

Ayrshire Bird Report

2017



Edited by Dave Grant and Angus Hogg



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Title page: *Great Egret at Hunterston May 2017 by Angus Hogg*

Editorial

Welcome to the 2017 Ayrshire Bird Report. Having felt that something was missing in our lives (!) – in the form of the annual Ayrshire Bird Report – the decision was taken to bring the series up to date, starting with the 2017 edition. The main reason for doing this was to improve access to information on Ayrshire's birds. This time, however, the medium used is not the familiar printed version but instead, the Ayrshire Birding website, maintained by Kevin Waite. This would seem a suitable home for it, since the website acts as a county ornithological archive, recognised as such by the British Library. Our thanks are due to Kevin for his continued work on the website. Once again, the report has been supported by the Ayrshire Branch of the SOC, and both editors are grateful for the help and advice received from the SOC local recorder for Ayrshire, Fraser Simpson.

The layout of the report follows much the same format as previous ones, but there are some important changes which should be noted. Firstly, the systematic order of species has altered substantially since the last issue in 2016. Taxonomists appear to change this order quite frequently nowadays, but the order followed here is the currently accepted one adopted by both the British Ornithologists' Union and the SOC. Some important changes to scientific names have appeared and we've adopted these too, along with the commonly used vernacular names. This is a constantly changing scene and one which we hope we've managed to keep up with. Also in the process of change are the species status symbols. This is a work in progress, and we'd hope to have them all updated by the time the 2018 report is ready.

As always, we're really grateful for the continued efforts of the growing number of observers and their contributions via several different recording systems. We would urge all observers to maintain this effort - the more information that is available, the easier it is to supply information which could play an important part in the defence of an important wildlife area. When submitting records, it's useful to glance at the contents of the report which will give a general indication of what kind of information is required. Some rarer species may require additional written and photographic evidence, and a list of those species appears at the end of the report. Such submissions can be completed on a form, freely available from the local recorder at the following address:- recorder@ayrshire-birding.org.uk

Finally, our thanks are due to Tom Byars, Gordon Riddle, Jim Thomson and the late David Gray for going that extra mile and supplying information on their personal studies of species, namely Lesser Whitethroat, Kestrel and Barn Owl.

Angus Hogg and Dave Grant

The Lesser Whitethroat in Ayrshire - 2017

Summary

13 territories were recorded in Ayrshire study sites, but only two were successful in fledgling young. I.C.I. Ardeer held 6 territories this year, underlining how important this site is for the species.

Arrival was noted at the I.C.I. Ardeer study site where 5 males were singing on 23rd April. A singing male was observed passing through at Doura Cottage, Kilwinning on 4th May. This seems to be a regular migration site during spring, despite available breeding habitat nearby.

Territories

- At I.C.I. Ardeer males held territory at Garnock Lagoons and Garnock Lagoons East on 2nd May.
- A male also held a territory at Bower Hill on 3rd May, with another male holding territory at Greenan on 3rd May.
- At I.C.I. Ardeer two new territories were noted at Ardeer Pipe Embankment on 5th May.
- A new breeding site was located at Fairways View (opposite Irvine Moor) holding one territory on 5th May.
- At I.C.I. Ardeer a total of six territories was located on 7th May - 2 at Ardeer Pipe Embankment with one male caught and ringed, 1 at Garnock West, and 3 at Garnock Lagoons.
- A territorial male was caught and ringed at Fairways View on 8th May.
- Bower Hill held at least 4 territories on 8th May.
- A singing male found by Liz Parsons in West Auchendarvie Wood (NS 255417) on 29-30th May was an interesting record, since it was holding territory in mature woodland, mostly Alder mixed with Sycamore and Scots Pine. It sang all the time from high within the Sycamore and Alder canopy at 7m and did not utilise a nearby open area of Bramble and Hawthorn during the two-day observation. This male may have been a Scandinavian migrant heading further north to breed – hence the unusual habitat preference.

Breeding

At I.C.I. Ardeer, one out of the three territories recorded at Garnock Lagoons was paired, and birds were seen on food forays on 3rd June, photographs taken revealing that adults were bringing back Large Red Damselflies – a food item previously not noted. A pair with two fledglings just out the nest by 1-2 days was at Fairways View on 3rd June, photographs of the adults revealed both were unringed, which meant that this site held two territories! A ringed male was observed collecting food items at Ardeer Pipe Embankment on 3rd June, and a pair with two juveniles at Garnock Lagoons **were watched** on 9th June. Despite a minimum of four territories located at Bower Hill during May, there was no indication of breeding success, nor any adults seen during June.

Transient

A male sang one song phrase in poor quality scrub at Garnock North on 1st July.

Ringling

Two males were ringed – a young male 5 (EURING age code) BTO ring X645701 on right leg caught at Ardeer Pipe Embankment and then re-trapped at another site 60m away an hour later on 7th May! Also ringed was a young male 5 (EURING age code) BTO ring X645704 on right leg caught at Fairways View on 8th May.

Tom Byars

Key to Symbols and Abbreviations in the Systematic List

Each species entry has a header giving the species name, its scientific name, and an indication of its status. Species are now arranged in the currently accepted IOC order which has been adopted by the SOC. The following symbols are used:

♂ = male(s). ♀ = female(s). C/5 = clutch of 5. B/4 = brood of 4.

Symbol	Meaning	Symbol	Meaning
A	Accidental (5 records or less)	B	Breeds (≥ 25 pairs/territories reported/year)
R	Rare (20 records or less)	b	Breeds (<25 pairs/territories reported/year)
U	Uncommon (20 records or less/year)	(B)	Casual or occasional breeder
C	Common (≥ 20 records/year)	FB	Former breeder
S	Summer visitor (s if less regular)	R	Resident
W	Winter visitor (w if less regular)	E	Introduced or escaped
P	Passage migrant (p if less regular)	*	Record is subject to acceptance by the relevant records committee.

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Systematic List 2017

Brent Goose *Branta bernicla* U w P

Pale-bellied race *B. b. hrota*: the small, but increasing, wintering group was again present at Maidens in both winter periods.

Winter-Spring: 17 Maidens 1 Jan, 16 from 4 Jan-17 Mar, 20 Maidens 7 Apr, a family party of 4 Irish-ringed birds from Strangford Loch, Co Down, were present from 18 Mar-7 Apr.

Autumn-Winter: 7 Hunterston 3 Oct, 2 Barassie 3 Oct, 14 Maidens 31 Dec.



Pale-bellied Brent Geese (ringed in Co Down, N Ireland) at Maidens - Angus Hogg

Canada Goose *Branta canadensis* C B P

Breeding pairs were noted at Loch Macaterick, Ballochling Loch, Loch Riecawr,

Counts at main sites	
Capringstone	375 on 20 Aug
Martnaham Loch	10 on 2 Jul
Dalmaca	290 on 15 Nov

Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis* U w P

Winter-spring: 2 Carston Farm 8 Jan, 32 Hunterston 7Feb.

Autumn-winter: 10 Hunterston 8 Oct, 21 Irvine 10 Oct, 1 Fail 20 Oct

Greylag Goose *Anser anser* C b W

Breeding pairs included: 1 pr Loch Macaterick, B/5 & B/4 Ballantrae

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	452 on 8 Mar
Loans	19 on 29 Mar
Tarbolton/Martnaham/Coylton	330 on 30 Mar
Maybole	550 on 1 Jan

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	386 on 15 Sep
Loans	202 on 1 Dec

Pink-footed Goose *Anser brachyrhynchus* C W P

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Carston Farm, Drongan	72 on 21 Mar
Martnaham Loch	410 on 30 Mar
Blairbowie	17 on 5 Apr, 214 flew north on 9 Apr
Elsewhere	218 at Loans on 2 Jan, 500 at Tarshaw on 3 Jan, 300 at Kames on 17 Apr

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Tarbolton/Mossblown	500 on 20 Oct
Prestwick/Troon	2694 on 10 Dec
Martnaham Loch	5 on 6 Oct, 200+ flew south 13 Nov
Elsewhere	5 at Capringstone on 25 Oct

Greater White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons* R w P

Greenland race <i>flavirostris</i> U w P
3 Low Coylton 3 Jan (BG), 2 West Kilbride 23 Feb (AS); 1 Piperhill 5 Nov (DG)
Eurasian race <i>albifrons</i> A
4 Nith Valley 8 Jan (MH)



Ssp flavirostris at Low Coylton – Dave Grant

Mute Swan *Cygnus olor* C B

Breeding results:

Site	Result	Site	Result
Ballantrae	2 prs on 25 May	Lands of Turnberry	B/3 on 20 Jul
Culzean Country Park	pr at nest 18 Mar	Oldhall pond	B/3 on 20 Jul
Irvine Magnum	B/5 on 7 Aug	Shewalton	B/9 on 4 Jun
Kay Park	B/5 on 27 May	Trabboch Loch	B/5 and B/6 on 24 May
Kilantringan Loch	pr at nest 10 Jul		

Counts at main sites	
BSC Hunterston	4 on 23 Apr
Bogside	65 on 20 Aug
Ayr/Doonfoot	110 on 11 Jul
Elsewhere	72 on Garnock Estuary 19 Aug

Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus* C W

In the spring: 21 North Mains on 14 Jan, 30 on 21 Mar; 28 Kerse Bridge on 3 Mar, 20+ Polquhirter Meadows 4 Mar; 30 Crossraguel on 20 Mar; 25 Rankinston on 21 Mar, 17 on 6 Apr, last 1 on 4 May.

Counts at main sites	
Bogton Loch	19 on 7 Nov
Martnaham/Fergus	9 on 28 Sep, 70+ flew south 13 Nov

In the autumn: 47 Greenan on 19 Oct, 68 Sandyford on 19 Oct, 60 Dreghorn on 14 Nov, 76 Fail on 14 Nov, 83 Bogside on 15 Nov.

Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna* C b

Breeding details: 3 pr Goats Green 29-Apr, pr Ardwell 23-May, b/6 Balkenna 5-Jul,

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston Sands	56 on 1 Jan, 36 on 10 Feb, 15 on 7 Jul
Ardrossan-Farland Head	8 on 18 Mar
Bogside	6 on 15 Sep
Doonfoot/Greenan	2 on 20 Apr
Maidens	21 on 27 Feb, 25 on 22 Mar
Elsewhere	6 Seamill on 29 Apr

Garganey *Spatula querquedula* R (B)

Female at Capringstone on 28 Aug (GMcA), 1 at Fail 26 Sep (DG)

Northern Shoveler *Spatula clypeata* U b w P

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Capringstone	pr on 1 Jan, 4 on 11 Mar
Garnock Floods	1 on 1 Apr
Southannan	♂ on 14 Jan, 2 on 20 Apr
Other sites	♂ and 2 ♀♀ Fail on 10 Mar, pr Trabboch 30 Mar, 2 Rozelle on 5 Apr

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Garnock Floods	1 on 23 Aug, 1 on 27 Oct
Elsewhere	2 Drumellan on 11 Sep, 2 Fail on 16 Sep

Gadwall *Anas strepera* U (B)

Breeding: No information was received.

	Counts at main sites
Southannan Sands	4 on 1 Feb, 4 on 1 Mar
Irvine/Bogside	10 on 15 Sep, 5 on 28 Dec
Culzean	6 on 10 Jan
Other sites	3 Trabboch on 3 Jan, 3 Rozelle on 4 Jan

Eurasian Wigeon *Mareca penelope* C (B) W

	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	1500 on 30 Jan, 2800 on 25 Feb, 800 on 27 Oct
Ardrossan-Farland Head	120 on 10 Feb
Capringstone	450 on 4 Feb, 200 on 25 Oct
Bogside	200 on 4 Mar, 300 on 16 Dec
Doonfoot	36 on 31 Mar, 93 on 12 Oct
Blairbowie	69 on 27 Feb, 12 on 16 Dec
Elsewhere	325 Powburn on 1 Aug

American Wigeon *Mareca americana* R w p

Two records, with a ♂ between Hunterston and Fairlie from 30 Jan-23Mar (MMcG *et al.*), and another ♂ between Balkenna and Dipple from 10-end Dec (RHH *et al.*)



Drake American Wigeon at Balkenna – Angus Hogg

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* C B W

Breeding: B/6 Blairquhan on 16 Jun, B/4 and B/2 Lands of Turnberry on 5 Jul, B/6 Lands of Turnberry on 20 Jul

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston	27 on 10 Feb, 49 on 9 Aug
Ardrossan-Farland Head	10 on 16 Oct
Capringstone	60 on 29 Sep
Ayr/Prestwick area	41 on 25 Jan, 39 on 10 Aug, 44 on 16 Sep, 47 on 26 Nov
Doonfoot	41 on 15 Jan, 180 on 12 Oct
Maybole area	72 on 2 Jan
Balkenna-Dipple	99 on 10 Dec
Trabboch/Martnaham	23 on 21 May, 125 on 10 Jul, 73 11 Sep, 80 on 27 Nov

Northern Pintail *Anas acuta* U w P

In spring: 2 Trabboch on 14 Jan, 12 Hunterston on 18 Feb, 3 Southannan Sands on 5 Mar

In autumn: 3 Fail on 21 Sep, 1 Ayr on 5 Dec

Common Teal *Anas crecca* C b W

Breeding: pairs at Garpel Bridge 9 Apr, Carrick Lane 2 May

Counts at main sites	
Southannan Sands	200 on 27 Jan
Capringstone	200+ on 1 Jan, 142 on 25 Oct
Fail	164 on 25 Sep
Doonfoot	100 on 5 Jan, 129 on 12 Oct, 150 on 18 Dec
Blairbowie	155 on 21 Feb, 225 on 16 Dec

Common Pochard *Aythya ferina* C (B) W

Counts at main sites	
Garnock Floods	1 on 14 Oct
Trabboch Loch	1 on 19 Feb
Culzean	2 on 28 Mar
Bogton	15 on 7 Nov (14 ♂♂ and ♀)

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula* C b W

Breeding: No information was received.

Counts at main sites	
Auchenharvie Pond	5 on 29 Jan, 9 on 23 Apr
Shewalton	12 on 18 Jan, 14 on 1 Mar
TrabbochLoch	34 on 3 Jan
Elsewhere	25 Barnshean Loch on 29 Oct, 28 Lands of Turnberry on 5 Dec

Greater Scaup *Aythya marila* U W

Counts at main sites	
Auchenharvie GC	20 on 2 Jan, 37 on 29 Jan, 24 on 26 Mar
Ayr/Prestwick/Troon	1 on 29 May, 2 on 24 Sep
Stevenston	34 on 1 Mar

Common Eider *Somateria mollissima* C B

Breeding records from North Ayrshire southwards: 184 AON Horse Island; a ♀ with B/6 at Southannan on 22 May, 6 adults and 3 small ducklings at Ardrossan harbour on 17 May, B/3 at Bogside on 4 Jun, 20+ nests on Lady Isle late May, B/2 and B/1 at Dipple on 5 Jul, 2 X B/2 at Balkenna on 20 Jul.

Counts at main sites	
Ardrossan-Farland Head	10 on 29 Jan, 15 on 21 May, 20 on 8 Oct
Stevenston Point	20 on 25 Jul
Troon-Gailes	152 on 6 Jan, 806 on 25 Jan, 270 on 23 Feb, 332 on 2 Mar, 278 on 28 Sep, 364 on 15 Dec
Ayr Bay	120 on 28 Jan, 412 on 19 Jul
Turnberry Point-Dipple	102 on 14 Jan, 350 on 23 May,

Velvet Scoter *Melanitta fusca* U W

In spring: 3 Gailes on 5 Feb, 4 Barassie on 13, 14 Feb, 1 Saltcoats on 12 Jun

In autumn: 1 Turnberry on 29 Oct

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra* C W P

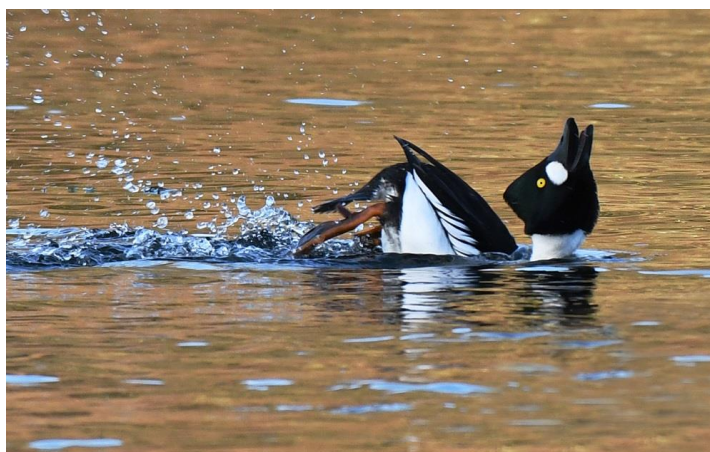
Counts at main sites	
Stevenston Point/Irvine Bay	50 on 4 Jan, 100 on 20 Jan, 200 on 8 Apr, 15 on 3 Dec
Troon	6 on 14 Apr, 9 on 4 Oct
Ayr/Prestwick	27 on 3 Jan, 10 on 5 Apr
Turnberry-Maidens	7 on 14 Mar, 6 on 30 Aug, 4 on 10 Oct

Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis* U W

Counts at main sites	
Stevenston Point	11 on 17 Feb
Irvine Bay	3 on 14 Feb
Ayr/Prestwick	6 on 15 Jan

Common Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula* C W

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Kilbirnie Loch	10 on 1 Jan
BSC Hunterston	19 on 9 Mar
Bogside	6 on 4 Mar
Ayr-Prestwick	4 on 5 Jan, 8 on 15 Jan
Bogton	14 on 1 Jan
Turnberry-Girvan	35 on 2 Jan
Elsewhere	19 Hunterston on 9 Mar, 20 Garnock estuary on 12 Mar, 3 Doonfoot on 11 May



Drake Common Goldeneye at Culzean - Angus Hogg

There were no records of summering birds

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
BSC Hunterston	3 on 20 Nov
Ayr-Prestwick	15 on 12 Oct, 15 on 6 Dec
Turnberry-Girvan	7 on 12 Nov

Smew *Mergellus albellus* U W

1 redhead at Barshean Loch from 15-21 Mar (DC *et al.*).

