

Calf of Man Bird Observatory



Annual Report **2022**



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Map of the Calf of Man



The Calf of Man Bird Observatory

The Calf of Man is a rocky islet extending to approximately 616 acres and it is situated half a mile off the south-west coast of the Isle of Man in the middle of the Irish Sea. The Calf is owned and administered by Manx National Heritage (MNH) and it is run as a Bird Observatory and Nature Reserve. The island is an ideal place to study many aspects of bird life, with around 33 species breeding annually and it is located on one of western Britain's major migration routes. Breeding seabirds include Manx Shearwater, Fulmar, Razorbill and Shag and colonies of the three larger *Larus* gull species. You can also see a variety of species around the island such as Peregrine, Hen Harrier, Chough, Raven, as well as other rare and unexpected migrants. Ornithological studies on the Calf have contributed over 60 'new' species to the Isle of Man bird list, with two new species for the British Isles discovered amongst the 283 species recorded.

Since 1959 organised ornithological work has been carried out on the Calf of Man from spring to autumn each year by wardens. As an accredited Bird Observatory since 1962, the Observatory meets British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) requirements. Currently, MNH contracts Manx Wildlife Trust to employ an Ornithological Warden and an Estate Warden, together with volunteer seasonal assistant warden to provide a seasonal presence on the Calf from March to November. Bird ringing is an integral part of the Observatory's work and ringing demonstrations are often held for the public.

Between 1959 and 2022, 293,091 birds of 167 species have been ringed on the island. Trapping is carried out using a variety of conventional traps including Heligoland and Crow Traps and mist nets.



Ringling in the 'new' Withy hide

Visitor Information

The Estate Warden and Ornithological Warden oversee the day to day running of the islet, and visitors and staying guests must at all times follow their advice and instructions.

The Calf of Man is open to the public daily. The Manx Museum and National Trust and its Byelaws, require that certain conditions **MUST** be observed at all times. These regulations are made in the best interests of preserving those aspects of the Calf of Man which we all treasure and enjoy.

PLEASE HELP US TO MAINTAIN THIS BEAUTIFUL ENVIRONMENT BY OBSERVING THE FOLLOWING:

- There must be no interference with the bird life or other wildlife.
- Climbing tackle and climbing is strictly prohibited.
- Dogs are not permitted.
- No camping and lighting of fires.
- Vessels must not be left unattended at any of the harbours at any time to ensure that the Calf visitor/supply boats have access to the harbours at all times.
- No fishing from 1st April to 31st July.
- Visitors must leave no litter.
- From May to July visitors must keep to paths and tracks and keep out of enclosed fields.
- Manx National Heritage expects the behaviour of visiting parties to be of a high standard. In the event of misbehaviour by any group, individual, or lack of adequate control by the adult in charge of children, the wardens have the authority to terminate the visit and ask the individual/ group to leave the islet at their own expense.
- Manx National Heritage operates a no smoking policy at all of its properties.

Visitor accommodation is available in the Observatory during the summer season – normally, from May to end of August. The accommodation consists of self-catering hostel style accommodation for up to 8 people with a visitor

kitchen, lounge and log burner. Intending over-night visitors must pre-book accommodation – see <https://manxnationalheritage.im/visit-2/stay-with-us/> for further details.

During the summer season, private boat operators run visits to the Calf from Port St Mary and Port Erin harbours. The vessels operate depending on weather conditions and demand.

For more information, please contact:

Steve Clague – Port St Mary Boat (Scraayl)

Tel: (07624) 490615

Chris Burton & Jason Fleming – Shona Boat Trips

email: shonaboattrips@manx.net

Tel: (07624) 322765 or (07624) 480682

CALF OF MAN

BIRD OBSERVATORY REPORT -

2022

Ornithological Warden

Aron Sapsford

Estate Warden

Daniel Woollard

Assistant Volunteer Wardens

Robert Fisher

Mollie Kirk

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2022 Wardens' Report

Trail cameras were set over-winter and once again produced several interesting records, whilst two daytrips in January provided more complete lists of the birds present, including the first evidence of potential over-wintering by Blue and Great Tit.

Original plans to start the season at the beginning of March had to be delayed owing to some ongoing repairs to the main Mitsubishi generator, which had been removed from the Calf in December 2021. With all the wardens having now arrived on the main-Island we set about utilising our time effectively, making further progress to the input of historical ringing data and carrying out some much-needed repairs to the decoy Puffins. Unfortunately, the situation with the generator persisted and



following the realisation that it wouldn't be ready for several more weeks, the decision to use the 'backup' Lister generator was taken and the season began on 16th March. An early morning departure from Port St Mary, saw me being accompanied by new Estate Warden, Oliver O'Sullivan, Assistant Wardens Chloe Hurst and Eleanor Grover and volunteers Mollie Kirk and Christa Worth heading for the Calf.

It is always a relief to see that the harbour jetty is still standing and that the various buildings have survived the winter storms relatively unscathed. Opening and getting the farmhouse set up went smoothly, with all the amenities being connected without any issues and we began to look forward to another successful season. Having Mollie and Christa with us for the first few days helped tremendously, providing experienced hands with the many routine set-up tasks, and allowing the new wardens time to become acquainted with the place and how things run. After just five days on the

Island, unfortunately Oliver fractured his finger whilst breaking rocks that had been washed down into South Harbour and had to be taken off to get it x-rayed. Thankfully he was able to return the following day when Mike Haigh also arrived to assist with the early spring period and cover my annual leave during April.

The weather during the first few days of the season was rather inclement but nonetheless brought some good birds, with the 4th ever Calf record of Coot and the first spring records of Snow Bunting and Lapland Bunting for a decade. The weather soon settled into a more pleasant period of relatively mild temperatures and light winds, and we began to enjoy some spring migration, with early arrivals of both Blackcap and Willow Warbler plus a 'tristis' type Chiffchaff.



Redecoration of the farmhouse was the first maintenance task for the estate team with the floors in two of the kitchens and the guest-lounge being painted, whilst Fulmar and Chough bedrooms were given a make-over, with a full re-paint and various repairs and improvements.

A variety of building maintenance tasks were tackled during early April, with repairs needed to the stores at South Harbour and Cow Harbour, as well as 1968 Lighthouse and the two 1818 Lighthouses. Several of the boarded-up doors and windows on the Lower Lighthouse had been damaged during winter storms, so we set about repairing or replacing these boards and painted all of those at ground level improving the overall look of the property. Additionally, the stone pathway around the Lower Lighthouse had become overgrown so we started to cut back the turf and neaten it up. This was very much appreciated when later in the year, several groups from the Association of Lighthouse Keepers visited the Calf and toured the Lighthouses.

Cold Northerly winds during the first week of April held migration at bay, with the only new summer migrant being a Swallow on 7th; otherwise, the bird sightings had a distinct wintery feel with a Red-throated Diver on 6th and a second Snow Bunting of the spring which was present at the Wall from 10th – 16th. From mid-month the winds were lighter and from a more productive direction and a steady stream of ‘new for year’ species occurred, with Whitethroat (16th), White Wagtail (17th), Whimbrel (19th), Sedge Warbler & Grasshopper Warbler (22nd), Cuckoo & Yellow Wagtail (23rd), Redstart & Tree Pipit (24th), and Puffin & Whinchat (25th). A good spring passage of Willow Warbler was developing and Dave Neal and Adam Homer, two visiting ringers arrived on 25th, just in time to help with the increased number of birds moving through and to see the Calf’s and Isle of Man’s second ever Dusky Warbler, which was trapped at the Top Withy on 26th.



The Mitsubishi generator arrived back on 27th April, but unfortunately within 48 hours a low-pressure alarm was detected and with oil leaking from the exhaust and excessive smoke being produced the generator was shut down and once again had to be removed from the island for further investigations. Up to now the focus had been on getting the generator rebuilt and returned to the Calf, but with the realisation that we were going to have to run on the back-up Lister generator for the foreseeable future the focus shifted to repairs required to re-instate the Crane at South Harbour. Once the Crane, which had been damaged during a storm in December 2021, was repaired and in situ it would be possible for the Polaris, which had been removed after the end of last season, to be returned to the Calf. Up to now we had been relying on the trusty Pasquali Tractor to move any equipment or supplies ‘slowly and rather bumpily’ around the islet.

Earlier in the month, we had been joined by Phoebe Grzeskowiak, a student from Nottingham Trent University, who was undertaking a Breeding Bird Survey and mapping of Wheatear territories, as part of her degree studies.

Phoebe proved to be a very valuable addition to the Calf team and after realising she had an extraordinary talent for discovering Eider nests, extended her project to include this additional data into her thesis. Owing principally to Phoebe's efforts, a record-breaking 87 Eider nests were located, and monitored for the BTO Nest record scheme, and resulted in an all-time high number of Eiders being ringed this year. It is pleasing to report that for the first time in seven years there was no evidence or records of live Brown Rats on the Calf; however, less positive evidence from a camera trap set on Kitterland did show the presence of at least one individual there over-winter.

Contingency measures were increased there during early May and subsequent monitoring visits showed that control measures were likely to have been successful. Additionally, half a dead long-tail was found in an advanced state of decomposition on the track near the old Mill during late June. It is thought that this may have been carried to the Calf by a gull or



corvid and was unlikely to have constituted a biosecurity threat. Alongside this encouraging news, the success of several of our ground nesting bird species suggests that our continued efforts are proving to reap reward with Eider and Wheatear breeding numbers at their all-time highest and the numbers of breeding Manx Shearwater likely to have now exceeded one thousand pairs. Monthly monitoring of the Calf's inland non-toxic bait stations was maintained throughout the season, however due to unforeseen factors the coastal stations were only fully monitored by the end of

October. Maintenance of plastic tubes were carried out throughout the season, replacing lost tubes, pegs, and canes.

Early May saw the continuation of a good spring passage of Willow Warbler, along with above average spring records of 13 Grasshopper Warbler and five Tree Pipit. A rather unseasonal Pink-footed Goose took up residence amongst the breeding Herring Gull colony on Caigher Dub, remaining until 26th, whilst a Western Subalpine Warbler trapped at the Observatory on 14th continued their now annual occurrence.



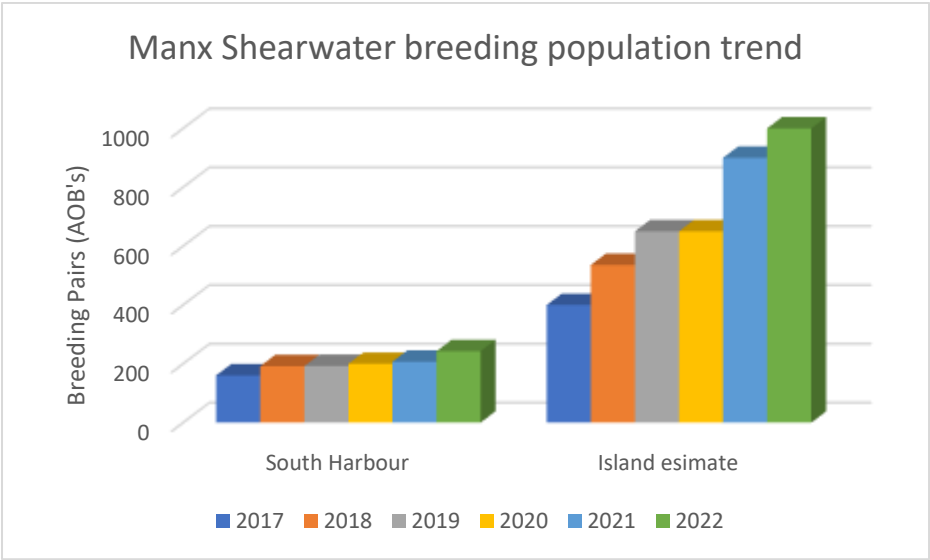
2022 was overall a good breeding season for most birds, with 33 species recorded as having breeding evidence during the season. After recent years of the continuing downward trend in breeding numbers of many of our seabirds, it is pleasing to report a slight increase in Shag (up 5%) and Great Black-backed Gull (up 20%) on 2021 figures. Breeding numbers of Lesser Black-backed Gull increased by 13 pairs on 2021 figures and Herring Gull numbers, although somewhat lower than those recorded in 2021, remained higher than the 2012 – 2021 average. Productivity was believed to be reasonably high for all three gull species, although the Herring Gull colonies along the south and west coast suffered significant losses during summer storms. Encouraging signs of probable breeding continue for both Puffin and Black Guillemot. Without regular access to a boat to undertake surveys of their potential breeding locations, we were unable to prove that any breeding had taken place. Concerns over the effects of high mortality of Razorbill and Guillemots during last winter were realised with slight decreases in the breeding numbers of both populations.

For the second year running, a pair of Buzzard were at Baie Fine but due to the position of the nest it was not possible to ascertain any contents of the nest. Disappointingly, the regular pair of Peregrine were unsuccessful, whilst

of the two pairs of Raven only the pair at Amulty were successful and breeding numbers of Chough remained stable.

The relatively mild winters of the past couple of years have meant high levels of adult survival and recruitment to the breeding populations of most passerines resulting in the highest breeding pair counts for Wren (since 1982), Stonechat (since 1977) and Blackbird (since 1986), whilst record totals were achieved for Pied Wagtail, Robin and Rock Pipit, although the latter may have principally been due to greater effort of recording. Migrant species also fared well and benefitted from another warm dry summer with a record number of 64 pairs of Wheatear and the six pairs of Swallow were the highest total for a decade.

At the end of May, Phoebe left to take up her next project in Honduras and we were then joined by Emma Caulfield who was to undertake this season’s burrow surveys of our Manx Shearwater colonies. This surveying, which is carried out at the South Harbour and Kione ny Halby colonies, involves annual monitoring of 100 randomly selected burrows. Each burrow is marked with a numbered peg and visited daily during the survey period. A duet recording of both male & female Manx Shearwater calls is played for up to 15 seconds at the entrance to each marked burrow and surveyors recorded any responses.



As can be seen in the above graph, the population of Manx Shearwater on the Calf is continuing to expand and maintaining a fieldwork programme that allows a year-on-year comparison adds a growing commitment to the all-ready busy programme of work, particularly at a time of year when spring migration is still underway, breeding season is in full swing and nocturnal monitoring of shearwaters and petrels further reduces the options for sleep! It is therefore crucial to have help with these time-consuming but important surveys, and we are particularly grateful to The Seabird Group for providing a training grant that covered Emma's travel and subsistence costs whilst on the Calf.



A visit to the Calf by the cruise ship 'Silver Cloud' on 3rd June brought the seabird legend Peter Harrison, who very kindly signed the Observatory copy of his book, *Seabirds: an identification guide*, whilst the following day was one of the most exciting days of the spring with a Greenish Warbler trapped at the Observatory and the Calf's 3rd ever record of Black Kite which appeared over the Observatory before drifting off in a northerly direction. This was followed by a Scarlet Rosefinch that was heard calling around the Observatory during the early morning of 6th.

With the imminent onset of our guest season approaching, final preparations were being made and as we would be needing the tractor and trailer for transporting luggage etc., Oliver decided to give the tracks a once-over with the flail beforehand. Unfortunately, a slight misjudgement negotiating a gateway ended with a slow collision with a dry-stone wall, a broken fan, and a cracked radiator! Thankfully the Polaris, which had been taken off at the end of last season, was waiting to be brought out and with the crane having been re-instated a week or so earlier we soon had a working vehicle once again on the Calf.

It is pleasing to report that the Calf remains a popular 'get-a-way' location for many Manx residents, as well as some visitors from further afield and the guest accommodation was full for much of the season, with a total of 505 guest nights achieved.

Summer 2022 saw an above average number of cetaceans seen off the Calf, with Harbour Porpoise being undoubtedly the most regular cetacean to be seen around the Calf, with the likelihood that there were resident family groups present for much of the season. Risso's Dolphins were seen regularly from June onwards with the first confirmed mating of the species in Manx waters being filmed to the North-west of the Calf in late June, whilst two super-pods of Common Dolphin were seen actively feeding during early August. Minke Whale appears to be coming a more regular visitor to Manx waters and the nine records this year is the largest number seen off the Calf for a couple of decades. Similarly, the total of 14 Basking Shark is the highest annual total since 2016.

Summer is also a busy time for recording insects and efforts were well rewarded this year with no less than 22 new species being added to the Calf list, including two species of Bug and a Non-biting Midge that were also new for the Isle of Man.

Owing to the increasing frequency of reports of avian flu (HPAI) on the Isle of Man, and throughout the UK during the summer, restrictions on access along the East coast footpath and to their inland seabird breeding areas on the Calf were implemented for both visitors and staff from 25th July. Footwear sanitising stations were introduced at South Harbour and The Dock, with Cow Harbour being closed to landings, owing to the proximity of the gull colony. These actions were precautionary and followed the advice of DEFA and other advisory bodies as a means of trying to avoid spread of the disease to the islet. Thankfully the disease never arrived on the Calf and restrictions were gradually relaxed over the remainder of the season in line with Government agency advice. The arrival of the virus and the subsequent restrictions occurred at the end of the breeding season for most of our seabirds and our populations managed to disperse just in time, however the restrictions did have some impact on our monitoring of both Storm Petrel and Manx Shearwater.

Unfortunately, due to lack of takers, the dry-stone walling courses planned earlier in the year did not take place. Thanks to their continuing efforts, however, David Fisher, Pat Griffiths and Ned and Gillian Bowers were able to complete several sections of wall by the Lighthouse Fields and Smithy. The Estate team repaired another section of wall on the southeast of the Lighthouse Fields.



Another section near the Silo, which collapsed during a night of high winds, was repaired by Rob Jones during October. Both the Millpond hide and the seawatching hide at Cow Harbour were painted this season, as well as doors and windows at both stores at South and Cow Harbour.



During 2021, we had been successful in a funding bid to the Curragh's Wildlife Park conservation fund for the purchase of a MOTUS station; an automated radio telemetry system that can detect passing wildlife that has been tagged as part of a collaborative wildlife tracking technology that is now being used widely across the Americas and Europe. Unfortunately, due to delays in the supply of the Sensor recording station meant that we were unable to get the project operational during this season, but everything is now in place for early 2023. This will be the first station on the western seaboard of the British Isles but is part of a wider plan to have an array of stations that cover the whole of the Isle of Man providing an unparalleled opportunity to study wildlife migration and help us understand the true importance of the Isle of Man and its position in the centre of the Irish Sea. Our initial plan is to tag Wheatear, as an extension of our colour-ringing project that has been

running for eight years now. This project is providing some intriguing observations of birds moving in a northerly direction during autumn migration and MOTUS will help to shed light on how regular this is.

New colour-ringing projects for Grey Wagtail and Stonechat were started, in response to our recent research strategy review, and these are already producing some interesting results. Our established projects for the three *Larus* gulls and European Shag also continue to provide useful data that helps us to understand the movements and dynamics of their populations.



After a productive breeding season, there were good numbers of juvenile birds around during late summer and with the onset of a good early passage of migrants meant July, August and September were above average months for ringing totals. Interesting sightings included the first Moorhen for four years in late July, a Green Sandpiper which was the fourth record in the past five years in early August and a Spotted Crake present on the Millpond from 2nd - 16th September. This was a new species for the Calf and the first modern-day record for the Isle of Man.

Phoebe Owen arrived at the end of August to help with the autumn migration and stayed through to the end of September, when we were joined, again, by Mike Haigh and the seal volunteers Lauren Stokes and Catrin Ferguson arrived to monitor the breeding Grey Seal population, which had a productive 'pupping' season producing 65 young.

The annual Loaghtan sheep round up took place at the start of September. This was a bit later than normal but worked well. Grazing for the sheep had been in short supply during the winter and spring, with competition from a very high population of rabbits. In early April, Rumevite feed-blocks were distributed around the islet, but the Loaghtans didn't use them. The rabbit

population was hit by Myxomatosis through the spring, and this eased the situation for the sheep. Lambing was quite late, possibly due to the hard winter the Ewes had experienced but following the round-up 40 lambs were taken off, with 42 Ewes, three Rams and five lambs left on for the winter.



In early September, we were joined for a week by members of the Pembrokeshire Ringing Group. This included, ex-Warden Bob Haycock who was making a return to the Calf after some 45 years. A very pleasant, enjoyable, and often hilarious time, with lots of 'when I' tales were had and they even had several good arrivals of birds to enjoy, including a Barred Warbler.

We had continued to have problems with the generator and following its second return to the Calf further problems were experienced. As I write this review of the year, the Mitsubishi generator has again been taken off for further work and investigations – and it will be returned to the Calf in time for the beginning of next season. Sadly, a similar situation existed for the Polaris which, after just a month, developed engine failure and we were consigned back to using the tractor. Thankfully, a new engine was sourced and in late October James Mylchreest and John Callister were able to come out for a couple of days and fit the new engine, as well as adding a modified air filtration system that will hopefully help prevent future problems.

Ellie Ames arrived, during early October, to help with migration monitoring, but as with the last couple of autumns the last few weeks of the season saw an almost constant procession of gales, as storm after storm swept in and battered the island. Unlike previous years, the dominant direction for these winds was from the South and this had the effect of preventing any level of bird migration for days on end. However, on the rare occasion that the wind did ease slightly we witnessed some spectacular visual migration events with over 7,500 thrushes grounded on 19th October and 1347 Chaffinch & 3414 Starling on 1st and 6068 Starling on 4th November.

We had planned to remain on the Island into the 3rd week of November, however given how the weather had been for the past few weeks and there was no apparent let up in the forecast, it was decided to take the next opportunity and we left the Calf on 14th November.

Once again, we have been blessed with the help and support of many people during this season, which makes living and working on the Calf much easier and more enjoyable. It was a pleasure to live and work alongside the '2022' wardening team of Oliver O'Sullivan, Chloe Hurst and Eleanor Grover, as well as a fantastic series of long-term volunteers; I am grateful to each one of them for their friendship, hard work and enthusiasm throughout the season. The growing team at MWT and, in particular, Lara Howe and Leigh Morris have provided support throughout another challenging season, whilst Shaun Murphy and the team at MNH strive to provide us with the resources we need. Mike Haigh again helped with a wide range of projects, as well as covering my annual leave period and volunteering through October and November.

Steve Clague continues to safely transport us and our supplies to and from the Calf, ably assisted this season by Robert Fisher and it would be wrong not to mention 'Harley' the ship's dog who sadly passed away during the season. A full list of those that have contributed to another successful season is provided at the back of this report – we are most grateful to everyone that has helped in any way possible.

2022 Monthly Summaries

2022	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Monthly Species Count	76	90	89	80	76	80	89	92	74
10-year Average	64	80	83	70	69	71	85	90	60

January & February

Trail Cameras set over winter provided further excellent records with a male **Teal** present on the Millpond for six dates between 1st – 11th January and on 5th February. Up to four **Mallard** and two **Pheasant** were recorded regularly throughout both months. A **Jack Snipe** was present on 18th January & 7th February and a **Grey Heron** on 28th January & 28th February.

Day visits were made on two occasions in January with a landing on 17th recording a total of 32 species, including six **Eider**, a **Sparrowhawk**, a **Hen Harrier**, two **Buzzard**, a **Turnstone**, a **Snipe**, two **Black-headed Gull**, two **Blue Tit**, three **Great Tit** and a **Dunnock**. Another trip on the 21st, to drop supplies at South Harbour, recorded two **Purple Sandpiper** on the Burroo and over 250 **Grey Seals** hauled out around the harbour entrance.



March

Weather: Light North-west winds on 16th, gave way to moderate West-south-westerlies on 17th, then light East to South-east from 18th - 29th and then increasing and moving more to the North-east for the last two days of the month.

A mostly dry and often sunny latter half to the month with rain recorded on just two dates.

A day trip on 5th recorded a male Eider at South Harbour, a Turnstone and two Purple Sandpiper along the East coast, 64 **Razorbill**, five **Lesser Black-backed Gull** and two Great Tit, but the season proper did not begin until 16th when an early departure from Port St Mary saw the four wardens and two volunteers heading for the Calf. The boat trip across yielded 61 **Fulmar**, 85 Guillemot and 83 Razorbill between Ghaw Yairn and Kione ny Halby. On arrival, it was clear that there had already been an arrival of passage migrants and at least three **Chiffchaff** and 30 **Goldcrest** were present around the Observatory. The first, three, **Wheatear** of the spring arrived on 17th with other new species for the year being a **Shelduck** flying south past Big Head, as well as five **Linnet** and a **Siskin** elsewhere. Two Jack Snipe were on the Millpond on 18th, with a **Sand Martin** flying along the West coast and a **Greenfinch** at the Observatory. Six new species were added on 19th with a **Golden Plover** flying over, two **Black Guillemot** off the Stack, a **Woodpigeon** at the Quarry, a **Collared Dove** at the Lighthouses and three **Skylark** and four **Starling** recorded at the Observatory. Two male **Blackcap** were new on 20th, but most excitement was created by a **Snow Bunting** that was seen briefly in the Seafield and the Calf's fourth ever **Coot** that was found moribund at South Harbour and later released onto the Millpond.

A **Greylag Goose** flying west over the Observatory during the early morning of 21st was the start of a series of records for the species, as was a **Grey Wagtail** and four **Willow Warbler** were trapped at the Observatory. Singles of **Jackdaw**, a female **House Sparrow** and a **Brambling** were all new for the year on 22nd, whilst the 23rd brought a **Woodcock** near the Lazy Beds, a **Kittiwake** off the Stack and two **Redwing** around the Observatory, where a light passage of other birds included 15 each of Chiffchaff and Goldcrest, 20 Robin, 121 Meadow Pipit, 11 Chaffinch and singles of Brambling and

Greenfinch. A Greylag Goose flew north up the Glen on 24th, when 14 Turnstone were on Rarick, 191 Guillemot were on their ledges at Big Head whilst two Blue Tit and a female **Black Redstart** were at the Observatory. Continuing light easterly winds encouraged a **Rook** to venture over to the island on 25th, whilst other new species included three **Coal Tit**, a **Fieldfare**, four **Twite** at South Harbour and a **Lapland Bunting** found amongst a Meadow Pipit flock in the Top Withy field during the late afternoon. The Coot 'appeared' again on the Millpond on 26th, when Fieldfares increased to three,



the female Black Redstart was still at the Observatory and two each of **Lesser Redpoll** and **Reed Bunting** were recorded. Two more Blue Tit arrived on 27th, otherwise little was new until a 'Tristis-type' Chiffchaff was amongst a small arrival of 10 Chiffchaff, 20 Goldcrest, 21 Redwing, 23 Wheatear and five Brambling, whilst the four Twite were again seen near Kionen Halby. Redwing numbers increased to 59 on 29th, along with eight Willow Warbler, 11 Chiffchaff, 20 Goldcrest, six Fieldfare, another female Black Redstart, a Grey Wagtail and three each

of Brambling and Greenfinch. A strengthening North-east wind over the last two days of the month kept things fairly quiet, although Redwing increased to 73 on 30th.

A total of 75 species were recorded during the month.

April

Weather: Light to moderate North-east winds from 1st - 3rd, then veering to moderate Westerlies from 4th and increasing in strength, with gale force 9 on 7th decreasing f4 on 8th & 9th. Southerly f4 on 10th, then returning to the East for 11th & 12th, Southerly on 13th & 14th, South-east on 15th & 16th and North-east on 17th before light Westerlies on 18th & 19th then settling into a North-easterly flow for the remainder of the month.

A generally cold month with no significant rainfall and only light showers recorded on five out of six dates with precipitation.

The continuing moderate North-east winds kept things quiet for the first few days of the month. Two Purple Sandpiper were on the Burroo on 1st, a Black-headed Gull flew through the Sound on 2nd and the (returning?) **Great Skua** was seen at both Caigher and Cow Harbour. The Coot was still present on the Millpond, although quite elusive, it was seen on most dates up to the 16th, when it disappeared, and its remains were then discovered on 21st. The pair of Shelduck appeared at the Puddle on 4th, when numbers of Eider had increased to 12. A change in strength and wind direction on 6th provided the first opportunity for seawatching off Culbery with a **Red-throated Diver** north, 120 **Manx Shearwater** south, along with 206 each of Kittiwake and Auk sp., as well as a (the) Great Skua heading south. A **Swallow** was new on 7th but strong winds over the next couple of days suppressed any real migration, until the wind switched to the South and decreased on 10th, when another Snow Bunting was found near the Wall on the eastern coastal path and remained in the area until at least 16th. Twenty Willow Warbler arrived on 11th, with a further 39 on 12th, accompanied by 14 Chiffchaff, seven Blackcap, 20 Wheatear and a Grey Wagtail.



Light winds and early morning mist and cloud on 13th brought an arrival of migrants, with a **Dunlin** over the Observatory during the morning and three **House Martin** at Jane's House in the afternoon, plus 70 Willow Warbler, 10 Blackcap, a Fieldfare, three Redwing and 96 Goldfinch. Smaller numbers of migrants arrived on 14th, with 38 Willow Warbler, 15 Chiffchaff and six Blackcap, but did include a **Ring Ouzel** at the Observatory and two Great Skua around the Puddle. Similar numbers of warblers arrived on 15th and 16th, with the addition of a **Whitethroat** on the

latter date. Willow Warblers again numbered 30 on 17th, when an arrival of 59 Wheatears included several 'Greenland' type birds and a **White Wagtail** was in the Lighthouse fields. A **Whimbrel** in the Puddle was new on 19th, when the Ravens at Amulty had three newly fledged young. Hirundine passage was stronger than of late with nine Sand Martin and 42 Swallow and a pair of House Sparrow arrived at the Observatory. The 20th saw at least 11 Greylag around the island, a group of seven Buzzard over the East coast and 20 Manx Shearwater around South Harbour colony overnight, with at least 40 seen between the Wall and Kione ny Halby overnight on 21st. A slight decrease in wind speed on 22nd brought a new arrival of warblers with single **Sedge Warbler** and **Grasshopper Warbler** being new for the year, plus 91 Willow Warbler and 35 Blackcap. Numbers of warblers significantly reduced on 23rd, but further variety occurred with another Grasshopper Warbler, a male Ring Ouzel and a **Cuckoo** at the Observatory, whilst **Feral Pigeon** and a 'flava' type **Yellow Wagtail** was seen in the Lighthouse Fields. The Lighthouse Fields turned up trumps again on 24th with a fine male **Common Redstart** and a **Tree Pipit**, whilst diurnal passage included four Greylag, a Rook, two Sand Martin, 35 Swallow, seven House Martin, 71 Wheatear and 15 Pied Wagtail. Two more Grasshopper Warbler were seen at the Observatory along with 35 Willow Warbler, 30 Blackcap and a female Ring Ouzel. Numbers of warblers increased on 25th with 110 Willow Warbler, 16 Chiffchaff (including another 'tristis-type'), singles of Sedge Warbler and Grasshopper Warbler, 25 Blackcap and five Whitethroat, whilst a **Puffin** was seen in the Sound and a female **Whinchat** was a surprise find in a spring trap set for Wheatears in the Seafield. This was considerably outdone on 26th when the 2nd ever Manx record of **Dusky Warbler** was trapped at the Top Withy. A supporting cast of another 110 Willow Warbler, 15 Chiffchaff, four Sedge Warbler, a Grasshopper Warbler,



18 Blackcap, a **Lesser Whitethroat** and two Whitethroat arrived, along with 63 Wheatear, a White Wagtail, a Cuckoo, seven Jackdaw and a Rook. Waders were also very much in evidence with four Whimbrel heading north, a Curlew, 26 Purple Sandpiper and a Turnstone on Chicken Rock and another three Purple Sandpiper on the Burroo. Continuing the wader theme, a Turnstone was at the Cletts and four Snipe were flushed from above Jane's House on 27th. Passage of warblers had decreased but still included 50 Willow Warbler, 10 Chiffchaff, two each of Sedge Warbler and Grasshopper Warbler and 12 Blackcap. Wheatear numbers increased to 85, the female Ring Ouzel was still present although rather elusive and the first Razorbill egg was found in Gibdale. Passage of warblers continued at similar levels on 28th & 29th, with a slight increase on the latter date for some species, with nine Sedge Warbler, a Goldcrest and a Grasshopper Warbler. Waders were again evident with three Whimbrel, a Curlew and a **Redshank** at Cow Harbour, a Turnstone on Chicken Rock and 12 Purple Sandpiper in the Lighthouse Caves. Diurnal passage also included a Greylag Goose, a Jackdaw, five Rook and 52 Swallow, whilst flat calm seas allowed a high count of 15 Black Guillemot off Cow Harbour in the evening. The month ended with a Puffin in the Sound, a further 45 Willow Warbler, a male Goldcrest, a Tree Pipit and a pair of House Sparrow.

A total of 90 species were recorded during the month.

May

Weather: A moderate South-west wind on 1st abated during the day and brought fog and calm conditions through 2nd and into 3rd before the wind settled in the westerly quarter from 4th – 7th. After a strengthening Easterly over the 8th – 9th the wind returned to the West until 15th then freshened and moved back to the East until 17th. From 18th the wind settles into a moderate South-westerly where it remained until moving more North-west from 27th to the month's end.

A mostly warm and dry month with occasional heavy periods of rain combined with foggy conditions.

The month started relatively quietly, with a female Mallard appearing on the Millpond with 17 ducklings. A Whimbrel and a Turnstone were at the Leodan,

60 Swallow moved through and a female Black Redstart was seen at the Lighthouse Fields on 1st. The 2nd was much busier, with a fall of 160 Willow Warbler, along with 10 Chiffchaff, six Sedge Warbler, two Grasshopper Warbler, 20 Blackcap and six Whitethroat. Elsewhere, a total of 19 Whimbrel were counted, a **Common Sandpiper** was at Cow Harbour, five Turnstone and eight Purple Sandpiper were on Chicken Rock, a **Swift** flew past the Observatory, a **Merlin** spent 20 minutes sat on the back field wall during the evening, a female Whinchat was at the Withy, a male Redstart was at South Harbour and a Tree Pipit flew over. Hirundine passage increased to 123 Swallow on 3rd, whilst just 80 Willow Warbler were present, along with eight Sedge Warbler, 12 Blackcap, six Whitethroat, two Goldcrest and a Redwing.

The male Redstart was still at South Harbour, a male Whinchat was in the Front Field and a Tree Pipit was trapped. The 4th was much quieter and other than the Redwing which remained from 3rd, the only bird of real note was a Redshank flushed from the mouth of Mill Giau. Warbler numbers significantly decreased on 5th, with 17 Willow Warbler, three Sedge Warbler and six Blackcap, although a new Whinchat was trapped. The 6th was very quiet but a night-time visit to the South Harbour colony produced at least 40 Manx Shearwater. Waders were a feature on 7th with 29 Oystercatcher, a Whimbrel, six Purple Sandpiper (in the Lighthouse Caves) and a Common Sandpiper in the Puddle. A Ring Ouzel was around the Observatory, whilst 43 Wheatear and small numbers of warblers including a Grasshopper and six Sedge Warbler were seen. At least two Whimbrel were present on 8th and Wheatear numbers had increased to 64 and a Tree Pipit flew over. An increasing Easterly wind on 9th kept things quiet, but a switch in direction to the South-west on 10th brought a few seabirds off Culbery, with a female **Common Scoter** and 71 Manx Shearwater flying south and an **Arctic Skua** heading north. **Spotted Flycatcher** trapped at the Observatory was new for the year and a Woodcock flushed from the Willows at the Top Withy, was only the second ever record in the month of May.

The first juvenile Goldfinches fledged on 11th, whilst a rather unseasonal **Pink-footed Goose** took up residence on the Dub on 12th and remained until 26th. A small passage of Manx Shearwater occurred on 13th, with 197 north off Culbery and a Grey Wagtail also flew north. A **Stock Dove** in the Glen on



14th was new for the year as was a male **Western Subalpine Warbler** trapped in the back garden.

Warblers continued to feature with both **Reed Warbler** and three **Garden Warbler** on 15th, along with 25 Whitethroat, 20 Spotted Flycatcher and three Redstart. The 16th was quieter although a male Reed Warbler briefly sang behind the garden and 18 Spotted Flycatcher, a Collared Dove and a Whinchat were present. A brood of Chaffinch fledged at the Observatory on 17th, a male Greenfinch was present on 18th and

the third Reed Warbler of the spring was caught on 19th and the Western Subalpine Warbler reappeared. A glut of fledgling Robins appeared on 21st, with at least 12 juveniles present, whilst another brood of Chaffinch were seen at the Top Withy. A male Reed Bunting at the Triangle was the highlight of 22nd, but the following day produced a Cuckoo, a Lesser Whitethroat which was trapped at the Withy, and a female Goldcrest. There were further records of Cuckoo on 25th & 28th but otherwise things were very quiet. A **Sanderling** near South Harbour on 29th rounded off a rather disappointing end to the month.

