



Plate 92. White-rumped Sandpiper, Findhorn, Moray & Nairn, 11–14 June 2013. © Tony Back

Scottish Birds Records Committee report on rare birds in Scotland, 2013

R.Y. MCGOWAN & C.J. MCINERNY on behalf of the Scottish Birds Records Committee

This is the sixth annual report of the Scottish Birds Records Committee (SBRC), covering 2013. Previous reports have covered the periods 2005–08, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 (ap Rheinallt *et al.* 2010a, 2010b, 2011, 2012, McGowan *et al.* 2013, 2014).

Three species and one subspecies are dropped from this year's report as they are considered sufficiently numerous to permit assessment of records at local level; these are Great White Egret *Ardea alba*, Rough-legged Buzzard *Buteo lagopus*, Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta* and Continental Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis*. Recently accepted records of some of these taxa to 31 December 2012 are still presented here. Similarly, as the British Birds Rarities Committee (BBRC) no longer assesses records of Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* or Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni*, their occurrences in Scotland are reviewed by SBRC from 1 January 2013.

From 1 January 2015 a number of other changes have occurred, which will affect future reports, but which we highlight here. BBRC will assess Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola*, Tawny Pipit *Anthus campestris*, Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus* and Rustic Bunting *Emberiza rustica*, and so these will not be SBRC species. BBRC will not assess Lesser Scaup *Aythya affinis*, Blyth's Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum* and Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola*, and so these become SBRC species. White-billed Diver *Gavia adamsii* remains on the SBRC list, but with local assessment in Shetland and the Outer Hebrides. Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni* remains on the SBRC list, but with local assessment in Shetland, Fair Isle and Orkney.

A summary of these changes is given in Appendix 2 and shown on www.the-soc.org.uk/sbrc-list-2015.

In 2013, there was a striking influx of Glossy Ibises, with flocks on both the Outer Hebrides and Orkney; the year count of 11 birds was the highest since 1907, when 19–20 were seen. The observation of up to 13 White-billed Divers off the Portsoy coast (North-east Scotland) in late April and early May confirmed the importance of this area during spring migration of the species through Scotland (Baxter *et al.* 2013). The Northern Isles' near-monopoly of passerine species was maintained for a further year. Only 20 individual passerines on the SBRC list were seen outwith the Northern Isles in 2013, and only ten of these were on the mainland. However, notable amongst these was the arrival of seven Greenish Warblers *Phylloscopus trochiloides* along the east coast in Caithness, Highland and North-east Scotland on 23–25 August.

Format of the report

The species accounts in the report follow a standard format, which is modelled on the annual BBRC reports published in *British Birds*. Nomenclature and taxonomic sequence follow the *Scottish List* (Forrester 2013).

On the header line, after the species or subspecies name, are three numbers:

- Total number of birds in Scotland to the end of 2004, based on Forrester *et al.* (2007), with adjustments in some cases, and also including records added in this report. In some cases, older records, 'At sea' records, or records pertaining to the breeding population are explicitly excluded from the totals, following the example of Forrester *et al.* (2007). In the case of Marsh Warbler *Acrocephalus palustris* and Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana*, numbers seen in the past were so great that totals have not been estimated.
- Total number of birds in Scotland during the period since 2004, but excluding the current year. Where appropriate, acceptances by BBRC and by local committees are included. Returning birds or repeat sightings of the same individual, insofar as these can be judged, are not counted.
- Total number in the current year (2013).

Immediately below the header line is a table of accepted Scottish records for 2013, with details. For those species assessed locally in the Northern Isles, full details of accepted Northern Isles records are not given. Instead, they are summarised as a separate table or in the text.

For all taxa, information is also provided about pre-2013 records that were not included in previous reports. These are presented in reverse chronological order. Records assessed by SBRC are listed in full, otherwise only summary information is provided.

It should be noted that records of individual birds reappearing at the same location in subsequent years are sometimes accepted locally without formal submission to SBRC; full details of these returning birds are nonetheless provided. Revised details are also provided for some pre-2013 records published previously.

For each record listed in full, the following information is provided. For additional details, see ap Rheinallt *et al.* (2010a).

- Year (unless this is 2013).
- Recording area (www.the-soc.org.uk/bird-recording/local-recorders-network).
- Location(s). In the case of some recording areas, individual islands or component administrative areas are also named.
- Number of birds if more than one, with age and/or sex if known.
- 'Returning' if applicable.
- Date(s). Note that the use of a date range does not necessarily imply that a bird was confirmed to be present throughout; in some cases it may have been observed only on the first and last dates given.
- 'Found dead' or 'died' if applicable.
- 'Trapped' if applicable.
- Existence of a photograph, if this formed part of the assessment process.
- Names of observers, in alphabetical order. Every effort has been made to name only those people who played a part in finding and/or identifying the bird. However, if no submission was made by these observers, the submitter of the record is also credited. All other observers are covered by the use of '*et al.*'.
- Details and location of specimen if preserved in a museum, with specimen number if available.
- Additional sightings of the same bird, or a cross-reference to additional sightings in a different recording area or year. Where a bird is said to be the same, this is usually a presumption based on the judgment of the observer, local recorder and/or others.

The table of records is followed by the main text of the species account. At the end of each account, a brief summary of global breeding and wintering distribution, with mention of relevant subspecies, is given in parentheses.

Species coverage

Species coverage is unchanged from the last report. Rare subspecies of several species on the SBRC list are still assessed by BBRC, the most important being Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans* and Arctic Redpoll *Carduelis hornemanni*. For these, the accounts in the SBRC report summarise accepted BBRC records in order to give as complete a picture as possible of the species' occurrence in Scotland.

A list of records assessed by SBRC and considered to be 'not proven' can be found in Appendix 1. Appendix 2 summarises the involvement of different committees in the assessment of the taxa on the SBRC list. Appendix 3 lists minor corrections to previous SBRC reports.

SBRC

SBRC was set up in 1984 as a subcommittee of the SOC Council. Its role is to assess records of species that are rare in Scotland but not rare enough in Britain to be assessed by BBRC. Current members are Hywel Maggs (Chairman), John Bowler, John Nadin, David Parnaby, Martin Scott, John Sweeney and Mark Wilkinson, with Chris McInerny as non-voting Secretary and Bob McGowan as non-voting Museum Consultant. David Parnaby replaced Mark Chapman during the period when the records reported here were assessed.

The *Scottish List* subcommittee consists of Dave Clugston, Ron Forrester, Angus Hogg, Bob McGowan, Chris McInerny and Roger Riddington. For more information about SBRC, see ap Rheinallt *et al.* (2010a) and www.the-soc.org.uk/bird-recording/records-committee.

Acknowledgements

First and foremost, we are grateful to all observers who submitted records of Scottish rarities during the period. Without their efforts, this report could not exist. We owe a particular debt of gratitude to those who gave permission for their excellent photographs to be reproduced here.

Next, we thank the following current and former recorders and report compilers for their assistance in compiling, checking and correcting records for this report: Yvonne Benting, Paul Baxter, Mark Chapman, Paul Collin, Jon Cook, Martin Cook, Jim Dickson, Iain English, Rob Fray, Keith Gillon, Pete Gordon, Angus Hogg, Hywel Maggs, Ray Murray, David Parnaby, Scott Paterson, Chris Pendlebury, Mike Pennington, Brian Rabbitts, Ian Thompson, Malcolm Ware, Stephen Welch, Jim Williams, and Val Wilson. We are particularly grateful for the co-operation of the Northern Isles recorders in helping to compile summaries for species assessed locally within their areas.