Goosander *Mergus merganser* C b w

Breeding: B/2 Garnock Floods on 20 May, B/8 Gadgirth Bridge on 24 May, B/9 Lugar Water on 24 May, B/6 Lugar Water on 10 Jul.

	Counts at main sites
Bogside	4 on 24 Feb, 18 on 21 Jul
Martnaham Loch	25 on 12 Apr
Doonfoot	56 on 19 Jul, 62 on 16 Aug
Other sites	15 Kay Park on 25 Feb, 10 Lugar Water on 24 May, 13 Ballantrae 22 Jul

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator* C b p

Breeding: 4 ♂♂ seen at Loch Riecaur on 9 April, single ♂ during May and Jun.

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston	18 on 10 Feb, 30 on 6 Mar, 30 on 1 Sep
Ardrossan-Farland Head	13 on 4 Feb, 11 on 2 Mar
Bogside	17 on 15 Sep
Ayr/Prestwick/Troon	17 on 24 Mar, 29 on 7 Apr, 20 on 24 Jul
Dipple-Balkenna	15 on 10 Dec

Red Grouse *Lagopus lagopus scoticus* U b

Very few records, with most coming from breeding areas: 5 Kaim Hill 22 Jan; 2 Tarfessock 10 Mar; 1 Kames 17 Apr; 1 Cairn Table 28 Apr; 2 Glentane Hill 10 May; 2 Glen Burn 10 May; 1 Loch Doon 21 May.

Black Grouse *Tetrao tetrix* U b

No comment received on breeding birds.

Counts and presence: 1 at Cronberry 5 Feb, 3 on 29 Nov; 2 Airds Moss 22 Aug.

Grey Partridge *Perdix perdix* U b

Breeding pairs of this rapidly declining species were noted at Knockentiber 1 Jan, Capringstone 2 Jan, Girvan Mains 6 Jan, Gypsy Pool Troon 17 Jan, Sandyford 23 Feb, Boghead Farm 17 Jul.

Counts: 9 Sandyford 8 Jan.

Common Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus* C B

Breeding records included ♀ B/6 Glendrisaig 10 Jul; ♀ B/2 Dumfries House 14 Aug

Widespread reports from the following areas:- Hunterston, Maidens, Shewalton Wood, Loans, Bogside, Fail, Outerwards, Annbank, Irvine, Rodentoft, Ferguslea, Knockroon Wood, Langholm, Common Loch, Fairlie, Windyhill, Culzean, Ladyton Loch, Ballantrae, Barturk, Colennan, South Whittlieburn, Kemp Law, Hawking Craig, Knockshinnoch lagoons, Campbelton Hill, Auchinleck, Ochiltree, Pow Burn, Prestwick GC, Heads of Ayr, Mainholm, E Balig Cott, Noddsdale estate, Glenside Wood, Beith, Bogton Loch, Patna, Craigengillan, Doonside, Traboch Loch, Culzean CP, Martnaham, Whitehill woodland, Feoch Meadows, Auchinreave, Fullarton Woods, Darnconner.

Common Quail *Coturnix coturnix* R FB

At least 3 birds were present during the summer, with 1 at Loans on 31 May (BDK), 2-3 birds between Fail Adamhill and Barmuir from 10-31 Jul

Red-legged Partridge *Alectoris rufa* E (B)

Very few records of this increasingly widespread, introduced gamebird: 2 Bower Hill 3 May; 6 E Balig Cott 8 May; 1 Barbae Wood 18 Jun.

Common Swift *Apus apus* C B S p

Breeding birds were seen at the following locations:- Saltcoats (25+prs), Dundonald (10 prs), Culzean CP (8 prs), Largs (5-6 prs), Daillly 5+ prs), Crosshill (2-3 prs), Muirhead, Prestwick, Patna Barr, Auchinleck.

Arrival was from 5 May when 3 at Kilmarnock, 2 at Shawfarm Ind Est, and singles at Kirkmichael and Troon; 3 Saltcoats and 1 Masonhill Ayr 6 May.

Feeding flocks or departing parties included 30 Laighdykes playing field on 19 Jul; 26 Garnock lagoons 23 Jul; 30 Saltcoats 25 Jul; 100+ New Farm Loch Kilmarnock 26 Jul; 100+ West Kilbride 10 Aug

In the autumn the last singles appeared at Crosshill on 22 Sep and Shawfarm Ind Est on 25 Sep.

Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus* C B S p

During the breeding season territorial ♂♂ included birds at Upper Glen App (4), Loch Riecawr-Loch Doon (4), Outerwards (2), Kirriereoch (2), Loch Finlas. Barrhill, Barr, Drulamford, Loch Skelloch, Shewalton Wood, Wee Hill of Craigmulloch, East Grassyards, Loch Lochton, Black Hill, Glenburn, Glenside Wood, Glentane Hill, Common Loch, Windyhill. Craigton, Dupin, Gales Marsh, Poteath, Biglees Hill, Craigens Kirkoswald, Barwinnock, Tallaminnoch.

No departure dates received.

Arrival was from 18 Apr when 1 at Skelmorlie Water; following that, singles appeared at Garnock lagoons, Kirriereoch and Loch Doon on 23 Apr.

Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon *Columba livia* C B

Counts included 57 Barassie-Loans 3 Jan, 1 Apr, 67 on 25 Feb, 78 on 5 Sep, 214 on 8 Oct, 264 on 29 Nov; 58 Bogside 2 Mar; 50 Dumfries House 26 Aug; 150 Girvan Mains 10 Dec; 120 Ayr 13 Dec.

Stock Dove *Columba oenas* C B w

Breeding pairs or territorial ♂♂ were reported from Failford (2), Hawking Craig (2), Warwickhill (2), Ness Glen (2), Place Farm, Garnock Castle, St John's Cott, Craigencallie, Bracken Bay, Knockentiber, Ladyton Loch, Hunterston House, Hunterston Castle, Noddsdale Estate, Collenan, Dalcairny, Kilkerran Caravan Park, Martnaham, Dumfries House, Muirhead, Fail, Morriston Farm, Knockshinnoch lagoons

Counts included 11 Fail 3 Jan, 24 Knockentiber-Springside disused railway 22 Jan; 11 Sandyford 23 Feb.

Common Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus* C B W

Counts included 70 Carlung Farm 8 Feb; 300 Woodside 25 Feb; 120 Loans 5 May; 82 Gypsy Pool Troon 5 Sep; 131 Knockentiber-Springside disused rly 14 Sep; 120 High Greenan 17 Oct; 127 S Muirhead 30 Oct.

Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur* U s P

A migrant was seen and photographed at Pow Burn on 25 Sep (DE)



Turtle Dove at Pow Burn - D Edmond

Eurasian Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto* C B

Breeding birds or birds in suitable breeding habitat were seen at Bogend Toll (4 prs), Loans, Barassie, Troon, Dundonald, Collenan, Beith, Maidens, Crosshill, Culzean CP, Newton on Ayr, Prestwick, Dumfries House, Fairlie, Largs, Irvine, Patna, Tarryholme, Trabboch, Ballantrae, Capringstone.

Counts included 8 Barassie 3 Mar, 9 on 2, 28 Jun; 16 Knockentiber 18 Sep; 38 Mhor, Ardsneil 16 Nov.

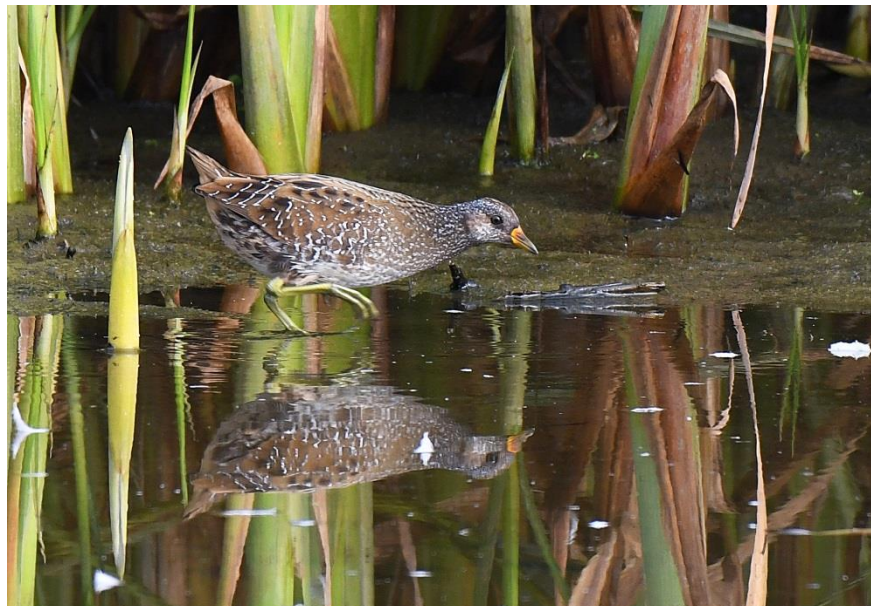
Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus* C b W

Birds seen or heard in suitable breeding habitat included Garnock Floods (up to 7), Craigengillan (2), Ardeer Fen (2), Bogton Loch, Trabboch Loch, Gypsy Pool Troon, Knockshinnoch lagoons, Ladyton Loch, Gailles Marsh, Bogside, Hunterston.

Counts outside the breeding season included 2 Bogside 1 Jan; 1 Culzean CP 2 Jan, 27 Feb; 2 Bogside 4, 14 Jan; 3 Trabboch Loch 14 Jan, 4 on 15 Nov; 1 in a Dundonald garden 26 Jan; 1 Hunterston lagoon 29 Jan; 1 Shewalton 4 Nov, 1 Doonfoot 6-17 Nov; 2 Ardeer Fen 28 Dec.

Spotted Crake *Porzana porzana* R p

1 was at Doonfoot from 12-29 Sep (FMCC *et al.*)



Spotted Crake at Doonfoot - Angus Hogg

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* C B

Birds in suitable breeding habitat included 2 prs (B/2 and B/1) Kirkbride pool; pr B/2 Whitehill woodland, pr B/1 Balbeg; pr B/1 Gypsy Pool Troon.

Other prs noted at Oldhall Ponds, Knockshinnoch lagoons, Glengarnock pool, Ladyton Loch, Garnock Floods, Common Loch, Tarryholme, Culzean CP, Capringstone, Martnaham Loch, Dumfries House, Ardeer Fen, Dundonald Camp.

Counts included 6 Kay Park 30 Jan; 7 Culzean CP 1 Apr; 6 Capringstone 1 Aug; 10 Trabboch Loch 26 Dec.

Common Coot *Fulica atra* C B

Birds in suitable breeding habitat included 2 prs Lands of Turnberry (2 x B/2 on 20 Jul); 2 prs Garnock Floods (B/1 noted 16 Jul); 2 prs Trabboch Loch 16 Jul – no young noted; pr B/3 Gypsy Pool 7 May – 2 survived; pr Kirkbride pond failed. Other prs noted at Culzean CP (2), Ladyton Loch, Dundonald Camp.

Counts included 15 Auchendarvie pond 15 Jan, 17 on 16 Oct, 15 on 3 Dec; 15 Kay Park 30 Jan; 11 Garnock estuary 2 Sep; 11 Lands of Turnberry 20 Oct; 12 Shewalton 25 Dec

Common Crane *Grus grus* A

One at Comondyke, Auchinleck 11 May (JMcC)

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* C B

At least 26 pairs were present at 17 sites.

Site	Result	Site	Result
Auchenharvie Pond	pr	Kirkbride Pond	3 prs – 2 x B/1
Balbeg	pr	Ladyton Loch	pr
Blairquhan Approach L	pr	Lands of Turnberry	4 prs-B/3, 2 x B/2, B/1
Colennan Res	2 prs-B/2, B/1	Martnaham Loch	pr
Common Loch	pr	Oldhall Ponds	pr
Culzean	pr	Pinbraid	pr
Garnock Floods	pr	Trabboch Loch	3 prs – B/1 seen
Garnock lagoons	2 prs	Troon Gypsy Pool	pr B/1
Kilntringan Loch	pr B/1		

Counts at main sites:

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston lagoon	30 on 29 Jan, 1 on 9 Sep, 12 on 16 Oct
Auchenharvie pond	5 on 1 Jan-7 Feb, 3 on 25 Feb, 4 on 30 Sep, 2 Dec
Bogside	4 on 4 Jan, 2 on 9 Aug, 11 on 2, 6 Sep
Shewalton	2 on 18 Jan, 4 on 23 Jan, 2 on 24 Feb, 6 on 4 Dec, 5 on 25 Dec
Pow Burn	2 on 4 Jan, 1 on 1 Aug, 9 on 30 Nov
Maidens	2 on 4 Jan-21 Feb, 1 on 27 Feb-18 Mar, 1 on 23 Sep, 2 on 5 Oct, 3 on 14 Nov, 11 Dec
Elsewhere	3 Holmsford bridge 1 Jan; 3 Dundonald Camp 2 Sep; 1 Fail 15 Sep; 1 Doonfoot 23 Sep, 12 Oct; 1 Loch o' the Lowes 22 Oct; 5 Barnshean Loch 29 Oct; 1 Eglinton CP 17 Nov; 2 Annbank 20 Dec.

Red-necked Grebe *Podiceps grisegena* U W

In Spring one was seen swimming north at Irvine harbour mouth on 1 Mar (RHH).

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus* C b p

Results from breeding sites:

Site	Result
Barcraigs Res	1 on 12 May
Garnock Floods	pr on 23 May – no breeding reported
Shewalton	pr on 7 Mar – no breeding reported
Tarryholme	pr with B/1 on 2 Jun
Martnaham Loch	pr present – no breeding reported

Winter-spring counts included 1 back Kilbirnie Loch 1 Jan; 1 Shewalton 1 Jan; 2 Irvine Bay 11 Feb, 1 on 1 Mar; 1 Southannan Sands 1 Mar; 1 Dipple 22 Mar; 1 Doonfoot 11 May

Autumn counts included 1 Troon 22 Sep 1 Loch o' the Lowes 22 Oct

Slavonian Grebe *Podiceps auritus* U W

In Spring 1 at Lendalfoot on 1-2 Mar was the only record (DG/FMcC)

Eurasian Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus* C B W P

Breeding pairs included: 2 prs Hawking Craig, and single prs noted at Stoney Port, Blairbowie, Beoch Loch Doon, Ballast Bank Troon, and Hunterston lagoon.

Early arrival back inland from 30 Jan when 1 at Ladyton Loch; 2 Airds Moss 15 Feb; 1 Common Loch 19 Feb, 19 on 16 Mar.

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	53 on 27 Mar
Ardrossan	75 on 29 Jan
Bogside/Irvine hbr	80 on 14 Jan, 47 on 24 Feb, 136 on 1 Mar, 70 on 2 Apr
Barassie	744 on 10 Jan, 227 on 20 Feb, 242 on 5 Mar, 156 on 1 Apr, 61 on 9 May, 41 on 12 Jun
Doonfoot	60 on 30 Apr, 60 on 11 May
Maidens	50 on 1 Jan, 40 on 25 Mar
Elsewhere	176 Turnberry Bay 14 Jan

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	39 on 15 Sep
Ardrossan	70 on 24 Aug, 30 on 16 Oct
Bogside/Irvine hbr	35 on 1 Aug, 300 on 9 Aug, 106 on 1 Sep, 70 on 1 Nov, 40 on 16 Dec
Barassie	154 on 23-25 Jul, 391 on 9 Aug, 244 on 25 Sep, 153 on 11 Oct, 121 on 1 Dec
Doonfoot	30 on 30 Jun, 80 on 10 Aug, 50 on 18 Sep, 85 on 12 Oct, 76 on 2 Dec
Maidens	25 on 19 Aug, 65 on 7 Dec
Elsewhere	53 Stevenston Point 16 Oct, 178 Balkenna-Dipple 10 Dec

Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* C B W P

Few breeding reports: 17 displaying Killoch Farm 28 Feb; 2 prs displaying Knockentiber-Springside disused rly 18 Apr. 15 Blairbowie 14 Mar - no breeding.

