 and 70 east at Woolmer Pond on Sep 5th, 280 roosting at Fleet Pond on Sep 6th, 250 at Rampton's Lane GP and 254 at Portsmouth Harbour on Sep 10th, 214 at St. John's Pond, East Worldham on Sep 16th, 309 at Neatham Farm, Wyck and 270 at Dibden Bay on Nov 27th.

Broods totalling 244 young, most of which fledged, were reported from 31 sites. Additionally, nests or broods of unspecified size were noted at a further 19 sites. (JMC)

Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis*

Very scarce and declining resident (feral population) and very scarce winter visitor (wild birds).

ET, Amber

The feral flock in the north-east mostly stayed on the Berkshire side of Eversley GP with up to 22 in January-February, 17 in August and up to 20 in November-December. They evidently moved to The Vyne WVM where there were 21 on Dec 23rd, eight on 26th and 19 on 29th. Singles were at Tundry Pond on Jan 18th, Wellington CP on Sep 11th and over Bramshill Plantation on Dec 10th.

In the south there were 20 at Weston Shore on Nov 12th, 21 at Farlington Marshes on Dec 11th and 19 there next day. A flock of 72 flew east past Barton on Sea in cold weather on the morning of Dec 14th and at least 60 were over Normandy Lagoon at noon that day. A little later, 51 were counted with Brent Geese at nearby Fishtail Lagoon. A flock of 104 spent the day at Farlington Marshes on Dec 17th but were not seen again. Small numbers of residents were seen regularly elsewhere and in the Portsmouth Harbour-Titchfield Haven area (max. 3, Apr 11th), Farlington Marshes (max. 6, Apr 21st), Lymington-Hurst (max. 6, June 5th), Lower Test Marshes (7 over, June 26th) and the Avon Valley (max. 4, Hamer Warren, Sep 3rd). (JMC)

Greylag Goose *Anser anser*

Moderately common and increasing feral resident. Mean maximum WeBS totals 2004-07: 646; 2007-12: 958; 2012-17: 1,328.

Amber

Winter period	1997-2004	2004-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count		646	958	1,328	1,420

WeBS counts were lower than expected at several sites in September-December as birds

were probably feeding elsewhere. Even the October maximum of 1,321 was probably lower than the true total.

Monthly maxima at sites where counts regularly exceeded 50 are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Beaulieu Estuary	103	217	117	65	36	73	40	120	175	100	75	166
Avon: Sopley-Ringwood inc. Ripley Farm Reservoir	39	94	84					297	377	465	83	21
Avon: Ringwood-Fording-bridge incl. Ibsley Water	300	16	57			28	209	169	116	222	229	131
Test: Testwood Lakes	75	32	35			2			56	153	43	50
Test: Fishlake Meadows	87	25	29	40	34	30	41	35	25	50	84	27
Testbourne Lake	200	130	65	22	37	54	90	250	50	270	225	250
Lower Itchen Valley/Lakeside CP	178	89	10	16	29	26	57	20	7	27	29	1+
The Vyne	111	65	4	12	5	44	13	38	34	142	30	62
Tundry Pond	54	11	10	16	9		80	212	207	80	95	114
Fleet Pond (roost)			2	12	7	20	76	225	312	93		
WeBS count totals	750	574	461	256	112	461	242	591	986	1,321	754	664
Woolmer Pond								57	56		46	
WeBS count totals	434	535	657	222	258	227	267	146	2,058	1,046	1,072	923

Maxima at other sites included 61 at Hawley Lake on June 19th, 54 at Longparish on July 13th, 53 at Woolmer Pond on Aug 19th, 240 at Trigpoint Hill on Sep 8th, 72 at Wellington CP on Sep 11th, 54 at Lower Test Marshes on Oct 11th and 120 at Dibden Bay on Nov 27th.

Breeding was reported from 11 sites with 103 young noted, most of which fledged. (JMC)

Pink-footed Goose *Anser brachyrhynchus*

Rare winter visitor but presumed feral birds have occurred in most months. (27,164,2) Amber

One was roosting with Greylag Geese on Fleet Pond on Aug 30th (JMC) and seen at Tundry Pond later that day (JMC, GDF, photo). It remained in the area until Sep 23rd. One was associating with Canada Geese at Ripley Farm Reservoir Oct 16th-17th (SU, photo) and was also seen in adjacent areas of Dorset between Sep 23rd and Oct 26th. It or another was with Canadas at Somerley Park on Nov 29th and Dec 8th and 11th (JEL, photo). (ALR)

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

Scarce winter visitor that has declined in recent years. ET, Red, S4I, HBAP

At least six were present in the early year. Three were at Pennington Marshes and two were at The Vyne on Jan 1st, the latter leaving east. One was again at The Vyne on 9th. Records of a single first-winter at Frater Shore and Cams Bay, Portsmouth Harbour on four dates between Jan 14th and Feb 3rd, Farlington Marshes on Jan 17th and in the Titchfield Haven/Brownwich/Chilling area between Feb 5th and 22nd no doubt referred to the same individual. Others at Breach Farm, Highbridge on Jan 15th and 22nd and Ibsley/Harbridge WM from Mar 8th-12th may have been different. Finally, a first-summer was at Lower Test Marshes on Apr 27th.

At least 11 were recorded in the late year. A family of two adults and three first-winters arrived at Farlington Marshes on Nov 30th and were still there in early February 2023. Other records were of six at Dibden Bay on Dec 11th, five at Testwood Lakes on 16th, which left south, and one there on 21st and 31st. (JMC)

Mute Swan *Cygnus olor*

Moderately common resident.

Green

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	1,063	1,015	1,037	868	882

WeBS totals exceeded 1,000 in three months of the 2021/22 winter for the first time since January 2013. Late year numbers were not as high but were boosted in October and November by three-figure counts on the Avon above Fordingbridge, the first of this magnitude there since October 2017. The lower December total can largely be accounted for by a big reduction above Fordingbridge.

Monthly maxima at sites where counts regularly reached 30 or more are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	170	95	75	53	139	156	85	239	286	221	207	174
Hampshire sectors	26	51	16	35	28	30	55	30	47	24	23	35
Langstone Harbour	119	69	20	16	51	6	37	36	28	28		5
Southsea Canoe Lake	76	80	60	38	45	21	20	30	50	51	79	90
Portsmouth Harbour	119	93	98				50		100	116	95	129
Itchen: Woolston-Woodmill	64	62	8						44	46	71	82
Lower Test/Eling/Bury Marshes	3	3	6	10	8	47	58	56	31	8	24	2
Lymington-Hurst	34	25	27	26	26	16	16	19	20	27	23	25
Avon: Sopley-Ringwood	43	145	76						75	75	57	62
Avon: Ringwood-Fordingbridge	150	129	109		30				110	97	76	50
Avon: Blashford Lakes	31	31	24	13	40	94	109	57	59	71	54	39
Avon above Fordingbridge	96	79	55						20	148	125	22
Test: Longstock-Leckford	26	20	16	16	27	43	26	37	29	40	34	38
Avington Lake	2	4	2	2	25	24	26	51	60	9	1	4
Alresford Pond	45	39	41	65	75	81	81	75	30	49	59	43
Yateley GP	23	21	11						14	26	38	29
WeBS count totals	1,079	1,013	729	192	196	243	288	242	852	935	916	833

Fifty pairs had a total of 180 large cygnets, most of which are known to have fledged. Additionally, there were four pairs with broods of unreported size, four pairs which failed, two at the egg stage and two losing all their young, and eight pairs with nests for which the outcome is unknown but most probably failed. (JMC)

Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*

Rare winter visitor. (?467,1)

ET, Schedule 1, Amber

An adult was with Mute Swans at a private fish farm at Stoke Common near Bishopstoke on Feb 26th (JS, photo). It was not seen again until Mar 30th when presumably the same bird was located on the Itchen Navigation Canal at St Cross (m.o., photo). It remained there and the nearby water meadows until Apr 25th. On May 1st it was at Alresford Pond, returning to St Cross by May 6th, being last seen on 10th. At some point it also incurred an eye injury which was noted on May 7th.

This bird was quite approachable some of the time although it had no leg rings. As there is no firm evidence that it was an escape it is listed here, although the likelihood of it being truly wild is maybe rather thin. (ALR)

Egyptian Goose
Alopochen aegyptiaca

Moderately common and increasing feral resident.

WeBS counts peaked in September as in previous years although the total of 452 was below 578 recorded in 2020. Nonetheless the impression is that numbers continue to increase.

Monthly maxima at sites where counts regularly exceeded 20 are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Beaulieu Estuary	27	9	12	8	9	15	17	6	6	4	5	5
Ripley Farm Reservoir	4	2	1	4	4		36	14	18	135	19	40
Avon: Sopley-Ringwood	19	3	2					70	66	12	95	202
Avon: Ringwood-Fordingbridge	4	4	10	16	1			24	126	118	42	27
Avon: Ibsley Water	12	5	6	9	21	102	126	108	100	18	25	20
Wellington CP	3		2		60				4	36	2	2
Lyndridge Farm, Eversley			20						101	89	12	28
Edenbrook CP		1	3	5	4	6	15	6	2	2	12	37*
Wyck/Kingsley area	4	7	2		6				60*	28	22	42
Heath Pond, Petersfield	54	14	46	34	135	155	138	108	81	49	29	15
WeBS count totals	86	51	92	64	69	241	160	205	452	402	290	365

*= record for locality

Nineteen broods totalling 95 fledged young included three at both Needs Ore and Heath Pond, Petersfield. (JMC)

Shelduck (Common Shelduck) *Tadorna tadorna*

Scarce breeder and moderately common but declining winter visitor.

Amber

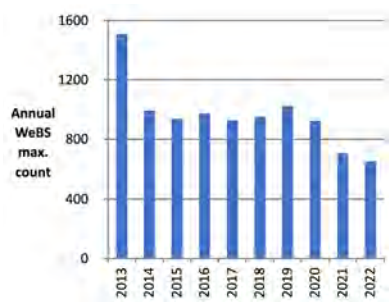
Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	1,794	1,353	1,296	1,068	892

The WeBS mean maximum monthly totals continue to decline with the latest five-year



Shelduck, Pennington Marshes, Mar 21st (Matt Barfield)

period falling below 1,000 for the first time. The maximum monthly WeBS total for 2022 is also below the most recent five-year average of annual maxima. The decline over the last ten years is shown in the histogram below.



Annual WeBS maximum counts for Shelduck 2013-2022

Monthly maxima at coastal sites where counts exceeded 50 and regularly used inland sites are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	397	370	343	277	74	54			18	11	181	223
Hampshire sectors	104	118	41	71	13	46	7	4	10	6	17	55
Langstone Harbour	305	225	213	157	97	51	25	20	17	45	120	170
Portsmouth Harbour	142	88	53	16	8	3	4		7	7	18	136
Titchfield Haven	40	30	34	26	49	34	15	7	6	1	16	16
Southampton Water incl. Hamble & Test Estuaries	21	107	45	25	12	15	6	1	18	2	14	14
Fawley-Calshot	39	21	14	24	15	22	33	15	7	10		8
Beaulieu Estuary	29	62	60	50	43	18	11	16	5	3	26	11
Sowley-Lymington	120	13	27	29	6	6		3		5	4	13
Lymington-Hurst	135	109	117	72	89	41	40	36	30	16	104	53
Avon: Ripley Farm Reservoir	34	30	20	6	13	10		1			2	15
Avon: Blashford Lakes/ Ibsley area	43	2								10		
Alresford Pond	2	6	5	6	2	2	3		2	2	2	3
Other inland records (no. of sites)	13(6)	22(7)	32(9)	21(10)	18(8)	4(1)			1(1)	1(1)		1(1)
WeBS count totals	656	420	618	485	255	132	58	79	31	55	267	275

Breeding was recorded from coastal sites at Farlington Marshes (3 broods of 9, 5 and 3), Hook-with-Warsash (1 brood of 9), Fawley Reservoir (1 brood of 10), Beaulieu Estuary (6 broods with a maximum total of 25) and Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes (2 broods totalling 13). Inland breeding was also recorded at Ripley Farm Reservoir (2 broods totalling 12), The Grange Lake (1 brood of 7) and Alresford Pond (2 broods totalling 11+). (GB)

Mandarin Duck *Aix galericulata*

Moderately common introduced resident.

This species continues to be reported in more locations across the county, being recorded in 120 tetrads up from 104 in 2019.

Monthly maxima are tabulated below for sites where counts reached double figures in two or more months.



Mandarin Ducks, Eyeworth Pond, Mar 8th (Rob Porter)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Fishlake Meadows	25	6	4	2		2	2	15	15	2	5	7
Upper Hamble Estuary			2	5	2				10	13	26	8
Mortimer West End – Ramptons Lane GP/ Burnt Common			5	2	2	11	3	16	1	3		1
Oakhanger	7	8	2							11		25

Counts of ten or more at non-tabulated sites were 12 at Eyeworth Pond, NF on Apr 5th; 52 at Fountain Court, NF on Nov 4th; 28 at Wilverly Park, NF on Dec 4th; 25 at Sowley Pond on Jan 21st; ten at The Grange Lake on Oct 12th; 12 at Hook Heath Farm, Portsdown Hill on Feb 27th; 15 at Lode Farm, Kingsley on Jan 18th and 11 at Horndean on Jan 11th. Also regularly found at Hiltingbury Lake with records in every month except June, July and August with maximum of four on Apr 20th and Nov 30th.

Records of breeding were fewer than previously with only five broods recorded compared to ten in 2021. Broods (with numbers of ducklings in parentheses) were reported at Blashford Lakes (no brood size recorded), Eyeworth Pond, NF (4), Black Water in Burley Old Inclosure, NF (2), Beaulieu, NF (9) and Loddon Valley-Wildmoor (4). (GB)

Garganey *Spatula querquedula*

Amber

Increasing numbers in spring continued in 2022 with 42 individuals through March to June. The previous five-year average rose to 24 based on increasing annual numbers from 20 in 2017 to 30 in 2021. The first sighting of the year was two at Edenbrook CP on Mar 8th. The highest counts were six at Pennington Marshes (3 males and 3 females) and five on Posbrook Flood (3 males and 2 females), both recorded on Mar 21st. Three were recorded at Badminton GP on Mar 19th and Testwood Lakes on Apr 16th. All other records were of one or two at Chichester Harbour, Farlington Marshes, Titchfield Haven, Beaulieu Estuary, Lymington/Pennington, Blashford Lakes, Testwood Lakes, Fishlake Meadows, Avington Lake and Heath Pond, Petersfield. The last of the first half-year were two at Keyhaven on June 13th.

Counts of movements from sea-watching were higher than recent years with the highest single day counts being 30 passing Sandy Point on Mar 21st and 17 past Hill Head on the same



Garganey flock, Keyhaven, Mar 21st (Matt Barfield)

day. Six were also recorded on passage east at Sandy Point on Apr 11th and Hurst Beach on Apr 17th followed by four east at Barton on Sea on Apr 26th.

Ten were recorded in autumn, the same as 2021, which is higher than the average of six for the previous five years. The first autumn record was a male in eclipse plumage at Fleet Pond on Aug 4th. This was followed by one or two at Farlington Marshes, Titchfield Haven, Lymington-Hurst, River Avon near Blashford, Purbrook, Alresford Pond, Eversley GP and Fleet Pond. The last of the year was one at Titchfield Haven on Nov 10th. (GB)



Garganey, Needs Ore, Apr 3rd (Chris Button)

Shoveler (Northern Shoveler) *Spatula clypeata*

Moderately common winter visitor and passage migrant; occasionally breeds.

Amber

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	662	742	741	847	831

The maximum monthly WeBS count of 799 in February was lower than the 2021 maximum (850) and below the five-year averages for the last ten years but still above the five-year averages for the previous 15 years (1997-2012).

Monthly maxima at sites with 20 or more in more than one month are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Langstone Harbour	85	93	84	51	6	5	5	6	17	28	52	97
Titchfield Haven	42	20	27	30	5	12	2	12	38	56	48	41
Beaulieu Estuary	58	50	44	92	4			8	25	64	63	124
Lymington-Hurst	150	108	133	106	5	4	9	15	35	50	90	200
Blashford Lakes	150	313	150	6			1	13	31	52	35	131
Avon: Ripley Farm Reservoir	51	16	22					2	22	4	2	2
Test: Fishlake Meadows	27	14	8	12	2	3	4	3	10	40	18	15
Southampton Common	44	16	16	12					7	16	19	22
Rampton's Lane GP & Burnt Common	12	66	72	39	6			1	4	16	20	38
The Vyne Lake	12	28	15	11	2	6	3	1	20	48	34	14
Tundry Pond	50	57	55					29	15	34	60	55
Eversley GP	72	139	44	12					25	65	103	53
Fleet Pond	5	24	45	32	2		3	20	46	72	60	7
WeBS count totals	629	799	549	284	2	1	3	17	153	402	526	604

Sites of international importance: 400+; national importance: 180+; * = record for locality.

The monthly maximum for a single site was 313 at Blashford Lakes but this was significantly lower than the maximum for the same site in 2021 when 480 and 496 were recorded in February and March respectively. There were also fewer sites with counts over 20 than in recent years.

Passage counts above 20 from sea-watching were recorded at Sandy Point with 21 east on Mar 8th and 56 east on Apr 11th.

Breeding was reported at three sites with single broods of six at Titchfield Haven, four at Fishlake Meadows and eight at The Grange Lake. (GB)

Gadwall *Mareca strepera*

Moderately common winter visitor and scarce breeder.

Amber, HBAP

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	1,552	1,790	1,844	1,874	1,492

The latest five-year mean of WeBS monthly maxima, covering the period 2017-2022, is lower than the means covering the previous 20 years. Additionally, the maximum monthly WeBS count of 1,425 in December was below 2017-2022 mean maxima. On the other hand, higher WeBS totals in January, February and December were all four figures thus exceeding the highest monthly total of 850 in February 2021 indicating a short-term increase.

Monthly maxima at sites where counts exceeded 50 are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Langstone Harbour	73	72	56	16	39	93	98	100	70	39	32	88
Titchfield Haven	80	60	41	65	61	105	32	28	30	55	65	66
Beaulieu Estuary	85	84	19	26	18	24	21	10	19	20	44	54
Lymington-Hurst	56	50	59	37	21	24	4	6	30	50	53	162
Avon: Blashford Lakes incl. Hamer Warren	426	291	63	42	17	8	12	93	63	109	136	481
Fishlake Meadows	26	12	8	9	10	6	60	20	8	6	12	4
Rooksbury Mill, Andover	27	40	52	24	4	2		5	6	17	50	38
Testbourne Lake and area	55	30	12	7	6	6	1	10	27	14	16	60
Overton/Ashe	38	75	118	1					24	35	2	
Allington GP	52	27	18		3				38	30	40	155
Avington Lake	15	10	5	25	19	24	10	46	35	58	16	23
Alresford Pond	48	48	101	16	17	43	7	41	114	98	69	96
Burnt Common	7	16	17	7	22	8	2	29	50	34	28	8
Eversley GP	65	92	30						67	45	151	201
Yateley GP	123	49	19							39	25	52
Fleet Pond	8	19	6	11	24	35	47	68	96	94	66	26
WeBS count totals	1,283	1,200	692	265	147	164	147	251	648	659	956	1,425

Sites of international importance: 600+; national importance: 250+; * = record for locality.

The only summer count over 100 was 105 at Titchfield Haven on June 16th. This was the first count over 100 at a coastal site since 104 at Titchfield Haven in June 2018 as in the period 2019-2021 all summer counts over 100 were at inland sites.

Between 30 and 50 were also recorded, mostly in the winter months, at non-tabulated sites including Leckford (max. 32, Jan 27th), St Mary Bourne (32, Feb 21st), Winchester SF (max. 32, Mar 12th), The Grange Lake (max. 48, Mar 24th), Warnford Lake (47, Nov 14th), The Vyne Lake/WM (max. 42, June 10th and Sep 2nd) and Bramshill Park Lake (40, Jan 4th).

Breeding records included Farlington Marshes (4 broods totalling 20), Hook-with-Warsash (2 broods totalling 9), Beaulieu Estuary (1 brood of 8), Marsh Court and Common Marsh, Test Valley (2 broods), Leckford (5 broods of 3, 4, 4, 7, 7), Testbourne (1 brood), Freefolk (1 brood of 5), Itchen Water Works (3 broods totalling 17), Avington Lake (4 broods), The Grange Lake (2 broods), Alresford Pond (2 broods of 7 and 6), Bramshill Park Lake (1 brood of 6), Fleet Pond (7 broods of 2-7) and Heath Pond, Petersfield (1 brood of 4). (GB)

Wigeon (Eurasian Wigeon) *Mareca penelope*

Common winter visitor and passage migrant; a few summer each year.

Amber

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	11,656	10,697	8,655	9,887	7,435

The downward trend in wintering numbers continued. The latest five-year mean of maximum monthly WeBS totals of 7,435 is substantially lower than the equivalent value for the previous 20 years. Whilst the monthly WeBS maximum of 7,616 in January is above the mean for 2017-2022, the WeBS total of 4,574 for February is significantly lower than the totals for the same month in recent years, when in the period 2016-2021 the February total has been in the range 6,174 to 7,744. This reduction suggests earlier departure of winterers.

At all coastal sites spring records fell to single figures by Apr 11th. The first double-figure count of returning birds was ten at Farlington Marshes on Aug 26th. Numbers quickly rose

there to 125 on Sep 3rd. Other early autumn counts above 100 included 150 in Chichester Harbour on Sep 1st.

Monthly maxima at sites where counts equalled or exceeded 100 are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	1,269	624	736	218					800	1,757	2,097	2,648
Hampshire sectors	327	72	53				1	19	800	250	192	139
Langstone Harbour	662	465	722	129	2	1		30	720	1,350	516	1,020
Portsmouth Harbour	516	205	354					1	400	400	270	400
Titchfield Haven	265	185	134	78	2	1			20	86	134	308
Hamble Estuary	348	232	190	61				2	131	238	175	382
Lower Test/Eling/ Bury Marshes	1,115	457	531	51	2				65	289	406	1,013
Hythe-Calshot	613	520	435						26	227	450	541
Beaulieu Estuary	588	325	382	50					28	192	466	382
Sowley-Lymington	500	100	20						2	130	205	213
Lymington-Hurst	970	350	585	112	2			6	350	414	980	1,017
Avon: Sopley-Ringwood incl. Ripley Farm Reservoir	691	461	71	1	1				2		59	258
Avon: Blashford Lakes	1,271	1,057	350	14	1			1	8	36	200	697
Testwood Lakes	69	200	72	57						2	63	74
Eversley GP	60	73	20						1	77	301	191
WeBS count totals	7,616	4,574	3,469	360	1				302	3,099	4,467	6,329

Sites of international importance: 15,000+; national importance: 4,400+; * = record for locality.

Non-tabulated locations where counts exceeded 50 were at The Vyne Lake (63, Jan 1st and 50, Jan 3rd), Fishlake Meadows (50, Jan 29th and 70, Feb 11th), Isington (68, Feb 12th) and in the Avon Valley between Ringwood and Fordingbridge (55, Dec 11th).

Wigeon x Pintail hybrids were reported at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes on Jan 2nd and 23rd and Dec 16th and at Blashford Lakes on Jan 29th. (GB)

American Wigeon

Mareca americana

Very rare vagrant. (0,9,1)

An adult male was on Efford Lake, Pennington and Pennington Marshes between Dec 15th-24th (PS, AC *et al.*, photo).

This is the tenth record. Accepted by the BBRC. The last was in the winter of 1998/99 when a male was present in the Farlington Marshes/Broadmarsh area of Langstone Harbour from December to March and again in April. (ALR)



American Wigeon, Efford Lake, Dec 15th
(Ashley Howe)

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

Common resident and winter visitor.

Amber

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	3,008	3,698	4,063	4,267	3,600

The maximum monthly WeBS of 3,388 was higher than the maximum of 3,262 in 2021 but lower than the five-year means back to 2002. WeBS totals exceeded 3,000 in five months compared to just two months in 2021. However, only six sites had counts of 200 or more compared to seven in 2021.

Monthly maxima at sites where counts equalled or exceeded 200 are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	463	376	256	222	109	115	118	189	296	369	344	362
Hampshire sectors	231	237	139	133	54	35	118	86	172	217	196	232
Lymington-Hurst	84	115	116	77	140	171	191	174	249	177	244	263
Avon: Sopley-Ringwood incl. Ripley Farm Reservoir	223	175	74	53	10	12	13	245	223	242	223	129
Avon: above Fordingbridge	8	4	12						43	303	167	
Alresford Pond	60	19	30	25	17	77	156	214	49	17	38	32
Bramshill Plantation North Pools	52	14	12	4	2		1	2	230	90	21	2
WeBS count totals	3,013	2,103	1,612	864	709	930	1,044	1,343	3,114	3,254	3,388	3,216

Non-tabulated sites with counts of 150 or more were Yateley GP (178, Jan 21st; 184, Nov 14th and 165, Dec 12th), River Alre, New Alresford (153, Apr 2nd), Heath Pond, Petersfield (162, Aug 14th and 182, Aug 26th), Titchfield Haven (188, Aug 15th), Tundry Pond/Dogmersfield Lake (199, Aug 17th; 155, Sep 15th and 170, Dec 12th), Itchen Water Works (187, Oct 24th), Edenbrook CP (157, Oct 24th), St Mary Bourne (160, Nov 14th and 182, Dec 11th), Hamble Estuary (above and below M27 combined) (161, Dec 10th) and Fleet Pond (156, Dec 17th).

Breeding was recorded in many locations. Comparisons of numbers of broods at sites reported last year (with 2021 numbers of broods in parentheses) are as follows: Hook-with-Warsash, 1 brood of 2 (1); Avington Park Lake, 4 broods (3); Alresford Pond, 2 broods (3) and Fleet Pond, 13 broods of 2-9 and 12 (2). Other sites with multiple broods included Titchfield Haven (3 broods of 3, 6 and 8), Blashford Lakes (2 broods of 5 and 2) and The Vyne Lake (2 broods of 1 and 3). (GB)

Black Duck (American Black Duck) *Anas rubripes*

Very rare vagrant. (0,0,1)

A male was at Needs Ore from at least May 29th to June 19th (AL et al., photo). Accepted by the BBRC. This is the first record for Hampshire and a full account of the sighting appears on pages 251-253.

The species breeds in eastern North America from Labrador south to North Carolina and west to Manitoba. Many birds are resident in their range but the most northerly breeders migrate to winter in coastal south-east USA. Just over 40 have occurred in Britain since the first in 1967. Some of these have been long-stayers and several have hybridised with the local Mallards. (ALR)



Black Duck, Needs Ore, May 29th (Alan Lewis)

Pintail (Northern Pintail) *Anas acuta*

Moderately common winter visitor and passage migrant; occasional in summer.

VU, Schedule I, Amber

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	918	1,360	774	848	857

The latest five-year mean of monthly maxima WeBS totals is consistent with the previous two five-year means back to 2007. However, the maximum monthly WeBS total of 568 in March was the lowest in the latest five-year period. In addition, in previous years the peak

has occurred earlier, mostly in January or February. There was a large drop in numbers at Blashford Lakes in the first three months compared to the last two years. Counts there peaked at only 50 in January compared to 545 in January 2020 and 652 in Feb 2021.

Monthly maxima at sites where counts exceeded ten are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	32	128	181	120					2	49	35	300
Hampshire sectors	9	17	58	31			3		2	8	3	1
Langstone Harbour	240	254	237	16				6	155	220	205	233
Portsmouth Harbour	25	8	14									2
Titchfield Haven	55	40	26	8					9	25	42	26
Hamble Estuary/Hook-with-Warsash	14	27	2	2				2	2	27	34	66
Fawley-Calshot	19	27	35							1	5	50
Test Estuary: Dibden Bay	6		12	7							4	
Beaulieu Estuary	57	47	41						15	30	32	68
Sowley-Lymington	12	20	30							11	35	16
Lymington-Hurst	470	383	210	28	2			1	35	102	150	750
Avon: Ringwood-Fordingbridge	10										23	
Avon: Blashford Lakes	50	32	6	1						2	30	75
Fishlake Meadows	12	10	12	6	2	2	3	2	5	8	10	6
WeBS count totals	366	273	568	46					105	358	353	507

Sites of international importance: 600+; national importance: 290+.

Other early and spring records away from the tabulated sites included Heath Pond, Petersfield (1, Jan 1st), Ripley Farm Reservoir (4, Jan 9th), Overton Lagoons (1, Jan 20th), Sway Heathland/Milking Pound Bottom (2, Feb 5th), Burnt Common (1, Mar 3rd-21st), Fleet Pond (4, Mar 4th: 3, Mar 22nd), Testwood Lakes (1, Mar 24th) and The Grange Lake (2, Mar 24th; 1, Apr 1st).

The first double-figure counts of the autumn were 12 at Beaulieu Estuary on Sep 1st and 15 the next day, followed by 30 at Farlington Marshes on Sep 3rd, rising to 87 on Sep 10th when there were also ten at Lymington-Hurst.



Pintail, Keyhaven, Mar 6th (Ashley Howe)

Records at non-tabulated sites in the second half of the year, all singles except where noted, were at Ripley Farm Reservoir (Aug 28th), Fleet Pond (Oct 7th-20th), Yateley GP (Oct 8th), Haskell's Pond, Avon Valley (Oct 9th), The Vyne Lake (Oct 26th) and Testwood Lakes (2, Dec 21st-31st). (GB)

Teal (Eurasian Teal) *Anas crecca*

Very scarce and declining resident and common winter visitor.

Amber

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	6,164	6,202	5,567	6,872	4,676

The highest monthly WeBS total was 4,220 which was similar to the 2021 maximum of 4,261 and consistent with the maximum totals since 2019. However, the monthly maximum WeBS total of 4,220 in January was slightly below the recent five-year mean monthly maximum of 4,676, which itself was significantly lower than the previous 20 years indicating a recent decline in the numbers wintering.

The only site with monthly counts in excess of 1,000 was Lymington-Hurst in January and November, as was also the case in November 2021.

Monthly maxima at sites where counts regularly exceeded 50 are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	909	789	931	210					205	334	708	1,254
Hampshire sectors	287	195	199	35	4	2	2	32	101	136	91	292
Langstone Harbour	269	130	185	99	5	3	18	170	330	305	176	529
Portsmouth Harbour	182	111	128	24					28	42	32	54
Titchfield Haven	407	177	84	82	4	20	8	18	40	237	387	499
Hamble Estuary	170	159	122	30			3	38	116	148	109	237
Lower Test/Eling/ Bury Marshes	146	41	13	11	6	1	2	7	16	56	76	111
Dibden Bay	100	203	160	31							156	
Hythe-Calshot	248	124	30	10				6	10	58	44	72
Beaulieu Estuary	631	146	143	93	1	5	14	52	164	447	788	783
Sowley Pond	77	24								50		
Lymington-Hurst	1,050	510	465	240	4	2	4	131	320	922	1,026	890
Avon: Sopley-Ringwood	178	179	50					13	53	19	66	90
Avon: Blashford Lakes	189	165	10	2		1		5	2	47	44	190
Wilverley Park Pond, New Forest	45	88	38					6		72	35	20
Test: Fishlake Meadows	280	68	25	22			2	18	70	20	92	110
Allington GP	40	38	8						1	1	15	230*
Winchester SF	95	58	44	32							76	85
Alresford Pond	208	261	196	75	2		8	48	203	349*	187	216
The Vyne	64	98	40	32			3	10	32	44	122	124
WeBS count totals	4,220	2,612	1,823	595		6	7	92	1,196	2,851	3,623	4,005

Sites of international importance: 5,000+; national importance: 2,100+; * = record for locality;
L = low tide count.

Sowley Pond is included in the table above as a result of the first counts at this site to exceed 50 since 2018. Non-tabulated counts of 50 or more were reported at Micheldever (80, Jan 14th), Testbourne (80, Jan 19th), Testwood Lakes (54, Feb 20th), The Grange Lake (83, Oct 27th) and Marsh Court (90, Nov 13th).

Summer counts in double-figures were recorded at Titchfield Haven (max. 20, June 25th-30th;

Aug 1st), Beaulieu Estuary (14, July 15th) and Langstone Harbour (18, July 25th). Evidence of breeding was recorded at Titchfield Haven (1 brood of 6) and Lower Test Marshes (1 brood of 6).

Significant numbers began to appear in autumn from Aug 12th with 46 at Beaulieu Estuary and 48 at Alresford Pond followed by 40 at Farlington Marshes the next day. (GB)

Green-winged Teal *Anas carolinensis*

Rare vagrant in every month from October to May. (0,26,0)

A drake was on Normandy Lagoon on Jan 27th. It was with a group of about 20 Teal in the north-west corner. It was watched for ten minutes, but could not be relocated by the observer later (TJ).

The last record was a male in the Avon Valley at Ripley Farm Reservoir from Nov 30th to Dec 6th 2021, and this was assumed to be the same individual. (ALR)

Red-crested Pochard *Netta rufina*

Scarce feral visitor or escape. (1,173,2)

The female/immature present at Blashford Lakes from September 2021 was seen on several dates between Jan 1st-29th (RH et al.) and was possibly the same individual at Ibsley Water on Mar 29th (RAC) and from May 3rd to June 20th (JDH et al.). A female was reported at Allington GP on Jan 2nd and Mar 10th (DJU) and at Itchen Water Works on Mar 18th (MJWH). Two drakes at Bramshill Park/Lake on Mar 19th (JMC) were probably those that had returned the previous autumn for their fourth successive winter.

A leucistic eclipse male at The Mill Field, Old Basing in early September (JKA) and a tame female at Abbots Ann between Sep 11th and Oct 10th (JM) were both considered by the observers to be escapees. Long-staying individuals in the late year were single females at Rooksbury Mill from Sep 11th to Dec 30th (KM et al.), possibly the same as Abbots Ann, and on Blashford Lakes between Oct 9th and Dec 29th (TMJD et al.). (PFF)

Pochard (Common Pochard) *Aythya ferina*

Scarce breeder and moderately common but declining winter visitor.

VU, Red, HBAP

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	831	673	445	287	267

The mean maximum counts for the 2017-2022 five-year period illustrated the on-going decline in the winter population this century. Based on this year's WeBS counts, where the maximum was only 183 in mid-February, there is no suggestion that the trend is about to be reversed. The Blashford Lakes complex, and Ibsley Water in particular, was again the most important contributor to WeBS numbers, although early-year counts at Eversley GP were higher than for the corresponding period in 2021 with 50 on Jan 22nd being the maximum.

Monthly maxima at sites with regular double-figure counts are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Needs Ore/Beaulieu	3	5	6	14	8	13	16			1	3	4
Blashford Lakes	69	63	30	1		4	4	4	3	18	66	40
Test: Fishlake Meadows	31	8	9	9	8	5	5	3	22	42	30	10
Dogmersfield Lake	24	19	1								4	
Eversley GP	50	49	1						5	15	13	24
WeBS count totals	182	183	36	17	3	8	4	3	11	65	114	107

Sites of international importance: 3,000+; national importance: 380+.

In addition to the tabulated sites, records from more than 60 other sites, representing most regions, showed the widespread distribution across the county, but double-figure counts were limited to Tundry Pond (27, Jan 18th; 22, Nov 19th; 12, Dec 12th), Lymington-Hurst (20, Jan 18th and Dec 25th), Testbourne Lake (16, Jan 19th; 30, Feb 11th; 28, Oct 17th and 28, Dec 23rd), Sowley Pond (16, Jan 21st and 26, Feb 16th) and Budds Farm, Langstone Harbour (16, Feb 8th).

Breeding was confirmed at two sites. Four chicks hatched at Needs Ore in late May with three regularly seen until the end of July. Three pairs at Fleet Pond enjoyed varied success with one brood of two on June 21st and another of three on July 2nd (which had two Tufted ducklings in tow!), but from which only one was raised. A female with a small duckling was seen on July 12th and subsequently on July 27th. (PFF)



Pochard, drake, Ibsley Water, Nov 19th & female and duckling, Needs Ore, June 2nd (Alan Lewis)

Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca*

Rare vagrant recorded in every month from September to April. (0,13,0)

ET

The drake that frequented Kingfisher Lake, Blashford from December 2020 remained on the lake until Feb 12th (m.o.). Access to Kingfisher Lake is currently restricted so it is possible that it was present for longer based on dates from previous years. A male, presumed to be the same individual, returned to Kingfisher Lake on Oct 10th and remained into 2022. This drake is probably responsible for all sightings since the 2011/2012 winter. (ALR)

Ring-necked Duck *Aythya collaris*

Rare vagrant. (0,11,2)

Two females were discovered at Wellington CP on Oct 7th (JMC et al., photo). They were seen at various sites in Berkshire between Nov 13th and Dec 3rd and one reappeared in 2023. (KFB)



Ring-necked Duck, Wellington CP, Oct 7th (Mark Francis)

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*

Moderately common breeding species whose numbers increase considerably in winter.

NT, Green

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	1,294	1,568	1,557	1,658	1,454

With WeBs counts for January and February higher than for the corresponding months for 2021 and totals for November and December on a par, the overall picture suggested a stable population following a slight decline in the past five years (see header). Blashford Lakes (max. 410, Jan 23rd), Eversley GP (max. 299, Dec 11th) and Yateley GP (max. 189, Dec 12th) were the only sites to return triple-figure counts.

Monthly maxima at regularly-watched sites where counts were 50 or more are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Blashford Lakes	410	383	332	274	105	125	199	193	128	155	235	335
Test: Testbourne Lake	22	30	30	10	32	14	12	30	10	12	21	50
Longparish	50	41	39	30	11	20	4	4	9	20	28	38
Anton Lakes, Andover	51	29	18		18		2		10	10	5	2
Rooksbury Mill	8	7	10	9	3	5			30	32	41	78
Baffins Pond	94	62	45						6	13	36	
Warnford	14	21	25		23	12	20	12	43	52	38	15
Wellington CP	9				3				9	54	14	45
Dogmersfield	9	54	12	15	6	3		7	22	10	10	14
Fleet Pond	25	57	63	61	71	38	55	73	53	67	46	34
Eversley GP	175	212	129	135					61	73	147	299
Yateley GP	149	125	63						16	53	131	189
WeBS count totals	1,471	1,431	1,274	533	263	242	259	308	507	688	993	1,269

Sites of international importance: 12,000+; national importance: 1,100+; * = record for locality

Ibsley Water (max. 200, July 23rd) was the principal site at the Blashford Lakes complex but there were significant numbers on other lakes, namely Ivy Lake (max. 50, Jan 3rd), Rockford Lake (max. 86, Jan 23rd), Hamer Warren Lake (max. 58, Jan 23rd) and Kingfisher Lake (62, Feb 20th).

The number of records submitted elsewhere reflected the widespread distribution of this species, the highest volume of submissions coming from the north-east at 44 sites, the Test Valley at 41 sites, the Itchen Valley at 20 sites and the Avon Valley at nine sites. In addition

to sites documented above, counts above 25 but below 50 (maxima in parentheses) came from the following localities: Allington GP (33, Jan 2nd), Sowley Pond (27, Jan 21st), The Vyne Lake (34, Jan 23rd), Southampton Common (30, Jan 23rd), Avington Lake (26, Jan 24th), Needs Ore (34, Feb 4th), Overton Lagoon (49, Mar 20th), Ripley Reservoir (40, Mar 20th), Tundry Pond (39, Mar 21st), Burnt Common (38, Apr 16th), Langstone Harbour (38, Oct 8th), Farlington Marshes (36 over the lake, Nov 30th), Bramshill Park/Lake (43, Dec 10th), Portsmouth Harbour (32, Dec 10th), Camp Farm GP (42, Dec 11th), Alresford Pond (30, Dec 26th) and Brownwich Pond (30, Dec 31st).

Breeding was confirmed at 22 sites, most of which were again in the valleys of the Test and Avon and in the north-east. With a total of 77 broods comprising 292 fledglings, the season was one of the more successful in recent years. At the ten sites in the Test Valley, broods totalled 28 and young 128 with Testbourne Lake alone recording nine broods and 40 ducklings. At Blashford Lakes, nine broods contained 28 fledglings between them, whilst in the north-east breeding was confirmed at four localities. These included single broods at Bramshill Lake, Tundry Pond and Camp Farm but Fleet Pond was the principal site recording 92 young from 21 broods which surpassed previous levels and where it was anticipated that 50%-60% of the chicks were successfully raised to adulthood. Elsewhere, breeding was confirmed at Budds Farm, Itchen Water Works (2 pairs, 5 young), Efford Lagoon (1 brood, 4 young), Ecchinswell (2 broods, 15 young) and at Stoke Charity where the pair lost all the young. (PFF)

Scaup (Greater Scaup) *Aythya marila*

Very scarce winter visitor and passage migrant.

Schedule 1, Red, S4I

A female on the Blackwater at Needs Ore between Jan 1st and Feb 1st (JMT et al.) and a drake at Keyhaven, mostly on the Lower Avon Floods, from Apr 3rd to 17th (KDM, SAB) were the only long-staying individuals. Single females at Ibsley Water on Sep 1st (RH, KP), Longparish on Oct 16th (DD) and Langstone Harbour on Dec 20th (MW) concluded another disappointing year with only five records and none from the open sea. (PFF)

Eider (Common Eider) *Somateria mollissima*

Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant; small numbers usually summer; a very scarce breeder since 2003.

EN, Amber

Monthly maxima at sites with regular records are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Sandy Point	4	10	5	3	8							
Stokes Bay-Hill Head-Hook-with-Warsash	80	55	70	24					1	20	38	43
Lepe-Needs Ore	17	12	40	17					2		12	1
Sowley-Lymington				15				1	5	7		
Lymington-Keyhaven	15	15	22	41	25	15	15	30	15	2	6	4
Hurst and Milford on Sea				20					3			

Whilst present to the west of Southampton Water in the early winter, with a maximum count at Lepe-Needs Ore of 40 on Mar 1st and Lymington-Keyhaven of 41 on Apr 18th, numbers along this stretch of the West Solent were lower than in recent years, with only one double-figure count from late September onwards. Typically the sea off Hill Head held the largest early year rafts, the highest counts being 80 off Brownwich on Jan 3rd and 70 off Hill Head on Mar 3rd, but numbers here for September to December were also appreciably lower than in 2021. There were also records from Sandy Point between January and May but only one exceeded ten and there were no sightings after May 26th until a male and a female were seen off Black Point on several dates between Dec 6th- 22nd.

The winter population has fluctuated over the past ten years but an estimate of 50-60 this late year is the lowest since the winter of 2015/16. A party of 20 on the sea in Milford Bay on Apr 12th-13th may have been on passage.

Mid-summer records of non-breeding individuals at Lymington-Keyhaven peaked at 25 on May 14th but failed to exceed 15 during June and July. A count of 30 there on Aug 26th probably included passage birds. (PFF)

Velvet Scoter *Melanitta fusca*

Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor.

VU, Schedule I, Red

Most of the numerous early year records came from sites around the mouth of Southampton Water (Hill Head-Brownwich) with a maximum of eight on Jan 1st and between three and six through until the end of the month. Thereafter, a second-year male was present from Mar 6th to May 19th when it was replaced by a female which stayed for five days. Elsewhere, a first-winter was off Black Point on Jan 4th and two drakes were reported off Lee-on-the-Solent on Feb 6th. In the west, three flew east past Barton on Sea on Mar 22nd, one was on the sea off Needs Ore on Mar 26th, two were off Hurst Beach on Apr 10th and two flew east past Barton on Sea on Apr 12th joining another two off Hurst Beach the same day.

The first return was off Chilling on Nov 11th after which three frequented waters between Lee-on-the-Solent and Hill Head from Nov 27th to Dec 18th. Four in Langstone Harbour on Dec 13th were joined by a fifth on 14th and this party of females/immatures was present, mostly at the West Hayling LNR (Oyster beds), until 24th after which four were seen on 29th. (PFF)

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*

Moderately common but declining passage migrant; scarce in summer and winter.

Schedule I, Red, S4I, HBAP

Monthly maxima offshore and monthly totals of movements, taking the maximum count at any location on each date, are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Sandy Point and Hayling Bay	2		5	8	21	1	4	12	1	3	14	4
Stokes Bay-Hill Head-Chilling	6	8	14	31	8	8	3	3	2	4	8	21
Southampton Water							1		1		3	5
Hurst and Milford on Sea	3	8	34	183	195						1	
Moving east	3	9	21	208	53	1		12	1	6	6	5
Moving west				6				3				2

Numbers at both ends of the year were well below those of recent winters with 25 at Lepe on Jan 21st being the only double-figure count in the early year and 21 off Hill Head on Dec 24th being the maximum in the late year. From mid-March numbers increased in Milford Bay up to a maximum of 183 on Apr 11th, dwindling thereafter before an influx of 195 on May 17th. There was little visible passage east through the Narrows from Hurst and Milford on Sea, so numbers for easterly movement in spring refer almost entirely to Hill Head and Sandy Point. The highest count on any one day from Hill Head was 31 on Apr 23rd and from Sandy Point was 92 on Apr 11th.

Nocturnal calls were heard from Petersfield (2 NE, Mar 30th), Allbrook (small flock E, Apr 4th) and North Baddesley (1, May 30th). Other inland records in spring involved a female at Ibsley Water from Mar 1st-7th, a male at Heath Pond, Petersfield on Mar 3rd, a pair at Fobdown Farm Reservoir on Mar 30th and four males at Ibsley Water on the same day.

Autumn passage was disappointing with 12 east past Sandy Point on Aug 2nd being the only significant movement. Inland a male was at Ibsley Water on Oct 12th. (PFF)

Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis*

Very scarce winter visitor and passage migrant. VU, Schedule I, Red

Three records only. A first-year was in Langstone Harbour, mostly seen from West Hayling LNR (Oysterbeds) from Jan 1st to 12th and a female was on Ibsley Water between May 27th and 31st. From Nov 12th until the year’s end, a female/immature was regularly present in Langstone Harbour and what was assumed to be the same individual was recorded off Black Point on Dec 21st. (PFF)

Goldeneye (Common Goldeneye) *Bucephala clangula*

Scarce and declining winter visitor. Schedule I, Red

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	176	124	88	59	48

Monthly maxima at sites with regular records are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	4	2						3	3
Hampshire sectors		1							1
Langstone Harbour	17	15	7					7	7
Portsmouth Harbour	5	1	1					2	2
Lymington-Hurst	8	6							1
Ibsley Water/Rockford Lake	23	37	15	4			1	10	10
WeBS count totals	29	42	21					14	19

WeBS counts for January and February were marginally higher than in the previous year, raising hopes that the recent decline in the winter population may have been arrested. This increase was principally because of higher numbers at Ibsley Water/Rockford Lake where the annual maximum reached 37 on Feb 20th. Early year numbers at coastal sites held up, with a peak count at Lymington-Hurst of eight on Jan 16th and at Langstone Harbour (north of Hayling Oysterbeds) of 17 on Jan 23rd. Records from sites not tabulated above included a female at Weston Shore on Jan 6th, a drake off Hill Head on Mar 1st and two at Avington Lake in the Itchen Valley on Mar 4th. Although four at Ibsley Water on Apr 10th were the



Goldeneyes, Ibsley Water, Jan 29th (Alan Lewis)

last in spring there, a late record came from Hook-with-Warsash where a female flew up Southampton Water on May 29th.

The first winter return was at Blashford Lakes on Oct 21st whilst Hook-with-Warsash recorded a female on Nov 19th. (PFF)

Goosander (Common Merganser) *Mergus merganser*

Moderately common winter visitor; very scarce breeder in the Avon Valley since 1998. Green, HBAP

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	95	94	195	145	144

Monthly maxima at regularly used sites are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Lymington-Hurst	6	1									2	8
Ibsley Water (roost)	85	67	30								68	77
Avon: Ringwood-Fordingbridge	5	30	5						9	12	6	12
Eyeworth Pond	6	1									2	2
Sowley Pond	16	7										10
Bramshill Plantation (roost)	12	15	1	3							15	17
Tundry Pond	2	3	2									
Eversley GP (roost)	50	54	1	1								43
Yateley GP	32	29										31
WeBS count totals	126	194	15	3					24	33	99	124

Sites of international importance: 2,700+; national importance: 120+.

With the resumption of full coverage, WeBS counts reflected a higher winter population with a maximum of 194 in February (cf. max. 151 in 2021). The pattern of distribution was not dissimilar to the previous year with the Avon and Test Valleys and the north-east holding the bulk of the winter population. At the two principal roost sites of Ibsley Water and Eversley GP numbers peaked at 85 (Jan 12th) and 54 (Feb 17th) respectively. There were 22 males in the late year roost count of 77 at Ibsley Water on Dec 14th. The highest diurnal count for the Blashford Lakes complex was 68 on Nov 13th, whilst the annual maxima at five of the individual lakes at Blashford were 18 at Linbrook and 11 at Rockford on Jan 1st, 30 at Kingfisher on Nov 19th, ten at Somerley on Dec 11th and 12 at North Poulner on Dec 14th.

Away from tabulated sites, the only double-figure counts were on the River Test at Romsey WM (10, Feb 9th), Leckford Village (11, Oct 20th) and Paultons Park (17, Dec 20th), Hightown Lake, Ringwood (13, Jan 23rd) and on Southampton Water at Hook-with-Warsash (12, Jan 23rd). There were numerous single-figure counts from elsewhere, mostly of one to three individuals. A selection of these other sites with regional maxima in parentheses included Silchester in the north (6, Jan 5th), Sandy Point, Hayling Island (4, Jan 7th), Chichester Harbour (6, Jan 13th), Janesmoor Plain in the New Forest (4, Jan 18th), Hill Head (7, Jan 25th), Lepe on the Beaulieu Estuary (7, Jan 26th), Gilkicker Point (4, Feb 8th), Lymington-Hurst (8, Dec 18th), Weston Shore on Southampton Water (6, Dec 24th), Bramshill Park/Lake in the north-east (8, Dec 29th) and Avington Lake on the Itchen (5, Dec 30th). Other records of note included a female on an ornamental duck pond at Meonstoke on Nov 6th-7th and a party of eight females flying SW over Farlington Marshes on Nov 20th.

The only record of fledged young was a brood of six on the River Avon in Somerley Park on Apr 25th and May 31st. (PFF)

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*

Moderately common winter visitor and passage migrant; rare inland.

NT, Amber, HBAP

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	415	393	337	329	165

The most recent five-year mean maximum (see header) shows an alarming decline from the previous five-year period (2012-17), so a peak WeBs count of 191 in December was reassuring.

Monthly maxima at sites with regular records are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	107	74	95	42							42	80
Hampshire sectors	54	45	29	37							17	37
Langstone Harbour	40	33	60	64						3	31	94
Portsmouth Harbour	35	44	27								20	40
Hill Head/Brownwich	4	1	1	4						2		2
Upper Southampton Water	3	4	2								2	1
Lepe-Needs Ore	6	2	3								2	2
Sowley-Lymington	12		3	7							3	6
Lymington-Hurst	17	8	15	8						1	10	11
WeBS count totals	105	89	121	111					1	3	86	191

Sites of international importance: 1,700+; national importance: 84+.

As now customary, there was a heavy bias in favour of the eastern harbours. Double-figure counts to the west of Southampton Water were restricted to Sowley-Lymington (12, Jan 21st) and Lymington-Hurst, where the annual maximum of 17 on Jan 30th likely involved some, if not all, of the Sowley group.

Whilst numbers in the Hampshire sectors of Chichester Harbour were an improvement on recent winters, the annual maximum of 94 in Langstone Harbour on Dec 10th and two other counts there of above 50 (60, Mar 5th and 64, Apr 2nd) reinforced the importance of this site. A redhead summered in Langstone Harbour, seen most frequently between Farlington Point and South Binness, whilst another was present at Lymington-Hurst between June 17th and July 6th. An inland record came from Fleet Pond (first-winter male, Nov 6th). (PFF)

Grey Partridge *Perdix perdix*

Scarce and declining resident with numbers supplemented by releases of captive-bred stock.

Red, S4I, HBAP

Recorded at four sites on the North Hampshire Downs (Litchfield, Vernham Dean, Over Wallop and Ibthorpe), five on the Hampshire Downs (Preston Candover, Pitt Down, Little Somborne, Broughton and Woodmancott) and five in the North-east (Selborne, Well, Crondall, Hook and Potbridge). The BBS registered four territories at Soberton Down, two at Monxton and one at Ibthorpe. The highest single count (48, July 3rd) and the only confirmed breeding (18 chicks seemingly from one brood on July 7th) were at Crondall. The only other site with a double-figure count was Martin Down with 15 on July 29th but, although present in April to July at several localities on the reserve and nearby at Toyd Down and Kitts Grave, breeding was not confirmed there.

Elsewhere, there were singles at Emsworth (Jan 15th), Cheriton (Feb 11th), Enham Alamein (Feb 28th), Braishfield (June 6th), Stephens Castle Down (July 9th), North Common, Northney (Aug 15th) and Eastleigh Railway Works (Aug 24th). Records also came from Cheesefoot Head, where there was a maximum of eight in the early year, and from Hilliers Arboretum (2, Feb 16th), Trigpoint Hill (2, Apr 5th and May 9th), Martyr Worthy (2, May 24th) and Winchester College playing fields (2, Nov 18th). (PFF)

Pheasant (Common Pheasant) *Phasianus colchicus*

Abundant resident, the naturalised population being supplemented annually by releases of captive-bred stock.

As usual, there was a vast number of records spread across 586 localities (cf. 559 in 2021) from all areas/regions. Typically, the highest counts were post-July at sites where birds were released for the autumn shoot, most notably Needs Ore/Beaulieu Estuary (max. 120, Aug 23rd), but the only autumn count to exceed 50 was at Hannington (60, Sep 11th). There were records of 100 at Wyck on Mar 5th and 55 at Testbourne on Jan 19th but otherwise early year numbers above 20 were confined to Morestead (22, Jan 19th), Litchfield (22, Feb 14th), Upping Copse (26, Mar 23rd), Old Winchester Hill (46, Apr 11th) and Owslebury (25, Apr 22nd).

The BTO Breeding Bird Survey registered 939 at 98 one km squares which was not dissimilar to the previous year. Thorny Down Wood recorded 41 on May 2nd, North Boarhunt 38 on Apr 26th, Longparish 36 on Apr 13th and Warren Lane, Needs Ore 32 on May 19th. Groups of up to seven fledglings were reported from widespread sites from June to August. (PFF)

Quail (Common Quail) *Coturnix coturnix*

Scarce summer visitor occasionally occurring in higher numbers; very rare in winter.

NT, Schedule 1, Amber, HBAP

There were a higher number of reports than usual this year with at least 15 individuals, mostly in June and July. The first were two singing males heard in relative proximity at Martin Down NNR on May 31st, whereas one glimpsed on June 3rd and another heard briefly on Aug 25th were from other parts of the reserve suggesting at least four present. A male was heard on Kingsclere Farmland at Plastow Green between June 4th-8th, whilst one was reported from Chattis Hill on July 16th followed by two singing males on July 27th. There were also singles at Chalton Down (June 2nd), Upham (July 7th), Longwood Warren (July 11th), Bury Hill (July 21st), Broughton (July 24th) and Quarley Down Farm (Sep 3rd). (PFF)

Red-legged Partridge *Alectoris rufa*

Common resident with numbers supplemented annually by releases of captive-bred stock.

Other than 235 released for shooting at Woodmancote on Sep 3rd, no count exceeded 50 and the only sites to hold coveys of more than 25 were Braishfield (42, Jan 14th), Ower Farm (30, Jan 15th), Norton Farm, Selborne (29, Feb 5th) and Polecat Corner (30, Oct 2nd). Records were submitted from 247 sites, predominantly but not exclusively from downland and game rearing areas. The BTO Breeding Bird Survey registered a total of 201 in one km squares across 49 sites compared to 233 at 49 sites in 2021. Bighton Wood and Down Farm, Whitchurch each accounted for 21 registrations with 18 at Portsdown Hill. (PFF)

Nightjar (European Nightjar) *Caprimulgus europaeus*

Moderately common summer visitor and passage migrant.

ET, Amber, S4I, HBAP

The first spring arrival was one at Ludshott Common on April 24th followed by one or two at Whitely Pastures on 26th. One churring at Sandy Point on May 6th was not recorded again and was presumably a migrant. There was no systematic survey of the New Forest, but casual records submitted amounted to c.120 churring males from around 50 locations including 14 in the Beaulieu Road/Denny Wood area and seven at Foxbury Plantation/Half Moon Common.

Surveys of the Thames Basin and Wealden Heaths produced totals of 90 and 78 churring males respectively, compared to 117 and 75 last year (Table 1). Coverage of the Thames Basin was incomplete although the habitat at some sites is becoming unsuitable. Elsewhere counts of pairs or churring males were as follows (where appropriate, 2021 counts in parentheses): Alice Holt Forest, 4 (1); Ampfield Wood, 2 (5); Badminton Common, 2; Badminton Plantation, 4



Nightjars, Whiteley Pastures, June 23rd (eggs hatching), July 2nd (chicks) & July 9th (female with juveniles) (Trevor Codlin)

(5); Benyon's Inclosure, 1 (6); Blackfield, 1 (1); Botley Wood/Whiteley Pastures/Biddenfield Farm, 6 (5); Browdown South, 1; Burghclere Common, 2 (4); Burnt Common, 1; Burton Common, 10 (6); Chawton Park Wood, 2; Creech Wood, 1+ (4); Emer Bog, 1; Great Covert Wood, 2 (2); Hamble Common, 3+ (2); Havant Thicket, 2; Hut Wood, 4 (3); Keyhaven, 2 (3); Martin Down, 1; Mortimer West End, 4 (1); Needs Ore, 2 (1); Newtown Common, 2 (4); North Stoneham, 1; Plumley Wood, 1; Poors Common, 1; Squabb Wood, 1 and West Walk, 2 (1). Several Birdtrack records did not specify numbers of males and females in which case totals given here have been halved. Records away from known breeding sites included one at Winnall Moors on May 24th, two at Mockbeggar Lake on June 1st and singles at Ashley Meadows on July 26th and Aug 2nd.

The final record was a single at Stubbington on Sep 15th. (BS)

Alpine Swift *Tachymarptis melba*

Rare vagrant. (3,13,1)

One flew west past Brownich Cliffs at 17:04 on Mar 29th (MF, photo).

The most recent record was at Winchester on May 1st 2018. (ALR)

Swift (Common Swift) *Apus apus*

Common but declining summer visitor and passage migrant.

NT, Red

The first arrival of the year was a single in Southampton on Apr 19th followed by six at Needs Ore on Apr 21st and thereafter almost daily. These first dates are around ten days later than the average and were caused by adverse weather during northward migration. There were only five reports of over 100 up to the end of May, with three of these at Fishlake Meadows and two at Ibsley Water with 400 there on May 25th.

Many hundreds more Swift boxes have been installed around the county by Hampshire Swifts during the year and many records of confirmed breeding were submitted through the Hampshire Swifts website. Reports of high occupation of boxes put up on individual houses are 17 nests in 17 boxes at Soberton and ten nests in 12 boxes at Southsea (22 young fledged, a record here). Six other boxes in surrounding roads also had breeding Swifts. Nine pairs on two houses at Lee-on-the-Solent reared a record of 19 young. At Regents Park, Southampton the number of pairs in occupied boxes jumped from 35 in 2021 to 43 in 55 boxes in 2022. There, all four pairs in boxes containing cameras each fledged three young, the first time this has happened. Swift numbers in the area are now close to the levels that they had been 30 years previously before the use of plastic fascias and soffits had reduced the population to just one pair in 2002. In Highcliffe, Winchester the number of boxes being used by Swifts increased from 20 in 2021 to 24 (in 107 boxes), and in Fulford the number increased from 14 to 18 pairs (in 31 boxes). At the Hospital of St Cross, Winchester nine pairs fledged young in bespoke internal boxes and four other boxes were occupied by young birds which built nests. Early in the year the number of boxes here was increased to 35. At Winchester Cathedral, where 20 boxes were installed behind one of the bell tower louvres in early 2021, two pairs fledged young and five other nests had been completed in readiness for 2023. On the North Milton Estate in New Milton, detailed surveying of this council estate showed that 68 integral boxes installed ten years ago were occupied by Swifts (up two from 2021). There were also 35 Starling and 33 House Sparrow pairs using the nest chambers.

In December the BTO published the analysis of their data which showed that there had been no significant change in fledging rates over the last 40 years. Many people with cameras monitoring Swift nests reported that 2022 was a record breeding season. We know of no colonies in boxes in the county that are declining. The future of our Swifts in Hampshire lies with the installation of Swift boxes on older houses and persuading developers to install a Swift brick into all new homes.

On June 25th 105 were watched feeding over arable fields at Houghton. Summer/autumn movements started with 100 west at Sandy Point on July 1st and 7th. At Trigpoint Hill 146 flew south-west on July 2nd; 237 were at The Mill Field, Old Basing on July 5th and 500 at Furzy Brow, NF on July 15th; at Fishlake Meadows 345 flew south in one hour at 20:00 on July 19th and 205 flew south-west at Longwood Warren on July 23rd. The following day 170 flew WSW at Fleet Pond.

The highest August count was 100 at Nursling Mill on 25th. There were 14 reports during September of up to six with the last being one flying south-west over Tweseldown on 26th.

Later reports of Swift sp. at Northney, Hayling on Oct 24th, Trigpoint Hill on Oct 29th, The Mill Field, Old Basing on Nov 8th and Pennington on Nov 10th coincided with an unprecedented influx of Pallid Swifts into Britain. (TJN)

Cuckoo (Common Cuckoo) *Cuculus canorus*

Moderately common but declining summer visitor.

Red, S41

A new early date was established by an individual flying west at Bolderwood, NF on Mar 13th (AJC), beating the previous earliest date set in 1989 by two days. The next was not until Mar 29th at South Warnborough. Sustained arrival commenced 12 days later with three on Apr



Swift, Efford Lake, May 24th (Matt Barfield)



Cuckoo, Latchmore Bottom, May 24th (Rob Porter)

10th followed by daily records. A total of 1,047 “spring” records of this popular species were submitted by the end of June. No observer reported a change in local status, but only 18 day counts exceeded three, and all of these but one were from the New Forest. In all, 37% of records before mid-summer were from the New Forest, the remainder being spread across all parts of the county. The highest day count was seven at Pig Bush, NF on May 8th and the highest number of registrations in a BBS one km square was six at Pignal Inclosure, NF on Apr 30th. A survey of 37 one km squares in May and June in the central New Forest <https://www.wildnewforest.co.uk/post/new-study-highlights-winners-and-losers-in-new-forest-woodland-bird-community> recorded nine birds compared to an average of 24 in similar roving surveys in 2009-11 (Ward & Wynne 2013), a decline of 63%. Outside the New Forest, the highest day count was four at Martin Down on May 22nd.

Following the end of the breeding season, the number of reports of both adults and juveniles reduced from the end of June until September. In total, nine were seen in July, seven in August, and just two in September at Pig Bush on 5th and the last, a juvenile at Keyhaven, on 22nd. (SKW)

Ward, M. & Wynne, R.B. 2013. Results of targeted surveys of Firecrests and other woodland species in the central New Forest from 2009-2011. *Hampshire Bird Report 2012* : 196-203.

Feral Pigeon *Columba livia*

Numerous resident.

Green

A huge increase in the number of records submitted (2,383) indicated new recording methods rather than a sudden population explosion! Forty-three counts exceeded 100 with 28 of these from just one site (Ranvilles Lane, Fareham). Counts there exceeded 500 in November and December with a peak of 700 on Dec 4th. A very high count of 1,000 was reported feeding in a field at Mill Lane, Portdown Hill on Mar 6th (PJS). This equalled the two previous record counts at Ranvilles Lane, Fareham on Nov 12th 1993 and Portsmouth Naval Base on Jan 14th 2004. (SKW)

Stock Dove *Columba oenas*

Numerous resident and winter visitor.

Amber

Reported in 427 tetrads (41%) in 52 ten km squares.

There were 11 early year three-figure counts with a maximum of 350 around Hill Head on Feb 3rd. In the late year, 17 such counts peaked with 600 at Chilling on Dec 4th.

Late winter/spring movements were weak and disorganised, with mild peaks in early February and mid-March, but only 239 considered to be on the move in total before mid-summer. Autumn movements were noted at three well-watched sites and commenced in late August, picking up rapidly in mid-September. The peak days were during Oct 12th-17th with 741, mostly south-west, virtually all recorded at Tweseldown (Table 8). This six-day ‘pulse’ accounted for 22% of the total movement between September and December, with Tweseldown contributing 74% of the seasonal county total. Autumn migration totals are summarised below. (SKW)

	Sep 1-10	Sep 11-20	Sep 21-30	Oct 1-10	Oct 11-20	Oct 21-31	Nov 1-10	Nov 11-20	Nov 21-30	Dec 1-10	Dec 11-20	Dec 21-31
Totals	70	107	393	703	892	213	425	426	112	20	13	9

Woodpigeon (Common Wood Pigeon) *Columba palumbus*

Abundant resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Amber

Reported in 677 tetrads (66%) in 54 ten km squares making it the most widespread species in the county.

Few large grounded gatherings were recorded, but there is no suggestion of any status change.

The peak count of grounded birds in the early year was 2,000 foraging in winter rape west of Nether Wallop on Jan 29th. The largest grounded flock in the late year was a pre-roost gathering of 600 at Blouise on Dec 29th.

Spring movements were negligible, and only recorded at two sites, comprising 260 birds. Autumn migration commenced on Sep 9th and was, as usual, well-recorded at widespread locations. Movements totalled over 270,000 over 62 days during the following months up to year-end. Although there was doubtless duplication, on the other hand many high-flying birds were likely missed. This autumn total exceeded last year's relatively low count of 178,381 over 46 days but is less than in 2020 when 314,121 were logged over 67 days. The peak period was the first half of November and the maximum daily movement was 23,170 west logged at Barton on Sea on Nov 4th (Table 8). Autumn totals are summarised in the table below. (SKW)

	Sep 1-14	Sep 15-30	Oct 1-14	Oct 15-21	Oct 22-28	Oct 29 -Nov 4	Nov 5-11	Nov 12-18	Nov 19-25	Nov 26 -Dec 2	Dec 3-9	Dec 10-16	Dec 17-31	Totals
Moving SE/ SW/NW	281	578	272	2,053	5,993	84,359	73,515	67,111	13,991		40	19	550	248,762
Moving N/E						8,219	1,565	16,642	2,075		90			28,591
Totals	281	578	272	2,053	5,993	92,578	75,080	83,753	16,066	0	130	19	550	277,353
Days with movements	1	7	11	11		13		13		2		3	1	62

Turtle Dove (European Turtle Dove) *Streptopelia turtur*

Scarce and rapidly declining summer visitor and passage migrant.

VU, Red, S4I, HBAP

Recorded in 13 tetrads in nine 10 km squares, similar to 2021. There were 152 records with around 95% of those attributed to the three regularly reported areas around Martin Down, Chalton Down and Oakhanger.

The first spring birds were logged later than usual on May 5th at Chalton Down and Martin Down. Spring migrants were also noted as singles at Trigpoint Hill on May 27th, Castle Bottom in the north-east of the county on May 28th and Herriard on May 29th.

There were regular reports of birds on territory at Martin Down between May 5th and July 27th, although numbers were low at this Hampshire stronghold. The annual coordinated one-day count in late May reported just four territories, the same as in 2021, all in the south of the reserve. In 2021, there was an encouraging report of six or seven further territories nearby in the Martin Down and Allenford Farm Clusters, which straddle the county boundary, demonstrating the value of the positive management targeted at this species. However, in 2022 there was a decrease in numbers with only single pairs recorded on three separate farms and an individual elsewhere. Thus combining results, the total number of territories in the Martin Down area was probably between four and eight.

There were only two other locations where birds held territories throughout the summer - at Chalton Down from May 5th to Aug 20th and Oakhanger/Binswood from May 16th to Aug 8th. Records indicated two or three territories in each area with breeding confirmed at Chalton Down with the sighting of a juvenile on the last date.

Autumn migrants comprised singles at Sandy Point, Hayling Island on Aug 12th and the last record of the year at The Mill Field, Old Basing on Aug 29th. (MJA)

Collared Dove (Eurasian Collared Dove) *Streptopelia decaocto*

Numerous resident and passage migrant.

Green

Recorded in 360 tetrads (35%) in 50 ten km squares.

Only one count exceeded 50 and that was 65 around buildings at Middle Farm, Cheriton on

Nov 12th. There were six other counts of 25 or more in the winter months including 33 in a Petersfield garden on Dec 9th. The highest number of registrations in a BBS one km square was 23 at East Cosham on June 11th.

Visible movements were extremely limited with most just ones or twos, with just seven in spring and 25 in summer/autumn. The highest count was six west at Barton on Sea in four hours on Sep 24th (Table 8). (SKW)

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*

Moderately common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Green

Records for January to April involved a minimum of 148 at 80 sites (168 at 102 sites in 2021). Locations at which five or more were recorded included Titchfield Haven (max. 8, Feb 17th), Fishlake Meadows (max. 12, Apr 2nd), Greywell-Springhead (6, Jan 28th) and Fleet Pond (10, Jan 13th).

Breeding was suspected or confirmed at four sites with at least one young (unless otherwise noted) at Itchen Water Works (1), Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes (2), Fleet Pond (1) and Needs Ore (1).

Records between September and December included a total of 180 at 80 sites (170 at 78 sites in 2021). Locations with five or more included Farlington Marshes (max, 7, Sep 11th), Fleet Pond (9, Nov 2nd), Titchfield Haven (6, Nov 10th and Dec 1st), Hook-with-Warsash (max. 6, Nov 4th), Fishlake Meadows (max. 8, Nov 13th) and Lower Test Marshes (5, Oct 22nd). (JS)



Water Rail, Butts Lagoon, Pennington Marshes, Sep 2nd (Simon Colenutt)

Spotted Crane Porzana porzana

Very scarce passage migrant, most frequent in autumn, and rare winter visitor; has bred. (24,169,2)
ET, Schedule I, Amber

There were two records. The first was at the back of the Lake on Farlington Marshes on Sep 3rd (SRC et al.), remarkably close to a Bluethroat. The second was seen for five minutes on North Scrape at Titchfield Haven on Sep 5th (MF, photo). (ALR)

Moorhen (Common Moorhen) Gallinula chloropus

Common resident and winter visitor. Amber

Monthly maxima at sites with regular records where counts exceeded 25 are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	53	48	36	21	14	12	6	10	35	36	59	30
Hampshire sectors	22	20	13	10	9	4	5	5	27	20	29	18
Farlington Marshes	93	66	77	43	11	12	13	18	34	51	43	45
Langstone Harbour	55	3	65	50	15	8	22	25	41	45	39	28
Portsmouth Harbour	56	36	47						24	34	43	56
Blashford Lakes	30	17	16	9	6	17	7	6	23	31	30	18
Heath Pond, Petersfield	54	44	34	20	17	13	23	35	40	40	38	40
Eversley GP	8	12	8						34	28	30	12
Fleet Pond								32	100		80	
Yateley GP	27	18							22	45	33	20

Counts of 25 or more were also recorded at The Grange Lake (28, Feb 22nd; 25, Mar 24th), Edenbrook CP (29, Feb 22nd; 28, Oct 22nd) and King's Pond, Alton (27, Sep 16th).

Breeding was reported from 40 sites. Five or more young were reported at Itchen Water Works (9), Langstone Mill Pond (6) and Lodge Pond, Alice Holt Forest (5). (JS)

Coot (Eurasian Coot) Fulica atra

Common resident and winter visitor. NT, Green

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count		3,150	3,585	2,843	2,419

WeBS totals continued to decline from the high in 2007-12 although they were higher than 2021 in all months except March and April. The peak monthly count of 2,692 in November was also higher than 2021 (2,312 in December). Monthly maxima at sites where counts exceeded 100 are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	300	191	123	71	33	71	46	22	152	166	400	306
Lymington-Hurst	84	103	50	26	31	42	20	20	40	40	125	142
Blashford Lakes	611	356	145	54	65	260	424	686	731	970	984	992
Allington GP	60	33	25	16	20	10			69	118	102	112
Fleet Pond	40	38	18	23	32	100	131	169	202	133	98	80
Wellington CP	85				21				82	115	142	140
Eversley GP	216	211	80						199	306	384	422
Yateley GP	190	128	74						104	111	88	101
Heath Pond, Petersfield	67	47	34	27	26	42	46	58	81	86	101	100
Testbourne Lake	90	50	22	24	15	30	40	66	100	60	70	80
WeBS count totals	2,111	1,473	1,073	415	265	502	643	904	2,074	2,424	2,692	2,666

Sites of international importance 17,500+; national importance 1,800+; * = record for locality.

The Blashford Lakes complex remained the stronghold with the highest annual counts at the main lakes being at Ibsley Water (425, 13th Nov), Kingfisher Lake (384, Oct 9th), Rockford Lake (248, Dec 11th), Ivy Lake (133, Jan 23rd), Spinnaker Lake (123, Jan 23rd) and Snails Lake (114, Nov 13th).

Other sites having monthly maxima of 50 or more included Farlington Marshes (69, Jan 29th; 52, Feb 8th; 59, Nov 30th; 87, Dec 4th), IBM Lake (52, Aug 28th; 61, Sep 24th; 64, Oct 29th; 67, Nov 25th; 72, Dec 24th), Portsmouth Harbour (65, Sep 10th; 73, Oct 8th; 94, Nov 26th; 82, Dec 10th), Hill Head (51, Jan 13th; 62, Feb 22nd), Titchfield Haven (68, Jan 13th; 62, Feb 17th), Needs Ore/Beaulieu Est (75, Jan 22nd), Avon Floods, Keyhaven (60, Nov 26th; 92, Dec 27th), Avington Lake (52, Nov 28th; 57, Dec 21st), Alresford Pond (66, Aug 26th; 59, Sep 1st; 60, Oct 10th), Bramshill Park Lake (83, Jan 4th; 60, Feb 14th), Tundry Pond (68, Jan 21st; 59, Feb 22nd; 62, Dec 23rd) and Wyck Pond (64, Oct 18th; 60, Dec 22nd).

Breeding pairs and occupied nests were reported at 41 sites with counts of ten or more fledged young at Kingfisher Lake (11) and Fleet Pond (25). (JS)

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Moderately common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Green

Winter period	1997-2004	2004-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count		349	378	381	297

WeBS data since 2004 show that there was a small increase in the peak wintering population reaching a maximum in 2013 (450), a steady decline to 2020 (237), then a small recovery in 2021 (255) continuing this year (289). Monthly maxima at sites where counts of 20 or more were reported are tabulated below:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Langstone Harbour	34	8	23	7	5	3	6	8	20	21	31	37
Portsmouth Harbour	33	19	31	6	2	1	1	6	11	28	41	59
Lymington-Hurst	41	35	13	8	4	9	25	33	38	22	25	50
Blashford Lakes	15	11	9	8	7	12	4	30	27	27	16	17
Test: Stockbridge-Fullerton	12	15	17	3	3	4	7	16	41	37	16	11
Test: Testbourne Lake	8	8	8	5	9	5	13	14	24	10	15	8
The Grange Lake	25	14	10	1	1	3	4	5	7	14	13	14
WeBS count totals	221	157	190	67	37	42	49	122	259	289	269	279

WeBS counts of 59 at Portsmouth Harbour and 50 at Lymington-Hurst, both on Dec 10th, were year maxima at these sites. There was a particularly early autumn influx to Avon Water, Keyhaven (25, July 24th). Double-figure counts not tabulated above were reported from Hook-with-Warsash (peak 14, Aug 6th-8th), Hamble Estuary (peak 12, Dec 10th), Southampton Common (peak 11, Sep 1st), Needs Ore (11, Mar 6th), Somerley Park, Avon Valley (11, Mar 15th), Anton Lakes (15, Feb 23rd, Nov 6th and Dec 24th; max. 19, Oct 22nd) and Burnt Common (max. 14, Aug 21st).

Breeding was suspected at 42 localities, confirmed at 26 with occupied nests and young reported at 16, although two broods each of two young at Hook-with-Warsash were presumed to have bred elsewhere, as were single juveniles at Normandy Marsh and Heath Pond, Petersfield. Young at natal sites were reported as follows: IBM Lake (at least 3 broods: 2, 2, 1); Titchfield Haven (2 pairs, 1 young 2/3rd size and 1 chick, Apr 13th); Needs Ore (successful breeding on Venner, Black Water and Pullen with up to 10 chicks/juvs); Hamer Warren Lake (6 juvs, 1 full-grown, Aug 23rd); Freefolk, Fisherman's Lake (2-3 pairs, 2 young, June 14th); Itchen Waterworks (3 pairs, 9 young); Avington Lake (2 pairs, 1 juv, Aug 13th; 2 chicks, Sep 2nd); Loddon Valley (3 young, June 12th); Busta Triangle, Eversley (3 juvs and broods of 1, 2 medium-sized young, July 30th) and single juveniles at Budds Farm, Farlington Marshes, Burnt Common and King's Pond, Alton. (AF/C)

Red-necked Grebe *Podiceps grisegena*

Very scarce winter visitor and passage migrant.

VU, Red

One close in at Hayling Bay off The Inn on the Beach on Feb 9th was the only record (ACG). (AFJC)

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*

Moderately common resident and winter visitor.

Green

Winter period	1997-2004	2004-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count		314	363	402	242

There were exceptional numbers in The Solent and Southampton Water in January, and there may have been movement between the two concentrations although this was not reported. Counts from Hythe Marina noted groups mainly off Fawley shore (94, 1st; 108 to roost, 16th and 105, 29th). Further east 196 were off Lee-on-the-Solent at 14:00 on Jan 10th followed by almost daily three-figure counts further west off Hill Head until 26th, with a peak of 235 close offshore on 16th (per RJC, CO). This was the largest concentration since Jan 3rd 2016 when 308 were totalled across Southampton Water. The only other larger count recorded in winter was 326 in a coordinated Inner Solent and Southampton Water count on Jan 14th 2010.

WeBS totals appear to be on a slight downward trend since 2016 although, with just one Inner Solent sector off Brownwich Cliffs regularly monitored, wintering numbers of this species may be under-represented.