We appreciate Keith Naylor's scrutiny of past SBRC reports and thank him for his continuing valuable contribution. We thank Ian Andrews for making available the database of records of scarce and rare species used during the preparation of Forrester *et al.* (2007), and for producing the Glossy Ibis maps.

Systematic list of accepted records

Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiaca*

O: 7: 1

Table 1. Accepted records of Egyptian Goose in Scotland, 2013, with additional records, 2011 and 2008.

2013: Dumfries & Galloway Loch Ryan, 29 December (P.N. Collin).

2011: Clyde Carbars, Motherwell, 16–20 March, photo (I. English *et al.*).

2008: North-east Scotland New Deer, 12 April (D. Parnaby).

Egyptian Goose was added to Category C of the *Scottish List* in 2010 (ap Rheinallt *et al.* 2012). This species appears to be a rare, but near annual visitor, with observations throughout the country.

(Breeds throughout Africa south of 20°N latitude, extending farther north into southern Egypt, the only part of its natural range to fall within the Western Palearctic. There are substantial naturalised populations in England concentrated in Norfolk, the Netherlands and Denmark, with smaller numbers breeding in Belgium, France and Germany.)

White-billed Diver *Gavia adamsii*

197: 173: 41

Table 2. Accepted records of White-billed Diver in Scotland, 2013.

2013: Argyll Uisead Point, second-calendar-year, 5 March, photo (J.M. Dickson, I. McMillan, E. Maguire *et al.*).

Highland Gairloch, Ross & Cromarty, moulting to adult, 8 April (K. Evans).

Highland Opinan Bay, Ross & Cromarty, 10 April (K. Evans).

Highland Gruinard Bay, Ross & Cromarty, moulting to adult, 11 April (K. Evans).

Highland Gruinard Island, Ross & Cromarty, adult, 11–13 April (A. Coia, K.D. Shaw *et al.*).

Highland Gruinard Island, Ross & Cromarty, second-calendar-year, 13 April (A. Coia, K.D. Shaw).

Highland Loch Ewe, Ross & Cromarty, adult winter or second-summer, 15 April (A. Coia, K.D. Shaw).

Highland Gruinard Bay, Ross & Cromarty, 19 April (S. Elliott, D. Jones).

Isle of May adult winter, 23 January, photo (W.T.S. Miles *et al.*).

North-east Scotland Portsoy, 13, 17 March to 12 May (P.A.A. Baxter, C. Gibbins *et al.*).

Orkney Water Sound & Widewall Bay, South Ronaldsay, adult, 29 January to 4 May, photo (P. Higson).

Orkney Holm, Mainland, 10 February (I. Bainbridge *et al.*).

Orkney Sacquoy Head, Rousay, second-calendar-year, 28 March (R. Schofield *et al.*).

Orkney Faradlett Head, Rousay, adult, 29 March (R. Schofield *et al.*).

Outer Hebrides Port Nis, Port Sgiogarstaigh & Chuidhsiasair (Port of Ness, Port Skigersta & Cuishiadar), Lewis, 12, 27 March to 29 May, photo (B.A.E. Marr *et al.*).

Outer Hebrides Ceann an t-Siumpain (Tiumpan Head), Lewis, adult or second-summer, 8 April (J.S. Nadin, S.L. Rivers, K.D. Shaw *et al.*).

Outer Hebrides Àird an Rùnair, North Uist, adult, 20 May (S.E. Duffield *et al.*).

Shetland Bluemull Sound, adult (returning), 1 February (B.H. Thomason), Sound Gruney, 8 February (G.F. Bell, J. Dunn, M. Heubeck, R. Riddington, J.W.G. Wills), and again 28 October to 2014, photo (B.H. Thomason).

Shetland Kirkabister, Mainland, adult (returning), 10–13 November (M. Heubeck *et al.*).

Shetland Bluemull Sound, adult, 14 November to 2014 (B.H. Thomason).



Plate 93. White-billed Diver, adult, Water Sound & Widewall Bay, South Ronaldsay, Orkney, 29 January to 4 May 2013. © Paul Higson

White-billed Diver is a scarce, though increasing, visitor to Scotland, with 15–25 being reported each year since around 2000. Most occur in Shetland, Orkney, the Outer Hebrides and Highland, with some preferred localities being used in spring as stop-overs between wintering and summering areas. In Shetland, a small number of wintering individuals are believed to return to the same sites in successive years and summering birds have become almost annual. There may be some overlap among these records given the birds' mobility.

It now appears that another spring stop-over locality has been discovered in Scotland, off Portsoy in North-east Scotland. A number of birds have been seen along this coast and nearby off Moray & Nairn in previous years (McGowan *et al.* 2013, 2014) and this prompted more systematic surveying by chartered boat in 2013 to search offshore (Baxter *et al.* 2013). This resulted in a total of 13 birds being counted in 2013.

The occurrence off the Isle of May was the first for the recording area (Miles & Newell 2013).

Note that minor adjustments and/or corrections have been made to totals following the species header.

(Breeds in parts of Arctic Russia, Alaska and Arctic Canada; winters on the Pacific coasts of Russia and Canada as well as along the coast of Norway.)

Cory's Shearwater *Calonectris borealis*
c. 228: 24: 1

Table 3. Accepted records of Cory's Shearwater in Scotland, 2013.

2013: Orkney Dennis Head, North Ronaldsay, 13 August (M.D. Warren).

Cory's Shearwater is a rare visitor to Scottish waters, recorded near-annually, with most seen off North Ronaldsay and the Outer Hebrides. Although a marked increase in sightings from the mid-1990s to the mid-2000s occurred (ap Rheinallt *et al.* 2010a), numbers since have decreased, with no more than two seen annually between 2007 and 2011, and none in 2012.

(Breeds on the Azores, Canary Islands and other nearby Atlantic islands, with the closely related Scopoli's Shearwater *C. diomedea* breeding in the Mediterranean. Both species can occur in North Atlantic waters in autumn and are on the *British List*, but most are assumed to be Cory's and no confirmed Scopoli's yet recorded in Scottish waters.)

Great Shearwater *Puffinus gravis*

c. 522 (1950–2004): 9,217: 2
(excluding 'at sea' records)

Table 4. Accepted records of Great Shearwater in Scotland, 2013.

2013: Highland Loch Snizort, Skye & Lochalsh, 18 August (A. Stevenson).
Orkney Dennis Head, North Ronaldsay, 12 September (M.D. Warren).

Great Shearwater was rarely observed in Scotland until the large number of sightings during 2005–07. Since then, however, no more than six have been recorded in any one year, if 'at sea' records are discounted, with none observed in 2012. This underlines the exceptional nature of the influxes witnessed during that period.

This species is almost entirely a late summer and autumn visitor to Scotland, with most sightings from the Outer Hebrides and North Ronaldsay.

(Breeds on South Atlantic islands and carries out a clockwise loop migration in the North Atlantic outside the breeding season. In the north-east Atlantic occurs most regularly off the west coast of Ireland.)