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	75 on 29 Jan
Bogside/Irvine hbr	60 on 5 Feb
Dundonald Camp	274 on 1 Jan, 130 on 9 Apr
Fail	75 on 5 Jan
Doonfoot	80 on 1 Jan, 53 on 11 May
Blairbowie	170 on 21 Jan
Elsewhere	180 Muirhead Troon 6 Jan, 71 Capringstome 4 Feb

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	35 on 8 Aug, 50 on 1 Sep, 72 on 29 Oct
Bogside/Irvine hbr	25 on 25 Jun, 300 on 18 Jul, 200 on 8 Aug, 350 on 29 Sep, 300 on 11 Oct, 380 on 4 Nov
Dundonald Camp	37 on 25 Jun, 29 on 2 Aug, 60 on 30 Aug, 1130 on 4 Sep, 24 on 9 Oct, 49 on 3 Dec
Fail	28 on 22 Aug, 75 on 10 Sep
Doonfoot	56 on 14 Sep
Blairbowie	61 on 16 Dec
Elsewhere	56 Common Loch 26 Jun, 60 on 5 Jul; 50 Capringstone 28 Jun, 180 on 1 Aug, 105 on 2 Sep, 45 on 25 Oct; 40 Killoch Farm 4 Jul; 56 Loans 29 Oct

European Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria* C B w P

Birds in suitable breeding habitat included 4 on Cairn Table 19 Jun.

	Counts at main sites
Barassie-Troon	52 on 7 Jan, 75 on 10 Sep, 150 on 28 Sep, 100 on 29 Oct, 187 on 5 Nov, 40 on 10 Dec
Newton shore	16 on 8 Jan
Balkenna-Dipple	360 on 10 Dec
Elsewhere	21 Kaim Hill 22 Jan; 23 Blairbowie 1 Mar; 50 Benty Cowan Hill 7 Apr

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola* C w P

	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	5 on 6 Oct, 1 on 16 Oct
Bogside-Stevenston Point	11 on 2-18 Jan, 13 from 11-17 Feb, 2 on 27 Feb, 1 on 6 Sep, 7 on 19 Sep, 2 on 26 Sep
Troon-Prestwick	1 on 29 Nov, 17 Dec

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula* C B W P

The only breeding record reported involved 2 prs displaying Ballast Bank Troon 29 Apr.

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	53 on 17 May
Stevenston	95 on 22 Jan, 30 on 14 Apr
Bogside/Irvine hbr	34 on 11 Feb
Barassie-Troon	36 on 7 Jan, 36 on 7 May, 81 on 13 May
Maidens	35 on 1 Jan, 52 on 22 Apr
Elsewhere	45 Ardneil Bay 13 Jan, 22 Portencross 9 May

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	100 on 28 Aug, 27 Oct, 200 on 18 Nov
Stevenston	18 on 25 Jul, 68 on 26 Sep, 43 on 8 Oct, 72 on 28 Oct
Barassie-Troon	31 on 23 Jul, 61 on 6 Aug, 65 on 25 Sep
Maidens	40 on 19 Aug, 25 on 23 Sep, 90 on 8 Oct, 60 on 3 Dec
Balkenna-Dipple	140 on 17 Jul, 17 Aug, 84 on 10 Dec
Elsewhere	20 Ballantrae 22 Jul, 134 Meikle Craigs 26 Aug, 30 Girvan 20 Oct, 9 Dec

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius* R P

1 at Blairbowie on 8 Apr (RHH/DGiv) was the only record

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* U P

The first spring record was 1 at Saltcoats on 8 Apr.

Spring passage counts at main sites	
Hunterston	6 on 23 Apr, 2 on 25 Apr, 2 on 30 Apr, 3 on 2-3 May, 1 on 4 May, 2 on 7 May, 1 on 11, 17 May
Saltcoats-Stevenston	1 on 18 Apr, 7 on 29 Apr, 2 on 17 May
Bogside/Irvine hbr	7 on 22 Apr, 2 on 12 May
Barassie-Troon	1 on 19, 20, 24 Apr, 1 on 2 May
Martnaham Loch	17 on 23 Apr, 18 on 25 Apr, 25 on 26 Apr
Doonfoot-Bracken Bay	1 on 18 Apr, 4 on 22 Apr, 12 on 26 Apr, 1 on 3 May
Culzean Bay	5 on 18 Apr, 10 on 22 Apr, 17 on 29 Apr
Elsewhere	50 Munnoch Res 30 Apr; 1 Ballantrae 1 May; 1 Bower Hill 3 May; 1 Pow Burn 3 May

Autumn passage counts at main sites	
Hunterston	1 on 19 Jun, 3 on 7 Jul, 2 on 29 Aug, 1 on 9 Sep, 2 on 3 Oct
Barassie-Troon	1 on 8 Jul, 1 on 3, 9, 10, 17 Aug
Doonfoot-Bracken Bay	1 on 13 Jul, 8 on 21 Jul
Elsewhere	1 Meikle Craigs 11 Jul; 1 Collennan Res 16 Jul, 9 Aug, 3 Girvan 11 Aug, 1 N Capringstone 4 Dec

Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata* C B W P

Breeding pairs or territorial ♂♂ included: 2 prs Pinbraid and single prs at Clauchanton Hill, Grimmet Hill, Laight Farm, Craigens Kirkoswald, Shallochwreck Hill.

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	72 on 23 Mar, 138 on 27 Mar
Stevenston	47 on 20 Jan, 76 on 16 Feb
Bogside/Irvine hbr	39 on 5 Jan, 70 on 5 Feb, 41 on 1 Mar, 50 on 2 Apr
Loans	130 on 4 Jan, 122 on 24 Feb, 65 on 24 Mar
Balkenna	120 on 14 Jan, 77 on 12 Mar
Elsewhere	27 Maidens 6 Jan, 40 Farland Head 10 Feb

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	23 on 15 Sep
Stevenston	25 on 26 Oct
Bogside/Irvine hbr	175 on 7 Aug, 90 on 1 Sep, 250 on 29 Sep
Loans	28 on 29 Oct, 134 on 15 Nov, 161 on 23 Nov, 136 on 4 Dec
Doonfoot	25 on 16 Sep
Balkenna	66 on 20 Jul, 82 on 19 Sep, 82 on 10 Dec
Elsewhere	47 Common Loch 23 Jun, 31 Pow Burn 24 Jul; 59 Dundonald Camp 2 Aug, 91 on 23 Aug, 59 on 5 Sep, 112 on 9 Oct; 90 Auchenharvie pond 19 Oct; 54 Eglinton Park 26 Oct, 62 on 17 Nov; 25 Maidens 26 Oct, 31 on 7 Dec; 64 Collennan 12 Dec, 136 on 27 Dec

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* C W P

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston-Fairlie	1 on 13-30 Jan, 92 on 9 Feb, 106 on 14 Feb, 101 on 1 Mar, 46 on 12 Mar, 27 on 2 Apr, 1 on 6 May
Bogside/Irvine hbr	1 on 8, 18 Jan
Barassie	2 on 1, 19 Jan, 1 on 20 Jan
Doonfoot	3 on 29 Mar
Maidens	1 on 30-31 Mar
Elsewhere	1 Balkenna 6 Jan; 1 Pow Burn 17 Apr

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston-Fairlie	1 on 2 Aug, 4 Sep, 3 on 12 Sep, 1 on 8 Oct
Barassie	2 on 10 Sep, 1 on 22 Sep, 2 on 25 Sep
Doonfoot	2 on 13 Sep, 1 on 16-19 Sep
Maidens	14S on 6 Sep, 1 on 9 Sep, 3 on 10 Sep, 7 on 11 Sep, 4 on 12-15 Sep, 1 on 23 Nov, 5 Dec
Elsewhere	1 Meikle Craigs 11, 24 Jul, 26, 31 Aug; 3 Bogside 19 Sep; 1 Pow Burn 21 Sep, 1 Capringstone 29 Sep; 1 Balkenna 14 Nov

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa* U w P

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Bogside/Garnock Flds	1 on 29 Apr
Fail	1 on 9 Apr
Doonfoot	1 on 9 Apr
Elsewhere	2 Dalmaca 24 Apr

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	1 on 15 Aug, 5 on 23 Aug, 3 on 25, 28 Aug, 10 on 26 Aug, 2 on 30-31 Aug, 9 on 4 Sep, 11 on 8 Sep, 7 on 9 Sep, 5 on 12 Sep, 1 on 7 Oct
Bogside/Garnock Flds	1 on 18 Jul, 2 on 7 Aug, 12 on 9 Aug, 2 on 12 Aug, 8 on 27 Aug, 16 on 31 Aug, 5 on 1 Sep, 1 on 9 Sep, 5 on 13 Sep, 7 on 17 Sep, 5 on 19 Sep, 3 on 25 Sep
Barassie-Troon	1 on 2, 5 Aug, 2 on 11 Aug, 2 on 1 Oct
Fail	3 on 6 Aug, 15 on 17 Aug, 25 on 18-20 Aug, 44 on 21 Aug, 42 on 22 Aug, 5 on 23 Aug, 5 on 31 Aug, 1 on 4 Sep, 4 on 12 Sep
Pow Burn	3 on 30 Jul, 1 on 23 Aug, 1 on 19 Sep
Doonfoot	90 on 4 Jul, 4 on 15 Jul, 1 on 16-17 Jul, 2 on 2-3 Aug, 2 on 10-12 Sep, 12 on 13 Sep, 5 on 16 Sep, 2 on 1 Oct
Blairbowie	13 on 10 Sep
Maidens	3 on 24 Aug. 1 on 2 Sep, 5 on 13 Sep, 7 on 14 Sep, 4 on 15 Sep, 8 on 8 Oct, 1 on 9, 21 Oct
Elsewhere	11 Maidens 27 Jul, 1 Dalmaca 22 Aug, 5 Capringstone 2, 5 Sep, 2 on 12 Sep, 9 on 14-15 Sep, 3 on 17 Sep, 5 on 25 Sep, 3 on 7 Oct; 2 Ballantrae 29 Sep

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* C W s P

	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	10 on 4 Jan, 30 on 31 Mar
Saltcoats	19 on 8 Aug. 17 on 5 Nov
Bogside/Irvine hbr	20 on 2 Jan, 18 on 1 Mar, 20 on 2 Apr, 16 on 9 Aug, 10 on 18 Oct, 8 on 16 Dec
Barassie-Troon	15 on 10 Jan, 25 on 14 Mar, 9 on 14 May, return with 1 on 19 Jul, 12 on 3 Sep
Doonfoot	19 on 15 Jan, 12 on 5 Jan, 20 on 20 Apr, 6 on 10 Aug, 17 on 23 Sep, 30 on 28 Sep, 22 on 18 Dec
Balkenna-Dipple	31 on 14 Jan, 5 on 28 Jul
Girvan	39 on 19 Mar, 24 on 26 Sep
Elsewhere	18 Prestwick 12 Feb; 10 Largs 4 Mar; 17 Turnberry Pt 25 Mar

Red Knot *Calidris canutus* C W P

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston	2 on 26 Aug, 8 on 12 Sep
Bogside/Irvine hbr	50 on 14 Jan, 5 on 2 Mar, 2 on 1 Sep
Barassie-Troon	60 on 16 Jan, 39 on 24 Feb, 10 on 14 May, 3 on 20 Sep, 5 on 10 Dec
Newton shore	2 on 8 Jan
Doonfoot	return with 1 on 21 Jul, 9 on 23 Jul, 4 on 7 Sep, 2 on 29 Sep
Maidens-Turnberry Pt	8 on 12 Jan, 11 on 25 Mar, 1 on 3 Aug, 1 on 3 Nov
Elsewhere	13 Maikle Craigs 22 Jul, 1 Fail 20-22 Aug

Ruff *Calidris pugnax* C P

Spring records involved 1 at Drumellan, Maybole on 1-2 May; 2 Blairbowie 5 May; 1 Capringstone 6 May.

In the autumn: 1 Dalmaca 31 Jul-2 Aug, 1 on 11 Sep; 1 Fail 21-23 Aug, 7 on 27 Aug, 3 on 31 Aug, 15 on 12 Sep, 9 on 15 Sep, 6 on 16 Sep, 16 on 27 Sep, 1 on 6 Oct; 1 Garnock estuary 2 Sep, 2 on 6 Sep, 4 on 9 Sep, 2 on 13 Sep, 2 on 17 Sep, 3 on 19 Sep, 41 on 24 Sep, 4 on 25 Sep, 15 on 30 Sep, 1 on 1 Oct, 1 Hunterston 8-12 Sep; 4 Blairbowie 10 Sep; 2 Doonfoot 10 Sep; 1 Barassie 25 Sep; 1 Doonfoot 27 Sep; 1 Maidens 20 Oct.

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea* U P

Few autumn records involving up to 6 individuals: 1 Barassie 10 Sep; 1 Turnberry 17 Sep; 1 Doonfoot 18-21 Sep; 1 Bogside 24 Sep; 1 Barassie 1-2 Oct, another on 8-11 Oct. All records refer to juvs.

Sanderling *Calidris alba* C w P

Counts at main sites	
Stevenston	155 on 8 Jan, 82 on 11 Feb, 70 on 1 Mar, 80 on 8 Apr, 100 on 22 Apr, 26 on 25 Jul, 58 on 26 Sep, 60 on 5 Nov, 100 on 28 Nov, 180 on 27 Dec
Barassie-Troon	2 on 2 Jan, 71 on 13-16 May, 10 on 29 Aug; 8 on 9 Aug, 2 on 14 Nov
Meikle Craigs	28 on 22 Jul, 49 on 30 Jul, 77 on 1 Aug, 35 on 20 Aug, 1 on 21 Sep
Pow Burn	return with 5 on 11 Jul, 8 on 2 Aug, 2 on 20-27 Dec
Doonfoot	3 on 23 Jul, 6 on 30 Jul, 16 on 5 Aug, 5 on 30 Nov
Maidens	2 on 1 Jan, 15 on 4 Aug, 4 on 31 Dec
Balkenna	1 on 9 Apr, 22 on 23 May, 9 on 17 Jul, 37 on 28 Jul, 17 on 3 Aug, 9 on 17 Aug, 2 on 19 Sep, 7 on 11 Dec
Elsewhere	1 Hunterston 2 May, 3 on 17 May; 70 Lady Isle 9 May, 1 Saltcoats 14 May, 3 Ballantrae 22 Jul; 5 Irvine hbr 9 Aug



Sanderlings on Troon South Beach – Angus Hogg

Dunlin *Calidris alpina* C b W P

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	300 on 29 Jan, 43 on 1 Mar, 12 on 17 May
Stevenston	110 on 3 Jan, 134 on 20 Jan, 160 on 11 Feb, 270 on 25 Feb
Barassie-Troon	88 on 6 Jan, 342 on 29 Jan, 375 on 24 Feb, 143 on 5 Mar, 87 on 13 May
Doonfoot	30 on 20 Apr
Maidens	20 on 21 Jan, 67 on 21 Feb
Dipple-Balkenna	144 on 14 Jan

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	20 on 17 Aug, 150 on 28 Aug, 100 on 27 Oct
Stevenston	60 on 19 Nov, 310 on 3 Dec
Bogside	2 on 18 Jul, 11 on 2 Aug, 28 on 2 Sep, 40 on 29 Sep
Barassie-Troon	24 on 1 Oct, 32 on 17 Nov
Doonfoot	32 on 19 Jul, 37 on 3 Aug
Maidens	20 on 25 Jul, 35 on 7 Dec, 95 on 31 Dec
Dipple-Balkenna	45 on 17 Jul, 65 on 28 Jul, 25 on 14 Nov, 100 on 10 Dec
Elsewhere	return with 4 Pow Burn 11 Jul; 8 Meikle Craigs 12 Jul, 55 on 26 Aug; 2 Dalmaca 6 Aug, 3 on 7 Aug, 2 on 22 Aug; 5 Fail 18 Aug, 9 on 22 Aug; 26 Girvan 9 Dec

Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima* C W P

	Counts at main sites
Portencross	3 on 4 Jan
Saltcoats	18 on 15 Jan, 14 on 5 Nov
Stevenston	5 on 2 Jan, 16 on 20 Jan, 11 on 17 Feb, 12 on 1 Mar, 9 on 5 Nov
Barassie-Troon	8 on 6 Jan, 45 on 16 Jan, 14 on 24 Feb, 23 on 19 Mar, 29 on 29 Apr, 9 on 3 May, 1 on 9 May, 17 on 14 Nov
Ayr harbour	9 on 13 Dec
Maidens-Turnberry	26 on 14 Jan. 40 on 25 Mar, 3 on 10 Dec

Little Stint *Calidris minuta* U P

A poor autumn with only 4 individuals observed: 1 Maidens 2 Sep; 3 Dundonald Camp 29-30 Sep, 1 until 2 Oct. All records refer to juvs.

Eurasian Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola* C B W

The only records from potential breeding areas came from Kirriech 8 Apr; Crosshouse Hospital 16 May

Counts and migrants – Spring: 1 Annbank 1 Jan; 1 Dreghorn 2 Jan; 1 Lugar Water 12 Jan, 15 Mar; 1 Doonside 15 Jan; 2 Shewalton Wood 22 Jan; 1 North Hourat 23 Jan; 3 Dean CP 29 Jan, 1 on 7 Mar; 1 John Adam's bridge 2 Feb, 3 Mar, 31 Mar; 1 Broomfield 6 Feb; 1 Braehead 9 Feb; 2 Knockroon, Auchinleck 12 Feb; 1 Ochiltree 17 Feb; 1 Ferguslea 18 Feb; 1 Ayr Gorge 26 Feb; 1 Peden's Cave 6 Mar.