Monthly maxima at sites where counts exceeded 20 in two or more months are tabulated below:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour - Black Point	8	26	18			8		1		1	14	32
Langstone Harbour	40	21	37	32	19	11	28	26	59	39	46	60
Portsmouth Harbour	40	6	12	2	1	1			4	12	12	29
Hill Head-Brownwich	235	44	28	6	4	2	2	2	5	4	5	10
Hythe/Weston Shore	108	7	16	6	7	2	1	2	2	11	14	26
Lymington-Hurst	12	10	12	20	27	10	8	10	20	17	27	12
Blashford Lakes	28	29	42	44	51	46	70	82	75	103	52	21
Eversley/Yateley GPs	29	27	21		4				40	34	50	34
WeBS count totals	257	135	228	149	90	79	122	123	238	260	259	203

Notable counts elsewhere were 75 off Barton on Sea on Jan 22nd, by far the highest ever count in this area, and 19 at Lepe on Dec 16th.

Breeding was suspected at 23 localities including six waters at Blashford Lakes and 11 in the north-east. Breeding was known to have failed at Timsbury, IBM Lake and Titchfield Haven. Broods were reported from 13 waters as follows (broods: young in parentheses); Blashford (11) at Kingfisher (5), Snails (1), Mockbeggar (2) and Ibsley (1-3: 3); Fishlake Meadows (2: 2, 2 later 1,1); Lakeside CP (single: 4 later 3) and seven in the north-east at Bramshill (1: 2); Dogmersfield (1: 2); Fleet (2: 2, 2); Lodge 4:(2: 1, 1); North Camp (1: 2); Tundry Pond (1: 3) and Wellington CP (4: 2, 1, 1, 1). Almost daily monitoring at Lodge Pond, Alice Holt Forest (MT) recorded a pair with an occupied nest on Feb 24th, later abandoned, and a new nest in use from Apr 24th. One young was being carried by an adult on June 4th and diving from 15th, and a second brood chick was present on Aug 5th. The first juvenile was flying by Aug 21st and left by 28th, returning to join its sibling on Sep 27th. (AFJC)

Slavonian Grebe (Horned Grebe) *Podiceps auritus*

Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant. ET, NT, Schedule I, Red, HBAP

Very low numbers were reported, particularly in the late year, apart from five off Needs Ore on Jan 23rd, 29th and Pitts Deep on Dec 10th; the former probably a concentration of all the West Solent birds and the latter an exceptional count (EJW), with just singles elsewhere that month.

In the early year one or two were off Lymington-Keyhaven with three present on Jan 9th and Feb 23rd - the last date there until a single on Mar 19th and 22nd. As reported above, there was some movement between Lymington and Needs Ore with one or two at the latter locality until Jan 16th and then three on 19th, five as above and then four on Mar 1st. At Sandy Point/Black Point there were one or two until Feb 21st and a single on Mar 2nd. Mid-Solent between Browdown and Brownwich also held one or two but only until Jan 16th followed by an isolated record off Hill Head on Feb 20th. The only inland record was at Ibsley Water from 09:30 to at least 15:30 on Mar 5th.

The first return was one at Langstone Harbour off Hayling Oysterbeds, where Black-necked Grebes were also present, on Nov 20th. The same presumably was off Sandy Point on seven dates from 22nd to the year end. Two were off Normandy Marsh on Nov 26th/27th and a single was there throughout December. The only other December records were singles off Weston Shore on 10th and Needs Ore on 11th. (AFJC)

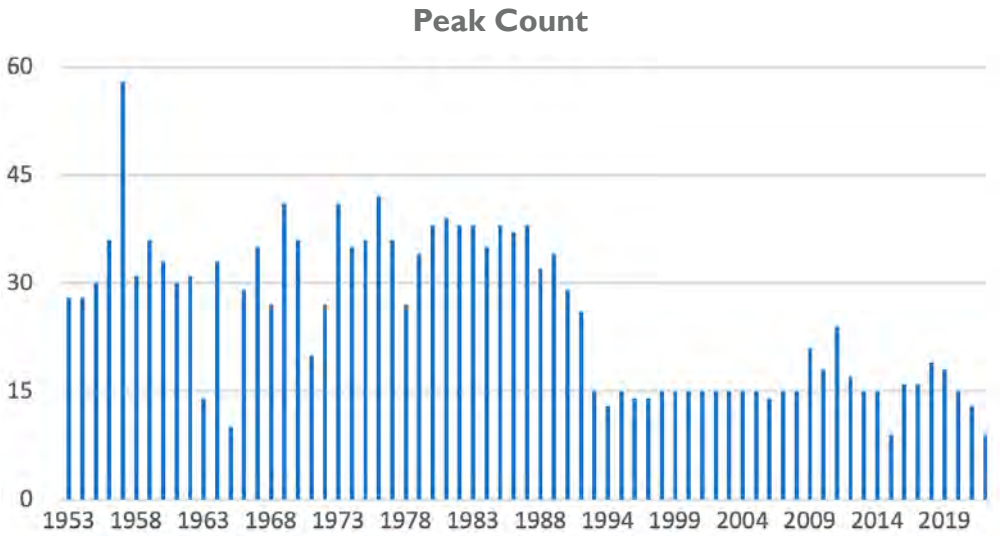
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Approx. monthly totals	7	6	5								3	5

Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*

Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant; rare in summer but has bred, most recently in 2004. VU, Schedule I, Amber, HBAP

The Langstone Harbour flock peaked at nine in the early year and six in the late year. This equalled the smallest wintering flock in 2015 which was the lowest in 70 years of recording there as shown below. The histogram also illustrates the steep drop in numbers around 1990.

The last and first return reports in Langstone Harbour were each of two on Apr 17th and Nov 12th respectively. Elsewhere, singles were reported at Pennington/Oxey Marshes from



Jan 9th-18th, in breeding plumage off Hill Head on Mar 6th, at Titchfield Haven on Sep 20th and at Portsmouth Harbour on Dec 10th. Unusually there were no early year records from Ibsley Water but one on the unusual summer date of July 22nd suggested post-breeding dispersal and two on Oct 26th suggested passage stop-overs. One later arrived at Ibsley Water to winter from Dec 7th. (AFJC)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Langstone Harbour	9	5	2	2							4	6
Approx. monthly totals	10	5	2	2			1		1	2	4	7

Stone-curlew (Eurasian Stone-curlew) *Burhinus oedicnemus*

Scarce summer visitor and localized breeder. ET, Schedule 1, Amber, S4I, HBAP

The first report was of birds back in a breeding area on Mar 27th.

Full coverage was achieved where access was granted. The RSPB team found 26 pairs on territory across the county, most of which were proved to have bred, with 35 nesting attempts in total, fledging a minimum of 12 young. In addition, it is understood that at least another four pairs nested on land to which access is denied. Once again, a team of HOS members liaised with farmers in the north and west of the county allowing RSPB staff to focus on efforts in Wiltshire.

Autumn roosts peaked with 62 on Sep 18th in the Overton/Kingsclere area which is a record for that area. The last were four on Nov 15th in the same area. This is the latest record since singles near Broughton on Nov 6th 1966, at Longwood Warren on Dec 31st 1972 and Farlington Marshes on Dec 13th 1974. (KFB)

Oystercatcher (Eurasian Oystercatcher) *Haematopus ostralegus*

Scarce resident and moderately common passage migrant and winter visitor. VU, Amber

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	3,711	3,784	3,110	2,767	2,937

WeBS counts were lower than in 2021 in February, March, May, June and July but higher in the other months. The maximum of 2,966 in November was approximately in line with recent five-year average maximum counts but well below those for 1997-2007 (see above). Monthly maxima at the main high tide roosts are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	1,530	550	878	526	166	370	52	88	101	861	1,263	981
Hampshire sectors	75	15	22	40	7	10	4		14	21	63	229
Black Point	150	85	46	4	3	200	7	378	236	75	141	188
Langstone Harbour	896	392	662	550	364	163	526	1,315	2,029	1,384	989	1,244
Portsmouth Harbour	534	6	144						35	22	450	238
Titchfield Haven	148	159	54	25	8	11	12	13	100	75	611	81
Hamble Estuary	213	199	133	12	2	30	7	2	4	3	181	81
Lower Test/Eling/Bury	53	27	28	4	5	8	8	10	3	47	41	54
Hythe	50	28	27	19	10	22	38	113	119	230	19	20
Calshot	490	40	400	155	1	1			700	350	420	420
Beaulieu Estuary	56	97	113	114	83	78	71	78	108	17	55	42
Sowley-Lymington	15	45	6	5	5	6	8	6		6	4	3
Lymington-Hurst	200	115	156	60	89	77	90	175	198	161	157	130
WeBS count totals	2,443	975	1,644	960	551	385	742	1,753	3,213	2,177	2,966	2,691

Sites of international importance: 3,200+; national importance: 610+; L = Low tide count

Breeding was confirmed at Sinah (1 pair raised 1 young), Hayling Oysterbeds (1 pair failed), Langstone Harbour Islands (17 pairs raised 8 young), IBM Lake (1 pair raised 2 young), Hook-with-Warsash (3 pairs failed), Lower Test Marshes (1 pair raised 3 young), Needs Ore (17 pairs bred, 4 raised 6 young), Normandy Lagoon (5 pairs bred, 4 raised 5 young), Oxy-Pennington Marshes (3 pairs failed), Hurst Castle (3-4 pairs), Ibsley Water (1 pair raised 1 young) and Testwood Lakes (1 pair raised 4 young). Territorial pairs were also noted at Tanners Lane and inland at Hamer Warren and Eversley GP.

The only movements of ten or more were ten west at Sandy Point on Apr 20th and ten east at Barton on Sea on May 1st. (JS)

Avocet (Pied Avocet) *Recurvirostra avosetta*

Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor; scarce but increasing breeder since 2002.

ET, Schedule 1, Amber

Monthly maxima at sites with regular records are tabulated below. Counts of 40 or more were reported in all months except February, September and October. Peak WeBS numbers of 156 in April were an increase on last year (113 in April).

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour:	70	32	41								47	48
Langstone Harbour/ Farlington Marshes	46	38	53	45	25	30	25	8	1	1	16	59
Titchfield Haven	3	22	39	48	58	67	127	92	34	2		2
Hook-with-Warsash/Hamble Estuary		1	2	2	2	2	1		1			
Beaulieu Estuary/Needs Ore	20	21	45	53	45	20	15	20	9	4	10	14
Lymington-Hurst	30	33	45	53	65	132	100	12	37	1	12	30
WeBS count totals	59	26	121	156	101	87	107	16	1		26	66

Movements were reported at Needs Ore/Beaulieu Estuary (3 E, May 1st) and Sandy Point (2 NE, May 29th). Other coastal sightings were at Black Point (2, May 15th; 1, Sep 1st; 1, Dec 22nd), Sandy Point (1, Apr 14th; 1, May 7th), Sinah Warren, Hayling Island (1, Dec 13th) and Dibden Bay/Hythe (1, Dec 3rd).

The only inland sightings were from Ibsley Water (2, Feb 22nd), Fishlake Meadows (1, Aug 29th) and Aldershot, where one was picked up in High Street and taken into care by Hart Wildlife Rescue on Nov 24th; it was released at Tice’s Meadow, Surrey on Dec 5th.

Breeding was confirmed at Farlington Marshes (8 pairs, 10 young fledged), Titchfield Haven (19 pairs, all failed due to predation), Needs Ore (18 pairs, 11 young fledged) and Lymington-Hurst (34 pairs, at least 23 chicks but with low breeding success due to predation by Marsh Harrier at Fishtail Lagoon). Overall, 79 pairs produced at least 51 young, a slight increase over last year (72 pairs, 45 young). Three-figure counts at Lymington-Hurst (max. 132, June 29th) and Titchfield Haven (max.127, July 21st) are the first such counts apart from 101 at Titchfield Haven on July 2nd 2009. Failed and non-breeders are mobile; these counts suggest a summer population approaching 200. (JS)

Lapwing (Northern Lapwing) *Vanellus vanellus*

Moderately common but declining breeder, passage migrant and common winter visitor.

VU, Red, S4I, HBAP

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	13,580	11,565	5,516	6,024	3,870

The WeBS maximum of 3,280 in November was greater than in 2021 (2,032 in December) but continued the marked decline in wintering numbers since the late 1990s (see Table above).

Monthly maxima at sites where counts regularly exceeded 200 are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	1,642	154	43	27	21	41	5	28	267	164	948	159
Langstone Harbour incl. Farlington Marshes	255	185	40	34	28	35	31	64	70	92	298	235
Titchfield Haven area	386	340	310	20	6	25	40	41	75	150	220	350
Testwood Lakes	204	233										415
Lower Test Marshes/Eling Great Marsh	271	20			1	25	71	40	50	50	250	500
Dibden Bay/Marchwood	50	400	60	12	4					2	447	97
Needs Ore/Beaulieu Estuary	800	300	200	30	14	41	24	10	36	120	732	166
Lymington-Hurst	815	470	207	30	100	68	68	173	175	500	1016	500
Avon Valley: Sopley – Ringwood incl. Ripley Farm Reservoir	281	171	71					116	112	12	154	300
Avon Valley: Ringwood-Fordingbridge incl. Blashford Lakes	105	20	36			40	28	138	170	281	168	240
Winchester SF	295	66		3								250
WeBS count totals	3,265	1,479	588	129	72	166	223	514	627	1,187	3,280	1,023

Counts 100 or more were also reported from near Scotland Farm, Hook (200, Jan 2nd), Stratfield Saye Park (330, Jan 9th), Alresford Pond (120-164, Jan 10th-25th), Trigpoint Hill (107, Jan 20th; 115, Dec 8th; 110, Dec 29th), Whitchurch (180, Jan 22nd), Ashe (189, Sep 24th), Bere Hill Farm (340, Nov 26th), Brown Candover (300, Dec 10th) and Cliddesden (100, Dec 16th).

Movements of 50 or more were noted at Black Point (58 W, Nov 15th), Barton on Sea (16 E and 167 W, Dec 14th; 9 E and 396 W, Dec 15th) and Trigpoint Hill (121 NE, Dec 10th).

Breeding season reports referred to around 220 territories, pairs or nests (192 in 2021) on 50 sites. At Needs Ore/Beaulieu Estuary at least 25 pairs attempted breeding but only four young fledged from two nests compared with 12 in 2021. The Selborne Landscape Partnership Lapwing Recovery Project monitored 12 breeding pairs, of which eight hatched young but possibly only two or three fledged. On the Somerley Estate at least 11 pairs bred in the Ibsley area but it is not known how many young fledged. In the New Forest, 16 nests were monitored and fledging success was judged to be better than in 2021. Three or more pairs and their young were also reported at the following locations (numbers in parentheses refer to 2021 pairs): Lymington-Hurst, 39 (39) fledged 20 young; Farlington Marshes, 19 (25) fledged 9 young and Testwood Lakes, 22 (18) fledged 25 young. An estimated overall total of 73 young was reported but as usual successful outcomes were difficult to assess due to high levels of predation. (JS)

Golden Plover (European Golden Plover) *Pluvialis apricaria*

Common but declining winter visitor and passage migrant; very scarce in summer. ET, Green, HBAP

Numbers fell to their lowest ever level in the county. The highest numbers recorded (other than Chichester Harbour WeBS count which includes West Sussex) were at Lymington-Hurst with 820 on Feb 7th and 900 on Dec 20th. Elsewhere, counts exceeded 200 in two locations in the early year and one in the late year. In contrast, in 2002 counts exceeded 200 at 14 sites in the early year and eight in the late year.

Monthly maxima at sites where counts regularly exceeded 500 are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour WeBS										30	1,011	137
Hampshire sectors		70								180	5	6
Titchfield Haven area	220	70		44						61	140	200
Hamble Estuary	60	5	36	18					1	59	46	25
Needs Ore/Beaulieu Estuary	63	150	15						1		1	3
Lymington-Hurst to Barton on Sea	500	820	60	2				2	19	160	500	900
Michelmersh/Trigpoint Hill		27	40							22	80	35
Twyford Down/Cheesefoot Head/Itchen Stoke		80	130							70	10	100
Odiham area			250						60	115		

Sites of international importance: 9,300+; national importance: 4,000+.

Other sites where counts exceeded 50 were Newton Stacey (60, Jan 25th and 70, Dec 26th), Wheatley (270, Feb 5th) and Chidden Down (140, Apr 9th).

Few significant movements were reported, those of 25 or more being at Titchfield Haven (60 E, Nov 6th), Trigpoint Hill (26 NE, Nov 4th) and Ranvilles Lane, Fareham (30 NW, Oct 9th).

The last spring record was two at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes on Apr 23rd and the earliest returns were two at Keyhaven and two at Langstone Harbour on Aug 13th apart from one at Farlington Marshes on July 8th. (JS)

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*

Moderately common but declining winter visitor and passage migrant; often present in small numbers in summer. Amber, HBAP

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	3,087	2,346	1,824	1,584	1,093

WeBS counts exceeded 2021 in March, April, September, November and December but were lower in other months (no count was reported in Jan 2021). The maximum of 1,280 in December was greater than in 2021 (843 in February). As in 2021, numbers again remained high in summer months in Langstone Harbour, with a peak of 100 in June (181 in 2021). Overall, the trend is an ongoing and significant decline in the last 20 years (see table above)

Monthly maxima at the main high tide roosts are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	808	219	305	6			1	13	144	181	1,109	640
Hampshire sectors	18	30	9	3					90	125	184	232
Langstone Harbour	317	200	498	184	130	100	65	182	321	400	491	547
Hamble Estuary area	51	8	30	2				1	2	9	37	41
Hythe	70	2						4	4	16	16	6
Needs Ore/Beaulieu Estuary	190	264	214	11	12			5	13	10	279	200
Sowley-Lymington	50	100	33	42				12		20	100	181
Lymington-Hurst	350	175	50	40	5	1	2	49	59	48	225	119
WeBS count totals	605	579	802	264	88	75	64	205	433	548	1,265	1,280

Sites of international importance: 2,500+; national importance: 430+.

Movements were reported in small numbers at Sandy Point (4 E, May 9th and 15th), Brownwich (7 E, Apr 22nd), Calshot (4 W, Nov 27th), Lepe (7 W, Nov 24th) and Barton on Sea (1 E, May 8th; 1 W, Dec 14th).

Inland, two flew south over Claylands, Bishop’s Waltham in frosty weather on Dec 18th. (JS)

Ringed Plover (Common Ringed Plover) *Charadrius hiaticula*

Scarce and declining breeder, moderately common passage migrant and winter visitor. Red

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	872	809	691	630	649

WeBS counts exceeded 2021 in May and June but were significantly lower in several other months. The highest count of 703 in September was lower than in 2021 (935 in September) but above the recent five-year averages (see Table above).

Monthly maxima from sites where counts exceeded 20 in more than one month are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour WeBS	44	18	107	32	157	18	2	2	326	75	54	151
Black Point	74	12	5		2		16	42	126	219	142	124
Sandy Point -Eastoke	7				1				88	82		57
Sinah Common & Hayling GC	151	163	2	15	15	7	1	2		14		14
Langstone Harbour	67	31	17	6	21	18	45	261	420	118	256	139
Titchfield Haven/Hill Head area	26	31		1	2			30	48	67	51	20
Hamble Estuary/ Warsash/ Hook	53	50	32	7	4	5	11	128	73	73	24	51
Hythe/Calshot	32	29		7	3		17	160	64	23	5	5
Lepe	25	2	1	6	10		1	30	175	120	38	47
Needs Ore/Beaulieu Estuary	103	71			59			20	54	90	58	5
Pitts Deep					2	2		82	4		28	35
Lymington-Hurst	220	61	45	20	23	7	18	253	150	120	110	50
WeBS count totals	344	155	58	24	97	27	8	427	703	412	392	297

Sites of international importance: 730+; national importance: 340+.



Ringed Plover, Needs Ore, Apr 29th (Chris Button)

Other sites where 20 or more were reported included Portsmouth Harbour (20, Jan 1st), Browndown (49, Aug 29th) and Tanners Lane (60, Aug 30th)).

Breeding pairs, territorial or nesting activity were reported in seven locations including Sinah Common & Hayling GC (nest with young), Langstone Harbour RSPB Reserve (12 pairs, 10 young), Hook-with-Warsash (2 pairs, 1 young), Lymington-Hurst (2 pairs, 1 young), Hurst Beach (pair with young) and Testwood Lakes. A survey at Needs Ore/Beaulieu Estuary between 30th March and mid-June found 25 pairs. Most early nests were predated but with protective nest cages nine second broods hatched with 23 chicks fledging. Another four remaining nests were still active at the end of the survey. A separate paper summarising the results of a 2022 survey of all known breeding sites in the county is included on pages 222-228.

Inland records came from Ibsley Water (1, Apr 12th; 1, May 2nd and 12th; 1, June 7th; 2, June 30th; 1-2, Aug 15th-19th; 1, Sep 13th-30th) and Burnt Common (4, Mar 22nd; 1, Mar 25th; 1, May 22nd; juv, July 22nd; 1, Aug 1st-3rd; 2, Aug 16th).

The only movement of more than a few birds was at Sandy Point (7 E, May 15th). Calls were recorded over Sholing during overnight recording on May 10th and 16th. (JS)

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*

Scarce summer visitor and passage migrant.

Schedule 1, Green

The first arrival was at Edenbrook CP on Mar 4th, a day later than 2021 when one was at the same site. Two were at Fawley Refinery the next day and an extra bird was at Edenbrook on 6th but the next there was not until 18th. Further arrivals were noted at nine sites between 10th and 19th. One flew east over Sandy Point on Mar 23rd.

A survey organised by HOS produced 30 pairs at 21 sites. Evidence of confirmed or probable breeding was obtained for 26 pairs with 16 known to have raised 31 young, as shown below.

Site	Pairs attempting breeding	Breeding data
Benyon's Inclosure	1	Raised 2 yg
Burnt Common	3	6 breeding attempts; 4 failed at eggs stage and 2 had young predated
Drayton Camp	1	Raised 2 yg
Drayton Farm WCB	1	Nest probably destroyed by farm operations
Edenbrook CP	1	Present early in season; no breeding
Eversley Common	2	1 pair raised 2 yg
Farlington Marshes	1	Regular records, pair possibly bred nearby
Fawley Refinery	1	1 yg raised; second brood of 2 small yg seen
Fishtail Lagoon	2	At least 2 young raised
Hamer Warren	1	Pair present
Heath Pond, Petersfield	1	Regular records, 2 juvs June 15 th presumably raised locally
Hillier's Garden Centre, Braishfield	1	Raised 3 yg
Ibsley Water	2+	1 yg fledged in June, brood of 4 yg predated and another nest in July
Needs Ore	2	1 pair raised 2 yg; possible second pair
Normandy Lagoon	2	Both failed
Rampton's Lane	1	Pair failed
Ripley Farm Reservoir	1	Raised 1 yg
Roke Farm, Romsey	1	Raised 2 yg
Testwood Lakes	3	Raised 7 yg
Titchfield Haven area	1	Raised 2 yg
Woolmer Forest	1	Raised 2 yg



Little Ringed Plover, Needs Ore, July 2nd (Chris Button)

Singles or pairs were also noted between April and June at Badminton GP, Blackbushe Airfield, Crofton Manor Farm, Dark Water, Fleet Pond, Frith End SP, Itchen Water Works, Kingsley, Long Valley and Somerley Park but there was no suggestion of breeding at these sites. None was recorded at four other sites where territorial birds were present in 2021.

Singles flew west over Black Point on July 9th and Barton on Sea on July 30th. Other records of presumed autumn migrants included a group of five adults and three juveniles at Cracknore Hard, Marchwood on July 12th and maxima of four adults and three juveniles at Burnt Common on July 19th, four adults and eight juveniles at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes also on July 19th and two adults and five juveniles at Needs Ore on Aug 6th. Counts at other locations did not exceed four.

One or two were at six locations in the first ten days of September. Later records the same month were two juveniles at Burnt Common from 11th-14th and one there from 15th-23rd, one or two at Ibsley Water on 18th-20th, a juvenile at Pennington Marshes on 24th and the last at Ibsley Water on 30th. (JMC)

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

Moderately common passage migrant; very scarce but increasing in winter.

Schedule I, Red

In the first two months of the year there were regular records of up to two from Barton on Sea, Bury Marshes/Eling area, Langstone Harbour and Hamble/Hill Head. One also flew east at Sandy Point on Mar 8th. Passage birds were noted from early April with an inland record of one in a field at Thruxton on 4th, four at South Moor, Langstone Harbour and one at Needs Ore on 7th followed by small numbers all along the coast. Grounded flocks of 30 or more were recorded at Needs Ore (30, Apr 20th), Langstone Harbour (36, Apr 25th; 75, May 5th; 105, May 6th) and Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes (40, Apr 27th).

Passage increased on Apr 11th when there was a strong movement through The Solent with flocks at multiple locations including at least 125 individuals. Passage continued until May 30th with a minimum of 694 east or north along the coast. During this period high numbers were reported from Hurst/Keyhaven (180; peak 90, Apr 27th), Barton on Sea (158; peak 27, Apr 24th), Sandy Point, (359; peaks 125, Apr 11th; 52, Apr 12th; 49, Apr 27th) and Hill Head, (368; peaks 69, Apr 27th; 140, May 8th).

There were a further ten inland records although there may be some duplication. There were several records on May 2nd with two flying north over Aldershot after leaving Tice's Meadow in Surrey, one north over Woolmer Pond, one over Ashurst and two north over Fishlake Meadows. There were two north-east over Fleet Pond and two at Denmead on May 4th, one or two north-east over North Baddesley and Hiltingbury on May 12th, one over Allbrook on May 30th and one over Ampfield on June 10th, the last three records being via nocmig.

Autumn passage started in mid-June with one at Farlington Marshes on 14th and four west at Sandy Point on 18th but numbers remained low with only one or two along the coast. In July and August there were double-figure counts in Portsmouth Harbour at Frater Shore peaking at 41 on July 27th and 57 on Aug 4th, and at Langstone Harbour with peaks of 109 on July 31st and 37 on Aug 13th. In September there were regular sightings of mainly one or two at Black Point/Sandy Point and Langstone Harbour with ten at Pennington Marshes on 5th. On 10th there were multiple sightings with two at Black Point, two at Pennington Marshes, four at Langstone Harbour, three at Tanners Lane and two at Bury Marshes. In the last three months of the year there were four at Bury Marshes on each WeBS count and singles at Southsea Common (Oct 1st), Hythe (Oct 10th) and Langstone Harbour (Oct 15th; Nov 19th and 26th). (ASR)

Curlew (Eurasian Curlew) *Numenius arquata*

Common but declining passage migrant and winter visitor; scarce and declining breeder, mainly in NT, Red, S41

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	2,850	3,078	2,933	2,493	1,643

There was a small drop in the WeBS total in January from December 2021 and a further drop in February with numbers unusually below 1,000. That for August was well down on 2021 although the totals for September and October were higher. The ongoing decline since the millennium continues as shown by the table above.

Monthly maxima at the main high tide roosts are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	1,057	550	723	404	15	140	39	162	830	961	965	787
Hampshire sectors	315	118	311	280		1	10	1	299	256	401	288
Langstone Harbour	368	28	346	414	78	162	1,012	1,023	873	972	284	360
Portsmouth Harbour	116	83	24	20	2	78	308	342	252	57	127	133
Southampton Water	236	246	133	43	6	19	184	89	349	219	146	242
Beaulieu Estuary	169	65	69	12	6	30	54	95	161	111	140	80
Sowley-Lymington	15	20	1	2	1	5	2	10	18	3	37	33
Lymington-Hurst	93	106	31	30	4	20	100	100	150	72	245	120
WeBS count totals	1,185	542	895	764	95	221	1,014	1,318	1,824	1,680	1,386	1,220

Sites of international importance: 1,400+; national importance: 550+.

Spring passage was noted between Apr 3rd and May 2nd from Sandy Point and Barton on Sea with a total of at least 52 and a peak of 20 east past Sandy Point on April 7th. Inland records came from Ibsley-Hucklesbrook WM (7, Feb 28th; 1/2, 4 dates, Mar 20th-May 1st), Ibsley Water (1, Mar 8th; 2, Apr 14th) and Woolmer Forest (1, Apr 27th).

The first record of a bird on a potential breeding site in the New Forest came on Mar 5th followed by three being recorded by NFWBS on Mar 12th. A further 100 records related to birds across the New Forest during the breeding season culminating with one giving alarm calls at Holmhill on Aug 2nd. Surveys revealed an estimated total of 38 territories and 36 breeding pairs compared to 44 territories and 43 breeding pairs in 2021.

The postgraduate research project monitoring the breeding success of Curlews in the New Forest deployed 23 cameras to monitor 26 nests. Two nests were predated before cameras could be installed and a further 14 were predated at egg stage. As in 2021 the main culprits were foxes. The loss of an adult female resulted in another nest failing and stock interference may have been responsible for another. Nine monitored nests hatched and a further four broods were located after hatching. However, as in previous years, chick losses soon followed with just five chicks making it to BTO fledging age. It is unknown if even these survived to leave the Forest as recruitment to the population.

Autumn passage was noted at Barton on Sea on nine days between Sep 9th and Dec 24th with a peak of 13 east on Dec 14th. A flock of 12 flew west at Hurst on Nov 1st. The only inland records were from Ibsley Water (1, July 7th) and Bickton (1, July 30th). (ASR/AP/ER)

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*

Moderately common but declining passage migrant and winter visitor; small numbers summer.
ET, Amber, HBAP

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	1,188	795	342	331	209

WeBS totals remained low although unlike 2021 there were two three-figure counts (100 in January and 215 in December). The highest individual WeBS count was 65 at Pennington Marshes on Feb 14th.

Monthly maxima at the main high tide roosts are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	152	268	22	2	6		8		54	13	30	169
Hampshire sectors		3	11		3							150
Hayling Island-Black Point	1				16	2	4	1	7	3	1	19
Langstone Harbour	55	65	28	25	28	3	11	6	4	20	7	65
Titchfield Haven-Chilling	8		1	3			2		1			
Lymington-Hurst	35	20	60	60	15	2	2	5	8	30	1	4
WeBS count totals	100	7	44	43	6	4	11	6	11	10	8	215

Sites of international importance: 1,200+; national importance: 380+; L = Low tide count(s).

Spring passage was light again and back to the recent norm after 2,125 recorded in 2021, with at least 317 recorded between Apr 7th and May 15th. Counts of over 40 were recorded at Needs Ore (51, Apr 23rd; 70, Apr 27th), Brownwich (41, Apr 23rd), Sandy Point (79, Apr 27th) and Barton on Sea (46, May 2nd). Unusually, there were no inland records. The only grounded flock over 40 was 60 at Lymington-Hurst on Apr 24th.

In June and early July there were small numbers at Black Point (max. 4), Lymington-Hurst (max. 2), Farlington Marshes (max. 3) and Needs Ore (max. 6). Passage increased from July 16th with a flock of 11 at Langstone Harbour. Again, numbers were low in the later part of the year with just four counts of 30 or more at Pennington Marshes (30, Oct 10th), Langstone Harbour (60, Dec 2nd; 65, Dec 10th) and Emsworth Channel (150, Dec 10th). (ASR)

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*

Common winter visitor and passage migrant; small numbers summer.
NT, Schedule 1, Red, S4I, HBAP

Winter period	1998-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	2,066	2,753	2,210	2,749	1,434

WeBS numbers dropped from the December 2021 count of 1,201 and remained at consistent



Black-tailed Godwit, Keyhaven Lagoon, Oct 1st (Simon Colenutt)

levels for the first four months of the year with a peak of 883 in January. There were no large numbers in the Avon Valley except for January when there were 350 on 1st and 120 on 3rd. Overall numbers in May and June were higher than recent years with three-figure counts at three sites with peaks of 240 at Titchfield Haven on June 4th, 246 at Langstone Harbour on June 18th and 151 at Pennington Marshes on June 29th.

WeBS totals in the latter half of the year were higher than the early part with three months of three-figures peaking in October with 1,477. The highest count was at Farlington Marshes with 521 on Aug 13th.

Monthly maxima at various sites are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	410	213	576	263	42	6		30	654	1,016	320	640
Hampshire sectors	14	36	12	112					3	139	25	58
Langstone Harbour	150	200	270	315	169	246	355	521	380	365	200	228
Portsmouth Harbour	182	180	108	8			3	1	260	320	145	110
Titchfield Haven	150	200	184	103	175	240	180	80	108	33	70	200
Hamble Estuary	16	50	145	195			140	345	358	269	15	16
Lower Test/Eling/Bury Marshes	273	140	52				1	20	50	66	150	47
Hythe-Calshot	20	33	40	1			106	123	150	8	34	36
Beaulieu Estuary	86	65	62	6	15	30	22	112	110	54	58	40
Lymington-Hurst	355	400	485	244	120	103	386	218	286	350	202	106
Ibsley Water	350	10	3	1			1	1	1	1	1	5
WeBS count totals	883	843	881	917	72	302	730	1,110	1,394	1,477	721	573

Sites of international importance: 610+; national importance: 430+.

Away from the Avon Valley there were inland records from Fleet Pond (1 heard at night, Mar 22nd), Burnt Common (2, Apr 1st), Winchester SF/Deacon Hill (1 flying over, July 23rd), Fishlake Meadows (5, Aug 3rd), Alresford Pond (1, Aug 19th-24th) and Woolmer Pond (10, Aug 30th). (ASR)

Turnstone (Ruddy Turnstone) *Arenaria interpres*

Moderately common passage migrant and winter visitor; small numbers summer. Amber, HBAP

Winter period	1998-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	764	915	874	904	740

WeBS totals in January were similar to December 2021 but dropped in February due to low counts in the eastern harbours and then rose again in March. The highest count of the year was 250 at Cams Bay in Portsmouth Harbour on Mar 2nd. Fifty counted moving east off Hill Head between 18:45 and 19:00 on Apr 21st were possibly migrants. Most had departed by May 17th other than a regular summer flock in the Hill Head area with peak counts of 34 on May 21st and 17 on June 30th. Other reports of small numbers came from Lepe, Pennington/Normandy, Farlington Marshes and Sandy Point.

Autumn passage started in early July with an increase in numbers at the above sites including a count of 48 in Langstone Harbour on July 16th and 60 at Pennington on July 30th. As in 2021 the August WeBS count was low but there were higher non WeBS counts that month of 54 off Budds Farm on 8th, 60 at Keyhaven/Pennington on 15th and 27th, 80 at Hill Head on 18th, 70 at Sandy Point on 31st and the largest flock at Lepe peaking at 114 on 22nd. Numbers continued to rise in September again as in previous years peaking in November with a count of 672.



Turnstone, Barton on Sea, Feb 17th (Simon Buckell)

Monthly maxima at the main high tide roosts are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	182	67	145	60	18		2	4	46	50	186	345
Hampshire sectors	48	15	20	15			2	70	22	48	75	39
Langstone Harbour	160	30	213	149	20	10	48	54	100	179	109	220
Portsmouth Harbour	155	57	250	26					1	112	101	61
Titchfield Haven/Hill Head/Brownwich	75	95	100	63	34	21	29	80	120	90	70	37
Hamble Estuary	93	21	81	34	20	1	6	50	29	121	115	103
Weston Shore (L)				28	7				14	45	33	31
Hythe-Calshot	11	31	7	9			4	14	36	86	41	12
Lepe	42	7	26	45	15			114	159	200	55	180
Beaulieu Estuary	22	40	26	6	16	3		1	1	10	25	21
Sowley-Lymington	8		3	2				1	7		1	31
Lymington-Hurst	60	100	110	141	9	4	60	65	155	121	171	103
WeBS count totals	573	264	438	346	16	3	52	55	293	670	672	590

Sites of international importance: 1,400+; national importance: 480+; L = Low tide count(s).

Inland, there were two at Ibsley Water on May 12th and singles on Oct 9th and Nov 5th. (ASR)



Knot, Pennington Lagoon, Sep 24th (Alan Lewis)

Knot (Red Knot) *Calidris canutus*

Moderately common winter visitor and passage migrant.

Amber, HBAP

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	1,414	1,108	1,045	736	1,083

January's WeBS total of 526 was the highest of the year and comparable to last year's maximum of 518 in February. Other notable counts, higher than the WeBS totals for the relevant months, were at Black Point (150, Jan 13th; 250, Dec 30th), Needs Ore (200, Jan 15th) and in the Lymington area (430, Feb 11th; 350, Dec 7th).

The only hints of spring passage were provided by two east off Barton on Sea on Apr 30th and six which left east from Hill Head on May 15th. There were just two June records, both in Langstone Harbour (3, 1st; 1, 23rd). The first returning birds were seen at Normandy Marshes in July with three on 13th followed by four at Langstone Harbour on 16th. The only notable counts away from the tabulated sites were at Hook-with-Warsash (25, Mar 13th; 90, Dec 26th), Stokes Bay (25 east, Apr 27th) and Hill Head (70 east, Nov 26th).

Monthly maxima at the main high tide roosts are tabulated below. (ASR)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	30	401	10						11		850	185
Hampshire sectors		1										11
Black Point	150	76	35					2		1	32	250
Langstone Harbour	100	9	18	4	1	3	4	3	65	59	5	50
Lepe-Beaulieu Estuary	275	200	25						4	1	140	120
Lymington-Hurst	150	430	30	15	3			12	20	30	125	350
WeBS count totals	526	51	43	4			6	2	71	60	149	168

Sites of international importance: 4,500+; national importance: 3,200+.



Ruff, Keyhaven Lagoon, Oct 3rd (Simon Buckell)

Ruff *Calidris pugnax*

Scarce but regular passage migrant and very scarce winter visitor.

ET, NT, Schedule 1, Red

In the first winter period, apart from one at Titchfield Haven on Feb 14th, all records came from Keyhaven-Hurst with maxima of seven on Jan 13th and five on Feb 17th. Spring passage saw increased numbers with eight at Keyhaven-Hurst and 11 east at Hill Head on Mar 21st and nine at Keyhaven on 31st. Regular records continued from these two areas through April with a peak of eight at Pennington Marshes and two at Titchfield Haven. The only other spring records came from Dibden Bay (1, Mar 22nd), Fishlake Meadows (4, Apr 16th), Fleet Pond (1, Apr 23rd), Titchfield Haven (1, May 4th) and Farlington Marshes (1, May 4th-5th).

Return passage was first noted on July 3rd with five at Lymington-Hurst but only one or two were subsequently recorded there until 8th. The next report was three at Ibsley Water on Aug 5th with one or two until Aug 17th. In the Lymington-Hurst area there were up to two from Aug 12th until Sep 9th when there were three increasing to five by Sep 20th. Birds remained in the area until the end of the year with a peak of seven on Oct 8th. Other reports (all singles unless noted) were from Farlington Marshes (Aug 13th to 30th; 2, Sep 3rd; Sep 19th; Oct 22nd), Hook-with-Warsash (Aug 24th), Titchfield Haven (Aug 25th; Nov 13th-14th), Needs Ore (Aug 26th to Sep 6th; Nov 22nd), Testwood Lakes (Sep 11th) and Alresford Pond (Oct 6th-16th).

The approximate monthly totals are tabulated below. (ASR)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
5	5	11	10	2		5	7	8	8	4	6

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

Scarce passage migrant, mostly in autumn; has wintered.

VU, Amber

The first arrival was of two at Titchfield Haven on Apr 18th. One in non-breeding plumage was at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes from Apr 28th-30th. Another was there on May 11th followed by two coming into breeding plumage on May 15th. On the same date there was one at Needs Ore. The last of spring was one in mostly winter plumage at Farlington Marshes on May 26th.



Curlew Sandpiper, Pennington Lagoon, Sep 6th (Simon Buckell)

Early autumn passage was better than in 2021, with the first at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes on July 27th joined by a second on 28th at Normandy Lagoon. There were singles in the area on July 31st, Aug 3rd, 6th and 11th. The remaining early passage was all reported from Farlington Marshes where there was a summer plumage bird on most dates from July 30th to Aug 7th, three on Aug 13th-14th (2 ad and 1 juv), one on Aug 15th and one or two on Aug 20th-21st. There were no further reports until Aug 28th.

The end of August and the beginning of September saw an influx, mainly of juveniles with the bulk of records coming from Keyhaven-Lymington and Farlington Marshes. At the former site, up to two were present in late August before a rapid increase in September, with double figures on most dates to Sep 10th (max. 16 on 3rd). Thereafter there were reports of between one and seven on most days through to Oct 16th (max. 7, Sep 19th) and two to four on Oct 29th-31st. Reports from Farlington Marshes were similar, with a single on Aug 28th-31st followed by a sharp increase in early September with double-figure counts on Sep 2nd-4th and 10th (max. 13, Sep 3rd). Reports continued on most days up to Oct 9th (max. 9, Sep 12th). Elsewhere, there were reports from Titchfield Haven (1, Sep 12th-14th; 1-3, Sep 21st-26th; 2-3, Sep 30th to Oct 3rd; 1, Oct 6th-7th), Needs Ore-Lepe (1, Aug 31st; 2, Sep 7th; 1, Sep 19th), Emsworth/Sweare Deep (1, Aug 30th, Sep 2nd and 6th), Hook-with-Warsash (singles on Sep 5th, 21st-22nd, Oct 6th and 8th), Lepe (2, Sep 7th; 1, Sep 19th) and Alresford Pond (1, Sep 18th and 28th).

The minimum monthly totals are shown below. (JRDS)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			3	5		3	7	38	12		

Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii*

Very scarce passage migrant. (6,142,1)

Schedule 1

An adult was at Fishtail Lagoon, Pennington on May 8th (SJB et al., photo).

This was formerly an annual visitor in small numbers, but this is only the sixth record since 2009. (ALR)



Sanderling, Pennington Lagoon, Aug 29th (Alan Lewis)

Sanderling *Calidris alba*

Moderately common passage migrant and winter visitor.

Amber, HBAP

As usual wintering birds were largely confined to sites east of Southampton Water. Records from the main Hayling Island sites (Black Point and Sandy Point to Gunner Point and The Kench and Eastney) are likely to refer to birds which also roosted at Pilsea in the West Sussex portion of Chichester Harbour. Reports came from The Kench, Langstone Harbour (280, Jan 1st; 28, Feb 11th; 20, Oct 15th; 50, Nov 30th; 100, Dec 29th and single figures on five other dates), although these also probably refer to the Chichester Harbour and Hayling birds. A separate flock continued using the Hill Head area and probably accounted for those seen further west around Hook-with-Warsash and occasionally east to Browndown and Stokes Bay. The size of this flock has increased markedly in recent years, with a maximum monthly count of 241 in 2021 and 166 this year. There were 22 at Southsea Castle on Jan 1st and a total of 26 on three dates in November. These may have been from the Hayling/Eastney or Hill Head flocks. There were also records from well inside Langstone Harbour (where they are rare) of two at Hayling Oysterbeds on May 25th, three juveniles at Farlington Marshes on Sep 4th and one there on Sep 10th.

In the Lymington-Hurst area, there were early winter reports (6, Jan 5th; 20, Jan 18th; 40, Feb 5th and 8, Feb 14th) and then in spring small flocks of up to 25 on 14 dates between Apr 23rd and June 17th. At Weston Shore there were two on May 14th and June 2nd. At Needs Ore-Lepe there were flocks up to 30 on nine dates between Apr 12th and June 3rd and two were at Cracknore Hard on May 9th. Passage was recorded at Barton on Sea on Apr 11th (4 E) and Apr 27th (1 E). The last early year record was two at Sandy Point on June 18th and the first of autumn was two at Black Point on July 13th.

Between July 25th and Oct 11th there were single-figure flocks on 22 dates in the Lymington-Hurst area plus a flock of 35 on Aug 29th. At Needs Ore and nearby at Lepe CP there was one on July 17th, two on July 24th and singles on Oct 12th and 25th. Elsewhere there were records at Barton on Sea (1, Aug 20th) and Calshot (1, Nov 27th).

Monthly maxima at the main localities are tabulated below. (JRDS)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Black Point	180	37	110			70	350	2	3	200	111	66
Sandy Point-Gunner Point	32	98	141	150	130	6	275	310	160	200	40	250
Eastney/The Kench	280	110	3								200	100
Hill Head-Brownwich	166	130	107	33	55			72	70	72	75	36
Hook-with-Warsash area	76	82	42	33	20		12	12	10	16	25	60

Sites of international importance: 1,200+; national importance: 160+.

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*

Numerous but declining winter visitor and moderately common passage migrant; small numbers summer. ET, NT (C.a. schinzii), Red, HBAP

Winter period	1997-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	35,171	29,906	24,140	23,233	21,573

The WeBS count in January is not comparable to the same month in the previous year as there were COVID restrictions during 2021, and the February 2022 count was significantly reduced by poor weather conditions in the eastern harbours. Numbers in October and November were higher than those of the previous year, whilst December was down by around 5,000. The maximum WeBS count of 19,467 in January was around 2,000 lower than the mean maximum for the preceding five-year periods (see header table) in keeping with the long-term downward trend.

Monthly maxima at the main high tide roosts are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	5,220	4,543	2,153	33	269	3			128	1,227	7,991	7,183
Hampshire sectors	179	33	65	1	80		3			55L	634L	1,608
Sandy Point	140	30	100	2	10		1	14	43		300	300
Black Point	1,000	1,000	500		1	30	13	25	28	500	3,000	9,000
Hayling seafront	743	1,208		20	5	3			15	80	1	300
Langstone Harbour	10,093	1,200	9,205	504	190	17	282	254	413	1,127	10,660	8,319
Portsmouth Harbour	3,969	451L	1,500								839	577
Hamble Estuary	540	150L	281	10	6L		2	15	37L	77	470L	525
Dibden Bay/Hythe												
Beaulieu Estuary/Needs Ore	904	904	806	5	19	3	4	8	30	195	1,178	1,250
Lepe CP (L)	1,000	1	50		1			40	31	150	5	500
Sowley-Lymington	530	300	40	54				20		150	700	436
Lymington-Hurst	2,650	2,000	900	500	308	4	290	163	430	1,363	3,245	2,250
WeBS count totals	19,467	2,036	11,514	660	324	2	395	458	921	2,782	18,148	14,923

Sites of international importance: 13,300+; national importance: 3,500+; L = Low tide count(s).

In the early year to end March, away from the tabulated sites, there were two-or three-figure counts from around Southampton Water including Weston Shore (80, Jan 1st; 370, Jan 5th; 300, Jan 6th; 400, Jan 15th; 200, Jan 29th; 500, Feb 5th), Dibden Bay (100, Jan 4th; 46, Jan 6th; 50, Jan 8th; 60, Feb 25th), Hythe (880, Jan 1st; 350, Jan 15th; 450, Jan 16th; 110, Feb 22nd; 15, Mar 5th) and Calshot (18, Jan 1st). In the Titchfield Haven area there were small groups on 24 dates (max. 100, Jan 10th and 20, Jan 19th). At Sandy Point there were small flocks of six or less east on Mar 11th, 16th, 21st and 22nd, and at Barton on Sea there were 60 east on Feb 27th and one east on Mar 29th. The only inland records were singles at Ibsley Water (Feb 17th) and Ripley Farm Reservoir (Mar 20th).

Reports of eastward migration through The Solent in spring came from Sandy Point (with a total 26 E on three dates between Apr 11th and 27th) and Barton on Sea (4, Apr 11th; 10, Apr 12th). Up to nine grounded migrants were reported from the Titchfield Haven area on 12 dates between Apr 2nd and June 1st. Other coastal migrants were four at Hythe on Apr 4th and one calling at night over Sholing, Southampton. Inland in spring there was a single at Edenbrook CP, two at Burnt Common on May 2nd and at Ibsley Water, ten on May 12th, three on 14th and one on 31st. The last of the first half of the year was a single at Sandy Point on July 4th.

Inland return passage, singles unless stated, was reported from Ripley Farm Reservoir (July 23rd), Woolmer Pond (July 25th), Burnt Common (Sep 14th-15th) and Ibsley Water (eight dates between Aug 9th and Oct 21st including two on Sep 1st and five on Oct 21st). Small numbers were reported from the Titchfield Haven area on 35 dates between July 6th and Oct 23rd (max. 16, Sep 26th and 31, Oct 13th) and coastal sites on the east of Southampton Water between July 16th and Oct 24th (max. at Hythe 50, Oct 18th and Calshot 45, Aug 23rd).

In the late year, away from the tabulated sites, there were three-figure flocks at Weston Shore (1,000, Dec 7th; 400, Nov 19th; 350, Dec 10th), Hythe (780, Dec 17th; 600, Dec 8th; 418, Nov 26th; 400, Nov 19th; 320, Dec 4th; 150, Dec 28th; 140, Dec 22nd; 120, Dec 6th), Spitfire Quay-Lower Itchen (300, Nov 20th; 250, Nov 27th) and Calshot-Fawley (310, Dec 27th; 300, Dec 10th; 300, Dec 14th). There were also small groups, mainly of single figures, in the Titchfield Haven area on 14 dates (max. 50, Dec 19th). Inland reports came from Blashford Lakes on 11 dates between Nov 5th and Dec 21st (max 6, Nov 23rd). (JRDS)

Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima*

Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant.

Schedule 1, Red

Major works are taking place at Southsea to reinforce the sea defences and mitigation is in place to maintain suitable habitat for the Purple Sandpiper flock. Time will tell whether this is successful. Access to the promenade was closed making it difficult to see birds; however professional surveyors had some access to the site. Disturbance linked to the construction work impacted on the counts, with workers and machinery present throughout the year. The changed profile of the shoreline made it possible for some birds to go uncounted if roosting low down among the new boulders. There were reports of up to 16 on 30 dates in the early winter period and spring, with the last sighting there on Mar 28th. This compares with 2021 when the maximum count was 20 and the last date was over a month later on May 6th.

The first returns were seven on Nov 3rd followed by up to six on a further 23 dates up to the end of the year. In 2021 the first return was on Oct 29th and the maximum count was 19. Dedicated patch-watching in the Barton on Sea/Chewton Bunny area continued to show this to be a regular site for the species. In the early period there were up to 36 on 20 dates to April 4th. Numbers here reached their highest ever level in Hampshire with the count of 36 on Mar 21st (SGK); the previous maximum was 32 at Southsea in March 1982. A maximum of 23 was also recorded on ten dates from Nov 14th to year end. These sightings possibly refer to the flock usually resident at Mudeford Quay, Dorset.

Elsewhere, there was one at Needs Ore on six dates between Jan 6th and Apr 16th. The only other early-year records were from the



Purple Sandpiper, Barton on Sea, Feb 17th (Simon Buckell)

Hurst-Milford area (2, Jan 8th; 4, 17th; 2, 21st). In the second winter period, there were two at Fort Cumberland (Nov 19th) and singles at Needs Ore (1st winter, Dec 3rd) and Hurst Castle (Dec 24th and 27th).

Monthly maxima at the two main sites. (JRDS)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Southsea Castle	16	13	5								10	6
Barton on Sea area	34	33	36	27							22	23

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*

Scarce passage migrant, mostly in autumn; rare in winter.

Green

The year opened with a winterer at Lymington-Keyhaven on most dates up to Feb 8th and then it, or another, was present on Mar 9th and 12th. There were no reports in spring or early summer.

The autumn minimum total of around 45 was an increase over the 30 recorded in 2021. In July and early August, when most in Hampshire are adults, there were records of singles from Farlington Marshes on July 21st and Aug 6th and Pennington Marshes on July 30th. There were no further records until Aug 18th when one was at Pennington Marshes until 27th and another was at Needs Ore on 19th. Regular passage started on Aug 27th, with the bulk of the records coming from the Keyhaven to Lymington area with reports from there, almost daily until Oct 16th. The counts ranged from one to five until the start of October when there was a peak of nine on Oct 14th. From Oct 20th to the end of the year there were singles on ten dates and two on Nov 1st. At Farlington Marshes there were between one and four on most dates from Sep 3rd-12th. Other reports from the area were two on Sep 27th, one on Oct 8th, four on 11th and singles on 22nd and 28th and at Hayling Oysterbeds on Nov 26th. At Titchfield Haven there were singles on most days between Sep 12th and 24th and another on Oct 24th-25th. Elsewhere on the coast there were reports from Black Point (1, Sep 4th; 1, Oct 3rd; 2, Oct 6th) and Needs Ore (1, Sep 24th and Oct 18th). There were inland reports, of singles unless stated, from Ibsley Water (Sep 13th and 16th; Oct 24th and 26th; 2, Oct 30th), Bagshot Moor NF (Sep 26th) and Itchen Water Works (Oct 12th).

The minimum monthly totals are shown below. (JRDS)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	1	1				2	6	15	20	3	1

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos*

Rare passage migrant recorded in every month from May to October. (1,101,1)

A juvenile was at Butts Lagoon, Pennington Marshes from Aug 27th to Sep 9th (JRW, TJP et al., photo).

There have been annual records since 2001 except in 2015 and 2019. (ALR)

Woodcock (Eurasian Woodcock) *Scolopax rusticola*

Moderately common resident and winter visitor.

Red

There were widespread reports between January and March with at least 85 at 67 sites. Like 2021, there were only two totals of more than three with site maxima of five at Kingsley (Jan 3rd) and Wyck (Jan 14th). Away from these sites there were counts of three at Longwood Warren (Jan 5th) and Woolmer Pond (Feb 14th). All other sightings were of ones or twos. Sites with records on more than one date were Botley Wood - Biddenfield Farm, Sandy Point, Harewood Forest, Laverstoke Wood, Crookham Village, Kingsley, Wyck, Bolderwood, Pig Bush NF, Handy Cross Plain NF, Wootton Bridge, Frater Shore and Mark Ash Wood, NF.



Little Stint, Pennington Lagoon, Aug 22nd (Simon Buckell)



Pectoral Sandpiper, Butts Lagoon, Aug 31st (Simon Colenutt)

NFBWS recorded singles in each of the January, February and March surveys.

Roding was first recorded at Woolmer Forest on Apr 8th and at Ampfield on Apr 10th. In the main breeding season from Apr 8th to July 11th there were 139 records. These indicated at least around 108 territories at 88 sites. Many observers reported the number of roding passes without estimating the number of birds involved. Unless the observer states otherwise, multiple roding passes are assumed to be by a single bird although this may under-represent the number at the site. Most sites had only one or two territories but three were reported from Ampfield Wood and Chandlers Ford. The Thames Basin and Wealden Heaths survey reported 39 territories from 24 one km squares (Table 1) compared to 21 territories in 2021. In August there were singles at Fishlake Meadows (2nd and 7th), Cutty Brow (13th), Yateley Common (14th), Alderhill Inclosure NF (26th) and Baddesley Common (28th). There were

early autumn reports in September and October of singles, unless stated, at Moors Valley CP (Sep 14th), Wilverley Inclosure (Oct 10th), Burkhams (Oct 23rd), Rhinefield (Oct 23rd) and Berry Wood, NF (2, Oct 30th).

In November and December, a total of 78 was reported from 45 sites. There were reports of more than three from four sites with ten at Kilmeston (Dec 17th), seven and five at Wyck (Dec 16th, Nov 11th), six at Sheepwash Farm, Portsdown (Dec 22nd) and five and four at Beacon Hill, Warnford (Dec 11th and 17th). The only report of three was from Twyford Down. There were reports on more than one date from Blashford Lakes, Winchester SF, Old Basing area, Titchfield Haven, Sandy Point, Beacon Hill (Warnford), Wyck, Toms Down, Woolmer area and Frater Shore. NFWBS in the second winter period reported two in October, four in November and eight in December. (JRDS)

Jack Snipe *Lymnocyptes minimus*

Scarce but overlooked winter visitor and passage migrant.

Green

Between January and late April there were reports of at least 85 from 26 sites. This is a notable increase over 2021 (55 from 29 sites), driven by some large flush counts and increasing use of thermal imaging. Reports of four or more came from Titchfield Haven (17, Jan 28th; 22, Feb 25th; 10, Mar 14th), The Vyne (17, Jan 23rd; 6, Feb 20th), Loddon Valley-Wildmoor (10, Jan 18th; 8, Jan 19th using thermal imager; 4, Jan 31st; 4, Mar 3rd), Eversley Common (8, Mar 9th; 8, Mar 13th using thermal imager; 4, Mar 23rd), Farlington Marshes (4, Mar 5th) and Sandy Point (4, Jan 1st). Sites with one to three on more than one date were Sandy Point (eight dates), Hook-with-Warsash (seven dates), Loddon Valley-Wildmoor (six dates), Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes (five dates in April), Lower Test Marshes (five dates), Burnt Common (four dates), The Vyne (four dates), Bourley area (three dates), Lakeside CP (two dates), Winnall Moors (two dates), Farlington Marshes (two dates) and Alver Valley (two dates). NFWBS found none in the first winter period. There was an interesting report of one in from the sea at Barton on Sea on Mar 8th. The last record was a single at Lower Test Marshes on Apr 25th. The flush count of 22 at Titchfield Haven is probably the highest ever in Hampshire, the most recent to approach this being 19 found using a thermal imager at Farlington Marshes on Dec 5th 2020.

In the autumn period to year-end at least 43 were reported from 19 sites. This is an increase over 2021, but still lower than 2020 when thermal imaging was more widely used. The first return was one at Titchfield Haven on Oct 4th. Reports of four or more came from Loddon Valley-Wildmoor (4, Nov 4th; 5, Nov 23rd; 8, Dec 2nd) and St Cross (6, Dec 15th). Sites with one to three on more than one date were at Sandy Point (three dates), Titchfield Haven (three dates), St Cross (four dates), Eversley Common (three dates), Blashford Lakes (two dates), Needs Ore (two dates), Loddon Valley-Wildmoor (two dates) and The Mill Field, Old Basing (two dates). (JRDS)

Snipe (Common Snipe) *Gallinago gallinago*

Scarce and declining breeder now largely confined to the New Forest; moderately common passage migrant and winter visitor.

Amber, HBAP

In the first winter period, away from tabulated sites, the only double-figure counts came from Squabb Wood (30, Jan 12th), Micheldever (25, Jan 14th), Avon Causeway-Wattons Ford (24, Jan 23rd), Burton Common (16, Mar 7th), Ringwood-Fordingbridge (18, Jan 23rd), Greywell (16, Jan 3rd; 10, Jan 28th) and Holmsley GP (14, Jan 23rd; 12, Feb 20th). NFWBS reported six, 11 and ten respectively for January to March (Table 4). Most had left wintering/passage sites by mid-May with the last at Titchfield Haven on 21st. Reports in June at Needs Ore (1, June 7th), Pennington Marshes (2, June 14th; 1, June 22nd) and Farlington Marshes (1, June 24th; 1, June 29th) may have been failed Hampshire breeders.

Reports in suitable breeding habitat in the New Forest came from the following 26 sites (34

in 2021): Acres Down, Alderhill Inclosure, Ashley Bottom, Balmer Lawn, Beaulieu Heath West, Bisterne Common, Black Gutter Bottom, Bolderwood, Broadley Inclosure, Burley, Crab Tree Earth, Cranes Moor, Denny Wood, Digden Bottom, Fawley Inclosure, Harvest Slade, Holmsley, Latchmoor Bottom, Milking Pound Bottom, Pig Bush, Shatterford Bottom, Sway, Widden Bottom, Wilverley Plain, Withybed Bottom and Yew Tree Heath.

There were reports in early July from Farlington Marshes (3, 5th) and Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes (1, 6th; 3, 8th; 6, 11th). Regular reports from the coast started on July 16th, which was a few days earlier than 2021, which in turn was over two weeks earlier than in 2020. Inland visible migration was reported from Tweseldown (1, Sep 26th; 2, Sep 30th and a total of 31 on four dates in October) and Trigpoint Hill (3, Oct 20th; 1, Oct 28th; 1, Nov 8th; 3, Dec 13th). Coastal migration was reported from Barton on Sea, with singles on Sep 18th and Oct 18th and a total of 42 on five dates between Dec 4th and 16th. The only double or triple-figure reports in the second winter period, away from the tabulated sites, were at Latchmore Bottom NF (42, Dec 7th), Bourley Valley (40, Dec 30th), St Cross (15, Dec 14th; 35, 15th), Avon Causeway-Wattons Ford (18, Dec 11th), Twyford Meadows (15, Dec 17th), Wildmore NF (14, Dec 29th), Warnford WCB (12, Dec 17th), Drayton Farm WCB (11, Dec 12th), Allbrook (10, Nov 5th), Headbourne Worthy WCB (10, Dec 17th) and Frater Shore (10, Dec 17th). Many of these were a result of a cold spell in mid-December including a maximum of 250 in the Ibsley area on 15th. NFWBS reported counts of 12, seven and seven respectively for October to December (Table 4).

Monthly maxima at regularly counted sites with double-figure counts are tabulated below. (JRDS)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Langstone Harbour	5	2	33	8		1	3	2	30	70	56	62
Titchfield Haven area	278	338	45	12	1		3	17	15	45	52	56
Hook-with-Warsash	90	46	5	1			2	3	3	5	8	83
Lower Test Marshes	62	48	27	1				1	11	17	13	32
Bury Marshes	159		2								50	10
Lepe	59	35	6					5	4	23	24	21
Needs Ore	12	4	30	8		1		2	4	3	10	15
Lymington-Hurst	34	229	8	13	1	2	8	2	5	3	15	25
Avon Valley: Ibsley area	18	5	4	4					2			250
Badminston GP	1	8	12	5						6		
Itchen Valley CP	5	12	6	10						1		9
Itchen Water Works	10								8	25	10	
Testwood Lakes	35	11	37	4					10	9	29	38
Testbourne Lake	11	15	10						1		5	1
Lakeside CP	18	1	17									1
Winchester SF	75	23	7	5								3
Fishlake Meadows	20	34	5	9	1		1	2	2	3	21	5
Winnall Moors	43	44	42	4						24	44	24
Bransbury Common	10	27	12	9								
Leckford	18	13	25	2							1	5
The Vyne	40	55	32	10					1		14	28
Hillside Marsh, Odiham	53	50	44	9							14	18
Fleet Pond	27	31	43	20				1		5	1	
Eversley Common			40	3						26	38	
Loddon Valley-Wildmoor	57	17		15							11	44



Red-necked Phalarope, Salterns Marsh, May 26th (Pete Durnell)

Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus*

Rare passage migrant. (3,55,1)

Red

The only record was an adult on Salterns Marsh, Keyhaven on May 26th until it flew over the seawall at 12:40 (PRD *et al.*, photo) (ALR)

Grey Phalarope (Red Phalarope) *Phalaropus fulicarius*

Very scarce autumn and early winter visitor, usually occurring after gales. Rare from December to February. (many,369,4)

There were four records. The first was on Ibsley Water on Nov 8th-9th (GH *et al.*, photo). The next three turned up in quick succession with one off Black Point, Hayling Island on Nov 25th (RCL *et al.*), one on the sea opposite Southsea Castle on Nov 26th (RT) and finally one on the Deeps at Farlington Marshes from Nov 28th to Dec 8th (TMJD *et al.*, photo). (ALR)

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

Moderately common passage migrant; a few regularly winter; has attempted breeding at least once.

Amber

In January-March there were records from the regular wintering sites at Itchen Estuary (monthly max. 1, 1, 0), Lower Test Marshes/Eling Great Marsh (4, 6, 5), Curbridge (2, 2, 1) and inland at Ibsley Water (2, 1, 1). There were two in Langstone Harbour (Jan 9th), Black Point (Jan 12th) and Hook-with-Warsash (Jan 29th). The remaining reports for the period were of singles from the Beaulieu Estuary (Feb 10th and 17th), Needs Ore (Feb 10th), Bunny Meadows (Feb 27th), Normandy Lagoon (Mar 3rd), Portsmouth Harbour (Mar 13th) and Milford on Sea (Mar 19th). There was one inland at Somerley Park (Mar 15th) which may have come from nearby Ibsley Water, although one was also seen there that day.

Birds were reported at the regular wintering sites into April/May at Itchen Estuary (May 12th), Lower Test Marshes (4, Apr 2nd and 18th: 2, May 2nd) and Curbridge (3, Apr 28th). The first spring migrant appeared at Burnt Common on Apr 12th and passage continued until the latest two at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes on May 30th. During this period there were reports from 22 inland sites and 16 coastal sites. The only other counts of four or more were at Sandy Point (8, May 1st), Burnt Common (4, May 5th) and Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes (4, May 15th).

The first returns were two at Ibsley Water on June 17th. Autumn passage continued until late October with reports from 24 coastal sites and 27 inland sites. Apart from eight at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes (July 18th), counts of more than seven came only from Lower Test Marshes (max 20, Sep 10th and 13 other dates with counts between eight and 17). In November and December there were records from the regular wintering sites at Lower Test Marshes/Eling Great Marsh (monthly max. 4, 4), Curbridge (3, 1) and inland at Ibsley Water (2, 2). None was seen at the Itchen Estuary. Elsewhere there were reports from Titchfield Haven (2, Nov 22nd), Farlington Marshes (Nov 30th, Dec 11th), Beaulieu Mill Pond (2, Dec 8th), Hayling Oysterbeds (2, Dec 15th) and Lower Hamble Estuary (2, Dec 25th).

The approximate monthly totals are tabulated below. (JRDS)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
15	12	11	34	51	8	88	94	80	29	12	13

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius*

Very rare vagrant. (0,2,1)

An elusive first-winter was at the back of the Deeps at Farlington Marshes from Sep 28th to Oct 6th (JC, video). Accepted by the BBRC.

This is only the third record for Hampshire. The first was a long-stayer at Titchfield Haven from Oct 4th 1986 to Jan 12th 1987. The second was a presumed juvenile/first-winter along the River Test near Mottisfont from Nov 20th to Dec 17th 2009. (ALR)

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*

Scarce passage migrant; small numbers winter.

Schedule 1, Amber

Between January and April there were reports, mainly between one and four, from 41 inland sites and 11 coastal sites, with maximum counts in the Alresford area of seven (Feb 2nd), six (Apr 2nd) and five (Mar 31st). There were no counts exceeding two away from the tabulated sites. Most had departed by the end of April with the last at Titchfield Haven on Apr 28th and Farlington Marshes on May 4th.

Return passage commenced in June with one at Titchfield Haven on 16th-21st. There were two inland at Burnt Common on June 19th and singles there on 22nd and 23rd. From June

25th reports were widespread from 53 sites to the end of October. Counts were all in single figures, apart from between ten and 14 at Alresford Pond in September. Visible migration was recorded at Trigpoint Hill (1 SW, July 9th).

In November and December late passage and wintering birds were reported from 14 inland sites and eight coastal sites with a maximum of five between Ringwood and Fordingbridge (Nov 13th). The only report of more than two away from the tabulated sites was of three at Eversley GP on Nov 14th. One flew NE over Trigpoint Hill on Dec 20th.

The approximate monthly maxima from well-recorded sites are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Farlington Marshes area	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	5	5	3	1	1
Titchfield Haven area			1	3		1	1	4	3	3	2	2
Hook-with-Warsash				1				3	2	1		
Curbridge		1	2					2		1	1	
Lower Test Marshes	1				1		1	1	1	1		1
Testwood Lakes area			1	1				3	2	1	1	3
Badminton/Fawley	1		1	1			1	1	1			
Lepe CP	1	3	3	1					1	1	1	1
Needs Ore			1	2		1	4	8	4	3	1	1
Lymington-Hurst						1	1	2	3	4	1	
Blashford Lakes	3	3	3	2		1		3	4	4	2	3
Ringwood-Fordingbridge	1	1					3	1	2	2	5	
Fishlake Meadows/Romsey	1		2	1		1	5	3	2	1		
Hunton/Stoke Charity	1							1	3	1		1
Headbourne Worthy WCB	1	1	1						2	1	1	2
Alresford Pond		4	1	1			3	4	14	9		
Alresford area WCBs	4	7	5	4				3			4	4
Mortimer West End			1	2		1	2	2	2			
Woolmer Pond				1				2	2	1	3	1
Longparish	1							3			1	2
Fleet area			1	1			3	2	2			
Testbourne Lake							6	2				1

The approximate monthly totals based on maxima at each site are tabulated below. (JRDS)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
29	25	35	41	2	9	44	69	72	54	31	34

Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes*

Rare vagrant. (0,15,1)

An adult was on Normandy Lagoon from July 13th to Aug 5th (MFC *et al.*, photo). Accepted by the BBRC.

Thankfully a number of the 15 recorded in previous years have stayed for several days and allowed many people to enjoy good views. That was certainly true of this bird, which was often feeding about 60m away after which it would fly around and settle again. (ALR)



Lesser Yellowlegs, Normandy Lagoon, July 15th (Matt Barfield)

Redshank (Common Redshank) *Tringa totanus*

Scarce and declining breeder, common passage migrant and winter visitor.

Amber, HBAP

Winter period	1998-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	2,322	2,454	2,455	2,326	2,157

Comparison of WeBS counts for January and February with 2021 are not possible because of incomplete counts due to COVID (Jan 2021) and poor weather (Feb 2022). The counts in the second winter period were higher than 2021, except for December. Worryingly, the year's highest monthly count of 1,935 in October was more than 10% lower than any of the mean maxima of the previous five five-year periods (see header).

Monthly maxima at the main high tide roosts where counts exceeded 100 are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour	1,348	745	1,091	340	21	67	119	196	1,082	1,206	1,354	1,476
Hampshire sectors	399	149	331	129	4	2	94	199	101	88	209	350
Langstone Harbour	413	125	477	389	14	200	570	828	833	865	775	624
Portsmouth Harbour	416	46	296	74L		1	1	23	242	271	234	338
Hamble Estuary	73	52	35	31	3L	1	58	126	76	111	72	99
Fawley-Calshot	165	67	30		2	2	25		160	30	40	52
Beaulieu Estuary	69	115	29	16	15	13	5	23	69	117	111	67
Lymington-Hurst	130	100	55	38	41	42	133	179	381	368	308	140
WeBS count totals	1,730	599	1,297	612	60	101	774	1,073	1,889	1,935	1,776	1,633

Sites of international importance: 2,400+; national importance: 1,200+; L=Low tide count.

Away from the tabulated sites, maximum counts of double figures from other regularly-watched coastal sites during the first winter period included Hayling GC area (66, Jan 1st), Lepe CP (45, Mar 2nd), Bury Marshes (38, Jan 2nd), Sandy Point (20, Jan 20th), Lower Test Marshes (13, Jan 5th), Titchfield Haven (10, Mar 4th) and Hythe (11, Jan 1st).

In the Avon Valley there were six at Ibsley Water on Jan 15th and one or two regularly there from Feb 27th. Presence at breeding territories in the water meadows was noted during the WeBS count on Mar 20th with 14 noted at five sites. Findings from a GPS tracking study of breeding birds in the Avon Valley are reported in a separate paper on pages 229-235. Other inland records came from Testwood Lakes (1-2, Mar 23rd to May 16th) and Potbridge (1, May 6th).

During the spring and early summer birds were present at various coastal sites, including Keyhaven-Lymington where there were 21 pairs with six chicks at Normandy Lagoon and one at Oxy Marsh. Otherwise, confirmed breeding there was difficult to prove. At Needs Ore, 15 pairs nested with five fully or nearly fully-fledged birds seen. Seven younger chicks were seen but their final outcomes were not known. Four pairs bred at Farlington Marshes. A pair fledged two young at Testwood Lakes but no young were recorded at Ibsley Water where two pairs held territory. One pair attempted breeding at Harbridge WM but no young were seen. On Fowley Island in Chichester Harbour, two pairs were present and a predated egg was found. In the New Forest three pairs held territory at Moonhills and two in the Stoneyford Pond area of Beaulieu Heath. Three were at Rowbarrow on Mar 23rd and one to three were regularly seen at Pig Bush between Apr 3rd and May 16th with a possible off-duty male on May 15th.

Post-breeding dispersal was illustrated by inland records at Fleet Pond (1, July 2nd), Ibsley Water (2, July 25th; 3, Aug 18th; 1, Aug 20th) and Furzy Brow NF (1, Sep 2nd). Dispersal and migration at well-watched coastal sites (apart from those tabulated) gave the following maximum counts: Bury Marshes (70, Oct 10th), Lepe (45, Sep 25th), Titchfield Haven (23, Sep 13th), Hythe (22, July 18th and 25th), Pitts Deep/Tanners Lane (12, Aug 30th), Hayling

Island seafront (8, Sep 15th), Lower Itchen (8, Aug 13th), and Lower Test Marshes (7, Oct 25th). Coastal migration was reported at Sandy Point (1 E, July 22nd and Sep 1st) and Barton on Sea (1 W, Oct 19th).

Maximum counts of double figures from regularly-watched coastal sites away from the tabulated areas during the second winter period included Hayling Island GC (70, Nov 22nd), Titchfield Haven (40, Nov 9th), Bury Marshes (30, Dec 30th), Lepe (25, Nov 16th), Eling Marsh (18, Dec 21st), Sandy Point (16, Nov 13th) and Lower Test Marshes (13, Dec 10th). (JRDS)

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

Scarce passage migrant, mostly in autumn; one winter record in February and March.

ET, Schedule 1, Amber

Spring passage comprised a total of about ten, compared to nine, six, eight and four in the previous four years. The first was one at Farlington Marshes from Apr 22nd-24th followed by one in the Posbrook Flood area on most dates between Apr 25th and May 3rd, and joined by a second on Apr 28th. The remaining reports were in May with a single at Farlington Marshes on 6th, three together at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes on 9th and a single there on 15th. The last of spring was at Burnt Common on 22nd.

Autumn passage totalled around 20, compared to 32 in 2021 and six in 2020. The first was at Alresford Pond on July 2nd-4th followed by two at Farlington Marshes on July 14th. The remaining July reports were singles at Sturt Pond (29th) and Titchfield Haven (30th). Singles were reported from Needs Ore on 23 dates between Aug 1st and Sep 6th with two on Aug 3rd. Other August reports were of singles at Burnt Common on 1st-2nd, Farlington Marshes on 13th-14th, Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes on 19th, Ibsley Water from 24th-26th, Hatchet Pond, NF on 28th (possibly the first ever there) and Titchfield Haven on 29th. In September there were reports of one or two at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes on eight dates between 11th and 24th and one at Needs Ore, also on 24th. (JRDS)

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*

Scarce and declining passage migrant and winter visitor.

Amber

In the early year the highest numbers were in the Lymington-Hurst area with records on 72 dates up to May 9th but with no count exceeding three. Reports from Needs Ore were restricted to singles on 12 dates between Jan 29th and Apr 13th with two there on Mar 30th. The poor early year showing of recent years at Langstone Harbour was repeated with two at the Oysterbeds (Jan 23rd) and singles at Farlington Marshes (Apr 16th and 21st). There were 13 reports from the favoured site at Nore Barn, Emsworth between Jan 4th and Mar 14th. The other early year reports came from Hamble-le-Rice (Jan 3rd) and Pylewell (Feb 3rd).

Early return passage started with a single in summer plumage at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes on June 14th-17th and another, also in summer plumage, at Titchfield Haven on June 22nd. In July there were reports from Needs Ore (single on ten dates from 1st, two on 21st), Titchfield Haven (23rd) and Normandy Lagoon (15th, 24th and 26th). In the autumn and early winter there were reports of up to six at Needs Ore on 56 dates between Aug 3rd and Nov 27th (max. 6, Sep 27th). Numbers were low in autumn at Lymington-Hurst with reports, mainly of singles (max. 3, Sep 9th), on 14 dates from Aug 5th to Oct 16th. The winter flock was reported there from Nov 9th when up to four were present on 24 dates to year-end. Elsewhere, there were singles at Farlington Marshes on nine dates between Aug 7th and Nov 29th plus one at the Oysterbeds on Dec 15th. There was a relatively unusual inland record of one at Fishlake Meadows on Oct 7th. The other reports in the second half of the year were all of singles at Portchester Shore (Sep 7th), Titchfield Haven (Sep 9th), Hamble Point (Sep 12th), Warblington Shore (Oct 12th) and Hook-with-Warsash (Dec 26th).



Spotted Redshank, Emsworth, Oct 15th (Simon Buckell)

Monthly maxima at the two main localities and totals elsewhere are tabulated below. (JRDS)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Needs Ore	1	1	2	1			2	4	6	5	4	
Lymington-Hurst	3	3	3	3	2	1	1	1	3	1	3	4
Totals elsewhere	4	2	1	1		1	1	1	4	3	1	2

Greenshank (Common Greenshank) *Tringa nebularia*

Moderately common passage migrant, especially in autumn; formerly scarce but increasing winter visitor.
Schedule 1, Amber

In January to March a minimum of 57 wintered at 19 sites - all coastal (cf. 39 at 17 sites in 2021; 50 at 17 sites in 2020). In April and May there was a minimum of 56 at 16 sites. These spring figures are lower than 2021 (73 at 20 sites) but higher than 2020 (33 at 13 sites) and comparable to 2019 (59 at 15 sites).

Monthly maxima at the main localities are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour/ Warblington shore	2	3	4	1	3		10	11	11	4	3	9
South Hayling	2	2	3					1	2			1
Farlington Marshes/ Langstone Harbour	9	3	8	12	12	2	20	24	29	34	20	8
Portsmouth Harbour	10	8	7	5			4	6	10	11	3	10
Titchfield Haven	1		2	1		1	1	1	1			1
Hamble Estuary	4	4	4	4	1		6	11	11	8	4	4
Curbridge			1	7	1		1					
Lower Test/Eling/Bury	1			1								1
Beaulieu Estuary-Lepe	4	3	4	4	2	2	7	13	22	17	7	5
Lymington-Hurst	7	6	4	10	2	4	9	14	17	18	16	6
WeBS count totals	23	13	24	19	3		31	40	55	74	27	25



Greenshank, Pennington Lagoon, Sep 25th (Alan Lewis)

In the first half of the year there were singles inland at Somerley Park (Mar 15th), Fleet Pond (Apr 23rd), Fishlake Meadows (Apr 23rd), Ibsley Water (Apr 24th) and Sholing (Apr 30th, nocturnal flight call). Away from the tabulated sites and inland locations above, there were also coastal records at Calshot-Fawley (3, Jan 1st and 16th; 2, Feb 12th; 1, Feb 20th, 26th and 27th; May 2nd), Hamble-le-Rice (Jan 3rd) and Weston Shore (Feb 22nd). Spring passage reduced markedly from mid-May ending with a single on May 19th at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes.

Return passage started with two at Needs Ore on June 6th and singles at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes Lagoon on 9th and 12th and Farlington Marshes on 10th. Reports became almost daily from June 16th – over two weeks earlier than in 2021. Autumn passage involved a minimum of 138 up to the end of October with records from 23 sites including ten inland. The corresponding figures for 2021 were 162 from 28 sites. The inland reports were singles (unless stated) from Edenbrook CP (2, July 15th), Sholing (July 27th, nocturnal flight call), Tundry Pond (Aug 16th), Dogmersfield Lake (Aug 17th), Snails Lake (1 S, Aug 18th), Busta Triangle (Aug 18th), Alresford Pond (Aug 19th), Ibsley North Lake (Aug 23rd), Ibsley Water (3, Sep 10th) and Woolmer Pond (Sep 22nd). Away from the tabulated sites there were coastal reports of singles (unless stated) from Hythe (Aug 28th), Tanners Lane (Aug 30th, Sep 10th and 16th) and Calshot-Fawley (Dec 27th).