Night-heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*

46: 10: 0

Table 5. Additional records of Night-heron in Scotland, 2012

2012: Outer Hebrides Boreray, St Kilda, adult, 4 May, photo (A. Campbell).
Shetland Sandvoe, North Roe, Mainland, immature, wing from corpse, 28 June (R.M. Mellor).

Night-heron is a less-than-annual visitor to Scotland, with a spring peak in observations. There is a wide geographical spread, but most are seen in the Northern Isles and the Outer Hebrides. None were observed in 2013, but two records are reported from 2012. The Shetland occurrence was based solely on a wing found on the tideline; the observer recognised it was unusual and identified it as that of an immature Night Heron.

(Holarctic with four subspecies, nominate *nycticorax* breeding in mainland Europe and into Asia, and *N. n. hoactli* in North America. Both populations move south in winter.)

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*

22: 4: 0

Table 6. Additional record of Purple Heron in Scotland, 2011.

2011: Outer Hebrides Hirta, St Kilda, 14 April, photo (R.C. Hewitt *et al.* per B. Rabbitts).

Purple Heron is a very rare visitor to Scotland, with a peak of sightings in May and June, a few in April, and the majority of the remainder occurring in September and October.

The observers on Hirta saw a Purple Heron separately twice on 14 April, and it is possible that two were present on the island. However, only one bird was photographed and so two individuals could not be established by plumage differences; SBRC took the prudent approach of accepting a single bird.

(Breeds from western Europe across to south-east Asia, and also in sub-Saharan Africa, where Western Palearctic populations winter. These populations belong to the nominate subspecies *purpurea*, with two other subspecies breeding in Madagascar and the eastern part of the range, respectively.)

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

c. 65: 17: 11

Table 7. Accepted records of Glossy Ibis in Scotland, 2013

2013: North-east Scotland Loch of Strathbeg, 1 November (T. Marshall *et al.*).
Orkney Swannay, Mainland, 17–29 December, photo (D.M. Armstrong, L. Harvey, M. Rendall *et al.*).
Orkney Skelwick & Tuquoy, Westray, 19 December **into 2014**, photo (D. & S. Otter).
Orkney Tankerness, Mainland, 23 December **into 2014**, photo (M. Rendall *et al.*).
Outer Hebrides Paiblesgearraidh (Paiblesgarry), North Uist, five, 25–28 October, photo (C. Newton, B. Rabbitts *et al.*).
Outer Hebrides Càirinis (Carinish), North Uist, 3 December, photo (B. Rabbitts).

Outer Hebrides Loch na Reivil, Hogha Gearraidh (Hougharry), North Uist, found dead, but corpse not salvaged, 15 December (S.E. Duffield).

Outer Hebrides Gabhsann bho Tuath (North Galson), Lewis, 12 December **into 2014**, photo, (J.S. Nadin *et al.*).

Outer Hebrides Dalabrog (Daliburgh), South Uist, two, 16 December **into 2014**, photo (Y. Benting, A. Stevenson, I.R. Thompson *et al.*).

Outer Hebrides Loch nam Fèithean, Hogha Gearraidh (Hougharry), North Uist, 28 December **into 2014**, photo (S.E. Duffield, A. McDonald, B. Rabbits, S. & C. Smith).

Outer Hebrides Cill Amhlaidh (Kilaulay) & Càrnan, South Uist, 29 December **into 2014**, photo (C. Johnson *et al.*).



Plate 95. Glossy Ibis, Dalabrog (Daliburgh), South Uist, Outer Hebrides, 16 December 2013 to 12 January 2014. © Yvonne Benting

Glossy Ibis is a rare, though increasing, visitor to Scotland. In the early 20th century a few flocks were observed, including a group of 19–20 in Orkney in September 1907, but it subsequently became much rarer (Forrester *et al.* 2007). In the 21st century, larger numbers and flocks were seen again in the UK and, accordingly, the species is no longer considered by BBRC with, since the start of 2013, Scottish occurrences

judged by SBRC. This change coincided with significant numbers being observed, with groups in Orkney and the Outer Hebrides.

On both archipelagos the birds moved around and were seen on multiple occasions which made the determination of total numbers problematic. SBRC decided on eight in the Outer Hebrides and two in Orkney (Figures 1a



Plate 94. Glossy Ibis, Balivanich (Baile a' Mhanaich), Benbecula, Outer Hebrides, 1–6 January 2014. © Stuart Taylor



Figure 1a. Locations and numbers of Glossy Ibis in Orkney, 2013/14; SBRC determined that two birds were involved.



Figure 1b. Locations and numbers of Glossy Ibis in Outer Hebrides, 2013/14; SBRC determined that eight birds were involved.

and 1b); it is also possible that the Orkney birds were previously seen in the Outer Hebrides. Some of these were sighted into 2014: on Outer Hebrides three were seen at Baile a' Mhanaich (Balivanich), Benbecula on 1–6 January and one at Borgh, Beàrnaraigh (Borve, Berneray) on 2–6 January; and on Orkney one each was seen on Papa Westray on 1 January and Sanday on 8 February. We mention these records here for completeness as they formed part of the same arrival, but they will formally listed in the SBRC report for 2014. Including the Strathbeg bird, this brings the 2013 count to 11 birds, which is the second highest annual total since 1907 (2012 having 12). It will be interesting to see if this increased incidence continues in the future.

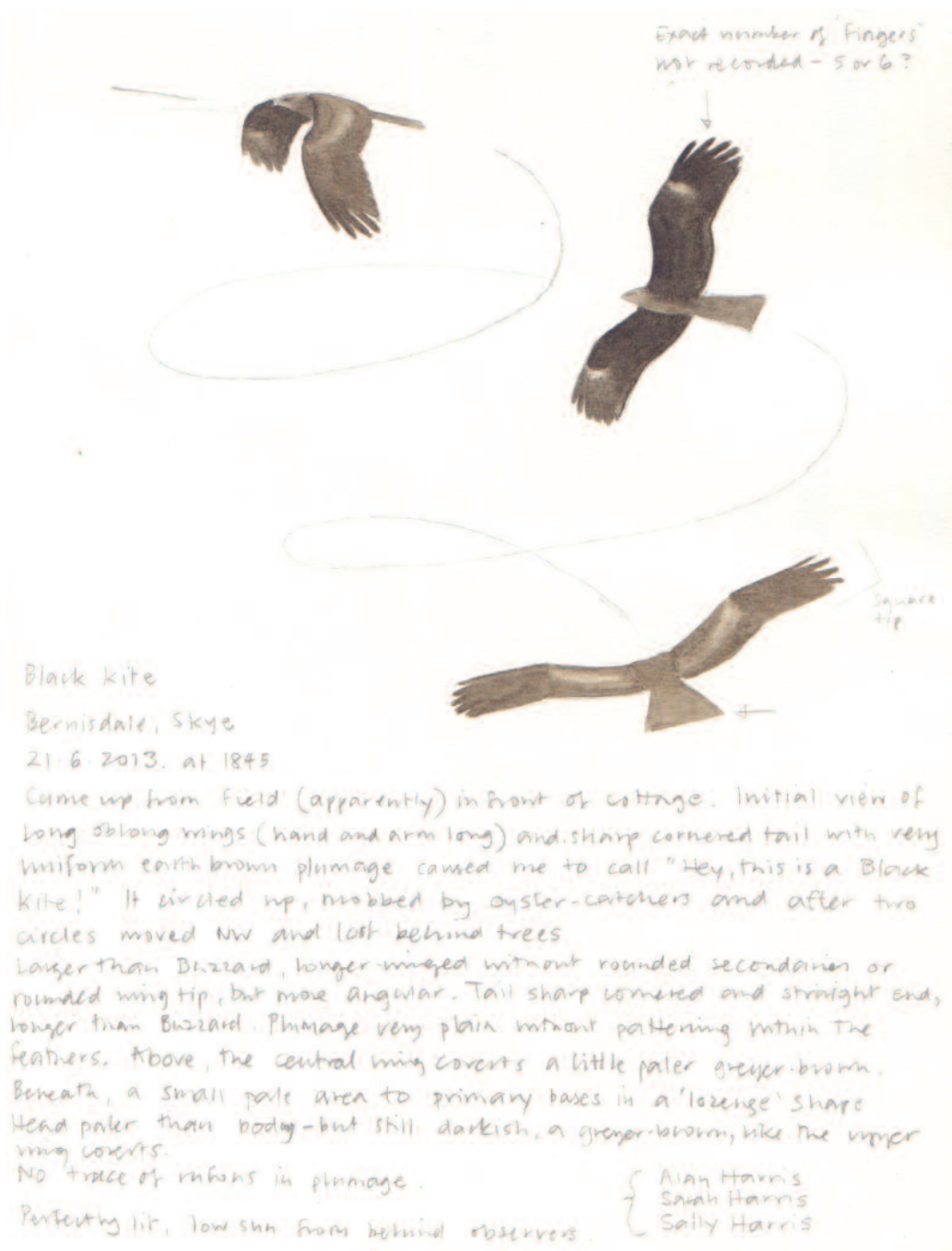
(Nominate *falcinellus* breeds from Spain and France, through the Balkans to central Asia, in sub-Saharan Africa, the Indian subcontinent, south-east Asia, the east coast of the USA and the Caribbean. Most European birds migrate to Africa with others short distance migrants or resident. Another subspecies in the Far East and Australia).