Counts and migrants – Autumn: 1 Common Loch 21 Sep, 10 Nov, 15 Nov; 1 John Adam's bridge 31 Oct, 15 Nov, 17 Nov, 26 Nov, 31 Dec; 1 Keir's Hill 26 Nov; 5 Rozelle 3 Dec; 1 Annbank 4 Dec; 1 Middleyard 10 Dec; 2 Craighens Hill 11 Dec; 1 Dunure 11 Dec; 1 Lugar Water 14 Dec; 1 Bogton Loch 16 Dec

Jack Snipe *Lymnocryptes minimus* C w P

In the winter-spring period: 1 Dreghorn 1 Jan; 2 Dundonald Camp 1 Jan, 1 on 4 Mar; 1 Pow Burn 7 Jan; 1 Riccarton Moss 16 Jan; 1 Gypsy Pool Troon 17 Jan, 19 Feb, 2 on 7 Apr; 6 Seamill 20 Jan, 1 on 8 Mar; 1 Stevenston LNR 20 Jan, 1, 12 Mar; 2 Martnaham Loch 21 Jan; 1 Shewalton 5 Feb; 1 Tarryholme 28 Mar; 1 Maidens 31 Mar; 1 Muirhead Troon 30 Apr-2 May.

In the autumn: 1 Pow Burn 20 Oct; 1 Gypsy Pool Troon 26 Oct, 4, 23 Nov, 3 on 23 Nov, 2 on 12 Dec, 6 on 16 Dec, 7 on 30 Dec; 1 Bogton Loch 29 Oct; 2 Stevenston LNR 26 Nov.

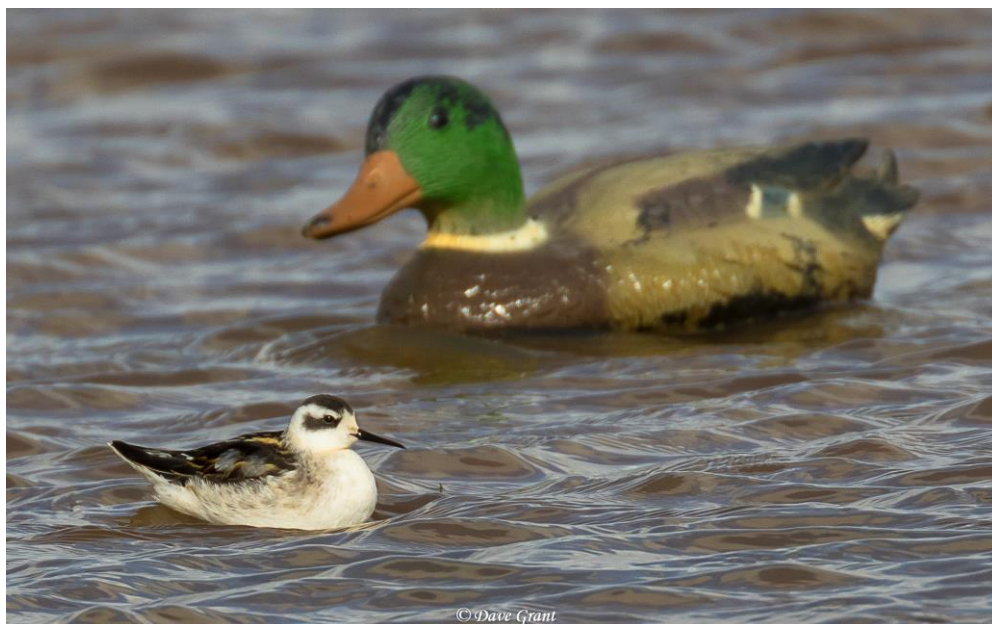
Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago* C B w P

Birds observed during the breeding season in breeding areas included min 5 Bogton Loch, 2 Garpel Bridge, 2 Knockshinnoch lagoons, 2 High Polquheys, singles Beoch Farm Loch Doon, Wee Hill of Craigmulloch, Kames, Cairn Table, Soame Burn, Dundonald Camp, Shewalton Moss, Garnock Floods

Counts and migrants: 12 Dreghorn 1 Jan; 10 Stevenston LNR 20 Jan, 13 on 12 Mar; 18 Shewalton 4 Feb; 27 Gypsy Pool Troon 19 Feb; 1 back at Capringstone 4 Aug; 2 Doonfoot 9 Aug; 25 Garnock Floods 31 Aug; 22 Dundonald Camp 1 Oct; 17 Gypsy Pool Troon 10, 26 Oct, 28 on 12 Nov, 33 on 27 Dec; 26 Stevenston LNR 26 Nov.

Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus* R

A juv at Fail from 25-30 Sep (DGiv *et al.*) was the 6th Ayrshire record.



Juvenile Red-necked Phalarope and 'friend' at Fail – Dave Grant

Grey Phalarope *Phalaropus fulicarius* U w P

One flew south at Maidens on 11 Sep (RHH & DGr).

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* C B S P

Territorial or breeding birds were recorded at Barturk, Common Loch, Martnaham Loch, Gadgirth bridge, Hallowchapel, John Adam's bridge, Barr, Dalquharran, Ladyton Loch, Ballantrae (S side), Loch Riecawr, Carrick Lane, Craigmalloch, Ness Glen, Failford, Finnarts Bay.

Arrival started with 3 at Common Loch and 1 at Tarryholme on 28 Mar; 2 Annbank 15 Apr.

Autumn counts/departure: 5 Garnock estuary 18 Jul; 6 Pow Burn 20 Jul; 5 Ballantrae 22 Jul; last singles at Common Loch 15 Oct and Troon 29 Oct.

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus* U w P

There were 2 Spring records: 1 Annbank 6 Mar, and 1 Martnaham Loch 30 May.

Autumn records involved 5 Dalmaca 31 Jul, 4 on 1-3 Aug, 1 until 7 Aug; 1 Trabboch Loch 18 Aug.

Common Redshank *Tringa totanus* C b W P

Winter-spring counts at main sites:

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	30 on 29 Jan, 68 on 18 Feb, 71 on 9 Mar
Ardrossan-Saltcoats	34 on 15 Jan, 24 on 19 Feb
Bogside/Irvine hbr	126 on 17 Feb, 120 on 4 Mar, 120 on 2 Apr, 53 on 9 Apr
Barassie-Troon	24 on 20 Jan, 71 on 27 Feb, 64 on 13 Mar, 67 on 7 Apr
Doonfoot	69 on 15 Jan, 90 on 31 Mar, 47 on 11 May
Maidens	47 on 21 Mar
Girvan	56 on 12 Mar

Site	Count
Hunterston	31 on 9 Aug, 50 on 15 Aug, 41 on 16 Oct
Ardrossan-Saltcoats	39 on 8 Aug
Bogside/Irvine hbr	15 on 1 Aug, 53 on 12 Aug, 88 on 31 Aug, 200 on 29 Sep
Barassie-Troon	15 on 23 Jul, 43 on 1 Oct, 34 on 5, 15 Nov, 47 on 1 Dec
Pow Burn	20 on 6 Aug
Doonfoot	20 on 11 Jul, 30 on 4 Aug, 86 on 14 Sep, 30 on 12, 24 Oct, 40 on 4 Nov, 84 on 3 Dec
Maidens	20 on 4 Aug, 40 on 24 Aug, 53 on 5 Oct, 60 on 7 Dec
Elsewhere	

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* U P

Two Spring records involved 1 at Longbar, Glengarnock on 2 May (ZB *et al.*), and 1 at Capringstone on 9 May (DGiv).

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* C w P

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	6 on 16 Jan, 10 on 18 Jan, 9 on 10 Feb, 10 on 6 Mar, 2 on 2 Apr
Bogside	3 on 2 Jan, 4 on 12 Mar
Pow Burn	1 on 3 Jan
Doonfoot-Heads of Ayr	4 on 1 Jan, 5 on 30 Jan, 3 on 1 Mar, 2 Apr. 1 on 11 May
Elsewhere	2 Capringstone 1 Jan, 3 on 4 Feb

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	2 on 17 Aug, 7 on 26 Aug, 8 on 1 Sep, 11 on 8 Oct, 13 on 16 Oct, 5 on 29 Nov
Bogside	2 on 1 Jul, 10 on 18 Jul, 11 on 1 Aug, 15 on 12 Aug, 20 on 27 Aug, 22 on 2 Sep, 16 on 6 Sep, 18 on 17 Sep, 8 on 24 Sep
Pow Burn	1 on 20 Jul, 23 Aug, 30 Oct, 4, 30 Nov, 26 Dec
Doonfoot-Heads of Ayr	4 back on 30 Jun, 5 on 13 Jul, 6 on 19 Jul, 7 on 21 Jul, 8 on 23 Jul-3 Aug, 6 till 21 Aug, 7 on 14 Aug-16 Sep, 6 on 28 Sep, 5 on 19 Oct
Elsewhere	2 Dalmaca 31 Jul, 1 on 1-7 Aug, 2 Saltcoats 4 Aug; 1 Fail 20-21 Aug, 2 on 22 Aug, 3 on 23 Aug, 4 on 27 Aug; 1 Meikle Craigs 27 Aug; 1 Blairbowie 10 Sep; 5 Capringstone 24-25 Oct, 7 on 20 Nov

Black-legged Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla* C B w P

	Passage Counts
Portencross	11 on 19 Mar
Stevenston Point	1 on 19 Feb
Irvine Bay	1 on 10 Jan, 1 on 30 Aug, 1 on 17 Oct
Troon	70+ on 11 Jun, 22 on 24 Dec
Maidens	200 on 19 Aug, 180 on 7 Oct, 80 on 11 Sep
Other	40 Outer Nebock Rocks on 17 May, 14 Bogside Flats on 2 Mar

Sabine's Gull *Larus sabini* R P

A single juvenile bird flew south at Maidens on 7 Oct (RHH).

Black-headed Gull *Croicocephalus ridibundus* C B W

Counts: Approx. 2000 Barassie on 18 Jan, 717 Barassie on 30 Aug, 523 Barassie on 15 Nov.

Little Gull *Hydrocoloeus minutus* U P

Up to 5 birds were seen during the year.

In autumn: 1st Summer Doonfoot on 2 Aug (RHH), 1 adult Meikle Craigs on 10 Aug (GB), 1 adult Largs on 17 Nov (AAM).

In winter: 1 adult Fairlie on 11 Feb, 1 2nd winter Largs on 24 Mar (DC).

Mediterranean Gull *Ichthyaetus melanocephalus* R P

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Barassie/Troon harbour	4 (3 ads and 2ndw) on 18-Jan
Pow Burn	2 ads on 11sMar
Doonfoot	2 ads on 17Jan
Blairbowie	1 1stw on 9 Apr

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Barassie/Troon harbour	45 on 12 Aug, 33 on 26 Aug, 32 on 27 Sep
Doonfoot	1 on 18 Jul, 1 on 30 Aug, 1 on 12 Oct
Maidens	1 1 st W on 7-8-Oct

Common Gull *Larus canus* C B W

Breeding pairs or nests were located at Loch Riecawr & Loch Dornal

Counts: 3785 Barassie on 19 Jan, 284 Barassie on 27 Feb, 302 Maidens 19 Aug

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus* C B W P

Breeding: Approx. 80+ pairs on Lady Isle; 2 AON Horse Island.

Counts: 78 Shewalton Gravel Pits on 18-Jan, 83 Barassie on 25-Sep

Glaucous Gull *Larus hyperboreus* C W s P

Winter-spring	
Saltcoats/Stevenston Point	1 st w on 11 Feb, 1 st w 2 Apr
Irvine/Shewalton	1 st w 18 Jan - 6 Apr
Troon	1 st w 21-Jan – 19 Feb
Elsewhere	juv Maidens on 16 Jan

Autumn-winter	
Troon	1 st w on 10 Nov

Iceland Gull *Larus glaucoides* U W P

Winter-spring	
Irvine/Shewalton	1 st w on 10 Mar, ad on 1 Apr
Troon	ad on 2Mar, 2 x 1 st w on 24Mar
Elsewhere	1 st w Hunterston on 18 Apr

Autumn-winter	
Irvine/Shewalton	1 st w on 22 Dec, ad on 26 Dec
Troon	ad on 14 Dec, 1 st w on 24 Dec
Maidens/Girvan	1 on 18 Oct
Elsewhere	1 st s Skares on 24-25 Jul

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus* C B W

Breeding: 1246 AON Horse Island: 800+ pairs on Lady Isle.

Counts: 1156 Shewalton Gravel Pits on 18 Jan, 808 Lady Isle on 3 May, 943 Barassie on 27 Sep

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus* C B S p

Breeding: 901 AON Horse Island; 400+ pairs on Lady Isle.

Arrival: 12 Doonfoot on 24 Feb, 23 Blairbowie on 14 Mar

In the autumn: 563 Barassie on 4 Aug, 1543 Loans on 4 Aug, 146 Loans on 14 Sep

Wintering adults included 2 Barassie on 12-Dec.

Bonaparte's Gull *Larus philadelphia* R

Ayrshire's first record was an adult at Largs on 23-24 Mar (DGiv).

Sandwich Tern *Thalasseus sandvicensis* C (B) S P

Arrival: 2 on 24 Mar at Hunterston

Site	Count
Hunterston Sands	4 on 11 Apr, 8 on 2 May, 108 on 23 Aug, 181 on 28 Aug
Saltcoats	40 on 2 Aug, 175 on 4 Aug
Stevenston Point	3 on 14 Apr, 25 on 17 Jul
Irvine/Bogside	19 on 1 Apr, 22 on 7 Aug, 140 on 9 Aug
Barassie	160 on 18 Aug, 168 on 6 Sep, 171 on 20 Sep, 46 on 24 Sep
Troon	26 on 11 Aug, 34 on 19 Aug, 34 on 3 Oct
Ayr/Doonfoot	100 on 7 Aug, 36 on 18 Sep
Maidens/Turnberry Point	240 on 4 Aug, 87 on 7 Aug, 110 on 9 Sep
Elsewhere	2 Water of Girvan on 17 Apr

Little Tern *Sternula albifrons* U (b) S p

Only one report of this species: 1 at Troon on 3 May.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo* C B S P

Breeding: No information received.

Arrival: 1 Troon on 3 May, 45 flew south over Lady Isle on 9 May.

In the autumn: 2 Meikle Craigs on 3 Jul, 10 Maidens on 23 Sep.

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea* C B S P

Breeding: No information received.

Arrival: 1 Doonfoot on 19 Apr, 50+ Saltcoats on 29 Apr.

In the autumn: 3 Meikle Craigs on 1 Aug, 16 Ayr on 18 Sep.

Great Skua *Stercorarius skua* U S w P

Numerous birds were seen in spring: 1 Saltcoats 7 Apr, 1 Troon 11 Apr, 2 Troon 23 Apr, 1 Lady Isle 27 Apr.

Autumn passage counts	
Ardrossan/Saltcoats	1 on 19 Aug, 1 on 20 Aug
Troon	1 on 3 Sep
Maidens/Turnberry	1 on 4 Aug, 1 on 7 Aug, 3 on 19 Aug

Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus* U P

Spring produced: 1 Troon on 23 Apr, 3 Saltcoats on 7 May, 2 on 13 May, 3 on 16 May, 4 on 19 May.

Autumn provided only 1 at Troon on 3 Oct.

Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus* U S P

In spring: 1 Troon on 12 May, 1 Saltcoats on 16 May

Autumn passage counts	
Portencross	1 on 10-Sep
Irvine	2 on 30 Aug

Little Auk *Alle alle* U W

Six records, involving at least 3 individuals included 1 at Irvine harbour mouth on 10 Jan; singles flew S and N at Troon on 23 Dec; singles S, later N at Troon on 24 Dec; 1 flew S at Troon 31 Dec.



Little Auk flying south at Troon - Dave Grant

Common Guillemot *Uria aalge* C B w p

No report from breeding area on Ailsa Craig.

Counts/passage: no large passage counts noted.

Site	Count
Troon	174N 20 May;
Maidens	50S/hr on 11 Sep; 40S/2 hrs on 7 Oct
Elsewhere	66 Culzean Bay 23 Jun; 69 Irvine harbour mouth 19 Sep;



Winter plumage Guillemot at Ayr Harbour - Dave Grant

Razorbill *Alca torda* C B w p

No reports from breeding sites.

Counts/passage: no large passage counts noted.

Site	Count
Maidens	450+ auk sp S/2 hrs 7 Oct were mostly Razorbills.
Elsewhere	30 Culzean Bay 23 Jun; 36 Ballast Bank Troon 2 Oct.

Black Guillemot *Cepphus grylle* C B W p

At, or near breeding sites: 6 pairs Troon harbour; juv seen Irvine harbour mouth 9 Aug; 3 juvs Dipple 17 Sep. Also noted at breeding sites Fairlie, Portencross, Ardrossan hatbour, Ayr harbour, Ailsa Craig and S Ayr's coast.