In November and December approximately 81 wintered at 14 sites – all coastal (cf. 68 at 14 sites in 2021; 58 at 15 sites in 2020). (JRDS)

Kittiwake (Black-legged Kittiwake) *Rissa tridactyla*

Scarce to moderately common passage migrant and winter visitor, usually scarce but sometimes occurring in large numbers after gales; breeds nearby on Purbeck coast of Dorset and in East Sussex.

VU, Red

Recorded in every month in single figures except for maximum counts of 16 in February, ten in May and 80 in November. The year began with six at Barton on Sea and one at Hurst



Kittiwake, first-winter, Nov 26th & adult, Nov 27th, Needs Ore (Alan Lewis)

Beach on Jan 1st followed by one or two at Sandy Point in the second half of the month. The following month coastal sightings included up to six in western waters except for 16 counted in two hours at Barton on Sea on Feb 12th. There were also singles at Portsmouth Harbour on 8th, Lepe on 19th and Titchfield Haven on 24th, where a first-winter was on land between the north and south scrapes and was seen to fly north up the reserve four days later. Numbers remained low between March and May with highest monthly counts of five adults east at Barton on Sea on Mar 8th and three there on Apr 11th, three off Hurst Beach feeding with gulls and Gannets on Apr 13th, three at Weston Shore on 23rd, ten at Sandy Point on May 17th and nine there on 30th.

There were only single reports in June and July, both referring to one at Sandy Point, three reports in August and September and four in October including a monthly maximum of only two in August and a juvenile at Southampton Town Quay on Oct 31st. The situation changed significantly in November as a result of winter gales. On 8th at least 15 flew east into The Solent at Hurst Beach and 35 (10 ad; 25 juv) were subsequently counted the same day streaming east at Hurst Spit in one hour during strong SW winds and showers. A second movement occurred later in the month on 24th with a total of 35 (approx. 26 ad; 9 first-winter) being blown east at Hurst Beach, 35 at Hill Head and 38 east (approx. 28 ad; 10 first-winter) at Sandy Point. These three records possibly referred to the same group of birds. The following day a return movement of 80 flew west at Hurst Beach. On 26th two were in Langstone Harbour, 30 were recorded at Hill Head and Needs Ore, six at Brownwich and up to five at Riverside Park, Southampton and other parts of the Itchen Estuary. Between 27th and 31st numbers did not exceed six at any one site and in December no more than five were recorded including an adult on the north scrape at Titchfield Haven on 31st.

In addition to the above coastal records, there were inland records of an adult at Fishlake Meadows on Feb 11th and single first-winters in November flying SW at Tweseldown on 9th, at The Mill Field, Old Basing on 15th and Ibsley Water on 18th.

Approximate monthly maximum totals at each site are tabulated below. (MLC)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Hayling Bay	2		1		10	1	1			1	38	2
East Solent		1		1	3			1	1		35	5
Southampton Water				3	3					1	11	
West Solent		1	3							1	80	
Christchurch Bay	6	16	5	3	1			1	2		80	

Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*

Numerous resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Amber

The most widespread of the gulls being recorded in 378 tetrads (37%) in 50 ten km squares.

Four-figure counts were recorded in all months with peak numbers at winter roosts up to March and from October. As usual the largest counts were at Ibsley Water with 3,400 on Jan 10th, 2,000 on Feb 3rd and peaking at 5,500 on Mar 3rd (cf. 6,000 last year in February) followed by 4,000 there three days later. Other high counts in the first half-year were 1,815 in daytime in Portsmouth Harbour on Jan 1st and 1,500 at West Hayling Oysterbeds on 13th, 4,630 south at dusk down the Test Valley at Trigpoint Hill in one hour on Jan 26th, 1,031 at Hill Head on Feb 17th and 1,100 at Ripley Farm Reservoir on Feb 26th. Large numbers continued over the next three months. In March there were 1,301 in Portsmouth Harbour on 5th, 1,016 at Titchfield Haven on 17th rising to 1,300 on 31st and inland at Fleet Pond with 1,000 on 29th with over half apparently roosting there. In April the maximum counts at Fleet Pond roost reached 1,400 on 8th and at Titchfield Haven/Hill Head the peak was 1,482 on 14th. Similar counts continued in May in the Titchfield Haven area with 1,020 at Posbrook Flood on 10th and 1,400 at Hill Head on 19th.

The monthly maxima at regularly counted sites are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Portsmouth Harbour WeBS	1,815	584	1,301						1,022	602	899	759
Titchfield Haven/Hill Head	449	1,031	1,300	1,482	1,400	550	750	700	500	1,000	700	307
Northam/Woodmill	595								530	320	645	585
Beaulieu Estuary/Needs Ore	42	84	278	93	92	225	316	153	182	53	357	188
Ibsley Water#	3,400	2,000	5,500							3,000	1,000	1,000
Winchester SF	87	135	100	28				40		23	80	15
Avington Lake	165	226					1	1		325	78	40
Alresford Pond	214	900	200	11			27	154	500	740	438	17
Heath Pond, Petersfield	180	220	155	17	4	14	50	70	85	210	152	130
Fleet Pond	30	25	1,000	1,400	150	162	100	31	28	17	400	125
Fishlake Meadows	570	380	35	12	6	3	15	6	24	75	160	21

night roost

As usual, highest breeding numbers were reported from around the mouth of Lymington River and in Langstone Harbour. At Lymington, counts on May 26th produced 2,730 active nests at Pylewell Marsh and 330 at Boiler Marsh but following fox predation in 2021 only around 50 pairs nested at Normandy/Cockleshell Marsh. The colonies on the east of the river had a good breeding season with between 800-1,000 well-grown chicks recorded on July 1st. Approximately 400 pairs also nested at Normandy Lagoon, although chick mortality was high, possibly due to bird flu, and 100 pairs nested at Keyhaven. Taken together, the total for this part of the West Solent was 3,610 active nests. This represented a significant decline compared to last year, primarily as a result of the loss of most of the Normandy/Cockleshell colony. Following the large drop in eggs collected under licence in the West Solent last year, no

permits were issued by Natural England this year. This appears to mark the end of this trade.

In Langstone Harbour, 731 pairs nested at West Hayling Oysterbeds raising 540 young (0.81 young/pair) and on the RSPB islands 2,751 pairs raised 1,302 young (0.47 young/pair). At Titchfield Haven there were 671 nests, but at least 20% were subsequently predated by foxes, and at Hook-with-Warsash up to 21 pairs bred on Links scrape. Breeding was also reported from Needs Ore with 25 including fledged young on May 31st and at Blashford Lakes where an estimated 100 occupied nests included nine pairs on rafts at Ivy Lake and several other pairs on rafts at Spinnaker and Ellingham Lakes. In the north-east, an estimated 100 pairs also bred at Fleet Pond raising c. 100 young.

Four-figure counts continued throughout the post-breeding period with 1,800 at Southsea Common on July 7th and Aug 7th, 1,000 at Black Point high tide roost on Aug 25th and 1,022 in Portsmouth Harbour on Sep 10th. Roosting numbers at Ibsley Water increased from October with 3,000 on 9th but were followed by monthly maxima of 1,189 on Nov 13th and 1,000 on Dec 21st although roosting numbers were probably much higher. Elsewhere, 1,022 were in Portsmouth Harbour on Sep 10th, 1,000 were following the plough at Titchfield Canal Path on 18th Oct and 1,260 were at Ripley Farm Reservoir on Dec 11th. Other reports of 1,000 included Sandy Point on Oct 20th, Hill Head on Oct 21st, Black Point roost on Nov 30th and Dec 21st and Oxy Marsh roost on Dec 16th.

Other than flights to roost, the highest movement noted in spring was 230 east at Barton on Sea in over three hours on the morning of Mar 23rd. In the autumn the highest count, again in the morning, was 360 north-east inland at Trigpoint Hill in two hours on Sep 23rd. (MLC)

Little Gull *Hydrocoloeus minutus*

Scarce visitor, although sometimes moderately common, recorded in all months but most numerous in spring and autumn. ET, Schedule 1, Green

Recorded in all months except July with numbers peaking during spring passage in April and adverse weather movements in November. The first reports of the year were in Southampton Water with a first-winter at Solent Breezes on Jan 16th and one of unspecified age at Netley on Feb 27th. Numbers increased in March as spring passage commenced with four at Ibsley Water on 3rd, an adult hawking over Posbrook Flood on 13th, five adults east at Hill Head at 09:28 on 21st and the same past Sandy Point 53 minutes later, and six adults at Ibsley Water on 22nd.

Spring sightings and numbers peaked in April with records on nine dates. The first report of three or more was four in off the sea at Hill Head and then north-east inland on 11th. The same day one was recorded inland at Fishlake Meadows followed by a first-winter at Burnt Common on 15th, the first record for this site. Numbers peaked on 23rd with 16, all but one adults, circling over Fleet Pond at 18:50 before heading off north-east ten minutes later. This was the highest count for this site and north-east Hampshire. The same day five (3 ad, 2 imm) were at Ibsley Water and eight were at Hill Head. The next day numbers at Ibsley Water increased to nine but those at Hill Head were reduced to three. Other reports of ones and twos during this period were from Stokes Bay, Hook-with-Warsash, Hurst Beach/Sturt Pond and Barton on Sea. Numbers reduced from 29th and throughout May, the maximum counts being three first-summers at Needs Ore/Beaulieu Estuary and three age unspecified at Sandy Point on Apr 29th and three first-summers at Hurst Beach on May 9th. There were only two records in June, the last for the first half-year being two adults at Hill Head on 23rd.

Autumn passage began with a second-winter feeding off Black Point on Aug 25th followed by singles at Titchfield Haven and Oxy Marsh on 27th. There were five records of singles (3 ad, 1 juv and 1 not aged) in September between 4th-21st, including an adult at Ibsley Water on 8th-9th, followed by two records of single adults in October on 21st. November proved to be an exceptional month with records on 16 days between 7th-29th at widespread coastal



Little Gull, Central Beachlands, Hayling Island, Nov 27th (Ashley Howe)

sites. Reports of five or more were 14 (9 ad, 5 first-winter) at Sandy Point on 8th, 23 first-winter there the next day, six (5 ad, 1 first-winter) feeding along the shore at Sandy Point and ten east (3 ad, 7 first-winter) at Hill Head on 24th and five adults there on 26th, five at Needs Ore/Beaulieu Estuary and eight in Hayling Bay on 26th, ten there on 27th and five at Southsea on 28th. Birds also penetrated the upper reaches of Southampton Water including one at Mayflower Park on the Southampton waterfront on 27th. One and twos continued to be recorded on seven days in December with the last being a first-winter feeding along the shore at Stokes Bay on 31st. Inland one was at Ibsley Water on Nov 18th.

Approximate monthly totals are tabulated below. (MLC)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	1	16	52	13	3		2	5	2	103	8

Mediterranean Gull *Ichthyæetus melanocephalus*

Moderately common and increasing breeding summer visitor and passage migrant; scarce in winter.

Amber

There were only eight double-figure counts in January, the highest being 53 at Park Shore on 29th and a series of up 15 between Lymington and Hurst from 14th-28th. Numbers increased after mid-February with 100 feeding in a field at West Lane, Hayling on 19th, 126 at Needs Ore/Beaulieu Estuary on 20th, 100 on the mudflats off Normandy Marsh on 25th and 448 at Hayling Oysterbeds on 26th. Inland records included 65 at Meonstoke on 19th, 37 at Alresford Pond on 27th and 30 circling over Petersfield on 28th. During March numbers rose sharply to over four figures at Hayling Oysterbeds with evening flights south into Langstone Harbour of 1,945 (98% adults) during 90 minutes on 9th, 1,172 south on 12th and 1,000 established on the island colonies on 24th. Elsewhere other three-figure coastal counts were 420 and 200 at Needs Ore/Beaulieu River on 6th and 30th respectively, 195 at Lepe on 21st and 100 at Titchfield Haven the same day. There were widespread reports from inland sites including 30 calling over Four Marks on 6th, 80 south over Horndean Down on 26th and 110 over Petersfield on 27th and 28th.

A similar pattern of records continued throughout April to June. In addition to the breeding areas and other coastal sites, widespread inland records included 60 feeding in fields at Old Winchester Hill on Apr 10th and as far north as Fleet Pond where two were present on Apr

22nd and 24th. Regular numbers over Petersfield reached 180 on Apr 11th. In the Test valley counts at Fishlake Meadows peaked at 85 on Apr 25th, at Meonstoke 300 were attracted to ploughing at West End Down on May 2nd and 349 were reported at Hambledon, South Downs on May 24th. The highest inland movement was 118 north-east at Trigpoint Hill on June 4th.

The main breeding concentration was as usual on the Langstone Harbour RSPB islands where 673 pairs raised 429 young (0.64 young/pair). This was significantly lower than last year when 1,249 pairs fledged at least 601 juveniles. However, this was compensated by an almost ten-fold increase in the numbers breeding in the West Solent with 610 active nests being recorded at Pylewell Marsh, Lymington River mouth on May 26th where an estimated minimum of 100 well-grown chicks was observed on July 1st. Thus, despite the drop at Langstone Harbour, the total number of breeding birds in The Solent area in 2022 was similar to 2021. A possible explanation is that birds move between the major sites from year to year. The Pagham Harbour colony in nearby West Sussex also increased from 20 pairs to 282 between the same two years. Elsewhere breeding occurred at Farlington Marshes where a hybrid pair (Mediterranean x Black-headed Gull) was seen with one chick on a nesting platform in The Deeps on May 30th.

In July 125 at Ripley Farm Reservoir and adjacent pig field included a colour-ringed adult from Serbia on 5th. Post-breeding concentrations were recorded with 500 at Brownwich on Aug 11th, 1,000 at Black Point between July 28th and Aug 2nd and 1,000 at Sandy Point on Aug 20th. The subsequent departure of birds was illustrated by the WeBS counts for Chichester Harbour which fell from 1,730 on Aug 12th and 2,004 on Sep 7th to 359 on Oct 8th. In the last two months of the year the only double-figure reports were of 16 at Portsmouth Harbour on Nov 26th, 14 at Normandy Marsh on Dec 4th and an exceptional 244 at Needs Ore/Beaulieu Estuary on Dec 11th.

Monthly maxima at regularly counted localities are tabulated below. (MLC)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour		83	20	273	2	5	1,000	1,730	2,004	359	2	
Sandy Point-Hayling Bay	1	5	14	20	2	11	1,000	64		3	2	1
Langstone Harbour	6	448	1,945	100	120	1,346	46	5	55	11	1	1
Portsmouth Harbour	7	3	19	4	1	4	12	3	16		16	3
Titchfield Haven area	10	12	100	85	20	15	50	500	220	8	1	1
Lepe-Beaulieu Estuary	2	176	422	317	12	20	273	183	19	1	2	244
Sowley-Lymington			2	83	27	60	10	42		2		1
Lymington-Hurst	15	100	28	120	18	3	95	4	4	82	9	14
Ibsley Water/Blashford Lakes	1	2	50	12	2	4					3	
Heath Pond, Petersfield	10	12	100	85	20	15	50	500	220	8	1	1

Common Gull *Larus canus*

Common winter visitor and passage migrant; small numbers summer and occasionally breed. Amber

As last year, the largest numbers were reported in winter from night roosts in the eastern harbours and Southampton Water, arable areas in the Meon Valley and South Downs, and lakes in the upper Itchen Valley. In January the largest coastal counts were 309 in Portsmouth Harbour on 1st and 350 at Weston Shore on 5th. Higher numbers were reported inland with 373 at Alresford Pond on 6th, 550 at Meonstoke on 14th and 250 at Avington Lake on 24th. Maximum numbers increased further in February to 573 at Alresford Pond on Feb 8th, 665 at Farlington Marshes on 15th, 1,200 at Stocks Lane, Meonstoke heading south-east to coastal roost on 16th rising to a site and year high of 1,700 there on 19th before dropping back to 1,200 on 26th. These last three were the only four-figure counts this year. Numbers remained high in early to mid-March with 500 to roost at Farlington Marshes on 3rd and 350

at Meonstoke on 17th before dropping to below three-figures as winter visitors departed and subsequently reducing to single digits for scattered summering birds in June and July.

Few reports of migratory movements were made the largest being 35 east at Trigpoint Hill on Mar 7th, 45 east at Barton on Sea on Mar 9th and 35 east at Sandy Point on Apr 17th. Roost movements included 60 south-west at Petersfield on Jan 3rd and 180 south at Weston on Oct 24th.

The highest monthly counts during the mid-year period were 83 at Alresford Pond on Apr 5th, 11 at Sandy Point on May 9th, six at Holywell in the South Downs on July 27th and 20 at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes on Aug 1st. Evidence of return movement was provided in September with 30 at Farlington Marshes on 5th and 35 at Alresford Pond on 18th. Three-figure monthly maxima were recorded from late October with 410 to roost at Farlington Marshes on 21st rising to 825 there the next day and 600 feeding in fields between Stocks Lane and Old Winchester Hill at Meonstoke on 25th. Peak counts in the last two months were 495 at Alresford Pond on Nov 11th and 302 at Avington Lake on Dec 15th.

Monthly maxima at regularly counted locations are tabulated below. (MLC)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Farlington Marshes/ Langstone Harbour	44	665	500	1		1	4	12	30	825	10	3
Portsmouth Harbour	309	86	132	20			1	16	4	1	46	25
Beaulieu Estuary	3	1	39				3	10	10	1	6	
Ibsley Water	50	20	35	2	1			1	5		5	15
Avington Lake	250	85								1	46	302
Alresford Pond	373	573	21	83				4	35	94	495	44

Ring-billed Gull *Larus delawarensis*

Very scarce visitor recorded in every month except May. (0,44,0)

An adult, assumed to be the same individual as previous years, returned to roost on Ibsley Water on Jan 18th where it remained until Mar 14th (AL et al., photo). It was seen again on Dec 4th-8th (AL et al., photo). (ALR)



Ring-billed Gull, Ibsley Water, Mar 12th (Alan Lewis)

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*

Moderately common but declining winter visitor and passage migrant; scarce breeder.

Amber

In the first four months of the year there were only 12 double-figure counts, the monthly maxima being at Ibsley Water (25, Jan 22nd) and Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes (21, Feb 20th; 20, Mar 22nd and 15, Apr 27th). Similar peak monthly numbers were recorded in the next month at Titchfield Haven (20, May 9th) and Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes (20, May 20th) after which there was an increase due to the usual summering of sub-adults in coastal areas. This is illustrated by the maximum monthly counts which occurred at roosts in Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes (45, June 6th; 47, July 25th and peaking at the year's highest count of 75, Aug 27th). Peak monthly numbers started to fall from September to November at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes (48, Sep 26th; 30, Oct 27th and 20, Nov 27th) with a slight upturn at the end of the year at Titchfield Haven (37, Dec 19th).

Most reports were from coastal sites or nearby areas but there was a scattering of records further inland, mostly of ones and twos along the main river valleys.

A single pair again breed at Burrfields, Portsmouth where one chick fledged and another died. (MLC)

Iceland Gull *Larus glaucoides*

Very scarce visitor, usually in winter but recorded in every month. (3,107,1)

Amber

An adult flew south over Meonstoke down the Meon Valley at 13:03 on Feb 14th. It was in the daily movement of gulls from the farmland towards the coast and was accompanied by Common and Herring Gulls (DGHM). (ALR)

Herring Gull (European Herring Gull) *Larus argentatus*

Common winter visitor and passage migrant; moderately common and increasing breeder.

NT, Red, S4I

Maximum numbers were lower than last year with only one four-figure total reported and only two other counts exceeding 500. The only records of more than 300 in the first half-year were 400 at Sandy Point on Jan 25th, morning counts of 400 at Hurst Beach on Apr 10th and 750 at Barton on Sea on Apr 13th, an evening roost count of 300 at Titchfield Haven on May 9th and 350 at Weston Shore at low morning tide on June 3rd. Inland, 360 were recorded at Trigpoint Hill watchpoint on Jan 26th, 350 were at Meonstoke on Feb 19th and the roost at Ibsley Water held 300 on Feb 3rd and 20th and 445, all immatures/sub-adults, on the morning of May 25th. Also of note was a movement of 284 east at Barton on Sea between 06:00 and 12:20 on May 9th (cf. Pomarine Skua).

The only drone survey of breeding gulls this year was carried out over roof-tops at the main site at New Milton Industrial Estate where a total of 173 nests was identified compared to 216 in 2021 and 190 in 2020. Reported numbers of breeding pairs elsewhere were limited and represented only a fraction of those counted mostly by drone surveys at Southsea, Portsmouth and Southampton and elsewhere last year (128 in 2021). Breeding was confirmed this year at the following sites: Apollo factory, Havant (2/3 pairs with up to 5 young); Farlington Marshes (1 pair on raft with 2 young – first recorded breeding at this site); IBM North Harbour (1 pair with 3 young on roof); Old Portsmouth (2 pairs on roofs with 3 young which may not have survived); Royal Haslar Hospital, Gosport (1 pair with fledged young); Hythe boat repair yard (at least 3 pairs with young on roof) and Petersfield Industrial Estate (1 pair with 1 young). Nesting was also reported from Hoglands Park and Town Quay in Southampton but without details of pairs or young.

In the second half year numbers peaked inland with 300 at Ellisfield on Oct 11th and 314 at Avington Lake on Oct 17th rising to 574 there on Nov 14th. On the coast 400 were roosting

at Weston Shore on Oct 27th followed by the highest count of the year of 1,200 at Oxe Marsh on Dec 16th. Elsewhere, maximum roost counts at Ibsley Water were 500 on Nov 11th and Dec 21st and 300 there on Dec 28th. (MLC)

Caspian Gull *Larus cachinnans*

Very scarce autumn and winter visitor. (0,38,8)

Amber

Caspian Gulls were recorded at six locations, but Ibsley Water remains the stronghold. A first-winter was at Fareham Creek from Feb 8th-22nd (MF et al.). The next sighting was an adult at Burnt Common on Feb 14th (BS), followed by a first-winter at Farlington Marshes on Feb 19th which dropped onto the stream for two minutes before flying south-west into Langstone Harbour (JC, PAG). In March a first-winter and adult were at Ibsley Water. The first-winter was present 5th-10th (AL et al.) and the adult was recorded on 19th (SA). A juvenile turned up at Browdown on Sep 3rd (LH). At least two different first-winters roosted on Ibsley Water between Nov 9th and Dec 28th (m.o) but were not recorded every day during this period. (ALR)



Caspian Gull, Fareham Creek, Feb 8th (Ashley Howe)

Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis*

Scarce visitor recorded in all months but more frequent in autumn; bred for the first time in 2014; previously hybridised with other large gull species.

Amber

The numbers and patterns of records were similar to last year. Ibsley Water remained the best-watched location contributing the most records. The roost there started the year with a peak count of nine on Jan 23rd followed by a drop to only two on Feb 8th and singles in the next three months. After gaps in June, July and September and a maximum of only two in October, numbers picked up with the arrival of winter visitors to reach monthly maxima of eight (7 ad, 1 second-winter) on Nov 13th and 11 on Dec 6th. Elsewhere ones and twos were recorded from

widespread sites including during the summer months when the arrival of juveniles resulted in a monthly maximum count of three at Weston Shore on July 10th and 11th.

There were also several inland records with a single at Burnt Common on Jan 26th and two adults at Tidpit pig farm on Feb 5th. Three (2 ad, 1 first-winter) at Burnt Common on Mar 9th possibly indicated passage. Other inland records during the second half-year included singles at Fishlake Meadows on July 12th, The Vyne Lake on July 15th, two at North Stoneham on Aug 30th and an adult at Tundry Pond on Oct 25th. Observers are requested to report the age of individuals to assist in understanding movements.

There were no confirmed breeding reports this year.

Monthly maxima at the most frequently counted sites and the approximate monthly totals are shown below. (MLC)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Blashford Lakes (mostly Ibsley Water roost)	9	2	1	1	1			1		2	8	11
Itchen Estuary area							3					
Lower Test Marshes/Eling						1	2	2	1	1		
Titchfield Haven/Hill Head	1		1		1		1	1	1			
Approx. monthly totals	14	8	7	5	3	2	7	9	6	4	12	12

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*

Common visitor, mostly to inland sites, recorded in all months; most numerous in autumn and increasing in winter. Small numbers have bred since 2001. Amber.

The highest counts were as usual reported from the roost at Ibsley Water with 200 on Jan 1st rising to 300 on Feb 3rd and then falling to 50 and less from Feb 11th. Highest counts elsewhere were in February with 150 at Ridgemoor Farm, Burghclere on 8th, 250 at Litchfield on 14th and 64 at Burnt Common on 17th indicating inland passage. Other notable inland counts from spring were 30 at Kingsclere on Mar 12th, 40 at Freefolk on Apr 18th and 65 at Vernham Dean on May 20th. There was evidence of passage at Trigpoint Hill with 25 on Mar 31st and at inland water bodies such as 30 at Alresford Pond on Feb 27th and 23 at Avington Lake on Apr 11th.

As usual, nesting took place on various industrial buildings. A drone survey at New Milton Industrial Estate identified five nests. Successful breeding was also confirmed by one juvenile with five adults at Apollo Factory, Havant on June 16th. Two pairs were also present at Burrfields, Portsmouth but there was no evidence of breeding. Nesting was no doubt more widespread (total 26 nests/pairs in 2021) but with a limited drone survey this year evidence was lacking. Observers are requested to check industrial and business parks for nesting behaviour next breeding season.

Return passage commenced in July with 42 at Fishlake Meadows rising to 200 on 17th. At Alresford Pond 28 were reported on Aug 22nd followed by 22 on Aug 24th and 26th. At Keyhaven Marshes 60 were present on Sep 10th and on Oct 9th the Ibsley Water roost had increased sharply to 2,000 remaining at that level on Nov 30th before falling to 300 on Dec 21st. Inland counts also increased during the autumn with 60 at Ashley Warren on Oct 1st, 100 at Vernham Dean on Oct 10th, 74 there on 22nd and 130 at Ashe on Nov 12th. Evidence of inland movement was provided by highs of 27 at Alresford Pond on Oct 19th and 36 at Tundry Pond on Oct 25th. (MLC)

Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia*

Rare vagrant. (0,6,1).

At 12:30 on July 3rd an adult flew west along the coastal shore next to Normandy Lagoon. The bird was at a range of about 35m, allowing an excellent view for around 20 seconds as it continued along the coast (KF, SC). This was presumably the bird seen at Dell Quay in Sussex at 10:15. Accepted by the BBRC.

The first Hampshire records were in June 1974 and April 1995. There was then a long wait until 2013 when there were two records. One of these occurred in similar circumstances to this, being a July fly-past at Normandy. Most birders' frustrations were eventually relieved when two separate birds appeared in 2020; one over Southampton Water in May and then another at Fishlake Meadows for two days in July. (ALR)

Sandwich Tern *Thalasseus sandvicensis*

Moderately common summer visitor and passage migrant; small numbers now winter. ET, Amber

In the early year records came from 12 sites with a peak count of 17 in Chichester Harbour on Jan 7th. The first probable migrants were seven east at Sandy Point on Mar 22nd and four east at Barton on Sea on 29th. Migrant numbers remained very low until Apr 11th when there was a considerable up-channel movement involving a minimum of 660. Approximately 1,024 were logged moving east up to May 17th and counts at the key sites (all with daily peaks on Apr 11th) included 422 at Barton on Sea (peak 288), 68 at Hurst Beach (peak 32), 90 at Lepe Beach (peak 78), 307 at Hill Head/Stokes Bay (peak 200) and 875 at Sandy Point (peak 660).

In the breeding season nine pairs raised six young on the RSPB reserve in Langstone Harbour. In the West Solent, a colony of 85 active nests was recorded on Pylewell Marsh on May 26th. Several large chicks were subsequently seen on June 15th but numbers then declined so that only around 20 adults and five fledged chicks remained on July 1st. On July 7th a smaller colony of 15-20 pairs was recorded at Hawkers Island, Keyhaven probably after having moved from Pylewell. Several juveniles were noted in late July but fledging success was not determined. Overall, only five to seven chicks are likely to have fledged in the West Solent, but this was still an improvement on 2021.

In the autumn there were 17 three-figure counts with a peak of 225 at Keyhaven on Aug 26th/27th. Late year records came from nine sites with a peak of 19 at Sweare Deep, Chichester Harbour on Nov 14th. (MLE)

Little Tern *Sternula albifrons*

Scarce and declining summer visitor and passage migrant; recorded once in winter.

Amber

The first reports of the year were a single at Hamble and three east at Hill Head on Apr 11th. Thereafter eastbound passage was light with only 34 noted at five sites up to May 9th. Sandy Point was the only site to record more than nine with 23 (max. 6, May 9th). The first double-figure count was 12 at Keyhaven Marshes on May 2nd.

In the breeding season six pairs nested on the RSPB Reserve in Langstone Harbour but failed to fledge any young. At Needs Ore three were prospecting on June 7th but no nesting attempt was made. In the West Solent, despite having had a successful breeding season in Normandy Lagoon in 2021, the colony moved offshore to Cockleshell where five to six pairs bred and seven to eight chicks fledged. A second colony of four pairs at their traditional site on Hawkers Island raised three to four chicks. This was a reduction in numbers on last year but still represented a good breeding season.

Seven double-figure counts came from three sites in the autumn with the highest being 20 at Keyhaven on Aug 3rd. Unfortunately, human disturbance continued at the previously important Black Point high tide roost with a maximum of only 12. Numbers there have declined steadily



*Little Tern, adult in flight, Normandy Lagoon, July 8th and adults feeding young, Sturt Pond, July 25th
(Matt Barfield)*

since the last three-figure count of 105 in August 2017. Birds were present along the coast until Sep 13th when two were in Langstone Harbour. (MLE)

Roseate Tern *Sterna dougallii*

Very scarce passage migrant which occasionally breeds.

ET, Schedule 1, Red, S4I, HBAP

A busy year with sightings on 27 dates from May 9th to Aug 26th but, perhaps, involving as few as five individuals.

The first was one tracked east at four sites from Barton on Sea to Hill Head on May 9th. The following day presumably the same was seen off Netley. A pair attempted to breed in the West Solent but failed which probably explains some of the increased sightings below. Two were off Sandy Point on May 25th and Hill Head on 29th. One at Hook-with-Warsash on June 4th may have been one of these. From June 21st-24th up to two were off Hill Head. Again, these may have been the birds originally seen on May 25th. One was off Hurst Beach on July 1st. From July 7th to Aug 26th there were regular sightings of one or two at Hill Head/Titchfield Haven and other records of single adults off Weston Shore on July 14th and at Hayling Oysterbeds on Aug 5th and two in the Black Point high tide roost on Aug 8th. (MLE)

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*

Moderately common summer visitor and common passage migrant.

ET, Amber

The firsts were singles at Farlington Marshes and Hill Head on Apr 2nd. Eastbound passage was modest with approximately 576 between Apr 10th and May 17th. Cumulative counts from the main coastal sites were 444 at Sandy Point (max. 177, May 9th), 132 at Hill Head/Stokes Bay (max. 65, May 3rd), 13 at Hurst Beach on Apr 27th and 62 at Barton on Sea (max. 25, May 9th).

In Langstone Harbour 74 pairs raised 73 young at Hayling Oysterbeds and two pairs failed to raise any young on the RSPB Islands. At Titchfield Haven 18 pairs hatched nine chicks but it is not known how many fledged. At Hook-with-Warsash one pair hatched two young which were thought to have been predated. A second pair was present but did not attempt to breed. At Needs Ore several pairs were seen prospecting for nest sites but no breeding occurred. In West Solent colonies were established at several locations. On May 26th 20 active nests were recorded on Pylewell and a further 24 on Boiler. There were an additional 20 nests on Cockleshell and ten on Hawkers Island in late June. The largest colony was in Normandy Lagoon where an estimated 40 pairs bred. The overall total of around 115 pairs represented a small increase over last year. Productivity was relatively high with around 50 fledged of which 20 came from Normandy Lagoon. Inland, there was a maximum of 17 sitting birds on the HOS raft on Ivy Lake on May 25th. Elsewhere, five pairs raised 13 young at Testwood Lakes.

Post-breeding numbers were down on the previous year with only 16 three-figure counts compared with 28 in 2021. The peak count was 470 at Hill Head on July 27th (710 in 2021). There were 15 records in October with the last at Needs Ore on Nov 2nd. (MLE)

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea*

Scarce but overlooked passage migrant.

ET, Amber

The spring passage period was productive with approximately 110 at 11 sites between Apr 23rd and May 26th including 58 moving east through The Solent. On the first date 40 were recorded at six sites including 26 at Weston Shore. Approximately 28 were still present the following day. Other double-figure counts were at Barton on Sea (39 east; peak 22, May 9th) and Hill Head (26 east; peak 21, May 15th). A first-summer was off Hill Head with two adults on Aug 4th.



Common Tern, Keyhaven, May 2nd (Matt Barfield)



Arctic Tern, Needs Ore, Nov 2nd (Ian Williamson)



*Whiskered Tern, Fishlake Meadows, Aug 3rd
(Simon Buckell)*



*White-winged Black Tern, Rockford Lake, Aug
20th (Jeremy McClements)*

In contrast, autumn passage was light with only 12 at eight sites from July 22nd to Nov 9th. These included a juvenile/first-winter at Bursledon on River Hamble on Oct 30th, off Weston Shore on Nov 1st and Mayflower Park, Southampton on Nov 3rd. The last, an adult in summer plumage at Beaulieu Estuary, was present from Oct 25th until Nov 9th. There were no inland sightings. (MLE)

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida*

Rare passage migrant. (0,15,1)

ET, Schedule 1

An adult was discovered at Fishlake Meadows on July 31st and remained faithful to its favoured feeding and roosting areas until Aug 4th (DAT *et al.*, photo). Accepted by the BBRC.

Of the 16 Hampshire records, only three have not been in May. For many years it had been a hard bird to see in the county, but this individual and two others in recent years have changed that for most people. (ALR)

White-winged Black Tern (White-winged Tern) *Chlidonias leucopterus*

Rare passage migrant. (1,34,2)

A juvenile was at Rockford Lake, Blashford on Aug 19th-20th (KFB *et al.*, photo). Another juvenile was off Pennington Marshes early in the morning of Aug 20th (AL).

August and September are by far the best months for seeing this species, with a slight preference for the latter. (ALR)

Black Tern *Chlidonias niger*

Scarce passage migrant.

ET, Schedule 1, Green

Spring passage was light with only 12 on the coast and one inland. Four off Weston Shore on Apr 23rd (cf. Arctic Tern) were followed by one at Hill Head on Apr 26th. In May one was inland at Ibsley Water on 2nd and four flew east at Sandy Point on 9th. Singles in June were noted at Black Point on 5th and Hill Head on 19th.

During autumn passage approximately 83 were recorded at 11 sites from July 22nd (3, Hill Head/Brownich) to Sep 18th (1, Needs Ore). The only site to record more than ten was Hill

Head/Titchfield Haven with an autumn total of 50 and double-figure day counts of 12 on Aug 11th and 14 on Aug 25th. Inland, singles were at Ibsley Water on Aug 1st, 23rd and Sep 9th. Monthly totals are shown in the table below. (MLE)

Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct
5	6	2	12	67	4	0

Great Skua *Stercorarius skua*

Scarce passage migrant, more frequent in spring; very scarce in summer and rare in winter. Amber

A poor year with only 18 records. There was an early year record of one off Barton on Sea on Feb 12th. Spring passage was noted at four sites between Apr 10th and May 5th with total counts of ten at Sandy Point/Hayling Bay including one chasing Gannets off South Hayling on Apr 24th (max. 5, Apr 11th), two at Hurst Beach (singles, Apr 12th and 26th) and two at Hill Head (singles, Apr 24th and May 2nd).

Three were seen in the autumn with singles off Hill Head on Sep 5th, Sandy Point on Oct 15th and Hook-with-Warsash on Nov 20th. (MLE)

Pomarine Skua (Pomarine Jaeger) *Stercorarius pomarinus*

Scarce passage migrant, more frequent in spring; very scarce in summer and rare in winter. Green

A very good year with 77 recorded, the highest total since 102 in 2014. The first was a single east at Hurst Beach on Apr 29th with another there on May 1st. The following day one passed Hill Head and a flock of five moved high east over Sandy Point. A further single flew east there on May 4th. There were no further records until May 9th when 61 moved through The Solent on a day of good visibility and south-easterly winds. Efficient communication between sites allowed observers at six points from Hordle to Hayling to get in on the action between early morning and lunchtime. As usual the lion's share was seen at Hurst Beach where 52 moved east between 07:47 and 13:29 although a group of seven off Hordle at 08:09 was missed there. This total included several groups, for example 14 at 09:13 and ten at 13:29. Relatively few were picked up further east. The last of the day and the spring were five which passed Sandy Point at 17:45.

The only autumn record was two in the Hurst Beach area from Nov 26th-28th. (MLE)

Arctic Skua (Parasitic Jaeger) *Stercorarius parasiticus*

Scarce passage migrant, more frequent in spring; very scarce in summer and rare in winter. Red

The first reports were singles off Hurst Beach and Hill Head on Apr 10th. From then until June 5th approximately 102 were recorded at nine sites. This was a significant increase on the 60 recorded in the spring of 2021. Totals at the main sites were 37 at Hurst (max. 12), 21 at Hill Head/Stokes Bay (max. 7) and 51 at Sandy Point (max. 10). All maximum counts were on May 9th.

Autumn passage commenced on June 19th when one was off Sandy Point. A further 28 were logged up to Nov 27th with the peak count being four off Hurst Beach on July 1st. (MLE)

Long-tailed Skua (Long-tailed Jaeger) *Stercorarius longicaudus*

Very scarce passage migrant, also recorded twice in winter. Green

A pale morph adult was chasing Leach's Petrels off Milford on Sea at 11:40 on Nov 8th (SRC). (ALR)

Common Guillemot (Common Murre) *Uria aalge*

Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant; breeds nearby in west of Isle of Wight.

NT, Amber

A very modest year with a total of 38. In the early year approximately 18 were recorded with four off Sandy Point on Jan 4th being the peak count. Spring passage produced a mere four birds between Apr 27th and May 9th. The first of the autumn was off Keyhaven on Sep 2nd and was followed by a further seven to the month end. Eight were seen in November of which six were found dead on Hurst Beach on 27th. They were thought to be storm-driven rather than victims of avian flu.

Approximate monthly totals are tabulated below. These may significantly under-estimate actual numbers as it is possible that Guillemots were included in some of the records listed below under Auk sp., particularly in the large-scale movement in October. (MLE)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Offshore	11	3	2	1	3				8		8	
Moving east		2										

Razorbill *Alca torda*

Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant; breeds nearby on Purbeck coast of Dorset.

NT, Amber

A good year with numbers boosted considerably by a record count in October. Approximately 46 were recorded in January with most staying through to early March and relatively few new birds discovered after mid-January. The highest numbers in the early year were around Chichester Harbour entrance with 15 off Sandy Point on Jan 7th being the peak count. A single there on Apr 7th was the only record during the spring passage period.

The first of the autumn flew east at Hurst Beach on Aug 24th with two further up to early October. On Oct 19th high numbers moving east were counted at both ends of the coastline with 45 at Barton on Sea and 37 at Sandy Point. The following day 316, a new county record, were on the sea off Sandy Point (RCL). This coincided with a period of heavy rain and thunderstorms moving north over the UK. Numbers returned to normal for the rest of the year with no subsequent counts exceeding four.

Approximate monthly totals are tabulated below. (MLE)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
46	1	1	1				2	1	400	6	11

Auk sp.

A total of 1,262 unidentified auks was recorded at five sites. In the early year 114 were logged including 100 west at Sandy Point on Jan 31st. Spring passage was represented by 11 birds on five dates in April and May. A single was off Sandy Point on July 2nd. October brought very high numbers of auks with 1,135 inshore at Sandy Point including 161 east on 4th and 118 (85 east, 33 west) on 5th. Daily counts there increased further during the period Oct 19th-21st (cf. Razorbill) with 600 east on 19th and 250 on 21st. One off Weston Shore on Dec 6th was the only other late year record. (MLE)

Red-throated Diver (Red-throated Loon) *Gavia stellata*

Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant.

ET, Schedule 1, Green

The easterly spring passage total of 62 was the highest since 2013 (71) and only 2018 (58) recorded comparable numbers. A day count of 23 on Apr 14th off Sandy Point (ACJ) has only been exceeded once previously in spring (26, Hurst Castle, Apr 1st 2000). In contrast, both winter periods were unexceptional.

Movements in the early year were mainly through Christchurch Bay (31 E, 13 W) as observed from Barton on Sea (max. 7 E and 5 W, Feb 12th) and Hurst Spit (3 E, Jan 17th). The only movements noted in The Solent were from Needs Ore (7 W, Jan 6th and 1 E, Mar 1st). Off Sandy Point there were one to three east on four dates (8 bird-days) and one west on Feb 9th. There were 43 bird-days of settled birds on the sea to Mar 22nd, mainly singles but with three off Browdown on Jan 7th, four east off Hill Head on 16th and three off Naish Farm, Barton on Sea on 18th and 22nd. At Sandy Point easterly spring passage totalled 43 from Apr 11th (4) to May 9th (2) including the record count described above. Elsewhere there were 14 through Christchurch Bay from Apr 6th-12th (max. 6 at Hurst, 10th; Barton on Sea, 12th) and five singles past Hill Head (Apr 11th-29th). Settled birds on the sea, all singles, were off Eastoke and Hurst Beach (Apr 12th), Hurst Castle (24th), Stokes Bay (30th) and Needs Ore (May 7th).

The first in autumn, all singles, were as follows: east past Sandy Point on the early date of Sep 16th, resting on the sea off Barton on Sea on Oct 24th and east there on Nov 6th and 13th, and diving off Pennington Marshes on 8th and on three further dates up to Dec 20th. One was reported regularly offshore from Gilkicker Point to Brownwich between Nov 14th-28th with four at Stokes Bay on 27th then eight west past Hill Head on Dec 26th. At Black Point/Sandy Point there were 26 bird-days from Nov 14th to Dec 22nd with peaks of four on Dec 1st and three on 15th. Up to three were recorded off Needs Ore on four dates between Nov 26th and Dec 10th and six on Dec 22nd. Singles were reported on three of six early morning visits to Hurst Castle/Narrows in December.

The approximate monthly totals are shown below. (AFJC)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
On sea	17		2	4	1				1	1	14	6
Moving east	18	7	10	57	5				1		2	3
Moving west	15	5	2									8

Black-throated Diver (Black-throated Loon) *Gavia arctica*

Very scarce winter visitor and passage migrant.

ET, Schedule 1, Amber

A total of four over-wintered 2021/22. Three remained in the Sandy Point/Chichester Harbour area from Dec 9th 2021 until Jan 23rd, after which one remained (2 on 3 dates) from Jan 26th to Mar 22nd. It seems likely that records from Langstone (1-2, Jan 1st-2nd, 16th) and Portsmouth Harbours (2, Feb 26th to Mar 2nd) were from the same over-wintering group. Reports of singles off Weston Shore on Jan 4th and Gilkicker Point on 14th were also presumably of the same individual reported in the previous month. Elsewhere, one flew east past Barton on Sea on Jan 2nd and another was off Normandy Marsh on 24th.

Easterly movements, all singles, were noted on just five dates as follows: past Hurst Spit (Mar 10th; Apr 10th and 12th), at Taddiford Gap (Mar 22nd) and Needs Ore (Apr 27th). A first-winter, often seen feeding within 5m of the shore, remained in Hayling Bay from Apr 11th until May 14th and was then reported past Portsmouth Harbour entrance, Hill Head and Solent Breezes on May 16th - still with no evidence of moulting to breeding plumage. There were also additional records on the sea off Hill Head (1, Apr 11th; 2 ad, Apr 30th) and Hurst Beach (1 non-breeding plumage, May 1st).

Late year records were singles on the sea off Hill Head on Nov 7th and 26th and possibly the same at Needs Ore on the latter date. There were also reports of one in Hayling Bay on Nov 29th and off Farlington Marshes on 30th. The minimum monthly totals are shown below. (AFJC)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
6	3	4	5	3						3	

Great Northern Diver (Common Loon) *Gavia immer*

Scarce but increasing winter visitor and passage migrant.

ET, Schedule 1, Amber

There were at least eight overwintering from Chichester Harbour to Southampton Water in both winter periods but the species was scarcer further west. From Lymington to Hurst just eight bird-days were reported in the early year and six in the late year. Two were recorded inland.

In the early year there were up to four on six dates at Sandy Point until Feb 21st (max 5, Feb 22nd) and the last on Mar 24th. At Weston Shore up to three wintered until Mar 10th with the last on 13th seen from Hamble Point leaving Southampton Water towards Calshot.

Movements past Needs Ore totalled four singles west from Feb 5th to Mar 19th - possibly departing winterers from eastern waters. From well-watched Barton on Sea there were just four sightings of singles east on Mar 8th and Apr 30th and west on May 9th and 17th. One was at Sandy Point on Apr 10th followed by a summer plumaged individual between May 10th and 15th, possibly the same at Stokes Bay earlier on 10th, and another still in winter plumage north past Weston Shore but then returning to exit Southampton Water also on 10th. The last spring records were both summer-plumaged individuals east past Sandy Point on May 17th and June 10th, the latter overflying the reserve.

The first return was east past Keyhaven Marshes on Oct 15th. The next off Calshot on 29th was viewed from the Hamble shore. One still in summer plumage was at Sandy Point from Nov 2nd and in moult by 7th, two flew out of Chichester Harbour on 8th and up to two over-wintered from Nov 25th. At Weston Shore the first in moult arrived on Nov 5th and three were present from Nov 19th (four on two dates) until Dec 17th. Reports from Langstone Harbour and Eastney from Nov 12th were almost daily with a maximum of three on five dates (cf. just 3 bird-days in the early year).

Monthly maxima at principal watchpoints are tabulated below. Not tabulated were singles off Portchester (Feb 22nd) and Sowley (Dec 3rd) shore.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour/Sandy Point	4	5	2	2	2	1		4	2
Langstone Harbour/Eastney	2							3	3
Stokes Bay to Chilling	1	1			1			2	1
Hamble Point/Hook-with-Warsash	1	3	1				1	1	1
Weston Shore/Southampton Water	3	3	3		1			4	4
Lepe/Needs Ore/Beaulieu Estuary	1	1	4					1	1
Lymington-Hurst	2	1		1			1	1	1
Barton On Sea/Taddiford Gap to Becton Bunny			1	1	2				1
Estimated Total	12	8	6	4	6	1	2	14	14



Great Northern Diver, Kingfisher Lake, Dec 4th (Alan Lewis)

There were two inland records, the most surprising being one flying south-west over Chandlers Ford early afternoon on Jan 22nd, also notable as the first flight record of the year after the flightless moult period (SMN). The other was a juvenile feeding on Signal Crayfish at Kingfisher Lake, Blashford between Nov 26th and Dec 21st. (AFJC)

Diver sp.

There were four reports of single distant divers in flight (Fort Cumberland, Jan 15th; Brownwich, Apr 11th; Hill Head, May 15th and mid-Solent, Oct 24th) and two on the sea in a mix of gulls and Gannets off Hurst (Apr 12th). (AFJC)

Leach’s Petrel
(Leach’s Storm Petrel)
Hydrobates leucorhoa

Very scarce autumn and winter visitor, usually after gales; mostly from September to January but once each in February, April and June.
(11,326,7) ET, Schedule 1, Amber

A single was flying around Southampton Water off Netley on Jan 4th (ARC). There were no others until the autumn when strong winds forced birds towards the coast. At least three were off Hill Head on Nov 1st (MF, photo) and a single was off Milford on Sea (SI, MB, photo). On Nov 8th four were off Milford on Sea (SRC) and another was off Chilling (RHM). Singles were off Milford on Sea on Nov 24th (SRC), off Sandy Point on Nov 26th (GDF) and off Needs Ore on Nov 27th (AL).

This is the largest number of sightings since the huge influx of over 100 birds after storms in November 2009. (ALR)



Leach’s Petrel, Hill Head, Nov 1st (Mark Francis)

Fulmar (Northern Fulmar) *Fulmarus glacialis*

Scarce visitor, most frequent in spring and early autumn; breeds nearby in west and east of Isle of Wight. VU, Amber

Following the pattern established over recent years, most reports came from the approaches to each end of The Solent at Sandy Point in the east and between Barton on Sea and Hurst Castle in the west. All records referred to either one or two individuals except for three at Sandy Point on Apr 7th and four there on Apr 11th. The first was one west at Barton on Sea on Mar 8th and the last was a dead bird washed ashore at Hurst Beach on Nov 27th. There were also occasional reports of singles from within The Solent west at Hill Head on Apr 6th and 23rd, east at Stokes Bay the next day, east at Hill Head on Apr 29th and July 25th and off Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes on May 1st and Nov 26th.

The pattern of records again suggests occasional visits of birds from the nearby breeding sites on the Isle of Wight and adjacent coasts of Sussex or Dorset.

Monthly maxima are shown below. (MLC)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
		2	4								

Cory's Shearwater *Calonectris borealis*

Very rare vagrant. (0,6,2)

ET

There were two records. The first was spotted at 09:07 on Sep 4th during an otherwise uneventful seawatch at Sandy Point. Having located the bird heading west at a range of at least two km, ACJ was able to alert GCS and PAG who had just headed off to search the reserve. They also managed to see the bird for around two minutes (ACJ, GCS, PAG).

The second record also involved GCS who, with JMC, was diligently carrying out a visible migration watch at Tweseldown on Nov 4th. Once again, the return on their time invested had been quite poor and both were thinking of going home when GCS spotted a bird that he could not immediately identify. It was coming towards them from the north-east. Flying almost head-on towards them at about 100m and perfectly lit by the sun, it eventually circled above them at a height of 50m. It continued south-west, allowing a total observation time of two minutes (GCS, JMC). See separate account of this extraordinary sighting on page 254.

These are the seventh and eighth records for Hampshire, the most recent being in 2012. The Tweseldown record appears to be only the fifth inland record in the UK, with singles previously in Staffordshire in October 1971, Wiltshire in September 1984, London in September 2016 and Rutland in November 2017. The Tweseldown sighting followed south-west gales on Nov 1st which gusted to 115mph on the south coast, followed by heavy rain over the next few days. (KFB)

Sooty Shearwater *Ardenna griseus*

Rare autumn passage migrant, also recorded once in April, June and July. (0,38,1)

A single was first seen at 09:49 on Nov 26th as it flew west past Hill Head at a range of about 800m before turning east. At 10:58 it was seen to go west again, and then east at 11:58. At 12:40 it headed east again but closer to the coast, allowing birders to connect with it at Stokes Bay and Needs Ore (MF, MDR, DPH *et al.*, photo).



Sooty Shearwater, Hill Head, Nov 26th (Mark Francis)

The majority of records have occurred between August and October. This is the fourth record for November and the second latest for the autumn. (KFB)

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*

Scarce spring and summer visitor and passage migrant, most frequent in spring.

Amber

A very poor year with only five records totalling 12 individuals, all in April and May. This follows a year total of only 23 on seven days in 2021 and continues the decreasing trend of recent years.

In April singles were recorded east at Barton on Sea on 6th, possibly the same west fighting strong winds at Hill Head 32 minutes later, and west off Hurst Beach on 12th, which was seen to land among a feeding flock of gulls and Gannets. The next were three east off Sandy Point on 17th and four east at Taddiford Gap on 28th. The last sighting was of three east off Sandy Point on May 26th. Later in the year there was also a report of a single small unidentified shearwater west off Sandy Point on Sep 4th.

The monthly cumulative totals are shown below. The small numbers and behaviour again suggest feeding forays or birds storm-driven from the nearest colonies in the Isles of Scilly or northern France. (MLC)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			9	3							

Gannet (Northern Gannet) *Morus bassanus*

Moderately common non-breeding summer visitor from its nearest colonies in Alderney; scarce but increasing in winter. Amber

Recorded in all months, mostly from the regular coastal watchpoints. Maximum numbers did not exceed eight in February, March and December but reports of 50 or more were spread across six other months with 100 fishing offshore at Hurst Beach on Jan 1st, 150 off Sandy Point on Jan 31st and 50 there on Apr 11th, 50 off Hurst Beach on May 12th and Aug 5th, 70 seen from Barton on Sea feeding around The Needles on Sep 11th and 250 feeding in the same area seen from Hurst Beach on Oct 31st.

Also regularly reported in smaller numbers from within The Solent and Southampton Water. Highest counts in The Solent were 25 off Lymington-Hurst on Apr 26th and three off Brownwich on Apr 11th in Southampton Water. One reached as far north as West Quay Road, Southampton on Aug 28th.

There were two unusual inland records. The first was an adult which took off north at Heath Pond, Petersfield on Sep 15th. The other was an exhausted juvenile found in a field at Popham near Basingstoke on Oct 12th. It was taken into care but died a week later.

Monthly maxima at the main localities are tabulated below. (MLC)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Sandy Point-Hayling Bay	150	5	2	50	18	12	10	80	20	30	7	1
Stokes Bay-Hill Head	4			2	2		2	1	4			
Southampton Water incl. Lepe			8	3	2	1		1	1			
Hurst Castle/Milford on Sea	100			30	50	8	44	50		250	20	
Barton on Sea-Hordle Cliff	15	3	4	35	48				70	7	2	2

Cormorant (Great Cormorant) *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Moderately common passage migrant and winter visitor with scattered non-breeding summer records. One to three pairs bred annually from 2006-10. Green

Winter period	1997-2004	2004-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count	n/a	579	720	624	646

Records were received from 241 (24%) tetrads. The table below compares WeBS counts for inland and coastal waters with inland counts being higher in all autumn and winter months.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
WeBS coastal counts total	141	81	97	56	22	28	39	75	130	187	220	204
WeBS inland counts total	251	242	249	51	27	24	25	59	248	439	323	257
WeBS total	392	323	346	107	49	52	64	134	378	626	543	461

The WeBS total for October of 626 was close to the average monthly maximum of the previous ten years (624.5) and included a Blashford Lakes total equalling the roost count of 156 at Ivy Lake on Jan 12th. Notable flocks included 64 off Black Point on Jan 28th (photo), 65 feeding on the sea off Sinah Common on Nov 6th and 128 at The Winner, Chichester Harbour entrance on Dec 1st. Monthly maxima from regularly-watched sites where counts

exceeded 25 in at least two months are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Hbr Hants Sectors	90	44	8	7	6	3	26	11	18	6	100	128
Portsmouth Harbour	36	4	19	3	3	1	2	2	25	24	58	46
Hill Head	26	24	26	15	10	7	21	30	20	25	15	36
Hythe/Southampton Water	28	11	11	4	4	9	15	43	29	36	23	32
Beaulieu Estuary	28	31	30	25	10	7	4	11	15	40	20	26
Lymington-Hurst	25	30	11	5	6	7	10	25	35	35	60	51
Ringwood-Fordingbridge	48	13	62	1	1		6		2	30	11	22
Blashford Lakes	156	75	31	24	21	20	8	53	136	156	90	47
Fishlake Meadows	35	19	37	19	5	2	19	12	12	23	35	31
Alresford Pond	26	27	19	14	3	3	3	11	4	15	9	8
Eversley GP			100		30					102		106
Yateley GP	41	17	9						8	34	42	40

= nocturnal roost counts

Other notable counts not tabulated were 45 at Tundry Pond on Oct 12th and 34 at Testwood Lakes on Dec 11th.

Most movements were reported from Barton on Sea including 24 west and 13 east in the early year and 177 east and 82 west between Mar 8th and May 9th. There were double-digit counts of easterly passage on four dates from Mar 23rd to Apr 2nd (total 56, peak 22, Mar 28th). The only other reports of easterly passage were of a total of 50 past Sandy Point between Mar 8th and May 17th.

There were no reports of attempted breeding. (AFJC)

2021 Addition. There was no report of attempted breeding.

Shag (European Shag) *Gulosus aristotelis*

Scarce visitor; breeds nearby in west of Isle of Wight.

Red

Reported in all months of the year with a total of 142 records from 11 coastal localities. There were single date records in June (Sandy Point, 3, 24th) and July (Horse Sand Fort, 3 juvs, 13th). Sea-watching from Barton on Sea reported the species on 51 dates including cumulative movements of 47 east and 76 west (peaks 25 W, Feb 27th and 10 E, Apr 10th). Monthly maxima are tabulated below from the main watchpoints.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Sandy Point/Hayling Bay	1	1	1			3		1			2	1
Langstone Hbr entrance/ Eastney	1	1	1				3				1	
Southsea Castle	3	2									1	1
Hamble Point to Weston Shore	1	1	1							1		
Hurst/Milford on Sea	2	1		2	3			7	2	6	3	
Barton on Sea	7	25	7	13	4				4	4	1	4

There were also isolated records of singles from Chichester Harbour entrance (Jan 10th), Black Point (Jan 13th; Dec 17th), Gilkicker Point (Mar 5th) and Pitts Deep (Sep 11th). (AFJC)

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

Scarce but increasing visitor, formerly vagrant, recorded in every month. (2,81,-)

ET

Reported in every month except February with 659 records for 178 dates. It is impossible to say how many birds were present, but transfer between regular coastal sites is known to occur and the map of sightings shows where birds were seen along the coast.

The main sites can be summarised as follows:

Lymington to Hurst: 3 east, Mar 6th; 3, Mar 17th; 1-2, July 17th-Aug 1st.

Beaulieu Estuary and nearby: Park Shore: 3, Jan 3rd; Needs Ore, Jan 9th, 10th, 13th; Lepe: 4, Sep 20th-22nd; 1, 23rd.

Lower Test Marshes: 1, Jan 21st; 2, Sep 14th.

Hook-with-Warsash/Hamble Estuary: records on 79 dates: 1, Jan 16th-17th, 19th-21st, 24th; 1, July 25th; 3, July 29th; up to 4, July 30th-Oct 7th; 5, Sep 13th and 17th, then 1-2, sometimes 3 through to Oct 31st.

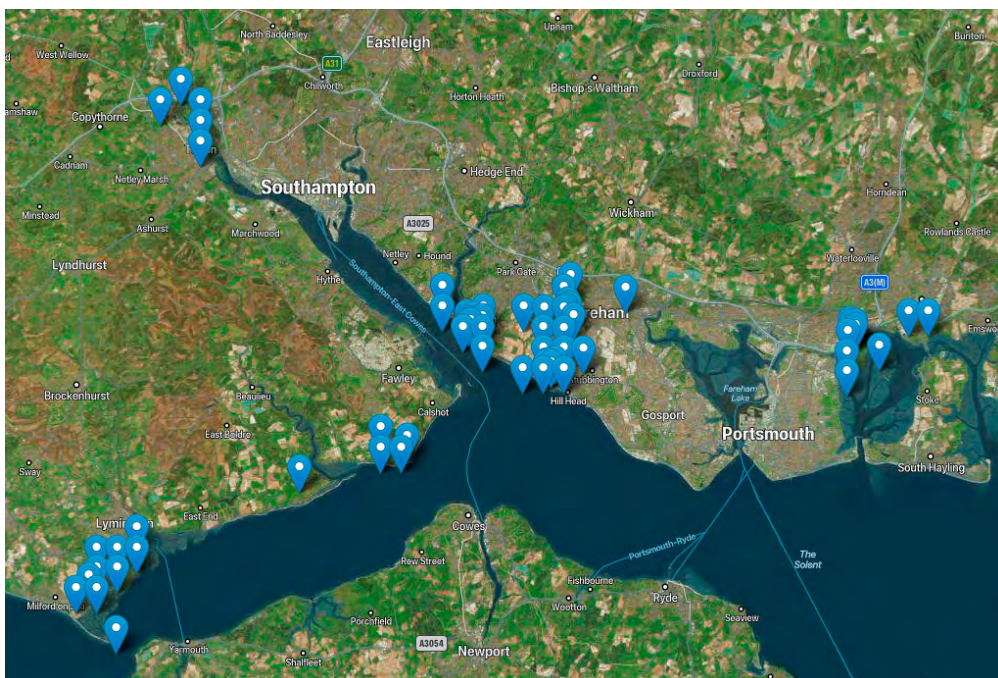
Titchfield Haven area: records on 102 dates: 1, Jan 16th-17th, 19th; 3, Mar 17th; 6, Apr 13th; 2 on many dates from May 30th-July 28th, then up to 4 from Aug 8th through to the year end.

Farlington Marshes: 1, Jan 14th, 15th, 17th and 21st; 2, June 2nd; 1-2 many dates, June 23rd to Aug 1st; 4, July 23rd.

Warblington area: 3, Jan 15th; 2, Apr 17th; 2, July 15th.

There were two inland records. Six flew north over Broadlands Estate on Jan 15th and a single flew west over Whiteley on July 30th.

Due to the increase in records, this was removed as a HOSRP description species ahead of 2022. There were only five Hampshire records up to 2004 but since 2008 the species has been recorded annually with the exception of 2015 and 2016. Numbers recorded in Britain have grown dramatically mirroring the increase in their breeding population in SW Europe. Nationally there were 1,779 reports to the BirdGuides reporting system in 2021, but this rose to 3,574 in 2022 (a 100% increase). The increase has partly been driven in countries



Glossy Ibis records along the coast in 2022



Glossy Ibis, Hook-with-Warsash, Sep 17th (Rob Porter)

such as France by the boom of invasive Louisiana Crawfish *Procambarus clarkii*. Although past influxes often involved young birds, there has been a noticeable shift to small semi-resident groups of adults (such as at Titchfield Haven and Hook-with-Warsash). Wetland creation and expansion in the Cambridgeshire Fens and Somerset Levels has undoubtedly helped the species. Nesting was attempted in Lincolnshire in 2014 and Somerset in 2016, but finally a pair managed to rear a chick in Cambridgeshire in 2022. (KFB)

Spoonbill (Eurasian Spoonbill) *Platalea leucorodia*

Scarce visitor, recorded in every month, but now locally regular along the west Solent except in summer. ET, Schedule I, Amber

Recorded in all months except October. Early year over-winterers in the West Solent, where aged, were all adults. Spring saw scattered coastal arrivals of first-summerers across the county. A few summered and immatures, including juveniles, were reported from July into September but none afterwards until others arrived during November. Monthly totals are shown in the table below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Needs Ore/Beaulieu Estuary	18	19	16	3	4	6	9	19	5		12	17
Sowley to Keyhaven	12	5	7	3	1		3	4	6		1	10
Other localities			5	3	2	4	2	3	7	1		
Minimum total	18	19	19	5	7	6	15	26	6		12	17

Early year reports of feeding adults ranged from Inchmery to the Lymington Estuary with a peak of 19 at the De L'Orne scrape, Needs Ore on Feb 4th. Six flew high east over Lepe at midday on Feb 11th, one left the group and the other five fed briefly at The Frying Pan, Titchfield Haven at 12:52 but presumably later returned west. At Beaulieu Estuary 17 were present on Feb 20th and 16 on Mar 9th, all in breeding plumage. Numbers then declined until the last five were reported on 18th. Two east distantly off Sandy Point at 08:00 on Mar 10th

were indicative of cross-channel departures. An adult and first-winter were at Pennington Marshes on Mar 20th and four further dates until three on Apr 5th. Two were at Farlington Marshes on Mar 26th-27th; one, an immature, remaining until 31st. A first-winter arrived from the east, circled the Sandy Point reserve and departed north on Mar 28th.

Two first-winters arrived at Needs Ore on Apr 9th and were joined by a third on 18th ringed in the Netherlands as a nestling in 2021. The same trio was present from May 4th-11th, again on 17th-28th and on four June dates until 29th. It seems probable that the same three contributed to records elsewhere as an adult and two first-winters were present at Farlington Marshes on Apr 19th-27th and a different ringed immature intermittently from May 17th (2, 29th) to June 1st. Two immatures flew down Southampton Water on May 17th. One, unaged, was at Titchfield Haven on Apr 15th and two adults were there from May 15th-19th.

An adult was at Farlington Marshes on June 29th and then Titchfield Haven to July 4th (perhaps same 11th-15th) and one unaged was at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes from July 5th-7th. At the end of July there were 15 individuals present comprising seven immatures at Needs Ore (17th) increasing to nine (29th-Aug 1st), three adults at Titchfield Haven (28th) and three immatures including a Dutch-ringed juvenile (NC2F) at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes (28th-30th). There were more arrivals in August including five adults transiting between Hook-with-Warsash (3rd-4th); two juveniles in off the sea at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes (4th); a maximum of seven immatures including three Dutch-ringed birds (17th) at Hook-with-Warsash (17th-23rd) and 19 (unaged) at Needs Ore (17th). In September there were singles at Titchfield Haven/Hook-with-Warsash on 3rd, a peak of five at Needs Ore on 11th and three west (1, Hurst Beach, 7th; 2, Barton on Sea, 17th) with no further sightings after 29th until November.

The second winter period again saw records confined to the West Solent including a group of seven at Needs Ore on Nov 8th-12th and monthly maxima there of 12 on Nov 27th and 17 on Dec 27th. The first group at Lymington Estuary was six on the late date of Dec 3rd. Ten were at Pitts Deep on 11th and up to five thereafter on 11 dates to the year end except for six east on 16th past the jetty off Pennington Marshes. (AFJC)

Bittern (Eurasian Bittern) *Botaurus stellaris*

Very scarce but regular winter visitor.

ET, Schedule I, Amber, S4I, HBAP

Reported from four localities including spring records of booming males at two. One was seen at Fishlake Meadows in front of the hide at dusk on Jan 1st and two were in flight three minutes apart at 17:05 on 12th. There were reports on five further dates until the last of the early year on Feb 27th - hence there was no repeat of last year's booming male at this site. In the late year there were reports on seven dates from Nov 1st, mostly of singles to roost except for two on Nov 26th. One made a welcome return to Ivy Lake, Blashford (absent in 2021) from Jan 7th and was then regularly reported until Mar 9th, but not again in the late year. At Titchfield Haven an adult flew up the river on Jan 14th. There were no further records until a booming male was heard from Mar 14th into April (RJC *et al.*). One in flight on June 14th (MF, photo) provided evidence of summering. There were no more reports until another flight record on Oct 27th and then seven dates to the year end. A booming male was also recorded at Dark Water, Lepe CP at 11:00 on Apr 9th (PFF, CJ), the fourth report there since Mar 12th 2017 preceded by records in 1994 and 2010. (AFJC)

Night Heron (Black-crowned Night Heron) *Nycticorax nycticorax*

Very rare vagrant. (4,16,1)

A juvenile was seen to fly west past Romsey Abbey just above tree height at 17:40 on Sep 19th. The bird disappeared to the west and was not seen again (SRC).

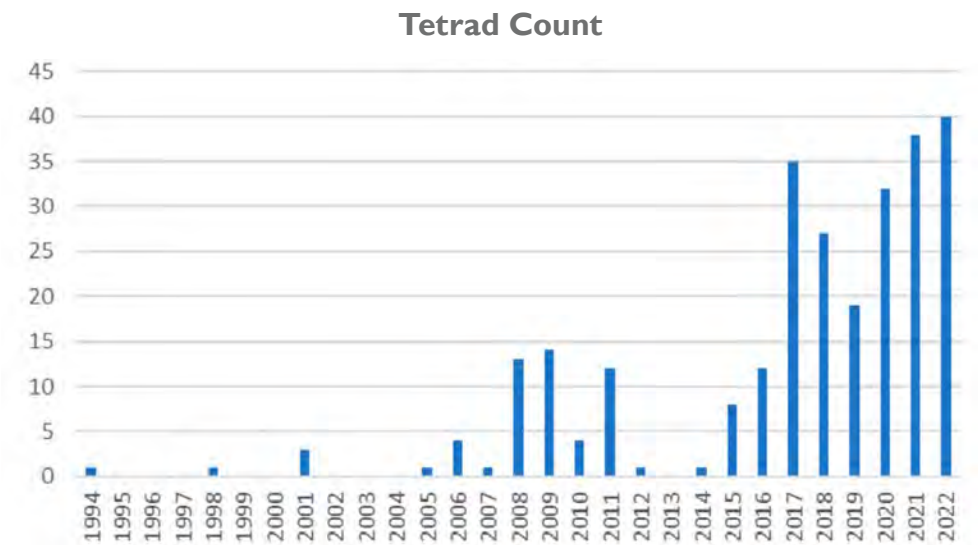
There have been 20 previous records, mostly in spring. (KFB)

Cattle Egret (Western Cattle Egret) *Bubulcus ibis*

Formerly rare vagrant now a scarce but increasing visitor. Bred for first time in 2019.

ET, Schedule 1, Amber

The steady expansion continues as shown by the histogram below for the period 1994-2022 with registrations from 40 tetrads in all coastal ten km squares and four inland.



The monthly estimates at locations with reports in at least five months are shown below. (AFJC)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Warblington/Langstone/North Hayling	15	12	26	15	6	14	11	9	6	5	15	5
Farlington Marshes				2	1	2		2	8	10	6	1
Titchfield Haven/Hook-with-Warsash	1	1	1	1	1		4	18	4			1
Needs Ore/Beaulieu Estuary	2	2	3	3				2			1	
Lymington-Hurst		2			1	9	3	18				1
Minimum Total	19	17	29	22	9	25	27	57	32	16	28	15

Counts elsewhere included Black Point (12, Feb 9th), Tournurbury to Mill Rithe (9, July 27th), Lower Test Marshes (2, Sep 19th), Trigpoint Hill (10 SW, Sep 23rd), Fishlake Meadows (10, Sep 24th) and singles at seven other localities.

The breeding colony at Langstone Mill Pond was again closely monitored from Apr 20th to Aug 28th with a total of seven nests occupied. Four nests on June 6th had 2, 2, 1, 1 chicks and six juveniles were visible on June 21st. Nine adults including three unpaired breeding plumaged males made brief appearances from June 21st to July 12th but did not breed. It was estimated that there were at least 20 breeding attempts but only five raised young (PNM-R). (AFJC)

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Moderately common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Green

The BTO Heronry Census totalled 248 occupied nests at 16 heronries across the county including 110 at Midgham Farm Wood, the highest total nationally. There were reports from 345 tetrads, no significant change since 2021 (342). Nest building was noted on Jan 1st at

Langstone Mill Pond (5 nests occupied, Feb 13th) and Fleet Pond (4 nests occupied, Feb 13th). Remarkably two juveniles were with an adult at Testwood Lakes on Mar 7th (incubation and fledging time suggest incubation started in early December), and young were in the nest at Yateley GP on Mar 21st. The largest heronry was without question at Midgham Wood, Avon Valley where a count of 166 birds was made on Feb 10th and where high WeBS counts were reported there between Ringwood and Fordingbridge (63, Feb 20th; 116, Mar 20th). Also impressive were counts near the Fawley heronry (35, Feb 22nd; 48, Apr 2nd). Monthly maxima at regularly reported locations where numbers reached 15 in at least two months are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Langstone Harbour	6	4	2	1	3	4	5	9	15	17	6	8
Frater Shore, Portsmouth Harbour	23	16	6	6	13	4	13	7	8	3	1	5
Fawley	10	35	1	48	10	9	14	18	11	16	4	12
Blashford Lakes	4	4	2	2	6	16	5	16	25	20	17	7
Avon: Ringwood-Fordingbridge	57	166	116	1	30		6	6	20	21	8	7
Itchen: Fobdown Farm Reservoir	26				11	9	5	19		11	5	3

Not tabulated are counts at Hook-with-Warsash (15, Feb 11th) and Pennington Marshes (24, Aug 24th). Easterly movements between Mar 12th and June 3rd totalled just 25 bird-days (1-3, 16 dates, five coastal sites and Trigpoint Hill).

Drone photographic surveys have revolutionised both accuracy and coverage of heronries as described above for Midgham Wood and also at Elson Wood, Portsmouth Harbour (25 occupied nests). Elsewhere there were double-figure counts at Lammas Wood, Fawley Refinery (23); Elvetham Wood, Hartley Wintney and East Moor, Andwell (both 12); Sunderton Wood, Somerley Park and Holt Pound Inclosure, Alice Holt (both 11) and a total of 44 at nine further heronries. The total of 248 heronries is close to the 1985 peak of 260 (BoH).

There were just six bird-days of south-west movements in autumn from Tweseldown and Trigpoint Hill migration watchpoints (Table 8). (AFJC)

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*

Rare vagrant recorded from April to October.
(1,41,1) ET, Schedule 1

A juvenile was seen and photographed in flight at Sopley Island in the Avon Valley on Aug 31st (AH, photo). It was present in adjacent areas of Dorset between Aug 7th and Sep 11th.

About half of the records have been in April-May, and this is the first August record since 1994. (KFB)



Purple Heron, Sopley, Aug 31st (Alan Hayden)

Great White Egret (Great Egret) *Ardea alba*

Scarce but increasing visitor, recorded in every month. ET, Amber

There were reports from 87 tetrads compared to 95 in 2021, when there was a wider presence in the north-east of the county. The Test and Avon Valleys provided most records and there was a bias towards the west in coastal records as the tetrad map overleaf illustrates. Note this map supersedes the map incorrectly included in HBR 2021.

One of two at Fishlake Meadows were in transition to breeding plumage on Mar 26th but

there were no signs of breeding attempts except for one carrying sticks on Aug 1st. It is important to check bill colour (yellow non-breeding, black breeding) as birds are increasingly registered in spring as demonstrated by the eight localities tabulated below. The highest numbers were in a roost in a private part of Blashford Lakes with maxima of ten on Jan 23rd and nine on Dec 17th. This attracted birds feeding by day around the reserve and in the Avon Valley. There were also high numbers at Fishlake Meadows with a maximum of ten on Sep 18th. There has been just one previous higher count of 11 at Testwood Lakes in October 2017. Monthly maxima where regularly reported in six or more months are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Titchfield Haven		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
Beaulieu estuary		1		2	3		3	3	2	1	1	
Lymington-Hurst	1	1	2	1	1	3	1		1			1
Avon below Ringwood	1	2		1		1				1	1	1
Blashford Lakes	10	7	7	2	1	1	1	3	3	4	7	9
Avon above Ringwood	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	3	1
Fishlake Meadows	3	3	3	3	5	1	3	6	10	6	4	1
Test: Bransbury to Overton	3	2	1	1						1	2	3
Tundry Pond	1	1	1					1	2	1	1	

Not tabulated above were winter reports of up to two at Testwood Lakes (to Mar 7th and from Nov 2nd), Eversley GP (to Mar 9th and on Dec 29th) and singles at another 22 sites. There were July records at Hook-with-Warsash between 3rd-11th and at Fleet Pond on 6th. Perhaps one individual accounted for reports on two dates from each of Alresford Pond, Avington Lake and Hockley WM in the Itchen Valley between July 3rd and Aug 26th. On the coast there were four bird-days in August at Langstone Harbour but none after until one there in October and five at Southampton Water.

Movements were reported (all singles unless otherwise listed) as follows: Eastleigh (N, Jan 24th; W, Nov 22nd and S, 26th); Braishfield (S, Jan 29th); Basingstoke (E, Mar 7th), Trigpoint Hill (NE, Mar 12th; NE Aug 29th; SW, Sep 23rd; 7 S, Oct 25th); Barton on Sea (E offshore, Apr 2nd); Fareham (E, high, Apr 2nd); Burley (N, Aug 24th); Brownwich (W, Oct 19th) and Overton (W, Dec 12th). (AF/C)

2021 Correction. Tetrad map corrected and updated above.

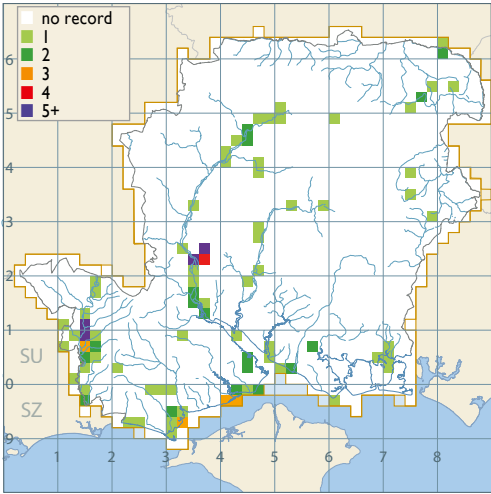
Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Moderately common winter visitor, passage migrant and scarce but increasing breeder since 1998.

ET, Green, HBAP

Winter period	1998-2002	2002-07	2007-12	2012-17	2017-22
Mean max. WeBS count		353	430	352	357

Reported from 284 (292) tetrads in 48 (49) ten km squares (2021 in parentheses). After two decades of expansion, the distribution appears to have reached saturation although WeBS



Tetrad map showing distribution and maximum numbers of Great White Egret in 2022

totals continue to trend higher between August and October. The Oxy Marsh roost at 107 on Aug 19th was the second highest there after 141 in 2018. A count of 254 at the Langstone Mill Pond roost on Aug 28th has only ever been exceeded once (by 274 there on Sep 20th 2006). The August cumulative roost total of 414 was followed by the highest ever WeBS total (529) in September. Although locally reared juveniles will have contributed to this surge, the bulk of the increased numbers appears to be immigrants staging along the coast. Monthly maxima at localities which regularly exceeded 20 are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chichester Harbour Hampshire Sectors	26	20	31	35	30	55	40	254	113	198	44	27
Langstone Mill Pond/ Warblington	9	15	25	35	30	55	40	254	113	198	29	2
Langstone Harbour	11	5	18	27	30	16	28	52	127	128	120	27
Portsmouth Harbour	15	6	17	12	10	12	41	50	103	68	43	25
Frater Shore	15	6	8	12	10	12	41	50	103	68	43	6
Hamble Estuary	5	5	6	5	7	8	19	28	24	20	10	7
Southampton Water (inner)	6	4	14	9	6	9	18	17	20	25	22	15
Beaulieu Estuary	12	11	8	15	10	13	38	41	25	28	15	7
Lymington-Hurst	47	54	46	72	37	40	77	107	93	45	21	31
Keyhaven - Avon Water	7	12	22	12	11	13	35	47	28	6	2	3
WeBS counts total	169	110	158	135	89	128	147	204	529	480	217	199
Nocturnal roosts total	60	29	32	82	37	11	35	414	113	250	29	45

Sites of national importance: 45+; = night roost;.