A total of 89 species were recorded during the month.

June

Weather: After a light north-west wind on 1st, the wind settled in the easterly quarter where it remained until 7th before backing South-west from 8th and increasing in strength to moderate to strong from 10th. The wind strength abated from 14th and moved to a Southerly direction where it remained until 17th, when it backed North-westerly and increased in strength through to 19th then reduced again in strength from 20th – 22nd. Calm conditions on 23rd were

followed by an increasingly strong Southerly wind reaching severe gale force on 26th and gale force on 28th before a pleasant end to the month recorded a light South-east breeze on 30th.

A mainly dry and warm month with light rain recorded on just seven dates.

The month started positively with a Redshank flying over the Withy, a **Sandwich Tern** was recorded offshore on 1st and two **Storm Petrel** were trapped at South Harbour during the early hours of 2nd. Little of note bird-wise was seen on 3rd, although a visit to the Calf by the cruise ship Silver Cloud brought the seabird legend Peter Harrison. The 4th produced one of the most exciting days of the spring with a **Greenish Warbler** trapped at the Observatory and the Calf's 3rd ever record of **Black Kite** which appeared over the Observatory before drifting off in a northerly direction. A rather unseasonal Golden Plover was heard calling on 6th and a **Scarlet Rosefinch** was also heard calling during the early morning. What was presumably the same (two) Golden Plovers were in the Front Field during the morning of the 7th and a strong passage of 980 Auks moved south past Culbery between 0500 – 0630hrs.

A Cuckoo was bird of the day on 8th and more Auks moved south on 10th, with another 450 south past the Puddle. Seawatching, this time from Culbery, produced the best birds on 12th, with a southerly passage of 392 Manx Shearwater and a single Storm Petrel flying north. A Shelduck flying north over the Withy on 14th was a little unexpected, but perhaps not as much as the female Redstart trapped on 15th, whilst a **Lapwing** was seen at the Puddle and the first dispersing juvenile Grey Wagtail of the season was trapped at the Observatory. Increasing southerly winds over the next couple of days kept things quiet, although up to two Collared Dove were around the Observatory on 16th & 17th with c.100 Manx Shearwater were seen rafting off the Puddle during the evening of the latter date. Three Puffin were the highlight of 18th and on 19th we were visited by Sarah Pimm, a past warden from 2005, who made a return visit to show her family where she had once lived.

The fourth brood of Mallard (two half-grown young) to be found this season were an unexpected find on Kitterland on 20th, during a routine visit to

monitor gull nests. A flock of 18 Starling were around the Observatory, with 15 there on 21st when light NW winds provided a productive day, with plenty of juvenile birds around including 33 Wheatear, 17 Stonechat and 54 Linnets; these were, however, eclipsed by a second Western Subalpine Warbler for the year and a juvenile or female **Crossbill** that landed briefly in the tractor barn Sitka before heading off west. Continuing light winds over the next few days brought eight Swift, four Grey Wagtail and seven Siskin on 22nd and four Storm Petrel overnight into 23rd. Increasing S – SE winds kept things quiet for the next few days, although numbers of Linnets continued to increase, with 86 by 27th when a fifth brood of 11 Mallard appeared on the Millpond and two Black-headed Gull were seen on 28th. The month ended with a rather unexpected 2nd year male Yellow Wagtail that was trapped in the Front Field. A total of 80 species were recorded during the month.

July

Weather: The month started with a mainly light to moderate West wind which turned more northerly from 7th before a brief change to East on 11th, then returning to the westerly quarter between 12th – 18th. Another brief interlude of light easterlies on 19th was followed by light North-west winds to 22nd before backing South-west and increasing to moderate and occasionally strong from 23rd – 26th. Light North-westerly winds during 27th & 28th were followed by calm conditions on 29th, a light South-west wind on 30th and a freshening Northerly on 31st.

The beginning of the month was mainly dry and at times warm, but increasing cloud brought rain periods of light rain on 11 dates, with fog on 5th & 11th and a thunderstorm during the afternoon of 19th.

The month began with eight Storm Petrel caught at South Harbour during the early hours of 1st, where a Common Sandpiper was also heard, and a Lapwing was in the Seafield. Juvenile birds were present in good numbers with 13 Stonechat, 23 Wheatear, 62 Linnets and a Dunnock, the latter being trapped at the Withy. The two Great Skua were seen around Kitterland on 2nd, when a Puffin was seen off the Lighthouses and an island count of 142 Meadow Pipit was achieved. Linnets increased to 89 on 3rd, when a Dunnock was seen carrying food on the Central Heath and a juvenile and an adult Whitethroat were at the Withy. An early morning seawatch from Culbery on 4th produced

266 Manx Shearwater and smaller numbers of auks, including two Black Guillemot and five Puffin heading north. Three Common Sandpiper were at South Harbour on 5th, whilst the first juvenile Willow Warbler of the autumn passage were trapped at the Observatory and diurnal movement of six Grey Wagtail and four Siskin were noted. Numbers of Shag began to congregate at Kione ny Halby, with 277 seen on 7th, when a Black-headed Gull flew up the Glen 52 Lesser Black-backed Gull were counted, and a flock of 38 Starling arrived at the Observatory.

Three more Storm Petrel were trapped during the early hours of 8th, with waders again featuring with seven Lapwing in the Seafield, two Curlew flying north over the Observatory and two Common Sandpiper at South Harbour. A diurnal movement of 16 Swift and seven Sand Martin was recorded, whilst a male Greenfinch put in a brief appearance at the Observatory and a female Whinchat trapped at the Withy was a rather unexpected capture. Even more unexpected though, was the discovery of a **Kingfisher** at the mouth of Mill Giau on 9th, which hung around long enough to allow all on the island to catch up with it. The first juvenile Blackcap of the autumn was trapped at the Observatory, the juvenile Dunnock from 1st was re-trapped and Grey Heron was at South Harbour. The highlight of the 10th was two **Minke Whale** seen off South Harbour and three **Basking Sharks** recorded off the Lighthouses, but a good passage of waders was also seen with two Lapwing in the Seafield, two Snipe on the Millpond, two Common Sandpiper between South harbour and the Puddle and five Redshank along the East coast. Focus was again on the sea on 11th, with another Basking Shark seen off South Harbour, plus a high count of 516 Shag, whilst at the Lighthouses five Black Guillemot and three Puffin were present. Up to two Common Sandpipers continued to be seen over the next few days and numbers of Linnet remained high, with 137 by 13th and 22 Starling arrived on 14th.

A **Treecreeper** trapped at the Observatory on 16th was new for the year and remained until 17th. From 18th, passage of Willow Warblers became more evident, and the 19th produced a juvenile Grasshopper Warbler and 16 House Martin. Shag numbers reached a month high of 552 on 20th, when a Snipe flew over and a Black-headed Gull went south off the Puddle. A Collared Dove was at the Observatory on 21st when a Grasshopper Warbler was seen

in the rushes of the Front Field. Probably the same bird was re-trapped in the Front Hedge on 22nd, when Willow Warblers increased to 18 and Linnet to 161.

Nine Storm Petrel were recorded overnight between 22nd/23rd and the first returning Turnstone was at Cow Harbour on 23rd, whilst an adult **Common Gull** there on 25th was

rather less expected. Owing to the increasing frequency of reports of HPAI on the Isle of Man and throughout the UK, restrictions on access to the Calf and to the monitoring of seabirds was implemented to try and avoid spread of the disease to the islet. Thankfully the disease never arrived on the Calf and restrictions were gradually relaxed over the remainder of the season.



Single Lapwing and Common Sandpiper were recorded on 26th, with the latter species increasing to a season high of four on 27th, when calm conditions encouraged dispersal of a range of species including two Grey Heron, a Redshank, a Black-headed Gull, a Woodpigeon and a House Sparrow, whilst a small arrival of warblers included 25 Willow Warbler, eight Sedge Warbler, four Blackcap and a juvenile Goldcrest. The first, three, Purple Sandpiper of the autumn were seen on Chicken Rock on 28th, with a further two seen on 29th, along with two Turnstone, whilst a **Moorhen** appeared on the Millpond (remaining until 12th August) and a movement of 84 Swallow were recorded. A single Turnstone was seen on 30th, plus Snipe and Common Sandpiper on 31st when 178 Linnet were counted.

A total of 76 species were recorded during the month.

August

Weather: Light South-east winds on 1st gave way to moderate to light South-west or West winds through to 10th, then mainly light North-easterlies to 14th. After light to moderate North-westerlies on 15th & 16th, the wind switched to the North-east for 17th before settling into the South-west quarter where it remained until 26th, except for a brief spell of light South-easterlies during 22nd & 23rd. Light North-westerly winds prevailed on 27th & 28th before switching to the North-east where they remained to the end of the month. Overall, the month was relatively dry and warm, with light rain or drizzle recorded on 12 days with thunder and lightning during the early hours of the 15th.

A 'super-pod' of 50+ **Common Dolphins** feeding and actively breaching off the Caigher coast during the morning of 1st was an excellent start to the month, which also included an arrival of 70 Willow Warbler and five Sedge Warbler. Other birds recorded included a heard-only Golden Plover, the Moorhen at the Millpond and a fly-over Lesser Redpoll. The 2nd was much quieter with just 11 Willow Warbler recorded, whilst seawatching from Culbery on the 3rd provided movements of 255 Manx Shearwater south, 147 Gannet north and a Black-headed Gull south. Elsewhere a Turnstone was at Chicken Rock and a Great Skua was seen around the islet. A Turnstone and a Purple Sandpiper were together in the Leodan on 4th, when hirundine passage saw 108 Swallow plus two each of Sand Martin and House Martin move through, whilst the first movement of 17 Pied Wagtail was seen. Waders were in evidence on 5th with a Common Sandpiper at Culbery, the Purple Sandpiper still in the Leodan and five Snipe on the Millpond. The 6th saw a small movement of hirundines, with 76 Swallow, the first (five) Tree Pipit of the autumn, 18 Willow Warbler and 208 Linnet. Hirundines were again plentiful on 7th, with three Sand Martin and 214 Swallow whilst Linnet numbers increased to 300 with several large flocks between the Leodan and South Harbour and two juvenile Reed Bunting were at the Withies.

Calm conditions on 8th brought a small arrival of migrants, with 21 Willow Warbler, three Sedge Warbler and a Grasshopper Warbler, whilst a juvenile female Greenfinch was trapped at the Withy and diurnal passage included at least eight Tree Pipit, 176 Swallow and 64 House Martin. The first Spotted

Flycatcher of the autumn arrived on 9th, when another six Tree Pipit were seen. A 'fly-over' **Green Sandpiper** was the highlight of 10th, when another small arrival included 22 Willow Warbler, seven Sedge Warbler, five Whitethroat, 21 Robin, nine Grey Wagtail, 15 Tree Pipit and singles of Greenfinch, Lesser Redpoll and Siskin. Whilst most migrant numbers were fewer on 11th a season high of 35 Tree Pipit occurred and three Basking Shark were seen. Another eight Tree Pipit were present on 12th, when a Grasshopper Warbler was trapped at the Observatory and six Turnstone were at Chicken Rock. Four Turnstone were present on 14th when a Snipe and a Redshank were also seen, whilst a Reed Warbler was trapped at the Withy and another eight Tree Pipit were recorded.

Moderate NW winds over the next couple of days kept things quiet, but a switch to lighter easterlies on 17th brought 40 Willow Warbler, five Whitethroat and 26 Tree Pipit. The Reed Warbler from 14th was re-trapped and a Golden Plover flew over. A night-time netting session at South Harbour proved very productive with 45 Storm Petrel recorded and six Redshank seen during the couple hours pre-high tide before dawn on 18th. A small passage of 77 Manx Shearwater south on 19th was recorded off Culbery, where passage increased to 352 S & 150 N on 20th.

A **Little Egret** flying north over Ghaw Yairn on 21st was rather unexpected, with little else of note other than seven Tree Pipit being recorded. Five Redshank were at Cow Harbour on 22nd, with a single there on 23rd when four **Tree Sparrow** made a brief appearance at the Observatory and an **Osprey** flew south down the Glen at 1930hrs. The Osprey was again seen at South Harbour during the morning of 24th, when a small arrival of migrants included 20 Willow Warbler, five White Wagtail and seven Tree Pipit. Passage increased on 25th with six each of Sand Martin & House Martin, 147 Swallow, a female House Sparrow, five Grey Wagtail, six White Wagtail & 23 'Alba's and 14 Tree Pipit. Elsewhere Whimbrel and Golden Plover were recorded. The first Teal of the autumn was on the Millpond, with three Mallard, on 26th, when another House Sparrow arrived at the Observatory and wagtail passage increased to 13 White and 30 'Alba's. The 27th saw a large arrival of migrants, with 96 Robin being the dominant species but also included 13 Willow Warbler, three Sedge Warbler, three House Sparrow, 19 Tree Sparrow, 23

Grey Wagtail, 15 White & 38 'Alba' Wagtails, 226 Meadow Pipit and 21 Tree Pipit. Additionally, a **Marsh Harrier** flew north up the Glen during the



morning and a **Pied Flycatcher** was trapped at the Observatory. Mist netting at South Harbour overnight into the 28th brought just four Storm Petrel, but a further arrival of migrants provided a busy morning with 75 more Robin, a Starling, a House Sparrow, 14 Grey Wagtail, 14 White & 51 'Alba' Wagtails, 181 Meadow Pipit, 23 Tree Pipit and a Greenfinch. A round-island boat trip during the afternoon proved productive with the Osprey being seen again, this time flying along the coast at Baie Fine and several waders included a Whimbrel, 10 Curlew plus

two Turnstone on Chicken Rock and four Purple Sandpiper in the Lighthouse Cave. The 29th was much quieter but a further 35 Robin were recorded, as well as 19 White & 30 'Alba' Wagtails and seven House Martin. Robins again dominated the 30th with a further 60 recorded and another Pied Flycatcher was trapped. The Osprey was again seen at Ghaw Yairn, and diurnal passage recorded eight House Sparrow, 24 Grey Wagtail, 37 White & 82 'Alba' Wagtails, 161 Meadow Pipit and four Siskin. The month ended with further diurnal passage of 17 Grey Wagtail, 25 White & 32 'Alba' Wagtail and 14 Tree Pipit, whilst around the Observatory were 45 more Robin and 16 Goldcrest, whilst the Withy yielded two Sedge Warbler, a Grasshopper Warbler and three Whitethroat.

A total of 80 species were recorded during the month.

September

Weather: Light to moderate East to North-east winds over 1st – 3rd, gave way to a southerly gale on 4th decreasing and remaining mostly moderate South-east until 12th after which a switch to moderate North to North-west winds

predominated to 19th. After a brief period of light South-west winds during the 20th & 21st, the strength increased on 22nd and then backed to moderate North-west winds through to 26th & 27th when the strength increased to near gale force before decreasing on 28th and briefly veering North-east on 29th and returning to gale force South-west on 30th.

A mostly dry start to the month with rain recorded on 15 dates, with the last third of the month seeing some prolonged and heavy spells.

Four Teal were along the East coast and a roost of 24 Oystercatcher and 18 Curlew were on Kitterland, with two Redshank at the Cletts on 1st. Bird of the day was a Cuckoo seen near to Jane's House, whilst the Osprey was again seen, and 40 Manx Shearwater were present overnight at the South Harbour colony. The 2nd produced a small number of warblers during the morning and a steady passage of 123 'Alba' Wagtail whilst a young Guillemot could be heard calling from the Leodan. A visit to the Withy during the late afternoon produced, perhaps the most unexpected record of the season with a **Spotted Crake** seen well but briefly and which remained in the area of the Millpond and up to the Cuckoo Flower net until the 16th. This was a new species for the Calf and the first modern day Manx record.

The Osprey that had been present for the past 11 days, was seen for the last time as it flew down the Glen and landed on the dry-stone wall above Mill Giau. A Grasshopper Warbler was trapped at the Observatory on 4th and the last (three) Common Sandpiper of the season were seen at Cow Harbour and the first Atlantic Grey Seal pup of the autumn was born at The Dock. A small team from the Pembrokeshire ringing group arrived on 6th when diurnal movement of five House Martin, 33 Swallow, 60 'Alba' Wagtail and 194 Meadow Pipit were recorded. Passage on 7th was again dominated by 147 Meadow Pipit but also included 99 'Alba' Wagtail, two Tree Pipit and 30 Wheatear, which included several 'Greenland' type birds.

Further diurnal passage on 8th included three Swift, a Sand Martin, 165 Swallow, five House Martin, eight Grey Wagtail and 206 Meadow Pipit, whilst the largest flock of 73 Chough for the season was seen crossing over from the Sound. A calm start to the 9th produced a small arrival of warblers, with 26 Willow Warbler, a couple each of Sedge Warbler & Chiffchaff, a Whitethroat

and four Blackcap. Also around the Observatory were nine Goldcrest, 32 Robin, a Pied Flycatcher and two Dunnock. Diurnal passage included the first seven Skylark of the autumn, 32 Swallow, 118 Meadow Pipit, a Golden Plover and two **Ringed Plover**. Another Ringed Plover was recorded flying over on 10th, when seven Purple Sandpiper were seen in the Lighthouse cave. Diurnal passage included 121 Swallow, six Grey Wagtail, 254 Meadow Pipit and three Tree Pipit, whilst a significant arrival of 75 Robin was recorded, with smaller numbers of eight Willow Warbler, 14 Chiffchaff, nine Goldcrest and three each of Blackcap and Spotted Flycatcher. Numbers of Robin had decreased to 65 on 11th, but diurnal migration was most obvious with five Skylark, 189 Swallow, 218 Meadow Pipit and a Tree Pipit. Swallows again dominated on 12th with a westerly movement of 410 birds, accompanied by a single Sand Martin, 15 House Martin and a **Hobby** which was seen hunting over Caigher during the late afternoon. Single Golden Plover and Ringed Plover were recorded flying over, as well as the only Jackdaw of the month and small arrival of passage migrants included eight Chiffchaff, three Blackcap, a Garden Warbler, nine Goldcrest, two each of Spotted Flycatcher & Pied Flycatcher, 48 Robin and 27 Wheatear. At least four Pied Flycatcher and two Spotted Flycatcher were present on 13th, with a further of arrival of 40 Robin and a **Barred Warbler** trapped in the front hedge nets. Presumably the same Hobby was again seen on 14th (and 15th), this time at Cow Harbour and the Garden Warbler from 12th was re-trapped. Three Pied Flycatcher were still present, between the Top Withy and the Observatory, along with a single Spotted Flycatcher.



The three Pied Flycatcher and single Spotted Flycatcher remained on 15th, however a fresh arrival of 47 Robin occurred, and diurnal passage included 33 Pink-footed Geese south over the Observatory plus 23 Grey Wagtail, 14 'Alba' Wagtail, 184 Meadow Pipit and 38 Chaffinch. The Spotted Crake was present

for its penultimate day on the Millpond, where it was seen to interact with and chase off a Jack Snipe. Another flock, of 14, Pink-footed Geese flew north off Rarick on 16th and another 'flock or bird' was heard only. More 'Pink-feet' were heard during the morning of 17th but the main passage was a further 60 Robin, 26 Grey Wagtail, 199 Meadow Pipit, the last three Tree Pipit of main autumn migration, 31 Chaffinch and 19 Siskin, whilst the Garden Warbler from 12th was re-trapped. Moderate NW winds over the next couple of days kept passage fairly quiet with a few Robins continuing to pass through plus movements of 24 Grey Wagtail and 123 Meadow Pipit on 18th and 16 Grey Wagtail and 290 Meadow Pipit on 19th. A **Water Rail** at the Withy on 20th was new for the year, whilst Robins increased to 56 and diurnal passage included 21 Grey Wagtail, 31 'Alba' Wagtail, 348 Meadow Pipit and 77 Chaffinch.

Moderate to strong southerly winds during the 21st & 22nd meant that passage was largely curtailed but a decrease in strength and switch in direction to NW brought an arrival of migrants, with another 'group' of Pink-footed Geese heard and diurnal passage of 80 Skylark, 26 Swallow, 17 Pied Wagtail, 66 'Alba' Wagtail, 312 Meadow Pipit and 35 Chaffinch. Passage decreased slightly on 24th with 33 Skylark and 259 Meadow Pipit, whilst on 25th 21 Raven flew north at dawn and diurnal passage included 49 Skylark, 23 'Alba' Wagtail, 253 Meadow Pipit and 86 Chaffinch. A strong NNW wind on 26th brought some long-awaited seawatching conditions but few birds, with five **Brent Geese** south off Cow Harbour being the highlight. A Red-throated Diver and two Manx Shearwater also flew south, whilst a male Eider was seen off Burroo Neck and a flock of 16 'grey' geese headed east but were too distant for specific identification. Seawatching was again order of the day on 27th with a 90-minute watch from Culbery producing movements of Brent Goose 1N, Common Scoter 10S, **Sooty Shearwater** 1N, Manx Shearwater 1S & 7N, Gannet 36S & 368N, Kittiwake 22S & 54N, Auk sp 67S & 37N and Razorbill 21N. Elsewhere six Golden Plover flew over the Observatory, 15 Turnstone were at Cow Harbour and an additional Magpie was seen at Fold Point. A decrease in wind strength on 28th gave better conditions for diurnal passage with 73 Skylark, three Swallow, 16 Grey Wagtail, 66 'Alba' Wagtail, 438 Meadow Pipit, 70 Chaffinch, 49 Goldfinch and 14 Siskin, whilst around the Observatory were five Chiffchaff, 41 Goldcrest, 45 Robin and the first Redwing of autumn.

In general, numbers of most species were fewer on 29th although 27 Redwing were present and a female **Wigeon** was on the Millpond, whilst finch passage included 158 Chaffinch, 101 Linnet and 94 Goldfinch. Storm Ian passed through during the 30th, and with the wind backing west later in the day a 120-minute seawatch from Culbery in the afternoon produced a southerly passage of one Teal, three Manx Shearwater, 317 Gannet, 650 Kittiwake (+ four N), two Black-headed Gull, one Arctic Skua and 195 Auk sp.

A total of 89 species were recorded during the month.

October

Weather: Moderate to strong South or South-westerly winds predominated up to 12th and from 14th – 17th with brief respites of calm conditions on 13th and 18th. From 19th the wind changed to an easterly direction but remained moderate to strong and then veered back to moderate or strong (gale force at times) South or South-west for the remainder of the month.

Rain was recorded on 21 dates, often very heavy and prolonged with thunder and lightning overnight on 19th/20th.

Continuing moderate to strong westerly winds during 1st and 2nd continued to provide good seawatching conditions from Culbery with the following:

1st – Fulmar 3S & 6N, Manx Shearwater 1S & 15N, Gannet 74S & 143N, Cormorant 1S & 2N, Kittiwake 41S & 1061N, Black-headed Gull 1N, Arctic Skua 5N, Auk sp 26S & 539N plus a male Wigeon at Cow Harbour.

2nd – Gannet 67S & 184N, Cormorant 1S & 3N, Kittiwake 65S & 612N, Black-headed Gull 2N, Common Gull 1N, Lesser Black-backed Gull 1S, Auk sp 92S & 381N

Diurnal passage was also recorded on 2nd with 48 Skylark, eight Swallow, 43 'Alba' Wagtail, a female Redstart, 181 Meadow Pipit and 38 Chaffinch. The female Wigeon from a few days ago reappeared on the Millpond on 3rd but an increasingly strong southerly wind kept passerine passage to a minimum. Continuing strong to near gale force winds through much of 4th made birding hard work, but a decrease in strength just before dusk allowed just enough time for a **Yellow-browed Warbler** to be trapped at the Observatory.



A **Great Northern Diver** flying south off Cow Harbour on 5th was the best bird of an otherwise quiet day, whilst the Yellow-browed Warbler was heard at the Observatory on 6th and re-trapped on 7th and a single House Martin was seen on both dates. Seawatching produced the main excitement other the next few days with:

6th Culberty –

Fulmar 4N, Manx Shearwater 1S & 4N, Gannet 143S & 49N, Kittiwake 60S & 279N, Skua sp 2N, Auk sp 308S & 312N

7th Cow –

Common Scoter 2S, Red-throated Diver 1E, Gannet 52S,
Great Black-backed Gull 96S

7th Culberty –

Manx Shearwater 1S, Kittiwake 224S Great Black-backed Gull 47S

8th Cow –

Common Scoter 4S, Red-throated Diver 1S, Gannet 156S & 35N, Kittiwake 18S & 1N, Auk sp. 124S

Six Whooper Swan also flew South along the East coast on 8th, when a Black Guillemot was seen off Big Head and the re-trap Yellow-browed Warbler was at the Observatory. A decreasing North-west wind also brought a reasonable diurnal passage, with four Jackdaw, 98 Skylark, 55 Swallow, four House Sparrow, 69 'Alba' Wagtail, 268 Meadow Pipit and 33 Greenfinch. Passage was restricted by a strong southerly wind on 9th, but a move back to a more westerly direction on 10th brought a Black Redstart at the Observatory and a few seabirds off Cow: Common Scoter 5S, Fulmar 1S, Gannet 441S & 31N, Kittiwake 160S, Common Gull 2S, Great Black-backed Gull 150S, Auk sp. 85S.

Lighter winds on 11th brought an arrival of migrants with another flock of Pink-footed Geese being heard and four Whooper Swan flew east over the Observatory; diurnal migrants included 165 Skylark, six Swallow, 39 'Alba' Wagtail, 204 Meadow Pipit, 191 Chaffinch, 18 Greenfinch, 118 Linnet, 172

Goldfinch, six Lesser Redpoll and 16 Siskin, whilst grounded migrants included 40 Goldcrest, 41 Song Thrush, 45 Robin, 10 Dunnock and seven Reed Bunting. The long-staying retrap Yellow-browed Warbler was the only bird of real note on 12th, but a new Yellow-browed Warbler was trapped at the Withy on 13th when calm conditions brought a good diurnal passage of 190 Jackdaw, 31 Rook, 26 Hooded Crow, a Coal Tit, 332 Skylark, 31 Swallow, a House Martin, three House Sparrow, 69 'Alba' Wagtail, 102 Chaffinch, 18 Greenfinch and 23 Siskin. Grounded migrants included five Chiffchaff, five Blackcap, 45 Goldcrest, 15 Song Thrush and 16 Dunnock.

Four Eider were off Cow Harbour on 14th, when a Willow Warbler and the season's last White Wagtail appeared at the Observatory, however seawatching off Culbervy produced most of the birds over next few days, with:

- 14th – Common Scoter 2S & 48N, Gannet 30S & 102N,
Kittiwake 70S & 28N, Black-headed Gull 3N,
Auk sp. 31S & 12N, Black Guillemot 1N
- 15th – Common Scoter 13S & 1N, Fulmar 1S, Manx Shearwater 1N,
Gannet 97S & 174N,
Cormorant 2S, Purple Sandpiper 11N, Kittiwake 35S & 476N, Black-headed Gull 4S & 9N, Auk sp. 97S & 37N
- 16th - Common Scoter 7S, Red-throated Diver 1S, Fulmar 3S & 3N,
Gannet 58S & 44N, Kittiwake 50S & 121N, Auk sp. 168S & 29N,
Razorbill 13N, Black Guillemot 2S

Gale force southerlies lashed the islet on 17th, with a Redshank found sheltering at South Harbour, a Common Gull on the Dub and three Common Scoter flying west past South Harbour being the best. The wind briefly abated on 18th and a rush of diurnal migrants included three Woodpigeon, 173 Jackdaw, 35 Rook, 108 Skylark, a Swallow, three House Martin, seven House Sparrow, 256 Chaffinch, 78 Greenfinch, 16 Lesser Redpoll and 13 Siskin, whilst grounded migrants included seven Blackcap, 60 Goldcrest, 47 Redwing, 30 Song Thrush, a **Mistle Thrush**, a Tree Sparrow, 20 Dunnock and 16 Reed Bunting. Despite a near gale force easterly on 19th, low cloud with mist and drizzle resulted in a spectacular arrival of thrushes with 2330 Fieldfare and 5457 Redwing seen, along with 299 Starling, 21 Blackbird, 22 Song Thrush

and four Mistle Thrush. Birds were mainly concentrated in the glen fields which were 'carpeted' by the thrushes.



Smaller numbers of thrushes were still present on 20th, with an increase to 82 Blackbirds and decreases to 235 Fieldfare and 204 Redwing, whilst Starling passage increased to 679 and the first Brambling of the autumn was recorded. Starlings increased further on 21st with 2720 heading west, with 74 Blackbird, 184 Fieldfare and 600 Redwing grounded along with a Willow Warbler, six Blackcap, 31 Goldcrest, a Treecreeper, 34 Robin, a Pied Flycatcher, and another Brambling. Whilst diurnal passage included 29 Jackdaw, nine Rook and 28 Carrion Crow. Thrush passage was considerably reduced on 22nd, but a **Great Spotted Woodpecker** was heard and seen briefly in the back garden and the Treecreeper was re-trapped. Elsewhere, the first Woodcock of autumn was flushed from the Caigher track and 12 Turnstone and two Purple Sandpiper were roosting at Cow Harbour, whilst seawatching from Culberty proved fruitful, with Common Scoter 16S & 6N, Fulmar 9S & 18N, Gannet 55S & 23N, Kittiwake 70S & 521N, Black-headed Gull 1N, Great Skua 1N, Auk sp. 51S & 60N, Black Guillemot 1N.

Starling passage dominated the 24th with a further 965 heading west, but other diurnal migration included 82 Skylark, three Swallow, 17 'Alba' Wagtail, 100 Chaffinch, 46 Greenfinch and 15 Siskin, with grounded migrants including five Blackcap, 35 Goldcrest, 36 Blackbird, 168 Redwing, 13 Song Thrush and 26 Robin. With an increase in the strength of the South-west wind, the 25th brought fewer birds generally with just 178 Starling, 68 Redwing and 15 Song

Thrush, whilst finch passage increased slightly to 222 Chaffinch, 49 Greenfinch, 39 Goldfinch and 10 Siskin. The continuing gale force South-westerly winds meant that migration was rather limited for the remainder of the month with daily highlights being singles of Black-headed Gull & Common Gull at Cow Harbour on 26th, four Common Scoter flying west past South Harbour on 27th and four south past Culbery on 28th, three Lapwing in the Withy Field on 29th, a Woodcock at the halfway rocks above the Cletts on 30th, a Water Rail at the Withy and a Black Redstart at Cow Harbour on 31st.

A total of 92 species were recorded during the month.

November

Weather: The first half of the month was largely dominated by strong to gale force South to South-west winds and periods of heavy, prolonged rain.

After a rather frustrating end to October, a slight decrease in the wind strength meant that November started positively with an arrival of thrushes, including 38 Blackbird, 73 Redwing and 35 Song Thrush and diurnal passage of 137 Woodpigeon, 3414 Starling, two House Sparrow, 1347 Chaffinch, a Brambling, 17 Greenfinch, 16 Lesser Redpoll and 19 Siskin. Elsewhere four Common Gull were seen at Cow Harbour, a (the) Water Rail was at the Withy and singles of both Coal Tit and Black Redstart put in brief appearances at the Observatory. A return to gale force SW winds on 2nd limited migration once again, but a Woodcock was near the Quarry and a night-time wader roost at Cow Harbour held at least 12 Purple Sandpiper and a couple of Turnstone. A decrease in the wind strength on 3rd encouraged more diurnal passage with 407 Woodpigeon, 53 Skylark, two Swallow, 596 Starling, 122 Chaffinch, 41 Greenfinch, 56 Linnet, 10 Lesser Redpoll, 57 Goldfinch, 12 Siskin and five Reed Bunting. Other migrants included two Blue Tit, 30 Song Thrush, seven Dunnock, a Grey Wagtail and the latest ever Tree Pipit. Diurnal passage continued on 4th with an impressive 6068 Starling heading west, accompanied by 278 Woodpigeon, 39 Jackdaw and 27 Rook. A few thrushes were present with a slight increase to 28 Blackbird plus 17 Redwing and a Mistle Thrush whilst a mid-morning seawatch from Culbery produced a southerly passage of two **Red-breasted Merganser**, a Red-throated Diver, 22 Gannet, 251 Kittiwake, a Common Gull, five Guillemot and 41 Auk sp. and an evening visit to Cow Harbour produced a Little Egret flying south.

Inevitably the wind increased again and with lengthy periods of heavy rain on 5th & 6th few migrants were recorded, although relatively large numbers of Rock Pipit were found congregating on Caigher and at the Lighthouses with counts of 37 and 26 respectively. The 7th & 8th was even worse weather-wise, and we had to sit it out until the 9th when a slight reprieve brought two Woodcock, a Lesser Black-backed Gull, 1384 Starling, 583 Chaffinch, 69 Linnet, 78 Goldfinch and 24 Siskin. Gale force SW winds over the next couple of days limited things again, however four Turnstone were seen at Cow Harbour along with 690 Herring Gull heading to roost on 10th whilst nine Turnstone and a Purple Sandpiper were at Cow Harbour on 11th. Three Brent Geese were an unexpected find in the Puddle on 12th with 601 Starling heading west and a small influx of thrushes included 22 Fieldfare and 14 Redwing. A change in the wind direction to moderate to strong easterlies, brought a few more thrushes on 13th with 35 Blackbird, 31 Redwing, 10 Song Thrush and a Mistle Thrush, whilst diurnal passage included 167 Woodpigeon, two Rook, 45 Carrion Crow, 843 Starling, 118 Chaffinch and 12 Siskin. A Black Redstart was again seen at Cow Harbour, a female Wigeon, two Black-headed Gull and a Lesser Black-backed Gull flew through the Sound and a Little Egret was again seen between Gibdale and Cow Harbour. The season ended on 14th with a female-type Teal seen on the Millpond and diurnal passage of 19 Woodpigeon, 14 Carrion Crow, 646 Starling and 119 Redwing.

A total of 74 species were recorded during the month.

December

A day trip on 8th produced a list of 33 species, which included a Little Egret in South Harbour

2022 Systematic List

The nomenclature and taxonomic order follow that of the 10th edition of the British list and 54th IOC list published by the British Ornithologists' Union (BOU 2022), which is available online at <https://bou.org.uk/british-list/>.

When the vernacular British name differs from the vernacular International English one (IOC), the international name is given in brackets. The local Manx name is given in grey when known. Those species marked with an * denote species that were added to the Manx Bird List when first recorded on the Calf.

A brief statement regarding the status of each species, including a summary of any breeding details is given. Where appropriate average arrival and departure dates are shown for common migrants along with extreme first and last dates. The following scale is used to describe the regularity of occurrence for each species:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| • Resident Breeder | RB |
| • Former or Occasional Breeder | FB / OB |
| • Winter visitor | WV / vv |
| • Summer visitor | SV / sv |
| • Spring migrant | SM / sm |
| • Autumn migrant | AM / am |
| • Passage (common) migrant | PM > 100 per annum |
| • Very rare vagrant | < 5 records |
| • Very rare migrant | 6-10 records |
| • Rare passage migrant | 11 – 100 records or less than annual occurrences |
| • Scarce passage migrant | 1-10 recorded annually |
| • Uncommon migrant / visitor | 11-100 recorded annually |

Brent [Brant] Goose *Branta bernicla*

Guiry breck

Rare passage migrant

28 previous records involving 84 individuals, with records in January (1), April (1), May (1), September (9), October (13) and November (3). The highest daily total was 15 on 24th September 1981

Seawatching at the end of September produced two records, with five flying south off Cow Harbour on 26th and a single north off Culbery on 27th. In November, three birds were flushed from the Puddle on 12th.

The September records probably referred to birds of the light-bellied 'hrota' race but observations were not sufficiently good to confirm this, however arrivals of this subspecies occurred at other locations in the Irish Sea at this time. This is the fourth consecutive year that the species has been recorded, which reflects the now more regular status of the species as a winter visitor to the Isle of Man.

Greylag Goose *Anser anser*

Guïy Feie / Guïy glass

Scarce visitor / passage migrant

61 previous records involving 187 individuals, with records in March (7), April (14), May (6), June (7), July (3), August (7), September (3), October (5), November (7) and December (2). Most records most probably originate from feral populations on the Isle of Man

A series of spring records involving a single on two dates during March and on five dates in April, with the bird often seen flying over the island during early morning. Larger groups also occurred, with five on 10th April, flocks of six, three and two on the 20th and three on 24th April.