Counts: 27 Troon 7 Jan, 40+ on 10 Feb; 10 Fairlie 5 Mar; 10 Outer Nebock Rocks 17 May; 12 Fairlie 4 Sep; 27 Balkenna-Dipple 10 Dec

Atlantic Puffin *Fratercula arctica* U b S p

No reports received from Ailsa Craig.

Birds seen from mainland:

Site	Count
Saltcoats	5 on 17 May, 23N in 105 mins on 4 Aug
Troon	1 on 27 Apr, 2 on 14 May, 2S on 11 Jun, 1 on 4 Oct.
Elsewhere	6 Portencross 26 Sep.

Red-throated Diver *Gavia stellata* C FB W P

Monthly peaks	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Skelmorlie-Ardrossan	2	1	2						1			
Ardrossan-Troon	10	8	1	1	1			1	1	15	2	2
Troon-Turnberry Point	1	1	3	5				6	20	7		2
Turnberry Point-Finnarts Bay	9		10								7	6

Highest counts/movements: 5S Maidens 30 Aug, 19S in 1 hr 11 Sep, 20S in 1 hr 19 Sep; 13 Irvine harbour mouth 8 Oct.

Black-throated Diver *Gavia arctica* C (B) W P

Monthly peaks	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Skelmorlie-Ardrossan		1										
Ardrossan-Troon	1									1		1
Troon-Turnberry Point		8					1	1				2
Turnberry Point-Finnarts Bay	4		4	7	2						2	10

No notable movements were recorded.

Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer* U W P

Monthly peaks	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Skelmorlie-Ardrossan									1			
Ardrossan-Troon	1	1		1	1							
Troon-Turnberry Point	2								1	1	1	3
Turnberry Point-Finnarts Bay	5		4	9							1	5

No notable movements were recorded.

European Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus* C FB S p

Autumn passage: singles were observed at Maidens where 1S on 19 Aug, Troon where singles present on 1 and 4 Oct, and Irvine harbour mouth where 1 on 17 Oct.

Leach's Storm Petrel *Hydrobates leucorhoa* U P

Autumn passage: singles were observed off Troon on 2 Oct and 4 Oct, 1 off Irvine harbour mouth on 9 Oct, and 2 there on 17 Oct, 1 off Saltcoats on 17 Oct, and 3S at Troon on 17 Oct.

Northern Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis* C B P

The decline in breeding numbers continues with 17 AON Culzean, 9 Bennane Head, 2 Pinbain and 2 Portandea.

Passage and counts: 5 off Troon 3 Jan; 2 Outer Nebock Rocks 21 May; 2 Troon 28 May; 5 Maidens 19 Aug, 4 on 11 Sep, 3 on 7 Dec.

A "Blue-phase" bird was seen flying S at Maidens on 7 Dec.

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus* C S P

Arrival: the first birds were seen on 21 Mar where singles appeared off Maidens and Troon.

Autumn counts at main sites

Site	Count
Portencross	1850 S in 2 hrs 30 Jul
Saltcoats	20 on 3 Apr, 100 on 17 May, 200 on 22 Jul, 6000 on 2 Aug, 538 on 6 Aug, 110 on 23 Sep
Troon	22 on 27 Apr, 160 on 11 Jun, 1117 on 6 Aug, 2000S in 30 mins on 10 Aug, 2533 on 18 Aug, 5000 on 22 Aug, 157 on 3 Oct, 11 on 8 Oct
Doonfoot	250 on 30 Jun, 100 on 18 Sep, 20 on 24 Oct
Maidens	4 on 10 Apr, 1100 offshore 12 Jun, 1500 on 20 Jul, 1000 on 26-28 Jul, 4100 S in 3 hrs on 4 Aug, 2000 S in 5 hrs 30 mins on 18 Aug, 1000+ on 30 Aug, 300 on 6 Sep, 400 on 11 Sep, 300 on 19 Sep, 240S in 2 hrs on 7 Oct
Elsewhere	150 Largs 18 Jul, 400 Fairlie 30 Jul, 600 Fairlie 4 Sep, 300 Largs-Fairlie 21 Sep

Balearic Shearwater *Puffinus mauretanicus* R S P

Only one record: 1 flying S at Maidens on 19 Sep (DGr/RHH).

White Stork *Ciconia ciconia* A E

1 reported from Annick Lodge, Irvine on 24 Apr (HC, per AAM) was possibly an escape.

Northern Gannet *Morus bassanus* C B p

Winter/Spring arrival back in outer Clyde noted 15 Feb when 3 observed in Irvine Bay. 2 Troon 19 Feb; 2 Maidens 23 Feb; "a few" Portencross 26 Feb.

Counts: 198 Troon 21 Mar; 130 Maidens 12 Jun; 200 Saltcoats 2 Aug; 192 Maidens 4 Aug; 120 Troon 15 Aug; 180 Maidens 19 Aug; 100 Outer Nebock Rocks 19 Aug; 80 Maidens 11 Sep; 146 Troon 29 Sep.

Departure from Clyde and winter records included 1 Prestwick 29 Nov; 2 Greenan 30 Nov; 1 Maidens 7 Dec; 3 Troon 31 Dec.

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* C B p

Breeding: 14 AON Garry Point 19 Jun – most held eggs or small young; 2 AON Finnarts Point 19 Jun held large B/3 and B/1, Lady Isle approx. 40 active nests.

Counts: 13 Ayr 3 Jan; 12 Troon 28 Feb, 18 on 27 Apr, 20 on 15 Aug; 20 Ayr harbour 18 Sep, 50 on 4 Nov, 27 on 12 Dec

Inland: 9 Culzean CP 21 Jan, 10 on 2 Apr, 3 on 15 May, 5 on 26 Dec; 1 Auchinleck 17 Feb; 1 Common Loch 4 Mar, 15-27 Apr, 5, 12 May, 30 Jun; 1 Auchenharvie pond 26 Mar, 3 on 9 Apr; 1 Knockshinnoch lagoons 30 Apr; 1 Collennan Res 8 May, 16 Aug, 26 Nov, 10 Dec; 1 Barcraigs Res 12 May, 1 Outerwards 25 May, 23 Aug; 1 Dumfries House 3 Jul; 1 Lugar Water 10 Jul; 1 Broomfield 23 Aug, 2 on 20 Dec; 1 Feoch Meadows 8 Nov, 2 on 13 Nov; 1 Eglinton CP 17 Nov.

European Shag *Gulosus aristotelis* C B w

Lady Isle had approx. 70 active nests.

Counts	
Hunterston-Portencross	10 on 19 Mar,
Stevenston Point	20 on 8 Oct
Irvine hbr mouth	6 on 14 Jan, 9 on 1 Mar; 35 on 19 Nov
Troon-Barassie	38 on 7 Apr, 14 Jul, 31 on 11 Aug, 45 on 15 Aug, 68 on 13 Sep, 117 on 25 Sep, 16 on 19 Dec
Maidens	6 on 19 Aug, 25 on 7 Oct, 10 on 7 Dec
Elsewhere	22 Meikle Craigs 25 Apr, 11 Doonfoot 25 Sep; 2 Largs 18 Nov, 3 on 3 Dec



Adult Shag on Lady Isle - Dave Grant

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* R P

One was present at Longbar, Glengarnock from 2-16 May (ZB *et al.*) and is the 6th Ayrshire record.

Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia* R P

An immature bird was discovered at Bogside on 10 Jun (DG).

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea* C B w

There were no reports from breeding sites.:

Counts and migrants: 7 Broomfield 9 Jan; 12 Hunterston lagoon 18 Jan; 25 Dundonald Camp 9 Apr, 12 on 2 Aug, 17 on 23 Aug, 25 on 4 Sep; 22 Fairlie Sands 17 May, 18 on 20 Nov; 16 Garnock estuary 2 Sep, 26 on 19 Sep; 10 Meikle Craigs 17 Sep

Great Egret *Adea alba* R P

One was seen at Hunterston Sands between 19 and 25 May (MMcG *et al.*)

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* U S p

8-10 individuals present during year involving 1 Fairlie-Hunterston 1 Jan-at least 17 Dec, 2 from 2 Apr-29 Nov, 3 between 29 Oct and 6 Nov; 1 Garnock Floods/Bogside 1 Jan-at least 12 Mar; 1 Pow Burn-Monkton 1 Jan-30 Nov, 2 on 12 Dec; 1 Barassie 2 Jan-26 Sep; 1 Heads of Ayr-Doonfoot and R Ayr 1 Jan-at least 17 Dec; 1 Maidens 5, 21 Feb, 19 Sep; 1 Ardrossan 27 Sep.

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* R FB P

Breeding: 2 sites occupied - at Loch Doon, the brood of 2 was predated, possibly by Common Buzzard. A pair at a second site produced 1 fledged young, present 13 Aug.

In spring: first of year at Loch Doon 4 Apr; migrant singles were seen at Saltcoats 9 Apr and Largs 24 Apr; single birds in N Ayr on 3 dates Jun-Aug.

In autumn: 1 at Hunterston Sands 8, 12 Aug, with last sighting there on 8 Sep; 1 Troon 13 Aug; 1 Broomhill Fishery, Rankinston 18 Aug.

Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos* U (B)

A wandering adult bird was seen in parts of East Ayrshire between 23 Jan and 14 Mar (KB/JB)

Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus* C B

Breeding: birds were noted in suitable habitat at Shieldhill Farm, Windyhill, Knockroon Wood, Fullarton Wood, Aught Wood, Hunterston, Dean C P, Garnock Floods, Dumfries House, Bower Hill, Pennyglen.

There were no significant migration records.

Northern Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis* U (B)

Breeding: 9 sites were occupied by pairs, with 3 pairs producing 6 juvs. Singles were noted at 2 other sites.

A juv was noted at Knoweside on 14 Sep flying NE.

Western Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus* R P (B)

Four records, involving 1 at Common Loch 12 Apr (MH), 1 N over Saltcoats 25 Apr (JMcM), ad ♀ Baltersan 30 Apr (RHH) and a dark-morph bird at Garnock Floods 2 May (TB).

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus* U b p

Breeding: two pairs present in W of range failed, probably due to poor weather. No other reports received. Migrants and wintering birds were reported from Bogside, Riccarton Moss, Pinminnoch, Ashgrove Loch, Fail, Hunterston.



Male Hen Harrier in south Ayrshire - Angus Hogg

Red Kite *Milvus milvus* FB A

Single birds were noted at L Doon on 2, 8 Apr, Ochiltree 5 May, Goldenberry Hill 12 Aug, Coylton Fishery 16 Sep, Cronberry 27 Oct, Craigmalloch 2 Nov.

Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo* C B

Breeding: up to 7 prs Lower Glen App; no change Kilkeran (min 5 prs); Hunterston peninsula (c4 prs). Birds also seen in suitable habitat included Collenan/Aught Wood (2 juvs seen), Shewalton Wood SWT (1 juv seen), Brisbane Glen, Noddsdale Estate, Outerwards, South Whittlieburn, Cat Craigs/Woodside, Hessilhead, Drumboy Hill, Knockaird, Dalgarven, Dean CP, Barskimming, Failford, Ayr Gorge, Lugar Water, Whitehill Woodland, Dumfries House, Ladyton Loch, Loudoun Hill, Heads of Ayr, Martnaham Loch, Mochrum Loch, Stair, Craigengillan, Muckle Eriff Hill, Stinchar Bridge.

Migration/counts: 6 at Laggan, Ballantrae 24 Mar; 6 Springside-Knockentiber disused rly 14 Sep; 5 Lands of Turnberry 17 Sep; 6 Feoch Meadows 26 Oct.

Barn Owl *Tyto alba* C B

Breeding: 52 sites were checked, 37 producing young.

Brood size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
No of broods	2	5	9	8	6	2	1
Total young ringed	2	10	27	32	30	12	7

A total of 146 young were produced in what was the best year so far in the Ayrshire study area. A lengthy breeding season was helped by a mild winter and large numbers of voles on higher ground. Two sites had 2 broods, and one site had 2 females provisioned by a single male, producing broods of 5 and 2. Mink predation was noted at one site. (DG/JT)

A pair produced 7 young near Fenwick, and another pair produced 3 near Straiton.

Other records: 2 Balgreen Farm 2 Jan; 2 Shewalton Wood 27 Jan; 2 Auchinleck 25 Jul; also a wide range of singles e.g. Martnaham Loch 2 Jan, Capringston 13 Jan, Windyhill 26 Apr, Camphill Res 13 May, Haylie Brae 13 May, Muirhead Res 13 May, Prestwick airport 18 Oct, Auchinweet 26 Oct, Monkton 14 Nov, Pow Burn 30 Nov, Laigh Woodston 12 Dec.

Long-eared Owl *Asio otus* U b

Only one record of this elusive, nocturnal species: 2 heard Shewalton Moss 22 Jan.

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus* C B W p

Breeding: no information was available from breeding areas.

Counts/migrants: 2 Bogside/Garnock Floods Jan; 2 Cronberry 5 Feb; 1 Airds Moss 15 Feb; 1 Shewalton SWT 30 Apr; 1 Shieldhill 18 Nov.

Tawny Owl *Strix aluco* C B

Breeding pairs or territorial birds were noted at Gadgirth Bridge (where pair failed) and Craigenallie. Others in suitable breeding habitat were noted at Dean CP, Shewalton Wood, Ladyton Loch, Hunterston House, Drunboy Hill, Soame Burn, Bracken Bay, Martnaham, Whitehill Woodland, Dunlop.

In winter singles reported from Auchenroy, Greeto Falls Largs, and Annbank.

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis* U b

During the breeding season, birds or pairs in suitable breeding habitat were seen at Ladyton Loch, Annbank, Stairaird, Ayr Gorge, Dailly, Irvine, Dumfries House, Kirkmichael.

In the autumn dispersing birds were seen at the following locations:- 1 Pow Burn 2, 6 Aug; 2 Doonfoot 9 Aug; 1 Drybridge 10 Aug; 3 Garnock estuary 20 Aug; 1 Capringstone 15 Sep; 1 Knockentiber, Carmel Water 16 Sep; 1 Barassie 20 Sep; 1 Maidens 23 Oct; 1 Saltcoats 5 Nov.

Winter records included 1 Kilbirnie Loch 1 Jan; 1 Irvine harbour 2 Jan; 1 Crosshouse 2 Jan; 2 Pow Burn 4 Jan; 2 Troon harbour 10 Jan; 1 John Adam's Bridge 25 Jan; 1 Irvine, Annick Water 26 Jan; 1 Slaphouse Burn 21 Feb; 1 Broomfield 21 Mar. 1 Troon harbour 26 Nov; Dean CP 23 Dec; Irvine Magnum 26 Dec; Rozelle 27 Dec.

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major* C B

During the breeding season, birds or pairs in suitable breeding habitat were seen at Fullarton Woods (3),

Culzean (2), Kirriereoch (2), Doonside (2), Craigengillan (2), Dumfries House, Hunterston House, Aught Wood, Dean CP, Lawthorn Wood, Auchinleck House, Annbank, Barturk, Shewalton Wood, Woodside Rd Park, Craigenrae, Glengarnock, Kirkbride, Craigfionn, Little Craigfin, Garnock Floods, Ochiltree, Beith Muirburn Rd, Burns' Cairn, Oldhall Ponds, Ayr Gorge, Ladyton Loch, Troon cemetery, Hawking Craig, Ardneil Bank Wood, Fairways View, Portencross, Burnie Oak Wood, Balbeg, Failford, Blairquhan Approach Loch, Martnaham, Whitehill woodland, Rozelle.

The first drumming bird was heard at Kilkeran Station on 27 Feb.

Green Woodpecker *Picus viridis* U (B)

A pair reared 3 young near Straiton - at least one adult still present at site end-Dec.

3 other singles were seen or heard during the year: 1 Auchinleck Estate 4 Apr; 1 Martnaham 15 May and presumed same at Trabboch 25 May; 1 Dornal 18 Jun.



Juvenile Green Woodpecker near Straiton - Angus Hogg

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* C B

Breeding summary (GSR)			
Number of territories checked	41	Average young per breeding pair	3.2
% occupation	66	Average young per successful pair	3.7
No of clutches known	7	No. of breeding attempts failed	3
Average clutch size	5.4	% failed	12
% of eggs which hatched	94	% brood survival	94
Number of results known	25	Number of young ringed	25

Merlin *Falco columbarius* C b W

Only report from breeding areas was of a displaying male on 13 Mar. Wintering birds/ or migrants were noted as follows:- ♀ Loans 3 Jan; ♂ Fail 6 Jan; 1 Sandyford 21 Feb; 1 Barbieston 24 Oct; 1 Ballast Bank, Troon 15 Nov; prob ♂ Dipple 9 Dec; 1 Troon 14 Dec; 1 Annbank 16 Dec.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* C b w

Of the 49 sites which were checked, 31 were occupied by pairs, one by a single bird. 22 pairs reared 49 young to fledging stage (SSRSG).

Winter sightings were widespread and mostly from coastal locations.

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio* R P

A juv was seen between Barassie and Troon on 25 Sep (RK/JJ)

Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius* C B

Birds seen in suitable breeding areas during the breeding season included the following: Garnock Floods

(pr with juv on 23 Jul), Bellamore, Culzean CP, Loch Macaterick, Barwinnock, Shewalton Wood, Corsehillmuir Wood, Dalvennan, South Woodhill, Crosshouse, Craigengillan.