Notable counts not tabulated included Midgham Wood (28, Feb 10th), Tundry Pond (20, Oct 10th) and Middle Farm, Cheriton (32, Nov 12th). Coastal movements at Barton on Sea watchpoint included 32 bird-days east between Mar 15th and May 17th, 13 on July 16th, then just eight bird-days south-west from Sep 24th to Dec 24th. There were also 12 bird-days of south-westerly movements at Trigpoint Hill and Tweseldown between Aug 15th and Nov 25th (Table 8). Apart from the July 16th record, such small numbers provide no indication of the autumn surge described above.

The BTO Heronry census reported a total of 90 occupied nests dominated by equal counts of 33 at Elson Wood, Portsmouth Harbour (drone survey) and Langstone Mill Pond and 24 at six further heronries. Breeding success was only monitored successfully at Langstone Mill Pond where 40 juveniles were raised. Breeding was again noted at Midgham Wood, thought previously to have been abandoned, where five occupied nests were located (drone survey). (AFJC)

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

Scarce passage migrant.

ET, Schedule I, Amber

An early first report at Keyhaven on March 5th was followed by another at Thorney Hill, NF on 14th and other singles over Titchfield Haven on 24th and both Keyhaven and Totton on 30th. Passage built up in April with daily reports including long-stayers at Needs Ore and Fishlake Meadows. A blue-ringed bird (ringed at Rutland Water on June 29th 2017) was present at Fishlake Meadows from May 28th to at least Sep 5th. An un-ringed bird was also present there in August. With the continuing re-introduction scheme at Poole Harbour in Dorset (and subsequent first breeding in 2023) and numerous summering individuals, the possibility of a breeding attempt in Hampshire surely increases each year.

There were numerous sightings at all regular locations during August and September but fewer than usual in October. One reported at Fawley on Oct 30th and 31st was followed by the last of the year at Somerley Estate, Avon Valley on Nov 2nd.



Osprey, Butts Lagoon, Sep 2nd (Simon Colenutt)

Monthly bird-day totals for selected areas are tabulated below. (RC)

	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Chichester Harbour:		1				7	4		
Hampshire sectors									
Langstone Harbour		3		1		9	7	5	
Titchfield Haven/ Hook-with-Warsash	1	4				1	5		
Lower Test Marshes				1		4	11		
Lepe/Beaulieu Estuary		2	4	4	1	14	16	4	
Keyhaven area	2	1				3	3		
Blashford Lakes/ Avon Valley						5	6	2	1
Itchen Valley		1		1	1	3	6		
Test Valley incl. Fishlake Meadows	2	2	4	7	6	20	10	8	
Elsewhere	1	10	2	4		6	9	5	

Honey-buzzard (European Honey Buzzard) *Pernis apivorus*

Scarce summer visitor and passage migrant; breeds in small numbers each year.

ET, Schedule 1, Amber, HBAP

The first of the 109 records was reported on May 8th from the south of the New Forest. The next was at Acres Down on May 13th but there were only a further three records from this regularly watched site. In contrast there were 47 records from the well-watched site in the south of the Forest where the colour-ringed male present in 2021 showed regularly. Twenty-three further records were received covering the remainder of the New Forest. In the rest of the county, six records were for the Botley area and three for the Thames Basin Heaths, with the usual scatter of

records for the rest of Hampshire including the following: Lepe (May 18th), Needs Ore (June 4th and 7th), Titchfield Haven (June 8th and 19th), Pennington Marshes (June 13th), Basingstoke (June 29th), Silchester (July 6th), East Dean (July 23rd), Four Marks (Aug 7th), Wickham (Aug 10th), Havant (Aug 23rd) and Hursley (Aug 28th). There were further records in September indicative of return migration from Old Basing and Sandy Point (10th), Fort Widley and Romsey (11th), Tweseldown (12th), Hook-with-Warsash (13th) and Farlington Marshes (17th). The last of the year was from the New Forest on Sep 18th.

There were seven sites in the county where birds were regularly present but breeding was only proven in three of these. The colour-ringed male (White KJ) bred successfully for the second time. (AP)

Sparrowhawk (Eurasian Sparrowhawk) *Accipiter nisus*

Moderately common resident, passage migrant and probable winter visitor; declining in the New Forest.

Amber

Recorded in 388 tetrads (38%) in 52 ten km squares with widespread reports from many gardens in the BTO Garden Bird Watch project.

NFWBS totals were four, six and one for January-March respectively and seven, four and three for October-December. Despite its widespread distribution, evidence of current breeding density remains sparse. The county population was estimated at 800-1,000 pairs in 2017 (HBR 2017). Reports of confirmed breeding came from around ten locations, including two sites in central Lymington, but none from the New Forest where the long-running survey has been discontinued. Although the increasing Goshawk population has undoubtedly had an impact on Sparrowhawk numbers, casual records continued from many New Forest locations.

Monthly totals at a coastal location with regular coverage throughout the year are tabulated below, the higher numbers indicating passage in spring and autumn. (RC)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Sandy Point	13	8	17	22	17	4	16	14	17	20	10	6

Goshawk (Northern Goshawk) *Accipiter gentilis*

Scarce but increasing resident.

Schedule 1, Green

Records totalled 518 which is slightly less than the 2021 total of 579. Of these, 318 were from the New Forest and are tabulated by month below, with a further 200 from the wider county. NFWBS recorded three in each of the following monthly surveys: February, March and October (Table 4).

Monthly totals of records from the New Forest are tabulated below.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
31	37	74	37	30	39	23	25	4	6	6	6



Honey-buzzard, New Forest, Aug 6th (Matt Barfield)



Goshawk, Hursley, Feb 25th (Richard Jacobs)

Less work was undertaken in the New Forest study area than in previous years but 28 successful nests were reported with 42 chicks ringed from 16 of these nests. Five nests are known to have failed and there were 17 sites where no signs of incubation were noted although coverage of these territories was incomplete. In the wider county, confirmed breeding records were received only for four sites and strongly suspected in a further three. This is undoubtedly far below a true reflection of the overall breeding population. (AP)

Marsh Harrier (Western Marsh Harrier) *Circus aeruginosus*

Very scarce but increasing resident and scarce passage migrant and winter visitor; formerly scarce but increasing passage migrant and winter visitor which had occasionally summered and bred.

ET, Schedule 1, Amber

The status of this species has changed rapidly over the past few years since breeding recommenced in 2015. Although Hampshire has few areas of extensive reed-bed habitat, Marsh Harriers are now present and breeding at several locations in the county. In addition, individuals either hunting away from known nest-sites or moving through were recorded from numerous inland sites, including heathland areas of the New Forest, in all seasons.

Breeding season records came from at least ten locations with suitable breeding habitat, though evidence of confirmed breeding was lacking from some sites. Pairs bred successfully at Alresford Pond (3 young) and Titchfield Haven (2 young) but another near Ringwood failed, two cold eggs and a one-week old dead chick being found in the nest. Winter roost counts

are now a regular feature at some sites, with peaks of seven at Keyhaven and five at Alresford Pond and Titchfield Haven. Co-ordinated monitoring of winter roosts would provide a good indication of the numbers in the county.

The minimum monthly totals at the regular sites are tabulated below. (RC)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Farlington Marshes/ Langstone Harbour	3	2	1	3	2	2	2	2		3	3	3
Titchfield Haven area	4	4	4	3	2	2	4	2	3	3	5	3
Lower Test Marshes	2	2	2	2		1	1	1	1	3	3	4
Beaulieu Estuary/Needs Ore	3	2	4	4	2	2	1	3	3	2	5	4
Keyhaven area	6	6	5	4	2	2	3	2	2	3	4	7
Blashford Lakes	1	2	1	1	1	2				1	3	2
Fishlake Meadows	3	1	2	1		1	1	1	1	2	1	2
Alresford Pond	5	3	4	4	2	2	2	3	1	2	5	5

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*

Very scarce and declining winter visitor and passage migrant. ET, Schedule 1, Red, S4I, HBAP

NFWBS totals were four, two and two for January-March respectively and nil, nil and four for October-December. In the early year there were four using the two regular roosts in the New Forest, two each at the northern and central sites respectively. There were also records from the Avon Valley, the south-eastern New Forest heaths and several downland locations. On the coast there were records in January from Needs Ore and in March from Lymington-Hurst. A ringtail seen around Chichester Harbour in January and March was thought to be the same bird on each occasion. There were no April reports from either the New Forest or the coast but a satellite-tagged male roosted at Martin Down on 25th. A late adult male was reported from Wonston, north of Winchester, on May 26th.

The first of the autumn was presumably the same ringtail reported from both Michelmersh and Stonymarsh in the Test Valley on Sep 17th. A juvenile at Needs Ore the next day was followed by another at Martin Down on 20th. A male was at Langstone Harbour seen from Farlington Marshes towards Hayling Island on Oct 9th and another flew west over Tweseldown on Nov 12th. The New Forest birds were late in returning with the first record on Oct 31st. One or two were subsequently reported from both roost sites intermittently through to the end of December. There were also several records in November from Pig Bush, NF and Fawley with an unusual report of a ringtail at Greatham in central Hampshire.

Minimum monthly totals are tabulated below. (RC)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
6	4	3	1	1				1	2	3	6

Red Kite *Milvus milvus*

Moderately common and increasing resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

ET, Schedule 1, Green, HBAP

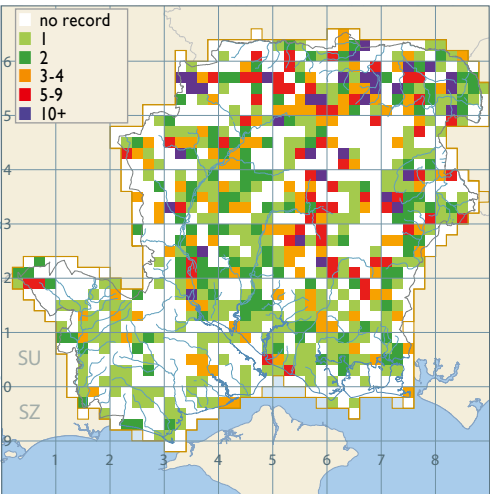
Recorded in 595 one km squares (58%) in 53 ten km squares, thus becoming more widespread than Buzzard for the first time.

There were reports from 826 sites during the year with the highest densities of records in the north and east, the Test Valley and around the South Downs. The number of reports was 4,028 which is an 18% decrease on the 2021 figure. In total, 25 ten km squares had more than 50 records (compared to 29 in 2021) and 14 of these had more than 100 records. This may indicate a levelling off in numbers as recent increases in the breeding population will

probably lead to lower brood sizes as available food (often roadkill) has to be shared by the whole population.

The tetrad map illustrates the distribution of records which are now throughout the county but with higher numbers across the northern, central and eastern parts, reflecting the direction of colonisation from the Chilterns, with fewest records in the south-west including the New Forest. It supersedes the map incorrectly included in HBR 2021.

Estimating breeding numbers is difficult but between April and July birds were reported in 463 separate one km squares (compared to 511 in 2021) – an 8% decrease. In 2020 it was estimated that the nesting population was probably in the region of 500 pairs, with perhaps 1,000 first-years in addition. There is no hard evidence to indicate a population increase since then.



Tetrad map showing distribution and maximum numbers of Red Kite in 2022

Monthly bird-day totals of sightings on the coast and the New Forest are tabulated below. These will involve duplication of birds, but clearly show the growth in spring records (traditionally non-breeding birds wandering).

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Coast	12	20	64	62	34	29	19	8	9	18	5	16
New Forest	1	4	15	14	30	15	11	2	2	0	5	2



Red Kite, Stockbridge, Dec 20th (Richard Jacobs)

A concerted effort was made to count all known roosts in the north and east of the county on the afternoon of Dec 30th. This resulted in 325 being counted at 13 sites as follows: Blounce 2, Bramshill 50, Broughton 30, Chilton Candover 50, East Meon 10, Facombe 26, Gander Down 36, Newton Valence 17, Tunworth 35, Turrill Hill 23, Vernham Dean 14 and West End Green 27. This is a reduction of 25% on the 436 recorded at the same time in 2021. That in turn was a big reduction on the 685 counted in 2020. These roosts are used by non-breeding birds and mostly immatures and may indicate a reduction in breeding success. Anyone seeing Red Kites roosting in groups is asked to report sightings. Although we have requested all records in the past, we now only need counts of ten or more from the north of the county, although all records from the south are still welcomed, as are all confirmed breeding records. (KFB)

2021 Correction. Tetrad map corrected and updated above.

Black Kite *Milvus milvus*

Rare vagrant recorded in every month from April to September. (0,46,1)

After a blank year in 2021 there were a number of claims made, but in the end only one was considered proven beyond doubt by the HOS Records Panel. This was of a single at Martin Down on Apr 20th (ECG, photo).

Hybrids of Black Kite x Red Kite do occur in Europe where the species overlap, and amazingly a mixed pairing of these species even occurred in Scotland several years ago! Europe's foremost raptor ID expert, Dick Forsman, was very helpful in assessing the identity of a bird near Martin Down on May 29th. Although it showed head and wing colouration typical of Red Kite, it had a dark, squared tail typical of Black Kite. Also, this bird showed six primary "fingers", which Black Kite has (Red Kite has five). Dick confirmed that this was definitely a hybrid of both species. A bird videoed over Crawley on July 21st was less easy to identify, but Dick felt it was also possibly a hybrid. (KFB)



Black Kite x Red Kite hybrid, Martin Down, May 29th (Jeremy McClements)



Buzzard, Stockbridge, Dec 6th (Richard Jacobs)

Buzzard (Common Buzzard) *Buteo buteo*

Common resident.

Green

Recorded in 578 tetrads (57%) in 53 ten km squares making it now the second-most widespread bird of prey after Red Kite. NFWBS totals were 13, 65 and 65 for January-March respectively and 17, 13 and 23 for October-December. There were fewer reports of early-season groups of circling/displaying Buzzards with 20 at Corhampton on Mar 15th the only record of note. There were seven interacting with a pair of Sparrowhawks, a Peregrine and a Goshawk over Pennington on Mar 17th.

There was the usual handful of breeding records from around the county, but little evidence of current breeding density. The New Forest survey did not take place but the population is likely to remain around 70 pairs; the county total was estimated at 1,500-2,000 pairs in 2017 (HBR 2017).

Dispersive or migratory movements, particularly in late summer/early autumn, were suggested at Sandy Point and Black Point, where none breed, by the monthly bird-day totals which are tabulated below. (RC)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Sandy Point/ Black Point				4		3	3	4	2			

Barn Owl (Western Barn Owl) *Tyto alba*

Moderately common resident.

Schedule 1, Green

Recorded in 126 tetrads (12%) in 38 ten km squares.

Reports were received from around 145 widespread locations. The Hawk Conservancy reported 148 nest boxes were used out of 242 checked. At least 106 nesting attempts were made with a minimum of 92 being successful resulting in at least 166 fledged young.



Barn Owl, Timsbury, June 29th (Richard Jacobs)

Breeding was confirmed at a further 14 locations at least, with probable breeding recorded at a further ten. (BS)

Little Owl *Athene noctua*

Moderately common but declining resident.

Recorded in 48 tetrads (5%) in 29 ten km squares.

Reports were received from around 55 widespread locations. The Hawk Conservancy reported six nest boxes were used out of 15 checked. At least five nesting attempts were made with a minimum of four being successful resulting in at least ten fledged young. Successful breeding was confirmed at one additional location with probable breeding at a further eight. (BS)

Long-eared Owl *Asio otus*

Very scarce resident, passage migrant and winter visitor; under-recorded.

Green

Three roosts were located in the early year, one at a New Forest location with two birds, one in the north with up to four and one in the north-east with three. Breeding was confirmed at a location in the south-west where a pair successfully fledged three young.

This secretive species is almost certainly under-recorded. Observers are encouraged to check suitable habitat during the breeding season and be alert to the far-reaching begging calls of recently fledged young, which can continue for up to three months after leaving the nest. (BS)

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*

Scarce but regular winter visitor and passage migrant; occasionally breeds, most recently in 1997.

ET, Amber

It was yet another very poor year for the species with very few reports and most relating to the same birds. In the period up to May only singles were recorded at Broadmarsh on Jan 1st, Emsworth on Jan 15th, Bransbury Common on Feb 10th, Havant on Feb 27th, Pennington

Marshes on Mar 14th, Farlington Marshes from Mar 15th-25th, Chilland on Mar 29th and Apr 5th, Oxy Marsh on May 11th and Gander Down on May 14th.

The earliest autumn returns were singles at Titchfield Haven on Sept 14th and Farlington Marshes on Sept 17th, increasing to two on Sept 19th-20th. In the period October to December the only multiple counts were two at Farlington Marshes on Nov 30th and Dec 4th, increasing to three on Dec 20th-24th. Elsewhere, singles were at Tidpit Down on Oct 30th, Keyhaven on Nov 4th, Needs Ore on Nov 6th, Langstone Harbour on Nov 13th and 28th, Hamble Estuary and Manor Farm CP on Dec 2nd, Harbridge on Dec 13th and Bransbury Common on Dec 23rd.

Approximate monthly totals are tabulated below. (BS)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	2	3	1	2				3	1	4	6

Tawny Owl *Strix aluco*

Common resident.

Amber

Recorded in 249 tetrads (24%) in 50 km squares.

Reports were received from around 300 widespread locations. The highest concentrations were six at Frater Shore in January and Neatham Estate, Wyck in April. The Hawk Conservancy reported 24 nest boxes were used out of 69 checked. At least 21 nesting attempts were made with a minimum of 15 being successful, resulting in at least 24 fledged young. Additional breeding was confirmed at a minimum of 11 further locations.

As usual the numbers of submitted records do not reflect the true status of this common and widespread woodland resident. (BS)

Hoopoe (Eurasian Hoopoe) *Upupa epops*

Very scarce visitor recorded in all months; bred on eight occasions during 1953-59 but not since. (44+,281,2)

Schedule 1

For the third year in a row a male ranged across an area of about 15 sq km in the upper Test Valley, being seen between Apr 15th and July 17th. Unlike 2021, when it went missing for much of May, it was heard and seen regularly, particularly when attracted to its reflection



Hoopoe, Longparish/South Wonston, June 19th (Keith Betton)

in windows. This is the only bird to have summered in the UK for three years. There is no evidence of it having found a mate. The last pair to nest in Hampshire was near Lyndhurst in 1959, and elsewhere in the UK the last breeding record was in 1996 in Wales. The nearest regularly-used breeding grounds are in western France.

Others were seen at Brinken Wood, NF on Apr 8th (TD, SC) and Braishfield on May 6th (IDW). (KFB)

Kingfisher (Common Kingfisher)

Alcedo atthis

Moderately common resident whose numbers may be severely depleted during harsh winters.

ET, Schedule 1, Green

Recorded in 241 tetrads (24%) in 43 ten km squares.

Records were received from around 350 locations, including 46 in the Test Valley catchment, 34 in the Itchen catchment, 21 in the Avon catchment, 48 in the north-east, 25 in the New Forest and 90 on the coast. There were no reports of confirmed breeding, but probable breeding was reported at nine locations.

Post-breeding dispersal and over-wintering on the coast are demonstrated by the monthly bird-day totals from three sites with regular records tabulated below. (BS)



Kingfisher, Timsbury, Mar 28th (Richard Jacobs)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Lymington-Hurst	38	8	1				9	42	48	32	10	31
Lower Test Marshes	5	1	5	3	2	3	11	15	32	28	18	10
Titchfield Haven	11	1	4			1	7	7	5	17	9	9

Bee-eater (European Bee-eater) *Merops apiaster*

Very scarce visitor recorded in all months; bred on eight occasions during 1953-59 but not since. (0,50,1)

Schedule 1

A single was heard by two separate observers who were not together as it flew over Furzy Brow and Frame Heath, NF at 11:30 on May 19th. It called five times over a period of ten seconds and appeared to fly north but neither observer managed to see it (SL, GMD). (KFB)

Wryneck (Eurasian Wryneck) *Jynx torquilla*

Very scarce passage migrant; formerly a moderately common summer visitor which last bred in 1975.

Schedule 1, HBAP

There were at least 15 individuals, all in September except for two in August, and all singles unless stated, at Ober Heath on Aug 12th; Hook-with-Warsash on Aug 25th and Sep 17th; Havant Thicket on Sep 2nd; Peartree Green from Sep 2nd-9th; Pig Bush on Sep 3rd-4th; Burnt



Wryneck, Lepe, Sep 21st (Simon Colenutt) and Sep 24th (Ashley Howe)

Common on Sep 3rd; Clanfield on Sep 6th; Needs Ore on Sep 12th-13th; The Mill Field, Old Basing on Sep 13th and 27th-28th; Sway on Sep 14th; East End, Sowley on Sep 15th; two at Lepe on Sep 21st and a single until 24th; Mayfield Park, Southampton on Sep 25th and Stanley Park, Gosport on Sep 28th. (BS)

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker *Dryobates minor*

Scarce and declining resident, except in the New Forest where it remains moderately common.

Red, S41, HBAP

Recorded in 74 tetrads (7%) in 14 ten km squares, mostly in the south-west and north-east of the county.

A county-wide survey was organised by HOS this year with details and results given in a separate paper on pages 236-241. The survey found birds in 122 out of 199 one km squares surveyed to give an estimated 314 territories (296 in the New Forest and 18 elsewhere). Separate to the above survey, whilst the vast majority of records came from the core area of the New Forest, there were reports from nine locations outside the Forest, down from 20 in 2021 and 28 in 2020, perhaps indicating that the decline in the rest of the county continues.

Breeding attempts were reported from nine locations within the New Forest; one failed early on whilst the remainder were successful. One nest fledged five young, the most productive attempt recorded since organised nest-searching started in 2016. Earliest fledging occurred

on May 25th; the latest on June 10th. Tree species used were recorded as Beech (4), Ash (2), Alder (2) and Willow (1). No successful nests were reported elsewhere in the county.

Outside the breeding season, there were records from Riverside Park, Southampton on Sep 20th, Otterbourne in the Itchen Valley on Oct 16th and Queen Elizabeth CP on Dec 17th. (RC)

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*

Numerous resident.

Green

Reported in 487 tetrads (48%) in 54 ten km squares.

Records were received for around 730 widespread locations compared to 640 in 2021. The highest number was 74 in the central New Forest during a two-month survey in May and June over 37 one km squares. In BTO's BBS the highest concentration in any one km square was nine at Mallards Copse, Fleet. Breeding, or the presence of juveniles, was confirmed at 21 locations. In addition, there were 47 territories at 15 sites on the Thames Basin and Wealden Heaths (Table 1) compared to 56 territories at 15 sites in 2021.

As usual, these numbers grossly underestimate the county population of this numerous and widespread species. (BS)

Green Woodpecker (European Green Woodpecker) *Picus viridis*

Numerous resident.

Green

Reported from 391 tetrads (38%) in 53 ten km squares.

Records were received from around 560 widespread locations. Breeding, or the presence of juveniles, was confirmed at six locations. In addition, there were 34 territories at 16 sites on the Thames Basin and Wealden Heaths (Table 1) compared to 35 territories at ten sites in 2021. NFWBS reported totals of 28, 20 and 26 in January-March respectively and 17, 20 and 15 in October-December (Table 4). (BS)

Kestrel (Common Kestrel)

Falco tinnunculus

Common but declining resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Amber

Recorded in 408 tetrads (40%) and 51 ten km squares which confirmed it as the third most widely distributed bird of prey after Buzzard and Red Kite and ahead of Sparrowhawk.

NFWBS totals were five, 12 and ten for January-March respectively and 11, four and ten for October-December. The Hampshire population was estimated at 1,000-1,500 pairs in 2017 (HBR 2017).

There were no reports from the nest box scheme this year but successful breeding was reported from around a dozen locations in widespread parts of the county. In the New Forest, where numbers may have been affected by the increasing Goshawk population, evidence of successful breeding was sparse though Kestrels are still noted hunting over most of the larger heathland areas. (RC)



*Kestrel, Southampton Old Cemetery, Dec 26th
(Rob Porter)*

Red-footed Falcon

Falco vespertinus

Rare summer visitor and passage migrant
(2,61,3). VU

Two males were watched as they circled over Furzy Brow, NF at 11:00 on May 21st (JRW, TJP). A first-year female was present in Somerley Park from June 21st until July 8th (JEL, photo).

May to mid-June remains the peak period for seeing this rare passage migrant. The Somerley bird is the first to linger into July since 1987. (KFB)



Red-footed Falcon, Somerley Estate, June 23rd
(John Levell)

Merlin *Falco columbarius*

Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant. ET, VU, Schedule 1, Red, HBAP

A total of 293 records was received, up from 174 in 2021, though whether more birds were really present in 2022 remains unclear. In the first winter period there were reports of singles from all the usual coastal, downland and New Forest heathland locations. Birds were also present but less regularly reported from the main river valleys. One regularly visited a bird feeding station in pursuit of prey on farmland near the Test Valley. There were several April records with the latest from Sandy Point on 14th and Cut Bridge, Keyhaven on 27th. A very late bird was at Yew Tree Heath, NF on May 5th.

The first of the autumn was an immature on the saltings at Pennington Marshes on Aug 19th followed by singles at Farlington Marshes on 21st and Hill Head on 31st. The first returning bird in the New Forest was at Leaden Hall on Sep 27th. Three at a roost in the north of the New Forest on Oct 28th were typical of recent years but no other roosts elsewhere in the Forest were reported. Individuals were reported chasing Meadow Pipits, Linnets, Skylarks and Fieldfares amongst other species and one was seen to attempt an attack on the Great Grey Shrike at Backley Bottom, NF. One was seen briefly perched on a garage roof in Bishop's Waltham in December.

Approximate monthly totals are tabulated below, though it must be stressed that this only includes regularly-visited sites and that the true wintering population is probably rather higher. (RC)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
10	10	10	5	1			2	6	12	10	10

Hobby (Eurasian Hobby) *Falco subbuteo*

Moderately common summer visitor and passage migrant. Schedule 1, Green, HBAP

Recorded in 172 tetrads (17%) across 47 widespread ten km squares except from the north-west of the county.

While records in March are not uncommon in recent years, the first report was not until Apr 5th from Lymington-Hurst, with others at Blashford Lakes and Hill Head on 11th and Needs Ore and Hill Top, NF on 16th. The largest pre-breeding-season gatherings were six at Fishlake Meadows on Apr 30th and the same number at Blashford on May 8th.

An intensive search of historic breeding sites in the New Forest was undertaken, but confirmed breeding records from elsewhere in the county were few this year. In the New Forest breeding attempts were confirmed at eleven sites and thought probable at a further ten locations. Some

pairs failed in July/early August, almost certainly due to predation by Goshawks. Elsewhere, there were sightings suggestive of local breeding from around twenty locations, mostly from the north-east and along the major river valleys. Numbers in the county may be declining due to displacement and predation by the increasing Goshawk population but the current Hobby population is still thought to lie in the range of 150-200 pairs.

Late October records came from both Latchmore Bottom and the Canadian War Memorial in the New Forest on 22nd with the last over Keyhaven Lagoon heading south towards the Isle of Wight on 31st. (RC)

Peregrine (Peregrine Falcon) *Falco peregrinus*

Scarce but increasing resident; numbers are augmented throughout the year by visitors from neighbouring counties. Probably also a passage migrant and winter visitor from further afield.

ET, Schedule 1, Green

Recorded in 239 tetrads (23%) in 48 ten km squares.

There were reports from 312 sites including 37 locations in the New Forest and around 150 elsewhere inland. Birds were reported from 186 locations during March-July of which 85 were on the coast compared to 63 in winter.

Breeding was confirmed at 24 localities with 15 pairs known to have fledged 33 young. Nine nests failed. There were seven pylon nests which fledged nine chicks. Pairs at other sites were on buildings (11), quarries (5) and on a shingle bank (1). Six nest boxes were used with 14 chicks being reared. At Winchester Cathedral a new male arrived and was given the name of William. He paired with Winnie, who was by now at least 14 years old.

The programme of colour-ringing continued and 12 chicks were fitted with orange colour-rings. Over 120 chicks have now been colour-ringed in the county since 2013 and in 2022 sightings of these came from Hampshire, Dorset (2), Isle of Wight, Berkshire, Oxfordshire, Wiltshire, Cheshire and West Yorkshire. Two chicks that were hatched as part of a brood of three in 2022 died in Berkshire and Dorset in November 2022 with strong suggestions that they had developed Bird Flu. Another bird died in Wiltshire with similar symptoms. (KFB)

Ring-necked Parakeet (Rose-ringed Parakeet) *Psittacula krameri*

Scarce introduced visitor, bred for the first time in 2019.

There were 212 records from 38 tetrads (4%) in 18 ten km squares, mostly in urban/suburban areas, compared to 45 tetrads in 16 ten km squares in 2021 indicating ongoing expansion.

Records were in all months and, as in recent years, mostly in SU31 and SU41 (Southampton, Totton and Eastleigh). Higher numbers were observed than in 2021 with a maximum of 22 at Lakeside CP on July 4th (and 14 at the same site on Aug 16th). Double-figure counts were also recorded nearby at Wide Lane Playing Fields (18, July 26th), Marlhill Copse (15, Oct 14th; 16, Nov 13th), North Stoneham (12, Oct 19th) and Swaythling (12, Nov 13th). Elsewhere, between one and three were seen at Milford on Sea; Foxbury, Acres Down and Mark Ash Wood in the New Forest; Harestock near Winchester; between Basingstoke and Farnborough; Gosport and Hayling Island.

There were no confirmed breeding records this year. (NM)

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio*

Very scarce passage migrant; formerly moderately common summer visitor which last bred in 1984. (since 1984 76,2)

ET, Schedule 1, Red, HBAP

A juvenile was at Gang Warily Pond, Blackfield on Sep 19th (JGR). Another juvenile was found in the Holmsley area, NF on Sep 25th (JF, photo).



Great Grey Shrike, Pig Bush, NF, Nov 22nd (Rob Porter)

Two birds is about average for most recent years. Since the cessation of regular breeding in Britain in the 1980s, the majority of records has occurred in autumn, particularly in September. (KFB)

Great Grey Shrike *Lanius excubitor*

Very scarce winter visitor and passage migrant.

The single from late 2021 in the area between Backley Bottom and Bratley Inclosure remained until Jan 30th, occasionally moving to Milkham Bottom. It was not seen at all in February, but then reappeared from Mar 4th-15th. There were no other early-year records.

The first return was on Nov 19th when a bird appeared in the Pig Bush/Rowbarrow area and remained until the year-end. During this time it also ranged to Ferny Crofts on occasions. The only other New Forest sighting was of two at Holmsley Ridge on Dec 17th. (KFB)

Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator*

Very rare vagrant recorded in May, June and August. (0,9,1)

An adult female was photographed at Hackwood Park, Basingstoke on May 15th (BC, photo).

This is only the second record since 2012. May is the peak month for the species. (KFB)



*Woodchat Shrike, Hackwood Park, May 15th
(Barry Carter)*

Jay (Eurasian Jay) *Garrulus glandarius*

Numerous resident and passage migrant.

Green

Records were submitted for 405 tetrads (40%) in 52 ten km squares.

Unlike 2022, when widespread movements were recorded after a failure in the acorn crop, just eight double-figure reports were received. Of these, the highest were close together geographically and in time: 18 at Calshot on Apr 17th, 25 at Lepe on Apr 24th and 32 at Calshot on Apr 27th.

The highest number of registrations in BBS one km squares was six at Burntwood Farm, Kingsworthy on Apr 15th and Row Ash on July 23rd. (NM)

Magpie (Eurasian Magpie) *Pica pica*

Numerous resident.

Green

Records were submitted for 557 tetrads (55%) in 53 ten km squares making this species significantly more widespread than Jay.

The highest numbers were recorded at the same four winter roosts as in 2022. At Fleet Pond the highest early year count was 190 on Jan 26th and in the late year numbers rose from 25 on Sep 18th to 100 on Dec 20th. At Fishlake Meadows highest counts were 70 on Feb 3rd and 78 on Nov 26th. At Southampton Common 126 were recorded on Dec 29th and at Winchester SF there were 48 on Dec 21st.

The highest number of registrations in BBS one km squares was 19 at Widley Farm on Apr 19th. Double-figure counts (10-13 registrations) were recorded at a further nine sites across the county. (NM)

Jackdaw (Western Jackdaw) *Coloeus monedula*

Numerous resident.

Green

Reported from 520 tetrads (51%) in 53 ten km squares making this species significantly more widespread than Rook, with which it often associates.

Counts of winter roosts, feeding flocks and movements were lower than in 2021. Highest counts were at Newlands Farm/Ranvilles Lane, Fareham with 800 on Jan 23rd, 850 on Nov 3rd and 1,550 on Dec 20th. The roost at Fleet Pond had 760 on Jan 26th and 700 on Mar 24th, and in the late year at least 500 on Nov 2nd. At other sites, counts of 200 or more were 400 at Newton Valence on Feb 28th, 350 at Holly Road, Ashurst on Jan 30th, 310 at Blashford Lakes on Dec 21st, 300 at Abshot on Jan 1st, 300 at Martin Down on July 31st, 250 at Crofton Manor Farm on Nov 2nd, 208 at The Mill Field NNR on Dec 20th, 200 at Stroud Green Allotments, Fareham on Jan 24th, 200 at Farleigh Hill on Aug 19th and 200 at Hill Head on Nov 19th.

Highest registrations in BBS one km squares were 58 at Fern Hill, Hythe on June 12th, 55 at Leckford Village on Apr 24th, 55 at Isington on May 21st and 51 at Dibden Bay on June 17th.

At visible migration sites the highest counts were 75 SW at Tweseldown Hill on Oct 25th and 52 west at Barton on Sea on Nov 4th (Table 8). (NM)

Rook *Corvus frugilegus*

Numerous resident and probable winter visitor.

VU, Amber

Recorded from 406 tetrads (40%) in 53 ten km squares, a drop from 448 tetrads last year.

In the first half-year, flocks of 250 or more comprised 400 at Martin Down on Jan 15th, 300 at Chidden on Jan 23rd, 291 at East Wellow on Apr 23rd and 250 at Four Marks on Jan 24th.

A total of 32 rookeries was reported, with 600 apparently occupied nests. Whilst the number of rookeries was less, the apparently occupied nest count was similar to last year's 590. This total excludes nine sites where adults were counted but no nest counts were given. Rookeries with 40 or more nests (with 2021 nests in parentheses) were at Longstock South, 70 (96); South Warnborough, 59 (54); Ringwood town centre, 50; Alton West, 44 (28); Leckford Village, 40 (60) and Overton, 40. Whilst numbers at Longstock South had been reduced due to tree-felling for new housing, numbers at Alton West had rebounded after being similarly affected last year by tree-felling for a new railway bridge.

In the second half-year, flocks of 250 or more comprised a huge flock of 1,800 adults and juveniles in a field next to a pig farm at Upton Grey on July 28th, 400 at Martin Down on July 31st, 250 at Ranvilles Lane, Fareham on Nov 3rd, 250 at Four Marks on Nov 15th, 300 at Hook-with-Warsash on Nov 20th, 300 at Four Marks on Dec 10th, 300 at East Meon on Dec 17th and 270 at Totford on Dec 24th. (NM)

Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*

Numerous resident.

Green

Recorded in 629 tetrads (62%) in 54 ten km squares making it the most widespread corvid (and the fourth most widespread species after Woodpigeon, Robin and Blackbird) with highest concentrations recorded at coastal locations.

The regularly monitored site at Weston Shore produced maximum monthly counts as shown in the table below. The annual maximum of 512 was recorded on Dec 7th and was similar to 2022's peak of 495 in October and 2021's peak of 516 in December.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
417	150	300	200	290	300	425	390	370	500	375	512

Other sites with counts of 100 or more peaked as follows: 343 at Brownwich on Dec 7th, 170 at Ranvilles Lane on Nov 4th, 160 at Hook-with-Warsash on Jan 25th, 128 at Dibden Bay on May 5th, 105 at Lower Test Marshes on Jan 22nd, 100 at Martin Down on Jan 20th, June 8th and 28th and 100 at Chilling on Dec 29th. In addition NFWBS totals were 275 in January, 271 in February, 251 in March, 280 in October, 279 in November and 208 in December (Table 4). (NM)

Raven (Northern Raven) *Corvus corax*

Scarce but increasing resident which bred successfully for the first time since 1887 in 2003.

Green

Nearly 2,100 records were submitted extending across 405 tetrads (40%) in 53 ten km squares. This compares with 451 tetrads in 54 ten km squares last year and suggests a slight reversal in the expansion witnessed over recent years. In 2021, it was also more widespread than Jay or Rook but this year all three were effectively the same in terms of reported tetrad distribution although Jay and Rook are probably under recorded.

As usual most records referred to individuals or small groups of typically up to five or six. Double-figure counts were reported with 30 at Woodcott on Apr 15th, 17 at Portchester on Dec 26th and 12 at Hawkey Hurst on Aug 26th. There were occasional reports of possible movements including seven east at Barton on Sea on Mar 10th and at Trigpoint Hill five SW on Feb 27th and five north-east on Apr 1st. Cumulative totals from NFWBS ranged between 12 in March and 30 in November (Table 4).

References to breeding started on Feb 28th with a bird on the previous year's nest. Of 15 specified breeding locations, six were on pylons and the remainder presumed to be in trees. Successful nests had two, three or four young (1, 2 and 7 sites respectively). One nest is known to have failed due to strong wind blowing it out of the tree. (NM)

Coal Tit *Periparus ater*

Numerous resident.

Green

Recorded in 362 tetrads (36%) in 51 ten km squares compared to 397 tetrads in 2021. BTO Garden Birdwatch reported presence in 283 (79%) of the surveyed Hampshire gardens with monthly rates varying from a high of 67.2% in October to a low of 37.4% in June (Table 2).

Double-figure counts were reported from 21 locations with highest counts of 38 in Wilverley Inclosure, NF on Apr 18th and 25 at Ober Heath, NF on Nov 13th. The highest number of registrations in a BBS one km square was 14 in North Oakley Inclosure, NF on June 27th.

An individual believed to be of the Continental subsp. *ater* was recorded at Sandy Point on Hayling Island on Apr 19th (ACJ). (NM)

Marsh Tit *Poecile palustris*

Common but declining resident.

Red, S4I

Recorded in 264 tetrads (26%) in 47 ten km squares, compared to 305 tetrads (30%) in 46 ten km squares in 2021.

BTO Garden Birdwatch reported presence in 50 (14%) of the surveyed Hampshire gardens with monthly rates varying from a high of 10.5% in January to a low of 5.0% in May and June (Table 2). Undifferentiated Marsh/Willow Tits were reported from 3% of gardens with monthly rates varying from a high of 2.3% in September to a low of 0.7% in June. All of these were probably Marsh Tits.

A total of 94 were recorded in a two-month roving survey of the central New Forest in May and June. This compares to an average of 73 recorded during similar surveys in 2009-11, thus demonstrating a relatively stable population with a 29% increase in numbers.

All double-figure counts were from the New Forest, with 14 in Denny Wood on Oct 22nd, and ten each at Mark Ash Wood on Jan 22nd, Denny Inclosure on Apr 11th and Eyeworth Pond on Oct 12th and 14th. The highest number of registrations in a BBS one km square was four in Holidays Hill Inclosure, NF on May 15th. NFWBS reported totals ranging between 16 on Oct 22nd to 5 on Dec 17th (Table 4). (NM)

Willow Tit *Poecile montanus*

Scarce and declining resident.

Red, S4I

All records came from the two known clusters in the Hampshire Downs near Dummer (five records of up to two birds between Jan 15th and Feb 26th) and near Faccombe with just one sighting of a single on Feb 9th. All of these were above 140m altitude and some were above 170m. There were no records later in the year.

Observers are reminded to exercise great care when identifying this species, as Marsh Tits regularly respond to playback of Willow Tit songs and calls by giving typical Willow Tit notes, so it is necessary to obtain a clear view of the totally all black beak. Marsh Tits almost always have a tiny white spot near the beak base which can be detected on photographs quite easily. The species has disappeared from most counties in south/south-east England now, and sadly it is only a matter of time before the tiny Hampshire population dies out completely. (KFB)

Blue Tit (Eurasian Blue Tit) *Cyanistes caeruleus*

Abundant resident and passage migrant.

Green

Recorded in 610 tetrads (60%) in 53 ten km squares making it the most widely recorded tit species.

BTO Garden Birdwatch reported presence in 354 (99%) of the surveyed Hampshire gardens

with monthly rates varying from a high of 98.1% in January to a low of 90.6% in July (Table 2).

Cumulative counts of 40 or more were reported from six sites (all between September and March), with 70 around Bolderwood, NF on Feb 11th, 70 at Fishlake Meadows on Dec 20th, 50 at Blashford Lakes on Dec 23rd, 48 along the coast between Keyhaven and Lymington on Sep 2nd, 45 along the Titchfield Canal Path on Dec 27th, 44 at Dogmersfield Lake on Feb 23rd and 42 at The Chase, North Hampshire Downs on Mar 15th. The highest number of registrations in a BBS one km square was 31, both at Netley Marsh on Apr 23rd and at Mallards Copse, Fleet on June 28th. (NM)

Great Tit *Parus major*

Abundant resident.

Green

Recorded in 568 tetrads (56) in 53 ten km squares making it the second most widespread tit species.

BTO Garden Birdwatch reported presence in 347 (97%) of the surveyed Hampshire gardens with monthly rates varying from a high of 92.8% in January to a low of 90.6% in July (Table 2).

Less numerous than Blue Tit with only three cumulative counts of 40 or more with 56 at Wyck on Mar 5th, 50 at Fishlake Meadows Dec 20th and 43 passing through a Southampton garden in six minutes on Oct 24th. The highest number of registrations in a BBS one km square was 26 at Mallards Copse, Fleet on June 28th. (NM)

Bearded Tit (Bearded Reedling) *Panurus biarmicus*

Scarce resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Schedule 1, Green, HBAP

Recorded in every month at Farlington Marshes and also regularly from Titchfield Haven and reedbeds along the Keyhaven-Lymington marshes. Highest counts were in the autumn and winter with 20 at Farlington on Sep 21st, a flock of at least 30 at Avon Water reedbeds, Keyhaven on Oct 11th followed by 21 on Oct 16th, and 20 at Titchfield Haven on Dec 8th. As last year there were also a few reports of one or two from Hook Lake, Hook-with-Warsash. Other records were 'present' at Broadmarsh/Bedhampton Shore on Jan 23rd, two at Hamble Point on Jan 26th, six flying west at Brownwich on Aug 25th, one at Needs Ore on Oct 18th, two (male and female) at Springhead, Greywell (first for this site in the north-east) on Oct 25th and Nov 25th and four at Lower Test Marshes on Nov 30th.

At Farlington Marshes breeding was confirmed for at least four pairs and possibly as many as nine pairs, with seven juveniles ringed in June. At Avon Water reedbeds, Keyhaven at least one and possibly two pairs bred, with a family including six juveniles ringed in July.

Monthly maxima at the four regular sites are summarised below. (NM)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Farlington Marshes	12	P	P	5	5	7	3	4	20	17	P	P
Titchfield Haven	4	2				6	1	2	12	12	12	20
Hook-with-Warsash	1					1					2	
Lymington-Hurst	1	P		2			8	1	4	30		6

P=present, no count

Woodlark *Lullula arborea*

Moderately common resident and passage migrant.

ET, Schedule 1, Green, S41, HBAP

Woodlark song over Woolmer Forest and Cadnam Common on New Year's Day was surely a pleasant way for two observers to start the year's birding! The flock of 19 at Portsdown Hill on the final day of 2021 was relocated on Jan 2nd and remained in the area until at least

Jan 29th. The only other records in the first half of the month were one at Squabb Wood, Romsey on 9th, singing males at Acres Down and Longwater Lawn on 12th and at Shalden and Brick Kiln Lane, both near Alton, on 14th, and a total of four found across 38 sites during NFWBS on 15th. In the second half of the month there were records from nine New Forest sites, Tweseldown and Woolmer in the north-east and at Corhampton, where there were four in a stubble field off Sailor's Lane on 20th, Chilbolton Down and Weston Patrick.

During February there were reports from 17 sites away from the New Forest and north-east heaths. Most of these involved one or two singing over stubble fields but others were of four adjacent to Walker's Copse, Dummer on 9th, one, possibly a migrant, moving south-west over Trigpoint Hill on 25th and six at Burnt Common on 26th. In the period up to the end of June such records came from 30 sites. At sixteen sites, singing males were noted at best for a few days only; at a further 12 sites males held territory for a longer period or pairs were noted; at Burnt Common at least two pairs bred successfully and at Burton Common a pair was seen carrying food. These records include those from the Hinton Ampner and Preshaw Estates, where five territories were identified compared with 12 in 2021.

The annual survey of the Thames Basin Heaths SPA revealed a decrease with 67 pairs/singing males compared with 74 in 2021. At Bourley and Long Valley SSSI, the long-term study located 26 territories, the same number as in 2021, but only 19 pairs were known to breed, three down on the previous year. Of 27 monitored nests, 18 succeeded in fledging 56 young, a success rate of 66% (68% in 2021) and a productivity of 2.1 pulli/nesting attempt (2.2 in 2021). On the Wealden Heaths SPA, there was a larger decrease with 46 pairs/singing males compared with 55 in 2021. The reduction was largely accounted for by a decline from 21 to 12 at Woolmer Forest. Counts at each site are given in Table 1.

As in the last two years, there was no survey work in the New Forest, but with records from 85 monads (compared with 116 in 2021) there is no reason to suspect any decline from the total of 169 territories located in 2019.

Post-breeding gatherings were generally small, the only counts to reach double-figures being 16 at Bolton's Bench, Lyndhurst on Sep 4th, ten at Ocknell Plain on Sep 18th and ten at Tweseldown on Oct 4th. At the last site, six or more were present daily between Sep 20th and Nov 2nd with five still there throughout November and into December. Visible migrants logged at Tweseldown totalled 38 south-west and two north-east on eight dates between Sep 28th and Oct 20th. Putative migrants elsewhere included five south-west and five north-west over Trigpoint Hill on nine dates between Sep 12th and Oct 27th, two east over Barton on Sea on Oct 18th, and singles over Sandy Point on 29th, west at Lepe on Oct 31st, west over Hill Head on Nov 4th, north-east over Farley Mount on 5th and east over Emsworth Channel on 12th (Table 8).

Few grounded birds were detected in November away from Tweseldown. NFWBS produced five at 35 sites on 19th but elsewhere in the Forest only seven were noted during the month. Five were at Woolmer Forest on 4th and one or two were at Hinton Ampner, Wheely Down and Squabb Wood up to 13th. The regular wintering flock at Portsdown Hill was located on Dec 4th and numbered 29, the highest ever count there. None was found during NFWBS on 17th and indeed there were no reports from anywhere in the Forest during the month. Five were at Tweseldown on 5th and four remained on 24th. Elsewhere there was one at Longwood Warren on 10th, a singing male at Woolmer Forest on 20th and three there on 28th. (JMC)

Skylark (Eurasian Skylark) *Alauda arvensis*

Numerous but declining resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

 *Red, S4I, HBAP*

Recorded in 390 tetrads (38%) in 51 ten km squares.

Two counts in January and eleven in November/December reached three figures the highest

being 300 at Toyd Down on Jan 20th. In the late year the highest counts were in late December with 250 at both Chilbolton Telescope on 26th and Chilling on 29th, the latter flushed from feeding in maize stubble.

In the breeding season the highest number of registrations in a BBS one km square was 25 near Bighton in the Hampshire Downs on June 16th.

Minimum half-monthly totals of autumn migrants (overwhelmingly heading W or SW) are tabulated below. Peak movements occurred during October whereas the maximum daily counts were 99 west at Barton on Sea in five hours on Nov 4th and 110 north-east at Trigpoint Hill in 1.5 hours on Dec 17th, the latter probably due to a cold and frosty spell preceding that date. (SKW)

	Sep 1-15	Sep 16-30	Oct 1-15	Oct 16-31	Nov 1-15	Nov 16-30	Dec 1-15	Dec 16-31	Totals
Coast moving			23	131	172	16	28	29	399
Inland moving		132	260	260	10	5	45	148	860
Totals	0	132	283	391	182	21	73	177	1,259

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

Moderately common but declining summer visitor and common passage migrant.

Green

The first was at Farlington Marshes on Mar 1st, with five elsewhere in the next ten days, and then a sustained arrival from Mar 12th but with no double-figure counts until 25th. Just seven spring counts equalled or exceeded 100, three of them at the breeding site at Ibsley Water including the spring maximum of 200 on May 30th.

Breeding was recorded at the following sites with apparently occupied nest holes (2021 in parentheses): Testwood Lakes, 88 (116); Ibsley Water, 64; Burnt Common, 1-2 (3) and Whitehill, 1. In addition 40 birds with occupied nests were recorded at Frith End SP, NF on May 9th (95) and 22 were behaving territorially at Barton on Sea on May 14th (15).

The first departing migrants/dispersing birds were at Farlington Marshes and Sandy Point on June 18th. A total of 23 autumn gatherings of over 100 was recorded. In the period between Aug 24th and Sep 27th there were several counts of 300 at Ibsley Water with a maximum of 400 on Sep 5th and 9th. At other sites the highest autumn counts were 190 at Barton on Sea on July 16th and 150 at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes on July 18th-19th and Sep 10th. Just 642 were recorded on the move in the autumn compared to 1,459 last year. Observers are again reminded to include details of numbers and directions when reporting visible migration. Half-monthly autumn totals of all birds recorded as moving are tabulated below.

	June 13-30	July 1-15	July 16-31	Aug 1-15	Aug 16-31	Sep 1-15	Sep 16-30	Oct 1-15	Totals
Inland		4	2	5	2	16	7		36
Coast	2	105	42	18	65	364	10		606
Totals	2	109	44	23	67	380	17		642

Just 54 were seen in October, and only six in the second half of the month, the last being at Normandy Marsh on 22nd.

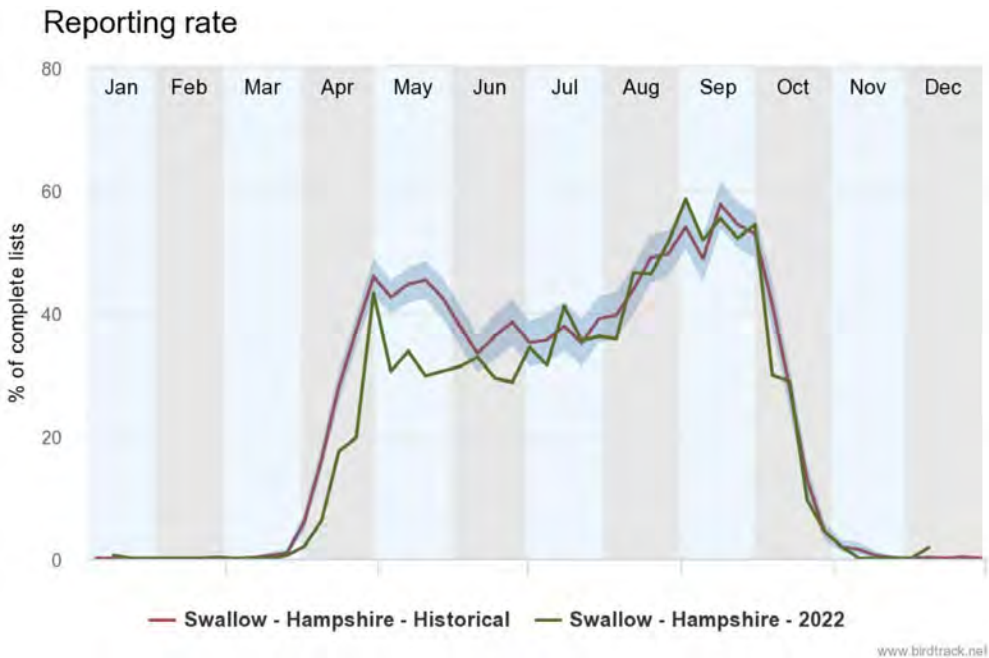
The lower numbers of birds and occupied nest holes demonstrates a further worrying decline in the status of this species. (SKW)

Swallow (Barn Swallow) *Hirundo rustica*

Numerous summer visitor and abundant passage migrant.

Green

A wintering bird flew north-east over Browndown Heath, Lee-on-the-Solent on Jan 12th (GSB). The first migrant was on Feb 28th at South Warnborough, but there were no more until Mar 19th with a widespread arrival not until the end of March. A significant arrival including House Martins and Sand Martins on Apr 8th included the first count of 50 at Ibsley Water. Only six spring counts reached three figures, the largest being 350 arriving from the south at Hill Head on Apr 27th. There was no “big push” in early May, and several observers commented on overall low numbers in 2022. The late arrival in April and low numbers in May are illustrated in the BTO BirdTrack reporting rate graph below which compares 2022 with the historical trend in Hampshire.



Much higher numbers were encountered in autumn, with 92 counts over 100 and over 50,000 apparent migrants noted, albeit mostly in gatherings rather than actively moving. As with other day migrants, observers are encouraged to include directions in which birds are actually moving, rather than simply gathering. An impressive roost formed at Lower Test Marshes in early September peaking at 4,000 on 3rd with Kestrel and Peregrine hunting in the midst.

The half-monthly totals of all birds recorded as moving from mid-June onwards are tabulated below with the peak passage during the first half of September. Highest daily movements were 3,350 east at Barton on Sea over four hours on Sep 11th, 3,000 east at Lepe on Sep 13th and 7,000 departing south-west from Hook Links at dusk on Oct 2nd. The total of 29,434 is a significant increase over last year’s figure of 12,345 for the same period.

	June 15-30	July 1-15	July 16-31	Aug 1-15	Aug 16-31	Sep 1-15	Sep 16-30	Oct 1-15	Oct 16-31	Nov 1-15	Nov 16-30	Totals
Inland			250		300	3,370	4,000	127				7,920
Coast				186		13,157	884	7,287				21,514
Totals			250	186	300	16,527	4,884	7,414				29,434

At least 26 were recorded in November and at least four in early December, with the last being singles at Keyhaven, Brownwich and Titchfield Haven and two at Hurst Beach, all on 3rd. (SKW)

House Martin (Common House Martin) *Delichon urbicum*

Numerous but declining summer visitor and passage migrant.

Red

The first of the year was at Hiltingbury on Mar 20th. A gap of two weeks followed before 27 more were seen in the week beginning Apr 3rd. Alarming, only eight spring counts reached 50 or more, with a maximum of just 75 at Fishlake Meadows on Apr 23rd. Whilst arrivals were widely noted as late, similar to Swallow, there were several reports of numbers being up at some traditional nesting sites and only a couple citing local disappearances. The largest colonies reported contained 47 complete or partially-built nests at the Manor House, Upton Grey on May 26th and 59 nests in farm buildings at Compton in the Test Valley on Aug 1st. The highest number of registrations in a BBS one km square was 25 at Alder Moor, Hazeley on June 16th.

Post-breeding/failed breeder dispersal was hard to pinpoint, but was well underway by mid-July. Numerous data relating to active migration have been lost due to lack of details; for example by observers noting "steady passage all morning" but failing to provide any estimated numbers or directions. In particular, the spring data below are highly fragmentary and grossly underestimate actually numbers moving. Half-monthly totals of all birds recorded as moving between April and October are tabulated below. The autumn peak passage occurred as usual during September and into early October and the year total of 23,145 was significantly higher than the 11,059 logged last year, despite misgivings about under-recording. Details of passage at the main visible migration watchpoints are given in Table 8.

	Apr 1-15	Apr 16-30	May 1-15	May 16-31	June 1-15	June 16-30	July 1-15	July 16-31	Aug 1-15	Aug 16-31	Sep 1-15	Sep 16-30	Oct 1-15	Oct 16-31	Totals
Inland		65	7	4	9			39	86	238	1,938	4,490	3,584	7	10,467
Coast	1	17	21				1		5		6,162	5,951	519	1	12,678
Totals	1	82	28	4	9		1	39	91	238	8,100	10,441	4,103	8	23,145

The last of the year was one at Brownwich on Nov 13th following a gap of over two weeks since the penultimate sighting at Tweseldown on Oct 25th. (SKW)

Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropsis daurica*

Rare vagrant recorded April to July and October. (0,20,1)

A single glided south to north over the east side of Posbrook Floods at 15:09 on Apr 22nd (MF). As the bird flew just higher than the trees, the views were good enough to pick it out in the mixed hirundines. Sadly it disappeared despite a lengthy search.

There have been records in nine previous years this century. Of the last eight records, five have been around Titchfield Haven! Occurrences are rising in the UK and this is thought to be due to both a northward expansion and an apparent population increase in Europe related to increasing temperatures. (KFB)

2021 Correction. The date for the Farlington Marshes record was Apr 29th.

Cetti's Warbler *Cettia cetti*

Moderately common resident along main river valleys; first bred in 1979. Schedule 1, Green, HBAP

Just over 3,000 records were added to the HOS database from 139 tetrads in 30 ten km squares. The population is now at its highest ever level in the county with the result that many sites are not properly surveyed each year. Maximum counts of singing males included the following: Brambridge-Allbrook, 6; Broadlands Lake, 6; Dark Water, Lepe, 9; Farlington Marshes, 8; Fishlake Meadows, 29*; Hook-with-Warsash, 11*; Itchen Valley CP, 7; Itchen Water Works, 7*; Needs Ore, 14*; Lower Test Marshes, 66*; Lymington-Hurst, 11; Shawford to Winchester WM, 7; Testwood Lakes, 6; Titchfield Haven, 35; Winnall Moors, 20*. Only those marked with * were the results of actual surveys; counts at other locations were possibly considerably higher, e.g. one experienced observer suggested that there might be



Cetti's Warbler, Blashford Lakes, Mar 14th (Richard Jacobs)

50 territories at Lymington-Hurst. In addition to these, one observer submitted to Birdtrack breeding season records of 53 in 20 tetrads in the Middle and Upper Test Valley, although it is not clear if these are counts of singing males or all birds seen/heard.

The slow expansion in the north-east continued. Birds were resident at Edenbrook Park, Fleet Pond and The Mill Field, Old Basing where there were three, one and three territories respectively. One pair at The Mill Field raised two young. One was at Flood Meadows, Alton on Jan 20th, the first record from this area. A male was at Greywell from Jan 3rd to Apr 8th but not recorded subsequently. In October-December there were three males at Fleet Pond and two at Greywell. (JMC)

Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*

Numerous resident.

Green

Recorded in 478 tetrads (47%) in 52 ten km squares.

In the first three months of the year, despite there being 1,011 records (where counts were provided) distributed across the county, there were only six reports from five sites of 20 or more, the peak being 38 at Wildmoor, Loddon Valley on Jan 24th.

There were no breeding counts received from the regular surveyed areas and only ad-hoc and low counts were received from widely spread areas. The highest number of registrations in a BBS one km square was nine at Itchen Stoke Down on June 25th.

Reports of flocks of 25 or greater were received from four sites from July 1st to Sep 16th, with the peak being 37 at The Mill Field LNR on Sep 13th. In the last three months of the year there were 21 reports from eight sites of 25 or more, with the peak count of 52 again being at The Mill Field LNR on Nov 1st. (MJP)

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*

Scarce and declining summer visitor now largely confined to the New Forest.

Red

Recorded in 18 tetrads in 8 ten km squares, including passage migrants, with most reports from the New Forest (compared to 23 tetrads in 7 ten km squares in 2021).

The first was a male in potential breeding habitat in the western New Forest on May 1st. Passage birds outside the New Forest were noted at Gang Warily on May 2nd and Eversley Common on the following day but both moved on quickly.

The majority of records from the New Forest were of unmated males. As these often shift location during the breeding season, determining the number of individuals involved is near impossible, particularly as most records had vague grid references and quite a few had inaccurate ones. Only three definite pairs were recorded and just one of these bred successfully.

The huge scale of the losses in the last decade was illustrated by comparing the two birds recorded during a two-month roving survey in May and June in the central New Forest in 2022 with the average of 105 recorded during similar surveys in 2009-11.

No birds were reported during autumn passage and the last record was the successful breeding pair with fledged young on July 14th. (TD)

Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus*

Very scarce but increasing passage migrant and winter visitor, most frequent in autumn, but recorded in every month from September to April. (0,179,7)

Amber

A widely-watched bird was present in trees along the sea wall by the Maritime College at Warsash from Jan 22nd to Feb 2nd (SB et al., photo). In the autumn there were singles at Gilkicker Point on Oct 22nd (MJP), Holly Hill Park on Oct 26th (SCR), Lymington River reedbed on Oct 27th (MJH) and Titchfield Canal Path on Oct 28th (MJP), while two garden reports were in Warsash on Nov 5th (RKL) and St Cross on Nov 11th (THW). (KFB)

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*

Common but declining summer visitor and passage migrant.

Amber

The first for the year was a single at Needs Ore on Mar 17th but the widespread arrival started only on the 28th, accounting for the meagre showing of 14 sites by the end of March 2022 (cf. 42 sites by the end of March 2021). During April the only double-figure counts were 11 at Heath Warren on 19th and then an extraordinary run of migrants at Barton on Sea with 295 bird-days over the period of 20th-30th, with a peak of 161 on 25th. By contrast, at Sandy Point there were no April double-figure counts (cf. 3: 2021, 9: 2020) and none in May either. Sandy Point recorded 64 bird-days between Mar 28th and May 18th (cf. 105 in 2021, 76 in 2020).

Surveys of the Thames Basin and Wealden Heaths produced totals of 120 and 41 pairs/singing males compared with 122 and 53 in 2021 (see Table 1 for individual site counts). Numbers are holding up well on the Thames Basin, particularly at Bourley and Long Valley where there 48 territories (50 in 2021), but there have been marked declines at most Wealden Heath sites, particularly Woolmer Forest where only six territories were found in a large area of suitable habitat. Other significant counts of territorial males included 32 at Home Farm Woodland Trust, Burkhams, 31 at Hut Wood, 20 at Tidgrove Warren and 15 at Bransbury Common. In the central New Forest a survey centred on Rhinefield and Bolderwood and covering two ten km transects recorded 31 territories. This is a very large decrease of 74% on the average number of 118 territories logged on similar surveys in 2009-11.

In autumn a total of 301 was trapped and ringed at Titchfield Haven between July 9th and Aug 24th, with a maximum of 32 on Aug 16th, a return to the numbers of the recent past. (cf. 192 in 2021). Also, 104 were ringed at Sinah Common, Hayling Island between Aug 7th and Aug 26th. In addition, counts of 20 or more were received from Martin Down (20, Aug 9th) and Old Winchester Hill, where 115 bird-days were recorded between Aug 10th and 14th (peak 38, Aug 10th). Smaller numbers were reported throughout September into October, with double-figure counts at Peartree Common (17, Sep 5th), Portsdown Hill (10,

Sep 20th) and Hook-with-Warsash (10, Oct 13th). The last bird of the year was recorded at Normandy Marsh on Oct 14th. (MJP)

Chiffchaff (Common Chiffchaff) *Phylloscopus collybita*

Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita collybita*

Numerous summer visitor and passage migrant; moderately common in winter.

Green

In January-February there were 283 reports covering 221 birds at 112 sites. This was a further reduction compared with the previous years (cf. 252 birds at 138 sites, 2021; 321 at 63 sites, 2020; 598 at 98 sites; 2019). The only double-figure counts were at Eastleigh STW (max. 25, Feb 5th).

As in previous years, and with so many wintering birds around, it is difficult to pinpoint the arrival of summer migrants. Singing birds were widespread from the first week of March, and double-figure counts became commonplace after the middle of the month with reports from 25 sites. Of these, ten sites exceeded 20 and an impressive 51 were noted along the Test Way from Nursling to Moorcourt on Mar 28th. As with 2021, birds were noted at Trigpoint Hill as part of an overall visible migration survey from Mar 12th. The numbers were generally low but built towards the end of the month with a peak of 22 on Mar 26th.

Counts of territories in surveyed areas were as follows (2021 figures in parentheses): Fishlake Meadows, 31 (20); Lower Test Marshes, 34 (28); Yateley Common MOD, 14 (22); Ludshott Common, 10 (31) and Blashford Lakes, 30 (30). Other notable territory counts included Itchen Valley CP, 22; Bourley South, 48; Mallard Copse, Fleet, 26. In the central New Forest, a survey centred on Rhinefield and Bolderwood and based on two ten km transects recorded 167 territories. This is a 40% increase on the 119 average number of territories recorded on similar surveys in 2009-11.

In the autumn 865 were caught and ringed at Titchfield Haven between July 9th and Nov 19th, with peaks of 92 on Sep 4th and 113 on Oct 11th. Ringing at Sinah Common also produced 48 on Sep 30th and 58 on Oct 11th. There were four further counts of over 40 between late September and the first week of October, the highest being 55 at Lower Test Marshes on Sep 28th. In November to December there were 218 reports covering 264 birds in small numbers at 128 sites (cf. 2021: 187 birds at 91 sites). Three sites held double-figure counts with a maximum of 14 at Lower Test Marshes on Nov 4th although no more than four were recorded there subsequently. There were no counts from Eastleigh STW. (MJP)

Siberian Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita tristis*

Rare autumn passage migrant and winter visitor. (since 1982:69,13)

The increase in sightings continued as observers' familiarity with the race improved. Most birds were heard to call. At Titchfield Haven a single was often by the Spurgin Hide, with reports from Jan 11th-13th, 21st, 30th and Feb 11th, 14th and 22nd (DBCR *et al.*). At Eastleigh STW a single was reported on many dates from Jan 9th to Feb 2nd and then two were seen on Feb 5th, one of which was caught and ringed (DJU, TDC *et al.*, photo). At Blashford Lakes a single was at Ivy Lake North Hide on Jan 11th, 26th, 29th and Feb 2nd (m.o.). Some 800m away what was presumably another was at Snails Lake on Jan 24th and 28th and Feb 2nd (SKW). At Darby Green there were three, possibly four, on Jan 17th and a single on Feb 11th (GCS). Away from these regular sites others were at Winnall Moors where two were seen on Jan 30th (AEO, MH) and at Anton Lakes, with a single on Feb 14th (BMC, photo).

In the second winter, a single was ringed at Eastleigh STW on Nov 26th (DJU, TDC, photo) and one was at Titchfield Haven on Nov 30th (MF, photo). (KFB)

Great Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*

Very rare vagrant recorded in May and June. (0,5,1)

A singing male was discovered in the reeds at Hook Lake on May 24th at about 10:00 and it continued to sing sporadically until about 13:00. A recording was obtained, and at least one observer glimpsed it, but it was not reported after this time (MHT *et al.*, sound recorded). Accepted by the BBRC.

This is the sixth record and followed a year and a day after the 2021 bird, although that was the first since 1980. (KFB)

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

Common summer visitor and passage migrant.

Amber

The first for the year was on Mar 23rd at Titchfield Haven. The next was a week later. The main arrival was from Apr 8th as birds were seen daily from then until the end of April with a total of 234 records relating to 583 at 66 sites (cf. 2021: 188 records of 462 at 57 sites). At Fishlake Meadows there were four double-figure counts from Apr 16th onwards, with a peak of 25 on Apr 27th. Double-figure counts were also received from three other sites with 14 at Itchen Valley CP and 18 along the Itchen between Shawford and Winchester WM, both on Apr 25th, and 12 at Lower Test Marshes on 26th (cf. 2021: three sites with a peak of 19).

During the breeding season, singing birds were reported from the following regular sites (2021 in parentheses): Bransbury Common, 20 (21); Fishlake Meadows, 18 (15) and Itchen Valley CP, 16 (17). Counts of breeding territories at regularly surveyed sites included (2021 in parenthesis) Lower Test Marshes, CBC Plot 1, 19 and Plot 2, 23 (combined plots 42). A partial count was also returned from Keyhaven, 17. Approximately 279 singing males were reported from 89 localities (cf. 384 at 99 sites in 2021).

In autumn there was an increase in the number at Titchfield Haven, with 574 trapped and ringed between July 9th and Sep 24th (cf. 465 in 2021) and a peak of 71 on Aug 4th. At Sinah Common ringing on six dates between Aug 7th and Sep 11th trapped 43 with a peak of 24 on Aug 26th. Elsewhere, return passage yielded double-figure counts only at Lower Test



Sedge Warbler, Old Tip, Lower Pennington Lane, Sep 15th (Matt Barfield)

Marshes (12, Aug 21st) and Longparish (10, Sep 1st). There were three October records, the last being one at Lower Test Marshes on Oct 8th. (MJP)

Reed Warbler (Common Reed Warbler) *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

Common summer visitor and passage migrant.

Green, HBAP

The first for the year were reported from three sites on Apr 12th, with singles at IBM Lake, Hill Head and Lepe. Thereafter birds were seen almost daily. By the month's end only five locations had double-figure counts with 19 at Fishlake Meadows, 15 at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes, 11 at Dibden Bay Reclamation and 12 at both Titchfield Canal and Needs Ore.

Breeding season records totalled approximately 433 singing males/territories at 118 sites (cf. 2021: 651 at 130 sites). Notable counts of singing males in May were at (2021 figures in parentheses where available) Fleet Pond, 20 (30); IBM Lake, 15 (17); Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes, 27 (45); Dibden Bay, 11 (15); Needs Ore, 40 (14); Farlington Marshes, 7 (19) and Hook Valley, Warsash, 10 (8). In addition, counts of breeding territories at regularly surveyed sites included (2021 in parenthesis) Lower Test Marshes, CBC Plot 1, 49 and Plot 2, 26 (combined plots 97).

In the autumn 325 were trapped and ringed at Titchfield Haven (cf. 2021: 325) between July 9th and Oct 11th with a peak of 43 on July 29th (cf. 2021: 27, Aug 1st). Ringing was also carried out at Sinah Common where 12 were trapped over five dates, with a peak of five on Sep 10th. Away from the breeding and ringing sites there were no double-figure counts. Birds were widespread in September followed by eight records in October, the last being an adult ringed at Titchfield Haven on 29th. (MJP)

Grasshopper Warbler (Common Grasshopper Warbler) *Locustella naevia*

Scarce spring passage migrant and summer visitor; moderately common autumn passage migrant mostly recorded at Titchfield Haven.

Red, S4I, HBAP

The first records were of singles reeling at both Hill Head, just outside the southern edge of Titchfield Haven NR, and at Fishlake Meadows on Apr 12th. During April up to 18 reeling birds were heard at 16 locations (cf. 2021: 19 at 16 sites), all singles except for two each at Fishlake Meadows and Barton on Sea. There were 17 reports in May, all singles at five sites, three of which were common to April (cf. 2021: 8 at 6 sites).

As with previous years, little evidence of breeding was received, although records were widespread in late May/June but, unlike previous years, these were not exclusive to the Test Valley. The difficulty of finding birds once they have stopped reeling means that proving status will continue to be problematic. In addition, return migration begins early and birds were found during July in areas where they were not believed to breed.

In autumn 119 were trapped and ringed at Titchfield Haven between July 16th and Sep 10th (cf. 2021: 81) with a peak of 14 on Aug 4th. Ringing at Sinah Common also trapped two in August. Elsewhere, singles were reported in 12 locations (cf. 2021:11). The last of the year was at Greatham on Sep 29th. (MJP)

Blackcap (Eurasian Blackcap) *Sylvia atricapilla*

Numerous summer visitor and passage migrant; moderately common in winter.

Green

Between January and late March there were 980 reports of approximately 501 birds at 331 sites (cf. 460 at 306 sites in 2021), many of which were in gardens. Recording in gardens is at such a density in some areas that duplication is inevitable. All reports were between one and four except for five at Chilbolton during the last week of January. There were no records from Drayton this year, where in previous years the colour-ringed birds have shown the true numbers wintering. There is always a difficulty in identifying spring arrivals from those wintering which

leave to breed on the Continent. However, it appears that the first wave of arrivals started from Mar 19th although some wintering birds appeared to stay up to the end of the month.

Records from regularly monitored sites showed an increase in numbers from late March throughout April as migrants moved in. The first double-figure count away from the known wintering hotspots was at the end of March with 13 at Moorcourt on 28th. In April there were only four counts of 20 and over, many fewer than usual, with the maximum of 37 at Bolderwood on Apr 15th, 23 at Botley Wood and 20 at Lower Test HWT the same day, and 20 at Blashford Lakes the following day.

A survey of a 46 sq km area of the central New Forest, centred on Bolderwood/Rhinefield, was undertaken and the count of territories was 305 across 37 one km squares. This is a 51% increase over the 202 average number of territories recorded during similar surveys in 2009-11. The highest number of BBS registrations in a one km square was 20 at Mallards Copse, Fleet. This species remains both numerous and widespread.

Autumn passage was most evident in September with high counts at Old Winchester Hill with 48 on both Sep 2nd and 3rd and at Farley Mount CP with 39 also on Sep 3rd. At Titchfield Haven a record high of 1,352 birds trapped was achieved between July 9th and Nov 19th including a peak of 119 on Sep 10th. Approximately 302 were recorded at 200 sites during November-December compared with 153 at 114 sites in the same period in 2021. Eleven records related to more than three, with a maximum of five at Chilbolton and four at Winchester, Twyford, Oliver's Battery, Alverstoke and Stubbington. (MJP)

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin*

Common summer visitor and passage migrant; recorded once in winter.

Green

The first arrival for the year was a single at Ibsley Water on Apr 11th. A further seven were reported in that week. Thereafter, arrivals were widespread. However, the first double-figure count was not until early May with 12 at Winnall Moors of May 7th.

During the period of May to June, there were approximately 434 records from 173 locations (cf. 2021: 485 at 182 sites) with the majority being of one or two singing males. An apparent



Garden Warbler, Winnall Moors, May 9th (Rob Porter)

decline was found at most sites listed below where there have historically been notable counts of singing males (2021 in parentheses): Botley Wood, 5 (9); Stockbridge Down, 4 (4); Fishlake Meadows, 6 (8); Blackbushe, 20 (14), Yateley Common, 2 (6). Blashford Lakes 8 (20); Binswood, 7 (14) Bourley North, 6 (7); Bourley South, 3 (5) and Bramshill, 4 (6). No count was received from the previous stronghold of Pamber Forest. However, in the central area of the New Forest, a survey of 37 one km squares centered on Bolderwood/Rhinefield found 16 territories. This is a decrease of 45% compared to the 29 average number of territories recorded during similar surveys in 2009-11.

In the autumn at Titchfield Haven there was a continuation of more normal numbers with 71 (cf. 75 in 2021) trapped and ringed between July 16th and Oct 13th, with a peak of ten on Aug 4th. Despite this, only three other sites had a count of more than two, namely Ranvilles Lane (3, Aug 14th), Keyhaven (3, Aug 31st) and The Mill Field LNR (3, Sep 10th). The last records were on Sep 20th with two at Keyhaven and one at Basingstoke Common. (MJP)

Lesser Whitethroat *Curruca curruca*

Moderately common but declining summer visitor and passage migrant; recorded 11 times in winter.

Green

The first were part of an arrival that commenced on Apr 16th with multiple records of singles at Needs Ore, Deacon Hill, Old Basing and Frater Shore. From then on birds were recorded daily and widely spread being found at 50 (cf. 2021: 38) sites by the end of the month. Most reports were of one or two individuals but the maximum was eight at Dibden Bay on 25th.

The unobtrusive nature of this species makes assessing the potential breeding numbers difficult. Despite this, records of singing males totalled 129 from 83 localities (cf. 2021: 159 at 117 sites), a further decline from the 2020 high number (182 at 117 sites). Highest counts were six at Martin Down and Needs Ore; five at Dibden Bay; four at Hook-with-Warsash and Hayling Oysterbeds; three at Old Winchester Hill, Lower Test Marshes, Keyhaven, Littleton and Ashmansworth. No other site held more than one or two singing males.

Post-breeding numbers were low with most records being of ones and twos. Three were



Lesser Whitethroat, Needs Ore, May 21st (Chris Button)

reported at Keyhaven on Aug 8th, three at Northney on Aug 12th, seven at Portsdown Hill on Aug 17th and three at Hook-with-Warsash on Aug 29th. There were almost daily records throughout September until the last on 26th. The only notable count was three at Itchen Water Works on Sep 21st. There were no records in October.

There were also two winter records, the 12th and 13th to date. One was caught and ringed at Chilbolton on Jan 30th (GCE) but although the wing formula was outside the normal range of the nominate, it could not be ascribed to a sub-species. Another spent four days around the Hill Head chalets from Dec 9th-12th (MF *et al.*). It is believed that these winter records most likely relate to the eastern race *blythi*, dubbed 'Siberian Lesser Whitethroat'. Whilst the later bird showed characteristics of this eastern race, DNA samples are currently required to be confirmed, something that did not happen in either case. (MJP)

Whitethroat (Common Whitethroat) *Curruca communis*

Numerous summer visitor and passage migrant; recorded five times in winter.

Amber

The first sightings were on Apr 10th with singles at Keyhaven and Porchester. Birds were then seen daily from 12th and by the middle of April were plentiful and widespread. Double-figure counts were received from five sites with a maximum of 18 along the Titchfield Canal Path on Apr 28th.

Counts of territories in previously surveyed areas were as follows (2021 figures in parentheses where available): Botley Wood, 3 (8); Butser Hill, 3 (15); Frater Shore, 11 (16); Ranvilles Lane, Fareham, 12 (18); Lower Test Marshes, 9 (12); Casbrook Common, 5 (7); Blackbushe Airfield, 7 (12); Martin Down, 36 (25) and Deacon Hill, 3 (17). On the Thames Basin and Wealden Heaths, the breeding season survey produced totals of 94 (123) and 40 (37) territories (Table 1). Most sites showed a decline on recent years. This year 18 (cf. 22 in 2021) sites in the central New Forest (10 km squares SU20, 21, 30, and 31) had records submitted for May and June showing a set-back in the recovery in this area as, with only three records of three or more (cf. 9 in 2021), it is clear that this was not a good year for this species.

Return passage began in earnest in the second week of August and built steadily until the month's end. There was only one count of over 25 with 27 at Fleet Pond on Aug 4th. At Titchfield Haven only 35 were trapped and ringed between July 9th and Sep 19th (cf. 88 in 2021 between July 11th and Oct 9th), the third lowest total in the last 20 years. Migrants remained widespread in early September but then tailed off later in the month, there being only two double-figure counts with 24 in the Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes area on Sep 2nd and 11 on Sep 5th. There was only one record in October, the last of the year being a single in the Loddon Valley on Oct 1st. (MJP)

Dartford Warbler *Curruca undata*

Moderately common resident, largely confined to heaths of New Forest and north-east but with small numbers in coastal scrub. Highly susceptible to harsh winters.

ET, NT, Schedule 1, Amber, HBAP

The only early year records away from known breeding sites were singles at Shortheath Common on Jan 1st, Farlington Marshes from Jan 4th-20th and Apr 9th, Barton Common on Jan 12th, Sandy Point from Jan 13th-28th and Mar 15th-20th, Bramshott Common on Mar 8th and Apr 13th and Hogmoor Inclosure on Mar 28th.