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*
19: 17: 3

Table 8. Accepted records of Black Kite in Scotland, 2013 with additional records, 2012.

- 2013: **Highland** Bernisdale, Skye, Skye & Lochalsh, 21 June (A., S. & S. Harris).
Orkney Decca station, Dounby, Mainland, 1 May, photo (T. & E. Wooton).
Outer Hebrides Gleann Dail bho Dheas (South Glendale), South Uist, second-calendar-year, 11 September, photo (J.B. Kemp *et al.*).
- 2012: **Shetland** Virkie & Clumlie, Mainland, 7 April (M. Heubeck, R.M. Mellor *et al.*).
Shetland Sumburgh, Gremista, Lerwick & North Roe, Mainland, Hermaness & Watlee, Unst, Funzie, Fetlar, 19–27 June (R.M. Fray *et al.*).

Black Kite is a very rare visitor to Scotland from continental Europe. Most individuals have been seen in spring, from April to June, with just a handful of sightings later in the season. There have also been instances of summering and a single case of hybridisation with Red Kite *Milvus milvus* (ap Rheinallt *et al.* 2010a).



Black kite

Bernisdale, Skye

21.6.2013. at 1845

Came up from field (apparently) in front of cottage. Initial view of long oblong wings (hand and arm long) and sharp cornered tail with very uniform earth brown plumage caused me to call "Hey, this is a Black Kite!" It circled up, mobbed by oyster-catchers and after two circles moved NW and lost behind trees.

Larger than Buzzard, longer-winged without rounded secondaries or rounded wing tip, but more angular. Tail sharp cornered and straight end, longer than Buzzard. Plumage very plain without patterning within the feathers. Above, the central wing coverts a little paler greyer-brown. Beneath, a small pale area to primary bases in a 'lozenge' shape. Head paler than body - but still darkish, a greyer-brown, like the upper wing coverts.

NO trace of rufous in plumage.

Perfectly lit, low sun from behind observers.

{ Alan Harris
Sarah Harris
Sally Harris

Plate 96. Black Kite, Bernisdale, Skye, Skye & Lochalsh, 21 June 2013. © Alan Harris

The sighting on South Uist was the third for the Outer Hebrides, and only the first there in autumn.

(Nominate *migrans* breeds throughout most of Europe except the far north; winters in sub-Saharan Africa. Other subspecies elsewhere in the Old World.)

Rough-legged Buzzard *Buteo lagopus*

c. 325 (1968–2004): 47:-

Table 9. Additional records of Rough-legged Buzzard in Scotland, 2012.

- 2012: **Shetland** Hermaness, Unst, 12 February to 2 March, photo (R.J. Brookes, A. & R. Foyster).
Shetland Gunnister, Unst, 10 May, photo (R.J. Brookes).

Rough-legged Buzzard is a scarce passage migrant to Scotland, occurring mostly on the eastern side of the country and in the Northern Isles, with numbers tending to peak in late autumn. Birds occasionally overwinter. This species is no longer judged by SBRC since 1 January 2013, though two 2012 records from Shetland are noted here.

(Holarctic, with four subspecies; nominate *lagopus* breeds from Scandinavia east to Siberia and migrates south to winter in an area extending from France to central Asia. *B. l. sanctijohannis* from North America is a potential vagrant to Scotland.)

Red-footed Falcon *Falco verpertinus*

83: 14: 0

Noted in this report is a correction to the total to the end of 2004. Two records missing from the SBRC database (Shetland, 1981) have been added, and the adjusted total is given above.

Stone-curlew *Burhinus oedicnemus*

29: 2: 1

Table 10. Accepted record of Stone-curlew in Scotland, 2013.

- 2013: **Shetland** Loch of Brough, Bressay & Pupil Geo, Noss, 4–19 June, photo (R.M. Fray, P.V. Harvey, C. Neideman *et al.*).

Stone-curlew is a very rare visitor to Scotland; there were just 31 accepted records to the end of 2012 and half of these were in the Northern Isles, with the remainder scattered across the country. There is a peak in occurrence in late May and early June (Forrester *et al.* 2007), and the Bressay/Noss bird fits this pattern. This bird was only seen twice, 15 days apart. This fact

illustrates how even a large bird in a relatively well watched area can be overlooked.

(Nominate *oedicnemus* breeds in open habitats in southern Europe east to the Caucasus, extending as far north as England and Poland; migrates south to winter in Spain and North Africa. Five other subspecies.)

White-rumped Sandpiper *Calidris fuscicollis*

69: 67: 5

Table 11. Accepted records of White-rumped Sandpiper in Scotland, 2013, with an additional record, 2012.

- 2013: **Moray & Nairn** Findhorn Bay, adult, 10–14 June, photo (R.S. Cocks, M. Cook *et al.*).
Outer Hebrides Àird a' Mhachair (Ardivachar), South Uist, juvenile, 29–30 October, photo (J.B. Kemp).
Outer Hebrides Àird an Rùnair, North Uist, juvenile, 3 November, photo (S.E. Duffield).
Outer Hebrides Bàgh a Tuath, Àird a' Mhachair (Ardivachar Point) and Baile Gharbhaidh, South Uist, juvenile, two, same as two above, 5–9 November, then single until 24 November, photo (S.E. Duffield *et al.*).
Shetland Hametoun & South Ness, Foula, adult, 2–3 September, photo (G. & D. Atherton).
Shetland Scord, Virkie & Boddam, Mainland, juvenile, 11–21 October, photo (R.M. Fray, S.J. Minton *et al.*).