Most birds circumnavigated the Calf and returned in a northerly direction towards the main Island, thus it is suspected that most, if not all records, are from the feral population that live on the southern plain of Isle of Man.

Pink-footed Goose *Anser brachyrhynchus*

Guïy eeslynnagh

Rare passage migrant

16 previous records involving 308 individuals, with records in May (1), September (6), October (7) and November (2). The highest daily total was 71 on 1st October 2019

A single took up residence amongst the gull colony at the Caigher Dub from 12th to 26th May. What may have been the same bird was subsequently seen on Bardsey Island, off the Llyn peninsula in Wales, a couple of days later.

A flock of 33 flew south over the Observatory on 15th September, the earliest autumn record and fourth highest number of birds recorded in a single flock over the Calf. There followed an unprecedented series of records, involving 14 flying north over the Puddle on 16th and birds/flocks heard only on 16th, 17th & 23rd September and 11th & 13th October.

A flock of 16 birds seen high over the Burroo on 26th September, were most likely this species but were too distant for specific identification.

The greatest number of occurrences ever recorded in one season, which perhaps reflects the species' recent colonisation of the Isle of Man as a regular winter haunt.

Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*

Ollay chiaullee

Uncommon passage migrant

92 previous records involving 326 individuals, with records in March (1), April (2), September (2), October (56) and November (31). The highest daily total was 12 on 26th October 1977

A satellite-tagged bird was recorded off the southern tip of the Calf on 16th March. The bird was one of a group tagged at Martin Mere WWT reserve on 2nd March, and was tracked as it flew past Castletown, around the Calf and onto Strangford Lough, Northern Ireland, prior to making its final leg of its journey back to its Icelandic breeding grounds.

October provided fewer records than in recent years, with six on 8th flying south along the East coast and four flying west over the Observatory on 11th.

[Common] Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*

Thunnag y Scape

RB, Scarce passage migrant

One or two pairs breed almost annually

Recorded on 17th & 21st March, then one pair were seen regularly in the Puddle area throughout April and May. Three birds seen on 2nd May, included part of the resident pair and an additional two birds that flew through the Sound. There were several more records during June, with a (the) pair reappearing in the Puddle on 16th and singles flying up the Glen on 14th and 22nd.

There were no autumn records.

[Eurasian] Wigeon *Mareca Penelope*

Ommidan

Scarce passage migrant

108 previous records involving 485 individuals, with records in February (1), March (1), April (2), May (1), June (1), August (5), September (41), October (39), November (16) and December (1). The highest daily total was 25 on 20th September 1981

A female on the Millpond on 29th September & 3rd October and a male accompanying two Mallards at Cow Harbour on 1st October.

On 13th November a female-type was seen flying east towards Cow Harbour before it turned and continued back west.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

Thunnag feie

RB, WV

One to three pairs breed annually, with a peak of nine pairs in 1981

Trail Camera footage from the Millpond show that up to five birds were regularly present during the first half of the year, with maxima of six on 2nd & 7th May and seven on 29th April.

At least three broods of young appeared during April and May, with a brood of three seen from 23rd – 24th April, 17 on 1st – 3rd May of which just two remained on 7th, when a further brood, of nine, appeared. The number of young dwindled to four by the next day, down to two by 11th and just one single remained from 15th May.

A fourth brood was discovered on Kitterland on 21st June, when a female and two large young were discovered. The last breeding record of the year was again at the Millpond when 11 ducklings appeared on 27th June, this had reduced to six by the end of the month and further to one young by 5th July. The female and her young were seen almost daily until 25th July but subsequently disappeared and records then became rather scarce. Singles were recorded on six dates in both August & September and two dates in October plus two on 28th September and 1st October. Three birds were on the Millpond on 1st November and were then recorded almost daily to the end of season, with five seen on 12th.

[Eurasian] Teal *Anas crecca*

Thunnag laaghag

Uncommon passage migrant

Trail camera footage from the Millpond shows that a male was a frequent visitor between 1st – 11th January and again on 5th February.

Autumn records began with a single on the Millpond on 26th followed by two on the sea by Kione ny Halby on 31st August, with four there on 1st September.

The only other records of the year were singles flying south off Culbery on 30th September and a female-type on the Millpond on 14th November.

[Common] Eider *Somateria mollissima*

Laagh loughlinagh

RB, PM

Formerly a rare passage migrant prior to 1992, with just 12 previous records involving 25 birds

Winter day visits to the Calf recorded six at Cow Harbour on 17th and a single male at South Harbour on 21st January.

A male at South Harbour on 5th March may have been the first returning spring bird, and by the time the season started, numbers present were beginning to build with 11 on 17th, 19 on 18th and 30 by 29th March. Counts increased during April, reaching 60 by 16th and a spring high of 90 on 30th April. The first nests were discovered on 1st May, and a record total of 87 breeding attempts were located, with the first Eider ducklings seen on 24th May.

Previous estimates of the Calf's Eider population were that 60 – 70 pairs have been estimated to breed during recent seasons. This was largely based on the finding of between 40 – 55 nests annually since 2018. Clearly the population is much higher and there are areas on the Calf that are suitable for Eiders to nest within, that were not checked in 2022. The below map shows the location of Eider nests found in 2022 and displays clusters between Kione Beg to the Cletts, Caigher Dub and the plateau above South Harbour.



Sightings were daily until 23rd June, then became sporadic with one or two birds seen through to 18th July, with a high count of nine on 8th and six on 10th July.

Autumn records were less regular than in recent years, with a single female-type in the Puddle on 8th August, males off Cow Harbour on 20th & off Burroo Neck on 26th September, four off Cow Harbour on 14th October and eight in the Cow Harbour to Cletts area on 3rd November.

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*

Thunnagh ghob-chrottagh

Uncommon passage migrant

470 previous records involving 2223 individuals, with records in March (8), April (23), May (16), June (10), July (23), August (52), September (169), October (125), November (42), December (2)

The only spring record was of a female that flew south off Culbertown on 10th May.

Early autumn records were also scarce with the lack of any strong westerly winds during August and September resulting in just one record of 10 birds

seen off Culberty on 27th September. In contrast, there were numerous records during October, with two on 7th, four on 8th, 27th & 28th, five on 10th, 60 on 14th, 14 on 15th, seven on 16th, three on 17th and 22 on 22nd. The count on 14th October is the second largest number ever recorded on the Calf in one day.

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*

Thunnagh Cleeau Yiarg

Rare passage migrant

43 previous records involving 84 individuals, with records in April (4), May (4), June (2), July (4), August (3), September (7), October (14) and November (5). The highest daily total was eight on 25th August 1985

Two 'redheads' flew south off the Lighthouses on 4th November. Records of this species occur in only about 50% of years.

[Common] Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*

Kellllagh keylley

RB

Formerly a rare visitor prior to 2018; 24 records involving 26 individuals, with records in March (3), April (7), May (4), June (3), August (2), September (1), October (3) and November (1)

Trail camera footage indicated the presence of several birds around the Millpond area throughout the winter.

Regular sightings were made throughout the spring, with at least three males holding territories: one in the Withy area, another between the Caigher quartz and the Triangle and one around the Central Heath. Counts during spring and early summer were of up to four birds almost daily, with the first definite proof of breeding occurring on 24th June, when a female was seen with a small young near the Twin Fields and a second female, with three young, on the Central Heath. One young accompanying a male on 21st August was presumably part of a second brood, as were two young seen, with a pair, on Central Heath on 22nd.

Records became slightly less regular during autumn but up to four birds were again recorded.

[Common] Swift *Apus apus*

Gollan ny Greg

PM

- *Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:*

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
02-May	01-May	28-Apr	03-May	03-May	02-May	06-May
26-Aug	08-Aug	29-Aug	17-Aug	04-Sep	07-Sep	25-Aug

The earliest arrival date was 12th April 1996, with the latest departure date being 27th October 1976.

First of the year was a single seen on 2nd May, followed by further spring records of two on 13th & 28th and singles on 14th & 18th May and 2nd June.

Summer records included a single on 23rd June and higher counts of eight on 22nd June and 15th July, 16 on 8th July, seven on 10th July and four on 12th July representing a considerably better showing than in recent years.

The final records of the year were two individuals on 7th August, three on 8th September and a single on 9th.

[Common] Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*

Cooag

FB, PM

- *Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:*

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
29-Apr	03-May	30-Apr	02-May	27-Apr	24-Apr	30-Apr
04-Aug	23-Jul	01-Aug	04-Aug	25-Jul	15-Aug	18-Aug

The earliest arrival date was 1st April 2007, with the latest departure date being 7th September 1978.

In spring singles were present between 23rd – 25th April, and on 10th, 17th, 23rd, 25th & 28th May and 8th & 15th June.

The only record of autumn was a single seen around the bushes above Jane's House on 1st September, which represents the 5th latest Cuckoo record for the Calf.

Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon *Columba livia*

Calmane ny Creggey

Uncommon visitor

Most, if not all, records involve racing pigeons

Individuals were seen on a single date in April, three dates in May, six dates in June including three on 18th, whilst in July seven were recorded on 9th with an individual on 10th & 11th.

There were no records during the autumn.

Stock Dove *Columba oenas*

Calmane gorrym

Scarce passage migrant

511 previous records involving 948 bird-days, with records in March (13), April (43), May (63), June 97), July (105), August (79), September (41), October (49) and November (21). The highest day total was 19 on 10th November 1979

One was present in the Glen on 14th May.

The species has been recorded in 10 of the last 12 years.

Woodpigeon [Common Wood Pigeon] *Columba palumbus*

Calmane keylley

OB, PM

One to two pairs bred 1969 – 1975 and one pair in both 2010 and 2018

Singles were seen on five dates in each of March and April, with two on 22nd April. Records increased slightly in May, with a single recorded on eight days. Sporadic records continued through the summer months, with singles on five dates in both June & July and two on 4th & 21st June.

There were no late summer records and the first of autumn weren't until three were seen along the cliffs at Baie Fine on 18th October. More typically, November provided some larger movements with 137 on 1st, 407 on 3rd, 278 on 4th, 167 on 13th and 19 on 14th.

[Eurasian] Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*

Calmane coillaragh

FB, PM

Pairs attempted to breed in 1984, 2008, 2010 and 2012

Singles were present on two dates in each of March and April, four dates in May and five dates in June, plus two on 16th June.

A single was around the Observatory buildings on 21st July, however there were no more records until a single appeared at the Observatory on 16th September.

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*

Drean ushtey

FB, PM, WV

Breeding occurred during 1989 to 1994, with up to three pairs recorded

After an absence of almost three years, singles were recorded at the Millpond on 20th, 21st & 25th September, and 11th October, whilst one was recorded by Nocmig on 24th October. In November records from the Withy area were again regular with a single seen or heard on 1st, 3rd and 6th.

Spotted Crake *Porzana porzana*

Eean raip breck

Very rare vagrant

No previous records

A single was seen well but briefly at the Millpond on 2nd September and represents the first record of the species to be recorded on the Calf (see description on p.131). The bird continued to be seen intermittently though to 16th.

This sighting also represents just the fourth Manx and first modern-day record, with the three previous sightings having occurred during the 19th century.

[Common] Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

Kiark ushtey

FB, Scarce passage migrant

Up to two pairs bred from 1959-1978, one pair in 1985 & 1986 and from 1999-2006. There have been just four records of singles since breeding ceased in 2006, with individuals seen at the Withy on 26th October 2007 and 6th October 2008, a juvenile in the Puddle on 22nd July 2017 and at the Withy on 20th August 2018

A juvenile was present on the Millpond from 29th July – 12th August. The first record in four years, but a typical date for dispersing juveniles.

[Eurasian] Coot *Fulica atra*

Kiark ushtey vane

Very rare vagrant

Three previous records, with singles on the Millpond on 7th May 1963 & 27th June 1973 and at the Dub on 31st August – 10th September

The fourth Calf record was found at South Harbour on 20th March, following a couple of days of strong easterly winds. The bird was hiding amongst rocks below the Lighthouse store and was easily captured.



Unfortunately, the bird was quite emaciated and had a broken right leg. In the hope that the bird would be able to recuperate it was released onto the Millpond where it remained for several weeks. Initially it was very secretive, but was seen more regularly later in its stay, through until it was last seen on the 16th April. Hopes that it had recovered sufficiently to leave were dashed when it was found dead on 21st April.

[Eurasian] Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*

Garee breck / Bridgeen

RB, PM

15 – 20 pairs breed annually, with a peak of 27 pairs in 1977 and 1983

Counts of between 20 - 39 were regular through spring and early summer representing the presence of the breeding population, which stood at 20 pairs.

Similar numbers were recorded during autumn, with peak monthly counts of 34 on 20th September, 36 on 18th October and 35 on 9th November.



[Northern] Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*

Earkan

FB, Uncommon passage migrant

Up to 10 pairs bred 1967 to 1982. A small breeding population established in 1967 quickly grew to 10 pairs during 1969-72, from when numbers gradually decreased. The last three pairs bred in 1982. Records are now largely confined to summer and early autumn when birds disperse from natal areas

Late spring or summer dispersing records included singles on 15th & 22nd June and 1st, 13th & 26th July, plus seven on 8th and two on 10th July.

Autumn records were of a single sheltering from a storm at the head of Ghaw Laing on 19th October and seven which flew north over the Observatory on 21st.

[European] Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*

Ushag reaisht

Uncommon passage migrant

There were just three spring records, with singles seen on 19th & 20th March and 19th April.

The call of a Golden Plover was heard twice on 6th June but dismissed as being an unlikely occurrence given the time of year; however, during the morning of 7th the call was heard again and subsequently two summer-plumaged birds flew in and landed in the Front Field where they remained for much of the morning.

Autumn records began with a single heard flying over on 1st August, with other singles recorded on a further eight dates in the month, including four occasions captured on Nocmig. September followed a similar pattern, with singles on five dates, two on 16th & 23rd and six on 27th. Records increased during the first half of October with singles on six dates and twos on five dates up to 18th, plus seven on 8th. The only remaining record of the season was a single on 6th November.

[Common] Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*

Feddag ainnit

Scarce passage migrant

Usually less than five records per annum

There were no spring records.

A series of fly-over records in early September with two on 9th and singles on 10th and 12th.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

Crottag veg

Uncommon passage migrant

Mostly occurring in spring. Occasionally over-winters with one or two birds present during 1981 – 1987 and 1991 to 1994

- *Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:*

<i>60-year average</i>	<i>2009 to 2018</i>	<i>1999 to 2008</i>	<i>1989 to 1998</i>	<i>1979 to 1988</i>	<i>1969 to 1978</i>	<i>1959 to 1968</i>
<i>09-Apr</i>	<i>18-Apr</i>	<i>17-Apr</i>	<i>30-Mar</i>	<i>23-Mar</i>	<i>26-Mar</i>	<i>23-Apr</i>
<i>12-Oct</i>	<i>08-Sep</i>	<i>20-Sep</i>	<i>01-Nov</i>	<i>09-Nov</i>	<i>15-Nov</i>	<i>24-Sep</i>

The earliest arrival date was 21st February 1983, which is likely to have involved an over-wintering individual, as is the latest record on 12th December 1994

An excellent series of spring records began with singles on 19th and 23rd April, followed by four on 26th, further singles on 26th & 27th, three on 29th and two on 30th. A single on 1st May was followed by a total of 19 birds on 2nd, then 1-2 on nine dates through to 24th May.

A single at Cow Harbour on 13th June was the only summer record.

Autumn passage was rather poor with singles recorded on 25th & 28th August and 3rd September.

[Eurasian] Curlew *Numenius arquata*

Crottag

FB, PM

Up to three pairs bred 1962 to 1982

Day trips to the Calf during the winter recorded two birds present on both the 17th and 21st January.

A single was recorded on 5th March, then 1-2 were seen regularly between 19th March to 6th April. Further singles were seen on eight dates between 17th – 30th April, with a spring maximum of three on 24th. Two on 2nd and a single on 23rd May were the last of spring.

A single was present from 4th June and seen almost daily until two on 15th saw the beginnings of return passage, with four on 18th, six on 26th and 28th June. Single figure counts continued through July and August, with monthly high counts of 12 on 13th July and 13 on 24th August. Early September saw an increase in passage birds with 18 on 1st, 13 on 4th and 23 on 9th, thereafter, counts reverted to single figures for the remainder of the season, until 12 were seen on 13th November.

[Ruddy] Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

Goblaghan / Chyndaader clagh

PM, WV

Singles were seen during day trips on 17th January and 5th March.

Small numbers were recorded regularly from 20th March, with a monthly maximum of 14 on 24th. Six on 2nd April were followed by 18 on 7th, then singles on a further five dates to the month end. The last records of spring passage were a single on 1st, five on 2nd and two at South Harbour on 14th May.

Return passage began with singles at Cow Harbour on 23rd & 30th July, and two on Chicken Rock on 29th July. Passage continued to be recorded sporadically through August, with records from Chicken Rock of a single on 3rd, six on 12th and two on 28th, plus records on the Calf of singles on 4th, 18th & 25th and four on 14th. Following a single on 5th October, there were no more records until 15 were seen on 27th & 28th and a single on 30th. There were five records in November with a maximum of nine on 11th and a single was seen along the East coast on 8th December.

Sanderling *Calidris alba*

Leayrane glass / Coar gheinee

Very rare migrant

Eight previous records involving 43 individuals, with records in April (1998 [4]), May (2019) [23], June (1990), August (1972, 1985, 1994 [11]) and September (2011) & (2020)

A summer-plumaged bird was found on rocks near the mouth of South Harbour on 30th May (RKF).



Dunlin *Calidris alpina*

Breck ny Traie

Uncommon passage migrant

The only record of spring was a single which flew over the Observatory on 13th April.

A single was recorded calling by Nocmig during the night of 21st August and three different calls were recorded during the early hours of 27th August.

Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima*

Leayrane gorrym

WV, Uncommon passage migrant

A small wintering population of approximately 20 – 45 (101 recorded November 2020) birds is resident in several caves below the lighthouses. Due to the only access to these caves being by boat, records are infrequent, but birds are regularly seen by local boatman from late autumn through to mid-May.

Day trips to the Calf recorded two birds on the Burroo on 21st January and 5th March.

Two were below Big Head on 1st April and a visit to Chicken Rock found 26 there plus another three on Burroo on 26th. Our first visits to the caves below the Lighthouses revealed 12 on 29th April, with eight seen on Chicken Rock on 2nd May. Six were still in the caves on 7th May, with the final record of spring being two on Burroo on 15th.

Return passage was recorded from late July with three on Chicken Rock on 28th July, two there the following day and a single was in the Leodan on 4th & 5th August. Four were back in the Lighthouse Cave on 28th August with seven there on 10th September. Eleven flew north during a seawatch from Culbery on 15th October, otherwise 1 – 2 were recorded on a couple more occasions in the month. Twelve were seen at Cow Harbour during the night of 2nd November and two were there on 6th plus singles on 11th & 13th.

[Eurasian] Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola*

Ushag rhennee

Uncommon passage migrant

Approximately 289 records involving 466 individuals, with records in January (1), February (9), March (31), April (14), May (1), June (1), July (2), September (1), October (89) and November (138)

A single was seen near to the Lazy beds above Gibdale on 23rd March and one was flushed from the Top Withy on 10th May. The latter record is just the 2nd record for that month.

Autumn passage began with a single on 22nd October, with further singles on 30th October and 2nd & 13th November and two on 9th November.

Jack Snipe *Lymnocyptes minimus*

Coar heddaggh veg / Coar veg

Scarce passage migrant

103 previous records involving 121 individuals, with records in February (3), March (10), April (11), May (1), August (1), September (11), October (42), November (23) and December (1)

Trail camera footage from the Millpond showed that singles were present during winter on 18th January and 7th February. The January record being the first ever from that month.

Spring produced several more sightings with two on 18th March and a single still present on 19th.

Autumn produced just one bird, which was flushed from the Millpond by the Spotted Crake, on 15th September.

[Common] Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*

Coar Heddagh

FB, Uncommon passage migrant

One pair bred in 1980

Singles were recorded on 17th January and 5th March and once the season started on 26th & 27th March and 2nd, 10th, 21st & 25th April, with four birds flushed from a boggy area above Jane's House on 27th April.

Early autumn records began with two on the Millpond on 10th and singles on 20th & 31st July and five dates in August, plus five on 5th and three on 31st. Records became more frequent in September, with singles on 11 dates plus two on 19th, whilst in October there were singles on five dates, 15 on 19th and two on 20th. In November further singles were seen on 4th & 5th.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

Leayrane

PM

- *Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:*

<i>60-year average</i>	<i>2009 to 2018</i>	<i>1999 to 2008</i>	<i>1989 to 1998</i>	<i>1979 to 1988</i>	<i>1969 to 1978</i>	<i>1959 to 1968</i>
<i>29-Apr</i>	<i>24-Apr</i>	<i>03-May</i>	<i>01-May</i>	<i>27-Apr</i>	<i>26-Apr</i>	<i>02-May</i>
<i>07-Sep</i>	<i>01-Sep</i>	<i>13-Sep</i>	<i>09-Sep</i>	<i>05-Sep</i>	<i>14-Sep</i>	<i>28-Aug</i>

The earliest arrival date was 24th March 2018, with the latest departure date being 16th October 1995

A very poor spring passage with a single at Cow Harbour on 2nd and one in the Puddle on 7th May.

In contrast, return passage saw an above average number of records beginning with a single on 1st July, then up to three birds seen on a further 14 dates, plus a peak count of four on 27th July. Singles at Culbery and the Puddle on 5th & 12th August respectively, were followed by three at Cow Harbour on 5th September. The last record of the year was one recorded by Nocmig as it flew over calling at 01:11hrs on 9th September.

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*

Leayrane geayney

Rare passage migrant

48 previous records involving 54 individuals, with records in April (3), May (1), June (1), July (8), August (20), September (10) and October (5). Most records occurred prior to 1998, with only eight records in the past 20 years

A single was heard flying over the Withy on 10th August.

The species has been recorded in four out of the last five years, after an absence in records during the 10 years between 2008 – 2017.

[Common] Redshank *Tringa totanus*

Goblan Marrey

PM

Spring records involved a single flying past Cow Harbour on 29th April, one flushed from Mill Giau on 4th May and, another, which flew over the Withy on 1st June.

Return passage began with five near South Harbour on 10th July and a single seen along the East coast on 27th July. Further singles were seen on five dates in August, at least six were attracted to tape lure at South Harbour during the early hours of 18th and five were at Cow Harbour on 22nd. September produced just three records with two on 1st and a single on 8th and another recorded by Nocmig at 02:53hrs on 11th. A single sheltering from a storm at South Harbour on 17th October was the last record of the year.

[Black-legged] Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*

Pirragh

FB, PM

A peak of 720 pairs in 1969, then annually in decreasing number to 5 pairs in 2011 and finally 13 pairs in 2013; now common summer visitor from nearby colonies and autumn passage migrant. Numbers of Kittiwakes breeding on

the Calf has varied considerably over time with just 13 pairs recorded in 1956 and a peak of 720 pairs by 1969.

- *Mean count of apparently occupied nests per decade*

10-YEAR (m)	1959- 1968	1969- 1978	1979- 1988	1989- 1998	1999- 2008	2009- 2018
AON	301	183	132	124	85	7

Typically, scarce during the first half of the year with just four records in March, with a maximum of 18E past South Harbour on 29th and six records in April, with a maximum of 206S off Culbery on 4th.

Records increased during May and June, as presumably breeding birds from nearby colonies were seen passing to and from feeding sorties, but numbers remained low with mostly single figure counts and peaks of 43S & 30N off Culbery on 10th May and 66S & 41N on 12th June. Counts remained at this level through July and August, with monthly peaks of 22 on 4th July and 80 on 3rd August.

The species was unusually absent during September, with records coming from just two sea-watches, from Culbery, at the end of the month, with 22S & 54N on 27th and 650S & 4N on 30th. October provided a much greater level of passage with records on 17 dates in the month, including 41S & 1061N on 1st and 65S & 612N on 2nd being the peak of passage. Whilst lower counts of up to 29 were seen almost daily in November, with a maximum of 429 on 4th, including 261S off Culbery during an hour seawatch and a further 118 flying south off Cow Harbour in the evening.

Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*

Foillan kione-doo

PM

Records were scarce during the first half of the year, with just two recorded during a day trip on 17th January and a single on 2nd April.

Post breeding dispersal was noted, with two adults seen on 23rd & 28th June, singles on 7th, 19th & 20th, 27th & 28th July and 3rd August and five on 10th July.

Autumn passage birds were two on 30th September & 2nd October, singles on 1st, 22nd, 26th & 30th October, three on 14th and 13 on 15th. Whilst in November two flew east through the Sound on 13th.

Common [Mew] Gull *Larus canus*

Foillan bane

Uncommon passage migrant

A rather unseasonal record was of an adult that flew South through the Sound on 25th July.

More typical autumn records were a single north off Culbery on 2nd and two south on 10th, a single off South Harbour on 11th, one off Cow Harbour on 26th and another north off Culbery on 28th October. Less typical was an immature on the Dub on 17th October.

November provided further records with four off Cow Harbour on 1st, with three there on 3rd and a single south off the Stack on 4th.

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*

Juan Mooar

RB, PM, WV

Breeding numbers have decreased significantly since their peak of 220 pairs in 1974 - 76, with just 56 pairs recorded in 2018

- *Mean count of apparently occupied nests per decade:*

10-YEAR (m)	1959- 1968	1969- 1978	1979- 1988	1989- 1998	1999- 2008	2009- 2018
AON	149	173	148	93	86	47

Day visits during February recorded 20 on 9th and 25 on 13th. Recorded daily from the beginning of the season, with birds already loosely associating with breeding sites and regular counts of up to 100 mostly reflecting the presence of these birds. Occasional higher numbers were seen, often when birds took refuge from storms and high winds, with peak spring monthly counts of 96 on 29th March, 156 on 27th April, 159 on 7th May and 114 on 9th June.

Location	AON
Gibdale Point	1
Cow Harbour	3
Baie Fine	3
Amulty	0
Baie n' Ooig to Upper Light	2
Stack to Purp Cave	2
Culbery	0
Main Colony - Caigher	14
Rarick	1
Burroo Neck	2
Burroo	2

Location	AON
Lower Twin	2
Seafield	2
Upper Withy	2
Central Heath / Twin Peaks	2
Above Jane's (Big Park)	5
Kione ny Halby	2
Main Colony - Caigher	14
Cletts	1
Kitterland	20

Total	66
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Encouragingly, breeding numbers were higher than any year since 2001, continuing the gradual increase seen in recent years and a 29% improvement on the 2009 – 2018 average.

From July, the presence of fledged young swelled the numbers of birds present as large moulting flocks containing the three *Larus* gulls started to gather in the Glen fields and counts in excess of 100 became more regular. However, birds quickly dispersed and through August and September counts were mostly in low double figures, with the only three figure counts being 119 on 12th August and 110 on 28th September.

October and November saw an increase in general numbers, as birds came ashore to shelter from storms or were seen moving south past Cow Harbour, as they moved from feeding areas on the main Island to roost sites on the north and west coast of the Calf. Counts were at their highest during the first half of October, with peak monthly counts being 222 on 7th October and 132 on 10th November.

(European) Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*

Foillan

RB, PM, WV

Breeding numbers have decreased significantly since their peak of 2150 pairs in 1979, with just 530 pairs recorded in 2018

- *Mean count of apparently occupied nests per decade:*

10-YEAR (m)	1959- 1968	1969- 1978	1979- 1988	1989- 1998	1999- 2008	2009- 2018
AON	1378	1911	1380	888	481	353

Day visits recorded 75 on 9th and 90 on 13th February and 69 on 5th March. Recorded throughout the season, with daily counts between March and end of July between 213 – 883 individuals. Counts of apparently occupied nests (AON) revealed an island population of 588 pairs, a decrease of 21% on last year's count of 702 pairs, but still representing an increase of 37% on the 2009 – 2018 average.

Location	AON
West Coast (Baie Fine to Lighthouse Fields)	22
Ghaw Laing	20
Caigher Heath (Dubh)	135
Kittiwake Cave	10
Caigher Point	3
Rarick	84
Puddle	1
Burroo Neck / South Harbour	13
Burroo	12
Central Heath / Top Withy	126

Location	AON
Kione ny Halby (Puffin colony)	0
Kione ny Halby	
Ghaw Yairn	1
Big Head	3
Fold Point / Cletts	3
Cow Harbour	115
Kione Beg	6
Gibdale	9
Kitterland	25
Total	588

Fledging success was very poor at the South Harbour and Rarick colonies which were badly affected by storms in late June, however productivity at the inland colonies, and along the east and north coast colonies appeared moderate to good.

From mid-August, dispersal of breeding birds and young became quite noticeable and daily counts reduced significantly with double figure counts becoming regular through September and much of October. From late October counts increased as birds began to return to roost on the Calf and flocks of 500 – 600 could be seen congregating on Kitterland and flying along the coastlines just before dusk.

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*

Foillan saggyrt

RB, PM

Breeding numbers have remained stable at around 40 – 50 pairs annually, with a peak of 100 in 1967

- *Mean count of apparently occupied nests per decade:*

10-YEAR (m)	1959- 1968	1969- 1978	1979- 1988	1989- 1998	1999- 2008	2009- 2018
AON	39	41	40	31	36	45

A single seen in the Sound on 13th February was the first of the year. Five birds were seen on 5th March and by the start of the season, on 16th, birds were already present in their colonies. Peak spring monthly counts were 81 on 29th March, 115 on 16th April and 113 on 10th May.

Location	AON
Baie n' Ooig	0
Caigher Dub	12
Central Heath / Top Withy	8
Lower Twin	0
East coast / Kione ny Halby	15
Kitterland	3
Total	38

Breeding numbers showed a 35% increase on 2021 figures but a decrease of 16% when compared to the 2009 – 2018 average. Due to the location and habitat of the breeding colonies, it is impossible to assess productivity; however, good numbers of juveniles were observed amongst the *Larus* gull flocks during late July and August, with 10 present on 21st July.

After 56 on 2nd August, low double figure counts remained common place during the first half of the month, but from 14th counts reduced considerably with just two more double figure counts and 11 single figure counts during the remainder of August. Other than eight on 8th & 9th September, there were just four more counts of 1 – 4 birds, in the month; whilst in October a single was seen flying south off Culbery on 2nd, four were present at Amulty on 9th and the final records of the year were singles on 9th and 13th November

Sandwich Tern *Thalasseus sandvicensis*

Gant eairkagh / Gant mooar

Scarce passage migrant

436 previous records involving 1326 individuals, with records in April (23), May (60), June (34), July (31), August (112), September (160) and October (16)

- Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
09-May	18-May	05-May	14-May	12-May	26-Apr	04-May
14-Sep	01-Sep	21-Sep	07-Sep	24-Sep	25-Sep	03-Sep

The earliest arrival date was 3rd April 1975 & 1988, with the latest departure date being 22nd October 1996

One heard calling from the Puddle on 1st June was the only record of the year and continues the recent trend of very low numbers of records of this previously commoner species.

Great Skua *Stercorarius skua*

Maarliagh marrey

Uncommon passage migrant, SV

Approximately 393 records involving 1158 individuals, with records in March (1), April (15), May (12), June (7), July (15), August (66), September (177), October (90) and November (10). What is presumably the same individual summered annually since 2016. In 2020 & 2021 a second bird summered, with several other individuals being recorded during June and July.

One arrived on 2nd April and was then seen almost daily for the remainder of the month and through the first week and then the latter half of May. Most sightings were from the Caigher area and included two birds on 14th & 20th April and 3rd, 26th and 30th May and three birds on 24th April. Records remained frequent through both June & July with a single seen almost daily in both months, and two birds seen on 2nd & 12th July. Records continued almost daily through to 8th August, then became more sporadic with singles seen on a further four dates up to 18th.

The only autumn passage bird was a single flying north off Culbery on 22nd October.

Arctic Skua [Parasitic Jaeger] *Stercorarius parasiticus*
Shirragh marrey **Scarce passage migrant**
Approximately 359 records involving 1007 individuals, with records in April (5), May (13), June (6), July (10), August (73), September (174), October (76) and November (2)

In spring a single flew north off Culbery during a seaway on 10th May. Autumn records involved a single flying south off Culbery on 30th September and five heading north on 1st October.

Skua spp. *Stercorarius spp*
 Two distant birds were recorded off Culbery on 6th October.

Common [Murre] Guillemot *Uria algae*
Stronnag **RB, PM**
 • *Mean estimate of breeding pairs per decade:*

10-YEAR (m)	1959- 1968	1969- 1978	1979- 1988	1989- 1998	1999- 2008	2009- 2018
AON	143	95	258	175	157	108

Birds were associating with their nesting ledges at the start of the season, with 85 rafting off Big Head on 16th and 191 on the cliff ledges on 24th March. Counts were regular during April, May and early June, with up to 155 being recorded at the two main sites at Ghaw Yairn and

Big Head. During June, up to 16 birds were also recorded on ledges below the Upper Lighthouse and counts at the two main sites increased to 192 on 15th and 214 on 23rd June. Monitoring of the Ghaw Yairn colony identified a minimum of 56 pairs, whilst combined boat and land counts, during late June and early July, suggest an island population of 106 pairs, with an average count of 177 individual adults ashore. It is likely that these latter figures somewhat under-estimate the population, as the Big Head colony routinely holds at least double the number of birds that are present in Ghaw Yairn.

Birds are routinely seen passing the southern end of the Calf, as they commute between breeding and feeding sites, but during early July several movements associated with strong winds occurred, with 47S & 36N on 4th and 159W on 8th. Dispersal from breeding sites occurred during mid-July with just five records of 1 – 3 birds made after the 13th, including two birds, still with chicks, at Big Head on 17th.

Records were scarce during August with 1 – 4 recorded on nine dates in the month, including a juvenile heard calling from the Puddle on 23rd. Presumably the same bird and its accompanying father were seen (and/or heard) on eight dates between 2nd – 11th September and finally on 20th.

Autumn passage birds were recorded from late September, with 3 S & 1 N on 27th, then 8 N on 1st October and 1 – 2 birds on a further five dates in the month. The final record of the season was five on 4th November.

Razorbill *Alca torda*

Coltrag

RB, PM

- *Mean estimate of breeding pairs per decade:*

10-YEAR (m)	1959- 1968	1969- 1978	1979- 1988	1989- 1998	1999- 2008	2009- 2018
AON	154	129	127	63	115	128

Birds were already present before we started the season, with 64 along the East coast on 5th March, with 83 there on 16th and 60 the following day.

Numbers increased quickly with 146 by 25th March and remained at this level through April, when there were eight three figure counts including a peak of 262 on 10th. Numbers present through May were rather low and although birds were seen almost daily through the month, counts only exceeded 50 on 11 occasions with a peak count of 91 on the last day of the month.

A combined land and sea count on 1st June found 148 individuals ashore, with a second count on 15th locating 160 individuals, suggesting an island population of 92 pairs, with an average count of 154 individual adults ashore. This represents a decrease of 14% on breeding pairs in 2021 and a 29% decrease on the average pair numbers recorded between 2009 – 2018. Breeding birds had departed by 12th July, with the only record in early autumn being two on 3rd August. Following 21N off Culbery on 27th September, records during October were more frequent with nine north on 1st, singles on 2nd & 15th, two on 10th and 13N on 16th was the last record of the season.

Razorbill/Guillemot (Auk spp) *Alca/Uria spp*

Records of non-specifically identified large *Alcids* were recorded regularly throughout the year and relate to movements of either Guillemots or Razorbills that were too distant for identification.

Notable counts were:

25 th March	-	105	
6 th April	-	206	(off Culbery)
10 th May	-	304	(117 N & 180 S off Culbery)
25 th May	-	151	(95 N & 47 S off Culbery)
2 nd June	-	176	
7 th June	-	980	(South off Culbery 0500 – 0630hrs)
10 th June	-	530	(80 N & 450 S off Puddle 0750 – 0850hrs)
12 th June	-	220	(103 N & 88 S off Culbery 0720 – 0845hrs)
4 th July	-	196	(51 N & 145 S off Culbery 0620 – 0720hrs)
30 th September	-	195	(South off Culbery 1430 – 1630hrs)
1 st October	-	565	(539 N & 26S off Culbery 0725 – 0955hrs)
2 nd October	-	473	(381 N & 92 S off Culbery 0710 – 0910hrs)
6 th October	-	620	(312 N & 308 S off Culbery 0715 – 0945hrs)
16 th October	-	197	(29 N & 168 S off Culbery 0730 – 0855hrs)

Many records relate to counts made during seawatches and are a result of movements caused by stormy conditions. However, counts on 2nd & 7th June occurred during calm conditions and were early morning movements of birds travelling between feeding areas and breeding sites. The count on 7th was considered to have been an under-count by over 50%.