In winter between 1 and 3 birds were noted at Blane field, Rozelle, Stair, Knockroon Wood, Rodentoft, Minishant, Dumfries House, Muirhead, Tairlaw, Milton, Dalcairney, Feoch Meadows, Fullarton Woods, High Overmuir Farm, Newfield, Annbank, Wallacetown, Morriston Farm.

Black-billed Magpie *Pica pica* C B

Now a breeding bird in most parts of Ayrshire – breeding prs noted included 3 prs Troon 4 Apr; 2 prs Muirhead 5 Apr; 2 prs Collennan; pr Garnock Floods.

Counts included 6 Annbank 1 Jan; 6 Gypsy Pool Troon 17 Jan, 24 Feb, 13 Mar, 9 on 21 Dec; 7 Dundonald Camp 21 Jan; 6 Knockentiber 22 Jan, 12 on 14 Sep; 6 Ladyton Loch 30 Jan; 12 Hunterston 2 Feb, 19 on 18 Feb; 6 Collennan 21 Feb, 8 on 13 Mar, 11 on 18 Apr; 8 Muirhead 25 Mar; 7 Irvine 16 Aug; 7 Shewalton Wood 17 Sep; 10 Pow Burn 26 Sep; 8 Garnock Floods 8 Oct; 10 Muirhead 28 Oct.

Eurasian Jackdaw *Corvus monedula* C B w

No significant breeding records were received.

High counts, frequently in association with Rooks: 200 Fairlie Sands 2 Jan; 200 Garnock N 29 Jan; 114 Muirhead 20 Feb, 120 on 20 Jun. 382 on 28 Oct; 441 Loans 25 Feb, 140 on 2 Sep, 224 on 4 Nov; 200 Hunterston 7 Jul, 400 on 7 Oct, 500 on 14 Dec; 154 Collennan 8 Aug; 209 Gypsy Pool Troon 2 Sep; 185 Knockentiber 14 Sep; c.1200 Barclaugh 29 Oct, 153 Annbank 4 Dec; 200 Laighdykes playing fields 31 Dec.

Rook *Corvus frugilegus* C B

Only 3 rookery counts recorded: 147 AON at Maybole study site; 104 AON at Putyan Burn rookery; 12 AON Muirhead rookery.

No large winter flock counts noted, but 128 Loans 4 Jan; 77 Muirhead 20 Feb; 193 Collennan 8 Aug; 114 Gypsy Pool Troon 2 Sep; 121 Shewalton cemetery 30 Oct.

Carrion Crow *Corvus corone* C B

No significant breeding reports were received.

Counts: 53 Bogside 8 Jan; 68 Barassie 10 Jan, 73 on 19 Jul, 82 on 25 Sep, 40 Hunterston 10 Feb, 121 Loans 21 Dec

Hybrid Carrion x Hooded Crows were noted at the following locations:- 1-3 between Hunterston Sands and Fairlie Sands 1 Jan-27 Oct; 2 Prestwick 15 Jan-12 Mar, 1 on 29 Nov; 1 Stevenston beach 20 Jan; 1 Greenan 4 Nov; 1 Ballast Bank Troon 17 Dec.

Hooded Crow *Corvus cornix* U (b) p

Singles were noted at Southannan Sands 1 Jan-7 Dec, Doonfoot 5 Feb, Bogside 11 Jun-6 Sep, Knockentiber 14 Sep, Dumfries House 19 Sep, Collennan 21 Sep, Loans 12 Nov.

Common Raven *Corvus corax* U b

61 sites were checked, of which 45 were occupied. 28 pairs laid eggs and 22 pairs reared 61+ young where the outcome was known. (SSRSG)

Pre-roost counts: 28 Barnshean Loch 21 Jan; 11 Blairbowie 16 Dec.

Bohemian Waxwing *Bombycilla garrulus* R w P

Site	Peak counts
Fenwick	8 on 13 Jan
Stevenston	5 on 28 Feb
Irvine	7 on 27 Feb
Kilwinning	13 on 9 Feb
Muirhead	12 on 2 Jan
Prestwick	34+ on 1 Jan
Ayr	21 on 1 Jan, 20 on 19 Feb
Kilkerran-Maybole	4 on 8-10 Apr



Bohemian Waxwing at Little Craigfin - Angus Hogg

Coal Tit *Periparus ater* C B

Breeding or territorial records included 11 singing ♂♂ Fullarton Woods, 4 singing ♂♂ Shewalton Wood. Territorial birds also noted at Collenan Res, Collennan, Kemp Law, Muirhead, Garnock Floods with post-breeding parties seen at all sites.

Counts and post-breeding groups included 8 Culzean CP 26 Mar; 16 Shewalton Wood 20 Apr, 19 on 18 Jun, 27 on 9 Sep; 23 Fullarton Woods 8 Oct.

Willow Tit *Poecile montanus* U b

The species continues to hang on at Dalmellington, with records of single birds at Bogton Moss on 18 Feb and near Dalcairney on 29 Oct.

Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus* C B

Breeding was noted at Muirhead, Troon, Irvine, Garnock Floods, Shewalton Wood, Collenan Res, Collenan, Kemp Law, Patna, Barassie, Fullarton Woods, Loans.

Counts and post-breeding groups included 14 Annbank 1 Jan; 17 Fullarton Woods 5 Mar, 28 on 13 Apr, 29 on 15 Jun, 31 on 10 Jul; 22 Collenan Res 18 Jun, 18 Jul; 20 Garnock Floods 18 Jun; 37 Shewalton Wood 9 Jul.

Great Tit *Parus major* C B

Breeding or territorial birds noted at Fullarton Woods (9), Garnock Floods (9), Auchalton Meadow (6), Knockentiber (4), Troon, Muirhead, Shewalton Wood, Kemp Law, Collennan Res, Collennan, Shewalton with post-breeding groups seen at all sites.

Counts included 10 Garnock Floods 7 May; 13 Knockentiber 14 Sep.

Sky Lark *Alauda arvensis* C B W P

Breeding or territorial ♂♂ noted at Garnock Floods (6), Dundonald Camp (6), Barassie GC (3), Shewalton Wood (3), Collennan (3), Bogside Flats (2), Kemp Law (2), Loans, Gypsy Pool Troon.

Autumn passage: 24 W Barassie 28 Sep; 12 Stevenston Point 16 Oct.

Winter and autumn counts included 180 Southhook Farm 1 Jan; 80 Loans 2 Jan; 20 Fail 29 Sep; 51 Gypsy Pool Troon 27 Oct; 44 Loans 27 Oct.

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia* C B S p

Breeding was reported from Ballantrae (35-40 AON), Stevenston (10+ AON), Dalnaw (10 AON).

Arrival was from 12 Mar when 1 was at Greenan. This was followed by 1 at Prestwick on 13 Mar and 5 at Kilbirnie Loch on 15 Mar.

Counts and autumn departure: 40 Stevenston 17 Jul; 100 Ballantrae 22 Jul; the last birds were 4 at Doonfoot on 13 Sep and 2 at Knockentiber on 14 Sep.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* C B S p

No significant breeding records were received.

Arrival was from 28 Mar when 1 was at Gypsy Pool Troon. This was followed by 4 singles at Ardneil Bay, Garnock Floods, Irvine harbour and Knockentiber on 2 Apr, increasing through mid Apr when 10 at Ardeer Mains on 21 Apr and a light movement N through S Ayrshire on 26 Apr.

Counts and autumn departure: 2000 Moorfield Ind Est 31 Aug; 117 Knockentiber 14 Sep; 50 Fail 16 Sep; the last birds were 2 juvs at Maidens on 3 Nov, and 1 at Saltcoats on 21 Nov.

House Martin *Delichon urbica* C B S p

Breeding was reported from Castlevue Dundonald, where 7 nests; 2 nests Fairlie Bowling Club

Arrival was from 2 Apr when 2 were at Loch Doon. These were followed by singles at Troon and Loans on 4 Apr, and Kirkmichael on 8 Apr.

Counts and autumn departure: 30 New Farm Loch Kilmarnock 5 Aug, 46 on 12 Aug; 30 Knockentiber 14 Sep; the last birds were singles at Muirhead on 5 Oct and Collennan on 12 Oct.

Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus* C B

Birds were noted in suitable breeding habitat at Dean CP, Fullarton Woods, Shewalton Wood, Aught Wood, Kemp Law, Beith, Annbank, Knockentiber, Eglinton CP, Ladyton Loch, Garnock W, Ardeer boundary fence, Bogton Loch, Tarryholme, Braehead Catrine, Broomfield, Dumfries House, Ardeer pipe embankment, Martnaham, Whitehill woodland, Darley GC, Corsehillmuir Wood.

Counts included 15 Auchincrevie 22 Jan, 11 on 11 Dec; 12 Shewalton Wood 4 Aug; 27 Knockentiber-Springside disused rly 14 Sep; 12 Doonfoot 18 Sep; 23 Knockentiber viaduct 18 Sep; 13 Oldhall Ponds 8 Oct; 14 Irvine harbour mouth 10 Oct; 20 Auchalton Meadow 12 Oct; 10 Garnock Floods 14 Oct; 10 Culzean CP 27 Oct; 15 Feoch Meadows 30 Oct; 10 Kilmaurs 4 Dec.

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* U B S p

Continued presence at a very low level, with only one breeding pair noted, in Ness Glen

Arrival was on 20 May at Ness Glen. Up to 3 birds were seen in Ness Glen on 31 May, and a single, probably a migrant, was noted at Craigencallie on 13 Jul.



Wood Warbler in Ness Glen - Angus Hogg

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus* C B S P

Breeding birds or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Garnock E, N, W, Floods and lagoons (109), Kilmarnock-Springside disused rly (58), Shewalton Wood (57), Ardeer Fen (33), Knockshinnoch lagoons (17), Heads of Ayr (17), Auchalton Meadows (15), Kemp Law (14), Outerwards (11), Fullarton Woods (11), Bracken Bay (10), Bogton Loch (9), Craigengillan (9), Collennan (8), Pow Burn (8), Noddsdale Est (8), Darley GC (7), Irvine GC (6), Gypsy Pool Troon (5), Patna (5), Dundonald Camp (5), Ardeer pipe embankment (5). Hawking Craig (4), Bower Hill (4), Gales Marsh (4), Barassie GC (4), Bigholm (4), Ardeer Boundary Fence (4), Boydston Braes (4), Mainholm (3), Failford (3), Beith (3), Polnessan (3), Waterside (3), Dalry (3), Tarbert Hill (3), Greenan (3), Hunterston lagoon (3), Loans (2), Dalmellington (2), Hunterston House (2), Portencross (2), Black Hill (2), Windyhill (2), Muirkirk (2), Muirhead, Eglinton CP, Hillhouse, Poteath, Oldhall Ponds Shawfarm Ind Est, Doonfoot, John Adam's bridge, Ayr Gorge, Saltcoats Sharphill Rd, East Grassyards, East Balig Cott, Tourgill bridge, Troon Deveron Rd, Ladyton Loch, Allan Wood, The Glen, Capringstone, Kilbirnie, Castle Hill, South Whittlieburn, Kerse bridge, Common Loch, Tarryholme, W Auchenhavie Wood, Auchinleck, Ardneil Bank Wood, Northbank, Lugar Water, Rottenburn bridge, Broomfield, Loudoun Hill, Templand trail, Loans, Whitehill woodland.

Arrival: 1 at Capringstone on 30 Mar was the first of the year. Singles at Shewalton on 3 Apr, Collenan and Gypsy Pool Troon on 4 Apr were followed by an increase to 10 at Ardeer Fen and 12 at Garnock West on 8 Apr, 19 at Garnock Floods on 9 Apr and 32 on the Kilmarnock-Springside disused rly on 14 Apr, rising to 58 on 18 Apr.

In the autumn the last birds were seen at Collennan and Garnock Floods on 8 Oct

Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita* C B S w p

At least 190 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded including Shewalton Wood (9), Garnock E, N W, Lagoons (8), Craigengillan (8), Fullarton Woods (8), Kemp Law (7), Garnock Floods (6), Glenshalloch Wood (5), Dean CP (4), Collennan (4), Ardeer Quarry (3), Ardeer Fen (3), Knockentiber-Springside disused rly (3), Dalry (3), Heads of Ayr (3), Noddsdale Est (3), Segganwell-Goat's Green (3), Pinbraid-Garnaburn (3), Kilkerran Caravan Park (3), Ardeer pipe embankment (2), Fencefoot (2), Bigholm (2), Hunterston House (2), Gypsy Pool Troon (2), Muirhead (2), Newlands (2), Oldhall Ponds (2), Darley GC (2), Carsloe (2), Gypsy Pool Troon (2), Culzean (2), Finnarts Bay (2), Galston R Irvine (2), Smuggler's Trail Troon (2), Bracken Bay (2), Boydston Braes (2), Auchalton Meadows (2), Bargany (2), Burnie Oak Wood (2), Drumlamford,(2),

Hunterston Castle, Fairlie, Ardeer Boundary Fence, Hawking Craig, Kilbirnie, Hillhouse, Roan of Craigoch, Rowanston, Little Craigfin, Annbank, Greenan, Dumfries House, Knockshinnoch lagoons, Eglinton CP, Loans, Irvine, Troon Deveron Rd, Gadgirth, Beith, Dalvennan, Kirkbride Pond, Pow Burn, Prestwick GC, Grougar Mains, Asselfoot, Colmonell War Memorial, Lovestone, Ayr Gorge, Dupin, Saltcoats Sharphill Rd, Troon Cemetery, Bartonholm, Hamilton bridge, Mainholm, Southannan rdbt, W Gavin Farm, Ladyton Loch, Tarbert Hill, Carwinshoch, Common Loch, Fairlie, Carlock House, Glenapp Castle, Gales Marsh, Tarryholme, Altigabert Burn, W Auchenharvie Wood, Ness Glen, Tallaminnoch, Ardneil Bank Wood, Portencross, Penwhapple bridge, Craig Hill Fairlie, Trabboch Loch, Balbeg, Failford, Fairways View, Poteath, Tarholm, Lugar Water.

Arrival was from 15 Mar when 1 was at Collennan. This was followed by singles at Adamton House and Troon on 20 Mar, 1 Pinwherry 23 Mar and 4 Dalry 24 Mar. Larger numbers present from 2 Apr when "widespread" Colmonell-Glen App, Culzean, Garnock Floods and Shewalton.

Departure: the last birds were seen at Collennan on 5 Oct and Kemp Law on 8 Oct.

Wintering birds were noted at Pow Burn 1, 3 Jan, Knockentiber 2 Jan, 2 in Rozelle 4 Jan, New Farm Loch 29 Jan, Bracken Bay 27 Feb, Shewalton 4 Mar.

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* C B S p

Up to 326 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded including Garnock lagoons (131), Shewalton Wood (23), Pow Burn (22), Garnock Floods (13), Garnock E, N, W (11), Ardeer Fen (11), Bogton Loch (10+), Nether Culzean (6+), Bower Hill (6), Hawking Craig (5), Dundonald Camp (5), Pinbraid-Garnaburn (4), Gypsy Pool Troon (4), Ardeer boundary fence (4), Pinbraid (3+), Knockshinnoch lagoons (3+), Ladyton Loch (3), Southannan Sands (3), Ardeer pipe embankment (2), Hunterston (2), Irvine GC (2), Kemp Law (2), Auchenharvie GC (2), Greenan (2), Bracken Bay (2), Hunterston (2), Doonfoot (2), Muirhead (2), Heart Loch (1+), Trabboch Loch, Darley GC, Bartonholm, East Balig Cott, Bogside Flats, Beith, Threepwood Galston, Loans, Middleyard, Collennan, Balkenna, Liggetcheek, Gales Marsh, Kilruskin bridge, Tarryholme, Blairbowie, Blairquhan Approach Loch, Barbae Wood, Laggan bridge, Shawfarm Ind Est, Craigengillan, Maidens, Stevenston LNR, Whitehill woodland, Lugar Water, Inner Brigurd, Kilwinning, Capringstone.

Arrival was from 13 Apr when 1 was seen at Ardeer. Another followed at Garnock lagoons on 14 Apr, with an additional 2 at Shewalton Wood and 1 at Garnock Floods on 20 Apr.

The last 2 autumn birds were seen at Doonfoot on 13 Sep and Gypsy Pool Troon on 17 Sep.

Common Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia* C B S

At least 59 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded including Ardeer Fen (6), Garnock Floods (5), Garnock lagoons (4), Eglinton CP (4), Shewalton Wood (4), Ardeer pipe embankment (3), Dundonald Camp (3), High Polquheys (2), Soame Burn (2), Pow Burn (2), Doura Cottage (2), Tarryholme, Greenan, Gypsy Pool Troon, Kingswell Burn, Mutton Hall, Garnock E, Garnock N, Ladyton Loch, Bower Hill, Irvine GC, St Fillan's bridge, Collennan, Threepwood Galston, Doonfoot, Ardeer boundary fence, Trabboch Loch, Bracken Bay, Bogside Flats, Hawking Craig, Barwinnock, Newfield, Loch Slochy.

Arrival was from 14 Apr when singles appeared at Ardeer and Garnock lagoons. These were followed by 6 at Shewalton Wood and 2 at Garnock Floods on 20 Apr.