- 2012: **Outer Hebrides** Rubha Àird na Machrach (Ardivachar Point) & South Ford, South Uist, two, adults, 18–23 September (J.B. Kemp).



Plate 97. White-rumped Sandpiper, Findhorn Bay, Moray & Nairn, 10–14 June 2013. © Richard Cocks

White-rumped Sandpiper is a scarce, but annual, visitor to Scotland from North America, with most observations in autumn in the Outer Hebrides. The spring record at Findhorn is noteworthy, being the second for the recording area.

(Breeds in North America at high latitudes, migrating to winter in Brazil, Argentina and Chile.)

Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis*

12: 11: 2

Table 12. Accepted records of Yellow-legged Gull in Scotland, 2013.

2013: Outer Hebrides Coig Peighinnean ('Fivepenny'), Ness, Lewis, adult, 2 October, photo (B.A.E. Marr).

Dumfries & Galloway Bishop Burn, Stranraer, fourth-calendar-year, returning, 7 July, photo (B. Henderson).

Dumfries & Galloway WWT Caerlaverock, adult, 5 August, photo (M. Youdale *et al.*).

Yellow-legged Gull is very rare in Scotland, though found at scattered locations throughout the country, usually in groups of other large white-headed gulls, often Lesser Black-backed Gulls *Larus fuscus graellsii*. Birds, predominantly adults, have been found at all times of

the year, sometimes remaining for extended periods, with a number of individuals returning the same locations in consecutive years.

Three were seen in 2013, including the third sighting in Outer Hebrides. The individual in Stranraer was a returning bird and is not included in the totals.

(Nominate *michahellis* breeds mainly from south-west Europe east to the Black Sea, dispersing widely in winter as far north as Britain and the Baltic; *atlantis* breeds on the Azores, Madeira and Canaries, wandering south to north-west Africa.)



Plate 99. Yellow-legged Gull, adult, Caerlaverock, Dumfries & Galloway, 5 August 2013. © Mike Youdale



Plate 98. Yellow-legged Gull, adult, Caerlaverock, Dumfries & Galloway, 5 August 2013. © Mike Youdale

Caspian Gull *Larus cachinnans*

0: 4: 1

Table 13. Accepted records of Caspian Gull in Scotland, 2013.

2013: **Lothian** Belhaven Bay, adult, 27 December (C. Gibbins).

Caspian Gull is extremely rare in Scotland, observed on just four occasions up to the end of 2012. All occurrences were in late autumn or winter. Three records, including the 2013 observation, involved birds in East Lothian at Dunbar and Belhaven Bay, and it is possible that some of these refer to the same returning individual. The last Scottish sighting was in 2009, found by the same observer as the 2013 individual, at Peterhead, North-east Scotland (ap Rheinallt *et al.* 2011).

It is now known that a regular movement of this species takes place each year through England, mainly in the east and south. Generally, immatures are involved, in late summer and autumn. It remains rare elsewhere in the UK, as shown by the few records here. However, under-recording of this difficult to identify species is also likely.

(Breeds at inland lakes in eastern Europe and the Middle East, wintering mostly in the eastern Mediterranean, but with smaller numbers reaching western maritime Europe.)

Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator*

86: 12: 4

Table 14. Accepted records of Woodchat Shrike in Scotland, 2013.

2013: **Argyll** Carnan Mòr, Tiree, female, 19–21 May, photo (J. Bowler *et al.*).
Isle of May male, first-summer, 31 May to 1 June, photo (J. Harrison, C. Scott *et al.*).
Shetland Baltasound, Unst, female, 1 June, photo (M.G. & M.J. Pennington *et al.*).

Woodchat Shrike is a rare, almost annual, passage migrant to Scotland, with most in the Northern Isles. Adults and sub-adults are seen in spring as overshoots from their continental breeding areas, along with dispersing juveniles recorded in autumn.

The sighting on Tiree was the second for Argyll, with the first in September 1996 on Islay.

In addition, two Scottish occurrences of Balearic Woodchat Shrike *L. s. badius* were accepted by BBRC (Hudson *et al.* 2014). The same bird was involved on both occasions, the first on Westray, Orkney on 26 May, and later on Foula, Shetland on 28 May. This is the first record of this subspecies for Scotland and only the tenth for Britain (Wynn 2013).

(Nominate *senator* breeds from north-west Africa, Iberia, France and Belgium south to Turkey; *L. s. badius* on Mediterranean islands; and *L. s. niloticus* from Turkey to Iran. Winters in sub-Saharan Africa.)

Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla*

286: 53: 9

Table 15. Accepted records of Short-toed Lark in Scotland, 2013.

2013: **Outer Hebrides** Àird an Rùnair, North Uist, 19 May, (R. Wyatt *et al.*).

Short-toed Lark is found annually in Scotland in very small numbers, mostly in spring and autumn, with the majority of observations in the Northern Isles, where records are assessed locally. It is very rare elsewhere, particularly on the mainland.

Following the single occurrence in 2012, the annual total for 2013 returned to a more typical number. The bird seen on North Uist was only the third on the Outer Hebrides since 2000, whilst the six on Shetland represented the highest annual total there since 1999. The August occurrence was only the sixth for that month in Scotland, but the third since 2008.

Table 16. Accepted records of Short-toed Lark in the Northern Isles, 2013.

	Number of birds		Date range	
	Spr.	Aut.	Spr.	Aut.
Fair Isle	-	1	-	9–10 Oct
Orkney	1	-	26 May	-
Shetland	2	4	16–29 May	25 Aug–12 Oct

(Eight or nine subspecies. Breeds widely in dry, sandy areas from southern and eastern Europe to the Middle East and western China, with populations migrating to winter in India, the Middle East and Africa.)

Woodlark is rare in Scotland, found mostly in late autumn and early winter in the Northern Isles. There has been one instance of attempted breeding, in Angus & Dundee in 1993 (Forrester *et al.* 2007).

Woodlark *Lullula arborea*
68 (1950–2004): 20: 2

Table 17. Accepted records of Woodlark in Scotland, 2013.

2013: **Isle of May** 26–28 March, photo (M. Newell *et al.*).
Orkney Thrave, Sanday, 5–7 October (T. Sykes).



Plate 100. Woodlark, Isle of May, 26–28 March 2013. © Mark Newell

The spring record on the Isle of May was the fifth for the island since 1950. Since 1950 the vast majority of occurrences have been on the Northern Isles, but only 7% have been on Orkney, compared to 72% on Fair Isle and Shetland, making the Sanday bird notable.

There has been just one mainland occurrence since 2000, in East Lothian in 2008.

(Two subspecies breed from the Middle East across to Morocco, extending north as far as Finland, Norway and England north to Yorkshire, where the population is increasing. Most populations move south to wintering areas, with more northerly populations moving the farthest.)

Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica*
40: 34: 3

Table 18. Accepted records of Red-rumped Swallow in Scotland, 2013.

2013: **Highland** Scourie, Sutherland, 20 May, photo (R. Burton).
Shetland Hillswick, Mainland, 29 May (R.M. Mellor).
Shetland Asta golf course, Tingwall, Mainland, 13 June, photo (I.S. Robertson *et al.*).