It is notable that there were no high counts during late October or November, when typically, we would expect some of the largest movements of the season. Despite there being almost continual gales through this period, the prevailing direction of wind was from the South which does not push birds towards the Isle of Man.

Black Guillemot *Cephus grille*

Caillagh ghoo / Stronnag ghoo

RB, PM

Breeding suspected since 1978 was first confirmed in 2002. Thereafter up to four pairs have been suspected nesting at inaccessible locations on Gibdale Point and below the Lighthouses

Birds were seen regularly through spring at the three main sites, with up to two pairs below the Lighthouses, at least one pair along the East coast and the main concentration between Gibdale and Cow Harbour. Counts were usually fewer than five birds, although seven were recorded on 22nd & 23rd June and at least 15 were off Cow Harbour on 29th April. This latter count is the third highest count since the turn of the century.

Breeding was again suspected below the Lighthouses and birds were seen in their regular haunts up to the end of July.

A single on 9th and two on 10th August were the only records for the month and there were no further records until October when 1 – 2 were seen, during seawatching, on four dates.

[Atlantic] Puffin *Fratercula arctica*

Pibbin

FB, SV, PM

10 – 40 pairs bred annually from 1959 – 1985, with a maximum of 65 pairs in 1979. After 1985, numbers of breeding pairs declined rapidly, and the last two

pairs were recorded in 1997. A project to encourage Puffin to return as breeding species to the Calf, by use of decoys and calls, was established in 2016

- *Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:*

<i>60-year average</i>	<i>2009 to 2018</i>	<i>1999 to 2008</i>	<i>1989 to 1998</i>	<i>1979 to 1988</i>	<i>1969 to 1978</i>	<i>1959 to 1968</i>
<i>20-Apr</i>	<i>14-May</i>	<i>21-Apr</i>	<i>13-Apr</i>	<i>28-Mar</i>	<i>03-Apr</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>10-Sep</i>	<i>11-Aug</i>	<i>26-Sep</i>	<i>29-Sep</i>	<i>31-Aug</i>	<i>20-Sep</i>	<i>n/a</i>

The earliest arrival date was 16th March 1982, with the latest departure date being 6th November 1996.

Singles seen on 25th and 30th April were only the 2nd & 3rd April records in the last 13 years and the earliest records since one was seen on 20th April 2009. However, records during early May were rather lacking with just two north off Culbery on 10th. Records became more regular after three were seen off Kione ny Halby on 21st, with a further five records, mostly along the East coast, involving 1 – 2 birds up to the months end. Five off The Wall on 2nd June were the start of a good series of records, with regular sightings of groups of up to four birds along the East coast and below the Lighthouses.

Higher counts included 10 between the Cletts and Kione ny Halby on 11th June and at least 15 birds recorded with a 10km radius of Caigher to the Wart Bank on 22nd June. Sightings remained frequent during early July, with singles on four dates, five flew N off Culbery on 4th and three were below the Lighthouses on 11th and 16th were the last of the season.

Red-throated Diver [Red-throated Loon] *Gavia stellata*

Lhargey Mooar

Scarce passage migrant

338 records involving 681 individuals, mostly occurring in autumn

Bird-day totals by month:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
0	0	7	12	13	0	1	5	375	188	80	0

In spring one flew north off Culbery during a seawatch on 6th April.

Autumn records began with a single flying south off Cow Harbour on 26th September and further singles east through the Sound on 7th, south past Cow Harbour on 8th and south off Culbery on 16th October. The final bird of a relatively poor season for divers was a single south past the Stack on 4th November.

Great Northern Diver [Common Loon] *Gavia immer*

Arrag Vooar

Scarce passage migrant

168 previous records involving 225 individuals, with records in March (2), April (1), May (8), August (1), September (42), October (78), November (35), December (1)

A single seen flying through south off Cow Harbour on 5th October was the only record of the season.

[European] Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus*

Kitty varrey

SV, PM

Regularly recorded night-time visitor during May to August; breeding has yet to be confirmed but some circumstantial evidence exists

A very poor early summer, with just four records in June and three in July: two were trapped at South Harbour on 2nd June, followed by a single on 7th, one seen flying north off Culbery on 12th and four seen overnight at South Harbour on 23rd June. Numbers increased slightly in July, with eight on 1st, three on 8th and nine recorded overnight on 22nd/23rd July.

Restrictions on catching seabirds were implemented on 25th July, following the confirmation of avian flu (HPAI) on the Isle of Man, and remained in place for 14 days.

Following relaxation of the restrictions, further catches at South Harbour were three on 10th/11th, an impressive 45 on 17th/18th, two at Cow Harbour on 25th and four at South Harbour on 27th/28th August.



[Northern] Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*

Foillan albinagh

RB, PM

- *Mean count of apparently occupied nest sites per decade:*

10-YEAR (m)	1959-1968	1969-1978	1979-1988	1989-1998	1999-2008	2009-2018
AOS	32	78	108	120	76	91

Day visits during January recorded 68 on 17th and 18 on 21st, with birds already occupying nesting ledges.

In spring recorded almost daily from the start of the season, with counts of up to 50 - 60 birds being regular through to the end of May. A round-island boat trip on 1st June recorded 118 individuals, whilst on 23rd June 46 AON were counted, but this did not include the main colony at Ghaw Yairn where there was an additional 27 AON, giving a breeding total of 73 AON.

Small numbers of birds (<30) continued to be seen associating with nesting ledges through much July reducing to single figures from 25th and this continued through August, with fledglings still present on ledges on the Burroo up to 7th and at the Stack until 22nd. Single figures of birds continued to be recorded around the island until 15th September.

There were no significant passage movements during the autumn, with 16S & 32N on 3rd and 13S and 32N on 20th August being the largest recorded. A small number of passage birds were seen from the end of September and in October single-figure counts were made on eight dates, plus 9S & 18N off Culbery on 22nd. Whilst a relatively calm spell on the 9th November encouraged eight birds to begin checking out nesting ledges, with a further 27 at nearby Baie n'Ooig.

Sooty Shearwater *Ardenna grisea*

Scraayl doo

Rare passage migrant

53 previous records involving 191 individuals, with records in April (1), July (1), August (15), September (27), October (8) and November (1)

A single flew north off Culbery on 27th September, the first record since August 2018.

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*

Scraayl

RB, PM

*Formerly bred in substantial numbers (hundreds of thousands) before decimation of the colony through the accidental introduction of Brown Rat (*Rattus norvegicus*) in the late 1700's. Now a common breeding resident and passage migrant following natural re-colonisation in 2000 and concerted efforts to eradicate rats from 2012*

- *Average count of apparently occupied nest burrows (AOB):*

5-YEAR (ave)	1999-2003	2004-2008	2009-2013	2014-2018
AOB	23	65	132	418

A southerly passage of 120 off Culbery on 6th April were the first of the year. Birds were then heard at night over the Observatory on 18th & 19th April, with at least 20 at South Harbour overnight on 20th and 40 around the Wall and Kione ny Halby on 21st, with at least 50 there on 25th. Similar numbers continued to be seen in the East coast colonies during night-time visits in May, with additional movements at sea including 71S & 5N on 10th, 197S & 15N on 13th, 56S & 61N on 25th and 87 seen between the Sound and Wart's Bank at 2000hrs on 26th.

Monitoring of the breeding population began in late May, with call-back monitoring carried out at South Harbour and Kione ny Halby from 28th May – 17th June.



Birds were regularly seen in small numbers off the Calf during daylight hours during June with a significant passage of 392S & 57N on 12th, whilst at least 50 were seen overnight along the East coast on 7th & 23rd, with another 50 seen offshore from the lighthouse during the evening on the latter date. Records in July were fewer but a sea-watch on 4th produced 119S and 147N from Culbery. Passage increased during August with 255S & 77N on 3rd and 352S & 150N on 20th whilst 80 birds were seen overnight on 23rd. By September adult birds had begun to depart and after a count of 40 on 1st, the majority of counts related to star-gazing young seen along the East coast during the mid-to-latter part of the month.

Seawatching provided the last few records of the month with 2S off Cow Harbour on 26th, 1S & 7N off Culbery on 27th and 3S on 30th September. October produced the final records of the season with 1S & 15N off Culbery on 1st, 1S & 4N off Culbery on 6th, 1S off Cow Harbour on 7th and finally 1N off Culbery on 15th.

[Northern] Gannet *Morus bassanus*

Gant

PM

Seen almost daily throughout the spring and summer with single figure and low double-figure counts of up to 52 recorded, with higher counts of 129 on 31st March and 81 on 6th April. Most birds are seen feeding around the island, although small numbers of passage birds were seen in May, with 21S & 22N on 10th and 14S & 20N on 20th, whilst in June there were 10S & 36N on 12th.

- Bird-day totals & days recorded:

2022	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Bird-days	233	690	608	254	421	1206	1916	3148	256
Days recorded	16	29	31	29	27	31	30	31	14
2021	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Bird-days	623			75	300	1058	1557	1308	48
Days recorded	19			10	28	30	30	29	5

Autumn passage began with 14S & 71N off Culbery on 24th July and thereafter counts of 20 – 60 birds were regular to the end of the season. Larger movements included monthly peaks of 54S and 147N on 3rd August, 36S & 368N on 27th September and 441S & 31N on 10th October.

Despite the horrendous scenes and reports of multiple casualties at many breeding colonies, due to avian flu, the numbers of birds in the Calf waters during 2022 was high, with all monthly totals in 2022 being higher than in 2021, some showing over a 100% increase.

[Great] Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Scarroo

FB, R, PM

Bred 1959 – 1974 with a maximum of 13 pairs in 1959

The table below indicates that numbers of birds recorded around the Calf in 2022 have increased by up to 45% when compared with totals from 2021. Some of this apparent increase is likely to have been due to the presence of last year's assistant warden as deckhand on the Calf attending boat, meaning that during the summer months we received regular counts from some of the sites that are only visible from a boat. This also meant that on regular occasions, counts of all the roosting sites were made on the same day which has ultimately led to an increase in the maximum day count totals.

2022	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Bird-days	31	46	73	71	86	131	156	143	47
Max.	7	6	6	7	8	12	13	12	5
2021	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	
Bird-days		22	64	50	44	57	77	73	15
Max.		4	5	6	5	6	7	6	9

The Cletts and Sound area continue to be the most frequented locations with up to seven birds seen here regularly. An apparent new roosting site high on the cliffs just south of Ghaw Yairn was used frequently in late summer and 2 – 3 birds were also often seen on the Stack and at Caigher Point.

[European] Shag *Gulosus aristotelis*

Arragh vooar / Scarroo veg

RB

Breeding numbers have decreased significantly since their peak of 400 pairs in 1982/3, with just 100 pairs recorded in 2018

- Mean count of apparently occupied nest (AON) sites per decade:

10-YEAR (m)	1959-1968	1969-1978	1979-1988	1989-1998	1999-2008	2009-2018
AON	232	317	312	268	179	147

Breeding birds were already occupying their colonies when we arrived on the Calf in mid-March. Daily counts of up to 85 through March to May reflected the presence of these breeding birds, that can be counted from land. A round-island boat trip on 7th May produced a count of 127.

The colonies at Kione ny Halby and Gibdale were again monitored with 32 and 12 nests respectively recorded. Additional nest monitoring along the west coast colonies found a further 38 occupied nests, with a total 107 AON across the island. This represents a slight increase on recent years.

Location	AON
Cletts	5
Big Head / Kione Roauyr	7
Giau Yairn	4
Kione ny Halby (main colony)	26
Kione ny Halby (south)	3
Puffin colony	6
Burroo	1
Upper Lighthouse (below)	3

Location	AON
Lower Lighthouse Field (below)	1
Amulty	7
Baie n' Ooig	13
Baie Fine	18
Gibdale Bay	12
Gibdale Point	1

Total	107
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Post-breeding flocks began to appear from the end of May, with 113 in the Sound on 30th and 120 east of the Calf on 31st. Flock sizes remained similar through June, with a month high of 226 on 23rd. The recruitment of recently fledged young through July and August swelled numbers with 240 at Kione ny

Halby on 7th, a flock of 320 off South Harbour on 11th and at least 500 at Kione ny Halby on 12th, 20th & 30th July and 481 on 8th and 498 on 9th August. Counts of up to 250 occurred on several more occasions during the latter part of August and into early September, with a high count of 360 on 4th September. Counts then decreased with <50 birds recorded on most dates through to the end of the season.

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Coar ny Hastan

Uncommon passage migrant

Infrequent records during spring and more regular records during autumn following post-natal dispersal from colonies on the Isle of Man

Trail camera footage from the Millpond revealed visits by single birds on 28th January and 28th February.

Spring records were rather scarce with individuals seen on 11th April and 28th May.



	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
2022 Bird-days	0	1	1	5	6	8	35	29	9
2021 Bird-days	0	0	2	7	3	4	27	11	1

The first dispersing juvenile of the season was recorded at the Puddle on 1st, and along from South Harbour on 2nd June, then singles were present from 21st – 24th June. Records became slightly more frequent during July and August with singles on four dates in July and six dates in August, plus two on 28th July and 24th August. Up to four birds were recorded in both September and October, with 1 - 3 birds recorded on 24 and 17 days respectively. Up to two birds remained into September with nine bird-days recorded between 1st – 10th.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Coar-vane veg

Very rare migrant

Seven previous records involving nine individuals, with singles on 11th June 1998, 9th November 2010, 14th June 2011, 23rd May 2013, 16th October 2021, two on 20th October 2018 and two on 6th May 2019

A single was photographed flying North over Ghaw Yairn on 21st August (SC), the first record for that month and the fourth occurrence of the species in the last five years.

A second individual was seen and photographed flying through the Sound and heading towards Gibdale on 4th November (MDH & CH) and a third bird was seen flying east past Gibdale on 13th November, it was subsequently seen on rocks below Cow Harbour before it flew off towards the Cletts (MDH & CH). Remarkably a fourth individual was present in South Harbour on 8th December (AS, RKF).

The first year with multiple records, reflects the increasing frequency with which the species is being recorded on the Isle of Man.

[Western] Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

Shawk eeaste

Rare passage migrant

57 previous records involving 58 individuals, since the first in 1961, with records in March (1), April (6), May (11), June (6), July (1), August (10), September (21) and October (1)

A single first seen flying south down the Glen on 23rd August was subsequently seen and photographed at South Harbour the following morning. What was believed to be the same bird was also seen flying past Baie Fine on 28th, Ghaw Yairn on 30th, at Big Head on 1st September and flying down the Glen again on 3rd.

[Eurasian] Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*

Shirragh ny sperriu

PM

A single was seen during a winter day trip on 17th January.

Spring passage was first recorded on 17th March, then no more records until singles on 5th & 9th April, whereafter further singles were seen on another eight dates in the month from 17th, plus two on 24th April. Records were less numerous in May with singles on just six dates, in June on four dates and seven dates in July.

Records became more frequent in August with singles on 14 dates from 3rd, plus two on 12th, 22nd and 30th and continued at a similar level through September and October with 1 – 2 birds recorded on 26 and 20 dates respectively. Records continued regularly into November, with 1 – 2 on most dates up to the end of the season on 14th.

[Western] Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*

Shirragh ny bogleeyn

Rare passage migrant

43 previous records since the first in 1967, with records in April (4), May (24), July (3), August (6), September (5) and October (1)

An immature bird was seen flying north up the Glen on 27th August (EMG). The species has been recorded in eight of the last 15 years.

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*

Shirragh ny giark

FB, R, PM

Bred in 14 years during 1991-2011, with a maximum of four breeding attempts in 1995

A single was seen during one of the winter visits on 17th January.

One or two were seen regularly from 16th March until 3rd April, then a single on 8th April and on four dates between 1st – 7th May and 15th May. A single was then seen daily between 12th – 15th June and on 22nd & 25th June. Records became slightly more regular in July, with singles on eight dates and two birds seen on 9th.

Sightings became more frequent through August with 1 – 2 on 25 dates and increased further in September to 29 dates; whilst in October between 1 – 4 birds were recorded on 27 dates and in November 1 – 3 birds were seen almost daily up to 14th.

Black Kite *Milvus migrans**

Very rare vagrant

Two previous records of singles recorded on 3rd June 1976 and 3rd June 1982

One was seen at close range over the Observatory on 4th June before it headed north over Gibdale, and towards the Isle of Man (see description on p132)

The 3rd Calf and Manx record and remarkably just one day later than the previous two records in June.

[Common] Buzzard *Buteo buteo*

Shirragh

RB, PM

Formerly a rare passage migrant; 31 previous records involving 38 individuals, up to 2014, with records in January (1), March (5), April (4), May (5), June (1), July (3), August (4), September (2), October (3) and November (3). First breeding attempt in 2021

- *Annual bird-day total 2015 – 2022:*

YEAR	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<i>Bird-days</i>	29	50	47	80	59	152	340	357

Two seen during a winter day visit on 17th January were only the second record for that month, the previous record being from 1980.

One to three birds were seen regularly from 16th March and throughout spring and summer, with peak counts of four on 7th June, five on 18th June and seven on 27th March and 20th April.

One pair were regularly seen around the Baie Fine area and it is likely that breeding was attempted, although their positioning of the nest meant that it was not possible to see any contents.

One to four birds were seen almost daily through much of autumn, with higher monthly peaks of six on 21st August and 1st September and 19 on 18th October. The latter record being just one bird short of equalling the all-time high record count which was made on 15th October 2021.

[Common] Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

Eeasteyr beg ny hawin

Very rare vagrant

Four previous records with singles seen on rocks below the Leodan on 14th September 1961, at Cow Harbour on 24th August 1970, near the Millpond on 20th October 2004 and at The Dock on 12th September 2009

One found in the Leodan on 9th July (DB, RKF et al) was just the fifth Calf record and the first record outside of late autumn.

The bird was discovered during a paddle-board trip along the south-west coast but after alerting others, it was subsequently seen and heard in Mill Giau by all observers on the island.

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopus major*

Snoggeyder mooar

Rare passage migrant

12 previous records occurring in April (1), May (2), August (1), September (3) and October (5)

A single initially heard, and subsequently seen briefly in the back garden at the Observatory on 22nd October was the first record since 2018. Given the recent expansion of the species' range across the Isle of Man, it is a little surprising that records have not become more frequent.

[Common] Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*

Stannair ruy

OB, PM

Breeding was confirmed or suspected in 33 years, usually involving one pair although a peak of three pairs was recorded in 1963 and 1964

A single was seen during a winter day trip on 17th January.

Rather scarce during spring with singles on just two dates in both March and April. Records increased in May with singles on five dates but then just one record on 8th June.

Records became more regular in autumn with post breeding dispersal seen from 9th July, with one to two birds seen on ten dates in the month. A single was recorded daily from 1st – 13th August and then on four further dates in

the remainder of the month. A similar picture continued through September and October with 1 – 2 birds recorded on 16 and 11 dates respectively. A single on 1st November was the only record of the month.

Merlin *Falco columbarius*

Shawk veg

PM, WV

Unusually scarce during the first half of the year, with no winter or early spring records. A female appeared around the Observatory on the rather late date of 2nd May, where it was seen hunting and then sat on the wall in the back field before flying off east. What was presumably the same bird was seen near Mill Giau on 4th May.

First of the autumn was one present on 16th & 17th September then further singles were recorded on four dates through the remainder of the month. Four more singles were recorded between 1st – 8th October, then from 11th records increased with up to three birds seen daily through to 25th and then four more singles to the month end. November produced singles on six dates up to 14th.

[Eurasian] Hobby *Falco Subbuteo*

Shirragh corranagh

Rare passage migrant

25 previous records involving singles in April (3), May (9), June (4), July (1), August (1), September (4) and October (3)

Three records of probably the same bird, with the first sighting on 12th September on Caigher (SJS, ACS), then at Cow Harbour on 14th (EMG) and at the Twin Fields on 15th (CF & LBS).

Peregrine [Falcon] *Falco peregrinus*

Shirragh y ree

RB

At least one pair has bred almost annually, with two pairs breeding successfully in 2019 & 2020

A single was seen during a winter day trip on 17th January.

One or two birds seen regularly throughout the season, with one pair attempting to breed along the north-west coast of the Calf. Peak counts were three on 27th April & 25th August and four on 15th June.

[Eurasian] Magpie *Pica pica*

Pieanat

RB, PM

Bred annually from 1959 to 1997, with a maximum of 14 pairs in 1979. One pair continued to nest in Mill Giau from 1999 to 2002 and again in 2007. Following arrival of a pair in May 2019, they overwintered and bred at the Withy in 2020 & 2021.

The resident pair that have been present since summer 2019 presumably over-wintered and were seen regularly around the Withy and Mill Giau area from 17th March. A nest was located in a Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) on a cliff face in Mill Giau during late April and contained six eggs on 5th May. The nest was abandoned later in the month and only a single bird was seen from 15th May and then rather sporadically during June and July.

Throughout autumn a single bird, and occasionally two, were seen around the Mill Giau and Withy area. Additional birds occurred from time to time, with singles at Fold Point on 27th September & 24th October, two birds flying west over the Observatory on 18th October and one which took up residence in the Observatory back garden from 25th – 28th October. Singles were again seen around the Withy area on three dates in November.

[Red-billed] Chough *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*

Caaig

RB

Up to 10 pairs breed annually, with a maximum of 14 pairs in 2002, 2005 and 2015

Counts of up to 22 were recorded during March and April and this is likely to largely reflect the resident breeding population, with 8 - 10 pairs exhibiting breeding behaviour.

From mid-May several larger flocks appeared on the Calf, with 31 at the Puddle on 12th, a flock of 42 on 14th and an island-count of 55 on 26th May. Counts of up to 37 were fairly regular during June, with a monthly maximum of 42 on 7th. The first fledged young (from the Lower Lighthouse) appeared on 19th. At least eight pairs were confirmed to have bred.

Counts during summer were normally in the low double figures, with maximum counts of 34 on 28th July and 37 on 3rd August. Numbers generally decreased through September with all counts of less than 18 except on 8th, when a flock of 73 were seen crossing over from the Sound. Recorded daily during November up to 14th, with counts between 10 – 38 birds.

[Western] Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*

Caaig / Juan teayst

PM

Spring records consisted of singles on 23rd & 24th and two on 29th March, then further singles on 17th, 27th & 29th April, plus seven on 26th April and larger groups of 15 on 7th and 13 on 15th May.

A single on the rocks at Rarick on 13th June was an unusual summer record. Autumn records were few with just a single recorded on 12th September and then almost constant strong winds during October reduced opportunities for birds to cross over to the Calf, with four on 8th, 190 on 13th, 173 on 18th and 29 on 21st. Similar weather conditions during the first half of November meant that 39 on 4th was the only record for the month.

Rook *Corvus frugilegus*

Trogh

PM

Three on 25th March, then singles on five dates in April plus three on 21st and five on 29th April. The last record of spring was a single on 3rd May. Autumn records were very scarce, largely mirroring the occurrences of Jackdaws, with 31 on 13th, 35 on 18th & nine on 21st October and 27 on 4th & two on 13th November.

Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*

Fannagh

OB, PM

One pair was recorded breeding in 1962 and from 2014 – 2016. Mixed pairs with Hooded Crows have been recorded in several other years

During spring 1 – 4 birds were recorded regularly, with peak monthly counts of six on 31st March, five on 29th April and four on 17th May. Through May to August, 1 – 3 birds were seen and this reflects the presence of at least three ‘mixed’ breeding pairs of Hooded x Carrion.

During September up to four were seen regularly, but in October several influxes occurred, with counts of up to eight being more regularly, plus 28 on 21st and 13 on 24th being peak counts. Up to eight continued to be seen regularly through November with higher counts of 11 on 3rd and a minimum of 45 on 13th.

Hooded Crow *Corvus cornix*

Fannag Ghlass

RB, PM

Between 5 – 10 pairs have bred annually

Winter day visits recorded 12 on 17th and a single on 21st January, three on 13th February and six on 5th March.

Recorded daily from the start of the season with mostly low double figure counts of up to 24 birds being recorded throughout the year, with higher counts of 28 on 3rd May and 33 on 13th July.

At least 12 pairs bred, including two ‘carriion x hooded’ pairs and a total of 18 young were known to have fledged, many of which showed varying grades of hybridisation. One ‘mixed’ pair that bred at the Observatory had a clutch of three eggs on 24th March and one live young on 4th April, which fledged on 10th May. With an incubation period of 17 – 19 days, this would mean that the female will have started laying around the 12th March; of the seven other crow nests monitored in 2022, the average laying date was about 7th April. There were no obvious influxes of birds during autumn and a day visit on 8th December recorded 16 birds.

[Northern] Raven *Corvus corax*

Feeagh

RB, PM

One or two pairs have bred almost annually. Occasional larger flocks of wandering birds are recorded in late summer and early autumn

Two pairs were holding territory when we arrived at the start of the season, with the pair at Amulty fledging three young on 17th April. Unfortunately, the pair below the Lighthouses would appear to have been unsuccessful for the first time in several years. Daily counts of up to four represent the resident breeding birds, although occasional higher counts of seven on 19th March,

five on 3rd and eight on 12th April indicate that incursions by other birds occasionally occur. These are usually given short shrift by the resident pairs and are escorted away from the island.

Throughout autumn the presence of the two resident pairs was recorded on most dates, with additional birds seen occasionally. The highest count of the season was 21 on 25th September which passed over the Observatory shortly after dawn.

Coal Tit *Periparus ater*

Drean kione doo

Uncommon passage migrant

*At least 424 previous records involving 1340 bird-days, with records in March (13), April (20), June (1), July (2), August (1), September (77), October (280) and November (30). Individuals exhibiting characteristics of the Irish subspecies *P.a hibernicus* were trapped on 3rd October 1993, 24th – 26th March 2019 and two on 22nd October 2020, one of which remained until 7th November*

Three arrived on 25th March, the first time in the Observatory's history that multiple birds have occurred in spring.



Autumn passage was rather poor with just a single trapped at the Observatory on 13th October and another seen there on 1st November.

[Eurasian] Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*

Drean Gorrym

sm, AM

Two were seen near to the Observatory during a day visit on 17th January, suggesting that the species may have over-wintered.

A good spring passage consisted of two birds on 24th March, a single on 25th, a further two on 27th and a final single on 28th March. Interestingly, the latter bird was a re-trap and had been ringed on the Calf in early October 2021. Different singles at the Withy and Observatory on 18th October were the start of a very poor autumn passage, with only two others recorded at the Withy on 3rd November.

Great Tit *Parus major*

Drean Mooar

OB, SM, AM

One pair bred in 2002 & 2009 with two pairs in 2008

As with the previous species, it is possible that birds over-wintered, with three seen on 17th January and two on 5th March.

The two on 5th March may have been the start of a poor spring passage, with a single male then present from 16th – 22nd, when he was joined by three new females on the latter date. Three birds were present on 23rd, including a new male. Singles on 24th & 25th, included a new female on the latter date, and three on 26th included a re-trap female from October 2021. Final records of the spring were singles on 28th March and 4th April.

Autumn records did not begin until five arrived on 13th October, with two remaining until 14th. Five on 16th included at least four new birds, one of which then remained until 11th November. Four more new birds arrived on 18th October, one remaining until at least 24th. Five arrived on 25th with eight present on 26th with one or two birds remaining through to the month end. Three were present on 1st November, then after two on 3rd, just a single bird remained until 11th. A single on 14th November may have been the same bird or a new one.

A day trip to the Calf on 8th December recorded a male at the Observatory.

[Eurasian] Skylark *Alauda arvensis*

Usagh happagh

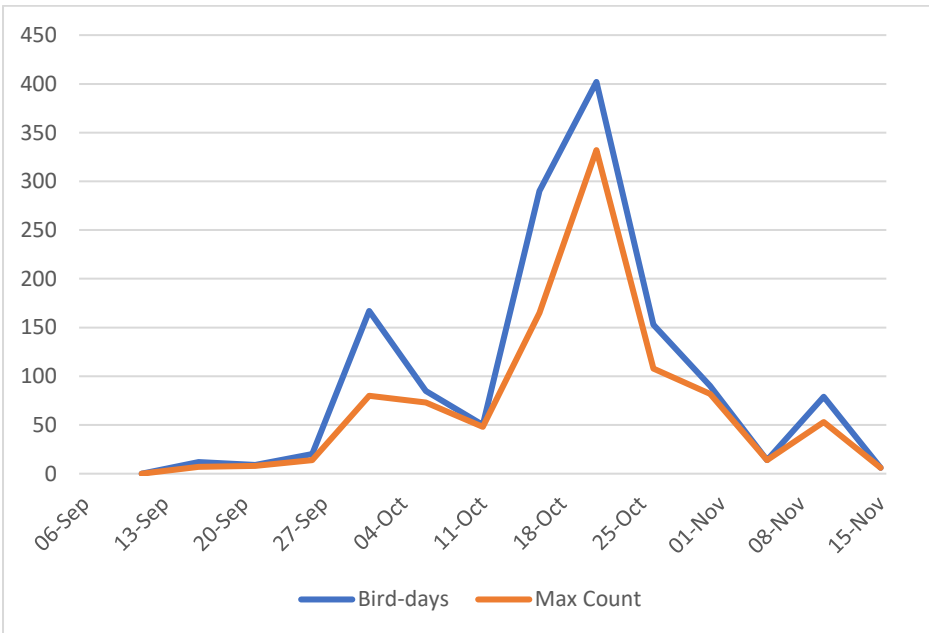
FB, sm, AM

Up to 10 pairs bred annually from 1959 to 1985, with a maximum of 15 pairs in 1964

An above average spring passage with three on 19th, two on 20th & 24th, and singles on 22nd & 23rd March and 14th, 15th, 18th & 19th April.

Autumn passage began with seven flying over on 9th September, with single figure counts on a further 10 dates in the month. Double figure counts occurred on five dates with a peak of 80 on 23rd September. October produced the greatest level of passage with single figure counts on nine dates, double figure counts on another nine dates and peak counts of 165 on 11th, 332 on 13th and 108 on 18th.

November produced a few records, with single figure counts on four dates, 10 on 1st, 11 on 4th and a peak of 53 on 3rd.



Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

Gollan geinne

sm, AM

- *Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:*

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
04-Apr	04-Apr	01-Apr	01-Apr	03-Apr	04-Apr	11-Apr
14-Sep	11-Sep	18-Sep	02-Sep	18-Sep	20-Sep	09-Sep

The earliest arrival date was 12th March 1990, with the latest departure date being 11th October 1999 and 2005

Spring passage consisted of a single on the relatively early date of 18th March, then none until two on 13th April, whereafter small numbers were seen regularly to the month's end, with a maximum of nine on 19th April. Fifteen on 2nd May was the peak of spring migration, then 1-3 were seen on a further eight dates up to 21st, plus higher counts of six on 5th and seven on 19th May and the last of spring on 2nd June.

Return passage began with seven on 8th July, but there were no further records until August, when a series of daily records of 1 - 3 birds occurred from 4th – 8th, then six on 25th and a single on 27th. Final records of the season were singles on 8th, 9th and 12th September.

[Barn] Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

Gollan geayee

RB, PM

Up to four pairs have bred almost annually, with a peak of 9 – 10 pairs from 2005 to 2007

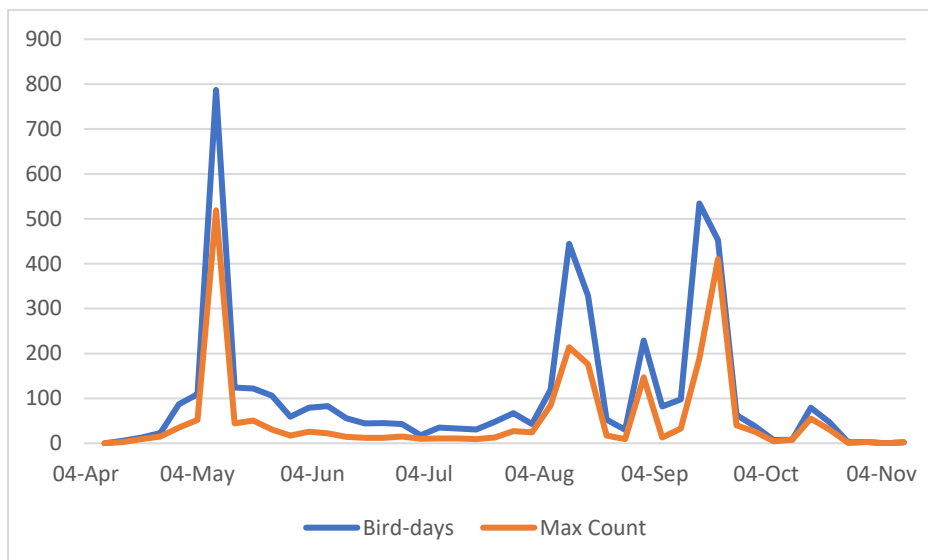
- *Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:*

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
06-Apr	02-Apr	02-Apr	04-Apr	08-Apr	12-Apr	06-Apr
25-Oct	21-Oct	24-Oct	31-Oct	01-Nov	31-Oct	29-Sep

The earliest arrival date was 17th March 1995, with the latest departure date being 28th November 1994

The first arrival wasn't until 7th April and just single figure counts were made over the next week or so, until 15 were recorded on 16th April. Sightings became more numerous during the second half of April, with low double figure counts and a monthly maximum of 52 on 29th. Early May saw a surge in numbers moving through, with spring peaks of 519 on 2nd and 123 on 3rd, then returned to mostly low double-figure counts for the remainder of the month.

Breeding birds began to arrive on territory from late April, with two pairs present in the Observatory outbuildings and four pairs breeding at Jane's House.



Low double figure counts were common through late summer and early autumn with a month high of 84 on 29th July, being the first indications of passage through the isle. Early August produced further passage with 108 on 4th, 214 on 7th and 176 on 8th but the only other significant count of the month was 147 on 25th. Peak passage occurred between the 8th – 12th September, with a high count of 410 on 12th. Thereafter numbers rarely exceeded single figures, with just five low-double figure counts during the remainder of September. Records became scarcer during October and other

than 55 on 8th, 14 on 10th and 31 on 13th there were just ten further dates with single figure counts. The last record of the season was of two seen around the Observatory on 3rd November.

[Common] House Martin *Delichon urbicum*

Gollan thie

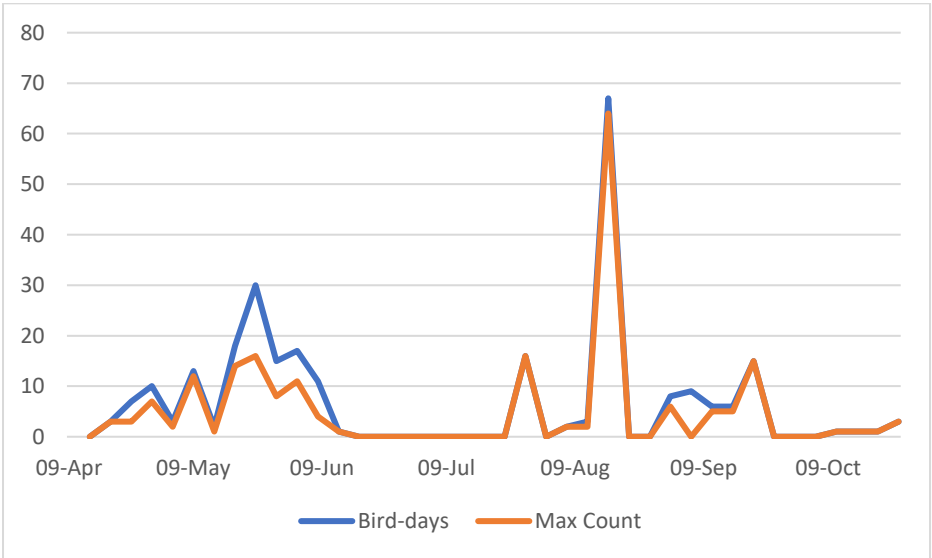
PM, SV

- *Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:*

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
20-Apr	13-Apr	17-Apr	23-Apr	21-Apr	22-Apr	23-Apr
03-Oct	05-Oct	02-Oct	03-Oct	15-Oct	16-Oct	05-Sep

The earliest arrival date was 23rd March 2001, with the latest departure date being 31st October 1976

Spring passage began on 13th April with up to three birds seen on seven dates in the month, plus seven on 24th April. One to three were again seen on 16 dates in May, plus eight on 17th & 21st, 14 on 10th, 16 on 18th and 11 on 28th May. After four on 1st June, singles on 2nd & 4th and three on 3rd June were last of spring passage.