The last 2 autumn birds were seen at Gypsy Pool Troon on 23 Jul and Doonfoot on 24 Jul.

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla* C B S w p

At least 235 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded including Craigengillan (19), Shewalton Wood (11), Garnock E, N and W (8), Heads of Ayr (8), Culzean (7+), Garnock Floods (7), Auchalton Meadows (6), Fairways View (6), Garnock lagoons (5), Eglinton CP (5), Smuggler's Trail Troon (5), Kemp Law (5), Ardeer boundary fence (4), Ness Glen (4), Hunterston House (4), Collenan Res (3), Fullarton Woods (2), Gadgirth (3), Glenshalloch Wood (3), Balbeg (3), Ardeer Fen (3), Glenapp Castle (3), Pinbraid-Garnaburn (3), Bargany (2+), Bower Hill (2), Collenan (2), Tarryholme (2), Tairlaw (2), Parkfairn (2), Greenan (2), Segganwell-Goat's Green (2), Hallowchapel (2), Dupin (2), Finnarts Bay (2), Bartonholm (2), Hillhouse quarry (2), Boydston Braes (2), Noddsdale Estate (2), Craigencallie (2), Balnowlart-Macherquhat (2), Carlock House (2), Gales Marsh (2), Kirkbride Pond (2), Loch Nahinie (2), Tairlaw, Crosshill Kirklea, Dumfries House, Campbelton Farm, Dean CP, Poteath, Hawking Craig, Muirhead, Irvine, Annbank, Ardeer pipe embankment, Craignail, Garnaburn Bridge, Lugar Water, Beith, Burns' Cairn, Knockshinnoch lagoons, Oldhall Pond, Daljarrock, Drumellan, Shewalton gravel pits, Ayr Gorge, Darley GC, Saltcoats Sharpill Rd, Troon cemetery, Dalry, E Balig Cott, Mainholm, Bigholm, W Gavin Farm, Barr, Broomhill, Ladyton Loch. Hunterston Castle, Bracken Bay, Hunterston rdbt, Fencefoot, Tarbert Hill, Doonfoot, Dundonald, Patna, Polnessan, Waterside, Knockdolian Lodge, Altigabert Burn, Drumlamford, W Auchenharvie Wood, Loch Riecawr, Craigens, Drumgirnan, Ardneil Bank Wood, Northbank, Burnie Oak Wood, Hallowchapel bridge, Laggan bridge, John Adam's bridge, Trabboch Loch, Bogside Flats, Loans, Failford, Broomfield, Dornal, Pinmore, Martnaham, Whitehill woodland.

Arrival was from 26 Mar when 1 was at Annbank. Following this came 2 ♂♂ at Gypsy Pool Troon, and singles at Collenan, and Muirhead on 28 Mar. numbers building strongly from 2 Apr.

Autumn departure saw single birds at Hunterston on 3 Oct and Shewalton 5 Oct.

Wintering birds in Jan-Mar included singles at Annbank and Dundonald Camp on 1 Jan, Auchincrevie on 2, 22 Jan and Garnock Floods 4 Mar.

Wintering birds in Oct-Dec included singles at Garnock estuary 20, 27 Oct, Milton 24 Oct, Loans 2 Nov, Shewalton Wood 12 Nov, and Annbank 26 Nov.

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin* C B S p

At least 66 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded including Craigengillan (9), Bargany (3), Dupin (3), Galston R Irvine (2), Garnock W (2), Bogton Loch (2). W Auchenharvie Wood (2), Shewalton Wood, Finnarts Bay, Ardeer boundary fence, Aught scrub, Garnock E, Smuggler's Trail Troon, Bower Hill, Hillhouse quarry, Gypsy Pool Troon, Auchalton Meadows, Collenan, Kemp Law, Heads of Ayr, Fullarton Woods, Garnock Floods, Muirhead, Ardeer Quarry, Irvine, Craigengillan, Patna, Ardstinchar Castle, Tarryholme, Ardeer pipe embankment, Drumlamford, Duisk bridge, Tarfessock ford, Ness Glen, Kirkbride Pond, Barbae Wood, Burnie Oak Wood, Tormitchell, Trabboch Loch, Craigencallie, Blair, Dalnaw, Loch Riecawr, Dumfries House, Martnaham, Whitehill woodland, Kilmaurs, Lugar Water, Loans, Culzean.

Arrival was early, with 2 at Collenan and 1 at Kemp Law on 19 Apr, followed by singles at Shewalton Wood and Garnock Floods on 20 Apr.

The final departing bird was seen at Shewalton Wood on 23 Aug.

Lesser Whitethroat *Curruca curruca* U b

13 territories were recorded in Ayrshire study sites, but only two were successful in fledgling young. (TB)

A full account may be read at the end of this report.

Up to 4 more territories or singing ♂♂ were located at Finnarts Bay, Greenan, Shewalton Wood and Kemp Law.

Arrival was from 23 April when 5 singing ♂♂ were heard at Ardeer, and another ♂ at Greenan. These were followed by single ♂♂ at Dunure on 26 Apr and Kemp Law on 27 Apr.

A wintering bird appeared in an Ayr garden on 23 Nov.

Common Whitethroat *Curruca communis* C B S p

At least 184 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded including Shewalton Wood (14), Garnock E, N and W (11), Bower Hill (10), Pow Burn (8), Doonfoot (6), Dunure (4), Ardeer dunes (4), Ladyton Loch (4), Garnock lagoons (3), Collennan (3), Hunterston Sands (3), Laggan bridge (3), Fairways View (3), Gypsy Pool Troon (3), Craigmalloch (2), Muirhead (2), Dalry (2), Hawking Craig (2), Bartonholm (2), Collennan Res (2), Portencross (2), Ardeer pipe embankment (2), Dundonald (2), Dundonald Camp (2), Ardstinchar Castle (2), Dupin (2), Liggetcheek (2), Kemp Law (2), Ness Glen (2), Barbae Wood (2), Bogside Flats (2), Lands of Turnberry (2), Ardeer boundary fence (2), Hunterston (2), Drumshang (2), Greenan, Bennane Head, Shewalton Wood, Middleyard. Muirhead, Pinbraid, Ardeer Fen, Loans, Galston R Irvine, Irvine GC,

W Gavin Farm, Hillhouse quarry, Shawfarm Ind Est, Boydston Braes, Tarbert Hill, Barassie, Bracken Bay, Carwinshoch, Beith, Patna, Pinbain, Balkenna, Balcreuchan Port, Ballantrae (S side), Ballochbroe, Kennedy's Pass, Montfode, Montfode rdbt, Old Dailly, Whiteles, Drumlamford, Duisk bridge, Kirriereoch, Loch Maberry, Meadowhead rdbt, Tarfessock ford, St Nicholas' GC, Myremill, W Auchenhavie Wood, Threethorns, Dalfask rd-end, Trabboch Loch, Bracken Bay, Sandyford, Barwinnock, Dalnaw, Pinmore, Finnarts Point, Portandea, Shallochwreck Burn, Stevenston LNR, Beoch Farm, Loch Riecawr dam, Stevenston, Shawfarm Ind Est, Maidens, Dumfries House, Whitehill woodland, Blarbuie, Knockchreist, Lugar Water, Craigencallie, Kilwinning.

Arrival was from 14 Apr when the first bird appeared at Muirhead, Troon. Another followed at Collennan on 19 Apr, with a third at Garnock Floods on 20 Apr.

In the autumn, the last birds were singles at Gypsy Pool Troon and Shewalton Wood on 17 Sep.

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus* C B p

During the breeding season up to 12 singing ♂♂ were recorded at Fullarton Woods; 9 at Shewalton Wood where 29 on 25 Jun included 17 juvs; 4 at Garnock Floods; 7 at Collennan Res; 3 at Kemp Law; 2 at Collennan; 2 at Craigengillan. Other birds in suitable breeding habitat were noted at Dean CP, Hillhouse, John Adam's bridge, Dumfries House, Culzean CP, Beith, Hunterston Castle, Knockshinnoch lagoons, Ayr Gorge, Ardeer Fen, Heads of Ayr, Tarbert Hill, Gypsy Pool Troon, Dundonald, Tarryholme, Ardeer boundary fence, Outerwards Wood, Hunterston House, Barassie, Bower Hill, Largs, Troon cemetery, Whitehill woodland, Lugar Water, Broomfield, E Grassyards, Dundonald Camp, Capringstone, Corsehillmuir Wood, Bogside.

Counts included 12 Shewalton Wood 24 Feb, 19 Mar; 11 Fullarton Woods 30 Apr, 37 Shewalton Wood 8 Aug.

Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes* C B

Territorial, singing ♂♂ were heard at Shewalton Wood (26 on 10 May), Garnock Floods (13 on 12 May), Fullarton Woods (21 on 7 Jun).

Counts included: 29 Shewalton Wood 20 Apr, 10 May; 18 Auchalton Meadow 7 May; 54 Failford 14 Jun; 11 Outerwards 18 Sep.

Nuthatch *Sitta europaea* C B

Breeding birds were recorded at Craigencallie (ads feeding young), Dean CP (juvs noted).

Other prs in suitable breeding habitat during the breeding season were reported from Craigengillan (min 2), Hunterston House (2), Dean CP (2), Dalreoch (2), Blair Estate (2). Auchincruive, Annbank, Stair, Culzean CP, Rozelle, Ballantrae, Lawthorn Wood, Catrine, Sorn, Parkfairn, Knockdolian, Tairlaw, Ruglen, Beith, Dumfries House, Collennan, Ayr Gorge, Eglinton CP, Kilmarnock, Greenholm Newmilns, Haugh.

In winter: 1 Kilbirnie Loch 1 Jan; 1 Ferguslea 18 Feb; 1 Patna 22 Nov; 2 Forehill Rd Ayr 14 Dec.

Eurasian Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris* C B

Birds in suitable breeding habitat during the breeding season were reported from Dean CP, Ayr Gorge, Collennan, Beith, Ballantrae, Corsehillmuir Wood, Hunterston, Fullarton Woods, Aught Wood, Hawking Craig, Garnock Floods, Shewalton Woods, Irvine, Ladyton Loch, Craigengillan, Dumfries House, Larges, Whitehill woodland.

Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris* C B W

Breeding and post-breeding flocks included the following: the first 3 juvs were noted Troon harbour 14 May; 163 Bogside included 116 juvs on 4 Jun; 157 Muirhead 26 Jul.

Winter flocks/migrants included 800 Barassie 6 Jan; 463 Muirhead 8 Jan; 200 Outer Nebock Rocks 15 Jan; 246 Collennan 15 Mar; 120 New Farm Loch Kilmarnock 28 Mar; 1000 Moorfield Ind Est 19 Aug, 1500 on 31 Aug; 647 Muirhead 6 Sep, 561 on 21 Nov.

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos* C B w P

Breeding birds and territorial ♂♂ included 4 singing ♂♂ Garnock Floods 7 May; 4 singing ♂♂ Bogton Loch 21 May; 5 singing ♂♂ Shewalton Wood 28 May; 6 singing ♂♂ Fullarton Woods 7 Jun.

Counts and migrants included 9 Alloway-Ayr 6 Jan; 20 Garnock lagoons 14 Jan; 12 Garnock N and lagoons 26 Nov.

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus* C B W

Birds in suitable habitat during the breeding season were noted at Shewalton Wood, Rowantree Ardrossan, Kilmaurs, Peden's Cave, Cumnock Academy, Outerwards, Hunterston, Aught Wood, Kemp Law, Knockendon, Largs, Hunterston House, Hunterston Castle, Darley GC, Fullarton Woods, Kilmarnock cemetery, Dean CP, Ladyton Loch, Beith, Knockaird plantation, Capringstone, Corsehillmuir Wood, Campbellton Hill, Goldenberry Hill, Loans, Black Hill, Glenside Wood, Patna, Martnaham, Gypsy Pool Troon, Dumfries House, Whitehill woodland.

Counts and post-breeding groups: 19 Hunterston Castle 9 Jul; 21 Knockentiber viaduct 16 Sep; 13 Shewalton Wood 17 Sep; 13 Troon cemetery 17 Sep.

Redwing *Turdus iliacus* C W P

In the winter-spring period: 20 Ladyton Loch 30 Jan; 20 Hunterston 23 Feb; 20 Haugh 2 Mar; 10 Kilmarnock cemetery 5 Mar; 11 Holmston cemetery 16 Mar; the last departing bird was a at New Cumnock on 22 Apr.

Autumn arrival was from 26 Sep when 2 were at Pow Burn. The main arrival started on 20 Oct when 70 were at Garnock estuary, and 28 at Crosshill, with 58 Ayr on 21 Oct, 30 Common Loch 22 Oct, 400+ Trabboch 24 Oct, 40 Haugh 25 Oct, 350 Heathfield 29 Oct, "hundreds" Knockentiber-Springside disused rly 5 Nov, 250 Wallacetown Dailly 5 Nov, 124 Gypsy Pool Troon 26 Nov.

Common Blackbird *Turdus merula* C B W p

Breeding birds and territorial ♂♂ included the following: Fullarton Woods (12), Muirhead (11), Garnock Floods (7), Shewalton Wood (6), Loans (6).

Counts and migrants: 21 Annbank 1 Jan; 31 Collennan 21 Apr; 14 Fullarton Woods 5 Nov; 12 Gypsy Pool 12 Nov; 12 Collennan 13 Nov; 13 Garnock lagoons 26 Nov; 16 Auchincruive 28 Nov; 17 Shewalton Wood 10 Dec.

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris* C W P

In the winter-spring period: 102 Knockentiber-Springside disused rly 1 Jan; 62 Auchincruive 2 Jan; 130 Hunterston 23 Feb; the last departing birds were 31 at Townhead of Greenock on 4 May.

Autumn arrival was from 14 Oct when 1 was at Annbank, followed by a further 2 at Tralorg Hill on 18 Oct. The main arrival was on 24 Oct when 1000 flew over Ayr, and 250-300 were at Trabboch. Other counts and movements included 150 Busbiehill 2 Nov, "hundreds" Knockentiber-Springside disused rly 5 Nov, 150 Wallacetown Dailly 5 Nov, 500 Blairbowie 7 Nov, and 1500 Mochrum Hill 12 Nov.

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus* U b S p

Arrival was from 26 Mar when 1 was at Glen Afton. Two more were at Loch Macaterick on 9 Apr, and a ♀ was at Loudoun Hill on 14 Apr.

In the autumn a ♂ was at Barjarg on 30 Sep, and another ♂ was at Barbieston Drongan on 23-24 Oct.



Ring Ouzel near Drongan - Angus Hogg

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata* C B S p

At least 23 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Culzean CP (14), Garnock conifer belt (3), Hunterston Estate (2), Hunterston Castle (B/4 on 11 Aug), Ness Glen, Ardneil Bank Wood, Trabboch, Craigengillan, Aught Wood, Kemp Law, Klrkmichael, Martnaham, Dumfries House, Whitehill woodland, Craigencallie, Dalmorton, Knockshinnoch lagoons.

Arrival was from 2 May when 1 was at Ness Glen. This was followed by singles at Glendoune Girvan on 11 May and Middleyard on 13 May.

In the autumn the last singles were seen at Knockentiber viaduct on 18 Sep, and Bogside on 25 Sep.

European Robin *Erithacus rubecula* C B W p

Breeding birds and territorial ♂♂ were reported from Shewalton Wood (13), Collennan (8), Fullarton Woods (7).

Counts and migrants included 12 Fullarton Woods 26 Jan; 10 Brisbane Glen 31 Mar; 17 Failford 5 Jul; 11 Garnock Floods 6 Sep; 28 Knockentiber-Springside disused rly 14 Sep; 26 Sharphill Rd Saltcoats 8 Oct; 16 Oldhall Ponds 8 Oct.

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros* R W p

First winter birds were at Deil's Dyke from 18 Jan-17 Feb (BG); and at Girvan harbour from 20-23 Dec (FMCC *et al.*).

Common Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* C B S p

At least 23 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Ness Glen (8), Craigencallie (2), Burns' Cairn (2), Craigengillan, Knockdolian, Dalcairney, Altigabert Burn, Dumfries House, Gigmagog Kilkeran, Drumgirnan, Ladyburn Glen, Martnaham, Kirkmichael, Whitehill woodland.

Arrival was from 22 Apr when 1 was at Glen Afton, and another followed at Straiton on 23 Apr.

No late departure dates were reported, the last being at Knockentiber on 4 Aug.

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra* C B S p

Under-recorded, with only 8 territories or singing ♂♂ reported from Laggan bridge (3), Dalnaw (2), Loch Duisk, Lambdoughty, Beoch Farm.

Arrival was from 30 Apr when 1 was at Glenbuck. This was followed by singles at Lambdoughty and Ness Glen on 2 May.

The last autumn birds were 2 at Garnock Floods on 30 Aug.