Plate 101. Red-rumped Swallow, Scourie, Sutherland, 20 May 2013. © Rona Burton

Red-rumped Swallow is observed in Scotland annually in small but increasing numbers from April through to November, mainly along the east coast and on islands. This recent increase is thought to reflect a northward expansion of the Continental breeding range. One individual of an eastern subspecies, either *daurica* or *japonica*, has been observed on Orkney and then Skye (Highland) in June 2011 (McGowan *et al.* 2013).

The May occurrence at Scourie was at the peak time for arrivals in Scotland and was only the third seen in Highland. Sightings on Shetland were typical, this recording area having 28% of the total Scottish records since 1950.

(Eleven or 12 subspecies. Breeds widely from southern and eastern Europe eastwards across the Palearctic region, and in sub-Saharan Africa. Northern populations are migratory, wintering in Africa and southern Asia. In recent years its range has expanded into more northern and western areas.)

Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides*
157: 34: 20

Table 19. Accepted records of Greenish Warbler in Scotland, 2013.

- 2013: **Caithness** Lybster, 24 August (S. Pinder *et al.*).
- Highland** Tarbat Ness, Ross & Cromarty, 24 August (D. MacAskill *et al.*).
- North-east Scotland** Girdle Ness, 23 August, photo (M. Lewis).
- North-east Scotland** Girdle Ness, 24–25 August, photo (M. Lewis *et al.*).
- North-east Scotland** Longhaven, 24 August, photo (I. Broadbent *et al.*).
- North-east Scotland** Altens, 25 August (M. Lewis).
- North-east Scotland** Blackdog, 25 August, photo (N. Littlewood).

Greenish Warbler is a rare but annual migrant to Scotland, increasingly regular over the past few decades. It is mostly seen in late August and early September, with more than 80% of sightings in the Northern Isles, where records are assessed locally.

The occurrences for 2013 represented the highest annual total for Scotland, with seven on the mainland, and 13 on the Northern Isles.

The observations in Caithness and Highland were the first records for both areas.

Table 20. Accepted records of Greenish Warbler in the Northern Isles, 2013.

	Number of birds		Date range	
	Spr.	Aut.	Spr.	Aut.
Fair Isle	-	2	5 Jun–2 Jul	26–27 Aug
Orkney	-	1	-	23–29 Aug
Shetland	1	9	1 Jun	23 Aug–5 Sep

The dates reported for 2013 are typical of the consistently narrow spread of arrival dates in both spring and autumn.

The total to the end of 2004 is also adjusted down by one (to 157) following the removal of a duplicate record from 1996.

(*P. t. viridanus* breeds from the Baltic east through Russia to the Yenisei and south to Afghanistan, and winters in the Indian subcontinent and south-east Asia. There are four records in England of Two-barred Greenish Warbler *P. t. plumbeitarsus* from eastern Siberia.)

Radde's Warbler *Phylloscopus schwarzi*
46: 15: 2

Table 21. Accepted records of Radde's Warbler in Scotland, 2013, with a additional record for 2010.

- 2013: **Borders** St Abb's Head, 19 October, photo (G. Guthrie, C. Hatsell, J. Ibbotson *et al.*).
- Isle of May** 3–4 October, photo (D. Pickett, J.J. Squire,).
- 2010: **Shetland** Toab, Mainland, 14 October (C. Fentiman, T. Wilson *et al.*).

Radde's Warbler is a rare late autumn visitor to Scotland, with the majority of occurrences in the Northern Isles, and the remainder along the east coast.

Both occurrences in 2013 were at typical localities and during the peak period. The Borders sighting was the third for that recording area, with previous birds also at St Abb's Head, in 1988 and 2000. The last Isle of May occurrence was in 2005.

(Breeds from southern Siberia east to Sakhalin and North Korea; migrates to winter in southern China and south-east Asia.)



Plate 102. Dusky Warbler, Fife Ness, Fife, 18–20 October 2013. © Rob Armstrong

Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus*

60: 25: 5

Table 22. Accepted records of Dusky Warbler in Scotland, 2013.

2013: **Fife** Fife Ness, 18–20 October (R. Armstrong *et al.*).

Dusky Warbler is a rare but more or less annual visitor to Scotland, with the autumn migration period accounting for all records but one. Like Radde's Warbler, it occurs mainly in the Northern Isles, where records are assessed locally. Nearly all other sightings have been on the east coast.

There were two sightings on Fair Isle, one on 13–15 October and the other on 15–17 October. There were also two on Shetland, one at Lerwick, Mainland on 26–28 October and the other at Quendale, Mainland on 22 November, which is the latest recorded date for Shetland and Scotland.

An additional record for 2012 from Shetland (19 October, Sandwick, Mainland) increases the total for that year to three; the total above has been adjusted accordingly.

(Breeds from western Siberia to China, wintering from the Himalayas to south China; two subspecies, with European vagrants belonging to nominate *fuscatus*.)

Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans*

194: 56: 5

Subalpine Warbler occurs annually in Scotland as a rare migrant, mainly in spring. The overwhelming majority are seen in the Northern Isles, where records of nominate *cantillans* and birds not assigned to any subspecies, are assessed locally. Scottish claims of subspecies other than *cantillans* are reviewed by BBRC.

There were four occurrences of *cantillans*, or unassigned individuals, on Fair Isle: three in June, and one in July–September. There was also a single occurrence in Shetland, at Scatness, Mainland in May.

In addition, two records of *moltoni* in 2009 have been accepted by BBRC (Hudson *et al.* 2014): both were from Shetland; one at Scatness, Mainland, and the other at Skaw, Unst. The total for that year is increased to eight. The first British record was found on Hirta, St Kilda on 13 June 1894 (Sharpe 1894, Elliot 1895, Harvie-Brown 1902), but was only recently recognised as *moltoni* (Svensson 2013).

The British Ornithologists' Union Records Committee (BOURC) has recently adopted recommendations to recognise two species in the *S. cantillans* complex (BOU 2015):

Subalpine Warbler *S. cantillans* and Moltoni's Subalpine Warbler *S. moltoni*. Once these are formally adopted by SBRC, a review of Scottish records will be necessary.

(*S. c. cantillans* breeds from Iberia to Italy; *S. c. albistriata* from the Balkans to Turkey; *S. c. moltonii* in the Balearics, Corsica, Sardinia and northern Italy. Migrates to winter in the sub-Saharan Sahel.)

Melodious Warbler *Hippolais polyglotta*

53: 8: 1

Table 23. Accepted record of Melodious Warbler in Scotland, 2013.

2013: **Fair Isle** North Raeva to Chalet & Barkland, 15–16 May, photo (R. Cope *et al.*).

Melodious Warbler is a very rare spring and autumn migrant to Scotland, recorded in most years but not all: for example, 2001, 2004, 2005 and 2009 were blank years. About three-quarters of occurrences have been in the Northern Isles, with almost identical totals for the three recording areas.

The single sighting for 2013 represents the 18th for Fair Isle, which has 29% of the total for Scotland and the highest number for all recording areas.

(Breeds in north Africa, Iberia, France, Belgium, and south-west Germany to the north-west Balkans; migrates to winter in sub-Saharan West Africa.)