The breeding season survey on the Thames Basin Heaths SPA produced 200 pairs/singing males compared with 153 in 2021. The largest concentrations were 67 on Bourley and Long Valley SSSI, including two at Velmead Common for the first time, and 114 at Castle Bottom to Yateley and Hawley Commons SSSI. These were both record totals. On the Wealden Heaths SPA there were 173 pairs/singing males compared with 135 in 2021. These included 55 at Longmoor Inclosure, 49 at Woolmer Forest, 45 at Ludshott Common and 19 at Broxhead Common. Counts at each site are given in Table 1.

No survey work was undertaken in the New Forest but breeding season records from there came from 63 monads. Other breeding season counts of territories were as follows (* = successful breeding): 50-acre Piece, 2; Badminton Common/Toms Down, 3; Barton on Sea Undercliff, 1; Browdown North, 1*; Browdown South, 1; Burnt Common, 1; Burton Common, 6-7*; Gilkicker Point, 1; Hamble Common, 1; Hook-with-Warsash, 2*; Normandy-Keyhaven, 4+*; Plumley Wood, Ringwood Forest, 2*; Needs Ore, 2*; Poors Common, 1; Sinah Common, 4*.

Post-breeding records from non-breeding sites (singles unless stated otherwise) came from Sandy Point (June 18th-July 16th, Aug 30th-Nov 30th (max. 4) and Dec 20th), Weston Shore/West Wood (Aug 7th and 20th), Fleet Pond (juv on fields, Aug 12th), Farlington Marshes (Sep 10th-Dec 31st, max. 3), The Mill Field, Old Basing (Sep 13th), Taddiford Gap (Sep 17th), Bisterne (Oct 9th), Fort Cumberland (3, Oct 13th), Lower Test Marshes (Oct 13th and 17th), Becton Bunny (1-2, Oct 11th-Dec 14th), IBM Lake (Oct 15th), Solent Breezes (Oct 18th-Dec 31st, max. 4 on Dec 24th), Barton on Sea GC (Nov 12th-19th), Itchen Valley CP (Nov 13th-Dec 11th), Edenbrook CP (Nov 27th, Dec 24th (2) and 26th), Round Copse, Sherfield (Dec 9th and 22nd) and Fort Southwick (Dec 16th).

Totals from NFWBS were 38, 36 and 24 in January to March and 57, 58 and 20 in October to December respectively. Birds were evidently much easier to see in the Keyhaven-Normandy area where as many as 15 were found on a walk around the reserve on Nov 4th. (JMC)

Firecrest (Common Firecrest) *Regulus ignicapilla*

Common and increasing resident and passage migrant.

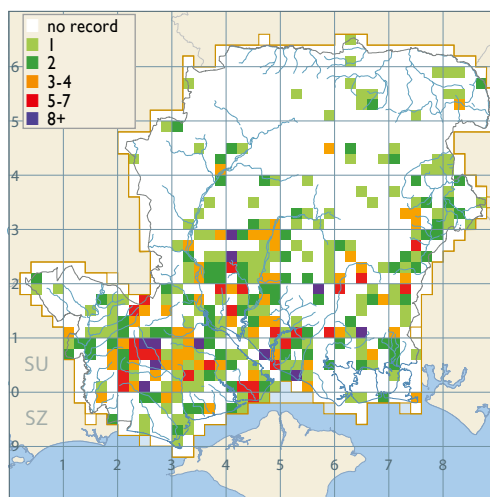
Schedule 1, Green, HBAP

Recorded in 338 tetrads (33%) in 47 ten km squares compared to 355 tetrads in 2020.

Winter numbers remained comparable to 2021's elevated levels and, as usual, most records emanated from the southern half of the county. Early winter records were received from 14 sites in the north, primarily around Basingstoke and the north-east (15 in 2021, 7 in 2020 and 3 in 2019), including four at Velmead Common, Fleet on Jan 21st. The tetrad map clearly illustrates the current distribution and spread from the original core area in The New Forest. This map supersedes and updates the map incorrectly included in HBR 2021.

Counts of three or more were received from 21 sites during the first two months of the year (14 in 2021, 4 in 2020) and included six at Dundridge on Feb 8th and five at Kings Copse Inclosure, NF on Jan 15th. The first reports of singing came from Crab Wood in Farley Mount CP and Sway, NF, both on Feb 3rd.

March saw the expected jump in numbers with a minimum of 261 reported, remarkably consistent with 2021's 264, and suggesting a consolidation at 2021's elevated numbers. During the breeding season a minimum of 445 territories was reported from 258 sites (443 territories and 190 sites in 2021), including 205 territories from the New Forest (196 in 2021). The site count represents a 35% year-on-year increase suggesting there has been a further expansion of the breeding population across the county despite no breeding reports being received from several strongholds in the north-east. Notable territory counts included 32+ at Longdown Management Woods, NF; nine at Farley Mount CP and eight at Wilverley



Tetrad map showing distribution and maximum numbers of Firecrest in 2022



Firecrest, Needs Ore, Feb 8th (Chris Button)

Inclosure, NF. Other high counts at this time included 11 at Ampfield Wood on June 11th. In addition, a targeted survey was undertaken in the central New Forest to replicate the 2009-2011 survey, encompassing 37 one km squares centred on Bolderwood and Rhinefield Ornamental Drives. This survey resulted in 229 territories being detected between May 1st and June 30th in 81 hours of survey work compared to an average of 137 territories detected in the 2009-2011 survey, confirming a healthy 67% expansion.

There was a 30% increase in reports in September and October over 2021's minimum totals suggesting it was a productive breeding season. Dispersal was evident at non-breeding sites from the third week of August. Notable autumn counts included 12 at Royal Victoria CP on Oct 6th and eight at Creech Woods, Denmead on Oct 17th. Elsewhere, Hook-with-Warsash logged 64 bird-days between Aug 19th and Dec 12th (peak 7, Oct 26th); Old Winchester Hill, 29 bird-days between Aug 11th and Sep 19th (peak 5, Sep 4th); Ranvilles Lane, Fareham, 21 bird-days between Aug 21st and Dec 4th (peak 3, Oct 19th) and Sandy Point, 13 bird-days between Sep 3rd and Dec. 2nd (peak 4, Nov 30th). A record high was achieved of 13 trapped at Titchfield Haven between Sep 3rd and Nov 19th (3 in 2021). As in 2021, there was a marked drop-off in numbers in November and December, although minimum totals remained 17% over 2021's totals.

Minimum totals are tabulated below. (WGDL)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
New Forest totals	27	52	107	24	21	12	12
- No. of New Forest sites	21	28	38	12	13	9	9
Southampton Common	4	2	2	3	3	4	3
Southampton area	4	4	7	2	18	1	5
- No. Southampton area sites	2	4	5	2	6	1	3
Other inland locations	54	61	111	52	60	35	32
- No. of other inland sites	36	34	61	30	33	24	27
Coastal locations	26	18	34	30	57	42	35
- No. of coastal sites	19	12	22	19	28	29	21
Total recorded	115	137	261	111	159	94	87

2021 Correction. Tetrad map corrected and updated above.

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*

Abundant resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Green

Recorded in 412 tetrads (40%) in 51 ten km squares.

Widely recorded in the early winter period with double-figure counts reported from six locations (3 in 2021) as follows: 20 at Brackley Bottom, NF on Jan 7th; 18 at Telegraph Wood, West End on Jan 5th; 12 at Roydon Woods, NF on Feb 3rd; ten at Minstead, NF on Jan 16th, Weston Patrick on Jan 30th and Blashford Lakes on Feb 11th.

A minimum of 418 territories was reported (436 in 2021) from 186 sites during the breeding season including 120 from the New Forest (105 in 2021). In addition, a targeted survey was undertaken in the central New Forest to replicate the 2009-2011 survey, encompassing 37 one km squares centred on Bolderwood and Rhinefield Ornamental Drives. The survey resulted in 468 territories being detected between May 1st and June 30th in 81 hours of survey work compared to an average of 393 territories detected in the 2009-2011 survey, an increase of 19%. Elsewhere, territories in surveyed areas (2021 figures in parentheses) included Lower Test Marshes, 4 (8), The Chase, Woolton Hill, 21 (11), Fishlake Meadows, 10 and Itchen Valley CP, 10 (7).

Double-figure counts were logged at 17 sites in the second half of the year (6 in 2021) including 20 at Blackwater Arboretum, NF on July 21st; 17 at Ashford Hangers LNR on July 24th; 16 at Berry Wood, NF on Oct 30th; 15 at Burnt Common on Aug 21st and 15 at Sway Heathland, NF on Oct 31st. Ringing reports included 99 trapped at Titchfield Haven between Sep 11th and Dec 1st, with a peak of 12 on Oct 25th. (WGD)

Wren (Eurasian Wren) *Troglodytes troglodytes*

Abundant resident.

Amber

Reported from 593 tetrads (58%) in 53 ten km squares.

In the early winter period double-figure counts were reported from 13 sites (14 in 2021), including 19 at Itchen Valley CP on Jan 3rd and Bolderwood, NF on Feb 3rd.

BBS submissions aside, surveyed territory counts came from four sites as follows (2021 figures in parentheses): Lower Test Marshes, 101 (102), The Chase, Woolton Hill, 53 (32); Fishlake Meadows, 32; Ower Farm, Upham, 31 and Itchen Valley CP, 28 (32). BBS registrations yielded 17 one km squares with 20 or more (13 in 2021) including 67 at Mallard Copse, Fleet on May 17th and 30 at Durley on June 7th. Other notable counts in the breeding season included 45 at Highbridge on June 5th, 35 at Keyhaven on May 2nd and 31 at Wilverley Inclosure, NF on Mar 25th.

In the latter half of the year double-figure counts came from 19 sites (15 in 2021) including two exceeding 20 with 29 at Itchen Valley CP (Sep 25th, Oct 1st and Nov 20th) and 24 at Holm Hill, NF (Nov 19th). (WGD)

Nuthatch (Eurasian Nuthatch) *Sitta europaea*

Numerous resident.

Green

Recorded in 416 tetrads (40%) and 50 ten km squares.

Reports were received widely and year-round. Encouragingly, double-figure counts were received from five locations between January-March (zero in 2021 and 2020) including 15 at The Chase, Woolton Hill on Mar 15th and 14 at Wilverley Inclosure, NF on Mar 25th. BBS submissions aside, the only significant territory count received came from The Chase, Woolton Hill, with 17 territories (14 in 2021). In addition, an extensive survey in the central New Forest encompassing 37 one km squares centred on Bolderwood and Rhinefield Ornamental Drives logged 150 territories between May 1st and June 30th in 81 hours. Registrations from BBS

one km squares included double-figure counts from three locations: 13 at Mallards Copse, Fleet on June 28th; 12 at Passfield Common on Apr 11th and 11 at Vernham Dean on Apr 15th. In the second half of the year double-figure counts came from just one site (2 in 2021) with ten at Holly Hills, west of Liphook, on Aug 24th. (WGDL)

Treecreeper (Eurasian Treecreeper) *Certhia familiaris*

Numerous resident.

Green

Whilst occupying similar woodland habitat to Nuthatch, recorded in only 277 tetrads (27%) and 27 ten km squares, possibly due to its less conspicuous behaviour and thus lower detection rate.

In the early year counts exceeded five at five locations (2 in 2021), of which four were in the New Forest including ten at Mark Ash Wood, NF on Jan 22nd and eight at Denny Inclosure, NF on Mar 23rd. Breeding season records (including BBS) produced a minimum of 91 territories and breeding pairs (104 in 2021) from 66 sites including six at Pamber Forest, four at Harewood Forest and three at Fishlake Meadows. In addition, an extensive survey in the central New Forest encompassing 37 one km squares centred on Bolderwood and Rhinefield Ornamental Drives logged 205 territories between May 1st and June 30th in 81 hours. This is an increase over the average total of 153 birds recorded on similar surveys in 2009-11. Notable counts in the latter half of the year were again few with only five sites logging five or more including ten at Pig Bush, NF on Aug 22nd and eight at Blashford Lakes on July 18th and Sway Heathland, NF on Aug 28th. (WGDL)

Starling (Common Starling) *Sturnus vulgaris*

Numerous but declining resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Red, S4I

Recorded in 515 tetrads (50%) in 53 ten km squares.

Numbers were again below the five-year average, most notably at either ends of the year. In contrast, reports between April-July met or exceeded five-year averages suggesting a more stable breeding population. For the whole year, four-figure counts were reported from just six sites (9 in 2021, 12 in 2020) with only one reaching five-figures (3 in 2021) at Blashford Lakes at the end of the year.

In the early winter period numbers were dominated by the winter roost at Blashford Lakes which peaked at 8,000 on Jan 1st and 10th. Farlington Marshes was the only other site to reach four-figures at this time with a high of 2,000 on Feb 8th. Notable counts elsewhere included 500 at Hook-with-Warsash on Feb 15th and 500 at Longstock on Feb 26th. Numbers receded as March progressed with nine sites (five in 2021) reporting counts of more than 100, including 460 at White Hill, Kingsclere on Mar 12th and 400 at Barton on Sea on the late date of Mar 29th. Light spring passage was detected at inland watchpoints with a total of 145 ENE over Fleet Pond on Mar 12th and 13th (including 100 ENE on Mar 12th) and 145 over Trigpoint Hill on eight dates between Mar 7th and 29th (peak 83 NE on Mar 12th).

During the breeding season BBS reports included over 50 adults in one km squares from five locations (7 in 2021) as follows: Rowner, Gosport (89, May 8th); Eastney (71, June 20th); Fern Hill, Hythe (69, May 1st); Queen Mary's College, Basingstoke (62, May 5th) and Locks Heath (54, Apr 17th). The first report of a fledged juvenile came from Ashley, New Milton on May 7th, one day later than in 2021, and the first three-figure post-breeding flock was noted shortly thereafter with 100 at Hill Head/Titchfield Haven on May 14th. Another five sites (4 in 2021) reported three-figure flocks by the end of the month including 2,000 at Farlington Marshes on May 24th. Post-breeding flocks grew as the summer progressed, and whilst total numbers exceeded recent averages for June, July and September, the number of sites reporting three-figure flocks was fewer than 2021 as follows (2021 figures in parentheses):

five in June (5); eight in July (17); 11 in August (16) and 15 in September (16). Summer high counts came from Farlington Marshes (2,000, July 31st; 500, Aug 13th; 500, Sep 3rd); Fleet Pond (805 leaving roost, June 29th and 1,100 roosting, July 1st); Ranvilles Lane, Fareham (350, Aug 25th; 800, Sep 2nd) and Keyhaven and Pennington Marshes (400, July 26th; 500, Aug 30th; and 750, Sep 13th).

Autumn diurnal passage was below recent averages, most notably at the usual inland watchpoints where 4,925 were logged heading mainly SW over Tweseldown on 44 dates between Sep 21st and Nov 25th (peaks 410 SW, Oct 20th; 781 SW, Nov 11th; 580 SW, Nov 12th; 610 SW, Nov 21st), and at Trigpoint Hill where 1,445 were logged on 47 dates between Sep 10th and Dec. 29th (peak 180 SW, Dec 27th). Coastal movements were reported from three sites, Barton on Sea logging the lion's share with 3,821 mainly west from 21 dates between Oct 19th and Dec 16th (peaks 437 W, Oct 29th; 780 W, Nov 12th; 815 (492 W and 323 E), Nov 14th). Elsewhere, movements were reported from Weston Shore with 445 west from two dates (270 W, Nov 2nd and 175 W, Nov 4th) and Brownwich with 150 west on Nov 4th.

The minimum half-monthly totals of spring and autumn migrant movements are tabulated below.

	Mar 1-15	Mar 16-31	Sep 1-15	Sep 16-30	Oct 1-15	Oct 16-31	Nov 1-15*	Nov 16-30*	Dec 1-15*	Dec 16-29*
Coast movements	-	-	-	-		506	3,332	431	139	8
Inland movements	366	24	4	16	346	1,592	2,796	878	166	527

* Excludes movement believed to be to and from roost sites.

In the last three months of the year, total numbers were over 35% down from the comparable months in 2021. Grounded flocks reached three-figures (2021 figures in parentheses) at 14 sites in October (22), 15 in November (25) and 16 in December (23), four-figures at only three sites (8) and five-figures at one site (3). By far the largest counts came from Blashford Lakes where a roost formed in early November coinciding with the diurnal passage arrival referenced above. The first five-figure count came shortly thereafter with 12,000 roosting at Ibsley Water on Nov 9th rising to a peak of 20,000 there on Nov 13th and again rising to 20,000 at North Somerley Lake on Dec 7th. Numbers dropped thereafter with the last four-figure count being 2,000 on Dec 21st. Elsewhere flocks exceeded 500 at only four sites as follows: Crofton Manor Farm/Ranvilles Lane, Fareham (650, Oct 29th; 1,000, Nov 2nd-4th); Chilling (1,000, Dec 29th); Fishlake Meadows (800, Nov 1st) and Weston Shore (700, Oct 27th).

Totals of site monthly maxima are tabulated below. (WGDL)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Roosts and grounded flocks (>25)	14,203	7,895	3,946	1,435	4,555	3,004	6,700	5,292	6,441	6,039	28,238	24,805

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*

Numerous resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Amber, S4I, HBAP

Widespread with records in 571 tetrads (56%) and 53 ten km squares.

In the early winter period counts reached ten or more at ten sites (10 in 2021), six of which were in the New Forest. High counts included 25 at Wilverley Plain, NF on Jan 17th, 18 at Set Thorns Inclosure, NF on Feb 3rd and 16 at Upper Farringdon on Feb 22nd.

During the breeding season six sites recorded ten or more registrations in BBS one km squares (3 in 2021) as follows: Mallards Copse, Fleet (23, May 17th); Hoe Gate (13, May 6th);

Home Farm Woodland Trust, Burkham (13, May 20th); Wintershill, Bishop's Waltham (12, Apr 10th); Warren Lane, Needs Ore (11, Apr 21st) and Andwell (10, May 29th). The CBC at Lower Test Marshes produced 14 territories (9 in 2021). Other notable submissions during the breeding season included 28 at Mill Lawn, Burley, NF on June 22nd, 22 at South Oakley Inclosure, NF on June 1st, 20 at Acres Down, NF on May 27th and 20 at Duckhole Bog, NF on June 2nd.

Reported autumn diurnal passage was the heaviest since 2019 and was recorded from the third week September through to mid-December, with a strong peak in mid-October. As usual, most records came from the two main inland watchpoints with Tweseldown logging 356 SW on 38 dates between Sep 19th and Nov 24th (peaks of 25 SW, Oct 12th; 112 SW, Oct 19th; 21 SW, Oct 20th), and at Trigpoint Hill with 28 mainly SW on 16 dates between Sep 22nd and Dec 17th. Nocturnal flight calls were recorded from two locations including 54 from Sholing, Southampton on two dates (6, Oct 3rd and 48, Oct 12th). In the last four months of the year grounded double-figure counts came from just two sites (5 in 2021) with ten at both Needs Ore on Oct 22nd and Wickham Common on Nov 29th.

Totals of monthly movements are tabulated below. (WGDL)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Movements		1					17	321	51	8
Nocturnal Flight Calls								56		

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*

Common but declining resident and passage migrant.

Red

Reported from 413 tetrads (41%) in 53 ten km squares.

In the early winter period double-figure counts came from four sites (two in 2021) as follows: 12 at Wilverley Plain, NF on Jan 17th; 11 at Southampton Common on Jan 6th; 11 at Backley Holmes, NF on Feb 3rd and ten at Broadlands Estate on Jan 30th. NFWBS produced January to March totals of 77, 132 and 79, 16% over the five-year average, with February's count setting a record for NFWBS (previous high, 130 October 2021).

In the breeding season reports of successful breeding with fledged young came from just five sites, two in the New Forest (7 in 2021) at Furzy Brow, NF and Pipers Wait, NF, and elsewhere at Hilliers Arboretum, Hook Valley (Warsash) and Itchen Valley CP (6 locations in 2021). More encouragingly, records were received from 60 BBS one km squares (54 in 2021) with high counts of eight at Dummer Copse, Spearywell on June 2nd, seven at Wether Down on April 24th and six at Houghton on May 8th. Post-breeding flocks started to appear from late May onwards and double-figure counts were received from 21 sites (20 sites in 2021) between the last week of May and the end of September including 35 at Armsworth on Aug 8th, 33 at Wonston on July 27th and 30 at Tile Barn Lane, Brockenhurst, NF on Sep 29th.

Autumn movements from the two main inland watchpoints were the lightest in over a decade with just 46 logged from Tweseldown heading mainly SW on 16 dates between Sep 28th and Nov 20th (peak 8 SW, Oct 19th) and 34 over Trigpoint Hill on 23 dates between Sep 8th and Dec 4th (peak 5 SW, Nov 6th). Grounded double-figure counts were reported from five sites (7 in 2021) in the last three months of the year including 25 at Avington Park on Dec 15th and 17 at Hilliers Arboretum on Nov 27th. NFWBS produced October to December counts of 92, 83 and 51, 10% above the five-year average.

Totals of movements are tabulated below. (WGDL)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	-	-	-	-	2	-	8	56	30	10

Redwing *Turdus iliacus*

Numerous to abundant winter visitor and passage migrant.

Schedule 1, Amber

It was another moderately strong year with early winter and late year totals 31% and 11% respectively above their running ten-year averages and while autumn diurnal passage was below the levels of 2019-2021, it remained above the long-term average too.

In the early winter period grounded three-figure flocks were reported from 18 sites in January (23 in 2021) and 11 sites in February (20 in 2021) including 456 at Axmansford on Jan 25th and 300 at Matley Holms, NF on Jan 1st, Yateley Common on Jan 16th and Hawkley on Jan 28th. High numbers remained into mid-March with three-figure flocks reported from 11 sites up until Mar 13th (9 in 2021) including 350 at Plastow Green on Mar 11th and 300 at Wyck on Mar 13th. Thereafter no counts exceeded 40 except for 66 migrants that dropped into Sandy Point early on Mar 30th. NFWBS produced January-March totals of 1,346, 844 and 443, 37% above the 5-year average, with January's total a survey record for the month. Reports of spring passage were few, the most notable being 168 recorded nocturnal flight calls over Sholing, Southampton early on Mar 4th. In April 37 records were received (23 in 2021) including 40 at Ecchinswell and 20 at Lane End Down, both on Apr 3rd. The last of the spring was in early May with singles at Sandy Point on May 5th and at the Winter Garden, Mottisfont on May 13th, the latter being the county's second latest ever (Table 6).

The first of the autumn were two at Brighton Hill, Basingstoke and a single nocturnal flight call over Sholing, Southampton on Sep 20th, nine days earlier than the 2010-2020 average. Records quickly followed at Tweseldown (1 SW, Sep 21st and 11 SW, Sep 22nd), Harewood Forest (4, Sep 24th) and Itchen Valley CP (4, Sep 25th). These turned out to be the vanguard of sustained early autumn passage that peaked between Oct 19th and 22nd with further smaller pulses in early and mid-November. At the two main inland watchpoints, Tweseldown logged a total of 27,928 mainly SW on 51 dates between Sep 21st and Nov 25th (peaks 6,814 SW, Oct 19th; 3,330, SW Oct 20th; 7,845 SW, Oct 21st; 1,335 SW, Nov 5th and 1,040 SW, Nov 18th) and Trigpoint Hill logged 5,066 on 41 dates between Oct 3rd and Dec 29th (peak 2,790 NE, Oct 20th). Other notable inland passage counts included 3,489 at Beacon Hill, Farley Mount CP on Oct 22nd with many dropping in to feed on yew berries before departing either south-west or east. Lighter passage was detected at coastal sites including 836 mainly west over Barton on Sea on 12 dates between Oct 11th and Dec 15th (peak 653 W on Oct 19th), and 663 mainly west over Weston Shore on seven dates between Oct 22nd and Dec 8th (peak 260 W, Nov 10th).

Grounded flocks in the last three months of the year were concentrated in October coinciding with peak diurnal passage and culminating in the highest monthly totals for more than ten years, being 350% over the recent October ten-year average. In contrast, grounded totals for both November and December were 55% and 30% below their recent ten-year averages suggesting October's influx comprised primarily short-staying migrants. The first three-figure grounded flock of the autumn was at Four Marks with 100 on Oct 10th. Thereafter grounded three-figure flocks (2021 figures in parentheses) were logged from 21 sites in October (eight), five sites in November (24) and 13 sites in December (13). October's influx included several large flocks in the New Forest with 2,000 at Anses Wood on Oct 22nd, 1,000 at Hale Purlieu on Oct 21st and 750 at Bur Bushes on Oct 25th. Away from the New Forest, no other grounded flocks exceeded 250 in October except for 500 at Noar Hill, Selborne on Oct 24th. November and December numbers were much reduced with just two grounded counts exceeding 250 as follows: 450 at Dippenhall on Dec 29th and 350 roosting at Fleet Pond on the evening of Nov 2nd. NFWBS produced divergent October-December totals of 4,487, 473 and 188, with October's total representing a survey record for the month (15 times larger than the October five-year average of 291), while in contrast November's and December's totals came in 78% and 83% below their respective five-year survey averages.

Totals of site monthly maxima and movements are tabulated below. (WGDL)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Grounded flocks	7,616	4,486	3,804	159	2	-	20	9,036	2,476	4,290
Movements	193	173	80	4	-	-	104	31,914	8,256	505
Nocturnal Flight Calls	-	-	168	15	-	-	1	128	-	-

Blackbird (Common Blackbird) *Turdus merula*

Abundant resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Green

Recorded from 649 tetrads (64%) in 53 ten km squares making it the third most widespread species after Woodpigeon and Robin. BTO Garden Birdwatch reported presence in 357 (100%) of the surveyed Hampshire gardens with monthly rates varying from a high of 99.7% in January to a low of 83.8% in September (Table 2).

In the early winter period double-figure counts were reported from 94 sites (71 in 2021) with five exceeding 30 (3 in 2021) as follows: 40 at Acres Down, NF on Jan 9th; 35 at Bramble Hill, NF on Feb 5th; 35 at Farlington Marshes on Feb 11th; 32 at Bolderwood, NF on Feb 11th and 31 at Ower Farm, Upham on Jan 15th. NFWBS produced January-March totals of 384, 352 and 265, 8% above the five-year average.

In the breeding season BBS produced 27 one km squares with 20 or more registrations (27 in 2021) including 37 at Shirley Holms, NF on May 2nd, 35 at East Cosham on Apr 16th, 33 at Locks Heath on Apr 17th and 31 at North Boarhunt on Apr 26th. The CBC at Lower Test Marshes produced 27 territories (42 in 2021). Other notable counts during the breeding season included 64 in 2 hours between Shawford and Otterbourne on June 5th, 46 at Fishlake Meadows on May 28th and 45 at Emer Bog, North Baddesley on June 7th.

Autumn diurnal movements from the main two inland watchpoints were light with 94 logged over Tweseldown on 27 dates between Oct 9th and Nov 24th (peaks 10 SW, Oct 21st and 12 SW, Nov 12th) and only five logged over Trigpoint Hill on four dates between Oct 22nd and Nov 28th. Double-figure counts came from 52 sites in the last four months of the year (61 in 2021) including 75 at Wyck on Dec 16th, 68 at Lower Test Marshes on Nov 4th and 49 at Old Basing on Dec 13th. NFWBS produced October-December totals of 200, 321 and 290, 8% below the five-year average. (WGDL)

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*

Numerous to abundant winter visitor and passage migrant.

Schedule 1, Red

It was another below par year with only grounded counts in October exceeding the 2012-2021 ten-year average. In the early winter numbers were 30% below the ten-year average with January again providing the highest counts. Grounded flocks reached three figures at 11 sites in January (12 in 2021), four in February (5 in 2021) and two in March (5 in 2021) including 1,000 at Toyd Down on Jan 20th, 700 at Ladle Hill, Old Burghclere on Jan 9th, 300 at Danebury Down on Feb 26th and 300 west of Nether Wallop on Mar 7th. NFWBS produced January-March totals of 295, 201 and 85, 35% below the survey five-year average. In April 17 records were submitted (25 in 2021) including 100 at Lane End Down and 60 at Toyd Down, both on 3rd. No other April counts exceeded ten. The last of the spring was one feeding in a fallow field north-west of Barton Stacey on April 28th.

The first of the autumn was a single at Hythe on Oct 4th, one day earlier than the 2010-2020 average and followed by one west over Ashe, Overton on Oct 6th. A trickle of reports followed until Oct 19th when there was a widespread arrival, with high numbers remaining to the end of the month. Diurnal passage was concentrated within a one month period from Oct 19th with notable pulses between Oct 19th-22nd, Nov 4th-10th and on Nov 18th. At

the two main inland watchpoints, Tweseldown logged 1,399 mainly SW on 26 dates between Oct 19th and Nov 25th (peaks 125 SW, Oct 21st; 170 SW, Nov 5th; and 248 SW, Nov 18th) and Trigpoint Hill logged 1,174 from 33 dates between Oct 20th and Dec 29th (peaks 135 NE, Oct 20th; 145 SW, Nov 10th; 137 NE, Nov 18th). Movements at coastal sites were limited with the most notable coming from Barton on Sea which logged 170 on six dates with a peak of 120 west on Nov 9th. The first grounded three-figure count of the autumn coincided with the Oct 19th arrival with 100 at Milkham Inclosure, NF followed by 200 at Hale Purlieu, NF on Oct 21st and four further New Forest sites by the end of the month. Grounded three-figure flocks were recorded at a notable ten sites in October from 19th (zero in 2021), dropping to only five sites in November (8 in 2021) and six in December (3 in 2021). High counts included 1,000 at Noar Hill, Selborne (Oct 24th); 500 at Black Gutter Bottom, NF (Oct 24th); 500 at Skidmore/Moorcourt Farm (Oct 28th-30th); 350 at Dippenhall (Dec 29th) and 300 at Neatham Farms, Wyck (Dec 16th). NFWBS produced October-December counts of 3,962, 106 and 95. October's total of 3,962 represents a survey record and over five times the survey average for the month of October. In striking contrast, November's and December's totals were the lowest ever for their respective months in this survey's comparatively short history.

Totals of site monthly maxima and movements are tabulated below. (WGDL)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Grounded flocks	4,997	1,981	1,241	210		-	4,379	1,603	2,249
Movements	64	65	126	2	-	-	1,669	1,809	377

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*

Scarce passage migrant; has occasionally wintered.

Red, S41

At least 20 individuals were logged in the spring over a 44 day period including a total of six on Apr 11th, equalling the best spring showing since 2017 and above the 2011-2021 average of 17. The first was a male at Keyhaven and Pennington Marshes on Mar 18th, six days earlier than the 2010-2020 average first arrival. Records followed (all singles and not sexed unless noted) from Taddiford Gap (male, Mar 29th); Weston (female, Mar 30th); Brownwich/Hill



Ring Ouzel, Old Winchester Hill, Apr 29th (Ashley Howe)

Head (Mar 30th; male, Apr 2nd); Matley Heath, NF (Apr 3rd); Trigpoint Hill (1 SW, Apr 5th); Hook-with-Warsash (female, Apr 10th); Somerley Park (Apr 11th); Holmsley Inclosure, NF (Apr 11th); Old Winchester Hill (male, Apr 11th-12th); Burr ridge (pair, Apr 11th); Squabb Wood, Romsey (Apr 11th); Widden Bottom, NF (male, Apr 18th-19th); Gander Down (male, Apr 20th); Cutty Brow (male, Apr 23rd); Lower Test Marshes (Apr 23rd) and Forton, Longparish (Apr 23rd). The last of spring was a pair at Old Winchester Hill between Apr 27th-29th, with only the female being seen on Apr 30th.

Autumn produced a minimum of 45 individuals (10 in 2021) and 72 bird-days (34 bird-days in 2021), the best showing since 2019 and above the 2011-2021 average of 35. Sightings occurred within a 50-day window with the first of the autumn being a single at Yew Tree Bottom, NF on Sep 25th. Butser Hill, Queen Elizabeth CP took top honours with 30 bird-days reported between Oct 6th and Nov 13th with a peak of six on Oct 20th. Elsewhere records came from Tweseldown (male W, Oct 1st; male, Oct 5th; 3 SW, Oct 19th; 2 SW, Oct 20th and 1, Oct 22nd); Portsdown Hill (male, Oct 2nd, 2, Oct 4th); Sandy Point (male, Oct 8th; 1, Nov 4th); Clayhill Bottom, NF (male, Oct 8th); The Mill Field, Old Basing (1, Oct 10th); Hook-with-Warsash (4, Oct 19th); Brownwich (1, Oct 19th); Titchfield Haven/Hill Head (1, Oct 19th; 2, Oct 23rd; 1, Oct 29th); Bolderwood, NF (1, Oct 20th); Needs Ore (1 S, Oct 22nd); Ashley Walk/Black Gutter Bottom/Leaden Hall, NF (1st winter male, Oct 22nd-23rd); Longslade Bottom, NF (1, Oct 24th); Marlpit Oak, Sway, NF (male, Oct 24th-Nov 6th, female, Nov 1st); Farley Mount CP (1, Oct 27th); Gander Down (1, Oct 28th); Ibsley Water, Blashford Lakes (2, Oct 29th); Barton on Sea (female and 1st winter, Nov 3rd) and Lower Test Marshes (1, Nov 4th). The last of the year was a male at Butser Hill on Nov 13th, five days later than the 2010-2021 average last departure date of Nov 8th. (WGDL)

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*

Moderately common but declining summer visitor and passage migrant.

Red, S4I, HBAP

Widespread with reports from 243 tetrads (24%) in 48 ten km squares compared to 224 tetrads in 44 ten km squares last year.

The first of the spring were two at Biddenfield Farm, Botley Wood on Apr 21st, six days earlier than the 2010-2021 average. Eleven days elapsed before the next sighting, a single



Spotted Flycatcher, Pig Bush NF, June 3rd (Matt Barfield)

at Anderwood Inclosure, NF on May 2nd. A handful of reports followed up until May 12th-14th when there was a widespread arrival including six at Northney, Hayling Island on 13th.

Breeding season records from the New Forest stronghold produced pairs, territories, or individuals in suitable habitat from 79 locations (71 in 2021) with successful breeding confirmed at 12 of these sites (19 in 2021) with several holding multiple pairs. In addition, a targeted survey was undertaken in the central New Forest, encompassing 37 one km squares centred on Bolderwood and Rhinefield Ornamental Drives which resulted in 55 territories being detected between May 1st and June 30th in 81 hours. This is a welcome increase of 175% over the average number of 20 territories recorded by similar surveys in 2009-11. Elsewhere pairs, singing males or individuals seen in suitable breeding habitat were reported from 71 locations (53 in 2021) with successful breeding confirmed at 14 of these sites (15 in 2021) as follows: Ampfield, Barton Drove, Blashford Lakes, Charter Alley, Cholderton Park, Exton, Froxfield, Hursley Village, Kitts Grave, Lee (Testway Nursling), Nuthanger Down, Odiham Common, Wheatley and near Woolmer Forest. Post-breeding gatherings in August at or close to breeding sites included 25 at Rowbarrow, NF on Aug 30th, 20 at Bramshaw Golf Course, NF on Aug 4th and 16 at Ditchend Bottom, NF on Aug 24th.

Autumn migrants started to appear at non-breeding sites from the second week of August onwards with peak passage between Aug 10th and Sep 13th. The numbers were the highest in well over a decade suggesting it was a productive breeding season. A record twelve sites logged 20 bird-days or more (four in 2021 and no more than five in the last decade) as follows: Old Winchester Hill with 199 bird-days from 28 dates between Aug 8th and Sep 17th (peaks 19, Aug 11th and 18, Aug 12th and 31st); Broughton Down with 64 bird-days from eight dates between Aug 4th and Sep 12th (peak 29, Aug 18th); Baddesley Common with 63 bird-days from 13 dates between Aug 5th and Sep 5th (peak 9, Aug 14th-15th); Lower Test Marshes with 61 bird-days from 17 dates between Aug 8th and Sep 20th (peak 7, Aug 20th); Peartree Green/Itchen Estuary, Southampton with 60 bird-days from 21 dates between Aug 15th and Sep 18th (peak 15, Sep 5th); Hook-with-Warsash with 50 bird-days from 19 dates between Aug 13th and Sep 26th (peak 6, Aug 31st and Sep 13th); Portsdown Hill/Fort Widley with 32 bird-days from seven dates between Sep 8th-30th (peak 8, Sep 17th); Ranvilles Lane, Fareham with 32 bird-days from 16 dates between Aug 13th and Sep 18th (peak 4, Aug 14th, 28th and 31st); IBM Lake with 23 bird-days from 11 dates between Aug 26th and Sep 24th (peak 5, Sep 10th); Northney Paddocks with 22 bird-days from nine dates between Aug 9th and Sep 5th (peak 6, Aug 19th); Itchen Valley CP with 21 bird-days from six dates between Aug 10th and Sep 18th (peak 6, Aug 18th and Sep 18th) and Titchfield Haven with 21 bird-days from eight dates between Aug 14th and Sep 12th (peak 7, Sep 12th). Other notable records included 14 at East Meon on Sep 1st. There were three sightings in October, singles at Blashford Lakes on Oct 1st and Cadnam Common, NF on Oct 11th followed by the last of year with two at Twyford Meadows on Oct 13th. (WGD)

Robin (European Robin) *Erithacus rubecula*

Abundant resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Green

Recorded in 653 tetrads (64%) in 53 ten km squares resulting in it being ranked the second most widespread species after Woodpigeon. BTO Garden Birdwatch reported presence in 355 (99%) of the surveyed Hampshire gardens with monthly rates varying from a high of 99.4% in January to a low of 94.6% in July (Table 2).

At Itchen Valley CP 55 counts throughout the year peaked at 56 on Sep 25th; at Blashford Lakes 105 reports peaked at 40 on Dec 14th and at Lepe CP 34 reports peaked at 13 on Dec 5th and 10th. Other notable counts included 57 at both Hill Head (Sep 24th) and Bolderwood (Feb 11th), Rockford Common (42, Mar 12th), Hollybank Woods (41, May 29th) and Wilverley Inclosure (36, Mar 25th). The CBC at Lower Test Marshes produced 53 territories (42 in 2021). The highest number of registrations in a BBS one km square was 32 at Mallards Copse, Fleet on May 17th.

Evidence of an influx was provided at the coastal watchpoint at Barton on Sea with a peak autumn count of 29 on Sep10th. (KRS)

Bluethroat *Luscinia svecica*

Rare passage migrant. (0,35,1)

Schedule 1

A single was in the reeds at the back of the lake at Farlington Marshes from Sep 2nd-4th, and again on 10th, being typically elusive for much of the time (TMJD *et al.*, photo).

After the arrival of two in both 2018 and again in 2019, we had to wait three years for this bird. September is the most frequent month for this species which is rarely seen in spring. (KFB)

Nightingale (Common Nightingale) *Luscinia megarhynchos*

Scarce and declining summer visitor; formerly moderately common.

Red, HBAP

Recorded in 21 tetrads in 14 ten km squares compared to 16 tetrads in 10 ten km squares in 2021.

There was thus a slight increase in the distribution of this species in 2022, but the number of breeding pairs remained low and restricted to a few sites only. HOS continues to choose not to publish the locations of breeding sites and would again request that everyone considers the vulnerability of the species and avoids disturbing breeding birds.

The first record was a singing male in the Andover area on Apr 12th followed by records from four other sites up to Apr 30th. The Andover bird stayed for only one day, but singing males remained at the other four sites. Between May 1st and 30th singing males were recorded at a further eight sites. These included coastal birds, such as those at Milford on Sea on May 17th and Gunner Point, Hayling Island on May 22nd, which were clearly migrants and only stayed for a day. On other sites some stayed for several days at least, and it was interesting to see a small cluster of records in the Basingstoke area, which warrants further investigation in future years, and in the Test Valley.

The number of territorial males considered to be breeding at the two primary sites was 14 compared to 17 last year. Breeding was suspected at one of the sites, with calls suggesting females to be present, and confirmed at the other, with females exhibiting incubation patches and enlarged gapes and observed carrying food, but no fledged young were observed at either site. Outside of the two core areas, a total of 8-11 territorial males were recorded but no information on suspected breeding was provided. However, the fact that birds were present for a prolonged period suggested that the habitat was at least suitable.

As previously stated, breeding success was not confirmed at any of the core sites although a moulting 'spotted' juvenile was recorded within one km of one of the core areas on July 6th. It is suspected this bird was from that breeding area, although there is no way of confirming that. The last report of the year was of a migrant at Taddiford Gap on Aug 21st. (TDC)

Pied Flycatcher (European Pied Flycatcher) *Ficedula hypoleuca*

Scarce passage migrant; rare in summer but has bred, most recently in 1995.

Amber

Spring records were all singles as follows: Bramshaw Telegraph (Apr 3rd), Acres Down (female, Apr 17th), Rooksbury Mill (female, Apr 25th) and Fritham Plain, NF (May 14th).

Return passage was first noted from July 31st when one was seen at Black Knoll, NF. Further reports of singles in the New Forest followed from Cranes Moor (Aug 3rd), Mark Ash Wood (Aug 5th) and Brockenhurst (Aug 7th). Numbers increased markedly after this and were high throughout the rest of August, peaking around mid-month, and continuing until mid-September. On Aug 11th three were seen at Sandy Point whilst singles were at Titchfield Haven and Emer Bog. There were then a further 72 reports involving minima of 38 at 25 sites in August and 16 at 13

sites in September. All sites held singles on one or two dates only with the following exceptions: Sandy Point (1/2 on 4 dates, Aug 12th-18th), Baddesley Common (2, 13th), Peartree Green (1/2 on 10 dates, Aug 14th-Sep 9th; 3, Sep 5th), Crofton Cemetery (3, Aug 14th; 1 on 9 dates, Aug 21st-Sep 10th), Woolmer Forest (2, Aug 15th), Northney Paddocks, Hayling Island (1, Aug 15th; 2, 16th; 4, 17th; 5, 19th; 2, 20th), Old Winchester Hill (1/2 on 4 dates, Aug 15th-28th) and Pig Bush, NF (1/2 on 5 dates, Aug 22nd-Sep 5th). The latest was one at Meonstoke on Sep 16th and 17th apart from one reported in a garden at Lymore Lane, Keyhaven in the week of Sep 25th.

Weekly totals are summarised in the table below. (KRS)

July 30-Aug 5	Aug 6-12	Aug 13-19	Aug 20-26	Aug 27-Sep 2	Sep 3-9	Sep 10-16	Sep 17-23	Sep 24-30
2	8	24	11	10	11	6	2	1

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*

Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor; occasionally breeds. *Schedule 1, Amber*

Recorded in 69 tetrads (7%) in 26 ten km squares, similar to last year.

Reports in the first half-year came from 32 locations. Around 14 were wintering in the opening two months including long-stayers at Fawley Power Station, Hurst Beach/Castle, Lee on the Solent, Ranvilles Lane (Fareham), Southampton City Centre and Trading Estates (2+), Tipner Lake and Woolston. Spring passage was evident between Mar 12th and Apr 16th with around 25 noted, all singles apart from two at Gang Warily Pond and one nearby at Badminton GP on Mar 26th. Inland birds were noted at Itchen Stoke (Mar 12th), Moortown (Mar 20th), Lovedean (Mar 31st and Apr 3rd), Medstead (Apr 1st), Newton Valence (Apr 3rd), Stroud (Apr 3rd), Chandlers Ford (Apr 7th) and Abbotswood (Apr 16th).

Single pairs each raised two young in Southampton City Centre and Portsmouth Naval Base. Other summer records involved males at Copnor, Portsmouth on Apr 29th and Needs Ore the next day, and a female or juvenile at Hinton Ampner on July 7th.

Second half-year reports came from a total of 28 locations with one in Southampton City Centre on Sep 24th and others from Oct 14th onwards. Long-stayers were recorded at Hill



Black Redstart, Sturt Pond, Feb 25th (Matt Barfield)

Head (1, Oct 19th-27th), Sandy Point/Eastoke (2/3, Oct 20th-Nov 11th; 1 to Dec 31st), Lee-on-the-Solent (1/2, Oct 26th-Nov 12th; 1 to Dec 31st), Southsea (1/2, Oct 29th-Nov 14th; 1, Dec 4th), Eastney (Nov 17th-Dec 9th), Redbridge (Nov 22nd-Dec 7th) and Woolston (Dec 3rd-30th). Inland birds were noted at Tweseldown (Oct 16th-17th and Nov 13th), Woolmer Pond (Nov 3rd), Twyford Down (Nov 8th), Overton Lagoons (Nov 16th), Abbotswood (Nov 18th), Leckford (Nov 22nd-24th) and Winchester (Nov 27th).

Approximate monthly totals are tabulated below (excluding breeders). (KRS)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
12	4	15	12			1		1	10	29	8

Redstart (Common Redstart) *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

Locally common summer visitor, mostly to New Forest, and passage migrant.

Amber

Recorded in 129 tetrads (12%) in 35 ten km squares.

The first was recorded at Bramshaw Wood on Apr 5th. There were daily reports in the New Forest from 10th with 13 in the Bolderwood area on 15th. The first in the north-east was at Long Valley, also on Apr 15th. Away from breeding sites, reports of migrants came from Hook-with-Warsash (10th and 13th), Ibsley Water (Apr 11th); Titchfield Haven (13th, 19th and 28th), Lower Test Marshes (15th), Hamble Point (19th), Sandy Point (19th, 25th and 2, May 13th), Fleet Pond (Apr 23rd), Barton on Sea/Hordle (1/2, 24th-25th; 1, May 14th), Farlington Marshes (29th and May 11th), Pennington Marshes (4, May 7th) and Bailey's Hard, Beaulieu Estuary (May 14th).

A breeding survey conducted in the New Forest centred on Bolderwood and Rhinefield and covering 46 one km squares from May 1st to June 30th yielded a count of 226 of which 69%



Redstart, Pig Bush NF, May 22nd (Ashley Howe)

were singing males. The total represents a decrease of 14% from the average of 263 logged by similar surveys carried out in 2009-11 although the overall distribution measured by one km squares was similar. Other significant counts in the breeding season were at Acres Down (5, May 8th; 10, July 7th), North Oakley Inclosure (5, May 13th), Pig Bush (7, May 14th; 9, June 2nd), Bolderwood (16, May 15th), Ridley Wood (5, May 18th), Matley Heath (9, June 8th) and Anses Wood (5, June 10th). Breeding surveys of the Thames Basin and Wealden Heaths SPAs produced totals of four and 30 territories respectively compared with seven and 16 in 2021 (Table 1). Other records suggestive of breeding included singles at Martin Down on four dates between May 20th and July 4th and a male with two juveniles there on July 26th and Aug 2nd and one or two in the Vernham Dean area on three dates between June 22nd and July 25th.

A research project in the New Forest monitored 37 nests using a nest camera (Tara Dempsey, pers. comm.). Twenty were successful in fledging at least one chick, seven failed (two of which were known to be predated by jays), and the outcomes for the remaining ten were unknown. Clutch sizes of five or six were not uncommon and two nests had seven eggs each.

Dispersal from breeding sites was evident from late June with a juvenile at Testwood Lakes on June 26th and further singles at Bishops Waltham Moors on July 6th, Pennington Marshes on 8th, Stockbridge Common Marsh on 14th, Needs Ore on 28th and Trigpoint Hill on 29th.

Presumed return passage had commenced by Aug 5th when one was at Blashford Lakes. Subsequently, the most by far were recorded at the well-watched Old Winchester Hill with 61 bird-days between Aug 9th and Sep 24th, max. 7 on Aug 31st. Bird-day totals at other sites did not exceed 18 and the only counts above four were eight at Broughton Down on Aug 26th and five at Portsdown Hill on Sep 17th. The latest reports, all singles, came from Tweseldown (Sep 30th), Sandy Point (Oct 1st and Nov 4th) and Turf Hill, Burley, NF (Nov 11th).

Approximate half-monthly totals of presumed migrants are tabulated below. (KRS)

	Mar 16- 31	Apr 1-15	Apr 16- 30	May 1-15	May 16- 31	June 1-15	June 16- 30	July 1-15	July 16- 31	Aug 1-15	Aug 16- 31	Sep 1-15	Sep 16- 30	Oct 1- 15	Oct 16- 30	Nov 1-15
Inland		1	2				1	2	1	5	55	26	19			1
Coast		4	8	9				1	1	1	22	33	3	1		1

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*

Moderately common passage migrant; formerly a very scarce summer visitor; last bred in 2004.

Red, HBAP

The first sightings in April were two at Lower Test Marshes (13th) followed by one at Farlington Marshes (14th) and then 18 reports, all of singles apart from Lower Test and Titchfield Haven (2, 25th) and Barton on Sea-Hordle (2, 26th, 28th and 29th). There were a further 28 reports in May from 20 sites including Farlington Marshes (2, 4th), Sandy Point (3, 5th) and Lower Test Marshes (2, 22nd).

The first returns were at Frater Shore and Farlington Marshes (July 4th) followed by other singles in July at Lower Test Marshes (11th-21st), Hurst (13th), Hill Head (2, 16th) and Farlington Marshes (17th). Black Gutter Bottom, NF had a single on Aug 1st and there were then 434 reports from 77 sites virtually daily from Aug 5th until Sep 30th. October reports, all singles, came from Ashley Warren (1st), Farlington Marshes (2, 1st-9th), Lyeway (2nd), Hurst (6th; 2, 20th), Ladle Hill (7th), Mingleddown Barn, Chawton (7th), Hook-with-Warsash (7th; 2, 13th), Titchfield Canal Path (2, 18th) and Milkham Inclosure, NF (3, 19th). The highest counts during the second period came from Needs Ore (10, Aug 25th-26th; 6, Aug 28th), Farlington Marshes (8, Aug 27th; 10, Aug 29th and Sep 5th), Longwood Warren (6, Aug 29th), Old Winchester Hill (14, Aug 29th; 10, Aug 30th; 11, Aug 31st; 10, Sep 3rd; 15, Sep 6th and 12, Sep 7th) and Picket Post, NF (10, Sep 24th). The last of the year was one at Hook-with-Warsash on Nov 4th.

Approximate half-monthly totals are tabulated below. (KRS)

	Apr 1-15	Apr 16-30	May 1-15	May 16-31	June 1-15	June 16-30	July 1-15	July 16-31
Inland		4	11	2				
Coast	3	13	12	2			4	4

	Aug 1-15	Aug 16-31	Sep 1-15	Sep 16-30	Oct 1-15	Oct 16-31	Nov 1-15	Nov 16-30
Inland	5	74	119	35	4	3		
Coast	28	140	243	52	7	4	1	

Stonechat (European Stonechat) *Saxicola rubicola*

Moderately common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Green

The widespread distribution of this species is illustrated by it being recorded in 336 tetrads (33%) in 49 ten km squares.

Totals in the NFWBS in the opening quarter were 62 on Jan 15th, 68 on Feb 12th and 220 on Mar 12th, the latter reflecting the return of breeding birds (Table 4). Noteworthy counts in January-February included Brackley Bottom (9, Jan 7th), Farlington Marshes (9, Jan 17th), Barton on Sea (7, Jan 30th) and Milking Pound Bottom, NF (12, Feb 27th). Numbers increased in March with double-figure counts at Barton on Sea (10, 3rd and 24th), Milking Pound Bottom (20, 5th; 14-18 from 9th-26th), Bratley Wood (10, 10th), Holm Hill (13, 12th), Bratley Arch (12, 19th), Acres Down (16, 21st), Black Gutter Bottom (14, 22nd), Widden Bottom (14, 23rd), Wilverley Plain (13, 25th) and Moyles Court (10, 27th).

No survey work was undertaken in the New Forest but notable breeding season counts there included Milking Pound Bottom/Sway Heathland (14-19, Apr 9th-July 30th), Digden Bottom (18, May 6th), Pig Bush (14, May 14th), Duckhole Bog (16, June 2nd), and Crab Tree Earth (15, June 17th).

On the Thames Basin and Wealden Heaths totals of 102 and 41 pairs/singing males were located compared with 112 and 49 in 2021 and 158 and 85 in 2020. Individual site totals are given in Table 1; note that Woolmer Forest in the Wealden Heaths which held 44 pairs in 2020 has not been surveyed in the last two years.

Away from the traditional heathland locations, a total of 95 pairs was recorded at 49 sites (cf. 87 at 66 sites in 2021) with successful breeding noted (single pairs unless stated) at Badminton Plantation, Barton on Sea (3), Biddenfield Farm, Bransbury Common, Burnt Common (3), Burton Common (2), Edenbrook Park (3), Fishlake Meadows, Fleet Pond fields (3), Havant Thicket, Hook-with-Warsash, Ibsley Water (the first there), Little Somborne, Loddon Valley-Wildmoor, Longstock Water Gardens, Lower Test Marshes (5), Martin Down (7), Needs Ore (13, the most ever there, including 6+ successful), Pennington/Keyhaven Marshes (4+), Plumley Wood (4), St. Catherine's Hill, Sandy Point (2), Sinah Common/Gunner Point (5+), Stockbridge Common Marsh, Testway/Nursling (2), Three Halves Copse, the Vernham Dean area (2) and Winchester SF.

In late summer and autumn the highest counts were at Mark Ash Wood (12, Aug 5th), Harvest Slade (20, Aug 6th), Milking Pound Bottom (17, Aug 6th; 20, Aug 20th; 35, Sep 3rd; 25, Sep 17th), Ladycross Inclosure (12, Aug 7th), Widden Bottom (15, Aug 8th), Testway, Nursling (18, Aug 9th; 22, Aug 11th), Fleet Pond (16, Aug 12th), Lower Test Marshes (18, Aug 13th; 22, Oct 3rd), Baddesley Common (19, Aug 14th; 20, Aug 26th), Withybed Bottom (19, Aug 24th), Ocknell Plain (30, Sep 3rd), Fawley Inclosure (14, Sep 11th), Needs Ore (30, Sep 16th; 45, Sep 24th; 35, Oct 8th), Barton on Sea (14, Sep 17th; 21, Oct 25th), Old Winchester Hill (20, Sep 19th and 28th), Titchfield Haven/Hill Head (15, Sep 24th; 42, Oct 6th; 18, Nov 4th), Longwood Warren (13, Oct 1st), Hook-with-Warsash (15, Oct 11th), Lymington-Hurst (27, Oct 20th), Portsdown Hill (16,

Oct 29th), Lepe CP (42, Oct 31st) and Farlington Marshes (12, Nov 4th). Numbers were much reduced after mid-November with the only double-figure counts from Farlington Marshes (max. 17, Dec 9th). The NFWBS on Dec 17th produced only 13, reflecting the cold weather at the time.

Minimum monthly totals of birds recorded in various grouped sites in January-March and August-December are tabulated below, calculated by taking the highest count at each site during the month - the actual numbers involved are likely to be much higher. (KRS)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
New Forest Winter Bird Survey	62	68	220			195	115	13
Coastal sites	67	63	62	52	202	316	117	97
River valley sites	19	20	16	85	37	72	10	7
Thames Basin and Wealden Heaths	45	41	57	37	85	42	26	15
Other sites	15	14	34	26	53	68	36	23
Total	208	206	389			693	304	155

Wheatear (Northern Wheatear) *Oenanthe oenanthe*

Moderately common passage migrant; formerly scarce summer visitor which last bred in 2005. Amber

There were two highly unusual records of singles during the first winter period at Lee-on-the-Solent (photo, Jan 9th)(G Loader) and Western Docks, Southampton (Jan 18th)(R J Wallis). There are three previous January records in 1994 and 1995(2).

The first spring passage records were in March, both singles, at Longwater Lawn, NF (12th) and Hook-with-Warsash (13th). Almost daily sightings then continued at a further 45 sites until the end of May. Significant spring counts came from Sandy Point (6, March 29th; 10, May 12th; 15, May 13th), Barton on Sea/Hordle Cliff (8, March 29th; 18, April 10th), Stockbridge Down (4, April 2nd) and Farlington Marshes (8, May 2nd; 13, May 4th). Finally, there were five singles in the first week of June at Gander Down (2nd), Itchen Valley CP (2nd), Frater Shore (2nd), Sandy Point (4th) and Martin Down (7th).

The first returning migrants were in July with singles at Titchfield Haven (4th), Black Point (7th), Needs Ore (25th) and Hamble Point (28th). Others followed on virtually all dates from Aug 1st until Oct 31st, peaking in the first half of September. The highest site counts were at Needs Ore (14, Aug 25th-26th; 8, Aug 31st; 11, Sep 9th), Farlington Marshes (8, Aug 28th), Old Winchester Hill (13, Aug 31st; 15, Sep 3rd), Lymington-Hurst (12, Sep 10th; 18, Sep 14th) and Hook-with-Warsash (10, Sep 13th; 16, Sep 14th). The only later record was one at Farlington Marshes on Nov 4th.

The approximate half-monthly totals in spring and autumn are tabulated below, calculated by taking the highest count at each site during the month - the actual numbers involved are likely to be considerably higher. (KRS)

	Feb 16-28	Mar 1-15	Mar 16-31	Apr 1-15	Apr 16-30	May 1-15	May 16-31	June 1-15	June 16-30	Total
Inland		2	4	50	28	48	18	2		152
Coast		7	33	67	94	138	12	3		354

	July 1-15	July 16-31	Aug 1-15	Aug 16-31	Sep 1-15	Sep 16-30	Oct 1-15	Oct 16-31	Nov 1-15	Nov 16-30	Total
Inland		1	38	76	99	27	9	2			252
Coast	2	2	50	170	276	125	39	15	1		680

2021 Addition. Totals in right hand column of top table - Inland 342, Coast 353 and in bottom table - Inland. 327, Coast 331.



Dipper, Romsey, June 8th (Richard Jacobs)



Tree Sparrow, Solent Breezes, Chilling, Dec 29th (Rob Porter)

Dipper (White-throated Dipper) *Cinclus cinclus*

Rare visitor, occasionally breeds, most recently in 1992. (many, 25,3)

Amber

The first sighting of a bird by the Mill Stream in Romsey on Apr 9th was by a Derbyshire tourist who was very familiar with the species from his own local area. A month later on May 9th RF saw one flying along the stream in Tadburn Meadows Park in Romsey. So on May 13th a small team set out to explore suitable habitat in Romsey and within a short time two birds were found by the stream in the Memorial Park some 2 km away, nearer to the town centre. It quickly became clear that they were feeding young at a nest on private land right by the stream. One juvenile fledged and the birds were seen up until June 10th. News of the nesting was released widely at this point and thankfully the birds were easy to see, flying up and down the stream, often perching in full view within ten metres.

The Dipper has never been a regular breeder in the county. Single pairs nested in the 1930s and 1940s, and then at Breamore Mill in 1954. In the next 25 years, the only records were singles on odd occasions, and then in 1990 a pair was located at Timsbury where they remained and bred successfully in 1991 and 1992. There were random sightings in the Test Valley up to 1997, but no evidence of breeding was found. The only other sightings have been at Overton Lagoons in December 2003 and at Bickton in December 2012. Sadly the Romsey birds disappeared after the juvenile fledged and did not return in 2023. (KFB)

Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*

Rare irregular visitor, formerly resident and winter visitor which last bred in 1996. Red, S41, HBAP

On Oct 31st a single flew south-west over Tweseldown during a visible migration watch (JMC). A much appreciated individual was at Solent Breezes from Dec 8th in to January 2023 (ADT *et al.*, photo). This bird was observed at close range allowing a BTO metal ring to be read. This revealed that it had been ringed as a nestling on the Marlborough Downs, Wiltshire in July 2022.

The last records were in 2019 when four were seen at different sites in the autumn. (KFB)

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

Abundant but declining resident.

Red, S41

Recorded in 498 tetrads (49%) in 53 ten km squares. BTO Garden Birdwatch reported presence in 306 (86%) of the surveyed Hampshire gardens with monthly rates varying from a high of 79.9% in June to a low of 66.2% in September (Table 2).

Sightings were reported from 634 locations compared to 553 in 2021. Counts of 50 and above were at 33 sites (14 in 2021) whilst counts of 80 and above were at Sandy Point (150, Aug 24th), Longstock (115, Feb 26th), Blendworth (100, May 24th), Watton's Ford (90, Dec 23rd), East Cosham (87, June 11th - the highest number of registrations in a BBS one km square), Leigh Park (80, Aug 1st), Eastney (80, Nov 27th) and East Cosham (80, Apr 16th). The highest count in a single garden in BTO Garden Birdwatch was 65 at Andover in w/c Aug 14th. (KRS)

Dunnock *Prunella modularis*

Abundant resident.

Amber, S41

Recorded in 537 tetrads (52%) in 53 ten km squares. BTO Garden Birdwatch reported presence in 329 (92%) of the surveyed Hampshire gardens with monthly rates varying from a high of 88.5% in January to a low of 77.3% in August (Table 2).

Counts of ten and above came from 15 sites (33 in 2021) including 15 and above from Hazeley Heath (20, Aug 13th), Blendworth (18, Apr 19th), Itchen Valley CP (17, Apr 3rd), Wyck (17, Mar 5th), Old Basing (17, Dec 12th), Martin Down NNR (15, May 8th) and Milking Pound Bottom, NF (15, Mar 12th). Counts of breeding territories at regular surveyed sites included (2021 in parentheses) Lower Test Marshes, CBC Plot 1, 13 (15) and Plot 2, 21 (18). The highest number of registrations in a BBS one km square was at East Cosham (15, Apr 16th). (KRS)

Yellow Wagtail (Western Yellow Wagtail) *Motacilla flava*

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava flavissima*

Moderately common passage migrant; formerly locally common summer visitor which last bred in 2003. Red, S41, HBAP

The first of the year were fly-overs on Apr 16th at Sandy Point, Hill Head and Stokes Bay. Spring passage involved approximately 87 up to May 22nd. The largest movement was at Barton on Sea where a total of 35 was recorded with a maximum of 13 on Apr 24th.

There were three June records but no evidence breeding. Late migrants were at Black Point on June 5th and Plaistow Green on June 7th, and a single flew over Lower Test Marshes on June 22nd.

The first returns on July 13th were three at Hill Head and two at Hook-with-Warsash. Passage subsequently peaked between mid-August and mid-September. The highest counts were approximately 300 at Ranvilles Lane, Fareham on Sep 14th and 175 at Titchfield Haven roost on Aug 29th. The heaviest coastal movement was observed at Barton on Sea where 208 (153 W and 55 E) moved between Aug 21st and Oct 22nd. The last records of the year were on Oct 18th with eight at Lower Test Marshes and singles at Titchfield Haven and Barton on Sea GC.

Approximate half-monthly totals are tabulated below. (GO)

	Apr 16-30	May 1-15	May 16-22	July 13-15	July 16-31	Aug 1-15	Aug 16-31	Sep 1-15	Sep 16-30	Oct 1-15
Inland grounded	3	3		1	2	5	195	276	2	54
Inland moving	5	2			2	2	10	25	2	
Coast grounded	5	8	1	5	3	12	510	423	80	14
Coast moving	57	2	1	1	1	4	90	253	36	2

Blue-headed Wagtail *Motacilla flava flava*

Very scarce passage migrant which has bred in 2003. (2,129,1)

A male was by Fishtail Lagoon, Pennington at 06:10 on Apr 30th and was watched for over three hours after which it was heard to call and fly off high to the east (SJB, video).

The *flava* race of Western Yellow Wagtail is a scarce but probably overlooked visitor in April as birds overshoot on their way back to the Continent from sub-Saharan Africa. (KFB)

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

Moderately common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Amber

Recorded in 305 tetrads (30%) in 47 ten km squares.

In January and February there were 149 winterers at 119 sites, all of either one or two birds apart from six at Abbotts Ann WCB on Feb 11th; four at Morgaston Wood on Jan 23rd, Lepe on Jan 26th and Alresford area WCBs on Feb 8th; and three at Anton Lakes, Andover on Jan 30th and Winchester on Feb 27th. There were also 29 on Jan 18th at the Black Dam, Basingstoke roost.

During the breeding season pairs or singing males were reported at 96 sites, continuing an increasing trend. Successful breeding was confirmed at Athers Hill and the Bunny, Denny Lodge NF, Empshott, Fleet Pond, Goodworth Clatford, Hawley Meadows, Headbourne Worthy WCB, Hunton, Hursley, Itchen Water Works, Millersford Bottom NF, North Hants GC (Fleet) and Waltham Chase.

Autumn passage began on Aug 17th at Sandy Point where there were ten bird-days in August, 28 bird-days in September and 19 bird-days in October. The heaviest single day coastal passage

was at Barton on Sea where 48 flew west on Sep 10th and where a total of 64 flew west and 50 flew east between Sep 10th and Nov 13th. At the inland watchpoints, eight were noted (6 NE and 2 SW) between Aug 22nd and Oct 23rd at Trigpoint Hill and at Tweseldown seven flew SW between Sep 20th and Oct 19th (Table 8).

In November and December 139 winterers were reported at 100 locations. All reports were of one or two apart from four at Loddon Valley-Wildmoor on Nov 4th, Bishopstoke on Nov 5th and Wyck on Nov 7th, and three at Winchester on Nov 11th and Dec 14th, Petersfield on Nov 14th and Mottisfont on Nov 30th. At the Black Dam, Basingstoke roost, 22 were counted on Oct 29th. (GO)

Pied Wagtail (White Wagtail) *Motacilla alba*

Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba yarrellii*

Numerous resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Green

Recorded in 395 tetrads (39%) in 49 ten km squares.

In January and February the highest counts were 112 at Dibden Bay on Feb 20th and 100 at the Rownhams roost on Jan 15th. At Trigpoint Hill ten (6 SW and 4 NE) were recorded moving between Jan 13th and Apr 15th.

Breeding was confirmed at widespread locations in the period May-June including Blashford Lakes, Dur Hill Down, Houghton, Hursley, Itchen Valley CP, Leckford Village, Longparish, Ovington Down, Potbridge and Testbourne Lake. The highest number of registrations in BBS one km squares was six at Wickham on May 25th and Botley on June 10th.

On the coast at Barton on Sea 520 (505 E and 15 W) moved between Sep 20th and Nov 19th. At inland watchpoints 202 flew SW over Tweseldown between Sep 20th and Nov 10th and at Trigpoint Hill 78 (30 NE and 48 SW) moved between Aug 25th and Dec 4th. In autumn the highest counts were 200 at the Southsea roost on Oct 11th, 170 at Fort Widley on Oct 25th and 150 at Bramshill Plantation roost on Nov 25th. The highest December count was 200 at Fleet High Street roost on Dec 23rd.

Approximate half-monthly totals of migrants are tabulated below. Note these also include records submitted as Pied/White Wagtails. (GO)

	Mar 1-15	Mar 16-31	Apr 1-15	Apr 16-30	Sep 1-15	Sep 16-30	Oct 1-15	Oct 16-31	Nov 1-15	Nov 16-30
Coast moving	2	24		6	5	54	277	183	18	15
Inland moving	1	2	4			19	94	130	16	5

White Wagtail *Motacilla alba alba*

Scarce passage migrant, probably under-recorded in autumn.

Spring passage involved at least 16 individuals between Feb 26th and May 17th. Coastal records were at Barton on Sea GC (1, Feb 26th; 4, Mar 23rd; 1, Apr 1st), West Lane, Hayling Island (2, Mar 24th), Lymington-Hurst (1, Mar 18th and 31st; 4, Apr 2nd), Titchfield Haven (1, Mar 12th, 14th and 23rd and Apr 29th), Dibden Bay (1, Apr 2nd) and Becton Bunny (2, Apr 20th; 1, Apr 29th). Inland sightings were at Blashford Lakes (1, Apr 2nd and 12th), Crofton Manor Farm (1, Apr 10th), Ranvilles Lane, Fareham (1, Apr 12th) and Eversley Common (1, Apr 29th).

Autumn passage involved approximately 12 individuals. The first were on Aug 1st at Lymington-Hurst and Titchfield Haven and the last was at Beaulieu/Needs Ore on Oct 18th. Other records were three at Lymington-Hurst (Sep 2nd); two at Farlington Marshes (Sep 5th), Beaulieu/Needs Ore (Sep 6th) and Funtley (Oct 16th); and singles at Lymington-Hurst (Aug 15th), Funtley (Aug 29th), Titchfield Haven (Sep 1st), Farlington Marshes (Sep 24th) and Brownwich (Sep 29th). (GO)



Richard's Pipit, Loddon Valley, Jan 23rd (Alan Lewis)

Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi*

Rare passage migrant, mostly in autumn. (0,46,1)

On Jan 17th one was discovered in weedy fields at Wildmoor in the Loddon Valley near Basingstoke. The observers managed to get the news out quickly so that some saw the bird later that day and the next morning. It was elusive but seen several times until Jan 30th. It was clear that it had lost most, if not all, of its tail (MJP, JKA et al., photo).

The species is now recorded in most years, with the majority of records in October and about half as many in September. There have now been three inland records. Given that it had lost its tail, it is possible that the bird had arrived in the previous autumn and was unable to continue its migration. (KFB)

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*

Locally common but declining resident, numerous passage migrant and winter visitor. NT, Amber

Recorded in 327 tetrads (32%) in 53 ten km squares.

In January and February there were double-figure grounded flocks at 43 locations. The highest counts were 60 at Turf Hill Inclosure on Feb 8th, 50 at Barton Stacey on Jan 13th and 50 at Popham on Jan 20th. The heaviest spring movements were at Trigpoint Hill where 499 (495 NE and 4 SW) moved between Mar 3rd and Apr 15th. On the coast the only three-figure movements were 200 (192 E and 8 W) at Barton on Sea between Mar 14th and Apr 29th and 156 (152 N and 4 NE) at Sandy Point between Mar 12th and Apr 4th. NFWBS found 239, 199 and 369 in January-March respectively (Table 4).

The breeding season survey at Needs Ore produced a total of 18 territories with successful breeding confirmed at four sites. In the Lymington-Hurst area, four or five pairs bred at Hurst Castle and additionally 15 were recorded on an 8.9km circular walk between Keyhaven and Oxy on May 19th. Territory counts from other locations would be welcome. The highest number of registrations in BBS one km squares was 23 at Ferny Crofts, NF on June 14th.

Autumn passage began with one south-west at Trigpoint Hill on Aug 27th and peaked in September. The heaviest coastal movement was at Barton on Sea where 5,001 (4,688 E and 313 W; max 2,117 E on Sep 14th) moved between Sep 10th and Nov 29th. At Sandy Point,

699 (max 51, Sep 28th) moved between Sep 10th and Nov 30th. At inland watchpoints, 1,468 flew SW at Tweseldown between Sep 10th and Nov 25th (max. 281, Oct 2nd) and 576 (493 SW and 83 NE) were counted at Trigpoint Hill between Sep 8th and Nov 25th (max. 56, Oct 3rd)(Table 8). The largest grounded flock in autumn was 110 at Newlands Farm on Oct 12th and in December 77 at Barton on Sea on 15th, 68 at Worthing, Basingstoke on 15th and 60 at Wyck on 16th. NFWBS recorded 403, 266 and 88 in October-December respectively (Table 4).

Approximate half-monthly totals of migrants are tabulated below. (GO)

	Mar 1-15	Mar 16-31	Apr 1-15	Apr 16-30	Sep 1-15	Sep 16-30	Oct 1-15	Oct 16-31	Nov 1-15	Nov 16-30
Coast moving	8	281	53	14	3,140	2,318	884	658	251	73
Inland moving	18	261	223		41	660	1,020	411	128	54

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*

Moderately common but declining summer visitor resident and passage migrant. Red, S41

Recorded in 112 tetrads (11%) in 37 ten km squares, mostly in the south-west, south and north-east.

The first of the year were reported from the New Forest on Apr 3rd with two at Pig Bush and singles at Hale Purlieu and Black Gutter Bottom. The only migrants away from breeding areas were singles at Trigpoint Hill on Apr 15th and Barton on Sea on Apr 16th and 29th.

Surveys of the Thames Basin and Wealden Heaths found 25 pairs and 28 pairs respectively (cf. 31 pairs and 28 pairs last year) despite Woolmer Forest not being surveyed this year (Table 1). There was incomplete coverage in the New Forest but at least 43 pairs were reported in a survey covering 41 one km squares. Sites away from the core breeding areas with singing males (singles unless noted) included Bentley Wood (2), Burkham Home Farm (2), Golden Pot, Hut Wood, Kings Somborne, Martin Down, Plumley Wood (2), Preston Oak Hills, Vernham Dean, Watership Down.and Weston Common (7).

Autumn passage began with one at Fleet Pond on July 29th. Subsequently at least 139 were recorded with the highest numbers at Old Winchester Hill (40 bird-days between Aug 13th and Sep 11th, max. 12 mostly S on Aug 26th), Barton on Sea (35 including 17 W and



Tree Pipit, Highland Water NF, May 2nd (Ashley Howe)

15 E between Aug 21st and Sep 19th, max. 11 W on Sep 11th) and Ranvilles Lane, Fareham (26 bird-days between Aug 7th and Sep 18th). The last of the year was one at Hook-with-Warsash on Oct 13th.

Cumulative movements of ten or more were 23 (17 W, 6 E) at Barton on Sea between Aug 21st and Sep 19th. The highest single day count was 11 west at Barton on Sea on Sep 11th. Inland 12 flew over Old Winchester Hill on Aug 26th. The last of the year was one at Hook-with-Warsash on Oct 13th.

Approximate half-monthly totals of migrants are tabulated below. (GO)

	Apr 1-15	Apr 16- 30	May 1-15	16/05/24	Aug 1-15	Aug 16- 31	Sep 1-15	Sep 16- 30	Oct 1-15
Inland grounded			1		8	20	7	2	
Inland moving	1				1	16	6		1
Coast grounded				2	1		9		
Coast moving		2	1		2	18	37	9	2

Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta*

Scarce and declining winter visitor and passage migrant.

Amber

The last spring record was one at Lymington-Hurst on Apr 17th and the first returning bird was at Lower Test Marshes on Oct 12th. In the early year there was a minimum of 29 at five regular sites and two single date records at two other sites. In the late year there was a minimum of 14 at five regular sites and five elsewhere.

Monthly maxima at the regular locations and totals elsewhere are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Oct	Nov	Dec
Titchfield Haven area	3	2	2	1	1	1	3
Lower Test Marshes	2	2	10	5	1	6	6
Lymington-Hurst			2	2	1	1	2
Ibsley Water	1	1		1		1	1
Drayton Farm/Pinglestone WCBs, Alresford	2	2	7	4			2
Totals elsewhere (sites)	2(2)				3(2)	2(2)	2(2)

Early year records from non-tabulated sites came from St Mary Bourne WCB (1, Jan 24th), Bishop Sutton WCB (4, Jan 26th) and Abbots Ann WCB (1, Jan 30th). In the late year there were additional sightings from Farlington Marshes (2, Oct 23rd; 1, Nov 4th and Dec 9th-27th), Fishlake Meadows (1, Nov 1st) and Testway Moorcourt (1, Dec 20th and 23rd). (GO)

Rock Pipit (European Rock Pipit) *Anthus petrosus*

Scarce but increasing resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Green

During January and February there were approximately 56 winterers at 29 coastal sites. Counts of five or more were six at Hook-with-Warsash on Jan 1st and five each at Hythe on Jan 15th and Lymington-Hurst on Jan 30th.

During the breeding season coverage was incomplete but at Hurst Castle at least four or five pairs were recorded between Mar 8th and June 18th including carrying food. Other sites with breeding season records during the period April to May included Barton on Sea (max.3, Apr 25th), Weston Shore (1, May 1st), Needs Ore (1, May 14th) and Calshot (1, May 23rd and 25th).

Between October and December there were approximately 68 winterers at 19 coastal sites. Maxima at sites with counts of five or more were nine at Beaulieu/Needs Ore on Oct 25th

and Nov 9th; eight at Lymington-Hurst on Nov 18th; six at Titchfield Haven on Dec 6th and Chichester Harbour on Dec 6th and five at Farlington Marshes on Nov 14th, Dec 2nd and 8th, Hook-with-Warsash on Dec 10th and 17th, Barton on Sea on Dec 6th and Hayling Oysterbeds on Dec 10th. (GO)

Chaffinch (Common Chaffinch) *Fringilla coelebs*

Abundant resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Green

Recorded in 572 tetrads (56%) across 53 ten km squares making this the most widespread finch just ahead of Goldfinch in terms of tetrad coverage

Over the first three months, there were eight reports of more than 100 birds. Highest numbers were 300 at Eyeworth Pond on Feb 10th and 500 at Bickton (Avon Valley) on March 3rd. All other counts were of less than 200. Autumn movements were largely unremarkable with the highest numbers in late October and early November (Table 8).

Minimum half-monthly totals of autumn migrants are tabulated below. (AL)

	Sep 1-15	Sep 16-30	Oct 1-15	Oct 16-31	Nov 1-15	Nov 16-30	Dec 1-15	Dec 16-29
Coast moving	0	0	51	90	189	38	0	0
Inland moving	18	104	756	1,227	812	274	185	156

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*

Moderately common winter visitor and passage migrant.

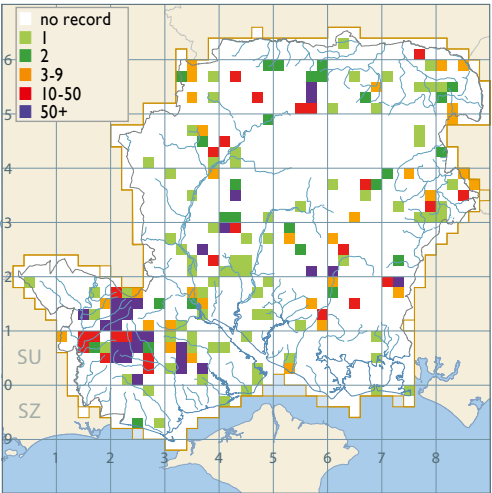
Schedule 1, Green

Recorded in 182 tetrads (18%) in 43 ten km squares, mostly in the south-west and north-east.

There was a significant irruption during the first quarter with highest numbers in January and early February. Acknowledging the potential risk of some double-counting between January and February locations, it is possible that total numbers exceeded 2,600 in the New Forest and over 1,200 elsewhere. This followed nearly 4,000 recorded in December 2021 attracted by the excellent crop of Beech mast. The largest flocks were estimated at 300 at Mark Ash Wood, NF on Jan 24th and Feb 9th and Juniper car park at Queen Elizabeth CP on Jan 7th, 400 at Broomy Inclosure, NF on Jan 25th and 700 feeding in leaf litter at Eyeworth, NF on Feb 10th. Also of note was a regular roost near Corhampton which peaked at 135 on Jan 26th and 27th and 152 flying west to roost over Trigpoint Hill on Feb 19th. The last record in spring was one at Everton on Apr 24th.