Stonechat *Saxicola torquata* C B

At least 52 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Troon (5), Prestwick-Pow Burn (4), Finnarts Point-Dyke Foot (2), March Burn, Dipple, Balkenna, Lendalfoot, Pinbain, Hunterston, Outerwards, Turnberry, Common Loch, Whitelee, Boydston shore, Garnock Floods, Barrhill wind farm, Carrick Lane, Maidens, Dundonald Camp, Greenan, Kames, Loudoun Hill, Loch Doon dam, Balsalloch, Pinbraid, Garpel bridge, Glenside Wood, Loch Brand Beith, Seamill, Irvine, Dunure, Balcreuchan Port, Loch Duisk, Shalloch, Barr, Garnock E, Rottenburn bridge, Ardeer Fen, Dalnaw, Beoch Farm, Pinbain, Stevenston Point, Black Clauchrie,

The Whilk, Glen Muir Water.

Wintering birds were reported from Doonfoot-Seafield (4), Maidens (4), Balkenna (4), Pow Burn (3), Monkton (2), Turnberry (2), Alloway-Ayr (2), Prestwick-Troon (2), Bogside (2), Ardrossan (2), Irvine harbour, Barassie, Garnock Floods, Doonfoot, Seamill, Ardneil Bay, Portencross, Dundonald Camp, Gailes, Ardeer shore.

Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe* C B S P

Territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Tormitchell (2), Beoch Farm, Loudoun Hill, Nick o' the Balloch, Beith, Windyhill, Burnside, Muirkirk, Knockshinnoch lagoons, High Polquheys, Duhorn, Red Burn bridge, Bower Hill, Common Loch, Green Hill, Ailsa Craig.

Arrival was from 10 Mar when 2 were on Kirriereoch Hill. This was followed by 1 at Seamill on 11 Mar, 1 at Loch Doon Castle 13 Mar, and singles at Doonfoot and Irvine beach park on 19 Mar.

Spring passage of Greenland *O o leucorroha*: 2 Pow Burn 3 May; 5 Hunterston 6 May.

In the autumn the last birds were 3 at Mains 20 Oct, 1 on 21 Oct, and 1 at Ardrossan on 24 Oct.

White-throated Dipper *Cinclus cinclus* C B

Birds in suitable habitat during the breeding season were noted at Auchincruive, Alloway, Failford, Dumfries House, Ayr Gorge, Annbank, Outerwards, Kilmarnock, Dean CP, Noddsdale Burn, Ferguslea, Ochiltree, Southannan Burn, Haugh, Mark Glen App, Soame Burn, Gadgirth, Barr, Eglinton CP, Kirkmichael, Knockentiber viaduct.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus* C B

At least 27 pairs were recorded in the Springside-Kilmaurs area.

Counts included: 21 Doonfoot on 8 Jan; Fail - 20 on 30 Sep, 13 on 19 Oct, 47 on 27 Dec.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* C B

A widespread breeding species.

Counts included 64 Muirhead on 5 Mar, 64 Collennan on 3 Aug, 68 Loans on 7 Aug, 83 Gypsy Pool on 8 Sep.

Dunnock *Prunella modularis* C B

No significant breeding reports of this widespread species.

Counts included 6 Muirhead on 18 Mar, 8 Garnock Floods SWT on 2 Apr, 8 Shewalton Wood SWT on 19 Nov.

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava* U (b) S p

One, of the Scandinavian sub-species *M. f. thunbergi* was seen at Troon on 26 Aug (GB).

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea* C B S w P

Territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Ayr Gorge, Carcow Burn, Dumfries House, Dean CP, Bogside, Auchinleck House, Roddenloft, Collennan Res, Hamilton bridge, Waterhean on Minnoch, Carrick Lane, Ness Glen, Gogo bridge, Gadgirth, Loudoun Hill, Colmonell, Outerwards, Garnock Castle, Irvine, Haugh, Carlock House, Laigh Alticaine, Straiton, Ballantrae, Failford.

Counts included 5 Broomfield on 2 Aug, 5 Shewalton Wood SWT on 25 Nov.

Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba yarrellii* C B

No significant information received on breeding birds.

Counts and migrants included 68 Hunterston 18 Feb, 56 on 12 Mar; 15 Ladyton Loch 21 Mar; 50 Hunterston 15 Aug, 100 on 9 Sep; 74 Laighdykes playing fields 22 Aug; 20 Dundonald Camp 29 Sep.

White Wagtail *M. a. alba* migration and counts: arrival appeared to be from around late Mar/early Apr. Significant counts appear below.

Date	Count	Location	Date	Count	Location
10-Apr	7	Maidens	21 Apr	38	Auchenharvie GC
14 Apr	31	Auchenharvie GC	22 Apr	30	Skelmorlie
17 Apr	21	Pow Burn	25 Apr	21	Fail
21 Apr	10	Ardeer Mains	26 Apr	14	Bracken Bay

In the autumn: 6 at Pow Burn 26 Sep; 8 Collennan 27 Oct

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis* C B P

Breeding was widespread but noted at Cairn Table and Common Loch by 27 Apr. Perhaps a slight reduction in overall numbers suggested by returns.

Spring passage counts included 35 Ladyton Loch 21 Mar; 24 Collennan 26 Mar; 100 Laigh Middleton 4 Apr; steady northward movement Loch Doon 9 Apr; 30 Common Loch 18 Apr.

Autumn migrants/post-breeding flocks included 44 Knockentiber viaduct 16 Sep; 26 Collennan 22 Sep; 38 Loans 22 Sep; 21 Pow Burn 26 Sep; 30+ Hogston Farm 17 Nov.

An increasing number of wintering birds was noted with 19-20 Bogside during Jan-Feb.

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis* C B S p

Territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Ness Glen (4), Craigfionn (2), Loch Riecawr, Outerwards bridge, Craigengillan, Ballochling Loch, Carrick Lane, Well Hill, Loch Gower, Tallaminnoch, Whitehill Woodland, Knockshinnoch lagoons.

Arrival was from 28 Apr when singles were at Little Shalloch and Ness Glen.

Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta* R w P

At least 4 individuals were recorded at Pow Burn 1-4-Jan (DGiv *et al.*), Heads of Ayr from 3-29 Jan (DGiv *et al.*), Doonfoot area 4-9 Jan (DC *et al.*), and Maidens on 20 Mar (RHH).



Water Pipit at Doonfoot - Angus Hogg

Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus* C B p

Territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Troon harbour-South Beach (5), Portencross, Saltcoats, Ardrossan harbour, Culzean, Jenny's Dyke, Heads of Ayr, Maidens, Ailsa Craig.

Counts: 8 Heads of Ayr on 1 Jan, 7 Maidens on 21 Jan, 11 Seamill on 19 Mar, 9 Lendalfoot on 29-Jul, 8 Ayr harbour on 18 Sep, 11 Maidens on 3 Nov.

Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs* C B W

Breeding records included 12 singing ♂♂ Shewalton Wood SWT on 2 Apr, 2 singing males Gypsy Pool on 4 Apr, single singing ♂ Muirhead on 6 Apr, 3 singing ♂♂ Collennan Reservoir and Aught Wood on 27 Apr, 13 singing ♂♂ Fullarton Wood on 1 May, singing ♂ Garnock Floods SWT on 7 May, 5 singing ♂♂ Kemp Law on 8 May, 2 singing ♂♂ Bogton Loch on 2 -May.

Counts: 95 Knockentiber on 1 Jan, 213 Fail on 8 Jan, 70 Hunterston on 7 Feb, 100 Yonderfield on 23 Feb, 61 Fullarton Woods on 20 Dec.

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla* U W p

In the winter-spring period: at least 6 individuals reported with ♀ Crosshill on 2-Jan, 3 Culzean on 3 Jan, ♂ Crosshill on 6 to 12 Jan, 1 Tarryholme on 25 Feb-28 Mar.

In the autumn: at least 10 individuals reported, with 1 Fail on 9 Oct, 4 Bogton on 20 Oct, 1 Dalmaca on 25 Oct, 1 Hunterston 2 Dec, 2 ♀♀ Crosshill on 16 Dec, 1 Fail on 29 Dec.

Common Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula* C B

No significant breeding records were received.

Counts: 5 Springside on 1 Jan, 4 Eglinton CP on 2 Jan, 4 Oldhall Ponds SWT, 12 Cumnock Academy on 12 Feb, 4 Kirkmichael on 7 Aug, 8 Knockentiber on 14 Sep, 6 Shewalton Wood SWT on 25 Nov.

European Greenfinch *Chloris chloris* C B W

No significant breeding records were received.

Counts: 22 Barassie on 6 Jan, 20 Hunterston on 25 Feb, 50 Stevenston on 1 -Nov, 65+ Milton Burn on 9 Dec, 25 Maidens on 28 Dec.

Twite *Linarias flavirostris* C (B) W

Breeding: 2-3 birds at S Ayrs coast site included at least one singing ♂; the late departure dates at Hunterston may indicate the continued presence of a small breeding population on the N Ayrs hills.

Winter-spring	Counts
Hunterston	40 on 2 Jan, 22 on 6 May, 10 on 17 May, 6 on 27 May
Barassie-Troon	9 on 7 Jan
Doonfoot-Greenan	1 on 8 Jan
Elsewhere	1 Bennane Head 1 May

Autumn-winter	Counts
Stevenston	6 on 18 Nov, 7 on 19 Nov
Barassie	1 on 9 Oct
Doonfoot	1 on 19 Oct
Elsewhere	120 Chapeldonan on 9 Dec, 5 Largs 30 Dec

Common Linnet *Linaria cannabina* C B

Breeding: territories or singing ♂♂ were noted at Dundonald Camp (5); Kemp Law (3); Hunterston on (2), Gypsy Pool on (2); Barassie (2); Collennan (2); Muirhead (2); Garnock Floods.

Counts: 50 Knockshinnoch Lagoons on 16 Jan, 24 Prestwick beach on 17 Jan, 21 Knockentiber 22 Jan, 14 Apr; 52 Muirhead 5 Mar; 38 Hunterston on 24 May, 20 on 31 Aug; 300 Nether Culzean 12 Sep; 25 Doonfoot 18 Sep; 32 Barassie 28 Sep; 40 Girvan 20 Oct; 500 Heathfield 29 Oct; 41 Stevenston 18 Nov.

Common Redpoll *Acanthis flammea* R p

A ♂ at Troon on 6 Mar (BDK) was the only record.

Lesser Redpoll *Acanthis cabaret* C B S p

At least 40 territories or singing ♂♂ included Loch Dornal (3-4), Ness Glen (3+), Knockshinnoch Lagoons (3), Upper Glen App (2), Pinbraid (2), Shewalton Wood (2), Kemp Law (2), Common Loch (2), Ladyton Loch, Irvine GC, Ardeer Fen, Auchalton Meadow, Collennan Res, Ardeer boundary fence, Ballochbeatties, Rottenburn bridge, Loudoun Hill, Dupin, Fullarton Woods, Portandea, Ballochling Loch, Garpel bridge, Lambdoughty, Loch Riecawr, Garnock lagoons, Martnaham, Dumfries House, Whitehill woodland.

Counts/migrants: 13 Todhill Community Wood on 14 Apr, 26 Shewalton Wood SWT on 17 Sep.

Common Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra* U B w

At least 7 singing ♂♂ were noted mostly in S Ayrs, including: Stinchar Falls, Garpel bridge, Craigfionn, Loch Macaterick, Loch Riecawr, Ballochling Loch, Muillbane Hill.

Counts and post-breeding groups: 6 Ness Glen 2 May; 4 Garnock conifer belt 17 Jun; 30 Mochrum on 3 Nov, 13 Keirs Hill on 11 Nov.

European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis* C B

Now a widespread breeding species.

Counts: 40 Hunterston House 8 Feb; 30 Heads of Ayr 25 Jun; 34 Garnock Floods 16 Aug; 42 Collennan 20 Aug; 70 Monkton on 25 Aug; 40 Shawfarm Ind Est 25 Aug; 84 Knockentiber on 14 Sep; 60 Doonfoot 18 Sep; 200 Garnock Floods on 19 Sep; 350 Bogside on 25 Sep; 100 Common Loch 6 Oct; 50 Maidens 8 Oct; 45 Fairlie 25 Nov.

Eurasian Siskin *Spinus spinus* C B W p

No significant breeding information was received.

Counts: 35 Knockentiber on 1-Jan, 80 Garnock Lagoons on 14 Jan, 24 Shewalton Wood SWT on 5 Oct, 25 Eglinton CP 25 Oct; 20 Lugat Water on 26 Dec.

Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis* U W p

In spring: 7 Pow Burn on 3 Jan, 1 Finnarts Bay on 2 Apr.

In the autumn: 10 Hill of Stake on 5-Nov; 2 Balkenna 10-Dec; 2 Blackcraig Hill on 23-Dec.

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella* C B

Breeding: 77 singing ♂♂ were recorded in a 100km² in the Kilmarnock area on 17-21 Jul (FS).

Other territorial or breeding birds noted at Bower Hill (4), Collennan (2), Kemp Law, Killoch Farm, Bracken Bay, Heads of Ayr, Boydston Braes, Tarbert Hill, Kemp Law, Killoch Farm, Dumfries House, Loans.

Counts: 22 Knockentiber on 1 Jan, 16 Alloway 5 Jan, 17 Fail on 8 Jan, 14 Busbiehill 4 De; 12 Loans 16 Dec.

Ayrshire Birding - Rarities and Descriptions.

Species which may require a written description are listed below, and an abbreviation indicates the relevant records committee:

A = Ayrshire Birds Records Committee;

S = Scottish Birds Records Committee;

B = British Birds Rarities Committee.

Photographic evidence is always welcome.

Report to	Common Name
A	Brent Goose (Dark-bellied race)
A	Snow Goose
A	Taiga Bean Goose
A	Tundra Bean Goose
A	White-fronted Goose (Eurasian race)
A	Bewick's Swan
A	Garganey
A	American Wigeon
A	Green-winged Teal
A	Red-crested Pochard
A	Ferruginous Duck
A	Ring-necked Duck
A	Lesser Scaup
B	King Eider
B	Harlequin Duck
B	Surf Scoter
A	Velvet Scoter
B	Barrow's Goldeneye
A	Smew
B	Hooded Merganser
A	Ptarmigan
A	Capercaillie
A	Common Quail
A	European Nightjar
S	Alpine Swift
B	Great Bustard
B	Pallas's Sandgrouse
A	Turtle Dove

A	Corncrake
A	Spotted Crake
B	Little Crake
A	Common Crane
A	Red-necked Grebe
A	Slavonian Grebe
A	Black-necked Grebe
A	Avocet
A	American Golden Plover
A	Little Ringed Plover
B	Killdeer
A	Eurasian Dotterel
A	Temminck's Stint
S	White-rumped Sandpiper
A	Buff-breasted Sandpiper
A	Pectoral Sandpiper
B	Long-billed Dowitcher
B	Great Snipe
B	Wilson's Phalarope
A	Red-Necked Phalarope
A	Grey Phalarope
B	Spotted Sandpiper
A	Green Sandpiper
A	Lesser Yellowlegs
B	Marsh Sandpiper
A	Wood Sandpiper
A	Spotted Redshank
B	Ivory Gull
A	Sabine's Gull
A	Little Gull
B	Ross's Gull
B	Laughing Gull
B	Franklin's Gull
A	Ring-billed Gull
A	Iceland Gull (Kumlien's)
S	Yellow-legged Gull
B	Caspian Tern
B	Sooty Tern
A	Roseate tern
A	Black Tern
A	Pomarine Skua (immatures only)
A	Long-tailed Skua
A	Little Auk

A	White-billed Diver
A	Leach's Storm Petrel
S	Cory's Shearwater
A	Sooty Shearwater
S	Great Shearwater
A	Balearic Shearwater
A	White Stork
A	Glossy Ibis
A	Eurasian Spoonbill
A	Eurasian Bittern
B	Little Bittern
S	Black-crowned Night Heron
S	Purple heron
A	Great Egret
B	Snowy Egret
A	Osprey
A	European Honey Buzzard
A	Golden Eagle
A	Northern Goshawk
A	Western Marsh Harrier
B	Pallid Harrier
S	Montagu's Harrier
A	Red Kite
S	Black Kite
A	White-tailed Eagle
A	Rough-legged Buzzard
A	Little Owl
B	Snowy Owl
A	European Hoopoe
B	European Roller
A	European Bee-eater
A	Eurasian Wryneck
S	Red-footed Falcon
A	Eurasian Hobby
B	Gyr Falcon
A	Red-backed Shrike
B	Lesser Grey Shrike
A	Great Grey Shrike
S	Woodchat Shrike
A	Golden Oriole
A	Red-billed Chough
A	Waxwing
A	Marsh Tit

A	Willow Tit
A	Shore Lark
S	Cetti's Warbler
A	Yellow-browed Warbler
S	Pallas's Warbler
A	Common (Siberian) Chiffchaff
A	Eurasian Reed Warbler
A	Firecrest
A	Rosy Starling
A	Ring Ouzel
A	Bluethroat
A	Black Redstart
B	Eastern Black Redstart
B	Siberian Stonechat
A	Yellow Wagtail (British race)
A	Yellow Wagtail (Blue-headed race)
A	Yellow Wagtail (Grey-headed race)
A	Richard's Pipit
A	Water Pipit
A	(Scandinavian) Rock Pipit
A	Hawfinch
A	Common Rosefinch
A	Common Redpoll
A	Lapland Bunting
A	Corn Bunting
S	Cirl Bunting
A	Little Bunting
B	Black-headed Bunting