Return passage was rather sporadic with 16 on 19th and two on 29th July, two on 4th, a single on 7th, 64 on 8th, three on 11th, six on 25th, two on both 27th & 28th and finally seven on 29th August. September produced a few more records with singles on 2nd & 9th, five on 6th & 8th and 15 on 12th September. Final observations of the season involved singles on 6th, 7th & 13th and three on 18th October.

Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus**

Kiaulleyder gruaie-wuigh

Rare passage migrant

65 previous records involving 67 individuals, with records in September (16), October (48) and November (1)

After a blank year in 2021, there were two records in October, with a long staying individual trapped at the Observatory on 4th remaining until at least 12th and a second individual trapped at the Withy on 13th, with a single ringed bird seen on 14th.

Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus**

Kiaulleyder dorraghey

Very rare vagrant

One previous record of a single trapped at the Observatory on 14th May 1970. The bird was subsequently found moribund in Limerick city on about 5th December 1970

The second Manx record was an individual trapped at the Top Withy on 26th April (EMG, AS et al). See description on p.134

Most British Isles records of Dusky Warbler occur in autumn, so it is somewhat surprising that both Calf records have been spring birds.

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*

Drean vane

OB, PM

One pair bred in 1970, 2007, 2019 & 2020.

An individual showing characteristics of the Siberian subspecies *P.t yakutensis* was trapped at the Observatory on 22nd April 1995

- *Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:*

<i>60-year average</i>	<i>2009 to 2018</i>	<i>1999 to 2008</i>	<i>1989 to 1998</i>	<i>1979 to 1988</i>	<i>1969 to 1978</i>	<i>1959 to 1968</i>
<i>01-Apr</i>	<i>29-Mar</i>	<i>27-Mar</i>	<i>29-Mar</i>	<i>04-Apr</i>	<i>04-Apr</i>	<i>06-Apr</i>
<i>02-Oct</i>	<i>04-Oct</i>	<i>24-Sep</i>	<i>14-Oct</i>	<i>01-Oct</i>	<i>01-Oct</i>	<i>26-Sep</i>

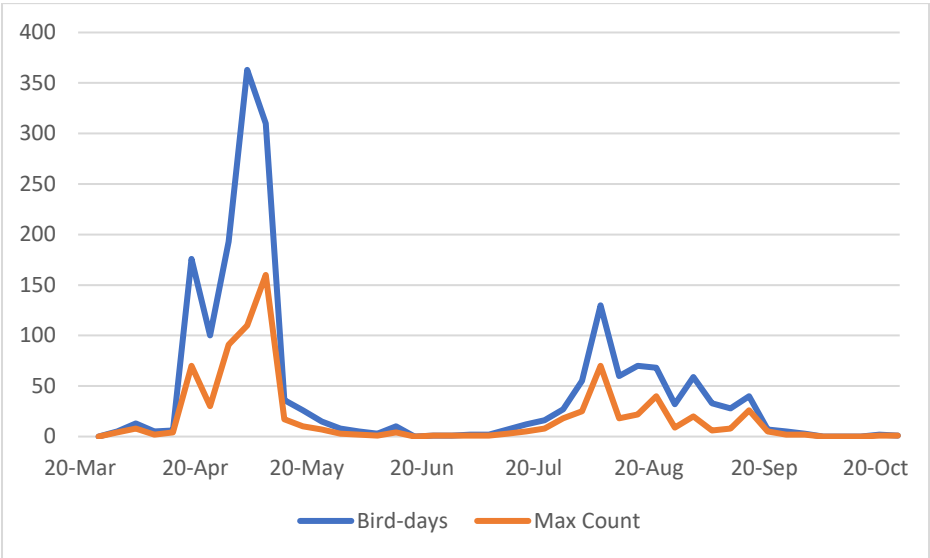
The earliest arrival date was 13th March 2016, with the latest departure date being 17th November 1991

Four on 21st March were the first of the year and were followed by singles on four dates to the 31st plus eight on 29th and three on 30th. Passage was somewhat delayed in early April with just two recorded on 2nd, 3rd & 8th, then daily from 9th with double figure counts on 17 dates in the month, including peak counts of 70 on 13th and 91 on 22nd plus 110 on both 25th & 26th April. One hundred and sixty on 2nd May was the peak of spring migration but numbers then decreased rapidly after 80 on 3rd with just four counts between 10 – 20 and 20 dates with just single figure counts. Singles continued on five dates up to 8th June plus four on 4th and three on 7th being the last of spring migration.



Post-breeding dispersal was evident from 18th June with singles seen on four dates and the first juvenile trapped at the Withy on 30th June. One to five were recorded regularly during early July, with passage increasing from mid-month, with eight on 18th, 18 on 22nd, 25 on 27th and 30 on 29th. Seventy on 1st August was the peak count of autumn, with a steady passage seen for the remainder of the month, with low double figure counts on 14 dates in the month. Smaller numbers were recorded through the first half of September, with the exception of 26 on 9th, there were single figure

counts on 18 dates, up to the last two birds of the month seen on 18th September. October produced just two birds, with a single trapped at the Observatory on 14th – 16th and a one at the Withy on 21st.



[Common] Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*

Beealerey

OB, PM

One or two breeding attempts in 15 years since the first in 1982. There have been 47 records involving 53 individuals of birds resembling either ‘Scandanavian’ *P.c abietinus* or ‘Siberian’ *P.c tristis* Chiffchaff. Most of these birds have been trapped, with six individuals assigned as ‘Scandanavian’, 42 individuals assigned as ‘Siberian’ and a further six not assigned to either race

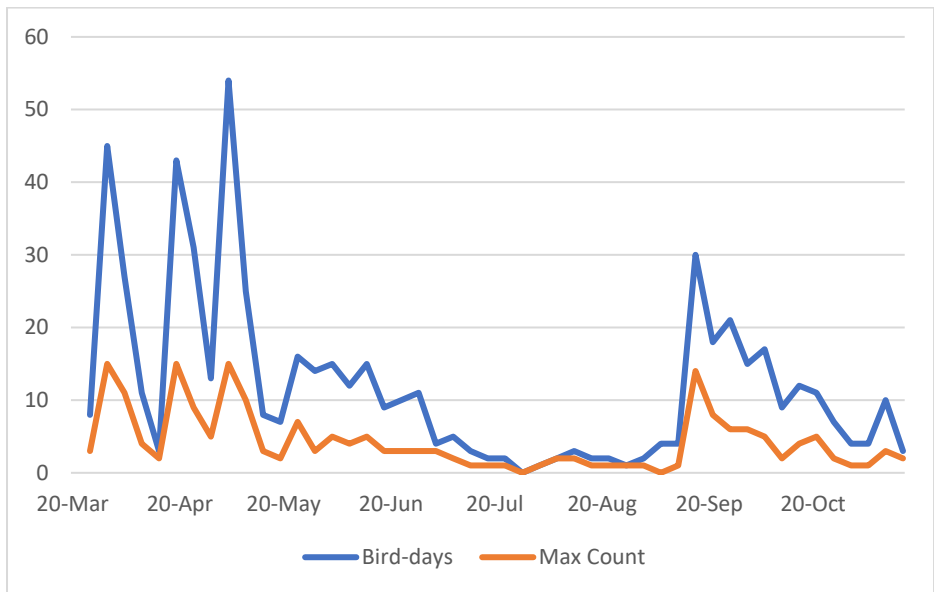
- Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
20-Mar	15-Mar	20-Mar	15-Mar	22-Mar	23-Mar	25-Mar
10-Nov	12-Nov	17-Nov	17-Nov	08-Nov	16-Nov	05-Oct

The earliest arrival date was 4th March 1978, with the latest departure date being 4th December 1992

Three on 16th March were the first of the year, although it is likely that spring passage had already begun before we arrived on the Calf. Passage was light and consistent with mostly single figure counts made almost daily through to the end of June. Monthly peak counts were 15 on 23rd March and 14th, 25 & 26th April, 10 on 2nd May and five on 4th June.

One or two birds were recorded sporadically through July and August, and most records probably relate to two resident males, with birds singing at the Withy and at the Observatory, although no breeding attempt was suspected.



Return passage was evident from early September, with high counts of 14 on 10th and 10 on 11th, otherwise 1 – 6 birds were recorded through to the end of the month and through the first half of October. From 14th October just 1 – 2 birds were present through to the end of the season, except for three on 1st and 3rd November.

'Siberian' Chiffchaff *P. c tristis*



Singles showing characteristics of this subspecies were trapped on 28th March and 25th April.

Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides**

Kiaulleyder glass

Rare passage migrant

12 previous records involving singles in April (1), May (1), June (8) and July (2)

The 13th Calf record and first since two were caught in 2017.



One was trapped in the back garden of the Observatory on 4th June (AS et al).

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

Kiaulleyder shiast

OB, SM, am

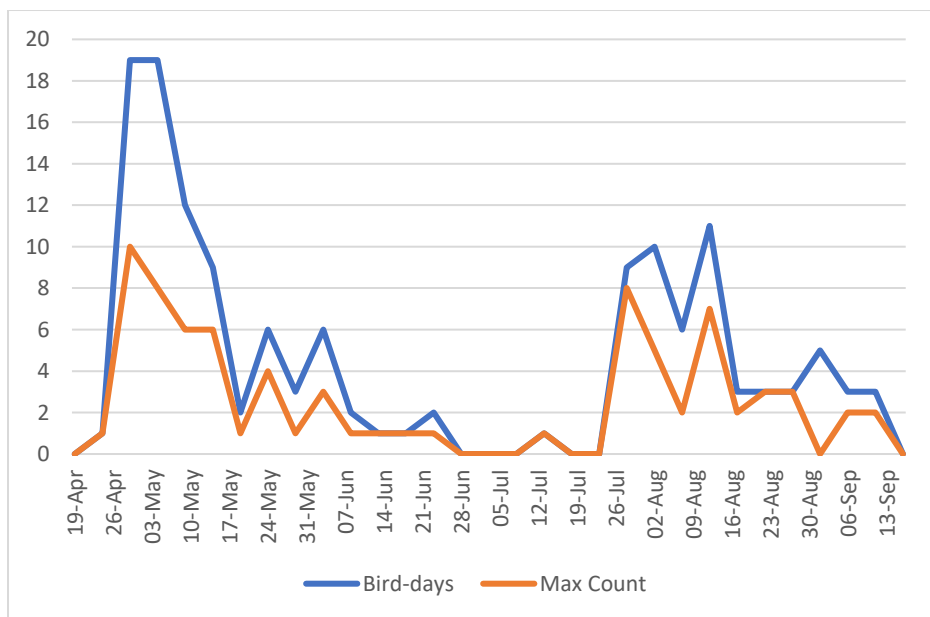
Breeding has been confirmed or suspected in 12 years, involving one pair

- Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
22-Apr	21-Apr	24-Apr	22-Apr	20-Apr	25-Apr	23-Apr
12-Sep	02-Sep	13-Sep	09-Sep	17-Sep	16-Sep	13-Sep

The earliest arrival date was 12th April 1980 and 1981, with the latest departure date being 7th October 1975

Spring passage began with a single on 22nd April, then 1 – 4 birds recorded on 27 dates up to 21st June, plus peak counts of 10 on 29th April, six on 2nd, 7th & 14th May and eight on 3rd May.



Return passage began with a single on 11th July, then eight on 27th, a single remaining on 28th and three new birds on 29th July. Following five on 1st and seven on 10th August, passage was fairly consistent with 1-3 recorded on 12 dates in the month. The last few birds were seen during early September with singles on 2nd & 11th and two on 6th & 9th.

[Eurasian] Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus**

Guilckag

Rare passage migrant

81 previous records involving 86 individuals, since the first in 1970, with records occurring in April (6), May (27), June (12), August (16), September (14), October (5) and November (1).

- Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
15-May	18-May	12-May	20-May	15-May	27-Apr	Nil
14-Sep	03-Sep	06-Sep	11-Oct	13-Sep	03-Sep	Nil

The earliest arrival date was 17th April 2019, with the latest departure date being 17th November 1998

The recent trend of regular spring records continued with a single trapped at the Top Withy on 15th, a singing male that appeared briefly behind the back garden on 16th and another individual trapped near the Observatory on 19th May.

In autumn, a 1st year bird was trapped at the Withy on 14th and subsequently re-trapped there again on 17th August.



[Common] Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*

Reeleyder

FB, Uncommon passage migrant

One pair bred in 1971 and two birds held territory in 1982

- Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
21-Apr	18-Apr	20-Apr	20-Apr	18-Apr	24-Apr	03-May
08-Sep	03-Sep	07-Sep	06-Sep	10-Sep	17-Sep	04-Sep

The earliest arrival date was 2nd April 2004, with the latest departure date being 19th October 1985

An excellent run of spring records with singles on 22nd, 23rd, 25th, 26th and 29th April, with two on 24th & 27th April and 2nd May. Finally singles on 7th and 14th May completed the best spring passage since 2011.

The first autumn bird was a juvenile trapped in the Glen on 19th July, what was probably the same bird seen on 21st and re-trapped at the Observatory on 22nd. Further singles were trapped at the Withy on 8th & 31st August and at the Observatory on 12th August and 4th September.

- No. of bird-days recorded per annum:

Year	2011	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Bird-days	24	6	6	10	1	6	13	6	6	0	4	20

[Eurasian] Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*

Kione Doo

PM

- Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:

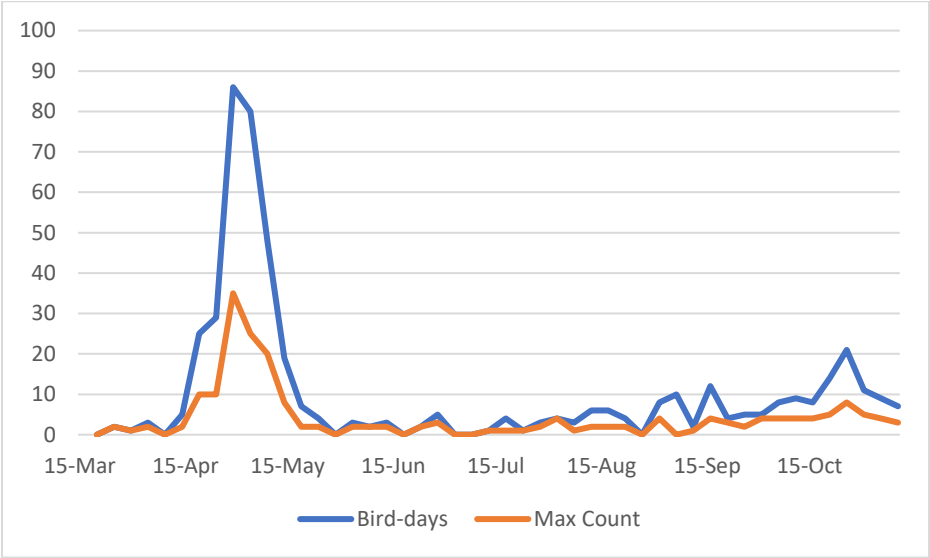
60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
13-Apr	31-Mar	03-Apr	10-Apr	15-Apr	23-Apr	04-May
08-Nov	11-Nov	16-Nov	12-Nov	11-Nov	13-Nov	11-Oct

The earliest arrival date was 2nd March 1977, with the latest departure date being 28th November 2001 and 2009



Two on 20th March were more than three weeks earlier than the 60-year average arrival date and continues the trend of earlier arrivals for this species. Additional March records included two more on 26th and singles on 21st & 29th. Inclement weather at the beginning of April restricted passage with just 1 – 2 on five dates between 5th – 10th, then passage increased from 12th with daily records to the end of the month and including double figure counts on eight dates, including a maximum of 35 on 22nd April. Spring records continued through to the 19th May, with mostly records

of 1 – 8 birds, although 20 on 2nd and 12 on 3rd were peak counts. Post-breeding dispersal was evident from late May, with 11 females exhibiting brood patches and two males trapped between 28th May – 22nd June, with the first juvenile of the year trapped on the latter date.



One or two birds, mostly juveniles, were recorded on nine dates in July, plus four on 27th. This light passage continued through August and September with 1 – 4 birds recorded on 20 and 18 dates respectively. Similar levels of passage continued through early October but increased slightly during the second half of the month, with five on 13th & 24th, six on 21st, seven on 18th and a peak of eight on 20th.

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin*

Kiaulleyder garagh

Scarce passage migrant

- Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
08-May	07-May	03-May	07-May	05-May	12-May	11-May
08-Oct	30-Sep	01-Oct	15-Oct	17-Oct	20-Oct	19-Sep

The earliest arrival date was 13th April 1963, with the latest departure date being 18th November 1998

A very poor spring passage with just three birds, all trapped, occurring on 15th May.

Autumn passage was also rather poor with a single trapped at the Observatory on 12th and re-trapped on 14th and 17th September.

Barred Warbler *Curruca nisoria*

Kiaulleyder schimmeigagh

Rare passage migrant

37 previous records involving 39 individuals, with records in August (10), September (19) and October (8)

A 1st year bird trapped in the front hedge on 13th September (AS, SJS et al) was the second in two years after an absence of nine years.



Lesser Whitethroat *Curruca curruca*

Fynnag veg

Scarce passage migrant

164 previous records involving 192 bird-days, with records in April (12), May (95), June (4), August (5), September (23) and October (25)

- *Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:*

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
09-May	30-Apr	17-May	06-May	06-May	15-May	06-May
01-Oct	10-Oct	03-Oct	24-Sep	20-Sep	18-Oct	21-Sep

The earliest arrival date was 19th April 2009, with the latest departure date being 18th November 1998

One trapped near the Observatory on 26th April was the fourth earliest arrival date in the Observatory’s history and a second individual was trapped at the Withy on 23rd May. No autumn records.

Western Subalpine Warbler *Curruca iberiae**

Very rare migrant

Six previous records involving singles in May (2016, 2019 [2] and June (1984, 1986 & 2021). An additional 12 birds were not specifically identifiable as to race, with records in May (6), June (3) and September (3)

One was trapped near the Observatory on 14th May, and then again in the Withy on 19th May. A second bird, a male, was trapped in the back garden on 21st June and becomes the latest spring record for the Calf by six days.



(Common) Whitethroat *Curruca communis*

Fynngag ny keylley

OB, PM

Recorded as breeding in 38 years normally involving one to three pairs, although four pairs were recorded in 1980 and five pairs in 1963 and 1964

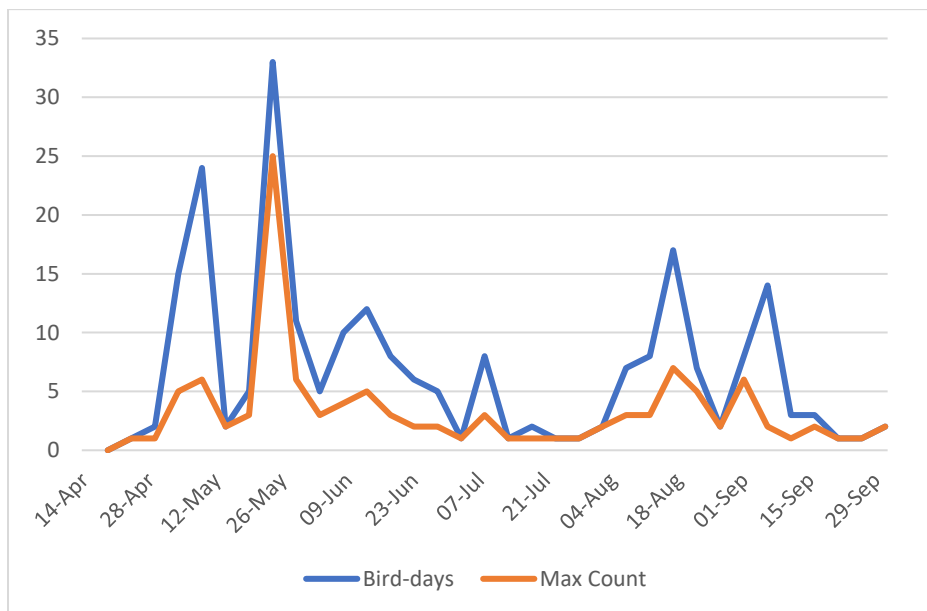
- *Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:*

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
24-Apr	22-Apr	23-Apr	25-Apr	25-Apr	29-Apr	22-Apr
26-Sep	23-Sep	21-Sep	21-Sep	28-Sep	05-Oct	26-Sep

The earliest arrival date was 6th April 1961, with the latest departure date being 30th October 1973

Singles on 16th and 20th April were first records of the spring, with former being the fourth earliest Calf record. Main passage occurred from 24th April, with up to 1- 6 birds recorded daily to the end of the month and on just 18 dates in May, plus a maximum count of 25 on 15th May. A light passage continued until mid-June, with 1 – 3 seen daily plus monthly peaks of four on 1st and five on 7th June. One or two birds continued to be recorded sporadically until the end of month, with records including a pair that probably bred at the Withy and the first signs of post breeding dispersal from 23rd June.

Juveniles trapped at the Withy on 3rd and 6th July were likely to have been bred elsewhere, however at least one brood is likely to have fledged from the Withy area during late July. Return passage was at its peak during August with 1-3 birds on 18 dates and 4-7 on a further five dates. Records became less frequent during September, with singles on just six dates and two on 1st, 11th and 23rd, the latter being the last of the year.



Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*

Drean buigh

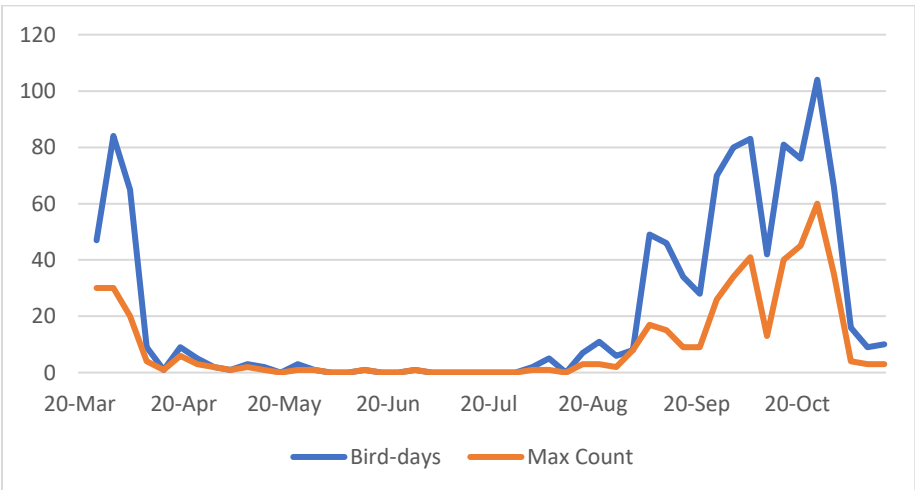
PM

- *Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:*

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
15-Mar	10-Mar	17-Mar	14-Mar	13-Mar	19-Mar	18-Mar
16-Nov	19-Nov	23-Nov	22-Nov	20-Nov	16-Nov	11-Oct

The earliest arrival date was 15th February 2013, with the latest departure date being 16th December 2012

Thirty on 16th March indicated that spring passage had begun sometime before we arrived on the islet. Passage was light with daily records to the end of the month, including single figure counts on eight dates and double figure counts on seven dates with a maximum of 30 on 25th. In April, 1 – 4 were recorded on just 12 dates plus a monthly peak of six on 12th April, then after two on 3rd May, there were records of just singles on six dates to 23rd May and further singles on 8th & 23rd June.



Dispersing juveniles began to arrive, with singles present, from 27th July to 2nd August, then again from 9th August when passage increased to 1 – 3 seen daily until eight on 28th and 16 on 31st. Passage was fairly light through September with single figure counts on 16 dates and double figure counts on the remaining 14 dates including a peak of 41 on 28th. October continued at the same levels until passage began to dwindle from 26th but did include a

few higher counts with 40 on 11th, 45 on 13th, 60 on 20th and 35 on 24th. From November passage decreased considerably and just 1 – 3 birds were present daily through to the season end on 14th.

[Eurasian] Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*

Dreain

RB

Bred in all years, except 1984. Breeding numbers have fluctuated somewhat depending on winter survival rates, with peaks of 60 pairs in 1972 and 1982

Single and low double figure counts were made daily throughout the season, with spring peaks of 21 on 27th April and 22 on 8th May most likely reflecting more complete coverage rather than any increase in birds present.

Records during June and July were mostly of single figure counts, although the breeding bird census found a minimum of 43 territories and good numbers of young birds were evident from ringing data.

- No. of 'new' birds trapped:

New Birds	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Total
Juvenile	3	28	17	16			
Post-juvenile			2		35		101
Adult	1	1			4		6
Un-aged				5	5		10

Counts increased from early August, presumably with the presence of juvenile birds being noted, with double figure counts on 20 dates in the month, including a peak of 24 on 2nd. The presence of some passage birds is likely to have occurred from late September, when counts above 20 occurred more regularly, with peaks of 29 on 22nd September and 13th & 16th October and 5th October and 30 on 14th October.

[Eurasian] Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris*

Snaueyder billagh

Rare passage migrant

87 previous records involving 91 individuals, with records in March (2), April (5), June (9), July (40), August (15), September (7) and October (9)

A juvenile was trapped on 16th and remained around the Observatory until 17th July.

A further autumn record was of a single trapped at the Observatory on 21st October, remaining until 22nd.

[Common] Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

Trutlag

FB, SV, PM

Bred almost annually from 1962 to 1986 with a maximum of 35 – 50 pairs in 1971

Spring records were rather few and involved just single figure counts on seven dates in March and five dates in April up to the 17th, with a total of just 22 bird-days in March and 13 in April. There were no records in May.

The first dispersing juvenile arrived on 1st June with 1 – 4 recorded on a further 13 dates in the month, plus peak counts of 18 on 20th and 15 on 21st June. Numbers increased a little during July, with 1 – 4 recorded on seven dates, but low double figures between 10 – 38 on five dates and a peak of 51 on 8th July. Late summer records were scarce with 1 – 2 birds on four dates in August.

Following 1 – 7 on six dates in the second half of September and two on 2nd October, autumn passage began on 8th October with double figure counts on most dates until 116 on 14th. From 17th counts of up to 329 occurred almost daily with higher counts of 679 on 20th, 2720 on 21st and 965 on 24th. Passage was at its strongest during early November, with an average of one thousand bird-days per day. Peak counts were 3,414 on 1st, 6,068 on 4th and 1,384 on 9th November.

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*

Treshlen

OB, PM

One or two pairs have been suspected of breeding on eight occasions

A very light spring passage with singles on four dates in March from 16th, plus two on 22nd March and further singles on seven dates in April. Following one on 2nd May, there were no further records until a singing male arrived on 30th May and held territory briefly, at the end of the trapping area, until 2nd June. Post-breeding dispersal accounted for several adult birds that arrived from 15th, with 1 – 2 birds recorded on six dates during the second half of the month and included a juvenile on 23rd June.

One or two birds were recorded on 12 dates in July and eight dates in August, with ringing records indicating that this mostly involved dispersing juveniles. This light passage continued on 10 dates in September, but with additional records of three on 25th & 28th and four on 24th indicating the start of main passage. Passage built through October with single figure counts on 18 dates and double figure counts on nine dates, including a peak of 40 on 11th. After 35 on 1st and 30 on 3rd November passage decreased to mostly single figure counts for the remainder of the season, with 10 on 13th and 12 on 14th being the last counts of the year.

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*

Treshlen Vooar

FB, am

One pair bred from 1969 to 1973, with another suspected breeding attempt in 1979

There were no spring records.

Autumn passage records began with a single on 18th October, four on 19th, two on 24th and further singles on 25th & 31st October and 4th, 13th & 14th November. A rather poor showing, reflecting the lack of suitable weather conditions that prevailed this autumn.

Redwing *Turdus iliacus*

Treshlen loghlinagh

wv, PM

- *Average spring departure and autumn arrival dates:*

<i>60-year average</i>	<i>2009 to 2018</i>	<i>1999 to 2008</i>	<i>1989 to 1998</i>	<i>1979 to 1988</i>	<i>1969 to 1978</i>	<i>1959 to 1968</i>
22-Apr	14-Apr	13-Apr	22-Apr	25-Apr	11-May	18-Apr
03-Oct	09-Oct	04-Oct	05-Oct	02-Oct	26-Sep	01-Oct

The latest spring departure date was 4th June 1977, with the earliest autumn arrival date being 16th September 1972

Up to five birds were recorded most days from 23rd March, with a peak of passage occurring between 28th – 30th March, with 21, 59 and 73 recorded on the respective dates. Singles were then recorded on 31st March and 2nd, 4th, 12th- 15th and 20th April. The last bird of spring passage was a single which lingered in the Sycamores behind the Observatory on 3rd & 4th May.

Return passage began earlier than in recent years, with a single on 27th and 27 on 28th September, but then no further records until five on 11th October. Main autumn passage occurred from 18th when 48 were noted, including 20 calling before dawn. This was eclipsed on 19th when a huge number of thrushes were grounded during inclement weather conditions, with 5,457 recorded during the day. Passage remained strong over the next week with 204 on 20th, 600 on 21st and 188 on 24th. Thereafter passage became considerably reduced and after 73 on 1st November the remainder of the month produced low double figure counts on most dates until 119 were recorded on 14th.

[Common] Blackbird *Turdus merula*

Lhondhoo

RB, PM

Bred annually from 1959 to 1993, with a maximum of 25 pairs in 1981.

Absent as a breeding species from 1994 to 2000 and again in 2003, however small numbers have bred in all other years with a peak of 7-8 pairs in 2016 and 2018

As with recent years, spring passage was almost non-existent and most counts during March and April were in single figures. Ringing records indicate a light passage in late March, with 13 on 24th & 25th and 15 on 29th being the peak counts in March and 12 on 19th and 13 on 27th in April.

Single figure counts were most common through late spring and summer, with a slight increase to occasional low double figure counts in June and July once juvenile birds began to appear. At least 12 pairs bred although post-fledging survival would appear to have been very poor, most likely due to the very dry weather conditions through the summer. Correspondingly numbers of birds recorded were very low from mid-July with mostly low single figure counts during August, September, and early October.

Main autumn passage began with 14 on 18th October increasing to 82 on 20th and 71 on 21st and then remained in low double figures through to the end of the month. After a monthly high of 38 on 1st November, passage continued at these levels with a further four dates recording between 28 – 35 birds, otherwise daily counts were between 5 – 13 birds.

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*

Ushag sniaghtee

wv, PM

- *Average spring departure and autumn arrival dates:*

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
02-May	17-Apr	03-May	27-Apr	07-May	17-May	01-May
06-Oct	13-Oct	13-Oct	14-Oct	09-Oct	30-Sep	26-Sep

The latest spring departure date was 12th June 2017, with the earliest autumn arrival date being 19th August 1971

A poor spring passage with 1 - 3 on three dates between 25th – 30th March, plus a maximum of six on 29th. The final record of the spring was a single on 13th April.

Autumn arrival occurred in one go, with 2,330 grounded by inclement weather on 19th October. Birds were held here by mist and rain, with large flocks feeding in the Glen.

Two hundred and thirty-five remained on 20th, with 184 on 21st but thereafter only 1 – 5 were recorded on five dates to the end of the month. In November, single figure counts occurred on eight dates plus peaks of 13 on 5th and 22 on 12th.

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*

Lhon fainnit

Scarce passage migrant

- *Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:*

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
06-Apr	15-Apr	02-Apr	09-Apr	05-Apr	01-Apr	01-Apr
18-Oct	25-Oct	09-Oct	24-Oct	21-Oct	21-Oct	03-Oct

The earliest arrival date was 6th March 1966, with the latest departure date being 20th November 2015

A single seen briefly in the Sitka at the end of the trapping area on 14th April was followed by a male on 23rd, an elusive female in the Front Field from 24th – 28th April and then seen again on 2nd & 3rd May, and a final bird of spring on 7th May.

Autumn passage was extremely poor with just a single seen briefly at the Observatory and later at the Withy on 23rd October.

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*

Skybbyltagh lheeah

FB, SM, am

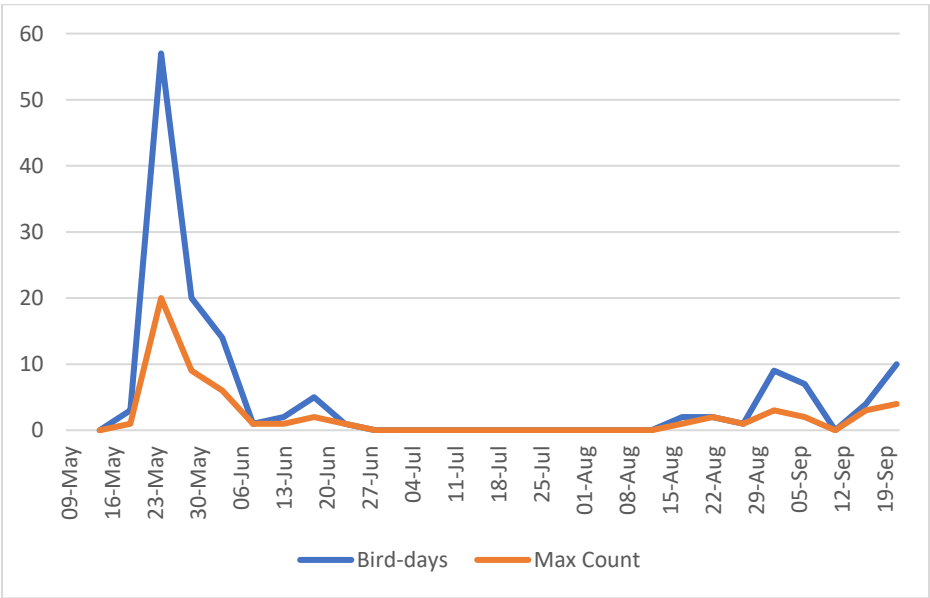
One pair bred in 1971 and 1992

- *Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:*

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
06-May	06-May	01-May	05-May	05-May	08-May	10-May
26-Sep	19-Sep	23-Sep	24-Sep	29-Sep	29-Sep	01-Oct

The earliest arrival date was 22nd April 2007, with the latest departure date being 20th October 1968

Spring passage began with singles on 10th, 12th & 14th May, before the main arrival of 20 on 15th & 18 on 16th. Up to nine were then recorded almost daily to the months end. Spring passage continued during the first half of June, with singles on six dates between 4th – 14th and two on 11th June.



The first passage juvenile was around the Observatory on 9th & 10th August and was followed by two adults trapped on 17th and another on 21st. Main passage occurred from 24th with 1 - 3 birds recorded almost daily to the month's end. After two on 1st September, there was a pause in migration until three on 10th, then 1 - 2 daily until the last of the season on 16th, with a peak of four on 13th.



[European] Robin *Erithacus rubecula*

Spittag

RB, PM

First proven to breed in 1967, up to six pairs nested almost annually up to 1993. The species next bred in 1998 with just one or two pairs then breeding in 11 of the next 21 years, three pairs in 2020 and 5 pairs in 2021.

Two birds were recorded during a day trip on 17th January indicating that several birds over-wintered. This was confirmed during March when several birds ringed in 2019 & 2020 were re-trapped.

Single figure counts were recorded daily throughout March and April, with an increased light passage evident between 23rd – 26th March, with a peak count of 25 on 24th March; and to a lesser extent during the last week of April and early May when several new females were trapped. Juvenile birds began to appear from 14th May, with at least 12 young present on 21st May.