Plate 103. Melodious Warbler, North Raeva to Chalet & Barkland, Fair Isle, 15–16 May 2013. © Richard Cope

Marsh Warbler *Acrocephalus palustris*

many: c. 242: 42

Table 24. Accepted records of Marsh Warbler in Scotland, 2013.

2013: **Highland** Uig Bay, Skye, Skye & Lochalsh, male, singing, 16–28 June, photo (R. McMillan *et al.*).
Outer Hebrides Taobh a Tuath Loch Aineort (North Loch Eynort), South Uist, male, singing, 24 May (S.E. Duffield).
Outer Hebrides Mingulay, 5–6 June, photo (A. Cross).

Marsh Warbler is a scarce annual migrant to Scotland with most occurrences involving singing males in late spring; very rarely, birds remain to breed. The Northern Isles account for the overwhelming majority of records and these are assessed locally.

There were no sightings on the Scottish mainland in 2013.

Table 25. Accepted records of Marsh Warbler in the Northern Isles, 2013.

	Number of birds		Date range	
	Spr.	Aut.	Spr.	Aut.
Fair Isle	16	3	18 May–12 Jul	27 Jul–13 Sep
Orkney	3	3	18 May–20 Jun	10 Jul–26 Sep
Shetland	9	5	28 May–22 Jun	11 Sep–8 Oct

The number of Marsh Warblers recorded in Scotland in 2013 (43) was the second highest total since 2008 when 68 were sighted. The annual mean is 30 for the period 2005–12. With the exception of 2006, autumn sightings in the same period have been in single figures, so the 11 recorded in 2013 is noteworthy. The fluctuating annual abundance of this species is related, for spring birds at least, to variation in the prevalence of easterly winds in late May and early June, which are presumed to cause them to overshoot their breeding grounds in Fennoscandia (Forrester *et al.* 2007). Typically, most birds in 2013 only stayed for a few days.

(Breeds in Britain, France, Denmark and Fennoscandia east through Europe to Russia; winters in sub-Equatorial Africa.)

Tawny Pipit *Anthus campestris*

44: 6: 1

Table 26. Accepted record of Tawny Pipit in Scotland, 2013.

2013: Orkney Strom Ness, North Ronaldsay, first-summer, 25 May, photo (M.D. Warren *et al.*).

Tawny Pipit is very rare in Scotland with just ten individuals seen during the period 2000–12, most being presumed spring overshoots on islands.

The North Ronaldsay bird in 2013 was the fourth for Orkney, though remarkably the third on the island since 2010. The late May date is typical.

(Nominate *campestris* breeds in dry, sandy areas from southern and eastern Europe to western Siberia; two other Asian subspecies. Winters in Africa, the Middle East and India.)



Plate 106. Olive-backed Pipit, Observatory, Fair Isle, 25 September 2013. © David Parkin

Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni*

151: 100: 14

Table 27. Accepted records of Olive-backed Pipit in Scotland, 2013.

2013: Fair Isle Observatory, 25 September, trapped, photo (D. Parnaby *et al.*).

Fair Isle Sheep Cru, 2 October (N. Andrews, C. Fulcher, C. Holden & L. Woods).

Fair Isle Hesswalls to Lower Leogh, 8 October to 2 November, photo (G.K. Gordon, W.T.S. Miles *et al.*).

Fair Isle Midway, 14 October, photo (G.K. Gordon *et al.*).

Orkney, School, Papa Westray, 26 September (J.B. Bell).

Orkney Rue, North Ronaldsay, 4–6 October, photo (S.J. Davies *et al.*).

Orkney Sangar, North Ronaldsay, 15 October (S.J. Davies).

Orkney Twingness, North Ronaldsay, 20 October, photo (G. Woodbridge *et al.*).

Shetland Frakkafield, Mainland, 25–26 September (P.V. Harvey *et al.*).

Shetland Skaw, Whalsay, 30 September, photo (R. Haughton *et al.*).

Shetland Setters Hill Estate, Baltasound, Unst, 30 September, photo (D. Preston).

Shetland Hamister, Whalsay, 4–5 October, photo (J.L. Irvine *et al.*).

Shetland Vidlin, Mainland, 19–20 October, photo (D.J. Bradnum, M.R. Eade, J. Lethbridge *et al.*).

Shetland Ham, Foula, 26–28 October, photo (G. & D. Atherton).



Plates 104–105. Olive-backed Pipit, Setters Hill Estate, Baltasound, Unst, Shetland, 30 September 2013. © Dougie Preston

Olive-backed Pipit is a rare but regular autumn migrant in Scotland. There was a marked increase in occurrences in Britain and Europe

generally in the 1980s and the species was dropped from BBRC review in 2013.

The occurrences in 2013 are typical for localities and timing. It will be interesting to see if the frequency in Scotland is sustained over the coming years.

The vast majority of sightings in Scotland are in the Northern Isles, with only 12 elsewhere; the most recent was one on Barra, Outer Hebrides in October 2010. There have been only seven mainland records, the last at Blackdog, North-east Scotland in October 2006.

(*A. h. yunnanensis* breeds from Urals east to Kamchatka, Manchuria and Japan; one other subspecies. Winters in south-east Asia.)

Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus*

135: 13: 1

Red-throated Pipit is a rare spring and autumn migrant to Scotland, found almost exclusively on islands, with the majority of birds appearing in the Northern Isles where claims are assessed locally.

In 2013 there was a single occurrence, one seen on 12 October on Fair Isle at Pund, Haa and Utra, which lingered until the 24th.

(Breeds widely in northern boreal Palearctic regions, migrating to winter in Africa and south-east Asia.)

Arctic Redpoll *Carduelis hornemanni*

366: 91: 15

Arctic Redpoll is a scarce though annual visitor to Scotland. Most sightings since 2005 have involved the race *C. h. hornemanni* (Hornemann's Redpoll), claims of which are assessed by BBRC, while many earlier occurrences referred to *C. h. exilipes* (Coues's Redpoll). All but eight of the 91 birds during 2005–12 were in the Northern Isles, with the majority occurring in autumn. Claims of Coues's Redpoll in the Northern Isles are assessed locally.

In 2013, most Arctic Redpolls seen in Scotland were in the Northern Isles in autumn. A total of four were accepted as Coues's Redpoll (or unassigned to race), claims of which are assessed locally within those islands.

Table 28. Accepted records of Coues's Redpoll in the Northern Isles, 2013.

	Number of birds		Date range	
	Spr.	Aut.	Spr.	Aut.
Fair Isle	-	-	-	-
Orkney	-	1	-	17 Oct
Shetland	-	3	-	15 Oct–30 Dec

In addition, BBRC accepted 11 records of Hornemann's Redpoll in Scotland (Hudson *et al.* 2014), all but one occurring in autumn. There was a single on Fair Isle, two in Orkney, one in Outer Hebrides, and seven in Shetland.

(Breeds on the Arctic tundra, with a circumpolar range divided between two subspecies: *C. h. hornemanni* on Ellesmere and Baffin Island (Canada) and in Greenland, and *C. h. exilipes* elsewhere. Winters to the south of the breeding range.)

Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana*

many: 36: 5

Ortolan Bunting is a rare and declining, but still annual, passage migrant to Scotland. In recent years the Northern Isles, where records are assessed locally, have accounted for more than 90% of occurrences.