The first of autumn were singles at Ashley Walk, NF and Sparsholt on the early date of Sep 25th. In contrast to the early year, the second recording period was more typical and much quieter with few double-figure counts and no flocks of 100 or more. Visible migration was light at the regularly-watched watchpoints with totals of 60 at the Trigpoint Hill (max. 24 SW, Nov 10th) and 24 at Tweseldown (Table 8); also of note were 37 east over Farley Mount on Oct 22nd.

The tetrad map illustrates the distribution and maximum numbers of the irruptive birds. Whilst it includes reports for the whole year, these are dominated by the early year records.



Tetrad map showing distribution and maximum numbers of Brambling in 2022

Monthly totals are tabulated below. (AL)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
NF roost survey sites	1								
Monthly maxima NF roosts	200								
County total grounded	2,997	3,353	920	230		3	34	21	57
County total moving	6	155	15				73	58	

Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

Scarce to moderately common resident, most numerous in the New Forest, passage migrant and winter visitor. Red, S41, HBAP

Recorded in 91 tetrads (9%) in 27 ten km squares, mostly in the south-west with scattered reports in the centre, east and north-east.

Survey work continued through 2022 with four new roosts located in the New Forest bringing the total of known permanent roosts to 50 in the New Forest and two in the Test Valley. Two roosts in the New Forest were monitored throughout the year and monthly maxima at these sites are tabulated below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Blackwater Arboretum	9	11	22	13	2	4	0		0	5	4	1
Roost 2	53	50	69	21	6	3			9	3	6	4

Between January and April, 31 of the known roosts in the New Forest were surveyed producing an overall total of 480 birds giving an average of 15.7 per roost (cf. 353 from 35 roosts in 2021 giving an average of 10.1 per roost). A good seed crop resulted in higher numbers across the county. Significant early year counts of 25 or more came from eleven locations including in January 34 at Burley New Inclosure on 1st, 38 at a private site in the south of the New Forest on 14th, 26 at Puckpits Inclosure on 20th, 25 at Broomy Inclosure on 25th, 26 at Holly Hatch Inclosure on 26th and 25 at Salisbury Trench on 29th. These were followed by 26 at Great Linford Inclosure on Feb 28th, 32 at Roe Inclosure on March 8th and 69 at Holm Hill Inclosure on Mar 13th.

One location in the north of the New Forest attracted a large gathering of feeding birds through January, apparently drawn from at least two roosts, peaking at 143 on Jan 13th. Outside the New Forest early year records came from Greywell (1, Jan 7th), Corhampton (up to 9 on eight dates between Jan 9th and Mar 15th); Itchen Stoke (1, Jan 15th); Chawton (2, Jan 16th); Mercer Way, Romsey (1 on five dates between Jan 16th and Feb 28th); Southampton Common (1, Jan 20th and 29th); Andover Down, Harewood Forest (4, Jan 22nd); Sherborne St John (1, Jan 30th); Farley Mount (up to 3 on five dates between Jan 31st and Apr 2nd); Testway, Nursling (1, Feb 4th); Exton (1, Feb 5th); Preshaw Down (1, Feb 5th); Newtown, Sherfield English (1, Feb 13th and Mar 6th); Hursley Church (2, Feb 25th); Straight Mile, Ampfield (1, Feb 28th); Spearywell Wood (1, Feb 28th) and Old Winchester Hill (1, Mar 20th; 2, Mar 25th).

Breeding was confirmed from seven locations in the New Forest with suspected breeding at a further 15. Forty-nine were caught and colour-ringed in the Bolderwood area between Mar 16th and June 15th with a further 184 individuals ringed in previous years. Outside the New Forest breeding season records came from Hollom Down, Porton (1, July 24th and Aug 28th); Ashford Hangers (2, July 24th); The Mill Field, Old Basing (1, Aug 4th); Farley Mount (1, Aug 13th) and Old Winchester Hill (3, Aug 16th).

Autumn movements were recorded from just one location, Trigpoint Hill (1-3 NE/SW, Oct 23rd to Dec 22nd). These most likely related to local movements between regular feeding sites.

A poor seed crop in the late year resulted in relatively low numbers, as reflected in the regularly monitored roosts tabulated above, with no double-figure counts being recorded

from the New Forest. Records from outside of the Forest came from Hollom Down, Porton (1, Sep 11th; 2, Oct 16th; 1, Oct 23rd); River Blackwater, Totton (1, Oct 1st; 1, Dec 4th); Woodmancroft (1, Oct 31st); Hocombe (1, Nov 6th); Bouldsbury Wood (2, Nov 9th); Andover Down, Harewood Forest (up to 7 on five dates between Nov 12th and Dec 10th); Needs Ore (6, Nov 13th), The Mill Field, Old Basing (1, Dec 2nd); Corhampton (1, Dec 8th and 15th); Queen Elizabeth CP (1, Dec 12th); Dogmersfield Park (1, Dec 23rd and 24th); Farley Mount (up to 30, Dec 29th) and Hursley Church (3, Dec 29th). (MW)

Bullfinch (Eurasian Bullfinch) *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

Common but declining resident and passage migrant.

Amber, S4I, HBAP

Recorded in 384 tetrads (38%) in 49 ten km squares.

During the first three months of the year the only two sites to report double-figure counts of this declining species were Dibden Bay and Winchester SF with ten each in January. NFWBS reported 29 from 38 locations in January and 14 across 34 sites in March (Table 4).

There were confirmed reports of territories from at least 15 locations in May and 18 in June. The New Forest and central Hampshire remain the stronghold for breeding territories with fledged young observed from June to August. A survey in May of 37 square kilometres over 81 hours in the New Forest produced a total of 55 birds.

In the period October to December there were no double-figure counts. However, the regular New Forest surveys across over 30 locations reported totals of 22, 14 and 18 for the last three months of the year (Table 4). (AL)

Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus*

Very rare vagrant. (1,1,1)

On May 29th at 07:09, while doing his daily round of Sandy Point, ACJ heard the distinctive five-note whistle of this species and that stopped him in his tracks. It sang again several times but then went silent and could not be found. Despite searches over the next five hours and later in the day, it was never relocated (ACJ).

Despite being removed from the list of species considered by BBRC in 1983, this remains one of the rarest vagrants in Hampshire. There are just two previous records - a male at Titchfield on Aug 13th 1913 and a male at Godshill Ridge, NF on June 1st 2009. Its status here is hard to understand given its frequent occurrence in Dorset, where there were six records in 2021. The species breeds from Sweden and Germany to Kamchatka and central China and winters in the Indian sub-continent and south-east Asia. Birds arriving here in May will be overshoots on their return from Asia, so they will often move on rather than stay. The first recorded breeding in the UK was in 1982 (in Scotland) and then in England in 1992. But after a peak of five confirmed breeding pairs that year, the last breeding pair in the UK was in Cumbria in 2001. (KFB)

Greenfinch (European Greenfinch) *Chloris chloris*

Numerous but declining resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Red

Recorded in 484 tetrads (47%) in 52 ten km squares.

The only site counts of more than 50 were 55 on Jan 1st at Sinah Common, Hayling Island, 105 flying into roost at Sarisbury Green on Jan 12th and 128 there three days later. New Forest count totals peaked at just 29 birds across 38 sites in January, with 24 in February and 14 in March (Table 4).

At least 33 territories were found in June with one New Forest area holding at least one third. In July 16, including fledged young, were observed at Ashford Hangers, Stockbridge

Downs where there were at least seven active nest sites.

Autumn counts exceeded the early year numbers. The only one to exceed 100 was 150 at Hook-with-Warsash on Oct 16th. Gunner Point, Hayling Island returned totals of 50 or more throughout the autumn and early winter with a peak of 70 on Sep 29th. Late year numbers included a minimum of 89 drinking from puddles at Pennington Marshes on Nov 12th and 90 at Ranvilles Lane, Fareham on Nov 4th.

Despite the dearth of high counts, it appears that the declines of the last few years are now slowing and hopefully a population recovery will be seen over the next few years. (AL)

Linnet *Linaria cannabina*

Common but declining resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Red, S4I, HBAP

Recorded in 359 tetrads (35%) in 52 ten km squares.

A good year for the species, with some high totals, especially in the mid-autumn period. The first three months produced a peak of 500 at Barton Stacey on Jan 25th. Further three-figure counts included 250 at Longparish on Feb 2nd and Little Posbrook on Mar 13th, 176 at Ranvilles Lane, Fareham on Jan 23rd and 160 at Longwood Warren and Up Nately, both on Jan 22nd, Pigeon House Lane, Portsdown Hill on Jan 29th and Malshanger Park on Jan 30th.

Half-monthly totals of autumn movements are tabulated below peaking in October. Especially high numbers were reported moving east at Barton on Sea in October with peaks of 1,987 in just over three hours on 9th and 1,426 in just under 4 hours on 19th (Table 8). (AL)

	Sep 1-15	Sep 16-30	Oct 1-15	Oct 16-31	Nov 1-15	Nov 16-30	Dec 1-15	Dec 16-31
Coast moving	7	215	3,348	3,585	564	14	12	0
Inland moving	9	98	1,567	960	306	136	20	39



Linnet, Needs Ore, Apr 16th (Ian Williamson)

Autumn and early winter counts included multiple reports of more than 200 on the ground. Lepe CP recorded 700 on Oct 9th, Chilling Cliffs/Solent Breezes had 500 on Oct 17th and 400 on Dec 24th, and Crofton Manor Farm had 400 on Oct 19th and Nov 2nd.

Lesser Redpoll *Acanthis cabaret*

Moderately common passage and winter visitor; formerly locally common breeder with breeding last confirmed in 2006. Red, S4I

Recorded in 135 tetrads (13%) in 42 ten km squares, mostly in the south-west and north-east.

In another disappointing year for the species, the first four months of the year saw just four locations recording 50 or more birds. These were Yateley Common (50, Jan 16th), Cadnam Common (70, Jan 24th), Bourley North (55, March 15th) and Hut Wood (60, Apr 14th).

There were no confirmed or suspected breeding records and the scattering of reports from June to August referred mainly to singles at locations across the New Forest.

Half-monthly totals of autumn migrants are tabulated below. Grounded flocks in the late year did not reach double figures, making this the worst season on record for this species. The season was unremarkable with very poor counts throughout. (AL)

	Sep 1-15	Sep 16-30	Oct 1-15	Oct 16-31	Nov 1-15	Nov 16-30	Dec 1-15	Dec 16-31
Coast moving			5	2	11			
Inland moving				25	29	33	9	

Crossbill (Red Crossbill) *Loxia curvirostra*

Moderately common resident whose numbers are periodically augmented by irruptions in summer or autumn. Schedule 1, Green

Recorded in 76 tetrads (7%) in 20 ten km squares.

A quiet year with few double-figure counts. The largest numbers were at traditional New Forest locations, with a focus on the first six months of the year. The highest count in the early year was 30 at Burley Old Inclosure, NF on Jan 22nd but the late year maximum was only 12 at Wootton Coppice Inclosure, NF on Oct 22nd. Breeding was suspected at five locations, all within the NF stronghold area. Note that the NF totals for May and June are the same as they refer to a two month survey across 37 one km squares in the core area centred on Bolderwood/Rhinefield. This total of 106 was remarkably similar to the average of 107 logged in similar surveys carried out in 2009-11.

A summary of all records is shown below. (AL)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
New Forest sites	258	113	134	122	106	106	48	16	24	10	7	8
North-east sites	11	2	2	2	3	1		2			1	1
Other sites	15	4	3	11	14	2	7	2	8	9		6

Goldfinch (European Goldfinch) *Carduelis carduelis*

Numerous resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Green

Recorded in 565 tetrads (55%) in 53 ten km squares making this a very close second to Chaffinch in terms of tetrad coverage.

During the first three months the only three-figure counts were 100 at both Testwood Lakes on Jan 4th and Foxbury, NF on Mar 12th.

During the summer and early autumn period the largest single grounded count was an estimated

600 at Broughton Down on Sep 6th. There were four additional flocks of 100 or more with maximum numbers in late August to mid-September. Coastal and inland movements were unremarkable, with peaks in late October to mid-November (Table 8). However, it is likely that this common finch is often under-recorded.

Minimum half-monthly totals of autumn migrants are tabulated below. (AL)

	Sep 1-15	Sep 16-30	Oct 1-15	Oct 16-31	Nov 1-15	Nov 16-30	Dec 1-15
Coast moving	32	210	3,011	3,462	4,680	128	31
Inland moving	108	30	479	952	332	127	4

Serin (European Serin) *Serinus serinus*

Rare visitor recorded in every month except August. (1,49,2)

A male was seen and heard to fly north over Hurst Spit at 08:10 on May 7th (NRJ, TJS). Another male was discovered at Ferny Knap Inclosure, NF around lunchtime on July 17th. The bird was singing from within the plantation and was heard and seen well on several occasions for another two hours. It was not found later that afternoon or the next day (DNS *et al.*, photo).

It is pleasing to have two sightings again as in 2021. Records of this species have declined in recent years, both in Hampshire and elsewhere, in line with reduced breeding numbers in parts of the Continent. (KFB)

Siskin (Eurasian Siskin) *Spinus spinus*

Moderately common breeder, common passage migrant and winter visitor.

Green

Recorded in 304 tetrads (38%) in 51 ten km squares.

During the first three months of the year there were 14 counts of 100 or more. The highest totals were 750 at Fleet Pond on Jan 22nd, 500 at Greatham on Jan 23rd and 300 at Harewood Forest on Jan 31st. NFBWS reported totals of 65, 102 and 52 in January-March respectively (Table 4). The maximum count in BTO's Garden Bird Watch was 30 in w/c Jan 9th in a Nursling garden. Evidence of spring passage was provided by a movement of 198 east in variable flock sizes (max. 39) at Sandy Point on Mar 27th.

During the breeding season, the highest number of registrations in a one km square recorded by BTO's Breeding Bird Survey was 11 on June 28th at Holiday Hills Inclosure, NF. In addition a survey of 37 one km squares of the central New Forest area between May 1st and June 30th produced a total of 376. This is a 30% increase compared with the average of 290 recorded by similar surveys in 2009-11. Away from the New Forest there were regular records from over 50 locations, many of them gardens taking part in the BTO Garden Birdwatch. The highest counts were 17 at Plumley Wood, Ringwood Forest on May 24th and 11-12 at Hurstbourne Tarrant between June 26th and July 24th. Five territories were found in Longmoor Inclosure.

Autumn movements peaked in late October to early November. The highest daily movement was 83 south-west at Tweseldown in two hours on Oct 17th (Table 8). Maximum counts followed in November with 150 at both Fleet Pond on 14th and feeding on alders at Mockbeggar Lake, Blashford on 25th. NFWBS autumn totals were 18, eight and none for October-December respectively.

Minimum half-monthly totals of autumn migrants are tabulated below. (AL)

	Sep 1-15	Sep 16-30	Oct 1-15	Oct 16-31	Nov 1-15	Nov 16-30
Coast moving		4	75	127	196	2
Inland moving			6	304	99	14



Snow Bunting, Milford on Sea, Nov 26th (Matt Barfield)

Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis*

Very scarce autumn passage migrant and winter visitor.

Schedule 1, Amber

The first of the year was a flyover at Hook-with-Warsash on Jan 22nd. This was followed by one flying low west calling from Salterns Park towards Hill Head on Feb 18th. Autumn records consisted of a single at Needs Ore on Oct 22nd, a popular individual that took up residence near the Needles Eye Café at Milford on Sea from Nov 24th-27th, and a single flew west at Hill Head on Nov 30th. (AL)

Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra*

Locally moderately common but declining resident.

Red, S4I, HBAP

Recorded in 57 tetrads (6%) in 18 ten km squares with most reports concentrated in the extreme west and along the central and north-west downlands

During the first three months of the year the only three-figure count was 250 at Toyd Down on Jan 14th. This was also the largest single count the whole year.

Breeding season (April to August) counts of singing males were recorded as listed below. It proved to be a challenging breeding season with many areas reporting fewer singing males than last year and only two locations (Martin Down and Longwood Warren/Gander Down) returning double-figure counts.

Numbers of singing males are summarised by region below with comparable 2021 numbers in parentheses.

On the chalk west of Avon Valley: Martin Down, 15 (12); Toyd Down, 3 (7).

West of Test Valley: The Wallops to Cholderton, 4 (9); Houghton Down, 1 (7).

In the Test Valley: 2 (10).

North of Winchester: South Wonston, 1.

West of Winchester: Farley Mount, 0 (0).

East of Winchester: Longwood Warren/Cheesefoot Head/Gander Down, 10 (13); Hazeley Down, 2;

Winnall Down, 1.

East Hampshire: Colemore, 0 (1).

North Hampshire: Kingsclere, 8 (3); Ashley Warren, 3 (4); Burghclere, 2 (5)

Coast: 0 (0).

In late autumn and winter there was only one three-figure count of 100 at Chilbolton Telescope on Nov 17th. (AL)

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*

Numerous but declining resident.

Red, S4I

Recorded in 272 tetrads (27%) in 46 ten km squares, with highest numbers on the chalk downland and fewest in the south-west.

During the first few months of the year, the only three-figure count was 120 at Quarley Down on Jan 14th.

The breeding season saw widespread reports from north and central areas of the county, with highest number of territories at Tidgrove Warren where 25 males were recorded on June 19th. Elsewhere, Martin Down saw the second highest number of singing males with 20 on May 31st. There were no three-figure counts in the autumn to year end. (AL)

Reed Bunting (Common Reed Bunting) *Emberiza schoeniclus*

Common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Amber, S4I, HBAP

Recorded in 167 tetrads (16%) in 39 ten km squares with highest numbers along river valleys and wetland sites.

In keeping with previous years, this under-recorded species continues to decline slowly, both in terms of wintering population and breeding records. There were no flocks of 50 or more recorded anywhere. The highest count was 46 at a reedbed roost at Itchen Water Works



Reed Bunting, Needs Ore, Apr 14th (Chris Button)

on Jan 12th. All other counts were less than 30. Most of the larger flocks were either from central areas of the county, along the main rivers or the coast.

In terms of breeding territories, the largest count was seven at Bransbury Common on May 14th. A record of eight at Itchen Valley CP on Apr 17th is assumed to refer to four territories, with three territories at Needs Ore on Apr 18th. Most other records were of one or two males on territory at widely scattered locations.

Minimum half-monthly totals of autumn migrants are tabulated below. (AL)

	Sep 15-30	Oct 1-15	Oct 16-31	Nov 1-15	Nov 16-30	Dec 1-15
Coast moving	10	12	29	10		
Inland moving	3	21	58	13	10	2

Dark-eyed Junco *Junco hyemalis*

Very rare, presumed ship-assisted, vagrant. (0,4,1)

An adult male was photographed in a Farnborough garden on Oct 27th. It was watched for an hour and spent its time feeding on seed and scrubbing around in the borders. It was not seen again (CM, LM, photo). Accepted by the BBRC.

Previous records are of a long-staying individual at Church Crookham intermittently between May 1987 and March 1989, one in a garden near Andover in May 1996, one at Hawkhill Inclosure, NF from December 2011 to March 2012 and finally one in a Petersfield garden in May 2017. Although genuine vagrancy cannot be ruled out, it is more likely that this species benefits from ship assistance. Vessels from the USA arrive into Southampton throughout the year. (KFB)



Dark-eyed Junco, Farnborough, Oct 27th (Chris & Linda Marney)

Categories D & E: escapes & others (MLC)

The above categories do not form part of the British List and refer to birds whose origin cannot be accepted as from a wild state. It is not the intention here to follow BTO practice and record birds which are free-ranging but domestically held, such as Helmeted Guineafowl and Indian Peafowl. Most species reported here are escapes from captive origin but some will always be open to dispute. The taxonomic order and English and scientific names follow the IOC World Bird List v12.1: 2022.

Cape Barren Goose *Cereopsis novaehollandiae*

Escape (Australia).

One at Alresford Pond on Aug 12th and 19th also flew into The Grange Lake with Canada Geese on Aug 17th.

Emperor Goose *Anser canagicus*

Escape (West Alaska & North-east Siberia).

The long-stayer at Avon Causeway-Wattons Ford was reported again on Jan 23rd, Mar 20th and Oct 9th.

Black Swan *Cygnus atratus*

Escape (Australasia).

Numbers were lower than last year with no double-figure counts. The only reports of five or more were from the traditional stronghold along the River Itchen through Southampton between Northam Bridge and Woodmill including Riverside and Bitterne Parks (6, Jan 1st and 24th; 8, Feb 12th; 7, Sep 11th; 6, Nov 26th). Elsewhere, all records referred to one or two except for four at Lakeside CP on Jan 24th and three at Lower Test Marshes on Dec 12th. Coastal records extended from Keyhaven in the west to Chichester Harbour in the east and included two at Farlington Marshes on Sep 17th. Inland there were regular reports from the Avon Valley including Ibsley Water and intermittent records from the Test Valley from Testwood Lakes to Stonymarsh including Fishlake Meadows. Other inland records were the resident two at Heath Pond, Petersfield and one at Basingstoke on Jan 18th.

Whilst courting behaviour was noted between a pair at Riverside Park on May 2nd, no evidence of breeding was reported.

Monthly maxima are shown below.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
6	8	2	2	3	2	4	2	7	3	6	4

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*

Escape (Europe, North Africa & Asia); status under review.

Three were at Ripley Farm Reservoir on Jan 8th. All other reports were of singles in all months except February, May, October and December at Lower Test Marshes, various sites in the Avon Valley including Ibsley Water and Heath Pond, Petersfield.

Note BOU has requested submission of all records of Ruddy Shelducks in the wild in 1994 and the subsequent period from 1999-2020 to review the species' status and determine whether a change of category is justified in light of the established naturalised populations on the near continent and the increasing numbers associated with moult migration to the Netherlands in the late summer months.

South African Shelduck *Tadorna cana*

Escape (Southern Africa).

One at Ripley Farm Reservoir on Jan 8th with its regular companion Ruddy Shelduck. Intermittent reports of these two distinctive birds, the first also reported as an Australian Shelduck, go back to at least 2016.

Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata*

Escape (Central & South America).

The regular resident was reported from Heath Pond, Petersfield in November and December. Also one at Minstead on Dec 7th.

Wood Duck *Aix sponsa*

Escape (North America).

A male was present at Wilk's Water, Odiham Common on Feb 13th and Nov 20th.

Maned Duck *Chenonetta jubata*

Escape (Australia).

A ringed female was at Dibden Bay on Nov 27th.

Ringed Teal *Callonetta leucophrys*

Escape (South America).

A female was regularly reported from Titchfield Haven, Hill Head Harbour and Posbrook Flood between July 22nd and Dec 24th. Also a pair at Abbots Ann, Andover on Nov 20th and Dec 26th.

Yellow-billed Duck *Anas undulata*

Escape (Africa).

Between one and five tame birds reported from Abbots Ann between Oct 7th and Dec 24th.

White-cheeked Pintail *Anas bahamensis*

Escape (North & South America).

The returning bird from 2021 seen at Farlington Marshes between June 25th and Nov 2nd showed signs of hybridisation.

Reeves's Pheasant *Syrnaticus reevesii*

Escape/release (China).

Singles reported from Lasham Wood on Jan 9th, Fiddlers Green on Jan 27th and Biddenfield Estate near Wickham/Botley Wood on various dates between January and November.

Golden Pheasant *Chrysolophus pictus*

Escape/release (China); formerly very scarce feral resident, now presumed extinct as self-sustaining breeding population.

An individual was recorded on farmland at Hensting near Colden Common on Mar 29th (NG). (PFF)

Fork-tailed Drongo-cuckoo *Surniculus dicruroides*

Escape (South Asia).

This unusual escape was reported at Hook-with-Warsash on Oct 3rd.

Scopoli's Shearwater *Calonectris diomedea*

Origin uncertain (Mediterranean)

In carrying out research for Rare Birds of Hampshire, John Clark and Marc Moody examined a specimen labelled as Great Shearwater in the Hart Collection at Leicester Museum. It was one of two reportedly shot from a boat between the Shingles and the Needles on May 29th 1878, the other specimen having been destroyed. From photographs it appeared to be a Cory's Shearwater but on examination proved to be a Scopoli's Shearwater, as confirmed by the underwing pattern of the outer primary and measurements and supported by DNA analysis. However, because of doubts over its provenance, as discussed in McNerny *et al.* 2023, it is suggested not to merit review by BOURC as a potential first for Britain.

McNerny, C.J., McGowan, R.Y., Clark, J.M., Moody, M.P., Senfeld, T., Collinson, J.M. and Harrop, A.H.J. 2023. An apparent nineteenth century record of Scopoli's Shearwater in Hampshire. *British Birds* 116: 222-227.



Scopoli's Shearwater, Leicester Museum (Marc Moody)

White Stork *Ciconia ciconia*

Escape/release (Europe, North Africa & Middle East).

With the recent creation of a breeding and release programme in both Sussex and Surrey there is now a population of free-flying birds that ranges widely in southern England. These birds carry blue colour rings that are not always obvious in flight. We assume that all birds are of captive origin unless there is strong evidence to the contrary, although clearly the chance of genuinely wild birds appearing cannot be discounted.

Two were at Everton on Mar 24th. Five records followed in April with singles over Titchfield Haven on 1st and at Edenbrook CP on 11th, two feeding in a field at Hordle on 14th and singles over Chineham on 20th and Chandlers Ford on 27th. The last in spring were two over Beaulieu Heath West on May 22nd. Two flew over Longmoor ranges on Aug 7th and the last record was a group of nine at Harbridge WM on Sep 5th.

White-tailed Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla*

Release (Europe and northern Asia).

Amber

A project to re-introduce White-tailed Eagles to southern England was initiated by the Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation in 2019 and in August of that year six juveniles were released on the Isle of Wight. A further seven juveniles were released in 2020 and 12 more in 2021. These birds all carry satellite transmitters and regularly wander into Hampshire resulting in sightings too many to summarise.

Recorded in all months with most reports referring to one or two birds. The greatest concentration of records was at Needs Ore/Beaulieu Estuary and the adjacent parts of the West Solent. These included the highest count of four at Needs Ore/Beaulieu Estuary on Mar 8th. Most other reports are from other coastal areas including Southampton Water and extending to Farlington Marshes in the east, to widespread parts of the New Forest and west to the Avon Valley including Ibsley Water. Occasionally reported further inland including Plastow Green on Feb 16th, roosting at Corhampton in the Meon Valley on Feb 19th and 21st, over Hinton Ampner on Feb 25th and Oct 8th, over Southampton City Centre on Mar 17th and at Bossington South and Stockbridge in the Test Valley on July 11th.

Harris's Hawk *Parabuteo unicinctus*

Escape (North & South America).

Singles recorded at Waterlooville on May 5th and Otterbourne on June 12th.

Eurasian Eagle-Owl *Bubo bubo*

Escape (Europe & Asia).

One seen and photographed at Purbrook on Nov 17th.

Alexandrine Parakeet *Psittacula eupatria*

Escape (South & South-east Asia).

One at Keyhaven/Pennington Marshes on Jan 25th-26th, in the Mansbridge-Woodmill area with Ring-necked Parakeets from January to Mar 3rd, at Hurst Beach on Mar 23rd and flying over Normandy Lagoon on Mar 26th.

Budgerigar *Melopsittacus undulatus*

Escape (Australia).

Singles at Riverside Park, Southampton on Aug 1st and Stubbington on Nov 23rd.

Table 1: Counts of territories of selected species on the Thames Basin and Wealden Heaths in 2022.

The totals for each species in 2021 are also given for comparison. For the Annex 1 species – Nightjar, Woodlark and Dartford Warbler – it is a valid exercise except some sites on the Thames Basin Heaths were not fully covered for Nightjars in 2022, so the total is below the true figure. Comparison of counts for the other species may be misleading due to variations in coverage.

Site	Woodcock	Cuckoo	Nightjar	Green Woodpecker	Gt Sp Woodpecker	Hobby	Woodlark	Skylark	Willow Warbler	Whitethroat	Dartford Warbler	Redstart	Stonechat	Tree Pipit	Linnet	Yellowhammer	Reed Bunting
<i>Thames Basin Heaths</i>																	
Blackbushe Airfield*								3	2	7	9		2		5		
Bourley North/Long Valley	nc	1	11	3+	nc		16	1	27	11	34	4	12	4	2		
Bourley South	nc	1	12	1+	nc		5		21	15	26		11	10	nc		
Bramshill Plantation	3		6	nc	nc		4		8	3				2	nc		
Bramshill Park Heath							1						1				
Bramshot Heath*	1		1	nc	nc								1		nc		
Eelmoor Marsh/Pyestock Hill	1		3	1	1				2	2	7		8		1+		1
Eversley Common including Busta Triangle	nc		4	nc	nc		6	4	7	3	23		8		3		1
Castle Bottom	1		4	nc	nc		1		5	1	3		1		1		
Hawley Common	7		3	2	5		1				8		7		4		
Hazeley Heath		2	9	4	5		3		6	18	6		5	2	19		
Heath Warren	2		6		1		5		11	3	1			1			
Ivyhole Wood			3														
Lichett Plain			nc				nc										
Silchester Common*			nc	1			1		2		2		1		nc		
Tadley Common*			nc						nc		nc				nc		
Tweseldown			3				3				5		6		nc		
Velmead Common			1	nc	nc		2				2		3				
Warren Heath	1		9	1	1	1	5			1			1	1			
Yateley Common (HCC)	2		6	2	1		2		7	15	35		10		6		
Yateley Common South (MOD)	6		9	1	1		3		4	7	25		10	1	4+		
Yateley Heath Wood	nc	1	3+	2	nc	1	9	5	18	8	11		13	4	9		
TBH total 2022	24	5	90	14	15	2	67	13	120	94	197	4	100	25	49	0	2
TBH total 2021	16	10	117	13	25	3	74	11	118	123	151	7	112	31	110	0	3
<i>Wealden Heaths</i>																	
Bramshott Common	nc		4		2		3		1	1		2	3	1	2		
Broxhead Common (HCC)	1	1	2	1	4		4	2	1		11		2	1	4		
Broxhead Common (MOD)			1		1						8		2	2	1		
Conford Moor	3		2	1	4				1	1						3	
Cranmer Heath	nc	nc	1	nc	nc		1	nc	nc	nc		nc	nc	nc	nc		nc
Hammer Common	nc		nc	1	1		1			1		1	2		2	1	

Kingsley Common	1		2		2		1			1		1		1		
Longmoor Inclosure	5	2	27	13	16		16		20	15	54	15	22	23	29	25
Ludshott Common	nc	1	15	nc	nc		5		10	22	45	5	8	1	nc	2
Passfield Common	1		1	2												1
Shortheath Common**			3	2	2		1		2		1		1			1
The Slab/Warren/ Blackmoor GC**	4		5	1+	1+		1	1	nc	nc	1		nc		nc	3
Holly Hills							1				3					
Woolmer Forest	nc	nc	15	nc	nc	1	12	nc	6	nc	49	7+	nc	nc	nc	3
WH total 2022	15	4	78	20	32	1	46	3	41	40	173	30+	41	28	39	0
WH total 2021	7	8	75	22	30	1	55	1	53	37	135	16	49	28	47	0

* = not included in Thames Basin Heaths SPA; ** = not included in Wealden Heaths SPA; nc = no count; blank square = 0

Thanks are due to the following who contributed to this survey: J Baldwin, JM Clark, JR Collman, AFJ Cox, PJ Crowley, T Drake, JA Eyre, AR James, C Jones, EA Lintott, SJ Mansfield, D Murray, C Piper, M Shaft, GC Stephenson and KB Wills.

Correction to Table 1 in 2021 report: Stonechat total for Kingsley Common should read 1, not 12, and total for Wealden Heaths should read 38, not 49.

Table 2: Results of BTO Garden BirdWatch in Hampshire in 2022

Table showing mean monthly reporting rate (% of gardens each month reporting the species) for 42 species categories recorded by BTO Garden BirdWatch. Note the number of gardens each month varies between 266-321 compared to the year total of 357. The final column shows the total number of gardens from which the species was reported at least once during 2022.

Species	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	SITES
Black-headed Gull	7.5	5.8	3.9	3.8	3.9	5.0	4.3	1.5	2.6	3.7	2.6	9.4	56
Blackbird	99.7	98.7	99.0	99.3	99.3	99.3	98.2	91.8	83.8	90.0	94.9	99.2	357
Blackcap	33.3	24.0	25.2	25.9	15.8	13.3	11.2	4.8	10.9	12.2	12.1	26.3	204
Blue Tit	98.1	96.2	98.0	96.6	97.5	90.6	90.6	93.3	93.6	94.5	95.2	97.0	354
Brambling	5.0	8.0	9.2	4.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	1.1	0.7	2.3	42
Bullfinch	21.8	18.6	18.0	17.2	24.0	22.7	17.8	12.6	9.4	7.0	7.7	12.0	133
Carrion Crow	43.0	40.7	45.1	49.3	55.6	46.4	41.7	33.8	35.7	42.8	41.2	41.4	245
Chaffinch	57.6	58.3	58.8	46.6	48.0	46.8	39.1	33.8	39.1	42.1	47.8	53.0	253
Coal Tit	58.9	52.6	49.7	41.0	46.6	37.4	38.4	48.0	57.5	67.2	64.3	64.7	283
Collared Dove	67.9	66.7	65.4	72.1	73.8	69.8	70.7	65.1	60.9	55.7	58.1	62.0	302
Dunnock	88.5	85.9	85.6	85.9	85.3	83.5	81.9	77.3	78.6	79.0	79.8	84.2	329
Feral Pigeon	22.1	21.8	23.9	24.1	23.3	22.7	23.6	21.2	21.1	20.7	22.4	23.7	118
Fieldfare	1.2	1.3	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	3.0	4.8	5.6	37
Goldcrest	10.3	11.5	12.7	11.4	8.6	6.5	6.2	4.8	10.5	16.6	15.4	12.8	116
Goldfinch	68.8	70.8	76.1	78.6	75.3	75.5	71.0	63.6	62.4	70.5	66.5	66.9	314
Great Spotted Woodpecker	49.2	40.4	40.8	44.1	55.6	51.1	43.5	28.6	28.2	43.5	45.6	46.6	255
Great Tit	92.8	89.1	87.6	89.0	92.5	84.5	80.1	87.0	85.0	88.6	89.0	90.6	347
Greenfinch	40.5	45.5	50.3	50.7	55.6	55.0	51.1	43.1	38.0	41.0	39.3	38.7	247
House Sparrow	72.9	70.8	72.2	76.9	79.6	79.9	76.4	70.6	66.2	69.0	72.4	74.4	306
Jackdaw	42.1	40.7	42.2	47.6	51.6	47.8	38.4	34.9	36.1	35.1	33.1	33.8	229
Jay	25.2	18.9	19.3	22.1	29.0	26.6	18.1	8.6	10.5	14.4	15.1	14.3	167

Long-tailed Tit	62.9	60.3	52.6	39.3	29.4	27.3	45.3	46.1	50.0	54.6	49.3	56.0	291
Magpie	80.1	77.6	78.8	83.8	84.9	81.7	78.3	74.0	74.1	82.3	84.6	82.3	335
Marsh Tit	8.4	7.1	5.6	5.5	5.0	5.0	5.4	7.1	9.0	9.6	10.3	10.5	50
Marsh/Willow Tit	1.6	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.4	0.7	1.1	1.5	2.3	1.1	1.8	1.1	11
Mistle Thrush	7.2	4.8	4.2	4.8	6.1	4.3	3.6	3.0	0.8	3.3	5.5	9.4	66
Nuthatch	45.2	38.8	40.2	35.2	40.5	41.7	46.0	43.5	42.5	43.9	44.9	42.9	219
Pied/White Wagtail	13.7	9.3	10.8	7.9	7.5	5.8	7.6	1.5	1.9	6.6	8.1	18.0	99
Redwing	8.1	5.8	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.4	11.4	24.8	90
Reed Bunting	1.2	1.3	2.6	1.4	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.8	10
Robin	99.4	98.7	98.4	97.9	98.9	98.6	94.6	96.7	96.6	97.0	97.1	98.5	355
Rook	15.9	15.4	19.6	20.7	19.7	15.5	10.1	8.2	7.1	8.5	9.9	12.0	112
Siskin	15.0	20.5	26.5	20.7	19.7	16.9	13.0	10.0	10.9	13.3	14.7	16.9	116
Song Thrush	43.9	35.6	27.5	29.0	31.5	32.0	34.8	12.6	9.0	18.1	23.2	50.0	237
Sparrowhawk	19.6	20.2	17.3	16.6	15.1	20.9	26.1	22.7	25.2	28.0	24.6	21.1	193
Starling	66.7	64.4	68.3	73.4	84.6	71.2	56.9	49.1	42.1	55.0	57.4	63.5	306
Tawny Owl	9.0	8.0	5.9	6.2	7.2	5.8	7.6	9.7	9.8	10.0	12.1	11.3	68
Tree Sparrow	0.0	0.3	1.0	1.4	0.4	0.0	0.7	1.1	0.8	0.0	0.4	0.4	13
Treecreeper	5.3	1.6	3.9	3.4	2.9	3.2	3.6	2.6	2.6	3.3	2.6	3.0	52
Woodpigeon	97.2	98.7	98.0	98.6	98.9	99.3	98.6	97.8	98.9	97.4	96.0	97.4	351
Wren	57.6	52.9	53.3	49.7	40.9	36.3	48.6	44.2	43.2	56.1	52.2	48.1	297
Yellowhammer	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.7	0.7	1.1	1.1	0.7	0.4	0.7	1.1	0.0	10

BTO Garden BirdWatch monitors the changing fortunes of birds and other garden wildlife through its network of 'citizen scientists'. Observations collected by BTO Garden BirdWatchers are analysed by BTO researchers and the results inform our understanding of the use of gardens and other human sites by birds. BTO Garden BirdWatchers have charted the decline of the House Sparrow, the rise of the Woodpigeon, have discovered that urban birds get up later than their rural counterparts and have alerted conservationists to the impact of an emerging disease in Greenfinches. The project, which involves weekly observations, is funded through the generosity of its participants. For a free enquiry pack, please write to BTO Garden BirdWatch, BTO, The Nunnery, Thetford, Norfolk, IP24 2PU; email gbw@bto.org or call the Garden Ecology Team on 01842-750050. More information on the project, including the latest results, can be found at www.bto.org/gbw.

Thanks to Justin Walker at BTO for producing the table which has been used for several species accounts in the Systematic List. Thanks also to all observers who contributed records for 2022 from the Hampshire gardens in the scheme. Note GBW records are reported on a week-commencing basis.

Table 3: Results of Breeding Bird Survey in Hampshire BTO region 2022

The BTO/JNCC/RSPB Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) is a partnership jointly funded by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO), Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), with fieldwork conducted by volunteers. The BBS project has been operating annually since 1994; in April-June 2022 a total of 151 randomly located one km squares in the county were surveyed using the line-transect counting technique. A line-transect count is the number of birds of a given species detected (heard or seen, including fly-bys) on a two km walk completed in about two hours within the one km square. A total of 122 species was recorded but not all were breeding.

These figures provide a useful indication of the relative abundance of different species although they do not take account of differences in detectability between species. Data are provided here for 2022 and 2021 in terms of (a) Square Occupancy = % of surveyed squares where a species is detected and (b) Mean number of birds detected per occupied square = the sum of the maximum counts recorded from each square divided by the total number of occupied squares. Species are tabulated if present in 12 or more squares. Others are listed below the table.

Because of incomplete coverage in 2020 due to COVID, the previous five-year means and ranges are not shown and instead 2022 is compared to the previous year only.

Species	Square Occupancy		Mean Number of Birds Detected per Occupied Square	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
<i>No of Squares Surveyed</i>	147	151		
Canada Goose	22%	17%	8.5	10.0
Mallard	31%	30%	10.3	4.5
Red-legged Partridge	40%	32%	4.5	4.1
Pheasant	71%	69%	10.6	7.3
Cuckoo	18%	22%	1.5	1.5
Feral Pigeon	16%	16%	6.2	12.0
Stock Dove	45%	50%	4.3	2.9
Woodpigeon	99%	99%	26.9	27.2
Collared Dove	48%	48%	4.1	4.3
Moorhen	18%	20%	1.9	2.0
Coot	9%	11%	4.2	3.4
Lapwing	7%	8%	7.3	2.7
Black-headed Gull	18%	13%	12.6	13.4
Herring Gull	16%	15%	4.2	3.6
Red Kite	8%	11%	2.0	1.6
Buzzard	30%	32%	1.6	1.2
Great Spotted Woodpecker	65%	58%	2.1	2.0
Green Woodpecker	40%	36%	1.6	1.6
Jay	33%	40%	1.8	1.5
Magpie	71%	73%	3.7	3.8
Jackdaw	68%	66%	8.5	8.1
Rook	42%	48%	16.8	20.5
Carrion Crow	94%	83%	7.4	8.3
Raven	7%	8%	1.3	1.7
Coal Tit	35%	40%	3.0	2.5
Marsh Tit	10%	13%	2.1	1.7
Blue Tit	98%	95%	8.7	9.2
Great Tit	93%	91%	5.9	5.5
Skylark	54%	50%	6.1	5.9
Swallow	20%	19%	2.6	3.9
Cetti's Warbler	5%	8%	1.9	2.8
Long-tailed Tit	46%	56%	2.2	2.8
Willow Warbler	20%	21%	1.9	1.1

Chiffchaff	83%	88%	3.9	4.7
Blackcap	93%	87%	5.2	5.2
Garden Warbler	13%	19%	1.9	1.5
Whitethroat	50%	42%	2.7	2.9
Firecrest	12%	15%	2.2	2.0
Goldcrest	49%	49%	2.3	2.7
Wren	98%	99%	10.2	11.0
Nuthatch	61%	54%	2.6	2.7
Treecreeper	22%	20%	1.7	1.6
Starling	48%	46%	15.3	14.6
Blackbird	99%	100%	14.0	13.3
Song Thrush	88%	89%	4.2	4.2
Mistle Thrush	35%	38%	1.7	2.0
Robin	99%	99%	10.1	9.8
Stonechat	14%	13%	3.7	4.5
House Sparrow	63%	60%	15.1	14.6
Dunnock	88%	86%	4.2	3.7
Pied Wagtail	28%	27%	1.7	1.8
Meadow Pipit	11%	10%	4.8	6.1
Chaffinch	91%	87%	6.0	6.0
Bullfinch	25%	30%	1.8	1.9
Greenfinch	52%	55%	2.9	2.9
Linnet	35%	37%	5.6	4.6
Goldfinch	84%	79%	5.5	6.2
Yellowhammer	44%	38%	4.0	3.4

Other species recorded in 8-11 squares: Greylag Goose, Mute Swan, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Grey Heron, Kestrel, House Martin, Sedge Warbler, Dartford Warbler, Spotted Flycatcher, Redstart, Siskin and Reed Bunting.

Other species recorded in 3-7 squares: Egyptian Goose, Shelduck, Mandarin Duck, Gadwall, Tufted Duck, Grey Partridge, Swift, Little Grebe, Curlew, Snipe, Redshank, Cormorant, Little Egret, Goshawk, Barn & Tawny Owls, Kingfisher, Peregrine, Woodlark, Reed Warbler, Lesser Whitethroat, Whinchat, Grey Wagtail, Tree Pipit, Crossbill and Corn Bunting.

Other species recorded in one or two squares: Shoveler, Teal, Goosander, Nightjar, Great Crested Grebe, Oystercatcher, Avocet, Little Ringed Plover, Whimbrel, Black-tailed Godwit, Mediterranean Gull, Common Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Great White Egret, Sparrowhawk, White-tailed Eagle, Little Owl, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Ring-necked Parakeet, Grasshopper Warbler, Nightingale, Wheatear and Hawfinch.

Thanks are due to the BTO for managing the project, Glynne Evans for organising the survey in the county, all participants who are listed in Appendix 2, and Sarah Harris and Neil Calbrade at BTO for providing the data.

Table 4: Results of New Forest Winter Bird Survey in 2022

Species	Jan	Feb	Mar	Oct	Nov	Dec
Teal	1					
Water Rail					1	
Lapwing	33	45	42			87
Curlew			3			
Woodcock	1	1	1	2	4	8
Jack Snipe	1					
Snipe	6	11	10	12	7	7
Little Egret	3	3	1	1		5
Sparrowhawk	4	6	1	7	4	3
Goshawk		3	3	3		
Hen Harrier	4	2	2			4
Red Kite			1		5	
Buzzard	13	65	65	17	13	23
Lesser Sp. Woodpecker						
Green Woodpecker	28	20	26	17	20	15
Kestrel	5	12	10	11	4	10
Merlin	1			5	4	2
Peregrine		6	2	8	1	4
Great Grey Shrike					1	3
Carriion Crow	275	271	251	280	279	208
Raven	28	27	12	26	30	23
Marsh Tit	8	6	8	16	10	5
Woodlark	4	20	18	10	5	
Skylark	7	20	59	22	7	2
Dartford Warbler	67	36	24	57	58	20
Firecrest		1	3	2		1
Ring Ouzel				1		
Blackbird	384	352	265	200	321	290
Fieldfare	295	201	85	3962	106	95
Redwing	1346	844	443	4487	473	188
Mistle Thrush	77	132	79	92	83	51
Stonechat	62	68	220	195	115	13
Wheatear			1			
Meadow Pipit	239	199	369	403	266	88
Chaffinch	256	521	278	276	228	108
Brambling	19	105	4	4		
Hawfinch	4	6	4	2	6	
Bullfinch	29	24	14	22	14	18
Linnet	89	52	58	79	36	48
Lesser Redpoll	5		1	11	14	2
Crossbill	5	3	3	3	2	
Siskin	65	103	52	18	8	
Yellowhammer						
Reed Bunting	28	7	5	3	1	
People	1030	807	900	805	1002	751
Dogs	465	398	395	413	509	375
No. of sites covered	38	36	34	38	35	37

Blank lines and spaces indicate not recorded in 2022.

Thanks to Jane Calderin for organising NFWBS. New volunteers are always welcome – please email Jane Calderin at shrikesurvey@hotmail.com.

Thanks are also due to the following observers who took part: Tony Bates, Janice Beck, Keith Betton,

Tony & Jill Blakeley, Steve & Margaret Boswell, David Brooks, Phil Budd, Chris Chapleo, Rosemary Cook, Matt Coumbe, Les Easom, Olly Frampton, Georgie Digby, Joy Faulkner, Joanne Gulliver, Owen Haisell, Mark Halligan, David Hammond, Ian Hampson, Alan Hayden & Leo Pyke, Andy Holding, Jenny Horner, Judy Hunt, Geraint James, Kevin Kearns, Graham Kesby, Bob Marchant, Adrian Martin, Keith Maskell, Nigel Matthews, Mike Melrose, Dave & Linda Munday, Martin Orchard-Webb, Andy Pullen, Cathy Purchase, Derek, Diana & Nicola Radden, Mike Rafer, Peter Read, Sue & Malcolm Renyard, Andy Rhodes, Barrie Roberts, Chris Roseeare, Dave Rogers, Rod Ship, Debbie Shrive, Dave Smith, Alan Snook, Dave Taylor, Gill Thornton, Tony Tindale, Roger Webb, Brian Weston, Dave Wheatley, Nick Windibank, Alan Young.

Table 5: Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS) coverage during 2022

The figures in each cell show the date of the months in which counts were carried out.

Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<i>Coast: east to west</i>												
Chichester Harbour Hampshire sectors (P Hughes <i>et al.</i>)	1	17	5	2		17	15	12	10	8	26	10
South Hayling: Beachlands to Eastoke Pt (H Wakeford)	30											
South Hayling: Gunner Point to Beachlands (H Wakeford)	15	28	17	3	14	25	25	14	11	22	26	4
Sinah GP (S Newbery)	23	20	25		18	21	21	18	15	11	17	14
Langstone Harbour (C Cockburn <i>et al.</i>)	1	19	5	2	14	18	16	13	10	8	26	10
Great Salterns Lake (G Witton-Maclean)	1		5	3						8		10
Milton Pools (G Witton-Maclean)	1		5	3						8		10
Baffins Pond (A Srdic)	23	22	19						11	9	12	
Canoe Lake, Southsea (A Srdic)	23	22	25						11	9	12	12
Portsmouth Harbour (I Calderwood <i>et al.</i>)	1	19	5						10	8	26	10
Wallington River (C Lee)	2	20	20	17	15			14	11	9	13	11
Gilkicker Lake (R Palmer)	23	20	20	17	15	19	17	21	11	9	13	11
Titchfield Haven (BS Duffin)	13	17	17	14			17	14	11	6	10	8
Brownwich (MD Rolfe)	1	17								8	26	11
Hamble Estuary below M27 (RK Levett, T Viney)	1	21	5	2			16	13	10	8	26	10
Hamble Estuary above M27 (J Faithfull)	1	20	5	5	2	16	18		10	8	26	10
R. Itchen: Weston-Northam (ML Edgeller)	1	24	6				17	14	11	9	28	10
R. Itchen: Northam-Mansbridge (IR Watts)	1		5						11	9	26	11
Lower Test/Eling/Bury Marshes (SS King, P Combridge)	1	19	19			19	16	13	10	9	26	10
Dibden Bay (J Smallwood)	1	20	6	3	14		17	14	11	9	27	11
Hythe (BJ Roberts)	1	22	5	3			18	11	10	8	26	11
Ashlett/Calshot (AS Rhodes)	1	12	6	3					10		27	11
Beaulieu Estuary (DJ Unsworth <i>et al.</i>)	16	20	6	3	15	19	17	14	11	9	27	11
Sowley Pond (EJ Wiseman)	1	5	6	3	14			12		10	25	9
Sowley-Lymington: Pitts Deep (EJ Wiseman)	1	19	5	3	14	19	16	14	11	9	27	10
Sowley-Lymington: Pylewell (EJ Wiseman)	1	19	4	2	14	18	16	12	10	8	25	9
Lymington-Hurst (EJ Wiseman <i>et al.</i>)	1	19	5	2	14	18	16	13	10	8	26	10
<i>Avon Valley</i>												
North Sopley to Burton Fields (A Hayden, L Pyke)	23	20	20						11	9	13	11
R. Avon Sopley-Avon Causeway (A Hayden, L Pyke)	23	20	20						11	9	13	11
R. Avon Causeway-Wattons Ford (JM Clark, O Frampton*)	23	20	20						11*	9*	13*	11*
R. Avon Wattons Ford-Ringwood (K Sayer, JM Clark*)	23	23	20						12	9*	13*	12
R. Avon Ringwood-Fordingbridge (JE Levell)	23	20	20						11	9	13	11
R. Avon above Fordingbridge (K Sayer, JM Clark*)	24	27	21						15	9*	13*	13
Ripley Farm Reservoir (O Frampton, JM Clark*)	23	20	20	17				23*	11	9	13	11
Holmsley GP (O Frampton)	23	20	20	17					11	9	13	11

Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Hightown Lake, Ringwood (A Townshend)	23		6	18	13	22	17	13	14	9	13	14
Blashford Lakes (TMJ Doran & JE Levell, JM Clark*)	20	20	20	17	22	26	31	23*	11	9	13	11
<i>Test and Anton Valleys</i>												
Testwood Lakes (I Pibworth)	23	20	20						11	9	13	11
Broadlands Lake (P White)	23	20	20	18							13	
Fishlake Meadows (DA Thelwell)	23	20	20	17					11	9	13	11
Awbridge Lake (P White)	23	20	20	18								
Marsh Court Lake (GC Evans)	9	19	19	11	15	19				3	13	4
Marsh Court River (GC Evans)	9	19	19	11	15	19	14	6	11	3	13	4
R. Test: Stockbridge-Fullerton (GC Evans)	27	25	8	18	13	2	21	25	28	20	24	22
Bransbury Common (GC Evans)	20	16	13	12	14	14	27	20	29	15	14	6
Longparish Trout Lakes (GC Evans)	23	12	12	9	24	19	14	6	11	11	13	9
Testbourne Estate (GC Evans)	19	11	25	20	12	20	15	8	15	17	16	23
Rooksbury Mill (K Maskell)	23	23	20						11	9	13	9
Anton Lakes (K Maskell)	23	23	20						11	9	13	9
St Mary Bourne (J Hale)	24	21	22	16	16	18	17	14	8	8	14	11
Charlton Lakes (P Bench)										9	14	15
Laverstoke Park Lake (B Stalker)	26	20									11	19
Overton Paper Mill Lagoons (B Stalker)	23	19	20						11	9	19	
Lower Ashe Farm (source of R Test) (B Stalker)	23	19	20							9	13	11
Ashe Park Lake (B Stalker)	23	19	20							9	13	11
<i>Itchen Valley</i>												
Allington GP (D Unsworth)	2	10	10	16	18	12			8	24	14	10
Lakeside CP, Eastleigh (S Ingram)	23	20	20									
Fishers Pond, Colden Common (N Goldsmith)							17	14	15	19	17	29
Winnall Moors (P White)	23	20	20	18					11	9	13	11
Winchester SF (JM Cloyne)	20	22	12						11	11	13	6
Avington Lake (JM Cloyne)	24	20							2	13	14	12
Arlebury Lakes (M Armitage)			28	20							13	23
Alresford Pond (M Armitage)	23	27	20						12	10	14	27
The Grange, Northington (AFJ & PR Cox)	25	22	24							27	23	
<i>North and north-east</i>												
Ramptons Lane GP (B Stalker)	23	19	20						10	9	13	11
Welshman's Road GP (Burnt Common) (B Stalker)	23	19	20						10	9	13	11
Wolverton Pond (B Stalker)	23	19	20							9	13	10
Ewhurst Lake (B Stalker)	22	19	20						12	9	12	10
The Vyne (MJ Pitt)	23	20	13	17					11	16	10	11
Stratfield Saye (JM Clark)												
Wellington CP (JM Clark)	28		19							7	10	29
Bramshill Plantation Lakes (JM Clark)	24	14	19	5					11	13	10	10
Bramshill Park Lake (JM Clark)	23	14	19	5		28	30		11	13	10	10
Busta Triangle (K Wills)	24	22	23						14	11	14	14
Lyndridge Farm, Eversley (JM Clark)			19						11	13	17	28
Eversley GP (RC Murfitt/JM Clark)	22	22	18						12	10	14	11
Yateley GP (J Clark/A Stoney)	21	22	21						12	10	14	12
Hawley Lake (D Johnson)	23	19	20	20	15	19	17	14	10	9	13	12
Camp Farm GP/SF (KB Wills)	23	22	18						16	9	17	11
Fleet Pond (GC Stephenson)	23	20	20						11		13	11
Edenbrook CP (J Blithe)	23	23	20	17	14	19	17	14	11	9	13	11
Tundry Pond (KB Wills)	23	22	21						15	10	14	12
Dogmersfield Lake (KB Wills)	23	22	21						15	10	14	12
Hillside, Odiham (KB Wills)	23	22	21							10	14	12

Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<i>East</i>												
Kings Pond, Alton (SJ Mansfield/G Tillin)	23	20	22	19					16	9	13	11
Stubbs Farm Ponds, Binsted (KB Wills)										18		
Wyck Ponds, Binsted (KB Wills)									16	18	18	22
Kingsley SP (KB Wills)									16	18	18	22
King John's Hill Pond (KB Wills)									16	18	18	22
Woolmer Pond (M Lawn)	15	19	20	14	13	18	16	13	17	15	14	18
Heath Pond, Petersfield (AC Smallbone)	23	20	20	17	15	19	17	14	11	9	13	11
Warnford Park Lake (PP Short)	24	24	21		14	26	18	15	20	11	14	12
Bishop Waltham Ponds (D Gussman)	23	20	26	17	14				11	9	13	

Chichester Harbour team: T Bickerton, S Chalmers, J Chapman, J Curtin, J Darley, MJ Evans, P Hughes. **Langstone Harbour team:** D Ball, GC Barrett, G Butler, C Cockburn, M Coumbe, AFJ Cox, J Crook, TMJ Doran, G Farwell, A Field, C Lee, G Maclean-Henry, T Jones, P Potts, JRD Shillitoe, J Smallwood. **Portsmouth Harbour team:** G Calderwood, I Calderwood, TMJ Doran, T Jones, C Lee, M Pyrzewski, A Robjohns, J Smallwood. **Beaulieu Estuary team:** A Wells, BJ Pinchen, DJ Unsworth. **Lymington-Hurst team:** A Clark, PR Durnell, O Haisell, P Hobby, M Ward, EJ Wiseman. **Coastal organiser:** John Shillitoe; **Inland organiser:** Keith Wills; **Avon Valley organiser:** John Clark.

Table 6: Departure and arrival dates of winter visitors

Species	Latest 1954- 2021	Av. 1971- 2009	Av. 2010- 2021	Latest 2022	Earliest 1954- 2021	Av. 1971- 2009	Av. 2010- 2021	Earliest 2022	Summering records
White-fr. Goose	29.5.15	28 Mar	9 Apr	27 Apr	4.10.52 4.10.14	12 Nov	29 Oct	30 Nov	7 (June-Sep)
Bewick's Swan	2.4.18	12 Mar	2 Mar	NA	15.10.04	3 Nov	19 Nov	NA	9 (Apr/May)
Scaup	26.5.10	8 Apr	4 Apr	17 Apr	30.08.20	27 Oct	25 Oct	1 Sep	4 (June-Aug)
Velvet Scoter	26.6.97	2 May	7 May	12 Apr	29.9.91	30 Oct	4 Nov	11 Nov	
Long-tailed Duck	27.5.00	3 May	23 Apr	31 May	23.9.61	4 Nov	6 Nov	17 Nov	7 (June-Aug)
Smew	10.4.63	NA	1 Mar	NA	8.11.82	NA	11 Dec*	NA	1 (June)
Red-necked Grebe	9.5.68	29 Mar	8 Mar	9 Feb	24.8.94	18 Oct	22 Nov	NA	
Slavonian Grebe	22.5.59	8 Apr	4 Apr	22 Mar	18.9.09 18.9.19	25 Oct	23 Oct	20 Nov	2 (Aug)
Purple Sandpiper	31.5.61	25 Apr	9 May	28 Mar	7.7.69	4 Oct	9 Oct	3 Nov	2 (July)
Jack Snipe	9.5.77	16 Apr	19 Apr	25 Apr	21.8.08	28 Sep	29 Sep	4 Oct	
Bl.-throated Diver	6.6.07	5 May	3 May	16 May	8.9.09	4 Nov	9 Nov	7 Nov	2 (May-Aug)
Gt. Northern Diver	26.6.20	12 May	29 May	10 June	16.9.03	5 Nov	18 Oct	15 Oct	1 (Aug)
Hen Harrier	10.6.86	8 May	25 Apr	26 May	23.8.07	25 Sep	25 Sep	17 Sep	1 (July)
Merlin	28.5.03	23 Apr	1 May	5 May	25.7.20	24 Aug	23 Aug	19 Aug	1 (July)
Great Grey Shrike	8.5.83	5 Apr	8 Apr	15 Mar	4.10.72	17 Oct	19 Oct	19 Nov	
Fieldfare	24.5.19	28 Apr	27 Apr	28 Apr	3.9.04	30 Sep	5 Oct	4 Oct	5 (June)
Redwing	17.5.20	23 Apr	21 Apr	13 May	11.9.99 11.9.15	27 Sep	29 Sep	20 Sep	3 (June-July)
Water Pipit	6.5.98	15 Apr	19 Apr	17 Apr	26.9.93	14 Oct	14 Oct	4 Oct	
Brambling	13.5.83	19 Apr	22 Apr	24 Apr	22.9.96	5 Oct	9 Oct	25 Sep	1 (July)
Twite	13.4.75	NA	NA	NA	30.9.83	NA	NA	NA	
Lapland Bunting	23.4.10	NA	NA	NA	9.9.70	NA	24 Oct*	NA	
Snow Bunting	3.4.00	NA	9 Feb*	18 Feb	3.10.75	NA	20 Nov	22 Oct	

Bold = new/equal earliest or latest date; * = based on limited data set; NA = not available

Table 7: Arrival and departure dates of summer visitors

Species	Earliest 1954- 2021	Av. 1971- 2009	Av. 2010- 2021	Earliest 2022	Latest 1954- 2021	Av. 1971- 2009	Av. 2010- 2021	Latest 2022	Wintering records
Garganey	22.2.19	19 Mar	10 Mar	8 Mar	29.11.53	28 Sep	30 Sep	10 Nov	
Quail	9.4.91	17 May	18 May	31 May	19.11.58	24 Aug	20 Aug*	3 Sep	6 (Dec-Mar)
Nightjar	22.4.09	5 May	28 Apr	24 Apr	13.10.74	7 Sep	14 Sep	15 Sep	1 (Nov)
Swift	2.4.09	16 Apr	11 Apr	19 Apr	17.11.74	5 Oct	27 Sep	26 Sep	
Cuckoo	15.3.89	3 Apr	2 Apr	13 Mar	30.10.10	13 Sep	12 Sep	22 Sep	
Turtle Dove	25.3.70	17 Apr	18 Apr	5 May	7.11.70	3 Oct	12 Sep	29 Aug	7 (Dec-Feb)
Stone-curlew	5.2.06	26 Mar	20 Mar	27 Mar	6.11.66	2 Oct	11 Oct	15 Nov	3 (Dec)
Little Ringed Plover	29.2.08	17 Mar	12 Mar	4 Mar	29.10.05	18 Sep	24 Sep	30 Sep	
Dotterel	6.4.19	3 May*	NA	NA	25.9.82	4 Sep*	NA	NA	1 (Dec/Jan)
Wood Sandpiper	23.3.03	3 May	24 Apr	27 Apr	26.10.75	22 Sep	15 Sep	29 Aug	1 (Feb)
Little Tern	24.3.57	10 Apr	11 Apr	11 Apr	22.10.72	30 Sep	15 Sep	13 Sep	1 (Jan)
Roseate Tern	17.4.11	3 May	1 May	9 May	10.10.99	10 Sep	30 Aug	26 Aug	
Common Tern	17.3.03	5 Apr	31 Mar	2 Apr	30.11.73	25 Oct	23 Oct	2 Nov	3 (Dec)
Arctic Tern	29.3.58	21 Apr	11 Apr	10 Apr	19.11.08	9 Oct	24 Oct	9 Nov	
Black Tern	10.4.11	22 Apr	20 Apr	23 Apr	15.11.67	6 Oct	23 Sep	18 Sep	
Arctic Skua	16.3.09	7 Apr	2 Apr	10 Apr	29.11.14	27 Oct	17 Oct	27 Nov	16 (Dec/Jan)
Osprey	7.2.07	5 Apr	14 Mar	5 Mar	11.12.99	14 Oct	2 Nov	2 Nov	
Honey-buzzard	18.4.10	30 Apr*	1 May	8 May	30.10.76	5 Oct	25 Sep	18 Sep	
Montagu's Harrier	8.4.79	1 May	3 May*	NA	2.11.60	31 Aug	26 Aug*	NA	
Wryneck	2.4.61	25 Apr*	3 May	NA	9.11.13	27 Sep	11 Oct*	28 Sep	
Hobby	16.3.02	12 Apr	2 Apr	5 Apr	6.11.01 6.11.10	11 Oct	21 Oct	31 Oct	
Sand Martin	19.2.19	16 Mar	7 Mar	1 Mar	28.11.13	15 Oct	22 Oct	22 Oct	2 (Dec/Jan)
Swallow	23.2.09 23.02.19	20 Mar	14 Mar	28 Feb	22.12.77 22.12.21	27 Nov	3 Dec	3 Dec	8 (Jan)
House Martin	10.2.04	27 Mar	21 Mar	20 Mar	22.12.82	16 Nov	7 Nov	13 Nov	2 (Jan/Feb)
Wood Warbler	1.4.06	19 Apr	17 Apr	1 May	29.9.64	23 Aug	18 Aug	14 July	
Willow Warbler	15.3.09	24 Mar	19 Mar	17 Mar	1.12.90	9 Oct	12 Oct	14 Oct	
Sedge Warbler	17.3.63	7 Apr	31 Mar	23 Mar	9.11.63	10 Oct	14 Oct	8 Oct	1 (Dec)
Reed Warbler	29.3.18	13 Apr	4 Apr	12 Apr	2.12.84	19 Oct	21 Oct	29 Oct	
Grasshopper Warbler	1.4.97	16 Apr	11 Apr	12 Apr	26.10.17	20 Sep	1 Oct	29 Sep	
Garden Warbler	17.3.74	10 Apr	10 Apr	11 Apr	29.11.87	2 Oct	5 Oct	20 Sep	1 (Dec-Feb)
Lesser Whitethroat	1.4.89	16 Apr	13 Apr	16 Apr	31.10.82	3 Oct	10 Oct	26 Sep	14 (Nov-Mar)
Whitethroat	7.3.97	8 Apr	4 Apr	10 Apr	17.11.95	7 Oct	20 Oct	1 Oct	5 (Dec/Jan)
Ring Ouzel	3.3.96	30 Mar	24 Mar	18 Mar	4.12.03	30 Oct	8 Nov	13 Nov	7 (Dec-Feb)
Spotted Flycatcher	8.4.00	28 Apr	27 Apr	21 Apr	29.10.61	3 Oct	9 Oct	13 Oct	
Nightingale	3.4.75 3.4.12	14 Apr	9 Apr	12 Apr	9.10.85	20 Aug	5 Aug	21 Aug	
Pied Flycatcher	26.3.96	13 Apr	8 Apr	3 Apr	22.10.77	27 Sep	22 Sep	25 Sep	
Redstart	17.3.68	3 Apr	2 Apr	5 Apr	24.11.89	15 Oct	22 Oct	11 Nov	1 (Mar)
Whinchat	21.3.68	17 Apr	15 Apr	13 Apr	21.12.03	28 Oct	27 Oct	27 Oct	5 (Jan/Feb)
Wheatear	6.2.89	11 Mar	6 Mar	12 Mar	31.12.94	10 Nov	11 Nov	4 Nov	5 (Jan)
Yellow Wagtail	10.3.68	31 Mar	30 Mar	16 Apr	20.11.76	19 Oct	20 Oct	18 Oct	5 (Dec-Feb)
Tree Pipit	16.3.92	29 Mar	29 Mar	3 Apr	25.10.79	4 Oct	10 Oct	13 Oct	

Bold = new/equal earliest or latest date; * = based on limited data set; NA = not available

Table 8: Monthly totals of birds observed moving over watchpoints during 2021

Data are extracted from the visible migration website www.trektellen.nl. Other Hampshire observers are encouraged to set up their own watchpoint sites on Trektellen, which has excellent tools available for analysing the data, by contacting the UK Trektellen organiser Clive McKay at clive.mckay@btinternet.com.

Trigpoint Hill, mid-Test Valley (David Thelwell).

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Days (dates)	8	11	12	14	7	8	8	11	15	18	17	12
Total hours:mins	8:00	9:50	15:20	13:20	6:20	7:50	7:25	12:25	20:05	24:20	18:35	11:40
Gadwall							4					
Teal		12								1		
Duck sp	90								38	43	132	14
Swift					53	28	207	4				
Swift sp										1		
Cuckoo				1	1							
Stock Dove	47	98	27	14	12	5	14	64	149	201	47	29
Woodpigeon				205			34	75	710	355	10,640	680
Turtle Dove					1							
Collared Dove		1	4	2		2		2	4	6	1	1
Lapwing		1	5		3	22	1			34	20	166
Golden Plover			1							4,523	26	
Snipe										4	1	3
Green Sandpiper							1					1
Black-headed Gull						5			406	45	60	33
Mediterranean Gull					22	34						
Common Gull	10	75	54						4	2	35	42
GBB Gull		2	5					1		1	4	2
Herring Gull	40	1	27	64	11	32	2	107	188	139	315	26
LBB Gull	2	10	73	44	35	22	13	3	9	6	4	1
Cormorant	14	16	16	13	1	6	11	24	40	84	56	24
Cattle Egret									10			
Great White Egret			1					1	1	7		1
Little Egret			2					1			3	
Osprey									1			
Goshawk									1			
Marsh Harrier			1									
Red Kite			4	1					3		5	
GS Woodpecker								1	3	5	2	
Merlin		2									1	
Hobby						2	1	1	2			
Peregrine				1						1	1	2
Jay			1	8						2	3	4
Raven	1	3		6			2			1		
Woodlark		1	1	2					3	7		
Skylark		18							68	253		
Sand Martin				2			4	6	14			
Swallow				22	18	6	53	154	1,954	125		
House Martin				1	7	3	1	274	2,513	558		
Starling	50	20	145	13	4	70	90	20	15	153	649	593
Blackbird										5	3	

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Days (dates)	8	11	12	14	7	8	8	11	15	18	17	12
Total hours:mins	8:00	9:50	15:20	13:20	6:20	7:50	7:25	12:25	20:05	24:20	18:35	11:40
Fieldfare	39	65	126	2		1	1			441	543	193
Song Thrush		1							8	14	4	2
Redwing	153	173	80							3,673	1,239	154
Mistle Thrush	1					1	2		7	16	10	1
Ring Ouzel				1								
Spott'd Flycatcher								1				
House Sparrow						1						
flava Wagtail				3			2	4	14			
Grey Wagtail			1	1				2	4	2		
alba Wagtail	3		3	4	1		1	1	17	32	15	25
Meadow Pipit	3	1	276	223				1	150	284	142	33
Tree Pipit				1				1	2			
Chaffinch	166	221	187	2		2	5	7	99	678	665	211
Brambling	3	157	14							11	35	
Hawfinch										2	3	2
Bullfinch	1	1	1	8				4		13	7	4
Greenfinch	2	3	1	2	2		1	3	2	15	36	6
Linnet	13	45	43	86	8	49	69	46	36	352	105	25
Lesser Redpoll		1	4							3	25	9
Goldfinch	4	6	12	36	16	35	28	27	48	230	88	10
Siskin	4	10	37			1		1		70	12	5
Yellowhammer	6		1	2		1	1	3	2	36	15	26
Reed Bunting	3	5							4	33	12	5

**Tweseldown Racecourse and Caesar's Camp near Fleet
(Graham Stephenson and John Clark).**

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Days (dates)									14	29	18	
Total hours:mins									30:15	71:00	36:00	
Stock Dove									395	1,579	535	
Woodpigeon									149	19,213	64,255	
Lapwing									0	11	0	
Snipe									3	13	0	
Kittiwake											1	
Black-headed Gull									6	73	24	
Common Gull									0	4	8	
Herring Gull									26	179	253	
LBB Gull									15	15	6	
Cory's Shearwater											1	
Cormorant									25	91	5	
Grey Heron									1	2	1	
Little Egret									1	2	4	
Honey Buzzard									1			
Sparrowhawk									3			
Hen Harrier											1	
Kestrel											1	
Merlin										2		

**Tweseldown Racecourse and Caesar's Camp near Fleet
(Graham Stephenson and John Clark).**

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Days (dates)									14	29	18	
Total hours:mins									30:15	71:00	36:00	
Hobby									3			
Peregrine										1	1	
Ring-n Parakeet										1		
Jackdaw									42	231	33	
Carrion Crow										17		
Raven									1	7	1	
Blue Tit										12	2	
Woodlark									5	18		
Skylark									5	99	15	
Sand Martin									2			
Swallow									4,203	127		
House Martin									9,286	2,727		
Starling									5	1,785	3,025	
Ring Ouzel										8		
Blackbird										46	48	
Fieldfare										451	948	
Redwing									104	21,571	6,253	
Song Thrush									9	302	45	
Mistle Thrush									1	34	11	
Tree Sparrow										1		
Grey Wagtail									2	5		
alba Wagtail									2	194	6	
Meadow Pipit									400	1,034	34	
Tree Pipit									1	1		
Chaffinch									13	1,371	371	
Brambling										13	11	
Bullfinch											1	
Greenfinch									15	56	28	
Linnet									22	1,736	257	
Lesser Redpoll										15	30	
Goldfinch									10	796	281	
Siskin										247	108	
Reed Bunting										22	3	
Crossbill											17	
Goldfinch		3							46	462	347	
Siskin			35						3	232	79	
Yellowhammer										1	6	
Reed Bunting										26	16	

Barton on Sea (Steve Keen)

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Days (dates)	10	10	21	22	7		3	1	9	11	15	9
Total hours:mins	24:35	18:55	60:40	89:35	30:50		8:05	3:40	34:05	28:15	38:10	25:00
Dk-b.Brent Goose	39	19	244	28	9					13	33	44
Pale-b Brent G'se			2		1							
Barnacle Goose					3							72
Canada Goose	59		26	82	4			20	214	83	9	7
Greylag Goose		4	9	1	2							
Egyptian Goose		2	6	1					7	10	8	4
Mute Swan		9	18	13	12							
Shelduck	9	9	12	27	13							
Garganey			1	4								
Velvet Scoter			3	2								
Common Scoter	3	12	78	304	210							
Goosander											1	3
Red-br Merganser		2										
Tufted Duck			8	1			1					
Mallard				6								9
Gadwall				3								
Shoveler			29	18								
Wigeon	5		2	5					4	7	43	37
Pintail			37	26								9
Teal	10		20	2								16
Red-thr Diver	12	11	5	6								2
Bl-throated Diver	1		1									
Gt N Diver			1	1	2							
Diver sp												
Swift					2		6		4			
R Dove/F Pigeon											3	
Stock Dove			7	2	8					28	381	13
Woodpigeon			47	8						666	68,744	19
Collared Dove									6			1
GC Grebe				3								
Oystercatcher			2	14	21				5		5	
Lapwing				4						1	17	624
Golden Plover	7		1							1	1	23
Grey Plover					1							1
Ringed Plover											2	
L. Ringed Plover							1					
Whimbrel				124	29		1					
Curlew	4	1	7	5	1				6	1	4	2
Dunlin		60	1	14							1	
Black-t Godwit			7						3			1
Bar-t Godwit				40	76							

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Days (dates)	10	10	21	22	7		3	1	9	11	15	9
Total hours:mins	24:35	18:55	60:40	89:35	30:50		8:05	3:40	34:05	28:15	38:10	25:00
Turnstone				3					2			1
Sanderling				5								
Knot				2								
Jack Snipe			1									
Snipe									1	1		23
Redshank										1		
Kittiwake	6	21	5	4							1	
Black-headed Gull			1,201	662	97	60						
Little Gull					2							
Med Gull	3	20	303	439	34		6		6	11	2	1
Common Gull	19	34	167	40	1		2			2	3	7
GBB Gull		11	60	25	10							
Herring Gull			921	1,329	386		165					
Yellow-leg Gull			1	1					1		1	
LBB Gull	1	31	152	21	8		7	3	3	5	15	2
Sandwich Tern			5	426	107			2				
Little Tern				2	8		1					
Roseate Tern					1							
Common Tern				25	52							
Arctic Tern				3	19							
"Commic" Tern					18							
Great Skua		1										
Pomarine Skua					22							
Arctic Skua				1	7							
Guillemot	1	2			1							
Razorbill	2	1								45		
Fulmar			4	1	1							
Manx Shearwater				4								
Gannet	27	5	6	99	76				3	1	7	
Cormorant	19	15	79	110	31		3		22	16	26	16
Shag	3	42	16	31	10				10		1	3
Spoonbill									2			
Grey Heron			1	1					2	1		
Great White Egret				1								
Little Egret		1	4	18	9		3		1	9	3	5
Cattle Egret												1
Sparrowhawk				1								
Marsh Harrier	2											
Hen Harrier											1	
Red Kite			2								1	

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Days (dates)	10	10	21	22	7		3	1	9	11	15	9
Total hours:mins	24:35	18:55	60:40	89:35	30:50		8:05	3:40	34:05	28:15	38:10	25:00
Gt Sp Woodpecker								2	1		4	
Merlin											1	
Peregrine		1										
Jay				1	2							
Jackdaw										31	52	2
Magpie											4	
Rook			1									
Carrion Crow			2	4								
Raven			7									
Woodlark										2		
Skylark										69	138	10
Sand Martin					3				130			
Swallow				66	42				8,788	318		
House Martin				11					8,408	352		
Starling										506	3,168	147
Blackbird											3	
Fieldfare											165	5
Redwing										667	162	7
Song Thrush										2	2	6
Mistle Thrush											9	9
Wheatear					1							
Willow Warbler				3								
flava Wagtail				35				2	204	2		
Grey Wagtail									102	8	1	
White Wagtail		1		3								
Pied Wagtail			5						4			
alba Wagtail			7	2					45	449	26	
Meadow Pipit			341	49					3,330	1,421	233	1
Tree Pipit				2				5	27			
Rock Pipit									4			
Chaffinch			1							138	209	
Brambling										2		
Bullfinch										2		
Greenfinch										30	19	
Linnet			14	13					178	6,769	579	11
Lesser Redpoll										3	9	
Goldfinch			6						59	4,750	4,051	26
Siskin	2		2						2	81	107	
Reed Bunting									10	36	10	1

Appendix I

Appendix I: Not proven and pending records

Not proven records

Records considered not proven by HOSRP or BBRC. In the majority of cases, the records below were categorised as not proven because the panel/committee was not convinced that the identification was fully established. Only in a very few cases were records not accepted as, in the panel's/committee's view, a mistake had been made.

2022 – HOSRP

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*: Weyhill, May 18th.

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*: East Boldre, June 15th.

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*: Deanlane End, June 22nd.

Bee-eater *Merops apiaster*: Bedhampton, Aug 14th.

Pending records

The following records have been submitted, but are still in circulation pending a decision.

2022 – BBRC

Pallid Harrier *Circus macrourus*: Titchfield Haven, Apr 13th.

Iberian Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus ibericus*: Otterbourne Park Wood, Apr 26th to June 8th.

Appendix 2

Observers and Contributors 2022

Observers

The following list includes all names entered in the 2022 database of records used to prepare the Systematic List.