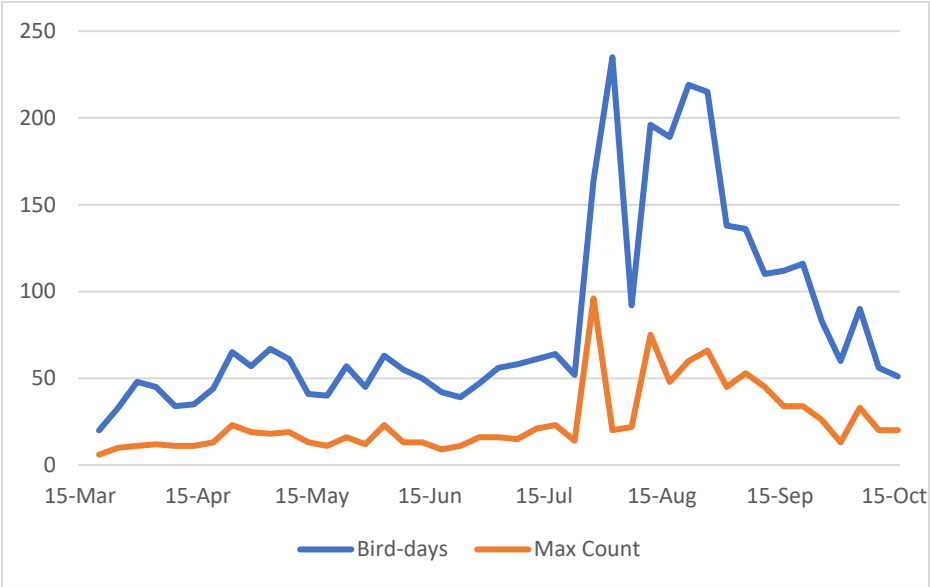
The breeding census recorded a minimum of 14 pairs, the highest breeding total ever recorded on the Calf. This was reflected in the number of locally bred juveniles caught, with 57 new birds trapped during May, June and July.

The presence of so many juveniles made the timing of the start of autumn passage difficult to detect, however ringing data clearly indicates an increase

in post-juvenile birds passing through from early August. Daily counts also increased from mainly single figure counts in July to mostly double figure counts in August, with an obvious increase during the last week of the month and high counts of 96 on 27th, 75 on 28th and 60 on 29th. The beginning of



September saw a slight lull, but a second wave of passage occurred between 9th – 25th with counts of between 22 – 65 on all dates plus a peak of 75 on 10th. Further high counts of 45 on 28th September & 11th October and 53 on 3rd October, otherwise counts continued with mostly low double-figures, between 11 – 34, through much of October and through November to the end of the season.



[European] Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca*

Scarce passage migrant

At least 270 previous records involving 510 bird-days, with records in April (11), May (48), June (7), August (93), September (89), October (20) and November (2)

- Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
05-May	27-Apr	02-May	13-May	04-May	08-May	28-Apr
25-Sep	08-Sep	23-Sep	04-Oct	04-Oct	25-Sep	18-Sep

The earliest arrival date was 17th April 2018, with the latest departure date being 15th November 1995

There were no spring records.

Autumn records involved immatures trapped at the Observatory on 27th & 30th August and 9th September. An excellent series of further records began with two on 12th, four on 13th and three on both 14th & 15th and a single on 16th September. A final record of the year was a single trapped in the back garden of the Observatory on 21st October, the third latest Calf record.



Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochrurus*

Thoy-n-yiarg ghoo

Scarce passage migrant

357 previous records involving 677 bird-days, with records in January (1), February (3), March (57), April (53), May (66), June (12), July (4), August (3), September (1), October (101) and November (55). Several records of potentially over-wintering birds were recorded with a single at the Cletts from 11th-25th February 1981 and singles on 30th January 1995 and 24th-25th February 1995.

- Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
05-Apr	03-Apr	31-Mar	07-Apr	10-Apr	28-Mar	15-Apr
03-Nov	03-Nov	03-Nov	12-Nov	10-Nov	05-Nov	21-Sep

The earliest arrival date was 7th March 1966, with the latest departure date being 30th November 1982

Spring birds consisted of a single female-type present around the Observatory from 24th – 26th, a different individual on 29th March and another in the Lighthouse Fields on 1st May.

Autumn passage was poor with a single along the front hedge on 10th & 11th October, singles at Cow Harbour on 31st October and 13th November and another single seen briefly around the farm outbuildings on 1st November. One was also present around the 1968 Lighthouse on 8th December and is the latest record for the Calf. Given the influx into the Isle of Man during late November and December it is likely that there may have been others on the Calf.

[Common] Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

Thoy-n-yiarg

Uncommon passage migrant

- Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
19-Apr	21-Apr	23-Apr	20-Apr	16-Apr	21-Apr	14-Apr
29-Sep	29-Sep	23-Sep	29-Sep	03-Oct	08-Oct	18-Sep

The earliest arrival date was 24th March 1961, with the latest departure date being 31st October 1987

A slight improvement on last year's dismal showing, with a male in the Lighthouse Fields on 24th April being the first of spring, followed by a female trapped at the Observatory on 29th April. A showy male was at South Harbour on 2nd & 3rd May, another female was trapped on 12th and three males were present on 15th May.

Autumn passage was particularly disappointing with the only record being a female trapped at the Observatory on the late date of 2nd October.

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*

Eean yn aittin

FB, Scarce passage migrant

Bred in 1943 and 1957 with potential breeding records in 1979 and 1990

- *Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:*

<i>60-year average</i>	<i>2009 to 2018</i>	<i>1999 to 2008</i>	<i>1989 to 1998</i>	<i>1979 to 1988</i>	<i>1969 to 1978</i>	<i>1959 to 1968</i>
<i>28-Apr</i>	<i>04-May</i>	<i>25-Apr</i>	<i>28-Apr</i>	<i>25-Apr</i>	<i>28-Apr</i>	<i>28-Apr</i>
<i>26-Sep</i>	<i>09-Sep</i>	<i>01-Oct</i>	<i>23-Sep</i>	<i>12-Oct</i>	<i>02-Oct</i>	<i>13-Sep</i>

The earliest arrival date was 17th April 2008, with the latest departure date being 7th November 2009

As with the previous species, a slightly better spring passage than in recent years with singles on 25th April, and 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 11th & 16th May.

A rather curious summer record was of a female trapped at the Withy on 8th July, but not seen subsequently. Potentially this bird may have been a recently failed breeder that had begun post-breeding dispersal.

In contrast to the relatively good spring passage, autumn failed to record any sightings, for just the second time in the Observatory's history.

Unfortunately, the absence of records is indicative of the severe decline that this species has suffered throughout their UK breeding range in recent decades.

[European] Stonechat *Saxicola rubicola*

Claghan ny gleigh

RB, PM

*Up to 12 pairs breed almost annually, although numbers fluctuate depending on winter survival, with a peak count of 21 pairs in 1974. A female or immature 'Siberian' Stonechat of either the races *S.r. maura* or *stejnegeri* was seen on the 1st November 1986 and represents the 1st Manx record of this subspecies*

2022 was an excellent year for the species. There was no evidence of spring passage, however, counts of 5 – 15 birds were regular through most of March and April indicating survival over winter had been good. Pairs were already holding territories when we arrived on the islet and the first fledglings were seen near the Triangle on 22nd April, with the breeding bird census locating 18 pairs. Subsequent daily counts of up to 24 during May to July, reflect the presence of increasing numbers of juvenile birds and peaked at 46 on 21st July. Numbers remained relatively high during early August, with 36 on 3rd and 32 on 6th with low double figure counts on a further 20 dates in the month. Counts decreased slightly during September with single figure counts on 11 dates, low double figure counts on the remaining 19 dates including high counts of 27 on 10th and 26 on 20th. Numbers decreased somewhat in October and November with mainly single figure counts, and with monthly highs of 17 on 11th October and eight on 5th & 6th November.

[Northern] Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*

Thoyne-vane

RB, PM

Single figure breeding numbers were recorded almost annually from 1959 to 1984, where after numbers increased to 30 pairs by 1990. Breeding numbers have probably remained largely stable over the last 30 years and possibly increased slightly with a peak of 40 pairs in 2018, 2019 & 2020

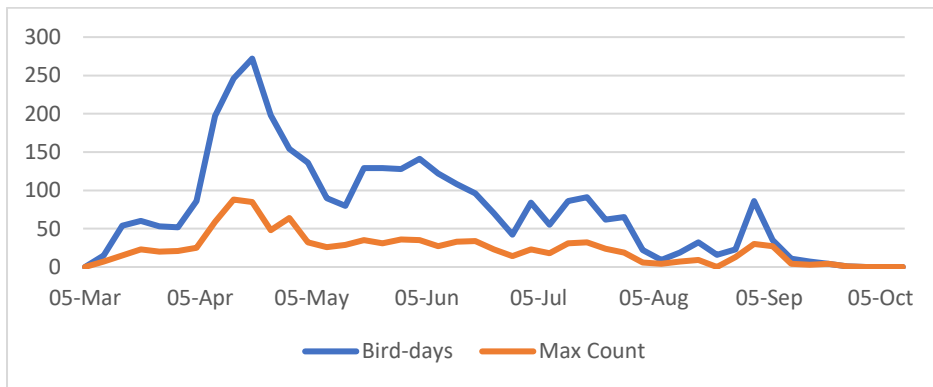
- *Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:*

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
20-Mar	18-Mar	19-Mar	20-Mar	20-Mar	21-Mar	20-Mar
17-Oct	11-Oct	17-Oct	16-Oct	19-Oct	23-Oct	10-Oct

The earliest arrival date was 8th March 2016, with the latest departure date being 8th November 2019

Spring migration began with three on 17th March, with passage then building slowly to a monthly peak of 23 on 28th March. Passage continued at this level for the first half of April, but then increased with counts of 40 or more on nine dates in the second half of the month, including a peak of 85 on 28th April. This level continued during the first half of May, then counts more reflect the presence of breeding birds.

During 2022, we were fortunate to have a student from Nottingham Trent University spend seven weeks studying and mapping Wheatear territories on the Calf, which resulted in the locating of 64 pairs – the highest breeding total ever.



The first fledged young were seen on 30th May and counts then remained fairly consistent with up to 36 birds seen daily through June and July. Low double figure counts were made during the first week of August, but then numbers dropped significantly, with just single figure counts from 8th, except 10 on 31st. Counts during September were also low with 1 – 5 on just 16 dates, although the period 6th – 12th saw the passage of



Greenland *O.o. leucorrhea* birds with 30 on 7th, 28 on 8th and 27 on 12th. The final bird of the year was a single seen in the front field on 2nd October.

[Eurasian] Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*

Sparroo ny biljyn

Uncommon passage migrant

There were no spring records.

Early autumn records involved four that arrived at the Observatory during the afternoon of 23rd August and a flock of 19 appeared briefly during the morning of 27th.

October produced just one further record with a single in the Sitka outside the farmhouse on 18th October.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

Fallyn

FB, Uncommon passage migrant

Undoubtedly more common pre-1959 and bred around the farmhouse. Since farming ceased the only breeding records were in 1971 and 1972

A female trapped at the Observatory on 22nd March, and pairs seen on 19th & 30th April were the only spring records.



Early autumn dispersal was recorded with a juvenile trapped at the Withy on 27th July, (different?) singles around the Observatory daily from 25th – 28th August, with three on 27th and eight, including three at the Withy on 30th. In October four arrived on 8th, three on 13th, seven on 18th, a single on 21st and two on 25th October and 1st November.

Dunnock *Prunella modularis*

Boght keeir

OB, sm, AM,

Bred annually from 1959 to 1998, with a maximum of 27 pairs in 1974.

Mostly absent as a breeding species from 1999 with just one or two pairs recorded in 2002, 2016 and 2017

A single present on the 17th January may suggest that at least one bird overwintered.

Spring passage was recorded from 19th March with up to three birds seen on six dates in the month, then singles on five dates through to 19th April. A single on 5th May and a bird at Big Head on 29th & 30th May.

The only mid-summer records were of two on 16th June, otherwise evidence of breeding was mostly lacking, except for a bird seen carrying food on the Central Heath on 3rd July. A juvenile trapped at the Withy on 1st July and subsequently re-trapped on 9th was thought to have originated from off-island and further records of singles up to 17th could refer to this bird, although two were seen on 14th July.

Two birds near The Dock on 9th September probably heralded the start of autumn passage, although other than singles on 15th & 18th, passage proper did not begin until a single on 24th, whereafter up to five were seen almost daily until the end of month. October provided most of the passage with daily records including counts of 2 – 7 on 26 dates, 10 on 2nd & 11th, 12 on 14th, 16 on 13th and a month peak of 20 on 18th. After nine on 1st & seven on 3rd November, daily records of 1 – 5 were seen through to the end of the season.

[Western] Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

Skibbagh wuigh

Scarce passage migrant

162 previous records involving 281 individuals, with records in April (11), May (67), June (11), July (4), August (37), September (30) and October (2). Most Calf records refer to the nominate race M.f flavissima with six records of Grey-headed Wagtail M.f thunbergi (1972, 1974, 1978), 1984, 1986 and 2005), seven records of Blue-headed Wagtail M.f flava (1979, 1982, 1988, 1989, 1991, 1992 and 1994) and a single record of 'Eastern Yellow Wagtail' M.f tschutschensis on 9th May 2004

- *Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:*

<i>60-year average</i>	<i>2009 to 2018</i>	<i>1999 to 2008</i>	<i>1989 to 1998</i>	<i>1979 to 1988</i>	<i>1969 to 1978</i>	<i>1959 to 1968</i>
<i>10-May</i>	<i>08-May</i>	<i>14-May</i>	<i>10-May</i>	<i>03-May</i>	<i>12-May</i>	<i>17-Jun</i>
<i>06-Sep</i>	<i>22-Aug</i>	<i>10-Sep</i>	<i>08-Sep</i>	<i>12-Sep</i>	<i>03-Sep</i>	<i>30-Aug</i>

The earliest arrival date was 20th April 1993, with the latest departure date being 7th October 1994

A ‘flava’ type was seen and heard in the Lighthouse Fields on 23rd April (EMG) and was the first spring bird since 2019.

A second (spring) bird was unexpectedly caught in the Crow Trap on 30th June. The bird was 2nd calendar year male and showed plumage characteristics of a Blue-headed x Spanish Wagtail.



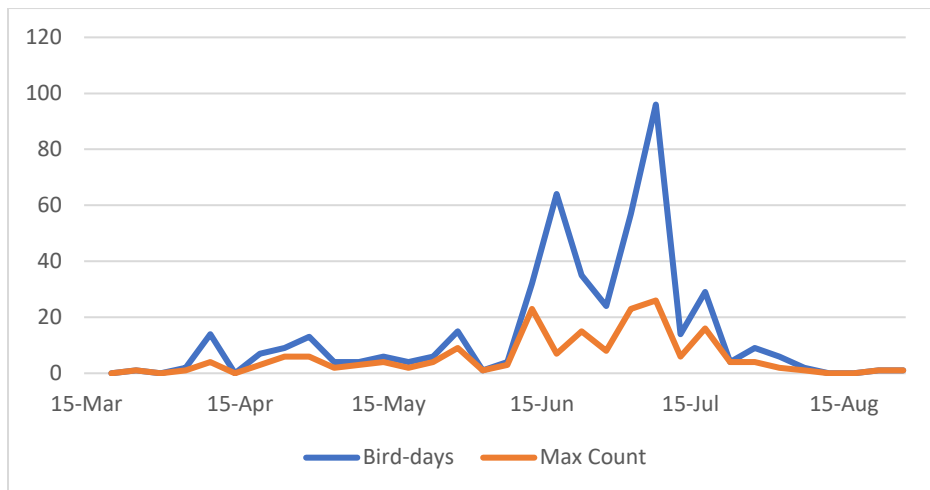
Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

Skibbagh ghlass

sm, AM

An excellent series of spring records with singles on 21st, 22nd & 29th March and 12th & 19th April and 13th & 19th May.

Following one on 4th June, post-breeding dispersal was evident with further singles on 15th & 18th, then up to four on six dates during the last third of the month. Passage continued throughout July, with up to four recorded on 15 dates, plus five on 9th and six on 5th & 10th.



Passage continued at a similar level though the first half of August, although nine were recorded on 10th and then increased significantly during the last week of the month, with 23 on 27th, 14 on 28th, 24 on 30th and 17 on 31st August. September produced a peak of passage between 15th - 20th with daily counts between 13 - 26, otherwise counts were mostly of single figures during the remainder of the month. Passage significantly reduced in October with a month high of four on 2nd & 11th, and 1 – 2 recorded on 10 other dates, whilst singles were seen on 3rd & 9th November.

Pied [White] Wagtail *Motacilla alba yarrelli*

Ushag voltee

RB, PM

One pair recorded as breeding in 1956 and 1976, then up to four pairs bred annually from 1980 with peaks of five to eight pairs in 2005 and 2016.

*Passage of White Wagtail *M.a alba* are recorded most years in spring (Apr-May) and in much greater numbers during each autumn (Aug-Sep)*

- *Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:*

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
21-Apr	06-Apr	25-Apr	28-Apr	21-Apr	25-Apr	24-Apr
29-Sep	28-Sep	03-Oct	27-Sep	20-Sep	04-Oct	07-Oct

The earliest arrival date was 25th March 2017, with the latest departure date being 18th October 2018

Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba yarrelli*

Recorded on all bar one date in spring with up to 10 birds being regularly seen. Passage was not particularly noticeable, perhaps due to the presence of these resident birds, with high counts of 16 on 29th March & 3rd April and 15 on 24th April and 14 on 29th May.

Eight pairs were identified during the breeding census, although daily counts rarely exceeded single figures; juveniles started to appear towards the end of June, increasing counts slightly with 11 on 30th June & 27th July, 12 on 3rd July and 13 on 21st July.

The start of return passage is difficult to assess, but 17 on 4th August may have been the start, with a further eight low double-figure counts during the month. Counts during the remainder of autumn were mostly of single figures with just three double figure counts in September and two in October, including 17 on 23rd September and 32 on 8th October. One to five were recorded on five dates in early November, plus a month peak of nine on 4th.

White Wagtail *Motacilla alba alba*

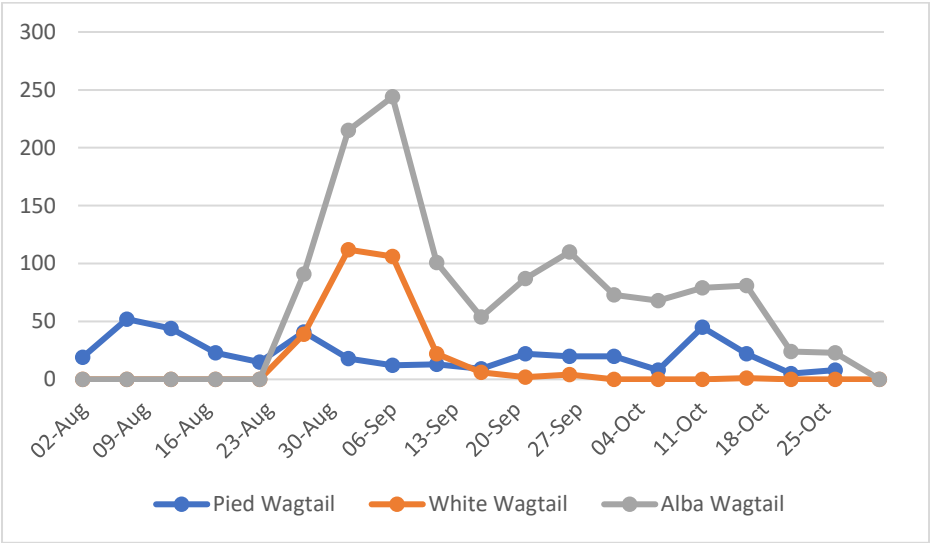
Skibbag vane

Spring passage consisted of seven singles between 17th April and 2nd May. Autumn passage began with five on 24th August with almost daily records then through to 17th August. Passage was at its peak between 26th August to 7th September, with double figure counts on all bar one date and a maximum of 37 on 30th August and 6th September. There were a further six records of 1 – 2 birds between 8th – 17th September, then four on 23rd September and a final late bird on 14th October.

'Alba' Wagtail *M. alba/yarrelli*

Records of non-specifically identified Alba wagtails, usually fly-over birds, where recorded during the period 25th August – 25th October. An initial peak of passage in late August through to mid-September is likely to have mostly involved birds of *M.a alba* race, with peak counts of 82 on 30th August, 107 on 2nd and 80 on 7th September. A further count of 66 on 23rd September is likely to have also included some White Wagtails, however a greater passage of *M.a yarrelli* also occurred at this time and further counts, up to 25th

October, are likely to relate to mostly Pied Wagtails. Counts during October were mostly in single figures but also included seven double figure counts, with a peak of 59 on 13th October.



Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*

Tweet lheenagyn

RB, PM

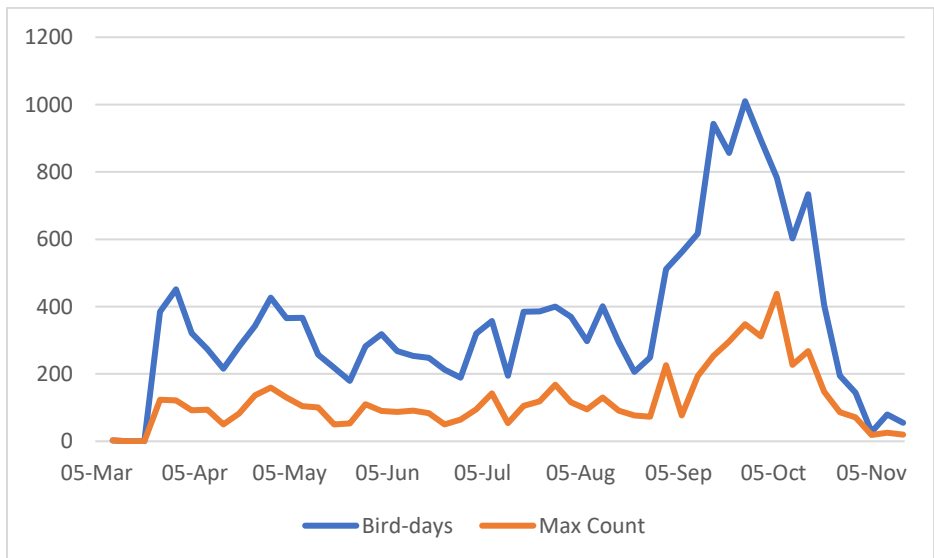
Between 50 – 100 pairs breed annually, with a peak of 110 pairs in 1982

Recorded daily throughout spring and summer with counts of up to 100 being relatively commonplace. A light spring passage, with several counts in excess of 100, occurred during late April, however a count of 159 on 24th April was more likely to reflect good weather conditions and a more complete level of coverage across the island. Counts during May through to mid-August were mostly in the late double figures, with a high of 168 on 21st July which represents an increase due to the presence of young birds.

A full breeding census was not possible; however, numbers were thought to be more than 70 pairs, with fledging success considered to be relatively high. Juvenile birds were present from mid-June, with 95 locally bred young being ringed up to end of August.



Autumn passage was evident from late August, with 226 on 27th and 181 the following day. Counts of more than 175 were recorded on 15 dates in September, with a peak of 438 on 28th. A further seven counts of more than 100 occurred during the first half of October, but after the 14th numbers reduced drastically with mostly single figure counts to the end of the month and through much of November. This lack of birds was exacerbated by the near continuous gale force winds that occurred during the last four weeks of the season.



Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*

Tweet keylley

pm, AM

At least 281 previous records of approximately 3196 individuals, with records in April (52), May (53), June (6), July (9), August (91), September (58) and October (12)

- Average spring arrival and autumn departure dates:

60-year average	2009 to 2018	1999 to 2008	1989 to 1998	1979 to 1988	1969 to 1978	1959 to 1968
23-Apr	26-Apr	06-May	23-Apr	13-Apr	25-Apr	19-Apr
19-Sep	17-Sep	12-Sep	17-Sep	27-Sep	21-Sep	16-Sep

The earliest arrival date was 4th April 1985 and 1988, with the latest departure date being 23rd October 1987

- Number of individuals recorded by decade:

Years	1959-1968	1969-1978	1979-1988	1989-1998	1999-2008	2009-2018
Bird-days	273	462	1316	470	136	349

A considerable improvement on recent spring passages with singles recorded on 24th & 30th April and 2nd, 3rd & 8th May.

An excellent autumn passage began with five on 6th August, then up to eight were seen on a further eight dates in the month, plus 15 on 10th, 35 on 11th and 26 on 17th, 14 on 25th & 31st, 21 on 27th and 23 on 28th August. An additional three records were of birds recorded by Nocmig, with single calls heard at 03:36 hrs on 26th and at 02:40 & 02:55 on 27th August.

September records involved singles on 1st & 11th, two on 2nd, 7th & 9th and three on 10th & 17th. The final bird of the year was unexpectedly trapped on 3rd November and becomes the latest Calf record by 11 days.

[Eurasian] Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus*

Tweet na greg

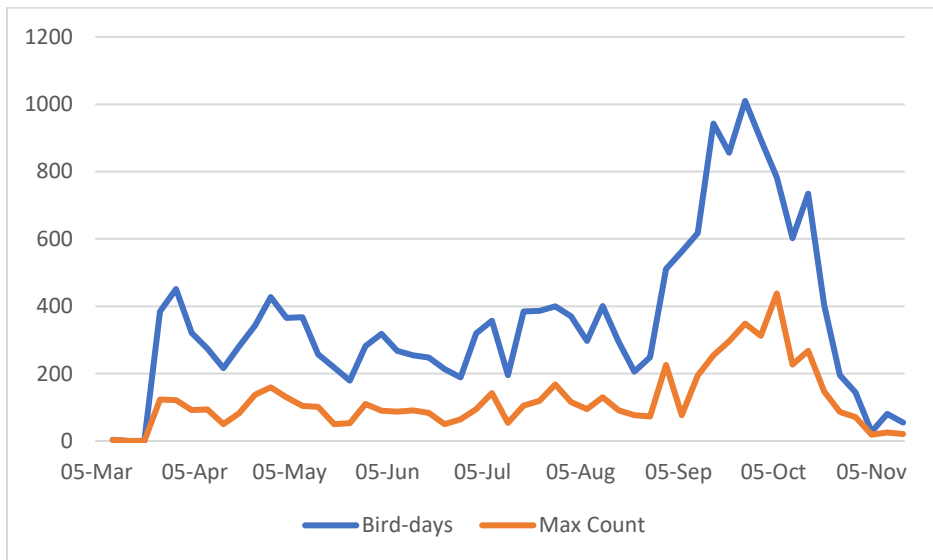
RB

Between 35 – 50 pairs recorded annually

Recorded almost daily with counts of up to 20 being most common, although up to 30 are recorded occasionally. A breeding census located 52 territories,

suggesting that the species is often under-recorded. High counts included 37 on 8th May & 5th November and 43 on 9th November. A peak in records during mid-October, when four counts between 20 – 25 were made, may indicate some passage of birds moving into the island, and swelling numbers. At this time concentrations of birds were noted near to the Lighthouses and on Caigher.

Almost exclusively, sightings are from the coast, so a juvenile trapped at the Top Withy in late July is noteworthy.



[Common] Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*

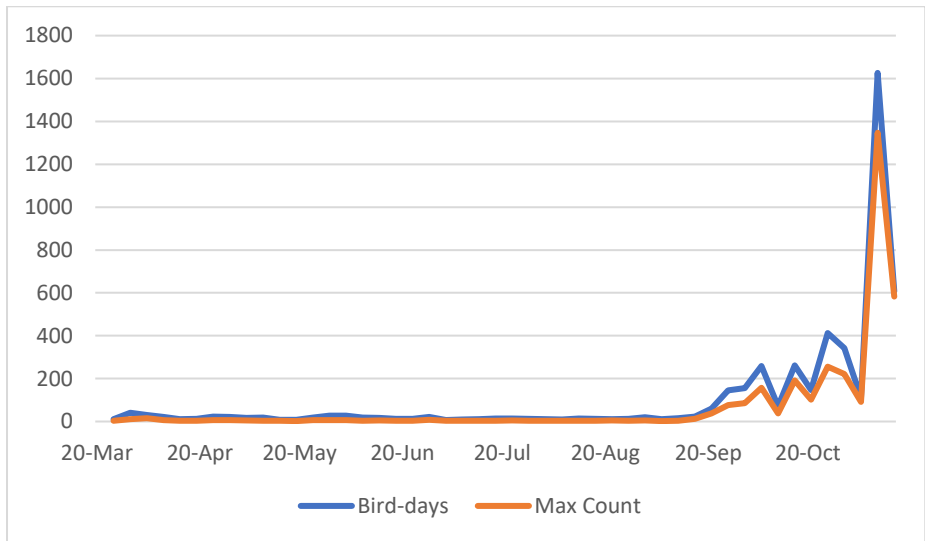
Ushag y chloau

RB, PM

First recorded breeding in 1939 and 1969, then up to three pairs have bred almost annually with four pairs in 2005, 2010 and 2017

Single figure counts were recorded throughout spring and summer, with at least three pairs breeding; a pair at the Observatory and two pairs in the Glen. A very light spring passage was indicated by just four counts of 9 – 16 birds between 22nd – 29th March.

A light autumn passage began with 12 on 10th September, with a further nine double figure counts during the month plus a peak of 158 on 29th. Passage during October was generally very poor with just single figure counts on 17 dates. On the rare calm days, passage increased with five counts between 102 – 222 and a month peak of 256 on 18th. The highest count of the season came on 1st November when 1,347 passed through, with smaller movements of 122 & 146 on 3rd & 4th respectively, 583 on 9th and 118 on 13th November.



Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*

Corkan drine

sm, AM;

An above average occurrence of spring records with singles on 22nd, 23rd & 24th, five on 28th, three on 29th and finally one on 30th March.

Autumn passage was extremely poor, with just two singles on 20th & 21st October and another single on 1st November.

As with many other migrants that normally pass through here during late October and November, numbers recorded were extremely poor and likely to be a result of near permanent gale force winds that were experienced during the last four weeks of the season.

Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus**

Rose-ghlassan jiarg

Rare passage migrant

32 previous records since the first in 1969, with records occurring in May (5), June (13), August (1), September (9) and October (4)

One was heard singing from the Front Hedge during the early hours of 6th May, quickly making its way around to the back garden whereafter it was not heard again.

[European] Greenfinch *Chloris chloris*

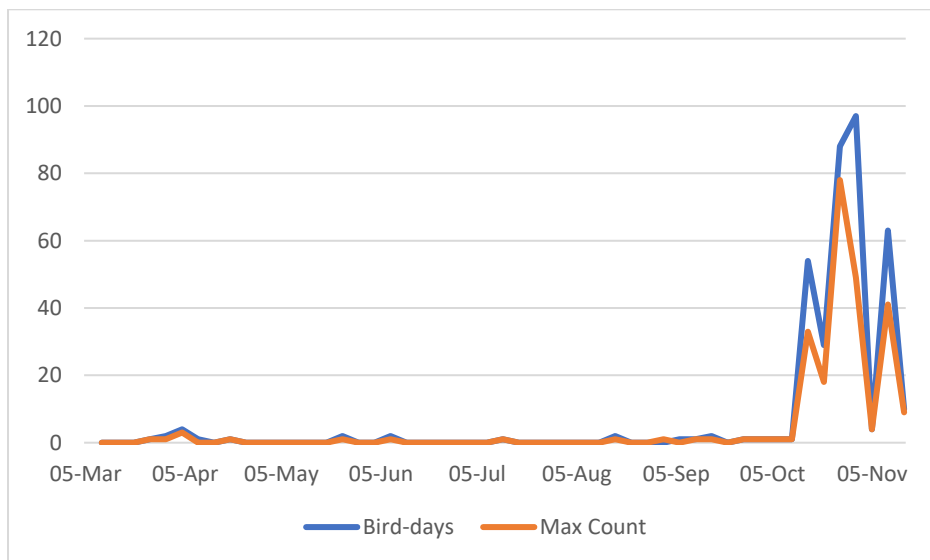
Ghlassan gharagh

OB, sm, AM

Sporadic breeding records involving one pair recorded in 10 out of 48 years since the first occurrence in 1970

An excellent series of spring records with singles on 18th, 23rd, 25th, 27th & 31st plus three on 29th March. One on 13th April and further singles on 18th – 19th & 31st May and 1st June.

Late summer records began with a male at the Observatory on 8th July, a juvenile female trapped at the Withy on 8th August: further singles seen on three dates in August and six dates in September are also likely to have been dispersing juveniles.



After a single on 3rd October, records became more frequent from 7th with ten more single figure counts and six double figure counts, including a peak of 78 on 18th October. November produced two more double figure counts, with 17 on 1st and 41 on 3rd, plus five on 4th, singles on 7th & 12th, nine on 9th, three on 13th and two on 14th.

A considerable improvement in the numbers of bird occurring on passage through the Calf, giving hope that the species is beginning to recover from the effects of trichomonosis disease.

Twite *Linaria flavirostris*

Bytermyn slieau

Uncommon passage migrant, vv

At least 194 previous records with approximately 2511 individuals, with records in February (4), March (25), April (22), May (4), June (3), July (5), August (5), September (11), October (59), November (51) and December (5)

A group of four were present around South Harbour on 25th March, and presumably the same group were seen along the East coast on 28th.

[Common] Linnet *Linaria cannabina*

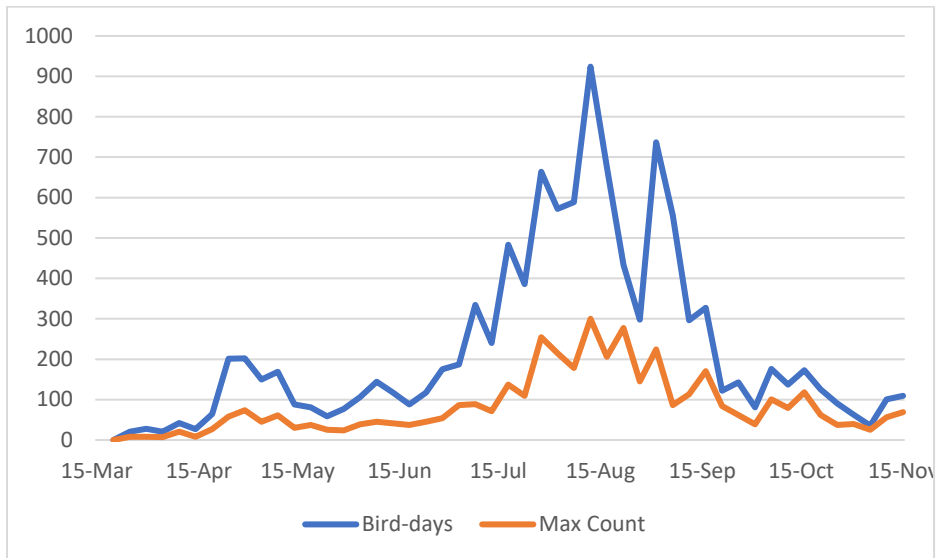
Bytermyn

RB, PM

Up to 20 pairs have been recorded annually since 1959, except for the period 1998 to 2003 when the species was apparently absent as a breeding species. Peak counts of breeding numbers occurred between 1976 and 1983 with between 30 to 50 pairs recorded

Recorded daily in small numbers through spring from 16th March, until mid-April when numbers increased with a monthly peak of 74 on 23rd April. Other than 61 on 2nd May counts of below 45 through to mid-June largely represented the breeding population, which was thought to be around 20 pairs. Counts during the latter half of June increased, as juvenile birds began to gather in small flocks, with a high of 86 on 27th June. Numbers increased through July with several mobile flocks seen around the island and counts of more than 75 on 20 occasions in the month, including a peak of 254 on 21st July. Counts remained high through August with 17 dates when more than 100 were recorded including six counts of more than 200 and a peak of 300

on 7th August. Several flocks continued to be seen into early September, with a maximum count of 170 on 7th, but after 84 on 12th counts were mostly single or low double figures except for 101 on 29th.



Autumn passage through the Calf was, as with most other finches, restricted by inclement weather for much of October and November and counts rarely exceeded 35, with monthly peaks of 118 on 11th October and 69 on 9th November.

Lesser Redpoll *Acanthis cabaret*

Kione-jiarg beg

PM

Spring passage began with 1-2 recorded daily between 26th – 29th March, then 1-3 on 12 dates in April and 17 dates in May, plus five on 17th & 19th April and 11th May and seven on 22nd April. Four on 1st June was followed by singles on four more dates in the month up to the 20th.

Early autumn dispersal was noted with singles on 1st, 5th & 10th August, but then no further records until four singles between 17th – 28th September with four on 23rd September. October produced a few more records with 1 – 3 on 10 dates, plus six on 11th, a peak of 16 on 18th and seven on 21st. Passage continued into early November with 16 on 1st, 10 on 3rd and three on 9th.

[Red] Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra*

Gob cam

Scarce passage migrant

128 previous records involving 503 individuals, with records in March (4), April (1), May (10), June (28), July (24), August (16), September (20), October (20) and November (5)

The only record of the season was a female or immature which was present in the Sitka by the tractor barn for a few minutes on 21st June, before flying off in a westerly direction.