There were only five individuals in Scotland in 2013. Two were present on Fair Isle, one on 12–19 May and the other on 10–14 June. On Shetland, there were sightings on 17 May on Foula, 24 September at Grutness, Mainland and 25 September on Unst. The recent general trend of declining numbers appears to be continuing.

(Breeds patchily from Algeria and Iberia north to Norway and east through Europe to Asia; winters in sub-Saharan Africa.)

Rustic Bunting *Emberiza rustica*

276: 40: 5

Rustic Bunting is a scarce, annual vagrant in Scotland with the majority appearing in the Northern Isles where claims are assessed locally. Numbers have declined in recent years.

Table 29. Accepted records of Rustic Bunting in the Northern Isles, 2013.

	Number of birds		Date range	
	Spr.	Aut.	Spr.	Aut.
Fair Isle	2	-	19 May–3 Jun	-
Orkney	-	-	-	-
Shetland	2	1	20–29 May	8–9 Oct

Since 2006, only two sightings from a total of 35 in Scotland have been made outwith the Northern Isles.

(Breeds from Fennoscandia to Siberia; winters mainly in Japan, Korea and China.)

Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla*

593: 137: 37

Table 30. Accepted records of Little Bunting in Scotland, 2013. Northern Isles records are summarised separately in Table 31.

2013: Isle of May 29 September, photo (D. Pickett, J.J. Squire).
Outer Hebrides Ardmhor plantation, Barra, 22 October, photo (B.A. Taylor *et al.*).

Little Bunting is a scarce though increasingly regular passage migrant to Scotland, mostly in the Northern Isles, where records are assessed locally. The great majority are found in autumn, but there have also been a few sightings in winter and spring.

Occurrences in Scotland in 2013 correspond well to the established pattern. The sighting on Barra was the ninth for Outer Hebrides, and only the third since 2001. The total number of Scottish observations in 2013 is the highest since 50 were sighted in 2000.

Table 31. Accepted records of Little Bunting in the Northern Isles, 2013.

	Number of birds		Date range	
	Spr.	Aut.	Spr.	Aut.
Fair Isle	-	10	-	10 Sep–26 Oct
Orkney	-	3	-	21 Oct–8 Nov
Shetland	1	21	28 May	18 Sep–1 Dec

(Breeds from northern Fennoscandia to eastern Siberia; winters from north-east India and Nepal to south-east Asia.)

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Appendix 1.

List of records regarded as not proven by SBRC.

- 2013: White-billed Diver Àird an Rùnair, North Uist, Outer Hebrides, 28 April. Small harrier sp. (Montagu's/Pallid) Musselburgh, Lothian, 29 June. Yellow-legged Gull Largs, Ayrshire, 28 March. Arctic Redpoll (2) Gelston, Dumfries & Galloway, 8 May; Tongue, Highland, 21–22 April.
- 2012: Yellow-legged Gull Port Chaligaig, Highland, 13 February.

Appendix 2.

Summary of assessment of records by the Scottish Birds Records Committee (SBRC) and other committees, 2011–15. All species and subspecies assessed by SBRC are included, with two exceptions. First, any species or subspecies not on the *Scottish List* is automatically assessed by SBRC if it is not assessed by the British Birds Rarities Committee (BBRC). Second, some species assessed by SBRC have additional rare subspecies assessed by BBRC but not shown here.

11	12	13	14	15	
■	■	■	■	■	Egyptian Goose <i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Black Brant <i>Branta bernicla nigricans</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Ferruginous Duck <i>Aythya nyroca</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Lesser Scaup <i>Aythya affinis</i>
■	■	■	■	■	White-billed Diver <i>Gavia adamsii</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Cory's Shearwater <i>Calonectris diomedea</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Great Shearwater <i>Puffinus gravis</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Wilson's Petrel <i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>
■	■	□	□	□	Continental Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Night-heron <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Cattle Egret <i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
■	■	□	□	□	Great White Egret <i>Ardea alba</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Purple Heron <i>Ardea purpurea</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Glossy Ibis <i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Black Kite <i>Milvus migrans</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Montagu's Harrier <i>Circus pygargus</i>
■	■	□	□	□	Rough-legged Buzzard <i>Buteo lagopus</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Red-footed Falcon <i>Falco vespertinus</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Stone-curlew <i>Burhinus oedicnemus</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Kentish Plover <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>

■	■	■	■	■	White-rumped Sandpiper <i>Calidris fuscicollis</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Continental Black-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa limosa limosa</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Yellow-legged Gull <i>Larus michahellis</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Caspian Gull <i>Larus cachinnans</i>
■	■	■	■	■	White-winged Black Tern <i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Franz Josef Land Little Auk <i>Alle alle polaris</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Alpine Swift <i>Apus melba</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos minor</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Woodchat Shrike <i>Lanius senator</i> (except <i>L. s. badius</i>)
■	■	■	■	■	Short-toed Lark <i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Woodlark <i>Lullula arborea</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Red-rumped Swallow <i>Cecropis daurica</i> (except <i>C. d. daurica</i> or <i>japonica</i>)
■	■	■	■	■	Cetti's Warbler <i>Cettia cetti</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Greenish Warbler <i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Radde's Warbler <i>Phylloscopus schwarzi</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Dusky Warbler <i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Dartford Warbler <i>Sylvia undata</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Subalpine Warbler <i>Sylvia cantillans</i> (except <i>S. c. albistriata</i>)
■	■	■	■	■	Eastern Subalpine Warbler <i>Sylvia cantillans albistriata</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Melodious Warbler <i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Aquatic Warbler <i>Acrocephalus paludicola</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Blyth's Reed Warbler <i>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Marsh Warbler <i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Nightingale <i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Citrine Wagtail <i>Motacilla citreola</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Tawny Pipit <i>Anthus campestris</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Olive-backed Pipit <i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Red-throated Pipit <i>Anthus cervinus</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Water Pipit <i>Anthus spinoletta</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Serin <i>Serinus serinus</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Arctic Redpoll <i>Carduelis hornemanni</i> (except <i>C. h. hornemanni</i>)
■	■	■	■	■	Hornemann's Arctic Redpoll <i>Carduelis hornemanni hornemanni</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Scottish Crossbill <i>Loxia scotica</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Parrot Crossbill <i>Loxia pytyopsittacus</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Cirl Bunting <i>Emberiza cirlus</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Ortolan Bunting <i>Emberiza hortulana</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Rustic Bunting <i>Emberiza rustica</i>
■	■	■	■	■	Little Bunting <i>Emberiza pusilla</i>

■ = BBRC ■ = SBRC ■ = SBRC except Northern Isles (Fair Isle, Orkney and Shetland) ■ = SBRC except Outer Hebrides ■ = SBRC except Northern Isles (Fair Isle, Orkney and Shetland) and Outer Hebrides ■ = SBRC outside core range (see www.the-soc.org.uk/sbrc-crossbill-id.htm) □ = local assessment

Appendix 3.

Corrections to previous SBRC reports:

Report year 2012:

Egyptian Goose, Dalswinton Loch, Dumfries & Galloway, 13 September 2007.

Great White Egret, Whalsay, Shetland, (returning), end 2011, through to 13 January 2012

Red-footed Falcon, Dalrawer, Aberfeldy, Perth & Kinross, 30 May to 1 June 2012.

Marsh Warbler, Table 23, date range for Shetland autumn record is 18–22 September.

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