Abbott, P	Armstrong, P	Barnes, C	Berti, G	Bookless, D
Abbott, S	Arnold, BS	Barnes, E	Bertrand, C	Boon, D
Abbott, SD	Ashby, A	Barnes, F	Bespolka, C	Boorman, H
Abrahams, R	Ashley, P	Barnes, P	Best, G	Bose, A
Adams, Js	Ashley, S	Barnett, R	Beswick, N	Boswell, SA
Adams, Jy	AstmanColenutt, S	Barnett, T	Beswick, NW	Boswell, SR
Adams, M	Astman-Colenutt, T	Barrass, C	Betton, KF	Botterill, N
Adams, MC	Atkins, T	Barrett, B	Beusmans, AP	bottomley, N
Adams, N	Attiwell, J	Barrett, GC	Bew, N	Boulton, P
Adams, R	Austin, D	Barrett, MA	Bezuidenhout, B	Bourton, A
Adams, S	Austin, T	Barrett, R	Bibby, P	Bowen, Me
Addison, R	AuYeung, T	Barry, C	Bicker, R	Bowen, MI
Aebischer, NJ	Avenell, J	Barton, D	Bickerton, T	Bowman, C
Ahier, A	Axten, S	Barton, R	Biddle, L	Bown, C
Ainger, RL	Ayres, A	Bass, D	Biddlecombe, S	Boyce, H
Akehurst, T	Ayuso, RG	Bassett, S	Biggs, O	Boycott, A
Akkaraju, Sr	Aziz, R	Batchelor, SD	Bignell, S	Boyd, MA
Akkaraju, Su	Badenhorst, C	Bate, P	Bingley, JH	Braddock, R
Albanese, C	Bailey, A	Bates, A	Bird, A	Bradfield, S
Alderson, J	Bailey, O	Bath, M	Bird, G	Bradnum, D
Aldous, T	Bailey, P	Batho, GS	Birder, C	Bradshaw, R
Aldridge, J	Bailey, S	Baxter, C	Birkett, J	Brand, B
Alexander, G	Baker, CG	Baxter, G	Birnie, A	Brandsma, J
Alexander, T	Baker, I	Bayly, A	Bish, RJ	Brannan, K
Al-Farhan, H	Baker, J	Beadle, D	Bishop, A	Brassington, D
Allan, D	Baker, K	Beal, S	Bishop, G	Bravery, M
Allcorn, R	Baker, MJ	Bealey, CE	Bishop, P	Bray, J
Allen, K	Baker, R	Beam, J	Bishop, SJ	Brazenor, A
Allen, S	Bakewell, D	Beard, P	Bissett, M	Breadman, A
Allen, T	Baldwin, J	Beauchamp, KJ	Blackman, R	Breckenridge, M
Alley, S	Ball, DJG	Beaumont, O	Blake, C	Brennan, G
Allnutt, DP	Ball, M	Bee, J	Blakeley, AF	brereton, J
Alps, B	Balmer, AJ	Beer, m	Blanchard, B	Brett, EC
Ambrosi, JD	Balstone, N	Behr-Andres, C	Blandford, D	Brewer, K
Anderson, J	Bambrick, M	Bell, DA	Blaxland, A	Brewer, R
Anderson, K	Bamford, P	Bell, J	Bletchly, S	Briggs, A
Anderson, L	Barber, AC	Bell, M	Blithe, J	Briggs, BD
Anderson, M	Barber, C	Bellis, DJ	Bloomer, S	Bristow, P
Andersson, M	Barber, LJ	Ben, EA	Blumberg, M	Britten, K
Andrew, R	Barber, N	Ben, G	Blunden, AC	Broadley, D
Andrews, C	Barber, R	Bench, J	Blunt, J	Broadway, R
Andrews, I	Barfield, MS	Benham, A	Boa, M	Broadway, S
Andrews, JK	Barker, A	Bennett, EJ	Boardman, M	Brooke, K
Andrews, P	Barker, AJ	Bennett, K	Bolhuis, A	Brookes, A
Angliss, R	Barker, C	Bennett, M	Bolton, A	Brookes, CM
Annell, J	Barker, D	Bennett, MJ	Bond, M	Brookes, D
Anu, J	Barker, J	Bennett, T	Bonner, R	brookes, k
Appleton, P	Barker, P	Bennett, Ty	Bonnington, M	Brookes, M
Aradas, S	Barker, SRj	Bennett, W	Booker, D	Brooking, K
Armitage, M		Beresford, PJ	Booker, MA	Brown, A

Brown, C	Calladine, P	Clark, BP	Coulson, S	Cutts, MAJ
Brown, DJ	Camp, AI	Clark, FC	Coulton, MT	Dack, K
Brown, PM	Campbell, D	Clark, H	Coumbe, MJ	Dack, L
Brown, RI	Campbell, M	Clark, JM	Coursey-Gray, K	Dale, C
Brown, S	Campbell, P	Clark, P	Court, JMC	Damant, P
Brown, SA	Campion, J	Clark, S	Courtaux, C	Daniel, M
Brown, V	Canty, R	Clarke, D	Cousins, R	Daniells, A
Browne, J	Caponi, M	Clarke, J	Coward, KT	Daniels, R
Brunet, P	Capp, E	Clay, M	Cowley, TP	Danks, K
Brunton, S	Carboneras, C	Clayson, A	Cowton, K	Darley, J
Bryant, P	Card, S	Clement, G	Cox, AFJ	Darrell-Lambert, DG
Bryant, R	Carley, T	Clements, A	Cox, B	Darvill, B
Buchanan, ME	Carpenter, BR	Clements, J	Cox, D	Davidson, AS
Buck, T	Carpenter, RJ	Clements, R	Cox, PR	Davies, C
Buckell, SJ	Carpenter, TF	Clemons, S	Cox, S	Davies, G
Buckle, NA	Carr, C	Cleverly, A	Coxon, R	Davies, JC
Buckler, DJ	Carter, B	Clifford, A	Cozens, BR	Davies, K
Budd, A	Carter, J	Clifton, J	Crabbe, O	Davies, L
Budd, PA	Carter, PM	Cloyne, JM	Craft, SJ	Davies, M
Bullen, CJ	Carter, R	Cluett, P	Craven, P	Davies, S
Bulmer, A	Carter, SH	Coates, BF	Craven, PJM	Davies, T
Bumfrey, T	Cartwright, BM	Coath, M	Craven, S	Davis, A
Bumgarner, M	Caspers, C	Cobley, A	Crawford, AD	Davis, AM
Bunday, AW	Castle, C	Codlin, TD	Crawshaw, M	Davis, G
Buner, FD	Catty, N	Coleman, M	Crawshaw, O	Davis, O
Bunn, S	ceres, M	Colenutt, AJ	CreditNature, E	Davis, RB
Bunney, E	Challinor, S	Colenutt, SR	Creed, KG	Davis, S
Bunton, J	Chalmers, ML	Colledge, D	Creer, R	Davy, P
Burch, C	Chalmers, S	Collier, P	Creese, M	Daw, A
Burchall, G	Chamanian, N	Collings, H	Creighton, M	Dawes, C
Burchell, D	Chamberlain, AM	Collins, AR	Creswick, A	Dawkins, D
Burge, J	Chambers, D	Collins, CB	cripps, R	Dawson, B
Burke, A	Chapleo, C	Collins, H	Crisp, K	Dawson, R
Burkholder, J	Chapman, A	Collins, M	Cristofoli, G	Dawson, S
Burkholder, S	Chapman, B	Collins, P	Crocker, K	Dawson, SJ
Burne, C	Chapman, D	Collins, S	Cronin, J	Day, A
Burns, ANM	Chapman, JW	Collman, JR	Crook, J	Day, S
Burns, C	Chapman, P	Collyer, A	Crook, N	Day, T
Burns, N	Chapman, RA	Comont, R	Crookshank, M	de Amable, SL
Burns, R	Chapman, SE	Coney, SP	Cross, A	de Bruyn, G
Burrell, R	Chapman, TD	Connor, DM	Cross, A	de Freitas, PMG
Bushell, P	Charles, A	Cook, LJ	Cross, AR	Deakin, B
Butcher, E	Charles, P	cooke, RH	Cross, M	Deane, K
Butcher, G	Charlson, E	Coomber, RF	Cross, P	Debloudts, S
Butcher, JR	Charlton, K	Cooper, A	Crow, C	Dedman, JW
Butler, AJ	Chastell, SM	Cooper, D	Crow, TH	Deegan, M
Butler, E	Cheadle, J	Cooper, DA	Crowe, J	Deleva, S
Butler, G	cheeseman, A	Cooper, J	Crowe, S	Dell, N
Butler, S	Cheke, RA	Cooper, M	Crowley, PJ	Delve, B
Butler, TJ	Chenery, H	Cooper, MD	Crystal, F	Demopoulos, H
Button, C	Chilukuri, K	Cooper, MF	Cuff, M	Dempsey, T
Buttress, J	Chilukuri, S	Cooper-Williams, T	Cumming, DA	DENNIS, ED
Buttress, S	Chiu, HWC	Copper, L	Cummins, T	Dennis, F
Buxton, D	Chown, PK	Copsey, S	Curson, L	Dennis, G
Byrne, A	Christie, DA	Cordery, RJ	Curson, S	Denton, JS
Cadle-Mills, Z	Christopher, R	Corfield, G	Curtin, J	Derrick, DM
Cadogan, P	Church, C	Cornell, C	Curtis, C	Dettmar, S
Cairns, A	Churcker, K	Corrigan, C	Cuthbert, L	Dewey, S
Calcutt, D	Cianni, A	Corvin, A	Cutler, J	Dewhurst, R
Calderwood, G	Claiden-Yardley, K	Cottee-Jones, E	cutting, b	di Mello, L
Calderwood, I	Clark, A	Cotten, G	Cutting, J	

Dicker, GM	Edden, R	Ferguson, A	Fussell, M	Gorman, D
Dickety, AJ	Ede, J	Ferguson, G	Gadd, M	Gould, E
Dickey, RC	Edge, B	ferguson, S	Gallagher, S	Gould, S
Dicks, DEJ	Edgeller, ML	Ferreira, A	Gamblin, C	Gouldstone, C
Dicks, S	Edmunds, HA	Fewell, J	Gammage, PA	Gowers, S
Digby, G	Edwards, L	Field, AR	Garcia, M	Goyder, D
DILLEY, P	Edwards, N	Felder, A	Gardiner, H	Graham, J
Dimmock, DP	Edwards, T	Figueiredo, A	Garrido, M	Graham, N
Diserens, T	Eisenson, M	Figueras, L	Gathercole, S	Graham, T
Dobson, A	Eland, C	Findlay, R	Gavin, J	Grant, I
Dobson, F	Elizabeth, K	Fisher, AC	Gayton, JD	Grant, KR
Dodsworth, P	Ellcome, R	Fisher, D	Geall, EC	Gravely, L
Donaldson, PC	Ellery, T	Fisher, R	Geary, CJ	Gray, I
Donelle, D	Elliott-Moustache, G	fisk, S	Gebert, V	Gray, M
Donoghue, A	Ellis, C	flemming, J	Gell, T	Green, C
Donohue, L	Ellis, D	Flesher, R	Gent, A	Green, F
Donovan, E	Ellis, EG	Fletcher, J	Gent, CR	Green, H
Doran, TMJ	Ellis, I	Fletcher, L	Gent, J	Greenfield, C
Dorset Bird Club, D	Ellis, P	Floyd, P	Germain, A	Greenwood, D
Dowle, J	Ellison, K	flynn, V	Gerrard, K	Gregory, N
Down, G	Elsoffer, M	Foad, P	Gibbings, C	Greig, C
Downing, J	Emmens, P	Fogel, H	Gibbons, M	Griffin, TN
Downing-emms, HL	Emmott, K	Follett, H	Gibbs, P	Griffith, S
Downton, C	Estrin, M	Foote, C	Gibson, C	Griffiths, S
Dowty, M	Etheridge, L	Forber, S	Gibson, J	Grimdsale, M
Doye, R	Etherington, K	Forbes, A	Gibson, M	Grimsey, A
Doyle, MJ	Evans, D	Forbes, BF	Gibson, T	Grimshaw, R
Drabik-Hamshare, M	Evans, DG	Ford, J	Gibson-Poole, TE	Grist, DM
Drabik-Hamshare, Ma	Evans, G	Ford, R	Giddens, GSA	Groundsell, R
Drabik-Hamshare, Mo	Evans, GC	Ford, S	Gilbertson, A	Grove, K
Drain, I	Evans, J	Ford, W	Gilby, D	Groves, M
Drake, A	Evans, LGR	Ford-Hutchinson, T	Giles, I	Groves, R
Dredge, R	Evans, M	Fordred, S	Gilham, R	Gruar, D
Drever, A	Everitt, J	Forge, K	Gillingham, D	Grundy, S
Drew, M	Exley, J	Forster, R	Gillingham, MA	Guest, IR
Drewett, A	Exton, I	Forster, T	Gillingham, S	Gussman, D
Driver, PW	Eyre, JA	Foster, C	Gilman, D	Gutteridge, AC
Dryden, M	Fagan, A	Foster, D	Gilman, O	Guy, A
Dryden, RA	Fairbrother, B	Foster, N	Glavin, M	Gwynn, BS
Duckworth, NA	Fairchild, V	Foster, P	Gleed-Owen, C	Gwynn, V
Duckworth, R	Faithfull, JA	fowler, J	Glencross, A	Habib, M
Dudley, A	family, Z	Fowler, M	Glossop, J	Hack, PJ
Duffin, BS	Fargher, J	Fox, G	Goadsby, L	Hackenberg, T
Duffy, MD	Farmer, E	Fox, S	Goater, B	Hackett, P
Duke, B	Farmer, S	Foyle, G	Goatley, C	Hackett, SJ
Duncan, I	Farnworth, M	Frampton, M	Goble, C	Hadfield, N
Duncan, KP	Farnworth, R	Frampton, OJ	Goddard, Ba	Haisell, O
Dunne, R	Farrell, L	Francis, M	Goddard, Br	Hale, APS
Dunsford, W	Farwell, G	Frankel, J	Godden, N	Hale, JA
Durell, D	Faulder, D	Franzini, J	Godden, RJ	Hall, E
Durkin, R	Faulkner, J	Fraser, A	Godfrey, KM	Hall, T
Durnell, PR	Faulkner, K	Fray, R	Goldsmith, N	Hallam, C
Dutton, M	Faux, M	Freckleton, R	Goodall, A	Hallett, RJ
Eade, M	Fawkes, J	Free, P	Goodall, R	Halligan, MJ
Easom, L	Fawkes, PF	Freezer, E	Gooding, L	Halpin, M
Easton, H	Feaviour, R	French, CD	Gooding, UF	Hamilton, S
Ecob, J	Fellows, BJ	French, J	Goodridge, JJ	Hammersley, JM
	Fennemore, GD	Friend, A	Goodspeed, JR	Hampson, IR
	Fenner, J	Fry, A	Gordon, P	Hanak, C
	Fereday, C	Fry, D	Gordon-Jones, R	Hancock, D
		Fuller, LM	Goriup, P	Hancock, P

Hand, A	Heaver, MC	Houghton, DP	Jarvis, J	Kerrison, J
Hankey, R	Hedley, B	Hourahine, L	Jeffes, M	Kershaw, M
Hankinson, L	Hedley, J	Howard, K	Jenkins, R	Kettell, MM
Hannam, JC	Hellier, RD	Howard, M	Jewsbury, D	Kettles, D
hansen, i	Hemming, R	Howarth, C	Jezierski, M	Kimber, G
Hardie, AJ	Henderson, C	Howe, AR	Joganic, J	King, Ae
Harding, A	Hennefer, K	Howe, M	Joganic, R	King, Aw
Harding, B	Henshaw, K	Howell, R	Johns, D	King, B
Harding, K	Herniman, W	Howes, A	Johnson, AC	King, JE
Harding, R	Hernon, K	Hoy, T	Johnson, C	King, Ma
Hardy, A	Herridge, E	Huang, Y	Johnson, D	King, Mi
Hare, M	Hewson, TJ	Hubbard, M	Johnson, M	King, R
Hare, W	Hhodgson, K	Hubble, DS	Johnson, R	King, S
Harewood, D	Hibberd, JW	Huddie, M	Johnson, T	King, SD
Hargreaves, BT	Hickman, A	Hudson, A	Johnson, V	King, SS
Hargreaves, M	Hickman, PJ	Huggins, S	Johnson-Hughes, S	Kingsley, T
Hargreaves, R	Hicks, R	Hughes, BJ	Johnstone, G	Kirby, AJ
Harley, RP	Higgins, A	Hughes, J	Jollans, A	Kirby, P
Harley, S	Higham, M	Hughes, P	Jones, A	kirrane, S
Harmer, F	Highfield, M	Hughes, RM	Jones, B	Kitching, I
Harrington, E	Hilder, C	Hull, JD	Jones, CD	Klaschka, R
Harris, C	Hiley, S	Hull, NJ	Jones, Ch	Kling, R
Harris, CJ	Hill, CHJ	Hulme, J	Jones, Co	Knight, CM
Harris, M	Hill, MJ	Hulme, M	Jones, Dd	Knight, L
Harris, NG	Hill, S	Humble, H	Jones, Dn	Knight, N
Harris, Sa	Hilton, JI	Humphrey, VF	Jones, Jr	Knight, S
Harris, St	Hines, M	Humphries, C	Jones, Jt	Knox, T
Harris, T	Hinsch, J	Humphries, J	Jones, LA	Konze, W
Harrison, Ce	Hinves, A	Hunt, D	Jones, MF	Korkor, M
Harrison, Cs	Hitchings, M	Hunt, J	Jones, N	Kownacki, N
Harrison, D	Hoar, N	Hunt, Jo	Jones, NR	Kuykendall, K
Harrison, P	Hoare, DJ	Hunt, L	Jones, PD	Lackowska, P
Harrison, W	Hoare, R	Hunt, N	Jones, PE	Ladd, RC
Hart, R	Hobbs, M	Hunt, PR	Jones, RA	Lailey, J
Hartill, S	Hobby, PWH	Hunt, R	Jones, S	Laker, C
Harvey, P	Hocking, C	Hunter, E	Jones, Te	Lam, R
Harvey, SC	Hodgson, N	Hunter, P	Jones, Ti	Lambden, C
Harvey, T	Hogston, P	Hurd, G	Jordan, H	Lambden, M
Harwood, E	Hoit, M	Hurley, S	Jordan, M	Lambe, GP
Hasell, P	Holberton-Jones, D	Hurst, DT	Jordan, TRM	Lambert, SR
Haskins, T	Holden, M	Hutchings, E	Josey, S	Laming, L
Hatcher, JJ	Holding, AP	Hutchins, PE	Joy, R	Lamond, C
Hatcher, RJ	Holland, D	Hutchinson, A	Justice, W	Langdon, W
Hatcher, SP	Holley, M	Hyam, M	K, G	Langford, G
Hatfield, L	Hollidge, K	Hyland, P	Kaleel, T	Langley, GB
Hatton, R	Holmes, C	Ibbetson, S	Kallionaki, M	Last, AJ
Hawkings, T	Holmes, P	Ingram, R	Karlsdottir, S	Latham, A
Hawkins, R	Holmes, PDJ	Ingram, S	Katz, DS	Latham, MJ
hawthorne, D	Holt, J	Irwin, RN	Keen, SG	Lavington, S
Hay, MJW	Holter, CA	Ison, M	Kelley, FS	Lawlor, D
Hayden, A	Homan, T	Jackson, G	Kelly, J	Lawn, MR
Haydon, RM	Honey, R	Jackson, SJ	Kelson, DW	Lawrence, P
Hayman, G	Honeyman, I	Jacobs, RJK	Kemmerly, I	Lawrence, R
Haysom, H	Honeysett, J	Jacobs, RS	Kendall, NW	Lawrence, SP
Hayward, N	Honeysett, PJ	Jafkins, K	Kendall, S	Lawson, C
Hayward, RJ	Hooper, S	Jakob-Hoff, R	Kennelly, AD	Laycock, S
Haywood, R	Hopkin, P	James, AR	Kennett, J	Le Gassick, J
Haze, J	Horn, G	James, G	Kenney, JO	le Grice, R
Healey, SJ	Horncastle, N	James, P	Kent, HN	Leach, S
Heard, PA	Horsfield, C	Janaway, T	Kerley, P	Lee, C
Heath, PA	Hosking, D	Jarvie, I	Kerr, R	Lee, CM

Lee, D	Luckett, S	Maudrell, AJ	MONCK, S	New, K
Lee, E	Ludwig, C	May, G	Monkhouse, J	Newbery, S
Lee, M	Lugg, M	May, K	Monks, C	Newell, D
Lee, RD	Lumsden, S	May, M	Monks, J	Newland, S
Leech, R	Lupton, B	Mayhead, C	Montegriffo, NJ	Newman, CJ
Leedham, S	Luther, CM	Mayne, W	Moon, J&J	Newman, D
Legg, J	Lycett, C	Mazrui-Watt, S	Mooney, R	Newsome, P
Legg, S	Lyness, D	McCann, J	Moor, F	Newton, G
Legge, WGD	Lyons, J	McCartney, J	Moore, D	Newton, SJ
Leighton, E	Mac, M	McClements, J	Moore, G	Nickols, S
Leishman, S	MacCallum, L	Mcclure, F	Moore, M	Nield, P
Leitzell, C	MacCaul, A	McColl, S	Moore, Si	Nieuwkerk, A
Leonard, C	MacDonald, F	McCrea, M	Moore, St	Nightingale, A
Leonard, H	MacDonald, S	McDowall, M	Moors, G	Niland, B
Leonard, J	Macfadyen, M	McGurk, E	Moreland, J	Noble, D
leonhardt, k	MacFarland, J	McIntosh, K	Moreland, R	Noble, K
Lester, AJB	Macgarvey, A	McKechnie, E	MoreO��Ferrall, D	Nolan, W
Lethaby, N	MacKenzie, C	McKechnie, J	Morgan, A	Norman, MJ
Levell, JE	Maclean-Henry, G	Mckenna, R	Morgan, O	Northcote, PH
Lever, P	Macmillan, M	Mcmullan, H	Morgan, R	Northcott, S
Levett, RK	MacMillan, P	McNeely, A	Morgan, T	Norton, C
Levy, S	Maguire, L	McNeil, A	Morley, S	Norton, JA
Lewis, Alan	Maher, R	McVeigh, A	Morrison, P&S	Norton, T
Lewis, T	Malcolm, S	Mead, G	Morrison-Price, P	Nussbaumer, R
Lhopkins, CP	Malebyse-Smith, C	Meads, M	Morse, L	Nutbeam, FA
Light, DM	Mallion, E	Mears, I	Mortimer, T	Nutbeen, G
Liley, MJS	Manley, J	Mears, R	Morton, J	O, J
Lin, D	Mann, L	Medley, J	Moseley, JC	Oakley, F
Lindsay, M	Mannick, S	Meigs, J	Moss, LJ	Oakley, P
Lintott, BJ	Manning, CP	Mellor, J	Mountford, R	Oatridge, M
Lintott, EA	Mansell, K	Mellor, L	Moxon, T	ODonoghue, M
Lintz, C	Mansfield, SJ	Melrose, M	Munday, DR	O'Donoghue, M
Lisher, C	Mantle, D	Melville, C	Mundell, A	O'Driscoll, M
Lister, DJ	Mantle, PLJ	Melville, S	Munro, R	Ogden, P
Lloyd, G	Mapp, B	Melvin, R	Munt, H	O'Hanlon, J
Lloyd, M	Marchant, RH	Mercer, J	Munts, D	Oliver, C
Lloyd, SJH	Marcuse, HD	Metcalf, KD	Murdoch, DA	Oliver, S
lloyd-williams, I	Marks, B	Metcalf, O	Murdoch, HI	Olsen, K
Loader, G	Marriott, A	Middleton, K	Murfitt, RC	O'Neill, C
Loader, S	Marsh, R	Middleton, L	Murphy, CRP	ONeill, L
Lock, C	Marston, PC	Miles, O	Murphy, G	Oppenheim, M
Locke, D	Martin, AP	Miles, SJ	murphy, L	Orchard, D
Locke, M	Martin, D	Milinet-Raby, PN	Murphy, M	Ord, S
Lockett, A	Martin, JP	Milius, N	Murphy, S	Ord, W
Loehnen, B	Martin, K	Millar, A	Murphy, Se	O'Reilly, C
Loman, Z	Martin, KP	Miller, HJ	Murphy, Su	Orford, M
Lomax, P	Marylebone	Miller, J	Murphy, T	Orlowski, J
Long, P	Birdwatching	Milligan, RF	Murray, D	Orme, A
Longstaff, E	Society	Millington, L	Musgrave, K	Ormerod, P
Lord, H	Maskell, JM	Mills, DGH	Musgrove, D	Orzeck, T
Lord, R	Maskell, K	Mills, N	Musselwhite, M	Osbaldeston, E
Lott, M	Mason, R	Milton, G	Mycock, H	Osborn, P
louise, M	Massey, A	Mintram, G	Nash, CS	Osborne, BA
Love, K	Masters, P	Mist, J	Navarro P rez, JA	Osborne, J
Love, RE	Matt, J	Mist, R	Neal, SM	O'Sullivan, K
Lowe, Ab	Matthews, A	Mitchell, A	Neale, T	Owen, A
Lowe, Ad	Matthews, F	Mitchell, D	Needs, Ja	Owen, AE
Lowe, WJ	Matthews, N	Mitchell, L	Needs, Je	Owen, NT
Lowings, VA	Matthews, PJ	Mitchell, R	Nelson, Cha	Owens, A
Lowth, D	Matthews, S	Molnar, J	Nelson, Chr	Oyama, R
Lucas, T	Matthews, T	Moloughney, SB	Nelson, R	Packer, I

Padelopoulos, L	Phillips, K	Pulgar n-R, PC	Roberts, A	Saunders, A
Paes, W	Phillips, R	Pullen, AP	Roberts, AE	Saunders, P
Page, AG	Phillipson, R	Pullin, GJ	Roberts, BJ	Savage, K
Page, B	Phoenix, S	Pullinger, S	Roberts, GCM	Savage, M
Paley, RA	Pibworth, I	Puttock, B	Roberts, KL	Sawyer, R
Palmer, G	Piccolo, T	Puzio, J	Roberts, S	Sax, R
Palmer, MJ	Pickering, S	Pycroft, A	Robertson, DBC	Sayer, KR
Palmer, N	Picksley, J	Pyke, L	Robertson, M	Scamell, J
Palmer, R	Pickup, B	Pyrzewski, M	Robertson, MJ	Scammell, BW
Palmer, RA	Picton, G	Pyrzewski, MS	Robinson, A	Scarborough, F
Pang, SB	Picton, G	Quelch, I	Robinson, CC	Schackwitz, M
Papps, N	Pictor, GD	Quinlan, K	Robinson, DM	Schackwitz, W
Papworth, D	Piehl, W	Quinn, N	Robinson, J	Schismenos, K
Park, N	Pierce, K	Quinn, V	Robinson, LR	Schneider, H
Parke, R	Piercey, B	Rabin, G	Robinson, M	Schroeder, J
Parker, A	Pilbeam, R	Rackett, BJ	Robinson-Ruffle,	Schuette, S
Parker, AJ	Pinchen, BJ	Rackliffe, R	J&D	Scorey, PS
Parker, D	Pinchin, H	Radden, DJC	Robison, DM	Scott, E
Parker, J	Pingram, V	Rafter, M	Robjohns, AL	Scott, L
Parker, ME	Pinhorn, M	Ralph, L	Robson, S	Scott, M
Parker, R	Pink, MA	Ralphs, IL	Roby, S	Scouller, A
Parker-Jones, J	Piper, CJ	Ramesh, A	Rockjumper, T	Scourfield, P
Parkes, E	Piper, DJ	Ramirez, E	Rodger, B	Scriven, A
Parkes, M	Piper, R	Ramshaw, P	Rodgers, A	Seargent, R
Parkhouse, L	Pires, P	Randall, L	Rogers, D	Seaton, C
Parry, J	Pitt, MJ	Randell, S	Rolfe, MD	Seaward, J
Parry-Davies, D	Pitts, J	Rankin, G	rolls, b	Self, ASM
Parsonage, A	Pittwood, H	Ranson, C	Rolls, S	Seligman, PM
Parsons, TEG	Plugge, J	Rasmussen, R	Romaine, L	Sephton-Ward, N
Pascoe, G	Poczapsky, M	Rawlings, ND	Roose, B	Sewell, D
Paton, N	Podesta, J	Raynor, EM	Rose, C	Seymour, C
Payce, S	Pointer, RG	Read, D	Rose, P	Seymour, K
Payne, D	Pointon, T	Read, J	Roseveare, CD	Seymour, R
Payne, R	Poland, H	Read, S	Roseveare, M	Shaft, M
Pearce, R	Poot, M	Reading, J	Ross, JG	Sharp, G
Pearce, RK	Porter, G	Reading, S	Ross-Smith, V	Sharp, P
Pearson, B	Porter, I	Reardon, C	Rowe, A	Sharples, G
Pearson, D	Porter, RJ	Reay, P	Rowe, HEJ	Sharps, W
Pearson, DJ	Porter, S	Redhead, JW	Rowe, R	Shave, MJ
Pearson, J	Porteus, A	Reed, B	Rowell, M	Shaw, D
Pearson, P	Portwood, L	Rees, GD	Rowse, P	Shaw, E
Peat, L	Pothecary, A	Reeve, J	Rowse, PAS	Shaw, MD
Pedersen, R	Potter, J	Reeves, G	Rowsell, E	Shaw, S
Penn, S	Potts, A	Reeves, H	Rowyns, T	Shawyer, C
Pennell, D	Potts, PM	Reglar, A	Roy, K	Sheaf, P
pennhillman, K	Powell, DW	Reid, GS	Royal, M	Sheldon, BC
Pentek, P	Powell, S	Reid, N	Rumble, D	Shelley, J&C
Pepper, G	Power, M	Rembold, A	Rumis, L	Sheppard, C
Perrin, D	Precey, P	Ren, T	Rumsby, B	Sheppard, D
Perry, A	Prescott, C	Renton, A	Rushton, A	Sheppard, J
Perry, J	Preston, N	Renyard, M	Russell, C	Sheppard, T
Peters, JN	Priest, W	Renyard, S	Russell, DM	Sheppard, TM
Peterson, L	Pringle, M	Reynolds, P	Rusu, S	Sherriffs, I
Petinebridge, P	Prior, J	Rhodes, AS	Ruthen, L	Shih, H
Pett, J	Prior, KE	Rich, G	Rutter, PM	Shilland, E
Pettit, R	Prior, M	Richardson, B	Ryde, L	Shillitoe, JRD
Phelan, S	Prior, R	Riches, J	Rylands, K	Short, M
Phelps, C	Proctor, J	Rickards, D	Ryves, DJ	Short, PP
Phelps, MS	Prugel-Bennett, A	Riddle, D	Sadler, T	Shortt, L
Phillips, D	Pryke, S	Ridley, MJ	Sampson, A	Shrewsbury, R
Phillips, JN	Pugh, C	Rios, R	Saul, M	Shrive, D

Shute, D	Sorby, F	Symonds, S	Toynnton, PE
Sibsey, I	Sparrow, J	Taggart, A	Tranter, M
Sigrist, J	Spate, C	Tamang, Z	Treadaway, D
Sigrist, M	Spence, JR	tarrant, k	Trice, S
Simcox, WF	Spencer, JW	Tarrant, M	Trickle, E
Simmons, P	Spencer, L	Taurer, G	Trickle, ER
Simons, J	Sprott, A	Taylor, B	Troisi, C
SIMPSON, A	Squires, K	Taylor, D	Trollope, A
Simpson, A&IM	Srdic, A	Taylor, DH	Troup, L
Simpson, E	Stacey, E	Taylor, Ke	Trout, NS
Simpson, J	Stacey, S	Taylor, Ky	Truby, N
Simpson, K	Stachnicki, T	Taylor, L	Trunecka, D
Simpson, KJ	Stack, D	Taylor, M	Trunecka, S
Simpson, P	Stalker, B	Taylor, MJ	Try, L
Sinclair, J	Stanbury, P	Taylor, P	Tubb, KI
Singer, D	Stanhope, I	Taylor, RC	Tubbs, JM
Sinnott, A	Starr-Keddle, R	Taylor, RJ	Tucker, S
Sissons, D	Steaggles, GJ	Teale, S	Tull, T
Skay, S	Stephens, D	Team, B	Turland, K
Sketch, PA	Stephens, K	Team, C	Turner, CR
Skinner, P	Stephenson, GC	Terry, MGW	Turner, H
Slade, C	Sterry, PR	Terry, MH	Turner, JP
Slade, J	Stevens, DG	Tew, AB	Turner, KA
Slater, D	Stevens, E	Thelwell, DA	Turner, R(Bob)
Slaughter, A	Stevens, J	Thiel, A	Turner, RM
Slaymaker, M	Stevens, M	Thom, R	Turner-Moss, J
slingo, s	Stevens, P	Thomas, G	Twigg, G
Smale, L	Stevens, T	Thomas, P	Twinberrow, G
Smallbone, AC	Stevenson, DE	Thomas, S	Twinning, M
Smallwood, J	Stewart, D	Thompson, D	Twyman, AP
Smart, NR	Stewart, G	Thompson, J	Tyler, A
Smart, S	Stewart, N	Thompson, N	Tyler, D
Smith, A	Stickley, S	Thompson, SRB	Unsworth, DJ
Smith, AG	Stileman, S	Thomson, I	Uphill, N
Smith, A-L	Stimpson, T	Thomson, J	Upton, A
Smith, BE	Stinson, D	Thorne, A	Upton, G
Smith, C	Stockley, C	Thorne, B	Usher, S
Smith, DN	Stockwell, T	Thornhill, S	Valent, M
Smith, H	Stone, B	Thornton, GA	Valeriani, M
Smith, IA	Stone, T	Thorpe, CJ	Valler, D
Smith, JF	Stoneman, M	Thurston, MH	Vandeputte, P
Smith, JT	Stoney, A	Tickle, S	Van der Willigen, V
Smith, K	Story, S	Tillin, G	Vaughan, T
Smith, LC	Stouse, KP	Timms, A	Venner, J
Smith, ME	Strangeman, PJ	Tindal, A	Vickery, M
Smith, MJ	Strong, A	Tindale, AD	Villiers, P
Smith, NC	Stubbs, C	Tinsdale, T	Vine, K
Smith, PJS	Stubbs, E	Todd, A	Viney, TJ
Smith, RG	Suits, J	Todd, J	Violette, M
Smith, Ri	Sullivan, J	Toft, RT	Violette, S
Smith, Ro	Sullivan, R	Tofts, R	Vokes, MG
Smith, S	Sulway, D	Tomalin, N	Vyas, J
Smith, T	Sundbom, T	Tomkins, A	Wainwright, A
Smith, TC	Sutton, K	Toomer, J	Wainwright, O
Smithen, A	Sutton, P	Tovell, LM	Wake, E
Snaddon, J	Swan, A	Townsend, A	Wake, K
Snelgar, G	Swann, M	Townsend, B	Wakeford, H
Snell, J	Sweetland, T	Townsend, P	Walecki, B
Snook, AM	Swensson, DE	Townshend, A	Walker, Bj

Walker, D	Webb, RM	Wiggins, R	Wolmarans, S
Walker, H	Webb, Sh	Wilcox, C	Wood, B
Walker, J	Webb, Sp	Wilcox, J	Wood, C
Walker, Sa	Webley, JJ	Wilding, J	Wood, H
Walker, Se	Welbury, C	Wildish, MF	Wood, I
Walker, St	Wells, A	Wiley, NS	Wood, SD
Walker, TH	Wells, ID	Wilkerson, G	Woodley, SR
Wall, N	Wells, JN	Wilkes, KR	Woodman, J
Wallace, B	Wells, L	Wilkinson, DP	Wood-Mewett, V
Wallace, D	Wensley-Smith, S	Wilkinson, I	Woods, NJ
Wallace, O	West, I	Wilkinson, M	Woods, R
Wallace, P	West, P	Wilkinson, So	Woodward, D
Wallis, RJ	West, R	Wilkinson, St	Woodyer, J
Walls, SS	West, S	Williams, B	Wooldridge, J
Walston, J	Westenberger, A	Williams, CE	Woolfries, SA
Wan, L	Westerman, A	Williams, CL	Woolley & J Casson, SK
Wane, R	Weston, B	Williams, J	Woolley, M
Wang, E	Weston, K	Williams, Re	Worgan, C
Ward, AD	Whaley, M	Williams, Ri	Wright, A
Ward, M	Wheatcroft, AV	Williams, Sh	Wright, J
Ward, Pk	Wheatley, D	Williams, St	Wright, K
Ward, Pl	Wheatley, MP	Williams, T	Wright, L
Wardell, RH	Wheeldon, L	Williamson, C	Wright, Mk
Warden, M	Whetmore, T	Williamson, ID	Wright, Mt
Wardle, K	WHIFFEN, C	Williamson, J	Wright, R
Wareham, M	Whitbread, M	Willis, M	Writer, T
Warne, PM	Whitbread, P	Willows, R	Wuenn, D
Warner, N	White, DJ	Wills, KB	Wyatt, G
Warner, R	White, G	Wills, P	Wynde, AR
Warren, C	White, J	Wills, R	Wynn, RB
Warren, D	White, JJ	Wilsdon, M	Yallop, M
Warren, P	White, KG	Wilson, E	Yates, CD
Waterfall, KW	White, MJ	Wilson, IS	Yates, G
Waterman, JR	White, PJ	Wilson, P	Yates, J
Watson, RF	White, R	Wilson, RS	Yates, O
Watson, S	White, SN	windibank, ND	Yelland, DM
Watts, IR	Whitefield, B	Winkworth, M	Yi, TC
Watts, PJ	Whitehead, SG	Winney, K	Young, A
Watts, R	Whitehouse, J	Winsloe, M	Young, J
Wearing, MF	Whitehouse, N	Winson, B	Young, K
Wearn, D	Whitfield, DJ	Winstead, D	Young, P
Weaver, E	Whitfield, J	Winter, PD	Younger, S
Weaver, R	Whitmarsh, N	Wise, J	Zadoya, A
Webb, AR	Wicks, SP	Wiseman, EJ	
Webb, C	Wiggins, L	Witton, M	
Webb, R	Wiggins, M	Witton-Maclean, G	

Contributors

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GWCT Avon Valley WM Project
Hawk Conservancy
Hoslist Yahoo Group

Instabirders Team
Naturetrek
Richard Carpenter's Titchfield Haven area summaries
RSPB Stone-curlew Team
Tuesday Group
Wild Winchester
10,000 Birds Collaborative

Appendix 3

Guidelines for the submission of records

All observers birding in Hampshire are urged to submit their sightings to the Recorder on Hampshire Ornithological Society record forms.

The form is available from the Recorder or on the society web site at <http://www.hos.org.uk/index.php/bird-recording/record-form>. Completed forms should be e-mailed to the Recorder at mjpitt35clere@hotmail.com. Records can also be submitted in an excel spreadsheet (preferred) or Microsoft Word file. Handwritten submissions by post are also welcome and should be sent to Martin Pitt, 35 Clere Gardens, Chineham, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG24 8LZ. It would be of great assistance if observers would comply with the following points when submitting records.

- Records should be listed either by species (in the order used in the *Hampshire Bird Report*) or by date.
- Please submit your sightings to the Recorder quarterly and **at the latest by Jan 31st of the following year**. It is equally important to submit your on-line records promptly to BirdTrack, eBird etc. as these are downloaded to HOS throughout each year. Whilst records received after this date will still be added to the database, they may not be included in the relevant Hampshire Bird Report for the year concerned as they either delay the compilation and circulation of records to report writers or, if issued later, risk confusion and add considerably to the workload. In both cases late record submissions risk delays to report production.

Information required for species occurring annually; updates for 2023 in red.

Key to codes used in table:

- A All records; details of age, plumage, time, direction of movement, etc. should be included as appropriate, especially for birds seen in places where not usually recorded or out of season.
- B All breeding records, with type of evidence obtained: confirmed, probable or possible.
- CB Counts of breeding pairs/singing males/territories in clearly defined areas.
- F Flocks, roosts and falls: minimum number required is given in parentheses.
- F&L First and last dates of summer and winter visitors.
- M Observations of birds moving on migration: give each day's count separately, with time of observation and direction the birds were moving.
- MM Dated monthly maxima from localities you regularly watch, counts may be below the threshold in F when submitting a complete year's data.
- R All records from localities where not normally recorded.
- S All summer records.
- W All winter records.

Notes Brief notes of diagnostic identification features observed should be written on the record form.

Dark-bellied Brent Goose <i>bernica</i>	F (100), MM, F&L, M, R, inland A
Light-bellied Brent Goose <i>hrota</i>	A
Canada Goose	B, F(100), MM
Barnacle Goose	A
Cackling Goose	A, Notes
Snow Goose	A
Greylag Goose	B, F (50), MM, R
White-fronted Goose	A
Mute Swan	B, F (20), MM
Egyptian Goose	A
Shelduck	coast: B, F (50), MM, inland: A
Ruddy Shelduck	A, Notes

Mandarin Duck	B, F (10), MM, R
Garganey	A
Shoveler	B, F (10), MM, F&L, R
Gadwall	B,F (25), MM, F&L, R
Wigeon	F coast & Avon valley (100), elsewhere (25), MM, F&L, R
Mallard	CB, F (100), MM
Pintail	main coastal sites F (20), MM, F&L, S, elsewhere A
Teal	B,F coast & Avon valley (100), elsewhere (25), MM, F&L, R
Red-crested Pochard	A
Pochard	A
Tufted Duck	B, F (25), MM, F&L, R
Scaup	A, inland & summer Notes
Eider	A, inland Notes
Velvet Scoter	A, inland Notes
Common Scoter	A
Long-tailed Duck	A, inland & summer Notes
Goldeneye	A
Goosander	A
Red-breasted Merganser	Main coastal sites F (20), MM, F&L, S, elsewhere A
Ruddy Duck	A
Red-legged Partridge	B, F (50), R
Grey Partridge	A
Quail	A
Pheasant	CB, R
Golden Pheasant	A
Nightjar	A
Swift	A, especially B
Great Bustard	A
Cuckoo	A
Feral Pigeon	CB, F (100)
Stock Dove	CB, F (25), M
Woodpigeon	CB, F (500), M
Turtle Dove	A
Collared Dove	CB, F (25), M
Water Rail	A
Moorhen	CB, F (20), MM
Coot	CB, F (20), MM
Crane	A, Notes
Little Grebe	B, F (5), MM, R
Great Crested Grebe	B, F (10), MM, R
Slavonian Grebe	A, inland & summer Notes
Black-necked Grebe	A
Stone-curlew	A
Oystercatcher	B, F (100), MM, M, inland A
Avocet	A
Lapwing	B, F (100), MM, M, R
Golden Plover	A
Grey Plover	F (20), F&L, S, R, inland A
Ringed Plover	B, F (20), MM, M, inland A
Little Ringed Plover	A
Whimbrel	F (10), F&L, M, VV, R, inland A
Curlew	B, F (50), MM, M, inland A
Bar-tailed Godwit	A
Black-tailed Godwit <i>islandica</i>	F (50), F&L, S, R, inland A
Turnstone	F (20), F&L, M, S, R, inland A

Knot	A
Ruff	A
Curlew Sandpiper	A
Sanderling	A
Dunlin	F (100), MM, M, S, inland A
Purple Sandpiper	A
Little Stint	A
Woodcock	A
Jack Snipe	A
Snipe	B, F (5), MM, F&L, R
Grey Phalarope	A, Notes
Common Sandpiper	A
Green Sandpiper	A
Redshank	B, F (50), MM, M, inland A
Wood Sandpiper	A
Spotted Redshank	A
Greenshank	A
Kittiwake	A – include age/plumage
Black-headed Gull	B, F (500), MM, S
Little Gull	A – include age/plumage
Mediterranean Gull	CB, F(10)
Common Gull	B, F (50), MM, S
Great Black-backed Gull	B, F (10), MM, S, inland A
Herring Gull	B, F (50), MM, S
Caspian Gull	A, Notes - include age/plumage
Yellow-legged Gull	A – include age/plumage
Lesser Black-backed Gull	B, F (50), MM, S
Sandwich Tern	B, F (50), F&L, M, R
Little Tern	B, F (25), F&L, M, R
Roseate Tern	A– include age/plumage, inland Notes
Common Tern	B, F (50), F&L, M, R, inland A
Arctic Tern	A – include age/plumage
Black Tern	A
Great Skua	A, inland Notes
Pomarine Skua	A, Notes excluding coast in spring
Arctic Skua	A, inland Notes
Little Auk	A, Notes
Common Guillemot	A
Razorbill	A
Red-throated Diver	A, inland & summer Notes
Black-throated Diver	A, inland & summer Notes
Great Northern Diver	A, inland & summer Notes
Fulmar	A, inland Notes
Manx Shearwater	A, inland Notes
White Stork	A, Notes
Gannet	A, inland Notes
Cormorant	F (20), MM, R
Shag	A, inland Notes
Glossy Ibis	A, Notes
Spoonbill	A, inland Notes
Bittern	A
Cattle Egret	A
Grey Heron	B, F (10), MM, M
Great White Egret	A
Little Egret	B, F (10), MM, M, R

Osprey	A
Honey-buzzard	A, Notes excluding New Forest
Sparrowhawk	B, M
Goshawk	A, Notes excluding New Forest
Marsh Harrier	A
Hen Harrier	A
Red Kite	A, excluding North Hants, CB, F(10)
White-tailed Eagle	A, Notes (unless otherwise noted by observer all assumed to be from the Isle of Wight reintroduction scheme).
Buzzard	B, F (10), M, R
Barn Owl	A
Tawny Owl	B, R
Little Owl	A
Long-eared Owl	A
Short-eared Owl	A
Hoopoe	A, Notes
Kingfisher	A especially B
Wryneck	A, Notes
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	A
Great Spotted Woodpecker	CB, M, R
Green Woodpecker	CB, M, R
Kestrel	B, M
Merlin	A
Hobby	A
Peregrine	A away from coast, CB
Ring-necked Parakeet	A
Great Grey Shrike	A, Notes excluding New Forest
Golden Oriole	A, Notes
Jay	CB, F (10), M
Magpie	CB, F (50), M
Jackdaw	CB, F (500), M
Rook	CB, F (250), M
Carrion Crow	CB, F (50), M
Raven	A
Waxwing	A, Notes excluding invasion years
Coal Tit <i>britannicus</i>	CB, F (20), M
Continental Coal Tit <i>ater</i>	A
Marsh Tit	A
Blue Tit	CB, F (50), M
Great Tit	CB, F (20), M
Bearded Tit	A
Woodlark	A
Skylark	CB, F (20), M
Swallow	CB, F (100), F&L, M
Sand Martin	B, F (25), F&L, M
House Martin	CB, F (100), F&L, M
Cetti's Warbler	A
Long-tailed Tit	CB, F (20), M
Wood Warbler	A
Yellow-browed Warbler	A, Notes
Willow Warbler	A
Chiffchaff <i>collybita</i>	CB, F (10), W
Siberian Chiffchaff <i>tristis</i>	A, Notes
Sedge Warbler	CB, F (5), F&L, R
Reed Warbler	CB, F (5), F&L, R

Grasshopper Warbler	A
Blackcap	CB, F (10), W
Garden Warbler	CB, F (5), F&L, R
Lesser Whitethroat	A
Whitethroat	CB, F (10), F&L
Dartford Warbler	A excluding New Forest, CB
Firecrest	A
Goldcrest	CB, F (10)
Wren	CB, F (25)
Nuthatch	CB, F (10)
Treecreeper	CB, F (10)
Starling	CB, F (100), M
Ring Ouzel	A
Blackbird	CB, F (25), M
Fieldfare	F (25), M, F&L
Redwing	F (25), M, F&L
Song Thrush	CB, F (10), M
Mistle Thrush	CB, F (10), M
Spotted Flycatcher	A
Robin	CB, F (25)
Nightingale	A
Pied Flycatcher	A
Black Redstart	A
Redstart	A
Whinchat	A
Stonechat	A
Wheatear	A
House Sparrow	CB, F (20), M
Tree Sparrow	A, Notes
Dunnock	CB, F (10)
Yellow Wagtail <i>flavissima</i>	A
Yellow Wagtail other races	A, Notes
Grey Wagtail	B, F (5), M
Pied Wagtail <i>yarrelli</i>	CB, F (50), M
White Wagtail <i>alba</i>	A, autumn Notes
Meadow Pipit	B, F (25), M
Tree Pipit	A
Water Pipit	A
Rock Pipit	A
Chaffinch	CB, F (25), M
Brambling	A
Hawfinch	A
Bullfinch	CB, F (5), M
Greenfinch	CB, F (20), M
Linnet	CB, F (20), M
Common Redpoll	A, Notes
Lesser Redpoll	A
Crossbill	A
Goldfinch	CB, F (50), M
Siskin	B, F (10), M, S
Snow Bunting	A, inland Notes
Corn Bunting	A
Yellowhammer	CB, F (10), M
Reed Bunting	A

Scarcer species

A list of species considered by the British Birds Rarities Committee (BBRC) is given on their website at <http://www.bbrc.org.uk/main-information/species-taxa>. Records of scarcer species not considered by BBRC but required to be submitted for consideration by HOS Rarities Panel are listed below and must be supported by the completion of Unusual Record Forms which are available from the Recorder or on the society web site at <http://www.hos.org.uk/index.php/bird-recording>. Additional evidence in the form of digital photographs or sound recordings in electronic format is also welcomed. Records of the following species will not be published in the Hampshire Bird Report unless they have been accepted by the HOS Records Panel.

Tundra Bean, Taiga Bean, Pink-footed and Greenland White-fronted Geese, Black Brant, Bewick's & Whooper Swans, American Wigeon, Green-winged Teal, Ring-necked Duck, Surf Scoter, Smew, Alpine Swift, Corncrake, Spotted Crane, Corncrake, Spotted Crane, Red-necked Grebe, Black-winged Stilt, American Golden Plover, Dotterel, Black-tailed Godwit race *limosa*, Temminck's Stint, White-rumped Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Red-necked Phalarope, Sabine's, Ring-billed & Glaucous Gulls, Iceland Gull races *glaucoides* & *kumleini*, White-winged Black Tern, Long-tailed Skua, Black Guillemot, Puffin, White-billed Diver, Cory's, Sooty & Balearic Shearwaters, Storm and Leach's Petrels, Night-heron, Purple Heron, Black Kite, Montagu's Harrier, White-tailed Eagle (**except for loW birds**), Rough-legged Buzzard, Bee-eater, Red-footed Falcon, Red-backed & Woodchat Shrikes, Chough, Hooded Crow, Penduline Tit, Willow Tit, Shore & Short-toed Larks, Red-rumped Swallow, Pallas's, Radde's, Dusky, Barred, Icterine, Melodious, Blyth's Reed & Marsh Warblers, Rose-coloured Starling, Red-flanked Bluetail, Bluethroat, Red-breasted Flycatcher, Dipper, Citrine Wagtail, Richard's & Olive-backed Pipits, Common Rosefinch, Twite, Parrot Crossbill, Serin, Lapland, Cirl, Ortolan & Little Buntings. All exceptionally early or late migrants.

Heard only records of the above species

Criteria for the acceptance of these by the panel are as follows:

- The observer must have good experience of the species concerned and demonstrate that the call of the bird claimed was heard clearly.
- The call must be described in detail including transcription on paper (length, quality, tone, etc. of call), comparison with other calls heard either at the same or around the same time (or failing that, qualification as to why it was different to commoner species) and frequency/timing of call(s).
- The observer should provide an exact account of the record including, for example, how many times the bird called and over what period of time it was heard.
- **Nocturnal Migration – call only records**
- For all description species and a few others (such as Common Scoter, uncommon waders etc.), we require a recording to be provided and that preferably has several examples of calls audible. Ideally the submitter will have obtained a spectrogram of this using the widely available free software. With recordings we would like to have the whole call sequence (e.g. 10-15 sec.) and not just each call isolated. Two sources of free software to create spectrograms are given below.

<https://www.audacityteam.org/>

<https://ravensoundsoftware.com/software/raven-lite/>

UK rarities

Records of rarer species and sub-species are dealt with by BBRC. Submissions can be made online at <http://www.bbrc.org.uk/submit-a-sighting>, in which case it is appreciated if copies are e-mailed to the Recorder. Alternatively, record forms are available from the Recorder and can be returned to him for onward transmission to BBRC.

Urgent Bird News

In addition to the formal submission of rarities to the HOS Recorder, or where relevant to BBRC, observers of rarities in Hampshire are requested to pass on the news as soon as possible, assuming there are no confidentiality issues, so that others may benefit. The preferred method for those with smartphones or other internet access is to post on the Going Birding in Hampshire website at <http://www.goingbirding.co.uk/hants/birdnews.asp>.

To submit records, it is first necessary to register with a personal log-in name and password for a free account. After acceptance, records can be submitted at any time using your log-in and password. A separate part of the website also allows photographs to be submitted. Alternatives to Going Birding include one of the national bird news services such as Rare Bird Alert or Birdguides. For those without internet access, please ask others to post for you.



Whiskered Tern (David Thelwell)

Appendix 4

Photographs for inclusion in the *Hampshire Bird Report*

The Photographic Editor welcomes the submission of good quality digital photographs of birds taken in Hampshire for consideration for future reports. Images of any species, including common ones, are welcome. Photographs of birds in flight, in flocks or with extensive areas of habitat visible are particularly encouraged.

The filename should include the photographer's name, species name, locality and date taken. Please also submit poorer quality record shots of rarities, especially if it is likely that the bird has not been otherwise photographed.

Please send images for consideration to Alan Lewis alanlewisbirding@gmail.com (note new e-mail address). Photographers are asked to send medium resolution images but to retain the unedited originals as these may be requested later for publication.

Hampshire Bird Ringing and Nest Recording Report 2021

Mike Chalmers

Introduction

This report summarises the fieldwork carried out by ringers and nest recorders in Hampshire during 2021. Further details can be viewed in the on-line ringing report on the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) web site at <https://www.bto.org/our-science/projects/ringing/publications/online-ringing-reports> (Robinson et al., 2022) by selecting the data for Hampshire. The results for 2021 are included in this bird report as the relevant data were not available in time from BTO to meet the publication schedule for HBR 2021.

The total number of birds ringed in Hampshire was 27,634 including 2,994 nestlings (cf. 28,558 including 1,757 nestlings in 2020). The return to more normal patterns following the lifting of COVID restrictions is illustrated by the large increase in nestlings ringed including such species as gulls, terns and Stonechats. The total number of species ringed was 105, two less than in 2020. Twite is shown as a new species on the BTO ringing list but the record was considered not proven by HOSRP and has therefore not been included in Table I.

Nest recording provides valuable information about the productivity of birds and this can be used in combination with data from ringing to understand the causes of population changes revealed by the Breeding Bird Survey and other surveys. In line with the national report, a summary of nest recording in the county in 2021 is also included.



Chiffchaff and Siberian Chiffchaff, Eastleigh STW, Dec 11th 2021 (Trevor Codlin)



Sandwich Tern chick, Lymington River, 1 July 2022
(Marcus Ward)



Peregrine chick, South Hampshire, 22 May 2022
(Marcus Ward)



Spotted Flycatcher, Bolderwood, NF, 10 June 2022 (Marcus Ward)

Ringing summary for the year

The number of each species ringed in 2021, and the all-time totals from 1972-2021, are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: 2021 Hampshire ringing totals

Species	Full grown	Pullus	Total 2021	Total 1972 – 2021
Red-legged Partridge <i>Alectoris rufa</i>	0	0	0	2
Grey Partridge <i>Perdix perdix</i>	0	0	0	118
Brent Goose <i>Branta bernicla</i>	0	0	0	253
Greater Canada Goose <i>Branta canadensis</i>	0	0	0	1,322
Barnacle Goose <i>Branta leucopsis</i>	0	0	0	1
Greylag Goose <i>Anser anser</i>	0	0	0	15
Mute Swan <i>Cygnus olor</i>	2	0	2	1,576
Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	0	0	0	74
Mandarin Duck <i>Aix galericulata</i>	0	0	0	57
Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i>	0	0	0	35
Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i>	0	0	0	45
Wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i>	0	0	0	428
Mallard <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	1	0	1	478
Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i>	0	0	0	1
Teal <i>Anas crecca</i>	7	0	7	615
Pochard <i>Aythya ferina</i>	0	0	0	10
Tufted Duck <i>Aythya fuligula</i>	0	0	0	22
Eider <i>Somateria mollissima</i>	0	0	0	1
Nightjar <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>	35	28	63	590
Alpine Swift <i>Apus melba</i>	0	0	0	1
Swift <i>Apus apus</i>	19	74	93	3,383
Cuckoo <i>Cuculus canorus</i>	0	4	4	94
Stock Dove <i>Columba oenas</i>	17	19	46	1,014
Woodpigeon <i>Columba palumbus</i>	46	4	50	1,335
Turtle Dove <i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	0	0	0	62
Collared Dove <i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	15	0	15	2,938
Water Rail <i>Rallus aquaticus</i>	7	0	7	154
Corncrake <i>Crex crex</i>	0	0	0	1
Spotted Crake <i>Porzana porzana</i>	0	0	0	2
Moorhen <i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	0	0	0	399
Coot <i>Fulica atra</i>	0	0	0	87
Little Grebe <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	0	0	0	19
Great Crested Grebe <i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	0	0	0	3
Stone-curlew <i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i>	0	2	2	293
Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	2	6	8	1,113
Avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	0	6	6	81
Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	7	119	126	2,962
Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	0	0	0	9
Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	0	0	0	271
Ringed Plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	0	1	1	1,835
Little Ringed Plover <i>Charadrius dubius</i>	0	3	3	153
Kentish Plover <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	0	0	0	2
Whimbrel <i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	0	0	0	6
Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i>	0	0	0	217
Bar-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i>	0	0	0	32

Black-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa limosa</i>	0	0	0	610
Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres</i>	0	0	0	258
Knot <i>Calidris canutus</i>	0	0	0	574
Ruff <i>Calidris pugnax</i>	0	0	0	22
Curlew Sandpiper <i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	0	0	0	133
Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i>	0	0	0	499
Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina</i>	4	0	4	13,395
Little Stint <i>Calidris minuta</i>	0	0	0	99
Buff-breasted Sandpiper <i>Calidris subruficollis</i>	0	0	0	1
Pectoral Sandpiper <i>Calidris melanotos</i>	0	0	0	3
Semipalmated Sandpiper <i>Calidris pusilla</i>	0	0	0	1
Woodcock <i>Scolopax rusticola</i>	152	0	152	3,102
Jack Snipe <i>Lymanocryptes minimus</i>	1	1	2	91
Snipe <i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	1	0	1	553
Grey Phalarope <i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>	0	0	0	1
Common Sandpiper <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	0	0	0	191
Spotted Sandpiper <i>Actitis macularius</i>	0	0	0	1
Green Sandpiper <i>Tringa ochropus</i>	0	0	0	20
Lesser Yellowlegs <i>Tringa flavipes</i>	0	0	0	1
Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i>	5	8	13	2,902
Wood Sandpiper <i>Tringa glareola</i>	0	0	0	4
Spotted Redshank <i>Tringa erythropus</i>	0	0	0	23
Greenshank <i>Tringa nebularia</i>	0	0	0	626
Kittiwake <i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	0	0	0	1
Black-headed Gull <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	2	58	60	8,506
Mediterranean Gull <i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	0	47	47	293
Common Gull <i>Larus canus</i>	0	0	0	44
Great Black-backed Gull <i>Larus marinus</i>	0	0	0	30
Herring Gull <i>Larus argentatus</i>	1	0	10	143
Yellow-legged Gull <i>Larus michahellis</i>	0	0	0	1
Lesser Black-backed Gull <i>Larus fuscus</i>	0	0	0	1
Sandwich Tern <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>	0	0	0	241
Little Tern <i>Sternula albifrons</i>	0	13	13	35
Common Tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i>	0	43	43	713
Little Auk <i>Alle alle</i>	0	0	0	2
Guillemot <i>Uria aalge</i>	0	0	0	1
Leach's Petrel <i>Oceanodroma leucorhoa</i>	0	0	0	2
Manx Shearwater <i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	0	0	0	1
Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	0	0	0	1
Grey Heron <i>Ardea cinerea</i>	0	0	0	65
Little Egret <i>Egretta garzetta</i>	0	0	0	110
Honey-buzzard <i>Pernis apivorus</i>	0	2	2	52
Sparrowhawk <i>Accipiter nisus</i>	15	0	15	1,547
Goshawk <i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	0	0	0	436
Montagu's Harrier <i>Circus pygargus</i>	0	0	0	6
Red Kite <i>Milvus milvus</i>	1	0	1	39
Buzzard <i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	0	1	179
Barn Owl <i>Tyto alba</i>	21	185	206	2,273
Tawny Owl <i>Strix aluco</i>	2	24	26	571
Little Owl <i>Athene noctua</i>	0	3	3	217
Long-eared Owl <i>Asio otus</i>	0	0	0	1
Short-eared Owl <i>Asia flammeus</i>	0	0	0	1

Kingfisher <i>Alcedo atthis</i>	41	0	41	1,325
Wryneck <i>Jynx torquilla</i>	0	0	0	9
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos minor</i>	0	0	0	45
Great Spotted Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos major</i>	76	3	79	1,492
Green Woodpecker <i>Picus viridis</i>	10	0	10	358
Kestrel <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	1	182	183	2,178
Merlin <i>Falco columbarius</i>	0	0	0	1
Hobby <i>Falco subbuteo</i>	0	0	0	21
Peregrine <i>Falco peregrinus</i>	0	10	10	113
Red-backed Shrike <i>Lanius collurio</i>	0	0	0	1
Jay <i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	19	0	19	885
Magpie <i>Pica pica</i>	26	0	26	638
Jackdaw <i>Corvus monedula</i>	23	2	25	659
Rook <i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	3	0	3	651
Carrion Crow <i>Corvus corone</i>	0	0	0	114
Waxwing <i>Bombicilla garrulus</i>	0	0	0	38
Coal Tit <i>Pariparus ater</i>	141	44	185	7,225
Marsh Tit <i>Poecile palustris</i>	58	3	61	1,165
Willow Tit <i>Poecile montana</i>	0	0	0	277
Blue Tit <i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	2,737	394	3,131	113,914
Great Tit <i>Parus major</i>	988	438	1,426	47,549
Penduline Tit <i>Remiz pendulinus</i>	0	0	0	1
Bearded Tit <i>Panurus biarmicus</i>	18	0	18	1,504
Woodlark <i>Lullula arborea</i>	13	101	114	913
Skylark <i>Alauda arvensis</i>	1	4	5	436
Sand Martin <i>Riparia riparia</i>	68	0	68	24,260
Swallow <i>Hirundo rustica</i>	249	238	487	46,061
House Martin <i>Delichon urbicum</i>	120	4	124	5,889
Cetti's Warbler <i>Cettia cetti</i>	114	0	114	2,814
Long-tailed Tit <i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	592	0	592	17,703
Wood Warbler <i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	9	27	36	1,853
Yellow-browed Warbler <i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>	0	0	0	21
Pallas's Warbler <i>Phylloscopus proregulus</i>	0	0	0	1
Radde's Warbler <i>Phylloscopos schwarzi</i>	0	0	0	1
Willow Warbler <i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	551	59	610	21,503
Chiffchaff <i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	2,362	20	2,382	34,072
Aquatic Warbler <i>Acrocephalus paludicola</i>	0	0	0	57
Sedge Warbler <i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	833	0	833	45,941
Paddyfield Warbler <i>Acrocephalus agricola</i>	0	0	0	1
Reed Warbler <i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	933	79	1,012	40,030
Marsh Warbler <i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>	0	0	0	4
Icterine Warbler <i>Hippolais icterina</i>	0	0	0	2
Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler <i>Locustella certhiola</i>	0	0	0	1
Lanceolated Warbler <i>Locustella lanceolata</i>	0	0	0	1
Savi's Warbler <i>Locustella luscinioides</i>	0	0	0	4
Grasshopper Warbler <i>Locustella naevia</i>	89	0	89	6,084
Blackcap <i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	2,552	45	2,597	41,162
Garden Warbler <i>Sylvia borin</i>	183	0	183	4,271
Barred Warbler <i>Sylvia nisoria</i>	0	0	0	1
Lesser Whitethroat <i>Sylvia curruca</i>	42	0	42	1,649
Subalpine Warbler <i>Sylvia cantillans</i>	0	0	0	1
Whitethroat <i>Sylvia communis</i>	522	0	522	8,653
Dartford Warbler <i>Sylvia undata</i>	19	8	27	486

Firecrest <i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>	146	0	146	1,919
Goldcrest <i>Regulus regulus</i>	357	0	357	15,262
Wren <i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	549	5	554	16,530
Nuthatch <i>Sitta europaea</i>	89	13	102	2,501
Treecreeper <i>Certhia familiaris</i>	7	61	68	1,966
Starling <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	853	8	861	16,408
Ring Ouzel <i>Turdus torquatus</i>	0	0	0	3
Blackbird <i>Turdus merula</i>	612	80	692	28,402
Fieldfare <i>Turdus pilaris</i>	3	0	3	1,352
Redwing <i>Turdus iliacus</i>	148	0	148	4,933
Song Thrush <i>Turdus philomelus</i>	208	60	268	8,544
Mistle Thrush <i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	1	3	4	698
Spotted Flycatcher <i>Muscicapa striata</i>	6	0	6	1,640
Robin <i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	1,009	51	1,060	24,248
Bluethroat <i>Luscinia svecica</i>	0	0	0	5
Nightingale <i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	11	0	11	283
Pied Flycatcher <i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>	0	0	0	95
Black Redstart <i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	0	0	0	32
Redstart <i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	26	48	74	825
Whinchat <i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	7	0	7	203
Stonechat <i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	49	241	290	2,572
Wheatear <i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	3	0	3	78
House Sparrow <i>Passer domesticus</i>	386	14	400	8,695
Tree Sparrow <i>Passer montanus</i>	0	0	0	757
Dunnock <i>Prunella modularis</i>	541	21	562	17,530
Yellow Wagtail <i>Motacilla flava</i>	6	0	6	2,564
Citrine Wagtail <i>Motacilla citreola</i>	0	0	0	1
Grey Wagtail <i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	33	44	77	2,368
Pied / White Wagtail <i>Motacilla alba</i>	41	12	53	12,194
Meadow Pipit <i>Anthus pratensis</i>	281	37	318	5,585
Tree Pipit <i>Anthus trivialis</i>	9	6	15	791
Olive-backed Pipit <i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>	0	0	0	1
Water Pipit <i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	0	0	0	43
Rock Pipit <i>Anthus petrosus</i>	0	0	0	109
Chaffinch <i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	382	4	386	18,894
Brambling <i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>	196	0	196	6,248
Hawfinch <i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	51	0	51	227
Bullfinch <i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	232	0	232	7,081
Greenfinch <i>Chloris chloris</i>	751	6	757	42,158
Linnet <i>Linaria cannabina</i>	355	10	365	5,716
Common Redpoll <i>Acanthis flammea</i>	0	0	0	42
Common/Lesser Redpoll <i>A. flammea/cabaret</i>	2	0	2	2
Lesser Redpoll <i>Acanthis cabaret</i>	1,012	0	1,012	6,918
Crossbill <i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	0	0	0	9
Goldfinch <i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	1,693	10	1,703	20,334
Siskin <i>Spinus spinus</i>	519	0	519	17,678
Corn Bunting <i>Emberiza calandra</i>	1	0	1	90
Cirl Bunting <i>Emberiza cirlus</i>	0	0	0	1
Yellowhammer <i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	24	0	24	2,576
Little Bunting <i>Emberiza pusilla</i>	1	0	1	5
Reed Bunting <i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	158	4	162	10,881
TOTALS	24,640	2,994	27,634	862,877

Hampshire ringers contributed more than 15% of the national total for eight species: Honey-buzzard, Stone-curlew, Mediterranean Gull, Woodlark, Dartford Warbler, Firecrest, Stonechat and Hawfinch.

Ringling projects

In 2011, the BTO published a strategy to increase the contribution of ringing to conservation science (Robinson *et al.*, 2011). The aim of the strategy was to encourage ringers to target their activities in areas where they can make the greatest contribution to conservation. Key recommendations were to increase the participation in the Retrapping Adults for Survival (RAS) and Constant Effort Sites (CES) schemes. The RAS scheme produces high quality information on adult survival rates. In particular, projects which target species of conservation concern or those which are poorly covered by other schemes are encouraged. In Hampshire there have been projects on Starling, Sand Martin, Marsh Tit, Great Tit and Bullfinch.

The CES scheme involves standardised ringing at a specific site at regular intervals during the breeding season. The scheme provides information on changes in population size, breeding success and survival rates for 28 species. Increasing the number of CES sites will enable data to be analysed for further species. In Hampshire there were five CES sites in 2019: Blashford Lakes, Martin Down, Pamber Forest, Winchester WM and Keyhaven. During 2020 the BTO launched pilot CES schemes focussed on domestic gardens and the winter period, and Hampshire ringers are participating in both schemes.

The BTO strategy also encourages species-specific projects and many Hampshire ringers participate in a number of important studies. Many of these projects involve colour-ringing so that individuals can be identified in the field and other birders can make important contributions by reporting any colour-ringed birds that they see. Care should be taken to record the colour and position of the rings accurately and photographs can be extremely helpful to scheme organisers in verifying the colours. A summary of the various colour-ring projects, together with contact details for the organisers, was formerly included in this report but from 2023 has been posted on the HOS website for easy access and updating. Please report sightings to the organisers listed on the website. For other species, sightings can be reported at www.cr-birding.org. Observers receiving information about colour-ringed birds from foreign ringers are urged to submit these data to the BTO.

Recoveries

Details of the more significant recoveries can now be found on the BTO web site at <https://www.bto.org/our-science/projects/ringing/publications/online-ringing-reports> so only selected examples of longevity or long-distance movements in 2021 are provided in this report. Readers wishing to find detailed information on a particular recovery can do so at the link above.



*Juvenile Nightingale, June 21st 2021
(Trevor Codlin)*



*Wood Warbler, Hayling GC, Aug 1st 2021
(Trevor Codlin)*

Teal. A male ringed at Crackmore Hard in January 2020 was shot in Novgorod Oblast, Russia in April, a movement of 2,252km ENE.

Great White Egret. A nestling colour-ringed in Somerset in May 2021 was seen in August at Broadlands Lake.

Little Egret. GF49953 was ringed as a nestling at Sowley Pond in June 2006 and established a new longevity record for UK of 15 years 3 months when it was resighted at Normandy Marsh in September, having also been recorded in all but one of the intervening years in the same area.

Oystercatcher. An adult colour-ringed at Crackmore Hard in January 2019 was seen at Sandquoy, Orkney in April, a movement of 939km north.

Avocet. A nestling colour-ringed at Needs Ore in June 2018 was seen at Kilnsea, East Yorkshire in September

Ringed Plover. An adult colour-ringed at Black Point in September 2021 was seen in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany in April as well as in every previous breeding season since 2015.

Woodcock. A first-year ringed at Colemore in January 2018 was shot in Denmark in November as it was presumably returning to winter in UK.

Black-headed Gull. Northerly movement within UK was illustrated by an adult ringed at Farlington Marshes in September 2010 being seen at Barra, Western Isles in April. An adult seen at Woodmill, Southampton in February was over 15 years old and 1,449km west of its birth site in Poland in June 2004.

Mediterranean Gull. The furthest overseas movement was 1,620km WNW for a nestling ringed in Hungary in June 2011 and seen at Hayling Island in February as well as in Cornwall. Other overseas reports were either from or to France, Belgium and Poland.

Kestrel. A nestling ringed in Antwerp, Belgium in May 2019 was found dead (drowned) at Basingstoke in August.

Peregrine. A female nestling colour-ringed at Sway in May 2013 was seen at Middelburg, Holland in April. Within UK, birds ringed as nestlings from Cornwall, Winchester Cathedral and Vauxhall, London were reported this year from near Aldershot, Essex and Southampton Container Port respectively.

Chiffchaff. There were four records in Europe (Belgium, France (2) and Spain) of birds ringed in Hampshire including one from Titchfield Haven on Sep 25th controlled near Badajoz, Spain 49 days later and 1,392km SSW.

Reed Warbler. Another example of autumn migration was a first-year ringed at Titchfield Haven on Aug 1st and caught near Lisbon 26 days later and 1,463km south. Others ringed in Belgium, France and Spain in August 2016 were controlled at Itchen Abbas and Ibsley Water in May and one from Belgium in August was caught the next month at Titchfield Haven.

Rock Pipit. A male colour-ringed in the north of Norway in March 2019 was seen at Portchester in January, 1,434km SSW, confirming the presence of winterers from Scandinavia.

Chaffinch. The longest distance recorded this year was for a female ringed in central Finland in May 2019 and found dead (diseased) at Romsey in January, 2,196km WSW.

Common Redpoll. An opportunity to record the movements of this very scarce species was provided by a first-year ringed in Falkirk in September 2019 and caught at Hazeley Heath in April.

Lesser Redpoll. A juvenile ringed on the Isle of Lewis in September 2020 and caught at Hazeley Heath on Apr 13th was the longest movement of five at 856km SSE, all to or from the Highlands.

Table 2: Nest records submitted in Hampshire in 2021 and during period 2007 to 2021

Species	2020	2007 - 2021 total	Species	2020	2007 - 2021 total
Mute Swan	1	23	Jay		1
Greylag Goose		1	Jackdaw	3	36
Canada Goose		4	Carrion Crow		3
Egyptian Goose	1	1	Raven		9
Mandarin Duck		2	Goldcrest		3
Teal		1	Blue Tit	81	885
Mallard	1	15	Great Tit	110	1,129
Tufted Duck		1	Coal Tit	9	30
Red-legged Partridge		1	Marsh Tit	7	10
Pheasant	1	10	Woodlark	47	475
Grey Heron		23	Skylark	1	22
Little Grebe		11	Swallow	52	1,414
Great Crested Grebe	1	3	House Martin		1
Honey-buzzard		51	Long-tailed Tit	6	101
Red Kite	2	32	Wood Warbler	7	242
Goshawk		18	Chiffchaff	10	34
Sparrowhawk		5	Willow Warbler	14	75
Buzzard		4	Blackcap	55	217
Kestrel	10	81	Garden Warbler	1	11
Hobby		8	Whitethroat	1	18
Peregrine	5	42	Dartford Warbler	3	22
Water Rail		3	Sedge Warbler		5
Moorhen	3	57	Reed Warbler	41	213
Coot		12	Nuthatch	4	55
Avocet	1	3	Treecreeper	5	24
Oystercatcher		3	Wren	10	78
Lapwing	6	71	Starling	2	24
Little Ringed Plover	2	13	Blackbird	87	611
Ringed Plover	2	5	Song Thrush	60	317
Curlew		2	Mistle Thrush	1	4
Redshank		1	Spotted Flycatcher	1	17
Snipe		1	Robin	25	154
Sandwich Tern		29	Redstart	21	64
Common Tern		38	Stonechat	66	170
Black-headed Gull		10	Dunnock	22	103
Mediterranean Gull		4	House Sparrow	9	72
Herring Gull		2	Grey Wagtail	26	93
Yellow-legged Gull		1	Pied/White Wagtail	2	29
Stock Dove	3	164	Tree Pipit	1	11
Woodpigeon	20	131	Meadow Pipit	9	43
Collared Dove	3	26	Chaffinch	6	70
Cuckoo	4	7	Greenfinch	1	26
Barn Owl	96	619	Goldfinch	4	37
Little Owl	1	19	Siskin		1
Tawny Owl	6	46	Linnet	3	48
Nightjar	29	162	Bullfinch	4	20
Swift	8	121	Hawfinch	7	41
Kingfisher		3	Yellowhammer		11
Green Woodpecker	1	7	Reed Bunting	1	14
Great Spotted Woodpecker	3	12	Corn Bunting		10
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	5	37	Totals	1,037	9,048
Magpie		1			

Nest recording

The BTO administers a Nest Record Scheme through which observers can contribute to our understanding of breeding success and productivity. Anyone can take part and further details can be found at <https://www.bto.org/our-science/projects/nrs> where a range of resources including The Nest Record Scheme Handbook can be downloaded.

Table 2 lists the number of nest records submitted for each of 63 species during 2021, together with totals for the last 15 years to provide context. In total, 1,037 nests were monitored during the year, representing a return to pre-COVID numbers compared to only 475 nests last year.

Coverage has improved but remains patchy. Whilst Egyptian Goose was added for the first time, not a single record of Canada Goose, Coot or Magpie was submitted during the year. The paucity of records of such species shows how easy it would be for any birdwatcher to make a significant contribution to monitoring breeding success in the county.

Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to all ringers and birders who supplied details of ringed birds or nest records to the BTO. Thanks are also due to all the landowners and managers who allow ringing and nest recording to take place on their land. Particular thanks are due to the BTO who administer the British and Irish ringing scheme and who make available comprehensive results via the on-line ringing reports.

References

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A breeding season survey of the Ringed Plover in Hampshire 2022

Trevor Codlin & Marcus Ward



Ringed Plover – adult on nesting grounds (Trevor Codlin)

Abstract

Recent declines in the breeding population of the Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula* in Hampshire prompted the need for a survey in order to understand the current status. Visits were made to all suitable areas along the coast during the breeding season and to the previously-used nesting habitats in the north-east of the county and the New Forest. A total of 55 breeding pairs was recorded from 24 sites, with 39 chicks fledging. Reasons for the decline and possible measures aimed at preventing further losses are discussed.

Background

Once described as a “moderately common breeder” with a population thought to be increasing in Hampshire (Kelsall & Munn 1905; Cohen & Taverner 1972), the Ringed Plover is now following a similar trend to many breeding bird species and showing a significant decline. The first complete survey of the county in 1984, carried out as part of the BTO organised national census, produced a total of 165 pairs including 17 inland in the New Forest and at gravel pits in the Avon Valley and north-east of the county (Steventon 1985). Work for the first Hampshire atlas during 1986-91 produced an estimate of 140–160 pairs across the county including concentrations of 35 in Langstone Harbour, 42 in the Beaulieu Estuary and 34 between Hurst Spit and Pitts Deep (Clark & Eyre 1993).

At the start of the Hampshire Bird Atlas, in 2008, it was estimated that the county breeding population had dropped to around 57 pairs, and by the end of it, in 2012, incomplete survey data produced an estimate of just 25 pairs (Eyre 2015). A recent population assessment by

Clements & Clark (2018) estimated the population in 2017 to be between 25 – 60 pairs with breeding restricted to a few coastal locations.

The decline in Hampshire has mirrored the national trend and the Ringed Plover is now included on the Red List of Birds of Conservation Concern due to declines in both the breeding and over-wintering populations (Stanbury *et al.* 2021). Globally the Ringed Plover population is also decreasing, but due to its extremely large range, it does not approach the threshold for Vulnerable and is therefore included on the Red List as Least Concern (Keller *et al.* 2020).