[European] Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*

Lossey ny keylley

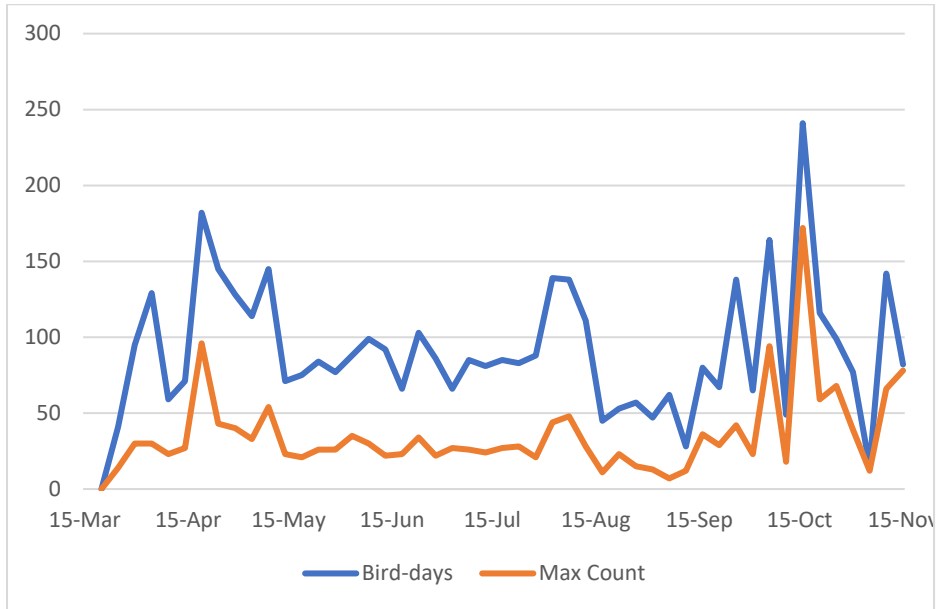
RB, PM;

First recorded as breeding in 1980, it wasn't until seven pairs bred in 2008 that the species became established, with numbers rising to at least 20 pairs in 2016 – 2020

Present from the beginning of the season, small numbers of passage birds began to swell local numbers with counts of up to 30 recorded on three occasions during the latter half of March. Spring passage peaked between 12th – 21st April, with monthly highs of 96 on 13th April and 54 on 2nd May. Ringing records show that a few birds continued to move through during May but counts rarely exceeded 25 until young began to fledge and increased the numbers of birds present during the second half of the month. Numbers of breeding pairs were thought to be similar to last year, with 10 – 12 pairs present, with 85 locally-bred young ringed between May and mid-August. Counts during June and July reflect the presence of breeding birds, however during the last week of July a small increase occurred with a high of 48 on 30th.

Early autumn produced little movement, with single figures and low double figure counts of up to 27 being made through August. A similar picture continued through the first half of September, but from 17th numbers increased as a light passage was observed, with 42 on 19th, 49 on 28th and 94 on 29th. As with many other finches counts in October were adversely affected by storms during the latter part of the month, but 172 on 11th was the highest day count of the season. Otherwise, there were just 11 dates with

single figure counts and 12 dates with double figure counts, including 59 on 13th and 68 on 18th October. Strong winds during November continued to restrict passage although counts of 66 on 1st, 57 on 3rd and 78 on 9th occurred.



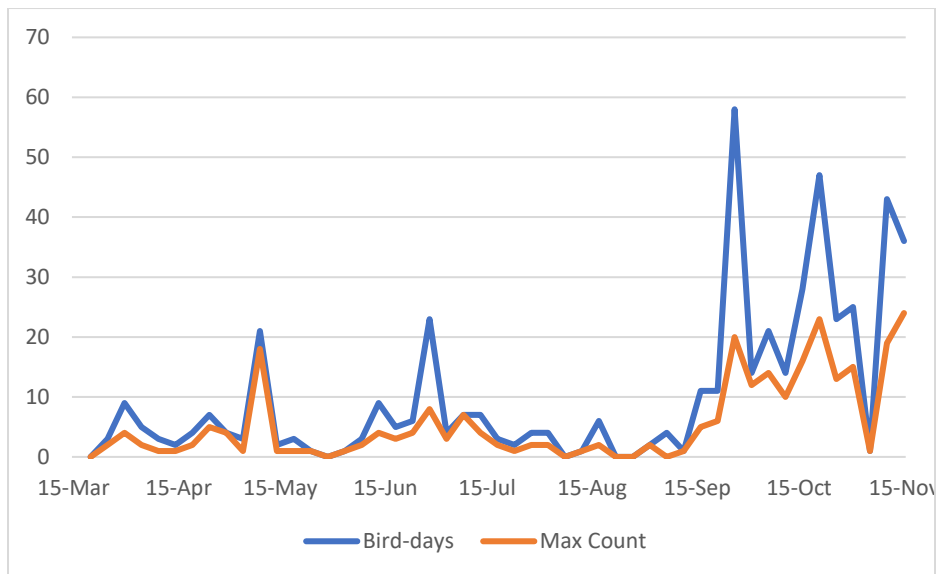
[Eurasian] Siskin *Spinus spinus*

Corkan airhey

PM

Recorded sporadically through spring with 1 – 2 birds seen on 10 dates in March, 13 dates in April and nine dates in May, plus higher counts of four on 23rd March and 20th April, five on 17th April and a spring maximum of 18 on 3rd May.

June records were slightly more numerous, with the likelihood of some juvenile dispersal being involved from breeding areas on the Isle of Man and 1 – 7 birds were recorded on 15 dates plus eight on 21st. This post-fledging dispersal continued to a lesser extent through July and August with 1 – 2 on 12 dates in July and six dates in August, plus monthly peaks of four on 5th July and 30th August.



A light passage continued in early September with 1 – 5 on five dates up to 11th and then a stronger passage from 15th with single figure counts on six dates and double figure counts on five dates in the month, with a peak of 20 on 19th. Passage continued at a similar level in October and November with monthly peaks of 23 on 13th October and 24 on 9th November.

Lapland Bunting [Longspur] *Calcarius lapponicus*

Pompee laplynnagh

Rare passage migrant

57 previous records involving 66 individuals, with records in March (1), April (1), September (11), October (30) and November (14)

One was found and photographed, amongst a flock of Meadow Pipits, in the Top Withy field during the late afternoon of 25th March (MDH).

The first record since 2017 and first spring record since 2012.

Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis*

Pompee niaghtee

Rare passage migrant

72 previous records involving 131 individuals, with records in February (2), March (4), September (3), October (24) and November (39)

One was present briefly in the Seafield during the morning of 20th March and a second individual was located along the East coast footpath near to the Wall at dawn on 10th April and remained in the same area until the 16th.

The first record since 2016 and first spring record since 2012.



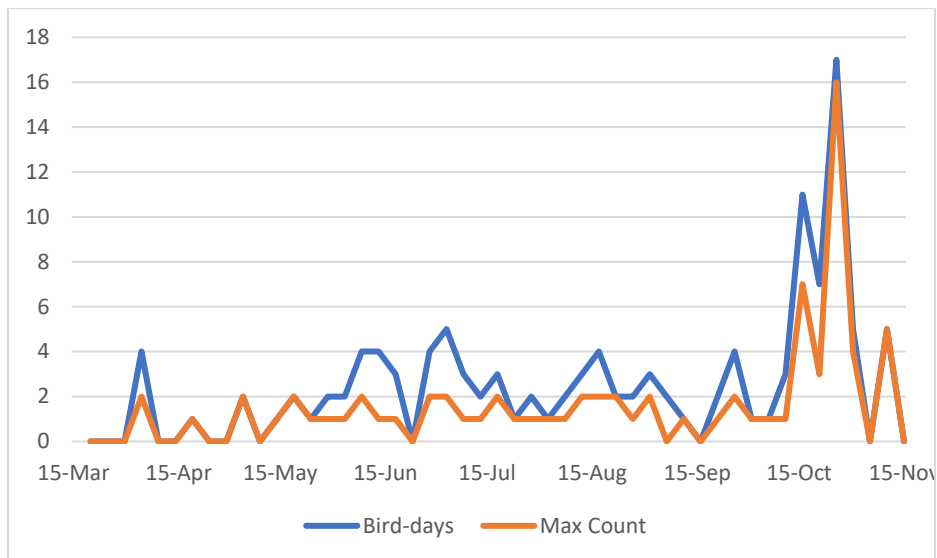
[Common] Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*

Pompee ny guirtlagh

RB, am

Bred annually from 1959 to 1994 with a peak of 19 pairs in 1980. Absent as a breeding species from 1995 to 2001, then one to three pairs recorded from 2002 in all but five years

Up to two birds were recorded on two dates in both March and April. Records became slightly more frequent from May with up to two on nine dates in the month and 14 dates in June and 11 in July. Singing males were recorded at the Triangle and between the Top Withy and Central Heath and three juveniles were trapped at the Withy during the second half of August.



Autumn passage was evident from 'new' birds trapped from 20th September and an increase in records through October, with 1 – 2 on eight dates, three on 8th & 16th, seven on 11th and an incredible 16 on 18th. The only records in November were five on 3rd and a single on 12th.

Descriptions

Spotted Crake *Porzana porzana* – a new species for the Calf of Man

During the afternoon of the 2nd September I opened some of the mist nets set in the Withy area and was standing near to the Hide whilst watching Swallows, White Wagtails and Stonechats that were visiting the Millpond to drink and bathe. I was alerted to a movement on my left and saw a 'rail-type' bird flying low across the Millpond – its trailing legs and rounded brown wings allowed me to immediately identify the family. The lack of any noticeable grey plumage or long bill confirmed my initial impression that this wasn't a Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus* – it also looked relatively small in flight. The bird landed about 30-foot from where it had taken off, in front of a bank of Bracken, and facing slightly away from me. Immediately, I was struck by its overall brown appearance with a cream-white vent and undertail, which it 'flicked' regularly as is characteristic with many rails. My thoughts were now turning towards it being a Spotted Crake *Porzana porzana* - I have seen Sora in both the UK and USA and was able to rule out this possibility by the less distinct undertail colouration and lack of 'cream egg' pattern.

The bird began to peck at areas around where it had landed, and as it moved, I could see that its legs were a green-yellow colour and as it turned side-on I could see the overall brown upperparts with dark spotting on the back, breast and flanks, becoming more scalloped on the lower belly. The lack of any striping on the flanks or belly allowed me to further rule out Little Crake *P. parva* and the relatively long primary projection, which extended well beyond the undertail, allowed me to rule out Baillon's Crake *P. pusilla*. I could now see the head and bill and was able to note a short-stubby bill that appeared to be dark at the tip and paler yellowy-orange at the base. The eye appeared dark, which created a dark spot within a paler greyish-white face. The bird appeared quite settled, but then suddenly made its way into the Bracken undergrowth and did not re-appear.

Realising that I had just been watching a new species for the Calf, I closed the mist nets that I had recently opened and returned to the Observatory to alert others of my recent sighting. We returned to the Millpond and played a tape of Spotted Crake in the hope that this would encourage the bird to venture out from the undergrowth, but unfortunately heavy rain was approaching the Calf and the bird was not seen again that day.

6th – 16th September

On the 6th September, Eleanor Grover (Assistant Warden) was at the Millpond and saw, on two occasions, a small rail/crake type bird. Over the next 10 days Eleanor saw the bird on several more occasions, over the course of five more dates, up to the 16th when it was last seen. Views were mostly very brief, although she was able to observe the bird for slightly longer periods of time on a couple of occasions and was able to note most of the salient features that identified the bird as a Spotted Crake.

The record also represents just the fourth Manx record and first modern-day record, with the three previous sightings having occurred during the 19th century.

Black Kite *Milvus migrans* – the 3rd Calf and Manx record

At around 0905am on 4th June, Chloe Hurst and I were alerted to ‘a panic’, as many *Larus* gulls that were roosting in the Glen fields went into a frenzy. Although the gulls often spook themselves, this sounded like there was more to it, and we spent a while searching over the Glen looking for the cause. Nothing was apparent and we then made our way into the Front Field to look at some Thistles, before heading back towards the Observatory. As we approached the front hedge, we were alerted to several Herring Gulls giving alarm calls from above us and I looked up to see a bird of prey above the Observatory. My immediate impression was that it looked different and called to Chloe to get onto the bird. I lifted my binoculars and could immediately see that I was looking at a Kite – the relatively long narrow wings and slightly forked tail being diagnostic of the family. The bird was drifting slowly towards us, and I identified it as a Black Kite, a species I am familiar with from abroad.

The light was excellent and with the sun behind us, I was able to see the overall grey-brown head, chest, underbody, and tail, the latter showing a slight but distinct shallow fork. I am very familiar with Red Kite (*Milvus milvus*) and was able to rule out this species, owing to the shallower forked (and not rufous) tail and less distinct underwing pattern. The underwing, including secondaries and axillaries, were a slightly darker brown than the body, with a diffuse pale grey window showing on the underside of the primary base, which was made more obvious by the darker brown axillaries and dark primary tips. The wings appeared relatively narrow, certainly not

broad like a Buzzard and lacked any white patch on the underwing. The tail looked to be about the same length of the bird's body and showed a distinct shallow fork, which was obvious even when the bird was constantly adjusting and turning its tail in the wind. The use of the tail was typical of a kite species and the slenderness and length further ruled out any likely confusion with Buzzard. The bird was flying above us and so it was difficult to see the upperparts, but as the bird turned and adjusted in the wind, and avoided the attentions of the accompanying Herring Gulls, I could see that the head and upper back were also grey-brown in colour.

Chloe ran to the Observatory to get a camera and I watched the bird as it flew directly over me, giving views down to about 30 - 40 foot. The bird appeared slightly smaller than the Herring Gulls that it was occasionally harried by and then began to move more purposefully to the north. Unfortunately, by the time CH made it back outside, the bird had disappeared beyond our view, heading north over Gibdale towards the Isle of Man.

Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscus* – the 2nd Calf and Manx record.

The 26th April produced a decent arrival of migrants with c.100 Willow Warblers recorded, along with many Chiffchaffs, a Grasshopper Warbler and a Lesser Whitethroat. During the morning, Eleanor Grover was ringing at the Withy and arrived back up at the Observatory and handed me a bird bag saying that she had caught what she believed to be a Dusky or Radde's Warbler in the Top Withy nets. I removed the bird from the bag and immediately realised that we were dealing with a bird that was either of the two afore mentioned east palearctic vagrants.

Adam Homer and David Neal, two visiting ringers, were also present and agreed with this conclusion. Reference was made to Svensson (Identification Guide to European Passerines) and Demongin (Identification Guide to Birds in the Hand) and a full wing formula was recorded. Our conclusion was that that this was the 2nd ever record of Dusky Warbler for the Calf and Isle of Man. A photograph of the bird was also sent to Kester Wilson, who agreed with the identification, before the bird had been released.

Upperparts: Head, nape, back, remiges and retrices all dark brown, with long orangey supercilium extending from base of bill towards rear of head. Lores

slightly darker, almost blackish brown, extending into eyestripe of similar brown to upperparts. Pale lower orbital ring.

Underparts: Brown of upperparts extended through cheeks and lower head to throat and upperbreast and becoming lighter dullish brown to off-white. Belly whiter but flanks buffish-white with vent and undertail coverts having a distinct orangey-hue.

Bare parts: Eye dark. Legs pinkish, with soles of feet more yellow. Upper mandible dark, lower mandible dark below but with paler pinkish upper edge and distinct yellow base extending to the gape.

Measurements:

- Emarginated 3456 2ndPP = 8/9
- 1stPP = Primary Coverts + 11mm
- 2ndPP = -10.5mm
- 3rdPP = - 1.5mm
- 4thPP = Wing Point
- 5thPP = -0.25mm
- 6thPP = -2mm
- 7thPP = -5mm
- 8thPP = -8mm
- 9thPP = -10mm
- 10thPP = -14mm

Wing Length = 63mm
Weight = 10.5 gms
Tarsus Width = 1.5mm
Tarsus Length = 20.5mm
Bill Depth = 2.5mm
Bill – Skull = 11mm
Fat = 4
Muscle = 2



Dusky Warbler

2022 Breeding Totals

Species	2022	Status
Shelduck	1 Pair	One or two pairs bred in all years since 2002; a pair was present at The Puddle through spring.
Mallard	3 Pairs	Four broods were seen on the Millpond, with a fifth on Kitterland.
Eider	87+ Pairs	First bred in 1992, with an estimated 70 pairs in each year 2018 – 2021; 87 nests located during 2022, with some suitable areas not surveyed.
Pheasant	3 Pairs	Bred for the first time in 2018; At least three males held territory, with three or four broods seen.
Oystercatcher	20 Pairs	Average of 13 pairs during 2012 – 2021
Great Black-backed Gull	66 AON	Average of 47 AON during 2012 – 2021
Herring Gull	588 AON	Average of 416 AON during 2012 – 2021
Lesser Black-backed Gull	38 AON	Average of 40 AON during 2012 – 2021
Common Guillemot	177 IA's	Average of 171 IA's during 2012 – 2021
	106 Pairs	Average of 113 pairs during 2012 – 2021
Razorbill	154 IA's	Average of 177 IA's during 2012 – 2021
	92 Pairs	Average of 117 pairs during 2012 – 2021
Black Guillemot	2 – 3 Pairs	First recorded breeding in 1972 with 1 - 3 pairs less than annually; Pairs seen regularly below the Lighthouses and the East coast
Puffin	1 – 2 Pairs	Last confirmed breeding in 1997, with a maximum of 65 pairs in 1979, Two pairs present at Kione ny Halby in 2021; Several birds seen regularly off the Stack and at Kione ny Halby
Fulmar	73 AOS	Average of 76 AOS during 2012 – 2021
Manx Shearwater	1000 – 1200 AOB	Average of 479 AOB during 2012 – 2021
Shag	107 AON	The highest count for five years, but still some 14% below the average of 125 AON during 2012 – 2021.
Buzzard	1 Pair	First attempted breeding in 2021; a nest was located at Baie Fine but it was not possible to see the contents.

Species	2022	Status
Peregrine	1 Pair	Breeds almost annually, with two pairs in 2019 & 2020; one pair were unsuccessful.
Magpie	1 Pair	Bred annually 1959 – 2002 with max 14 pairs. One pair in 2007, 2020 & 2021; A nest in Mill Giau was unsuccessful.
Chough	8 – 9 Pairs	Average of 10 pairs during 2012 – 2021
Hooded / Carrion Crow	12 Pairs	Average of 7 pairs during 2012 – 2021
Raven	2 Pairs	1 - 2 pairs breed annually; one pair successfully fledged three young
Swallow	6 Pairs	Average of 3 pairs during 2012 – 2021, with max 10 pairs in 2005 & 2007; two pairs bred at the Observatory, with four pairs at Jane's House
Whitethroat	1 Pair	1 – 3 pairs in 8 out of the past 10 years; pair seen in Withy area
Wren	43 Pairs	Average of 19 pairs during 2012 – 2021 with max 73 pairs in 1974;
Blackbird	12 Pairs	Average of 5 pairs during 2012 – 2021 with max 22 pairs in 1979;
Robin	14 Pairs	1 – 5 pairs in five out of last 10 years with max 6 - 7 pairs in 1990;
Stonechat	18 Pairs	Average of 4 pairs during 2012 – 2021 with max 20 pairs in 1977;
Wheatear	64 Pairs	Average of 25 pairs during 2012 – 2021 with max 40 pairs in 2018 & 2019;
Pied Wagtail	8 Pairs	Up to 4 pairs annually with max 6 - 8 pairs in 2016;
Meadow Pipit	70+ Pairs	Average of 45 pairs during 2011 – 2020 with max 110 pairs in 1982;
Rock Pipit	52 Pairs	Average of 30 pairs during 2011 – 2020 with max 48 pairs in 1967;
Linnet	c.20 Pairs	Average of 11 pairs during 2012 – 2021 with max 50 pairs in 1982;
Goldfinch	10 Pairs	Average of 11 pairs during 2012 – 2021 with max 20 pairs in 2016, 2017, 2018 & 2019;
Reed Bunting	1 – 2 Pairs	1 - 2 pairs in seven out of last 10 years with max 19 pairs in 1980;

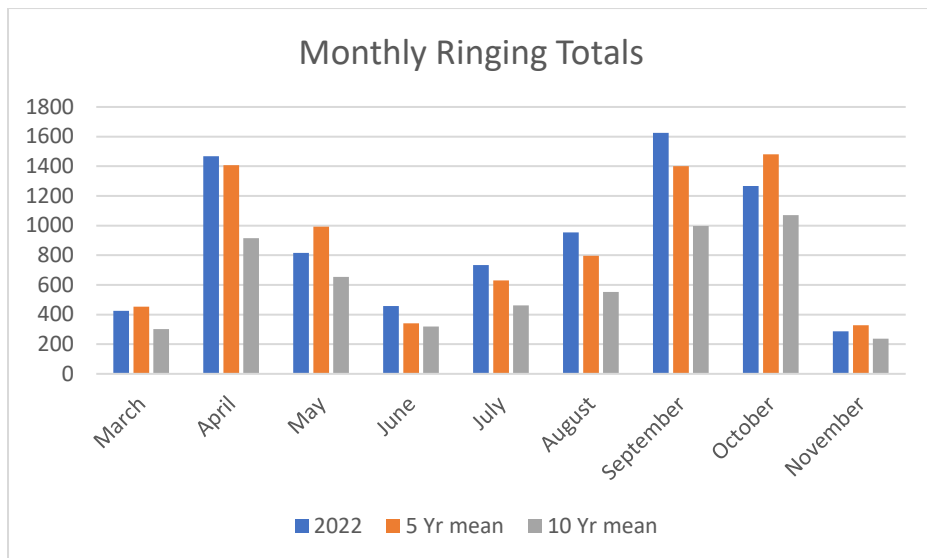
2022 Ringing Report

The grand total of 8029 birds of 73 species were ringed, placing 2022 as the 3rd most successful year in the Observatories history.

Arriving in the middle of March, migrants were already moving through, and inclement weather reduced our opportunities during our first week. The latter third of the month gave a period of light winds from the easterly quarter and this improved things considerably, with reasonable numbers of Goldcrests, Chiffchaff and the beginnings of a good spring passage of Willow Warblers. Two Black Redstart, three Coal Tit, four Blue Tit and a House Sparrow added some interest, as well as a 'tristis' Chiffchaff. Early April was dominated by a period of northerly winds, which kept migration numbers low but a good passage of Goldfinch around mid-month was followed by some excellent spring migration, with notable captures of Cuckoo, Ring Ousel, eight Grasshopper Warbler and Lesser Whitethroat and which was topped by the capture of the Calf's and Isle of Man's 2nd ever Dusky Warbler at the end of the month.

This good spell continued through early May with another Cuckoo, three more Grasshopper Warbler, two Reed Warbler, Lesser Whitethroat, and a Subalpine Warbler. The second half of the month was relatively quiet for migrants, although breeding birds began to take on a greater focus and a record total of 36 Eider were nest trapped and 12 Hooded Crow pulli ringed.

June again produced some rarities with a Greenish Warbler early in the month, another Subalpine Warbler mid-month and the 2nd ever Yellow Wagtail ringed on the Calf at the end of the month. Overall, the summer would appear to have been a successful one for most breeding birds, and, in particular, passerine productivity was good. This resulted in high numbers of locally bred young being present and in turn above average ringing totals for June and July. The total in the latter month being helped considerably by a record number of Linnet being trapped.



Our colour-ringing studies were extended this year, with Stonechat and Grey Wagtail being added, with excellent totals of 160 and 105 being achieved respectively. This has already resulted in several subsequent sightings for both species and increased the recovery rate of Calf-ringed Grey Wagtail by 300%.

Contributions to our other longer-running studies included the addition of 47 Shag, nine Cough, 123 Herring Gull, three Lesser Black-backed Gull and 40 Great Black-backed Gull providing additional valuable information on survival rates, population dynamics and the movements of these species.

Thankfully the catastrophic effects of bird flu, seen on other Islands, did not reach the Calf but nonetheless the necessary precautions did have some effect on our activities during the season. Following government guidelines, the prohibitions on catching seabirds during late July and through much of August had a negative impact on the numbers of Storm Petrel and Manx Shearwater caught during the year. Despite these restrictions the 4th highest annual total for Manx Shearwater was achieved and following relaxation of the restrictions a catch of 34 Storm Petrel was the largest single-night catch for some years.

Early autumn migration was productive with above average numbers of Willow Warbler moving south during August, presumably reflecting a good breeding season in Scotland and Scandinavia. Similarly, Tree Pipit numbers were high and resulted in a record total of 50 being ringed. Other notable species caught were four Grasshopper Warbler, two Pied Flycatcher and conversely the only Whinchat of autumn.

2022 should be remembered as the year of the Robin and following an exceptional breeding season for the species, we experienced an unprecedented level of passage throughout August and September, which resulted in a record annual total that was 52% higher than the previous record achieved back in 1989. Breeding numbers and productivity for Meadow Pipit would also appear to have been high and combined with a steady autumn passage resulted in the second highest annual total ever.

Unusual species trapped during September included the 16th Grasshopper Warbler of the year, a Barred Warbler, and another Pied Flycatcher; whilst the absence of any numbers of Blue Tit or Great Tit from the ringing totals is also noteworthy and likely because of inclement weather conditions experienced during the latter part of the season. Owing to a near constant procession of gales, the totals achieved during October and November were somewhat below par but arrivals on the rare calm days provided some highlights; with a Woodcock, 10 Skylark, two Yellow-browed Warbler and 27 Reed Bunting being noteworthy. Reasonable numbers of thrushes were also caught, mostly during a couple of large arrivals and numbers of Greenfinch caught were at their highest for at least a decade.

The Season's Centuries

Date	No. of birds ringed / No. of species
Main species	
13 th April	152 / 7spp
Goldfinch 80, Willow Warbler 54, Blackcap 9	
22 nd April	115 / 7spp
Willow Warbler 75, Blackcap 27, Goldfinch 7	
25 th April	152 / 11spp
Willow Warbler 85, Blackcap 21, Chiffchaff 13	
26 th April	127 / 14spp
Willow Warbler 83, Blackcap 15, Chiffchaff 11	
2 nd May	184 / 12spp
Willow Warbler 128, Blackcap 15, Goldfinch 12	
3 rd May	118 / 15spp
Willow Warbler 65, Blackcap 10, Goldfinch 10	
27 th August	112 / 15spp
Robin 69, Meadow Pipit 13, Willow Warbler 7	
10 th September	125 / 11spp
Meadow Pipit 41, Robin 39, Chiffchaff 14	
20 th September	167 / 11spp
Meadow Pipit 99, Goldcrest 23, Chaffinch 20	
23 rd September	136 / 11spp
Meadow Pipit 52, Goldcrest 28, Robin 24	
28 th September	143 / 12spp
Meadow Pipit 59, Goldcrest 35, Chaffinch 14	
11 th October	159 / 17spp
Goldcrest 30, Meadow Pipit 29, Song Thrush 26	
13 th October	106 / 16spp
Goldcrest 31, Chaffinch 13, Dunnock 12	
18 th October	209 / 20spp
Goldcrest 47, Chaffinch 32, Song Thrush 22, Greenfinch 22	
20 th October	120 / 10spp
Blackbird 58, Redwing 37, Fieldfare 6, Blackcap 6	
24 th October	119 / 13spp
Goldcrest 25, Blackbird 20, Redwing 19, Chaffinch 10	

Species and/or numbers of note ringed during 2021. Species in **bold** denote a record annual total:

Species	No.	Ranking
Eider	36	New annual record total, beating 23 in 2018
Manx Shearwater	130	4 th highest annual total ever
Hen Harrier	1	First ringed since 2018
Moorhen	1	First ringed since 2005
Skylark	10	2 nd highest annual total, following 11 in 1980
Tree Pipit	50	New annual record total, beating 43 in 1963
Meadow Pipit	1133	2 nd highest annual total, following 1235 in 2019
Rock Pipit	14	5 th highest annual total ever
Yellow Wagtail	1	2 nd ever and first since 1962
Grey Wagtail	108	2 nd highest annual total, following 178 in 2014
Pied Wagtail	93	3 rd highest annual total ever
Wren	133	4 th highest annual total and best since 1989
Robin	625	New annual record total, beating 411 in 1989
Stonechat	159	New annual record total, beating 137 in 1960
Wheatear	196	2 nd highest annual total, following 209 in 2019
Redwing	164	2 nd highest annual total, following 234 in 2021
Grasshopper Warbler	16	Highest annual total since 2007
Sedge Warbler	115	2 nd highest total since 2007
Blackcap	349	New annual record total, beating 344 in 2019
Barred Warbler	1	30 th ever
Subalpine Warbler	2	25 th & 26 th ever ringed
Greenish Warbler	1	10 th ever and first since 2017
Dusky Warbler	1	2 nd ever and first since 1970
Willow Warbler	1281	Highest annual total since 1990
Hooded Crow	12	New annual record total, beating 10 in 1980
Greenfinch	61	Highest annual total since 2011
Goldfinch	710	3 rd highest annual total ever
Linnet	259	New annual record total, beating 157 in 1986
Reed Bunting	32	Highest annual total since 1989

The table below shows this year's monthly totals with the five- and ten-year averages for comparison. **Bold** figures denote above average month totals.

	2022	5 yr average (2017-22)	10 yr average (2011 – 22)
Mar	424	453	342
Apr	1468	1408	1012
May	816	992	744
Jun	457	340	349
Jul	733	630	492
Aug	953	796	585
Sep	1625	1402	1071
Oct	1266	1481	1174
Nov	287	328	263
Total	8029	7258	5822

Top Ten Species

2022	Species	Total
1 st	Willow Warbler	1281
2 nd	Meadow Pipit	1133
3 rd	Goldfinch	712
4 th	Robin	625
5 th	Goldcrest	554
6 th	Blackcap	349
7 th	Blackbird	265
=8 th	Linnet	259
=8 th	Chaffinch	259
10 th	Chiffchaff	254

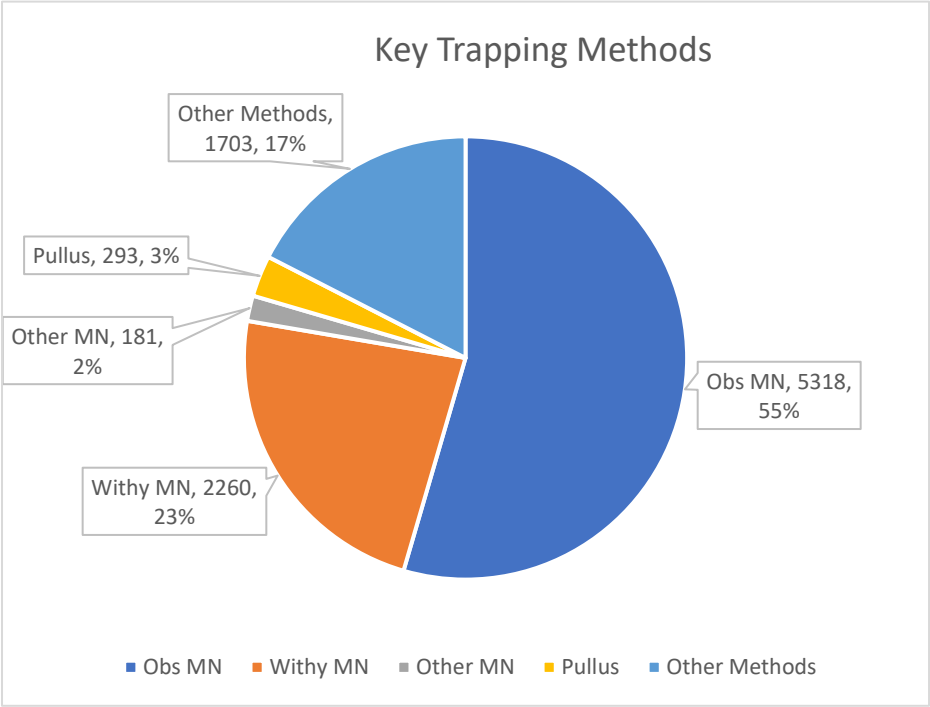
Previous rankings

2021	2020	2019	2018
2 nd	4 th	2 nd	2 nd
1 st	2 nd	1 st	4 th
3 rd	7 th	4 th	1 st
= 5 th	6 th	10 th	8 th
= 5 th	3 rd	3 rd	3 rd
10 th	13 th	9 th	7 th
12 th	5 th	5 th	9 th
27 th	31 st	23 rd	22 nd
4 th	1 st	6 th	6 th
9 th	19 th	7 th	5 th

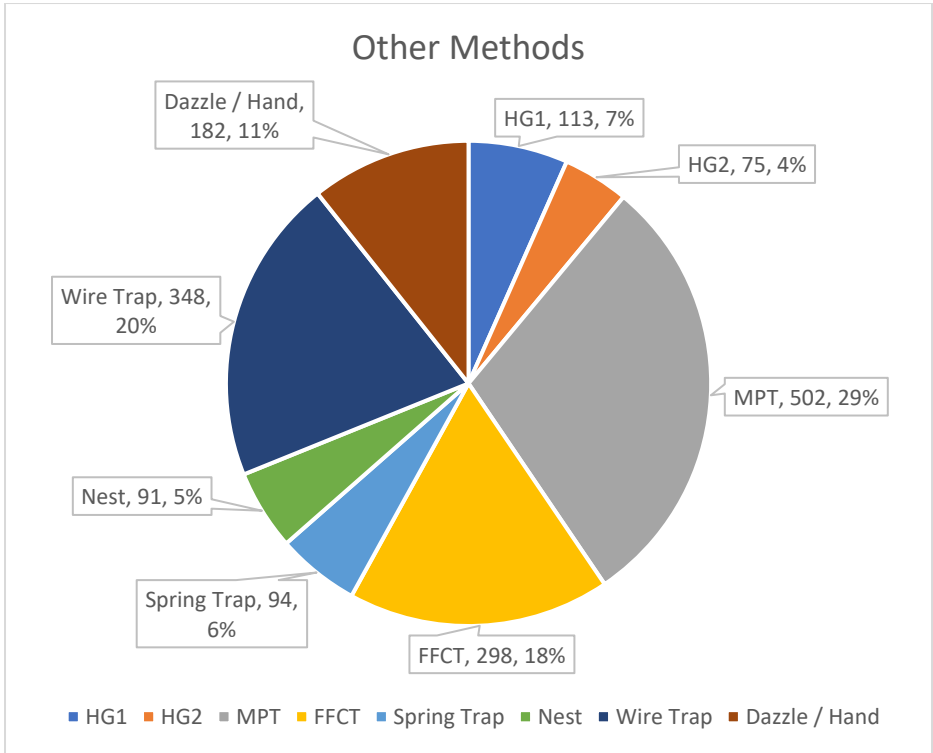
Trapping Methods:

As usual most birds were caught using conventional methods, with mist nets accounting for 80% of all birds trapped during 2022. This was an increase of 6% on 2021 totals; the subsequent decrease being split between Pulli (2%) and Other Methods. Despite these decreases, the number of birds trapped

during the year was greater and all key trapping methods, except pulli, showed an increase in totals caught. This is particularly noticeable for the Withy MN which saw an overall 7% increase of 1,055 birds trapped, largely due to efforts of our assistant warden, Eleanor Grover, in running the site more frequently through the season and additional help from several volunteers.



Whilst the percentage of birds trapped using Other Methods decreased by 4%, the actual numbers trapped increased by 148 birds. The use of passive walk-in traps (MPT, FFCT and Wire Traps) accounted for an increase of 325 captures, whilst the decrease of 209 birds caught by dazzling/or by hand reflects the HPAI restrictions around the catching of Manx Shearwaters. It was also a poor year for dazzling waders, with few occasions where tide, moon phase and weather conditions aligned. The drop in numbers of pullus ringed was a result of a poorer year for the productivity of Herring Gulls.



The two Heligoland traps, Crow Trap and Meadow Pipit trap situated near to the Observatory continue to provide the ability to trap in weather conditions that are not suitable for mist nets and to be able to target key species, in particular Wheatear, Grey & Pied/White Wagtails and Meadow Pipits. An additional smaller walk-in trap, used in conjunction with tape-lure proved particularly effective for pipits in the Front Field and it is hoped that a 'new' mobile pipit trap can be utilised at the Withy in future seasons for catching greater numbers of pipits and wagtails.