Given the declining status of the species, HOS Scientific Sub-committee decided that it was time to carry out a full survey of the species in Hampshire in 2022. The main aim of the 2022 survey was to assess all suitable breeding habitat for Ringed Plover looking for breeding attempts and, where found, to record productivity. Almost all Ringed Plover breeding attempts in Hampshire are situated along the coast, mostly on shingle but also occasionally on sand, and therefore the emphasis was placed on the coastal region. However, in order to provide the most comprehensive information, sites in the north-east of the county and the New Forest were also surveyed.

Methodology

Surveys were undertaken between 15th April and 30th June. It was requested that visits be carried out prior to midday but, if that was not possible, they could be made later in the day. At least three visits were carried out with a minimum of two weeks between each.

By its nature, Ringed Plover breeding habitat is linear, and therefore the survey required observers to walk their allocated survey area at a steady pace, regularly stopping to scan with binoculars and listen for alarm calls. This approach was used because Ringed Plovers are known to walk away from their nest when a perceived threat approaches at a range of 80-100m. At this point they are usually easily seen, and often utter a short alarm call.

Surveyors were asked to record all observations on a map, noting behaviour, interactions with other Ringed Plovers and the total number of birds observed. This enabled survey organisers to assess the numbers of breeding pairs present. The following assessment methodology was used.

- a) One bird recorded alone 50m or more from other birds = one pair.
- b) Two individual birds within 50m of each other = one pair.
- c) Two birds together, or two birds recorded as a pair = one pair.
- d) Three-four birds together = two pairs.
- e) One – four birds flying into/out of or through a suspected breeding area = one – two pairs.
- f) Five or more birds remaining in the area, either on the ground or circling (vocal birds only) = at least three pairs.
- g) Small flocks of birds on the ground with no territorial behaviour (non-vocal) and those leaving the area and flying further than 150m without stopping, were considered to be non-breeding.

Surveyors were also requested to record any obvious signs of disturbance by humans, dogs or predators during each visit. This was important as it would help understand the reasons for breeding failure and assist with the design of mitigation interventions where possible.

If a breeding attempt was found, surveyors were asked to keep at least 150m from the suspected nest site to avoid disturbance. Further visits from a safe distance were encouraged to monitor breeding success.



Figure 1. Territorial Ringed Plovers (Trevor Codlin)



Figure 2. Typical nesting habitat (Trevor Codlin)

Results

A total of 55 breeding territories was recorded from 24 sites during the survey period; this comprised 21 in the Eastern Solent and 34 in the Western Solent. A summary of locations and outcomes is given in Table 1. No breeding pairs were recorded in the north-east of the county or New Forest. Of the 24 sites surveyed, 14 were occupied by Ringed Plovers. However in two instances, a pair that hatched chicks at Hamble Point and a failed nesting attempt on the lagoon at Hayling Golf Course, the pairs may have originated from nearby sites. In the case of the Hamble Point birds, this pair may have originated from Hook Spit, Warsash where territorial activity and mating were observed but no nests were located.

The pair on the lagoon at Hayling Golf Course likely originated from Gunner Point, since these birds started nesting late in the season after most breeding activity had ceased within the enclosure on Gunner Point.

Productivity was calculated based on chicks that, when last seen, were well advanced and able to fly, at least a short distance. On this basis, 39 chicks were considered to have fledged with 13 in the Eastern Solent and 26 in the Western Solent. Overall productivity based on 55 pairs rearing 39 chicks was 0.71 per pair. Productivity for the Eastern Solent was 0.62 and for the Western Solent 0.76.

Table 1. Results of Breeding Ringed Plover Survey (2022)

Site	Breeding Count (pairs)	Fledged Count (chicks)	Productivity (fledged chicks/pair)
Langstone Harbour			
Bakers Island	7	6	0.86
Long Island	2	4	2.00
Oysterbeds	0	0	0.00
Round Nap	0	0	0.00
South Binniss	3	0	0.00
Langstone Harbour Total	12	10	0.83
South Hayling			
Black Point	0	0	0.00
Golf Course Lagoon	1	0	0.00
Gunner Point	5	3	0.60
Central Southern Hayling	-	-	-
South Hayling Total	6	3	0.50
Portsea Island			
Eastney Beach	0	0	0.00
Portsea Island Total	0	0	0.00
Gosport - Warsash (inc. Bunny Meadows)			
Gilkicker Point	0	0	0.00
Browdown South	1	0	0.00
Lee-on-Solent	0	0	0.00
Titchfield Haven/Hillhead	0	0	0.00
Hook Spit	2	0	0.00
Gosport - Warsash Total	2	0	0.00
Hamble Point - Weston Shore			
Hamble Point	1	0	0.00
Weston Shore/Lower Itchen	0	0	0.00
Hamble Point - Weston Shore	1	0	0.00
Total Eastern Solent	21	13	0.62
Hurst Beach/Castle	4	2	0.50
Lymington/Keyhaven	2	0	0.00
Pylewell/Thorns Beech	7	7	1.00
Needs Ore/Warren Shore	17	14	0.82
Beaulieu River/Lepe	0	0	0.00
Cadland Estate	3	3	1.00
Calshot	0	0	0.00
Southampton Water (west side)	1	0	0.00
Total Western Solent	34	26	0.76
Combined Total	55	39	0.71



Figures 3 & 4. Incubating adult Ringed Plover on nest & nest with four eggs (Trevor Codlin)

Discussion

The results of the 2022 breeding Ringed Plover survey were in some respects a pleasant surprise since it identified that 55 pairs held territory, more than double the 25 pairs estimated in 2012 and towards the higher end of the 25–60 pairs estimated by Clements and Clark (2017). However, the total is significantly lower than that estimated in the 1986–91 Atlas of 140–160, and represents a 61–66% decline since that survey. In addition, the survey confirms that breeding birds are restricted to the coast and no longer breed in the north-east of the county or in the New Forest.

Productivity was highest where access was restricted or virtually non-existent, such as the RSPB islands in Langstone Harbour and the private estates or restricted access nature reserves in the Western Solent.

In the Eastern Solent the RSPB Islands accounted for 42% of breeding pairs in this region and 70% of the fledging success. At Gunner Point, where a fenced enclosure was erected to boost breeding success, three young fledged, which was an improvement on previous years, but at that location issues with predation from corvids and some disturbance by one persistent out-of-control dog within the enclosure likely reduced productivity. Details of the Gunner Point fence are described in Codlin (2021) together with implementation and funding arrangements.

In the Western Solent, it is understood that nest cages were used at Needs Ore/Warren Shore to improve hatching success. At this location 17 pairs fledged 14 young. Needs Ore/Warren Shore was thus the most important breeding site for the species in Hampshire in 2022. It accounted for 50% of the Western Solent breeding population, 55% of fledged chicks and a productivity of 0.82. Productivity was highest at Pylewell/Thorns beach and the Cadland Estate, where seven and three pairs respectively reared seven and three chicks, a productivity of 1.00.

Research carried out by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) identified the major factor influencing breeding success to be failure at the egg stage, although this is based on a limited number of nest records (Conway *et al.* 2019). Extensive research from around the country and abroad has demonstrated that some of the primary reasons for this failure are recreational disturbance (both with and without dogs), predation (corvids, gulls, foxes and hedgehogs) and sea level rise (Gomez-Serrano 2012).

The Hampshire coastline is highly protected due to the internationally important numbers of over-wintering waterfowl (waders, ducks and geese) and also for the breeding populations



Figures 5 & 6. Ringed Plover chicks within fenced enclosure, Hayling Island (Trevor Codlin)

of four tern species and the Mediterranean Gull *Ichthyaeetus melanocephalus*. In Hampshire conflicts between people wishing to enjoy the coast and birds are well documented and the Bird Aware Solent project <https://birdaware.org/solent/> came out of a study (Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership) that identified adverse impacts on over-wintering bird populations as a result of an increase in residential units within 5.6km of the coast. The effectiveness of this scheme is limited by the lack of any enforcement measures when coastal users refuse to adhere to polite requests to avoid sensitive areas (such as where high tide roosts are present) or keep their dogs under close control. However, no such scheme exists for breeding waders.

With the coastal zone so heavily developed and the need to protect property and infrastructure assets that are at risk from predicted sea level rise, a solid and robust barrier, that maintains the existing coastline in situ, is often required. The effect of this is that areas of vegetated shingle (Ringed Plover nesting habitat), that are above the high-water mark, are increasingly inundated at high tide and new areas are unable to develop due to the presence of coastal defences. This is known as coastal squeeze. Where suitable nesting habitat remains, areas often become focal points for recreation, as they provide areas where dogs can be exercised safely off the lead and the open and rugged landscape provides open space which is recognised as being good for the mental health and well-being of users. The result is that Ringed Plovers are displaced and subsequently fail to breed.

The Next Steps

The results of the 2022 survey combined with the issues discussed above paint a worrying picture for the Ringed Plover as a breeding species in Hampshire. In the absence of specific measures and/or increased protection, it is probable that it could be lost as a breeder, particularly where suitable areas are fully open for public use and access unrestricted.

Fortunately, there are some relatively large areas of suitable habitat that are not open to the public and these areas produced the highest number of breeding pairs and fledged young. However, some of those are vulnerable to sea-level rise and without specific measures, such as shingle recharge, could be lost as breeding sites in the near future. Other positive initiatives include the creation of fenced breeding areas on otherwise busy beaches, but the success of these areas relies on the goodwill of beach users. In all cases egg and chick predation appears to be a particular issue, and therefore there will be a need to protect active nests through the use of nest cages or by carrying out some form of predator control in nesting areas.

Increased protection, for example including Ringed Plover on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, could provide added legal protection to nesting birds from disturbance,

but such a measure is only likely to be effective where there are meaningful penalties for those who offend combined with an appetite for the enforcement agencies to prosecute.

The continued monitoring of breeding areas is crucial in order that further declines in the breeding population are documented before it is too late. With schemes such as the RSPB's Life on the Edge project <https://www.rspb.org.uk/our-work/conservation/projects/life-on-the-edge/> and the Save our South Coast Alliance <https://www.sosca.org.uk/>, there is hope, but there will need to be changes to how some areas of the coast are used. Sanctuary areas will be essential and, in the authors' opinion dare we say it, the issuing of Public Space Protection Orders (or similar) to stop those that feel they are entitled to use protected areas in spite of their sensitive nature.

Acknowledgements

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Improving our understanding of Redshank spatial ecology in river valleys using the Avon Valley as a case-study

Lizzie Grayshon



Colour-ringed Redshank in Avon Valley (Lizzie Grayshon)

Abstract

This paper describes the on-going project to understand Redshank *Tringa totanus* breeding behaviour in river valleys based on GPS tagging and colour-ringing of birds in the Avon Valley. Details of the results, mostly from 2022, are presented and discussed.

Introduction

The Avon Valley provides a stronghold for breeding Redshank in Hampshire. Throughout the LIFE Waders for Real project we monitored Redshank and documented an increase in pairs from 19 in 2015 to 35 in 2019. This increase was likely brought about by habitat improvements and predator management.

The Avon Valley is a linear water meadows system where little is known about territory size and movement of Redshank, or between-year and within-year site fidelity. There is evidence that territorial birds travel large distances from nests to feeding locations, often crossing and possibly sharing other pairs' territories. A better understanding of Redshank movements is required to properly understand the habitat requirements and breeding success of this population, which could improve conservation efforts and the reliability of survey methods for this species. These movements could be driven by a dependency on specific habitat features. Identifying these features and increasing their availability through habitat management will improve habitat suitability across the valley. Limited colour-ringing has shown that some individuals winter in The Solent. A better understanding of wintering locations will allow for a joined-up approach to the management of regional designated sites.

Here we present the preliminary second year findings of the study to explore the following:

- Territory size and movements during breeding
- Fine-scale habitat use by breeding adults and broods
- Outcomes of breeding success
- Site fidelity among individuals

This research will feed directly into conservation measures across the water meadows in the Avon Valley. Information will be provided to the newly formed farmer cluster and will encourage more joined-up conservation across sites and the region.

Temporary electric fences

Temporary electric fences are used across the study site to protect from mammalian predators. These fences are put out in early March in core areas and each fence covers 1-2ha of water meadow. Temporary electric fences are not completely predator-proof but offer a good level of extra protection alongside the lethal legal predator management of foxes.

LIFE Waders For Real

The LIFE Waders for Real project ran from 2015 – 2022, aiming to improve breeding wader numbers and success in the Avon Valley. This was done by working with farmers, land managers, owners and keepers to improve habitat conditions through targeted advice and habitat management, reducing predation pressure through non-lethal predator management options, and making existing lethal predator control more targeted for breeding waders.

Detailed site-specific advice on habitat management and reducing predation is essential to halt further decline in the waders. Groups of important fields were identified, and we created a network of 'hotspots', where increased resources were targeted to improve productivity. EU Life+ funding financed measures that could not otherwise be implemented through HLS. Predator exclusion fencing and nest cages were trialled to increase wader nest survival. In-field wet features were created to improve wader chick foraging resources and increase survival.

Numbers and breeding success of Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* and Redshank, abundance of predators and changes in other taxa were monitored to measure the effectiveness of interventions and provide novel ecological insight. Since the project began, the downward trend has stabilised, and numbers of Lapwing have started to rise. There were 61 pairs on the study area in 2015 rising to 105 in 2019. But the greatest achievement has been improving breeding success, which is critical to reversing declines. To remain stable, a local population needs to fledge an average of 0.7 chicks per pair each year. Prior to the project, Lapwing productivity had dropped to as low as 0.4 young per pair in the study area. In 2019, the figure was 0.96 and the average figure for the hotspots over the course of the project went from 0.51 to 0.75, surpassing the crucial level for sustainability. Redshank pairs increased from 19 in 2015 to 35 in 2019.

The project now continues in a reduced capacity through the Avon Valley Farmer Cluster.

Methods

The aim was to catch and tag ten adult Redshank at the project sites in the Avon Valley over multiple years. Detailed pair surveys were conducted in early spring to determine initial territories and likely nesting sites. Nest finding and monitoring took place in April – June, and temperature loggers within nests gave exact hatching dates (supported by observations of chicks) and timings of predation events.

During the last week of incubation adults were trapped on the nest using a heart-shaped walk-in trap or a hand net for birds that sat tight, then fitted with glue-mounted GPS tags and a unique colour-ring combination.

Pathtrack Ltd GPS-UHF tags (3.3g, 40*12*19 mm, 50 mm external antenna) were used. The tags have a solar panel and a closed-cell foam base to prevent feather abrasion and raise the tag slightly to improve solar-recharge. Tags were glue-mounted to the lower back, permitting 1-3 months of data collection. Tags were shed when moulted, meaning they did not unnecessarily impact the bird for longer than the intended recording period. Tag size and fitting method were accepted by the Special Methods Technical Panel of the BTO Ringing Committee and by GWCT's Animal Welfare and Ethics Review Board.

Tags were programmed to give multiple point locations each day, turning off between 22:00 and 03:00 to conserve battery life. Mobile base stations were moved around the study sites to remotely download data from the tags. All birds were fitted with uniquely coded colour rings so we could identify individuals in the field during tracking periods (and facilitate downloads) and after the tag was shed (to provide information on subsequent fates). Colour rings allow us to better understand site fidelity, but this will take several years.

Nests were visited as near to the hatching date as possible to increase our chance of capturing chicks at hatching. It was possible to colour-ring chicks from day one, providing the legs were big enough to metal ring. Detailed habitat data around nest sites and chick-foraging areas were taken to understand fine-scale habitat requirements for different stages of breeding. Measures of vegetation type, vegetation height, soil dampness or penetrability were recorded in the field at locations used by tagged birds and compared to measures at random locations within 100 m.

Results

Nest finding and monitoring

Surveys began in late March for both years and continued into late June, with 33 pairs observed in 2021 and 34 in 2022. Thirteen Redshank nests were found over the two years. Nests are notoriously tricky to find due to Redshank's secretive nature when returning to the nest site and their site selection in longer grass or tussocks.

Table 1. Total nests monitored each year and their outcomes.

Outcome	2021	2022	Grand Total
Hatched	5	6	11
Predated		1	1
Unknown Failed		1	1
Total	5	8	13

Nesting success was high in both years with 11 out of 13 nests hatching successfully. Successful nests hatched, on average, six days later in 2022 (11th May 2021 vs 17th May 2022). This is based on a relatively small sample size, but behavioural observations of other breeding Redshank on the sites suggest this later date in 2022 was mirrored by the wider population. There was a substantial cold spell in April 2022, and this could have affected nesting birds. Redshank are notably more susceptible to colder weather due to the concealed structure of their nests leading to lower temperatures within the nest cup.



Figure 1. Heart walk-in trap built to catch Redshank on the nest.

Nest trapping and GPS tagging

Although we found fewer nests than expected, nest trapping proved extremely successful. The two different methods for catching adults on the nest were used, the heart-shaped walk-in trap proving more successful in 2021 with the shorter vegetation and the hand net in 2022 when the vegetation was longer.

Tags were programmed to take a fix every hour between 03:00 and 22:00 to preserve battery overnight. We did not encounter any problems with the battery life of the tags during the period of time attached via the glue mount.



Figure 2. Redshank nest found in April 2018; nest well concealed by vegetation.

Table 2. Summary of all nests monitored and those where an adult was caught and fitted with a GPS tag, number of days tagged and data collected.

Nest ID	Year	Site	Inside fence	Found date	Outcome	Adult redshank trapped	Ring Number	Days tagged	Total points	Points per day average
1	2021	Watton's Ford	Y	09/04/2021	Hatched	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
3	2021	Watton's Ford	N	23/04/2021	Hatched	29/04/2021	DT88507	24	444	17
3	2021	Watton's Ford	Y	23/04/2021	Hatched	14/05/2021	DT88524	11	186	17
4	2021	Watton's Ford	Y	27/04/2021	Hatched	14/05/2021	DT88522	27	437	16
5	2021	Avon Tyrell North	N	25/05/2021	Hatched	28/05/2021	DT88543	5	66	13
1	2022	Watton's Ford	Y	07/04/2022	Failed	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2	2022	Watton's Ford	Y	21/04/2022	Hatched	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
3	2022	Avon Tyrell North	N	25/04/2022	Failed	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
4	2022	Watton's Ford	Y	03/05/2022	Hatched	17/05/2022	DT15722	11	415	37.7
5	2022	Watton's Ford	Y	03/05/2022	Hatched	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6	2022	Watton's Ford	Y	10/05/2022	Hatched	17/05/2022	DT88522	19	208	10.9
7	2022	Watton's Ford	Y	10/05/2022	Hatched	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
8	2022	Watton's Ford	y	19/05/2022	Hatched	20/05/2022	DT15738	19	310	16.3

The tags performed well, and we were able to regularly collect data from the remote base stations placed across the tagged Redshanks' territories. Data recording periods may have been limited by breeding success; if chicks failed to survive the adults would leave the site and prevent short-range VHF data download.

The three adults trapped in 2022 were tagged at the same site but over two different fields. Interestingly, the bird tagged in the northern field moved to join the others further south.

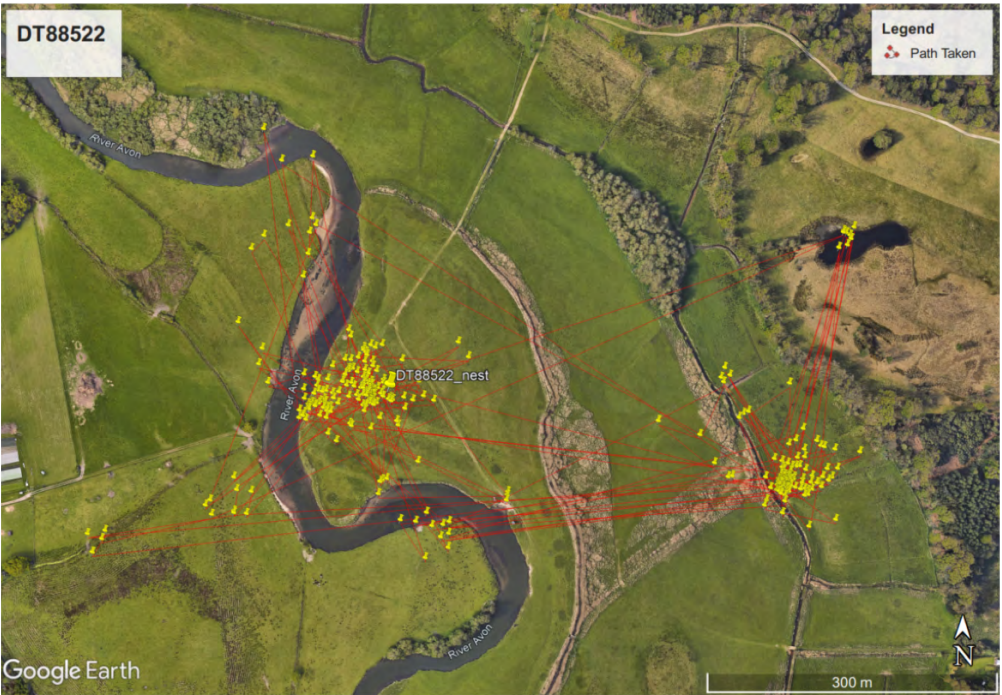


Figure 3. Movements of adult Redshank DT88522 during 2022 tracking period.



Figure 4. Movements of adult Redshank DT15722 during 2022 tracking period.



Figure 5. Movements of adult Redshank DT15738 during the breeding season in 2022 excluding the trips outside the breeding area.

The three birds then used a similar area to raise chicks before DT88522 took the brood further east to a wet area of a field where they stayed until fledging (Figures 3-5).

One bird, DT15738 provided some very interesting movement data, travelling out of its breeding ground three times towards the end of the chick-rearing period and returning to the Valley. It made two visits to Stanpit Marsh (where it was recently recorded wintering through colour-ring sightings) and once to Keyhaven Marshes (Figure 4).

Tag effects

All individuals tagged were watched from a distance after release to check for any immediate negative effects of the tag. No behaviours indicative of negative effects were seen and all birds returned to the nest or chicks quickly. All individuals were resighted with chicks within a week after tagging. More analysis of the data is required to establish the final fates of the other broods.

Habitat selection

In order to identify fine-scale habitat selection during the chick rearing period we needed detailed habitat data. A 30 x 30-m grid was produced and at each point habitat measurements were taken of:

- Vegetation height
- Penetrability of the ground
- Dominant vegetation type
- Percentage of bare ground

We will next overlay the tracking data with the habitat measurements at each point to look for any patterns for habitat selection.

Colour-ringing

All Redshank adults and chicks that are caught are colour-ringed. Our scheme consists of a black flag over a colour ring on the right tibia and two colour rings on the left tibia. This combination allows for a good chance of resighting due to only having a combination on the tibia (see header photo).

Table 3. Table of all Redshank colour-ringed during the first two years of the project and the resightings within the Avon Valley and further afield.

	Ringed 2021	Ringed 2022	Total resightings	Resightings outside the Avon Valley
Adults	4	2 (plus 1 retrap)	66 (14 individual birds)	31 (12 individual birds)
Chicks	8	20		

Regular resightings outside the breeding season have come from Keyhaven, Poole Harbour, Stanpit Marsh, Farlington Marshes and Beaulieu NNR, with two more unusual sightings coming from Newport Wetlands in Wales and one in NW France.

Within the Avon Valley sites in spring 2022, six individuals were seen which were ringed in 2021, three adults from spring 2021 and three chicks returned to the Avon Valley from 2021. We had no confirmed breeding of chicks from 2021 in 2022.

Conclusions

Both the spring of 2021 and 2022 posed their own complications and restrictions, reminding us that every year is different. Over the two years, 13 Redshank nests were found and monitored, with 11 successfully hatching. This is a high rate of hatching success and supports the population increase seen over the last seven years. This high nest survival is most likely due to the good habitat management across these sites and predator management through a combination of legal lethal measures and use of temporary electric fences.

We have brood-rearing GPS tracking data for six individuals and two years of data from one individual (tagged separately in both years). This data alongside the detailed habitat measurements will allow us to better understand the fine-scale habitat selection and requirements during this brood rearing period. This information will enable us to better advise land managers on how to manage areas for breeding Redshank and help improve fledging success. GPS tracking has been well received by stakeholders and has become a useful tool during farmers’ meetings to look at key areas of sites and fields.

Colour-ringing continues to provide a large amount of information on movements outside the breeding season and recruitment back into the breeding population. We expect this to continue and increase in future years. Colour-ringing also allows us to better understand brood outcomes and will feed into productivity calculations across the sites. This is extremely useful when looking to identify important management options and habitat features.

Acknowledgements

The funding of GPS tags in 2021 and 2022 by HOS grants is gratefully acknowledged. I would like to thank all the farmers, land owners and keepers who put in a lot of work to maintain these habitats for breeding waders.

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Hampshire Lesser Spotted Woodpecker Survey 2022

Ken Smith, Rob Clements & Linda Smith



Male Lesser Spotted Woodpecker (Geoff Dicker) and typical nest site in the New Forest in a dead Alder tree alongside a stream in an area of open woodland (Linda Smith)

Abstract

In 2022 we organised a HOS survey of breeding Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers *Dryobates minor* based on a sample of 1km squares (monads) distributed across the whole of Hampshire. Birds were found in 123 of the 197 monads surveyed and we estimated the county population as 314 territories (296 in the New Forest and 18 elsewhere). The species appears to be holding its own in the New Forest but has clearly declined in the rest of Hampshire. The survey confirms the national importance of the New Forest for Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers.

Introduction

The Lesser Spotted Woodpecker (LSW) has declined markedly in both numbers and range in Britain having peaked in the 1980s after the Dutch Elm Disease episode. It is now included in the Birds of Conservation Concern Red List (Stanbury *et al.* 2021). It was formerly monitored nationally by the BTO using the Common Birds Census (CBC) and Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) but numbers declined so much that after 2000 too few were being counted to produce a reliable population index. Recently the BTO has generated a new index extending the series through to 2021 which suggests a decline of around 91% between 1967 and 2020 (Massimino *et al.* 2023) but, being based on extremely low numbers of records in recent decades, the BTO themselves suggest it should be treated with some caution. The range has also contracted from 887 occupied 10km squares in 1968-72 to 560 in 2008-11 (Massimino *et al.* 2023). The numbers of occupied tetrads in Britain were estimated to have fallen 59% from 4,387 in the 1988-91 atlas to 1,808 in 2008-11 (Smith *et al.* 2021).

Estimates by the Avian Population Estimates Panel (APEP) have suggested that numbers could have been as low as 600 pairs nationally in 2013-17 (Woodward *et al.* 2020), but analyses of data from county bird atlases and other sources show that the population at the time of the last national atlas (2008-11) (Balmer *et al.* 2013) was probably nearer 2,000 pairs (Smith *et al.* 2021)

Since the LSW was added to the list of species monitored by the Rare Breeding Birds Panel (RBBP) in 2010, it has become clear that south-eastern England remains the stronghold for the

species and that Hampshire almost certainly is the county holding the highest population. Based on surveys of sample areas in the New Forest between 2014 and 2019 and records submitted to HOS, the Hampshire LSW population was estimated as 250-300 pairs (Clements 2020)

Given the importance of Hampshire for the species, in 2022 we organised a countywide survey of breeding LSW on behalf of HOS. The basic survey units were counts of territorial birds in monads (1km squares) selected based on recent evidence of the presence of the species. The numbers and distribution of LSWs in the New Forest are far more extensive than in the rest of Hampshire so we adopted different square selection approaches in the two regions but the survey methods were the same in both.

Monad selection

In the New Forest we listed all the monads with >50% of their area within the perambulation (a total of 375) and from the 1:25000 OS map we scored the percentage of LSW suitable habitat in each square based largely on the presence of broadleaved woodland and streams and using our knowledge of the birds. We aimed to survey all the monads with >25% of LSW suitable habitat (93 monads of which 85 were surveyed) and a randomly selected third of those with between 5 and 20% LSW habitat (133 monads of which 34 were surveyed). For the other squares we encouraged the reporting of any birds found in 2022. For those Hampshire monads outwith the perambulation but within the current National Park boundary, we encouraged the recording of LSWs and directed observers to known suitable squares but did not attempt a random selection.

With this strategy we could focus our survey effort on the key areas whilst having a sound statistical framework to extrapolate total numbers from our sample survey. We checked our monad selections against the LSW records submitted to HOS in the ten years from 2011 to 2020. Those with >25% LSW habitat had, on average, reports of LSWs in 3.0 years out of ten, those with 5-25% suitable habitat had reports in an average of 1.2 years and even those that we judged to have no suitable LSW habitat had records in 0.2 years.

In the rest of Hampshire we used the same survey methods but adopted a different approach to monad selection. We were especially interested in collecting evidence to test the view that the bird is still declining in the county outside the Forest. We used the records submitted to the HOS database from 2011-2020 and divided the monads into four categories; those monads with LSW records in both 2011-15 and 2016-20 (Tier 1: 43 in total, 24 randomly selected for survey), those with records in 2011-15 and nothing since (Tier 2: 9 in total, all 9 selected for survey) and those with records in only a single year between 2011 and 2020 (Tier 3: 79 in total, 20 randomly selected for survey). In addition, there were 55 monads with no LSW records in 2011-15 but positive records in 2016-20 (Tier 4) and we randomly selected 27 of these for survey. The overwhelming majority of the HOS database records relate to LSWs in the breeding season when they are normally seen or heard so we are confident that this monad selection is based largely on potentially breeding birds.

Survey methods

A website (<http://hantslesserspots.birdsurvey.org.uk/>) was set up which allowed volunteers to look up the randomly selected monads for survey, register their interest, and download and print the survey instructions, large scale map of the monad and recording form. LSWs are early season birds with most of their display and other territorial activity taking place between late February and mid-April after which they become extremely difficult to detect. To maximize chances of locating LSW, surveyors were asked to visit their monad(s) during the period March 1st to April 30th, preferably in bright, calm weather starting around 07:00 or earlier. Visits typically lasted two to three hours, with all areas of deciduous woodland within the chosen squares covered, with special attention paid to streams or watercourses where our experience has shown most nesting attempts are located. Surveyors provided six-figure map references or an annotated map for all sightings, indicating numbers present

and behaviour witnessed. We asked for three visits during the survey period but some surveyors, especially where LSW were numerous, managed up to eight visits and provided maps showing the locations of multiple sightings.

For most occupied squares, there was insufficient evidence to ascertain the real number of territories within the square. Some monads received multiple visits and it was clear that two or three territories were present. LSW have typically been found to hold breeding territories of 25-30 hectares so three or four is the likely maximum number of territories within a monad. Where records showed birds regularly reported calling/drumming 500-600m apart we assumed two territories were present.

As well as our selected monads we reviewed the 2022 LSW data submitted to the HOS database for any extra birds not found in the survey, both within the selected monads and elsewhere, but in practice there were only two monads (both outside the Forest) where more birds were reported on the HOS database than were found in the survey.

Results

We received results from a total of 197 monads, 136 in the New Forest and 61 elsewhere in the county. The coverage was extremely good in the Forest with all our selected monads surveyed plus a few additional ones. Outside the National Park we received results from 61 of the 80 monads randomly selected for survey (76%). A total of 183 territories was found – 176 in the New Forest and seven elsewhere. Figure 1 shows the distribution of monads surveyed and those occupied by LSW.

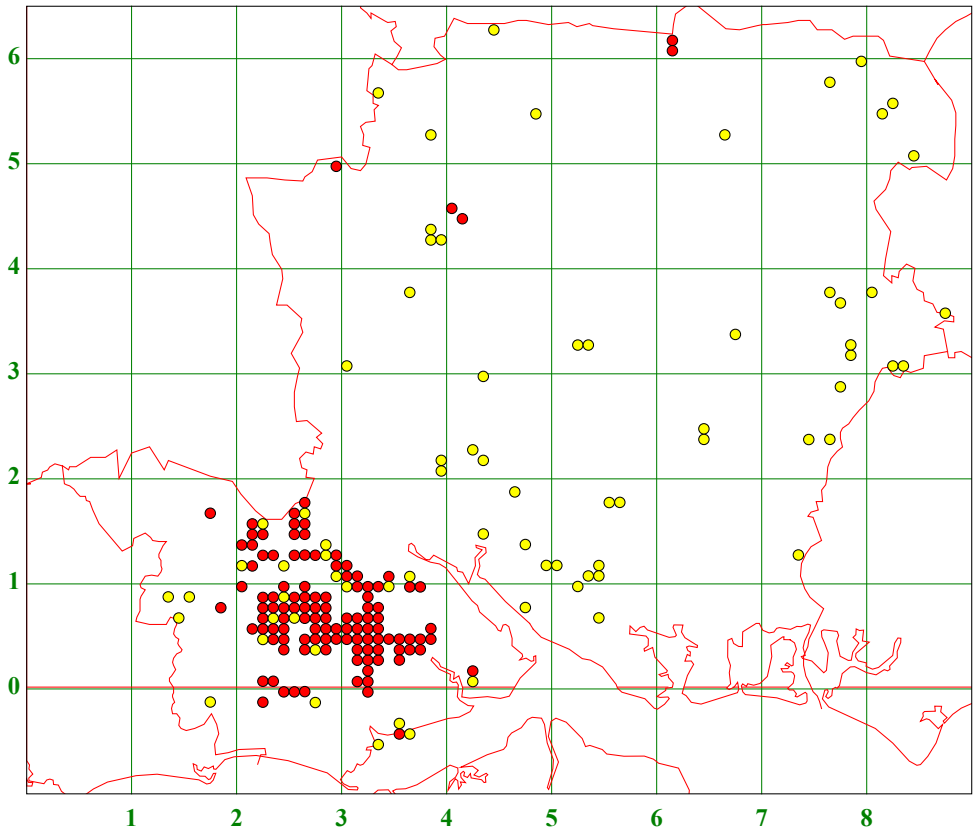


Figure 1. Distribution of monads surveyed
Red symbols show those where LSWs were found; yellow symbols show monads surveyed but where no LSWs detected.

In the New Forest, LSW were recorded from 118 squares (Figure 1). In the central and southern parts of the Forest, they were recorded from almost every square allocated; in the north records were more patchy – perhaps indicating a lower density of LSW. No LSW were recorded from 18 allocated squares, though birds had been reported from some of these squares in 2021. It is unclear whether LSW were present but just not found on the visits to these squares or that they were really absent.

In the rest of Hampshire LSW were found in just five of the selected monads.

Population estimates

In Table 1 we have summarised the calculations leading to the overall population estimates for the New Forest and the rest of Hampshire. Our best estimates are 296 (95% range 276-315) territories in the New Forest National Park and 18 (95% range 8-32) in the rest of Hampshire.

Table 1. Numbers of monads in each tier surveyed, numbers of LSWs found and extrapolations to population estimates.

	Total numbers of monads	Monads surveyed	Numbers of LSW territories	Number per sq km	Population estimate (95% range)
New Forest perambulation	375				
>= 30% LSW habitat	93	85	125	1.47	137 (95% range 135-139)
5-25% LSW	133	34	37	1.09	145 (95% range 127-162)
0% LSW*	149	3	3	1.00	3
New Forest NP outside perambulation*	150	14	11	0.79	11
New Forest total		136	176	1.29	296 (95% range 276-315)
Rest of Hampshire					
Tier 1	43	17	6	0.35	15 (95% range 7-24)
Tier 2	9	7	0	0	0
Tier 3	79	17	0	0	0
Tier 4	57	20	1	0.05	3 (95% range 1-8)
Total	188	61	7	0.11	18 (95% range 8-32)
Hampshire total		197	183	0.92	314 (95% range 284-347)

* for the monads in the New Forest with no LSW habitat we have simply used the data from the monads surveyed rather than extrapolating from such a small sample of surveyed squares. Similarly for the monads outwith the perambulation.

Discussion

The survey has clearly established that LSW are still numerous in the New Forest and that it is undoubtedly the most important area of woodland for the species in Britain, holding perhaps 10-20% of the national population. Our population estimate is similar to that made in 2014-19 (Clements 2020) suggesting that there is no catastrophic decline underway. However, the time interval between the two estimates is too short to detect anything other than a massive rate of change.

As long ago as 1968 Colin Tubbs reported that the unenclosed woodlands of the Forest held exceptional densities of some specialist woodland breeding species such as LSW which were rare elsewhere (Tubbs 1968, 2001). He estimated a LSW density of 1-4 pairs per sq km in unenclosed woodlands (Clark & Eyre 1993). In 1985 an RSPB survey of breeding woodland birds in the Forest using point count methods recorded LSW at 44 of the 408 points counted (Smith *et al.* 1992). In 2003/4 the survey was repeated using the same methods but with only 200 points counted and LSW were recorded at 15 of them (Amar *et al.* 2006). Although a slightly lower proportion than in 1985, the difference was not significant (Fisher's Exact test, $P = 0.24$) suggesting no substantial decline in that 20 year period.

Outside the New Forest, the paucity of records received during the survey probably represents a real decline in the population since the 2008-11 Hampshire Atlas and clearly there had already been a decline leading up to it. All the monads where LSWs were found in the survey were the ones where there had been records submitted to HOS during the period 2016-20. No LSWs were found in the squares with no records in that five year period – suggestive of a real decline rather than limited records being submitted to HOS. However, we cannot entirely eliminate the possibility that our results may reflect to some extent the much greater difficulty in finding the species at low density compared with the core areas of the New Forest.

Our data suggest that, even allowing for habitat suitability, the numbers of LSWs were lower in the monads in the north of the Forest than the south (mean 1.07 territories per monad in the north compared with 1.36 in the south, north defined as anywhere north of the 100 OS grid line). However, this was not quite statistically significant so could easily be a chance result (Poisson model, $P=0.06$). Whether this is real and has always been the case or whether it is the first sign of an incipient decline in the north following the rest of the county is less clear. However, our overall conclusion is that the species is probably holding its own in the New Forest but has declined and continues to decline elsewhere in the county.

The survey has set a benchmark for future study. The next national BTO Atlas survey-work is likely to be in 2028-2031 so as a result we should get data for the whole of Hampshire at tetrad level to enable a comparison with the 2008-11 data. A further New Forest survey at monad level in 2027 would give an indication of change over a five year period, but it may be considered more appropriate to combine a survey within the Atlas period with data gathering for other New Forest speciality species (Marsh Tit *Poecile palustris*, Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*, Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*).

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A history of breeding gulls and terns on the North-west Solent

Peter Durnell & Ed Wiseman



Black-headed Gull colony in Lymington River (Peter Durnell)

Abstract

The history of each of the six breeding gull species and four breeding tern species in the North-west Solent is summarised. Trends in breeding numbers are discussed and future threats identified.

Introduction

For the purposes of this paper, we define the North-west Solent as that stretch of the north shore of The Solent coast which lies between Hurst Spit (Milford on Sea) in the west eastwards to Pitts Deep including Keyhaven, Pennington, Oxey and Normandy Marshes and the saltmarshes at the mouth of Lymington River. Predominately rural in character, the town of Lymington and the village of Keyhaven are the sole built-up areas abutting the shore.

Breeding gulls of the North-west Solent

The following species, in order of recorded maximum annual abundance, breed on the North-west Solent: Black-headed Gull, Mediterranean Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Herring Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull and Common Gull.

Black-headed Gull
Chroicocephalus ridibundus

A colony of breeding Black-headed Gulls was known to be in existence on Pewit Island in Portsmouth Harbour during the first half of the 17th Century. However, those breeding during the 19th century were all on wet heathland around Bournemouth in the extreme south-west of what was then still Hampshire. The West Solent was colonised following saltmarsh development and stabilisation in the early 20th century. The Keyhaven colony appears to have formed between 1905 and

1913, most probably during the latter years when, though numbering only a handful of pairs, it was noted as active. The colony has been present continuously since then but counts or estimates in early years were sparse. It was in existence in 1927 with numbers not reported (Campbell 1979), held 50 or more pairs in 1938 (Hollom 1940), and had become ‘large’ by 1951 (Cohen 1963). A census in 1957 revealed almost 500 pairs west of the Lymington River and more than 900 pairs to the east of the river, with an increase to c.4,000 pairs in 1958. Further expansions occurred during the 1960s/1970s. In 1968 at least 5,000 pairs included 3,000 between Hurst Spit and the west bank of Lymington River, and in 1972 there were 8,000 pairs between Keyhaven and Pitts Deep. Until that time, the main part of the colony was split between the two sides of the Lymington River but the next full survey in 1975 found 5,000-6,000 pairs, of which about 80% were at Pylewell east of the river (the dominance of the eastern side having been noted three years earlier). The population west of Lymington River remained at around 1,000 pairs until about 1975. Pylewell/Tanners Lane held around 5,000 pairs for the three seasons 1989-91, by which time that on Keyhaven saltings had declined to c.600 pairs, due principally to habitat loss from sea-level rise and flooding during tidal back-up on the westward-flowing ebb. At the commencement of the 21st century, there were c.6,000 pairs between Keyhaven and Pitts Deep in 2001; 5,714 in 2005; 7,738 in 2010; 4,350 in 2015 and 3,900 in 2020 of which 500 pairs nested on the island in the saline lagoon inside Normandy Marsh seawall. Peak counts this century were c.8,400 pairs in 2003 and 8,108 pairs in 2008. Figure 1 illustrates the recent fluctuations between 2012 and 2022 with an overall declining trend.

In the West Solent Black-headed Gulls’ eggs have been taken for food and for sale since the earliest colonisation of the area. Prior to the mid-1960s there was no control over the collection period and eggs were collected continually well into June, principally by those seeking a few for the table. In 1967 the four ‘professional’ collectors agreed to assist with wardening and to limit the collecting period, finishing in mid-May to allow relaying. Collecting was at a high level during the mid-1960s/early 1970s as shown in Table 1 which illustrates the number of eggs collected under licence by the same team of four men during 1965–1968. The table also shows the recent totals for 2018–2021 which continued at very high levels in 2018 but then declined sharply over this period.

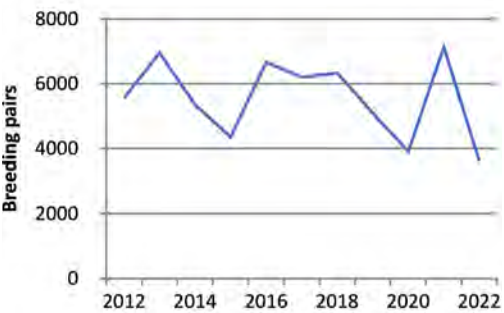


Figure 1. Black-headed Gull breeding pairs 2012-2022

Table 1. Black-headed Gull eggs collected 1965-68 and 2018-2021

Year	No. eggs	Collection period
1965	4,416	4th April–8th May
1966	11,119	3rd April–13th May
1967	14,598	12th April–12th May
1968	17,401	3rd April–11th May
2018	18,659	1st April–15th May
2019	13,851	1st April–15th May
2020	2,513	1st April–15th May
2021	22	1st April–15th May

Under guidance from Natural England, no licences were issued by DEFRA for egg collecting at Lymington in 2022 due to the risk to scheduled birds. This is likely to be the end of egg collecting in the Western Solent as it has not been challenged by the egg collectors.

Recent trends

The Black-headed Gull colonies between Keyhaven and Pitts Deep are in reality one large fairly mobile ‘super’ colony, which has fluctuated in numbers and distribution since its formation. Data collection has varied over the years with accurate annual counts of the whole colony only commencing in 2002. Prior to this, the colonies were counted in some years and in others estimates, based on local knowledge and experience, were made.

A number of trends can be determined. One major change has been the gradual and ongoing reduction in the geographical extent of the colony. Outlying colonies at Keyhaven, Stony Point (the eastern extremity of Keyhaven saltings) and Tanners Lane, have declined or vanished altogether as sea-level rise reduced the suitability of the salt marshes for breeding. While the distribution of colonies contracted, those that remained became larger as the gulls moved to the remaining areas of suitable habitat. Today the vast majority of the colony is located in two sites at Pylewell and Normandy/Cockleshell either side of the Lymington River, where substantial areas of mature Sea Purslane (*Halimione portulacoides*) persist, thus enabling the gulls to build nests high enough to withstand spring tides.

For a number of years this gradual decline in the area of suitable nesting habitat appeared to have little impact on the overall size of the colony. Counts and estimates consistently put the colony size at between 6,000 and 8,000 pairs between 1990 and 2011. This reasonably stable situation changed over the last ten years, with the average colony size declining between 2012 and 2022 to just 5,000 nests with only 3,610 recorded in 2022 (Figure 1). It is possible that these figures represent the carrying capacity of the remaining suitable habitat and that the colonies will continue to dwindle as more of the marshes become unsuitable due to tidal inundation. Another possibility is that the situation will reach a ‘tipping point’ when the decline in suitable nesting sites results in the area being abandoned by the whole colony over a very short period of time.

It should be pointed out that the picture is considerably complicated by mammalian predation. In 2021 all the gull and tern colonies on Normandy/Cockleshell were wiped out by fox predation. This resulted in very few gulls nesting in this area in 2022, one of the reasons for that year’s low overall total. The Pylewell colony east of the Lymington River is far less prone to predation and as a result its numbers have remained stable.

With the decline of the gull colonies on the offshore intertidal marshes an increasing number of birds have chosen to nest on the islands in Normandy Lagoon. Five hundred pairs of Black-headed Gulls nested in the lagoon in 2021 and this is a trend likely to continue as the offshore colonies contract.

Mediterranean Gull

Ichthyaeetus melanocephalus

During 1972–1992, though not proved to nest, adults in full breeding plumage were reported almost annually between April–July among nesting Black-headed Gulls. Though unsuccessful, breeding was attempted in 1994 and, though the outcome was unknown, two pairs bred in 2007. An expanding breeding population of 23 pairs in 2008 to 66 pairs in 2012 was also largely unsuccessful. Thereafter, between 2013–2021, fewer than

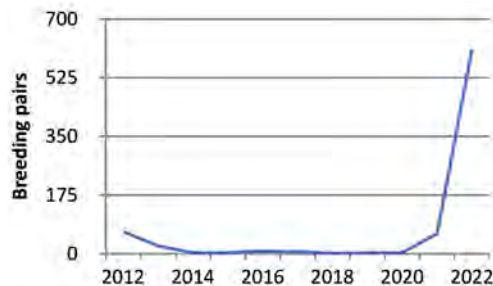


Figure 2. Mediterranean Gull breeding pairs 2012-2022



Mediterranean Gull colony in Lymington River (Peter Durnell)

ten pairs nested with virtually no breeding success, though in 2021 a separate group of five pairs out of a total of c.60 pairs reared some young.

Recent trends

The breeding population of Mediterranean Gull in the North-west Solent has undergone a rapid expansion in recent years. Colony counts between 2002 and 2020 recorded fewer than six pairs of Mediterranean Gulls nesting annually in the gull colonies, (apart from a short-lived increase in 2012) and usually on both sides of Lymington River. This was despite large numbers of adult birds being present in the area in early spring. In 2021, 55 pairs attempted to nest on the Normandy/Cockleshell saltmarsh. Unfortunately, this colony was predated by foxes and all young were lost. Despite this setback, an unprecedented 610 pairs nested in the Pylewell gull colony in 2022 with large numbers of fledged young observed. This rapid increase coincided with the complete cessation of gull egg collecting in the area, a practice which had been going on for many decades without any apparent major impact on the Black-headed Gull colonies as after the collecting there was time for birds to relay.

This huge recent increase in Mediterranean Gull numbers illustrated in Figure 2 is part of the rapid population expansion witnessed over the last ten years at other sites such as Langstone Harbour. It is possible that egg collecting at Lymington delayed the inevitable population explosion witnessed elsewhere. It is interesting to note the contrasting fates of these two dominant species over the last ten years with one in gradual long-term decline and the other in a phase of rapid expansion.

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*

A pair that nested on the spartina among the large colony of Black-headed Gulls at Pennington Marshes in 1950 and 1951 appeared to be the first breeding records for Hampshire (Cohen 1963). No other instances of breeding on the North-west Solent were forthcoming up to 1992 (Clark & Eyre 1993). Since then a grand total of at least 48 pairs was reported between 1993 and 2021, with a maximum of six pairs in 2012, of which one was on a Lymington roof-top and five on saltmarsh. Otherwise, nesting occurred on saltmarshes unless otherwise noted as follows: four pairs in 2006 (two on Lymington roofs), 2009, 2010, 2013 (one on a Lymington roof) and 2017; three pairs in 2005, 2011 and 2014; two pairs in 2007, 2008 and 2021 and single pairs in 1994, 1995, 1996, 2003 (Lymington roof-top), 2004 and 2015. During that period, at least 21 young fledged in broods of three (once) and two (nine occasions). A similar pattern of small numbers of breeders, typically one or two pairs using nest sites on buildings, has continued over recent years for this and the next two species.

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*

The first reported nesting on the North-west Solent was in 1950, when a nest was found on May 20th on Pennington saltmarshes (Cohen 1963). During 1967 and 1981, one or two pairs occasionally nested on saltmarshes between Keyhaven and Pylewell (Clark & Eyre 1993). Since then, two pairs nested in 2000, of which one was on Pylewell saltings, the other at Milford on Sea, though it is unknown if on a building or on cliffs to the west of the village. Between 2007 and 2021 a total of nine pairs in seven seasons during 2007-2011 and in 2018 and 2020 was reported as breeding. Most were single pairs except for two pairs in 2009 (both on saltmarsh) and 2018 (on Lymington roofs). Six or more young were known to have fledged, including two broods of two. None were reported in Hampshire Bird Reports during 2012-2017 or 2019 and 2021 and none bred in 2022.

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*

Single pairs were present in 2003, 2004 and 2013, but nesting was uncertain, and in 2009, when one young was reared. Two fledged young with an adult pair in the vicinity of Normandy Marsh in 2006 were presumed to have been reared locally. Otherwise, two pairs reared at least one young in 2008, though three juveniles reported on July 8th were presumed to have been reared locally; two pairs were present in 2010 but outcomes were unknown; and two pairs bred successfully in 2011. None were recorded breeding in 2012 and 2014-2022.

Common Gull *Larus canus*

One or two adults were occasionally seen in the Black-headed Gull colonies, e.g. 1975, 1980 and 1989. Single pairs bred for the first time at two sites in 1991 and 1992; two attempts failed, but the outcome of the others was unknown (Clark & Eyre 1993). A pair probably nested in 1993; no nest was found, but a pair with a juvenile was recorded on August 8th. Single pairs fledged one young in 1995 and nested in 2007 and 2008, though outcomes were unknown on both occasions. Single pairs were present but breeding not proven in 1997, 2002, 2003-2005, 2010 and 2015, and similarly for two pairs in 2009 and 2012. However, two pairs laid eggs in 2013 and 2014 but outcomes were unknown. None were reported in 2011 or 2016-2022.

Breeding terns of the North-west Solent

Today three species of tern nest more or less annually on the North-west Solent coastline, with a fourth very occasionally. They are, in order of recorded maximum annual counts, Common Tern, Sandwich Tern, Little Tern and Roseate Tern.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*

Common Terns have nested every year in the North-west Solent since systematic recording began in the late 1940s. Overall, numbers have fluctuated over time, with the 1980s seeing

particularly low counts. Seven to twelve pairs nested in 1948 in the Keyhaven area, 29 nests were seen in 1951 and breeding was well-established by 1957 when 78 pairs nested. Numbers peaked at 148 pairs in 1967 and exceeded 100 pairs each year but one until 1978. Fewer were subsequently present, with lows of 11 pairs in 1984 and 18 in 1989, but recovered to 120 pairs in 1991 (Clark & Eyre 1993). Between 1992 and 2021, in excess of 200 pairs nested in 1994, 2002 (300 pairs), 2004–2006 (371 pairs), 2007, 2008, 2010 and 2013. Overall fledgling success was poor, mostly due to adverse weather and predation. No young fledged in 2004 and only two in 2005, but 142 pairs raised at least 50 young in 1992, 127 pairs raised around 125 young in 2001 and 115 pairs raised 59 young in 2019. Furthermore, 1994 was described as a good season and 2008 as reasonable. Since 2013 the number of breeding pairs has gradually declined, averaging around 100 nests annually over the last decade (Figure 3) including 115 pairs in 2022. Whether this current decline signifies a permanent change or is just part of a long-term fluctuation, only time will tell.

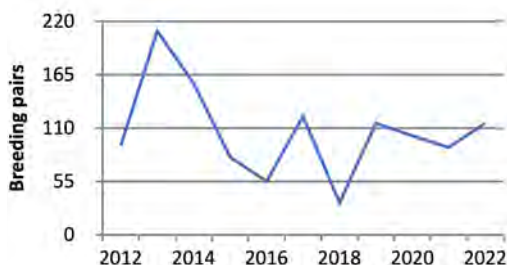


Figure 3. Common Tern breeding pairs 2012-2022

Islands in Normandy Marsh lagoon were occupied in 1996 (nine pairs), 1997 (20 pairs) and 1998 (two pairs), 2012 (three pairs reared single young - the only one to have fledged on the North-west Solent that season). Common Terns are now breeding in increasing numbers in Normandy Lagoon with 25 pairs in 2021 and 40 pairs in 2022. This was the largest colony in the area and perhaps indicates a decisive shift in behaviour as birds discover that the relatively benign conditions within the lagoon are favourable for rearing young.

Sandwich Tern *Thalasseus sandvicensis*

Initially recorded breeding on the West Solent in 1954 when ten pairs nested in the Keyhaven area. Seventeen pairs bred in 1955, breeding was suspected but unconfirmed in 1956 and 80 pairs reared c.50 young in 1957 (Cohen 1963). Breeding was then confirmed in every year except eight during 1959–1992, during which numbers peaked at 197 pairs in 1978 and 189 in 1981. In 1982 140 pairs bred but following that the maximum up to 1992 was only 91 pairs, while none was present in four intermediate seasons (Clark & Eyre 1993). Between 1992 and 2021 in excess of 100 pairs nested in 1993 (103), 1994 (150), 2002 (147), 2003 (c.120), 2006 (224), 2007 (205), 2012 (106), 2013 (206) with a peak of 315 pairs in 2021; none nested in 1995, 1997, 1998, 2000 and 2001. Figure 4 illustrates the wide variations in breeding pairs between 2012-2022. Though breeding success was high in 1993, 1994, 2009 and 2010, and 91 pairs raised 45 young in 1992, 60 pairs (many young) in 2010 and 60 pairs (29 young) in 2013, fledgling success was poor, mostly due to fox predation and high spring tides. None, or fewer than ten young fledged in 2003, 2004, 2007, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2017 and 2021. In 2022 at least 85 pairs raised five to seven young.

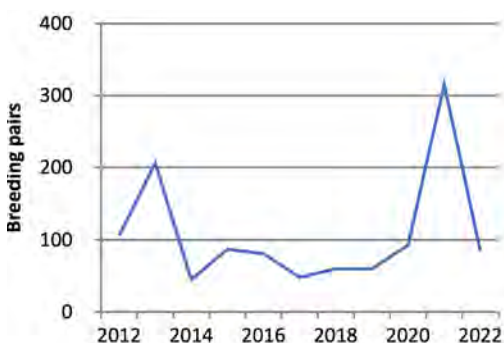


Figure 4. Sandwich Tern breeding pairs 2012-2022

Thus, since 2002 Sandwich Terns have attempted to nest every year in the North-west Solent with numbers varying greatly from 15 pairs (2004) to 315 pairs (2021). In nine of the 20 years prior to 2002 there were no breeding attempts, so the trend this century has been more positive.

Little Tern *Sternula albifrons*

The Little Tern was possibly nesting in the extreme south-east of Hampshire during the early 20th century (Munn 1920). Fifteen pairs nested in the Beaulieu Estuary in 1932 and there was a flourishing colony on Hurst Spit in the late 1930s. Little information was available for the war years, but 35–40 pairs nested between Lymington and Hurst in 1947 and 16 pairs on Hurst Spit in 1948. During the 1950s and early 1960s, those on Hurst Spit were subjected to increasing disturbance, with the colony falling from 30 pairs in 1951 to about 12 pairs in 1957–1959; all failed in 1961.

Subsequently, Hampshire Wildlife Trust erected fencing around the nesting area in 1962 and 20 young fledged. Though the Spit was abandoned in 1966, Little Terns increasingly nested on the cheniers (shingle and shell islets formed by wave and tidal action on the seaward edges of the spartina marsh) between Keyhaven and Lymington Estuary. The population attained highest levels there between 1975 and 1986, with more than 70 pairs nesting in each year, with a peak of 105 pairs in 1981. A subsequent fall in numbers may be attributed to changes in availability of suitable nesting habitat with at least two major sites in the Keyhaven/Lymington area being lost to sea action during 1960–1990. However, shingle-topped islands, created in 1990 in the Normandy Marshes lagoon, have attracted breeding Little Terns, and young were first reared there in 1991 (Clark & Eyre 1993).

Between 1992 and 2013, more than 20 pairs nested in all years except for 2011 when there were only four pairs (unknown outcome). Peak populations occurred in 2001 (50 pairs raised at least 41 young of which 10 pairs were on Hurst Spit), 2003 (49–51 pairs), 2005 (c.60 pairs) and 2006 (54 pairs). Post-2013 annual totals varied between ten pairs in 2014, 2015 and 2022 and 18 pairs in 2018. Other than 1995 (21 pairs reared 30 or more young on Normandy Marshes lagoon), 2001 (50 pairs raised at least 41 young), 2009 (30 pairs in two colonies had a successful breeding season), 2010 (28 pairs of which 14 pairs on Normandy Marshes lagoon reared 16 young) and 2014 (ten pairs raised 10–14 young), most seasons were unproductive.

The population of Little Terns, which declined markedly over the first 14 years of the century, appears to have stabilised in recent seasons (Figure 5). Little Terns naturally breed in small, loose colonies on sand and shingle beaches. Recreational pressure has resulted in most suitable habitat on the Hampshire coast becoming far too disturbed. As noted above, the once thriving colony on Hurst Beach was abandoned in 1966, with the birds moving to the cheniers at the edge of the offshore marshes. As the saltmarshes erode due to sea-level rise, the cheniers move with them so areas of suitable habitat are maintained. However, this is very much sub-optimal habitat for the Little Terns as they are at the bottom of the ‘pecking order’ with the highest areas occupied by Sandwich Terns and then Common Terns. As a result Little Terns will often have to site their nests low on the shoreline making them more vulnerable to bad weather and tidal surges.

The creation of Normandy Lagoon in 1990, as part of a wider coastal defence project, offers some hope for the future as the following year Little Terns took advantage of the bare shingle islands within the lagoon to successfully rear young. In the following years Little Terns continued to breed, albeit periodically, on the Normandy Lagoon islands and site staff now manage the islands specifically to encourage this. In 2021 for the first time, the entire North-west Solent population of Little Terns nested within Normandy Lagoon, with 15 pairs raising more than 17 young, the most successful breeding season for many years. In 2022, the birds moved offshore with at least ten pairs fledging 10–12 young.

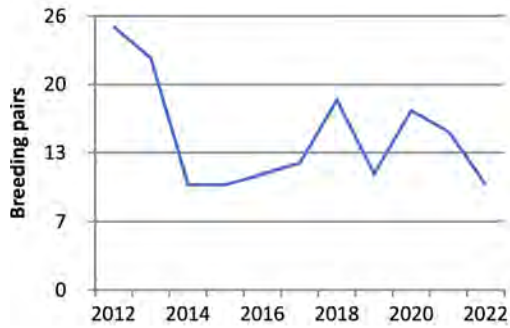


Figure 5. Little Tern breeding pairs 2012–2022

Roseate Tern *Sterna dougallii*

This species was first recorded on the North-west Solent on September 4th 1955, when five flew west at Hurst Spit. It was known to breed in 1957, 1958 and 1959. In 1958 one nest was washed-out during high spring tides but young were seen or suspected in that year, but a nest in 1959 was robbed by a collector. A pair in 1962 laid one egg but no young were seen, and similarly in 1977, while single pairs in 1984 and 1987 were not known to have nested. Two pairs were present in 1967, though only one nest was found, and similarly in 1981. In 1982 two pairs were seen, but there was no breeding evidence. Young were seen or suspected in 1978, 1981–1983 inclusive, as well as in 1986.

Several nesting attempts during 2001–2012, including two pairs in 2002–2004 inclusive, were probably unsuccessful. They were not known to have nested during 2013–2021 but a pair did attempt to breed in 2022 although unsuccessful.

The population of Roseate Terns in The Solent area has always been small with a maximum of only two pairs and very little proven breeding success. With conservation efforts leading to expanding colonies elsewhere, The Solent may prove to be an attractive location in the future, but the impact of bird flu in 2022 is likely to have pushed this possibility back many years.

Discussion and future threats

As described above, numbers of breeding gulls and terns have exhibited widely fluctuating populations over many decades. This applies especially to Black-headed Gulls and Common and Sandwich Terns. Others such as Little Terns have suffered long-term declines whereas Mediterranean Gulls are currently experiencing a marked increase. Reasons for these fluctuations and trends are not fully understood but all these species are vulnerable due to their limited nesting sites. The main threats to all include the loss of breeding sites on the



Sandwich Tern colony illustrating the high density of nests (Peter Durnell).

saltmarshes due to periodic flooding in the short term and sea-level rise in the medium to long term. With current predictions that the intertidal marshes will be lost to sea-level rise within the next 40 to 50 years, it appears that neither Black-headed nor Mediterranean Gulls have a long-term future as offshore breeding species in the North-west Solent.

The impact of habitat loss driven by sea-level rise has been less immediate on tern species as they tend to nest on the gravel and shell cheniers which lie on the outer edge of the saltmarshes. As the salt marshes erode, the cheniers move with them, so areas of suitable nesting habitat are maintained longer. As the cheniers are usually higher than the adjacent saltmarsh, they are less prone to tidal inundation but can be severely impacted by stormy conditions and high winds.

Notwithstanding the apparent cessation of gull egg collecting, human disturbance remains a factor but is outweighed by the predation risk from foxes and other mammals. As an example, the densely packed colonies of Sandwich Terns are prone to attracting the attention of predators. The largest colony ever recorded in the western Solent, 315 pairs in 2021, was completely wiped out by fox predation.

In the last few years bird flu (Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza) has also emerged as a major threat, especially to tightly-packed colonial nesters including many gulls and terns and other seabirds. Black-headed Gulls and Common and Sandwich Terns all appear to have been severely impacted. As elsewhere, the future of these colonies in The Solent will depend on how they are able to adapt to the disease and whether a degree of immunity can develop.

With the eventual loss of the offshore marshes and subsequently the shingle cheniers, the future for breeding terns in the North-west Solent may depend on the utilisation of man-made structures, whether they be floating platforms, modified rock groynes or islands within lagoons. Both Common and Little Terns have demonstrated they will readily take to such artificial habitats. Sandwich Terns also will utilise man-made islands in lagoons, such as those on Brownsea Island in Dorset. If we wish to maintain breeding populations of these fantastic species on the North-west Solent, considerable investment will be required to ensure they have somewhere suitable to raise their young.

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First for Hampshire: Black Duck at Needs Ore

Alan Lewis



Black Duck, Needs Ore, May 29th (Alan Lewis)

Abstract

A dark duck seen and photographed at Needs Ore on 29th May 2022 was identified as a Black Duck *Anas rubripes*. It remained until 19th June and was accepted by BBRC as a wild bird (Bacon, L. et al. 2023). It is the first record for Hampshire of this vagrant from North America.

Circumstances

At about 6.30pm on 29th May, I was on a visit to Needs Ore and did the short circuit around the hides overlooking the main pools. I first visited the central Blackwater Hide which overlooks 'Blackwater' pool and saw a small group of about ten Pochards *Aythya ferina* at the east end of the pool. This rare breeding bird regularly nests at Needs Ore and this was a very good count for this time of year. As I walked west towards Venner Hide, I saw a few more ducks roosting on the new islands at the west end of the Blackwater through the screens which line the path. The islands are visible in front of the small and rarely visited NFOC hide, so I went into the hide to see if I could increase my Pochard tally.

On a close island there was a small group of roosting Mallards *Anas platyrhynchos*, two more male Pochards and a very dark duck. Through bins, I immediately thought it looked good for a drake Black Duck and rattled off a large number of images. I sent a quick Whatsapp message with an image to Chris Button (Natural England voluntary warden) saying 'this duck looks horribly like a Black Duck' and asking him to check Merlin and he replied '****, I saw that on Thursday'. Unfortunately his sighting had been brief and he had quickly dismissed it! He quickly replied that Merlin gave a result of 100% Black Duck.

Meanwhile the Black Duck had waddled up higher on the island showing unringed legs. It was wary and a slight disturbance amongst the Mallard caused it to swim off east along the pool. I quickly intercepted it at Blackwater Hide, took more images of it swimming just to the left

of the hide and almost immediately it flew off on its own south-east towards the Beaulieu Estuary! Although the camera settings were not ideal, I managed to get some fair flight shots as it flew off. I walked briskly back to my car and drove to the sailing club and, after a period of searching, the Black Duck was relocated on the estuary. Although it briefly returned to the pools for a short period, a number of permit holders saw it that evening.

Over the following week, the bird typically moved between the pools (at high tide) and the estuary (at mid-low tide) but was very elusive, often roosting at high tide out of view from any of the hides, probably in an area known as 'The Gins'. It was seen by more permit holders in the week but in accordance with the permit conditions the news was not released to the bird information services. On the estuary the Black Duck typically fed with Mallards in tidal creeks on the receding tide but was sometimes alone. It became even more elusive over subsequent weeks and was last seen on the WeBS count on 19th June by Chris Button and Ian Williamson.



Chris Button

Description

Size and Jizz: a drake Mallard-sized duck, looking slightly larger than an average drake Mallard when in groups feeding on the estuary.

Bare parts: green bill with darker nail, orange legs (unringed) and feet.

Plumage: head with blackish-brown crown, nape and eyestripe; supercilium and remainder of head with off-white ground colour and extensive mid-brown streaks, contrasting with blackish breast and mantle. No sign of any green in any of the head feathers. Underparts, upperparts and wings generally blackish-brown with some very narrow paler fringing on many feathers but also extensive wear, notably on scapulars and tertials. Tail was short and blackish-brown with no curled feathers.

Speculum on secondaries was deep purple, bordered with broad black bars on each side; a faint pale fringe to the rear edge of the secondaries. Underwing coverts bright white with very striking contrast with flanks, very noticeable in flight.

Call: None heard.

Status and distribution

The first British record was in 1967 and since then 41 have been accepted up to 2020 at an average rate of around one per year. These have included some long-stayers and several which have hybridised with Mallards. Black Duck breeds in eastern North America from Labrador south to North Carolina. The most northerly populations migrate to winter in coastal south-east USA as far south as Florida and the Gulf coast.

Reference

Bacon, L., French, P. and the Rarities Committee. 2023. Report on rare birds in Great Britain in 2022. *British Birds* 116: 566-602.

A. Lewis alanlewisbirding@gmail.com



Black Duck, Needs Ore, May 29th (Alan Lewis)

Cory's Shearwater at Tweseldown on November 4th 2022

Graham Stephenson



Dan Powell

“What is wrong with that gull” (or words to that effect)? That is how it started. Well, it actually started ten years earlier when John Clark (JMC) suggested that Tweseldown might be a good vantage point for our annual, autumn visible migration vigils. 2022’s offering had, to this point, been average, including some nice scarcities (Merlin, Ring Ouzel, and Black Redstart) and a few decent Swallow and Redwing movements, but nothing out of the ordinary bar a first, long overdue, overflying Tree Sparrow. The morning of Friday, November 4th dawned calm and murky, the heavy overnight rain now well to the east, giving myself and JMC little cause for optimism. An hour and 45 minutes later and, despite increasing sunshine and a gentle NW breeze, we had seen relatively little of note other than a flock of seven Common Gulls (a site ‘highlight’). An early finish was looking likely.

Around then, I picked up what I thought could be another Common Gull approaching steadily low and distantly from the east, slightly to our north. I left the bird to come closer, while I continued my scan, and then relocated it on the same track about ten seconds later. However, something wasn’t right. It was now performing tight circles on flat stiff wings in a most uncommon Common Gull way. Still too far away to make out plumage detail; I needed the scope to help work out what this ‘gull’ was up to. Flying almost head-on towards us, with the occasional short glide, the upperparts appeared all brown and the underparts clean white which, coupled with its long, flat wings and relaxed flight action, recalled a giant, juvenile Black Tern with a hint of Little Gull!

At this point I had to admit to JMC that I didn’t know what it was and suggested that he should get on to this bird. As he started to do so, it turned side-on and banked, and the penny dropped. “It’s a shearwater!!” My mind jumped to the large numbers of Great Shearwaters lingering off the SW approaches this autumn, so I added “Great Shearwater?” despite having seen nothing to support that. Fortunately JMC now had the bird in his scope as it circled slowly about 100m away and 50m up, perfectly lit by the sun behind us, and clearly showing a long chunky, yellow bill and subtly, shaded warm grey/brown head and neck. Now certain that it was a Cory’s, we switched to convincing ourselves that this really was happening, repeating “It’s a Cory’s” at least a few times as it came slowly towards us in a series of leisurely flaps, short glides and slow circles. This clearly worked as, before it passed almost directly

overhead, we agreed that we had to rule out the further impossibility of Scopoli's (!), and a good view of the underwing pattern did just that (solid, dark wing tip with no 'fingers' of white extending into the outer primaries from the white underwing coverts). Once past us, our final image of it flying unhurriedly away SW, against the sun and in front of the pine trees on Bricksbury Hill (about two minutes after first appearing as a distant gull) will remain in the memory for a long time. Arguably, we had had time to grab a photo with our phones, although it is debatable if the quality of that image would have been worth the time wasted getting it.

This is the eighth record for Hampshire and apparently the fifth inland UK record of Cory's Shearwater (with singles previously in Staffordshire October 1971, Wiltshire September 1984, London September 2016 and Rutland November 2017). More likely to be seen off SW Ireland and Cornwall in early autumn, the sighting followed overnight SW gales on November 1st which gusted to 115mph at the Needles, followed by heavy rain over the next few days, which together offer a possible explanation. Whatever the reason, we were glad to be there.

G.C.Stephenson stephfamily@hotmail.com

Grants for projects undertaken in 2022

Marcus Ward

Since 2015 HOS has invited applications each autumn for funding for projects to advance bird conservation or research in Hampshire. Last year's report outlined projects agreed in 2020 for implementation in 2021. This note continues that process by summarising the projects agreed in autumn 2021 for implementation in 2022. Detailed written submissions were received from three applicants and considered by the Scientific Sub-committee at its meetings on 16th September and 28th October 2021. All three were recommended and agreed within a total budget of £7,931 by the Management Committee at its subsequent meeting on 4th November 2021 as follows:-

***Lizzie Grayshon (GWCT): Improving our understanding of Redshank spatial ecology in river valleys using Avon Valley as a case study, £3,400.**

This funding application was for a continuation of the LIFE Waders for Real Project to increase the sample size of nests and colour-ringed and tagged Redshanks. There had been an increase in the number of Redshank pairs from 20 in 2015 to 35 due to habitat and predator management. There was a need to understand this success and four adult Redshanks were tagged in 2021 using HOS funds, five nests had been monitored and 30 pairs with eight chicks ringed. A catch method had been developed using hoop walk-in traps positioned on nests. Birds were then colour-ringed and fitted with glue-mounted GPS-UHF tags. The request for 2022 was for a further five GPS-UHF tags to increase the sample size and cover a separate year to provide a more robust project.

***Trevor Codlin: Hayling Island Ringed Plover Project, £2,000.**

The aim of the project was to improve the poor breeding success of Ringed Plovers at their last remaining stronghold in Hampshire near Gunner Point, Hayling Island. The method proposed was to supply and erect a 500m long "stock-mesh" fence along the landward side of the breeding area to prevent disturbance from members of the public. The project is partnered with RSPB who will warden the site. The project included interpretation boards and warning signs. HOS was requested to fund £2,000 for fencing out of the estimated £10,100 total set-up costs. The proposal was accepted with a proviso that if costs exceeded the estimate, a further £1,000 could be made available.

***Kate Faulkner (Selborne Landscape Partnership): Lapwing Recovery Project, £1,531.**

The objective of the project was to improve the breeding success of birds using Lapwing plots on selected farms within the Selborne cluster. The proposal was to plant brood cover strips adjacent to the plots with vegetation that would provide protection to chicks from predators such as corvids and at the same time provide a source of additional insect food. Details would be designed by GWCT who would also provide students for insect monitoring. In addition, it was proposed to trial different-shaped Lapwing plots to the standard squares to facilitate farming operations. Progress through the breeding season would be monitored by SLP volunteers. The amount requested was to cover the costs of forming the trial strips, supplying the seeds and planting the brood cover. Further details of the number and siting of the plots were requested and considered at the follow-on meeting on 28th October 2022 after which the full request was granted.

The Hampshire Ornithological Society

Organisation and Membership

Background

The Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society was founded in 1885 and the Ornithological Section in 1954. The section grew steadily over the next 25 years, and in March 1979 the separate Hampshire Ornithological Society was established. The Society now has a membership of around 2,000, many of whom actively take part in the Society's programme of bird surveys. The aims of the society are summarised on the inside front cover of this Report.

Membership

All members receive the annual *Hampshire Bird Report* and the magazine *Kingfisher* with three issues each year. Membership is available as follows (correct at September 1st, 2023):

Ordinary Membership: £16 p.a.

Family Membership (two or more members at the same address): £16 p.a.

Corporate Membership (sponsors, schools, Bird Clubs, etc): £16 p.a.

Junior Membership (under 18): £5 p.a. but free for under 21 in full-time education

To join, send your name and address with the appropriate subscription to:

Membership Secretary: Kay Shillitoe

Westerly, Hundred Acres Road, Wickham PO17 6HY

e-mail: kay.shillitoe@gmail.com telephone: 01329 833086

Applications to join after September 30th (to the year end) shall also cover the succeeding calendar year. Members so joining will not receive the *Hampshire Bird Report* published in the year they join but will be able to obtain it at a reduced price. Subscriptions are renewable on January 1st each year. The preferred method of payment is by standing order, but payments may also be made by internet banking (forms and full details are on the HOS website).

Meetings & Committees

Regular field meetings are arranged in all parts of the county throughout the year. Meetings are designed to introduce members to various habitats and to provide opportunities for novices of all ages to learn more about birds under field conditions. The Annual General Meeting & Members' Day and occasional indoor meetings are arranged in the winter months. These will be of interest to all members, but some may cater particularly for specialist groups, e.g. survey workers' meetings.

- The Scientific Sub-Committee is responsible for organising surveys, for the collection of records and for the production of the *Hampshire Bird Report*. It also handles liaison with the BTO, ringing groups, conservation bodies and similar organisations.

Publications

The *Hampshire Bird Report* is published annually and is the record of birds in Hampshire in the previous calendar year. The *Kingfisher* magazine published every four months contains news of society events, field meetings and recent bird sightings, articles on various aspects of Hampshire ornithology, and details of the organisation, progress and results of surveys organised by the Scientific sub-committee. New surveys are started every year, and the newsletter serves as a medium to contact potential volunteers. All members are invited to take part in surveys and contribute articles to the newsletter.

Map and Gazetteer

The map below shows the locations of 20 sites frequently quoted in the Systematic List together with OS grid references to the nearest one km square.



Key to birding sites

1 Acres Down	SU2709	11 Fishlake Meadows	SU3522	20 Pennington Marshes	SZ3292
2 Alice Holt Forest	SU8042	12 Hook-with-Warsash	SU4905	21 Sandy Point	SZ7498
3 Alresford Pond	SU5933	13 Hurst Castle	SZ3189	22 Southsea Castle	SZ6498
4 Avon Causeway	SZ1497	14 Itchen Valley		23 Stokes Bay	SZ5898
5 Beaulieu Rd Stn/ Bishop's Dyke	SU3406	Country Park	SU4616	24 Titchfield Haven	SU5302
6 Blashford Lakes	SU1507	15 Keyhaven Marshes	SZ3192	25 Trigpoint Hill	SU3625
7 Bolderwood	SU2408	16 Martin Down	SU0419	26 Tweseldown	SU8352
8 Bransbury Common	SU4141	17 Milford on Sea	SZ2891	27 Tundry Pond	SU7752
9 Calshot	SU4802	18 Needs Ore/ Beaulieu Estuary	SZ4297	28 Weston Shore	SU4409
10 Farlington Marshes	SU6804	19 Old Winchester Hill	SU6420	29 Woolmer Forest	SU8032
				30 Yateley Common	SU8259

In recent bird reports a full gazetteer has been included with OS grid references to the nearest one km square. The original intention was to include all place names mentioned in the Systematic List. However with time many site names have changed and the gazetteer has become increasingly out of step with the alternative on-line versions. These are regularly updated with a view to standardising site names to avoid confusion.

It has therefore been decided to discontinue publishing a gazetteer in the Hampshire Bird Report and instead direct readers to one of the two on-line gazetteers which are listed below.

<http://www.hos.org.uk/index.php/hampshire-birding/gazetteer>

<http://www.goingbirding.co.uk/hants/sites.asp>

List of Abbreviations

AON	Apparently Occupied Nest	HIWWT	Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
asl	above sea level	IOC	International Ornithological Congress
BB	British Birds magazine	JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
BBRC	British Birds Rarities Committee	LNR	Local Nature Reserve
BBS	Breeding Bird Survey (BTO)	m.o.	many observers
BoCC	Birds of Conservation Concern	MOD	Ministry of Defence
BoH	Birds of Hampshire	n/a	not applicable
BOU	British Ornithologists' Union	nc	no count (in tables)
BOURC	BOU Records Committee	NERC	Natural Environment Research Council
BWP	The Birds of the Western Palearctic	NF	New Forest
CB	Cress Bed	NFWBS	New Forest Winter Bird Survey
CBC	Common Bird Census plot	NNR	National Nature Reserve
CP	Country Park	NR	Nature Reserve
CR	Critically Endangered	NT	Near-threatened
Defra	Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs	RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
EN	Endangered	S4I	Section 4I of NERC Act, 2006
ET	European Threatened	SF	Sewage Farm
GBW	Garden BirdWatch (BTO)	SP	Sand Pit
GC	Golf Course	SPA	Special Protection Area
GP	Gravel Pit	SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
GWCT	Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust	STW	Sewage Treatment Works
HBA	Hampshire Bird Atlas	VU	Vulnerable
HBAP	Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan	w/c	week commencing
HBR	Hampshire Bird Report	WCB	Watercress Bed
HCC	Hampshire County Council	WeBS	Wetland Bird Survey
HOS	Hampshire Ornithological Society	WM	Water Meadows
HOSRP	HOS Records Panel	WWT	Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust

Symbols

* record count for locality

Index to English Names

Page numbers are given in **bold** for species accounts in the Systematic List and for papers where the species is featured, *italic* for entries in the Ringing Report recoveries section and regular font for other noteworthy entries.

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