The table below shows birds ringed on the Calf in previous years and re-trapped in 2022. The final column shows birds that were ringed prior to 2015.

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	Previous
Fulmar				1				
Manx Shearwater	9	3	4	1	2	7	1	2014, 2013 (2), 2012, 2007 (2), 2005 (4), 2003
Storm Petrel	2							
Shag			1	2	1			2007
Eider	4		3	8	4		1	2009, 2011
Herring Gull		1						2011
Razorbill				1				
Meadow Pipit	11	3	1	4				
Rock Pipit		1						
Wren	6	1	2					
Dunnock	1							
Robin	16	6	4					
Stonechat	4	1						
Wheatear	5	2	3				1	
Blackbird		7	1	2	1			
Whitethroat	1							
Blue Tit	1							
Great Tit	2							
Chaffinch	1				1			
Goldfinch	12		2	1				
Linnet			1					
Reed Bunting	1		1					

The table below shows birds colour-ringed on the Calf in previous years and re-sighted in 2022.

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Chough	2				1						
Great Black-backed Gull				2	2						
Herring Gull	5	1	13		3	8	4	2	3	4	
Shag	2		1	1	1						1
Stonechat											
Wheatear	8	6	3	1							

Acknowledgements:

As ever many people have assisted with our work during the season. I am particularly grateful to Eleanor Grover and Chloe Hurst, our two voluntary Assistants, who provided invaluable help throughout the season. Mike Haigh once again covered my period of annual leave in spring, provided help with numerous IT queries, and assisted during the late autumn, when we should have been catching lots of birds! During the spring, Dave Neal and Adam Homer spent a couple of productive weeks with us and in September, it was a pleasure to welcome members of Pembrokeshire Ringing Group and Ann Playford as visiting ringers. We were also greatly assisted during autumn migration by Phoebe Owen and Ellie Ames who both helped tremendously as long-term volunteers with the daily census work and ringing programmes. Mark Fitzpatrick continues to provide invaluable assistance with management of the colour-ringing sightings, as well as visiting for a week during the spring.



2022 Ringing Totals:

Species	Full grown	Pulli	Total
Fulmar	0	2	2
Manx Shearwater	130	0	130
Storm Petrel	65	0	65
Shag	4	75	79
Mallard	2	0	2
Eider	36	0	36
Hen Harrier	1	0	1
Sparrowhawk	6	0	6
Moorhen	1	0	1
Oystercatcher	0	10	10
Purple Sandpiper	1	0	1
Woodcock	1	0	1
Redshank	4	0	4
Lesser Black-backed Gull	0	3	3
Herring Gull	22	101	123
Great Black-backed Gull	2	41	43
Razorbill	1	8	9
Woodpigeon	2	0	2
Cuckoo	2	0	2
Skylark	10	0	10
Swallow	25	25	50
Tree Pipit	50	0	50
Meadow Pipit	1127	6	1133
Rock Pipit	14	0	14
Yellow Wagtail	1	0	1
Grey Wagtail	108	0	108
Pied/White Wagtail	93	0	93
Wren	133	0	133
Dunnock	58	0	58

Species	Full grown	Pulli	Total
Robin	625	0	625
Black Redstart	2	0	2
Redstart	7	0	7
Whinchat	4	0	4
Stonechat	159	0	159
Wheatear	165	0	165
Ring Ouzel	1	0	1
Blackbird	265	1	266
Fieldfare	11	0	11
Song Thrush	185	0	185
Redwing	167	0	167
Grasshopper Warbler	16	0	16
Sedge Warbler	115	0	115
Reed Warbler	3	0	3
Subalpine Warbler	2	0	2
Barred Warbler	1	0	1
Lesser Whitethroat	2	0	2
Whitethroat	136	0	136
Garden Warbler	4	0	4
Blackcap	349	0	349
Greenish Warbler	1	0	1
Yellow-browed Warbler	2	0	2
Dusky Warbler	1	0	1
Chiffchaff	254	0	254
Willow Warbler	1281	0	1281
Goldcrest	554	0	554
Spotted Flycatcher	79	0	79
Pied Flycatcher	4	0	4
Coal Tit	4	0	4
Blue Tit	6	0	6

Species	Full grown	Pulli	Total
Great Tit	19	0	19
Treecreeper	2	0	2
Magpie	1	0	1
Chough	0	9	9
Hooded Crow	0	12	12
Starling	36	0	36
House Sparrow	13	0	13
Chaffinch	259	0	259
Greenfinch	61	0	61
Goldfinch	712	0	712
Siskin	15	0	15
Linnet	259	0	259
Lesser Redpoll	23	0	23
Reed Bunting	32	0	32
Total:	7736	293	8029



Recoveries & Controls

The co-ordinates of the Calf of Man are: 54°3'N 4°49'W

- Capture code:

V	-	Alive and released, not by a ringer
R	-	Recaptured and released by a ringer
X	-	Found dead
xL	-	Found long dead; over a week
xA	-	Found freshly dead; less than a week
S	-	Rings read in the field (colour marks)
V	-	Rings read in the field (metal only)
+	-	injured or fate unknown

An increasing number of reports are received from the observation of birds wearing colour-rings. Where this is relevant, details of the colour-ring code are given. There are a variety of different colour-ring types used, those which have Alpha Numeric combinations are used on the following species:

Shag

Herring Gull

ANN:A ANAA

Great Black-backed Gull

ANN:A

Lesser Black-backed Gull

ANN:A ANAA

Wheatear

Grey Wagtail

Stonechat



Combinations of plain colour-rings have been used previously on Rock Pipit and are still used on Chough. Where more than one colour-ring is used, the colour of each ring and position on the tibia(s) are shown using the following codes:

B – Dark Blue

G – Dark Green

K – Light Pink

M – Metal (BTO) ring

NW2 – Black over White
(single ring)

O - Orange

R - Red

V – Voilet/Purple

W – White

Y - Yellow



2022 Recoveries

Recoveries are of birds ringed on the Calf, and which have been subsequently found elsewhere. A total of 350 reports were received during 2022, comprising one record from 2001, four from 2017, three from 2018, four from 2019, five from 2020, 65 from 2021 and 268 from 2022.

Manx Shearwater

	IOM	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	BRAZIL
Up to 2021	3	14	2	18	1
2022	0	1	0	0	0

Ring number

Age/ Sex **Date** **Location Details**
Code

FC30831

4 N 08/07/96 Calf of Man
4 R 18/05/22 Copeland Bird Observatory, Co. Down, N. Ireland
9445 days 85km 327deg (NNW)

With a round-trip of over 20,000 kilometres during its migration to and from its wintering quarters off the east coast of South America, this bird will have travelled a minimum of half a million kilometres during its 27 years of being ringed.

Storm Petrel

	Eire	England	IOM	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Up to 2021	52	21	8	84	445	61
2022	0	0	0	1	0	2

	FAEROES	FRANCE	ICELAND	NORWAY	PORTUGAL	SOUTH AFRICA
Up to 2021	2	3	1	3	6	1

2591686

4 N 27/06/09 Calf of Man
 4 R 16/07/22 Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire, Wales
 4767 days 260km 188deg (S)
 4 R 23/07/22 Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire, Wales 4774 days

2738383

4 N 24/07/20 Calf of Man
 4 R 18/06/22 Copeland Bird Observatory, Co. Down, N. Ireland
 694 days 85km 327deg (NNW)

Shag

	Eire	England	IOM	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Up to 2021	8	45	312	23	187	25
2022	0	0	11	0	0	0

	THE NETHERLANDS
Up to 2021	1

1365458

1 N 10/06/01 Calf of Man
 xL 07/08/22 St. Patrick's Isle, Peel, Isle of Man
 7728 days 21km 26deg (ENE)

1406307

1 N 21/06/10 Calf of Man
 xL 01/05/22 Port St Mary, Isle of Man
 4332 days 5km 67deg (ENE)

1474428

1 N 08/07/21 Calf of Man
 5 S 13/06/22 Port St Mary, Isle of Man
 340 days 4km 61deg (ENE)
 5 S 15/06/22 Port St Mary, Isle of Man 342 days

1474434

1 N 20/07/21 Calf of Man
xA 23/12/21 Port St Mary, Isle of Man 156 days 5km 91deg (E)

1474435

1 N 26/07/21 Calf of Man
xL 07/02/22 Port Erin, Isle of Man 196 days 5km 31deg (NNE)

1474444

1 N 03/05/22 Calf of Man
+ 17/08/22 Peel Bay, Peel, Isle of Man
106 days 21km 23deg (NNE)

1474474

1 N 15/06/22 Calf of Man
xA 09/11/22 Maughold, Isle of Man 147 days 43km 53deg (NE)

1705751

1 N 30/06/22 Calf of Man
3 S 12/12/22 Douglas Harbour, Isle of Man
165 days 25km 63deg (ENE)

1705760

1 N 07/07/22 Calf of Man
S 28/10/22 Port St Mary, Isle of Man 113 days 6km 91deg (E)

1705764

1 N 07/07/22 Calf of Man
3 S 26/09/22 Peel Bay, Peel, Isle of Man
81 days 19km 25deg (NNE)

Woodcock

	Northern Ireland	RUSSIAN FEDERATION
Up to 2021	2	0
2022	0	1

EZ87389

3 N 06/11/20 Calf of Man
 + 15/04/22 Ryshevo, Novgorodskiy District, Novgorod O.,
 RUSSIAN FEDERATION
 525 days 2309km 78deg (ENE)

Our first foreign recovery of a Woodcock and the first ever Calf-ringed bird to be found in Russia. This is, however, a fairly typical movement for this species given that 90% of the European population breed in Russia and Fennoscandia.



Great Black-backed Gull

	Eire	England	IOM	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	Irish Sea
Up to 2021	98	61	63	80	8	78	3
2022	5	0	26	16	0	4	0

	FRANCE
Up to 2021	1
2022	2

HT95170 T7YJ

1 N 24/06/14 Calf of Man
 10 S 20/09/21 Shenick Island, Skerries, Co. Dublin, Eire
 2645 days 101km 237deg (WSW)

HT95230 S24:M

1 N 22/06/15 Calf of Man
 5 S 07/02/16 Clogher Head, Port Oriel, Co. Louth, Eire
 23 days 96km 254deg (WSW)
 7 S 29/04/17 Clogher Head, Port Oriel, Co. Louth, Eire 677 days
 also on three dates between 8th – 12th October 2018

10	S	12/11/20	Cruisetown, Co. Louth, Eire 1970 days 97km 256deg (WSW)
10	S	08/05/21	Clogher Head, Port Oriel, Co. Louth, Eire 2147 days
10	S	31/07/21	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 2231 days 7km 75deg (ENE)
10	S	12/09/21	Mill Bay, Carlingford Lough, Co. Down, N. Ireland 2274 days 83km 270deg (W)
10	S	07/04/22	Greenore, Louth, Co. Down, N. Ireland 2481 days 86km 268deg (W)

HT95279 **S42:M**

1	N	26/06/17	Calf of Man
5	S	03/02/18	Bardsey Island, Gwynedd, Wales 222 days 147km 0deg (N) also 15/02/18 234 days also 26/04/19 669 days
8	S	15/07/22	The Skerries, Isle of Anglesey, Wales 1845 days 62km (S)
4	S	02/08/22	Bardsey Island, Gwynedd, Wales 1863 days
4	S	21/08/22	South End, Bardsey Island, Gwynedd, Wales 1882 days 145km 180deg (S)

HT95288 **S30:M**

1	N	15/07/17	Calf of Man
10	S	04/04/22	Calf of Man
10	S	16/08/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 1858 days 7km 56deg (ENE)

HT95289 **S08:M**

3	N	31/10/17	Calf of Man
3	S	03/11/17	Howth Harbour, Co. Dublin, Eire 3 days 111km (SW) also 09/01/18 70 days
10	S	24/05/21	Calf of Man 1301 days
10	S	07/07/21	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 1345 days 7km 75deg (ENE)
10	S	02/05/22	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 1644 days 6km 72deg (ENE)

HT95321 **S10:M**

1	N	23/06/18	Calf of Man
8	S	20/09/21	Shenick Island, Skerries, Co. Dublin, Eire 1185 days 101km 237deg (WSW)
	S	30/09/21	Millquarter Bay, Strangford Lough, Co. Down, N. Ireland 1195 days 56km 301deg (WNW)

HT95327 **S18:M**

1	N	23/06/18	Calf of Man
3	S	12/10/18	Clogher Head, Port Oriel, Co. Louth, Eire 111 days 96km (WSW) also 29/01/19 & 18/03/19 also 15/07/20 & 31/12/20 also 16/03/21 997 days
	S	29/07/21	Baltray, Co. Louth, Eire 1132 days 102km 249deg (WSW)

HT95330 **S:47M**

1	N	23/07/18	Calf of Man
7	S	26/06/20	Mill Bay, Carlingford Lough, Co. Down, N. Ireland 734 days 84km 269deg (W)
8	S	17/08/21	Clogher Head, Co. Louth, Eire 1151 days 98km 253deg (WSW)
8	S	20/09/21	Shenick Island, Skerries, Co. Dublin, Eire 1185 days 101km 237deg (WSW)

HT95335 **S51:M**

1	N	23/06/18	Calf of Man
4	S	02/02/19	Southerly Point, The Lizard, Cornwall 224 days 459km 184deg (S)
	S	15/05/22	Mill Bay, Carlingford Lough, Co. Down, N. Ireland 1422 days 84km 269deg (W)
6	S	12/06/21	Colt Island, Co. Dublin, Eire 1085 days 101km 238deg (WSW)

HT95339 **S58:M**

1	N	24/06/18	Calf of Man
3	S	01/12/18	Howth Harbour, Co. Dublin, Eire 160 days 111km 228deg (SW) Also 23/02/19 244 days

5	S	31/03/19	Clogher Head, Port Oriel, Co. Louth, Eire
			280 days 96km (WSW)
	S	08/07/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man
			1475 days 8km 61deg (ENE)

HT95351 **S73:M**

1	N	09/07/18	Calf of Man
9	S	03/09/21	Gothian Sands LNR, Gwithian, Cornwall
			1179 days 426km 186deg (S)
10	S	20/02/22	Anse du Loc'h, Bretagne, FRANCE
			1322 days 669km (S)
10	S	27/11/22	Anse du Loc'h, Bretagne, FRANCE
			1602 days

Our second recovery of a Great Black-backed Gull to France.

HT95359 **S75:M**

10	N	17/05/19	Calf of Man
	S	30/06/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man
			1140 days 7km 56deg (ENE)

HT95374 **S80:M**

1	N	21/06/19	Calf of Man
5	S	24/09/20	Nevern Estuary, Newport, Wales
			461 days 228km (S)
7	S	30/07/21	Nevern Estuary, Newport, Wales
			770 days
7	S	05/08/21	Nevern Estuary, Newport, Wales
			776 days
7	S	13/09/21	Colt Island, Co. Dublin, Eire
			815 days 99km 239deg (WSW)

HT95379 **S87:M**

1	N	21/06/19	Calf of Man
7	S	22/04/22	Derbyhaven, Isle of Man
			1036 days 14km 75deg (ENE)

HT95424 **U22:M**

1	N	17/06/21	Calf of Man
3	S	31/12/21	Port St Mary, Isle of Man
			197 days 5km 91deg (E)

5	S	19/01/22	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 216 days also 01/08/22 & 11/08/22
5	S	27/09/22	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 467 days
HT95426 U25:M			
1	N	17/06/21	Calf of Man
3	S	29/07/21	Calf of Man 42 days
3	S	09/10/21	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 114 days 6km 91deg (E)
5	S	08/09/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 448 days 57km 294deg (WNW)
HT95427 U27:M			
1	N	17/06/21	Calf of Man
5	S	02/01/22	Grange Castle Business Park, Co. Dublin, Eire 199 days 136km 234deg (SW)
5	S	03/01/22	Grange Castle Business Park, Co. Dublin, Eire 200 days
HT95428 U29:M			
1	N	17/06/21	Calf of Man
3	S	21/09/21	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 96 days 6km 91deg (E)
5	S	08/04/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 295 days 57km 294deg (WNW)
5	S	08/09/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 448 days 57km 294deg (WNW)
HT95430 U33:M			
1	N	17/06/21	Calf of Man
3	S	15/08/21	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 59 days 5km 91deg (E)
3	S	25/09/21	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 100 days
3	S	10/10/21	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 115 days 6km 91deg (E)
5	S	11/01/22	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 208 days
HT95431 U40:M			
1	N	21/06/21	Calf of Man
3	S	14/07/21	Calf of Man 23 days

3	S	17/07/21	Calf of Man 26 days
5	S	04/01/22	Lower Town, Fishguard Harbour, Pembrokeshire, Wales 197 days 228km (S)
5	S	08/09/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 444 days 57km 294deg (WNW)

HT95436 **U84:M**

1	N	06/07/21	Calf of Man
5	S	10/01/22	At sea, 6 miles East of Kilkeel, Co. Down, N. Ireland 188 days 70km 270deg (W)
5	S	10/02/22	At sea, 6 miles East of Kilkeel, Co. Down, N. Ireland 219 days

HT95448 **U00:M**

1	N	06/07/21	Calf of Man
5	S	27/02/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 236 days 57km 296deg (WNW)
5	S	22/06/22	Port Grenaugh, Isle of Man 351 days 17 km 70deg (ENE)
5	S	16/08/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 406 days 8km 61deg (ENE)

HT95457 **M64:M**

1	N	18/07/19	Calf of Man
5	S	26/02/22	Helvick Head, Co. Waterford, Eire 954 days 288km 220deg (SW)

HT95459 **M60:M**

1	N	18/07/19	Calf of Man
	S	10/09/21	Colt Island, Co. Dublin, Eire 785 days 99km 239deg (WSW)

HT95468 **M90:M**

1	N	24/06/20	Calf of Man
3	S	14/12/20	Coverack, Cornwall 173 days 451km 183deg (S)

MA28251 **U05:M**

1	N	08/07/21	Calf of Man
3	S	30/12/21	Portavogie, Co. Down, N. Ireland 175 days 60km 318deg (NW)

MA28253 U10:M

1	N	08/07/21	Calf of Man
5	S	08/04/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 274 days 57km 296deg (WNW)
5	S	05/06/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 332 days
5	S	23/06/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 350 days
5	S	08/09/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 427 days

MA28254 U43:M

1	N	10/07/21	Calf of Man
5	S	16/05/22	Peel Bay, Isle of Man 310 days 21km 23deg (NNE)

MA28260 U55:M

1	N	14/07/21	Calf of Man
3	S	03/09/21	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 51 days 6km 72deg (ENE)
3	S	02/12/21	Portavogie, Co. Down, N. Ireland 141 days 60km 318deg (NW)
3	S	30/12/21	Ratallagh Beach, Portavogie, Co. Down, N. Ireland 169 days 61km 318deg (NW)
	S	04/08/22	Portavogie, Co. Down, N. Ireland 386 days

MA28261 U56:M

1	N	16/07/21	Calf of Man
5	S	08/03/22	Strandhall, Isle of Man 235 days 9km 65deg (ENE)
5	S	10/05/22	Broadmeadows, Co. Dublin, Eire 298 days 111km 235deg (SW)

MA28263 P00:M

1	N	16/07/21	Calf of Man
5	S	03/02/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 202 days 57km 296deg (WNW)

MA28265 P03:M

3	N	03/09/21	Calf of Man
3	S	23/12/21	At sea, 5 miles East of Kilkeel, Co Down, N. Ireland 111 days 73km 269deg (W)
5	S	06/06/22	At sea, 2 miles East of Cloughey, Co. Down, N. Ireland 276 days 58km 315deg (NW)

5	S	02/09/22	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 364 days 4km 91deg (E)
	S	03/09/22	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 365 days
MA28314 P46:M			
1	N	20/06/22	Calf of Man
	S	16/08/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 57 days 7km 56deg (ENE)
	()	07/09/22	Port Erin, Isle of Man 79 days 2km 91deg (E)
MA28316 M01:M			
1	N	02/07/22	Calf of Man
3	S	14/09/22	Peel Bay, Peel, Isle of Man 74 days 20km 20deg (NNE)
3	S	07/10/22	Peel Bay, Peel, Isle of Man 97 days
3	S	19/11/22	Peel Bay, Peel, Isle of Man 140 days
MA28325 M10:M			
1	N	03/07/22	Calf of Man
	S	06/09/22	Peel Bay, Isle of Man 65 days 21km 23deg (NNE)
MA28333 M18:M			
1	N	09/07/22	Calf of Man
3	S	02/09/22	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 55 days 4km 91deg (E)
3	S	07/11/22	Calf of Man 121 days
MA28334 M19:M			
1	N	09/07/22	Calf of Man
3	S	26/08/22	Calf of Man 48 days
	S	03/09/22	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 56 days 6km 72deg (ENE)
3	S	31/10/22	Calf of Man 114 days
MA28342			
1	N	10/07/22	Calf of Man
	xL	10/08/22	Fleshwick, Isle of Man 31 days 5km 42deg (NE)

Lesser Black-backed Gull

	Eire	England	IOM	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Up to 2021	2	9	5	2	1	2

	FRANCE	MOROCCO	PORTUGAL	SPAIN
Up to 2021	1	1	50	11
2022	0	0	7	1

GR98917 T60:M

1	N	24/06/15	Calf of Man
3	S	23/10/15	Tavira Salt Lakes, Faro, PORTUGAL 121 days 1894km 187deg (S)
3	S	26/12/15	Olhao Port, Faro, PORTUGAL 185 days 1907km (S)
7	S	10/05/17	Neven Estuary, Newport, Pembrokeshire, Wales 686 days 228km 181deg (S)
10	S	03/01/19	Cortelha, PORTUGAL 1289 days 1899km (S) also 24/0/19 & 07/03/19
10	S	12/06/19	Calf of Man 1449 days
10	S	23/01/20	Barra de Fuseta, Algarve, PORTUGAL 1674 days 1905km (S) also 10/09/20 1905 days
10	S	08/12/20	Olhao Port, Faro, PORTUGAL 1994 days
10	S	09/10/21	Barra de Fuseta, Algarve, PORTUGAL 1905 days
10	S	08/11/21	Fuseta Salinas, Algarve, PORTUGAL 2329 days 1900km (S) also 15/11/21 & 03/12/21
10	S	02/01/22	Fuseta Salinas, Algarve, PORTUGAL 2384 days
10	S	11/01/22	Fuseta Salinas, Algarve, PORTUGAL 2393 days
10	S	13/09/22	Fuseta Salinas, Algarve, PORTUGAL 2638 days
10	S	29/09/22	Fuseta Salinas, Algarve, PORTUGAL 2654 days
10	S	11/10/22	Fuseta Salinas, Algarve, PORTUGAL 2666 days

GV61814 T66:M

1	N	28/06/18	Calf of Man
5	S	09/09/19	Matosinhos, PORTUGAL 438 days 1683km (S)
5	S	08/10/19	Matosinhos, PORTUGAL 467 days
7	S	06/02/20	Matosinhos, PORTUGAL 588 days
10	S	20/12/22	Playa de Serantes, Asturias, SPAIN 1644 days 1174km (S)

GY20681 **K45:M**

1	N	08/07/21	Calf of Man
5	S	29/10/22	Praia de Mira, Coimbra, PORTUGAL 478 days 1518km (S)
5	S	29/11/22	Praia da Torreira, Aveiro, PORTUGAL 509 days 1458 (SSW)

Herring Gull

	Eire	England	IOM	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	Irish Sea
Up to 2021	245	165	340	171	23	33	4
2022	14	15	68	31	2	6	

	DENMARK	FRANCE	THE NETHERLANDS
Up to 2021	2	1	3

GA30300

1	N	29/06/00	Calf of Man
	xL	11/8/22	Port Logan, Dumfries & Galloway, Scotland 8078 days 75km 353deg (N)

GH50761

1	N	27/06/89	Calf of Man
	xL	28/08/22	Black Head, Isle of Man 12115 days 3km 91deg (E)

Both above records were where only the ring was found, and therefore we cannot be sure of where or when the bird died.

GR64884 **T2ZV**

1	N	22/07/13	Calf of Man
10	S	23/03/19	Calf of Man also 28/03/19 & 02/04/19
10	S	06/11/20	Calf of Man
10	S	02/05/21	Calf of Man also 08/05/21 & 17/06/21
10	S	22/03/22	Calf of Man
10	S	27/03/22	Calf of Man
	S	10/09/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 3337 days 6km 72deg (ENE)

GR64910 **T5YC**

1	N	23/06/14	Calf of Man
	S	10/09/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 3001 days 6km 72deg (ENE)

GR64972 T1YL

1	N	28/06/14	Calf of Man
5	S	16/11/15	Duncannon Beach, Co. Wexford, Eire 506 days 248km (SW)
9	S	10/02/17	Rosslare, Co. Wexford, Eire 958 days 225km 207deg (SSW)
10	S	16/08/18	Millquarter Bay, Strangford Lough, Co. Down, N. Ireland 1510 days 57km 302deg (WNW)
10	S	18/10/18	Calf of Man 1573 days
10	S	08/08/20	Calf of Man 2233 days
10	S	08/08/21	Calf of Man 2598 days
10	S	10/04/22	Calf of Man 2843 days
	S	10/10/22	Cloughey Bay, Co. Down, N. Ireland 3026 days 61km 315deg (NW)

A nice example of a bird that dispersed away from the Calf and spent its immature years commuting around both the Republic and Northern Ireland before returning to the Calf (to breed?), but that may still be wintering in Ireland.

GR94868 R38:M

1	N	20/06/15	Calf of Man
3	S	19/11/15	Moore, Nr Warrington 152 days 164km (ESE)
5	S	08/03/16	Fleetwood, Lancashire 262 days 118km (E)
9	S	29/06/18	Calf of Man 1105 days
10	S	27/03/19	Calf of Man 1376 days also seen on a further six dates up to 8 th April 2019
10	S	13/07/19	Calf of Man 1484 days
10	S	20/05/20	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 1796 days 57km 296deg (WNW)
10	S	26/07/20	Calf of Man 1863 days
10	S	07/08/20	nr Kentraugh 1875 days 6km 91deg (E)
10	S	26/04/21	Calf of Man
10	S	27/06/21	Calf of Man
10	S	23/01/22	Atherton, Greater Manchester 2409 days 135km (E)

GR98814 R67:M

1	N	20/06/15	Calf of Man
3	S	21/10/15	Peel, Isle of Man 123 days 21km 23deg (NNE)
5	S	17/02/16	Castletown, Isle of Man 242 days 10km 80deg (E)
9	S	19/06/18	Peel, Isle of Man 1095 days 19km 25deg (NNE)
10	S	27/03/19	Calf of Man 1376 days & 02/04/19 1382 days
10	S	28/08/20	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 1896 days 6km 91deg (E)
10	S	03/09/21	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 2267 days 5km 91deg (E)
10	S	22/11/21	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 2347 days
8	S	11/01/22	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 2397 days

GR98835 R21:M

1	N	22/06/15	Calf of Man
10	S	05/10/19	Laytown Beach, Co. Meath, Eire 1380 days 102km (W)
10	S	25/08/20	Ben Head, Gormanston, Co. Dublin, Eire 1891 days 102km 245deg (WSW)
10	S	03/09/20	Mosney Beach, Co. Louth, Eire 1900 days 100km 249deg (WSW)
10	S	14/09/21	Mosney Beach, Co. Louth, Eire 2276 days

GR98836 T88:M

1	N	22/06/15	Calf of Man
9	S	21/10/19	Peel 1582 days 21km 23deg (NNE)
10	S	02/05/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 2506 days 8km 61deg (ENE)

GR98856 R49:M

1	N	23/06/15	Calf of Man
10	S	28/03/19	Calf of Man 1374 days
10	S	12/04/19	Calf of Man 1389 days
10	S	26/04/19	Calf of Man 1403 days
10	S	30/06/20	Calf of Man 1834 days
	S	07/08/20	nr Kentraugh, Isle of Man 1872 days 6km 91deg (E)
10	S	28/07/21	Calf of Man 2227 days
10	S	05/04/22	Calf of Man 2478 days

10	S	18/06/22	Calf of Man 2552 days
	S	23/08/22	Strandhall, Isle of Man 2618 days 7km 75deg (ENE)
GR98872 R76:M			
1	N	23/06/15	Calf of Man
7	S	17/07/17	Calf of Man
	S	16/08/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 2611 days 6km (ENE)
GR98899 R13:M			
1	N	23/06/15	Calf of Man
7	S	11/03/17	Aberaeron, Ceredigion, Wales 627 days 207km 171deg (S)
7	S	25/04/17	Peel, Isle of Man 672 days 21km (NNE)
	S	04/08/17	Millquarter Bay, Strangford Lough, Co. Down, N. Ireland 773 days 56km (WNW)
10	S	04/05/22	Calf of Man 2507 days
	S	14/08/22	Strandhall, Isle of Man 2609 days 7km 75deg (ENE)
GR98908 R39:M			
1	N	23/06/15	Calf of Man
	S	01/01/18	Grangecastle Business Park, Clondalkin, Co. Dublin, Eire 923 days 137km (SW)
9	S	28/06/18	Calf of Man 1101 days
9	S	04/07/18	Calf of Man 1107 days
10	S	02/04/19	Calf of Man 1379 days
	S	07/08/20	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 1872 days 6km 91deg (E)
10	S	23/05/21	Calf of Man 2161 days
10	S	28/07/21	Calf of Man 2227 days
10	S	14/04/22	Calf of Man 2487 days
10	S	18/06/22	Calf of Man 2552 days
10	S	18/07/22	Calf of Man 2582 days
	S	10/09/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 2636 days
GR99087 T5VG			
10	N	26/04/17	Calf of Man
	xA	23/06/22	Castletown, Isle of Man 1154 days 11km 70deg (ENE)

GR99028 L35:M

1	N	02/07/17	Calf of Man
	S	31/12/21	Castletown, Isle of Man
			1643 days 12km 81deg (E)

GR08626 T2UA

1	N	06/07/11	Calf of Man
	S	14/07/11	Calf of Man 8 days
	S	20/07/11	Calf of Man 14 days
	S	29/03/22	Calf of Man 3919 days
	S	16/08/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man
			4059 days 9km 50deg (NE)
	S	10/09/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 4084 days

GV61704 L07:M

1	N	25/06/17	Calf of Man
7	S	02/04/19	Calf of Man 646 days
7	S	31/07/19	Strandhall, Isle of Man
			766 Days 7km 75deg (ENE)
9	S	09/01/20	Strandhall, Isle of Man 928 days
9	S	11/03/20	Calf of Man 990 days
	S	25/09/20	Strandhall, Isle of Man 1188 days
10	S	02/05/21	Calf of Man 1407 days
10	S	15/07/21	Calf of Man 1481 days
10	S	19/07/21	Calf of Man 1485 days
10	S	26/07/21	Calf of Man 1492 days
10	S	28/07/21	Calf of Man 1494 days
10	S	21/03/22	Calf of Man 1730 days
10	S	27/03/22	Calf of Man 1736 days
10	S	04/04/22	Calf of Man 1744 days
10	S	07/04/22	Calf of Man 1747 days
10	S	14/04/22	Calf of Man 1754 days
10	S	04/05/22	Calf of Man 1774 days
10	S	03/06/22	Calf of Man 1804 days
10	S	08/06/22	Calf of Man 1809 days
10	S	10/06/22	Calf of Man 1811 days
10	S	12/07/22	Calf of Man 1843 days
10	S	21/07/22	Calf of Man 1852 days
	S	11/09/22	Strandhall, Isle of Man 1904 days

GV61739 L70:M

1	N	05/07/17	Calf of Man
	S	28/06/19	Dalkey Island, Co. Dublin, Eire 723 days 122km 225deg (SW)
	S	16/08/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 1150 days 6km 72deg (ENE)

GV61886 T8WE

1	N	23/06/19	Calf of Man
	S	16/08/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 1150 days 6km 72deg (ENE)

GV61924 T4VP

1	N	26/06/19	Calf of Man
7	S	28/07/21	Calf of Man
8	S	08/06/22	Calf of Man
	S	10/09/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 1172 days 6km 72deg (ENE)

GV61952 T0YS

1	N	27/06/19	Calf of Man
3	S	16/11/19	Ballawattleworth Farm, Peel, Isle of Man 142 days 21km 26deg (NNE)
5	S	04/01/20	Peel, Isle of Man 191 days 21km 23deg (NNE)
5	S	12/01/20	Peel, Isle of Man 199 days
5	S	15/01/20	Peel, Isle of Man 202 days
5	S	26/12/20	Peel, Isle of Man 548 days
7	S	28/03/21	Peel, Isle of Man 640 days
8l	S	05/06/22	Clones Strand, Co. Wexford, Eire 1074 days 176km 212deg (SSW)

GV61954 T7YS

1	N	27/06/19	Calf of Man
9	S	30/06/22	Ben Head, Gormanston, Co. Dublin, Eire 1099 days 102km 245deg (WSW)

GV61961 T1YU

1	N	27/06/19	Calf of Man
3	S	09/09/19	Sandymount Strand, Co. Dublin, Eire 74 days 121km (SW) also 10/09/19 75 days

3	S	18/10/19	Bullock Harbour, Co. Dublin, Eire 113 days 121km 226deg (SW)
5	S	24/03/20	Mosney Beach, Co. Louth, Eire 271 days 102km 248deg (WSW)
5	S	04/07/20	Bray Head, Co. Dublin, Eire 373 days 129km 222deg (SW) also 18/07/20 387 days also 12/04/21 655 days

GV61971 T8YV

1	N	27/06/19	Calf of Man
3	S	17/10/19	Gormanston Beach, Co. Meath, Eire 112 days 100km (W)
5	S	29/01/20	Bray Harbour, Co. Wicklow, Eire 216 days 127km 222deg (SW) also 30/01/20 & 05/02/20
5	S	14/04/20	Tolka / Fairview, Co. Dublin, Eire 292 days 121km 231deg (SW) also 25/04/20
5	S	04/07/20	Bray Harbour, Co. Wicklow, Eire 373 days also 26/07/20, 27/07/20 & 15/08/20
5	S	17/09/20	Ben Head, Gormanston, Co. Dublin, Eire 448 days 102km 245deg (WSW)
7	S	06/01/21	Bray Harbour, Co. Wicklow, Eire 559 days
7	S	26/07/21	Ben Head, Gormanston, Co. Dublin, Eire 760 days
7	S	20/09/21	Colt Island, Co. Dublin, Eire 816 days 99km 239deg (WSW)

GV61972 T9YT

1	N	27/06/19	Calf of Man
5	S	18/10/20	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 479 days 57km 296deg (WNW)
9	S	05/02/22	Strandhall, Isle of Man 954 days 9km 65deg (ENE)
9	S	06/02/22	Langness, Isle of Man 955 days 14km 82deg (E)

GV61979 T4YV

1	N	27/06/19	Calf of Man
3	S	14/08/20	near Kentraugh 414 days 7km 75deg (ENE)
7	S	15/05/22	Mill Bay, Carlingford Lough, Co. Down, N. Ireland 1053 days 83km 270deg (W)

GV61992 T6WG

1	N	30/06/19	Calf of Man
7	S	24/04/21	Nevern Estuary, Newport, Wales
			664 days 228km (S)
	S	08/09/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man
			1166 days 8km 61deg (ENE)

GV61994 T3WG

1	N	30/06/19	Calf of Man
3	S	31/12/19	Peel, Isle of Man 184 days 21 km 23deg (NNE)
5	S	04/01/20	Peel, Isle of Man 188 days
5	S	12/01/20	Peel, Isle of Man 196 days
5	S	15/01/20	Peel, Isle of Man 199 days
5	S	09/06/20	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland
			345 days 57km 296deg (WNW)
5	S	25/07/20	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland
			391 days
	S	03/09/20	Peel, Isle of Man 431 days
5	S	27/09/20	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 455 days
7	S	15/08/21	Port St Mary, Isle of Man
			777 days 6km 72deg (ENE)
7	S	03/09/21	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 796 days
9	S	29/05/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 1064 days

GY06273 T9WH

1	N	30/06/19	Calf of Man
7	S	04/09/21	Ben Head, Gormanston, Co. Dublin, Eire
			797 days 102 km 245deg (WSW)
7	S	16/09/21	Mosney Beach, Co. Louth, Eire
			809 days 101km 249deg (WSW)

GY06275 T5WG

1	N	30/06/19	Calf of Man
8	S	02/06/22	Lossiemouth Estuary, Scotland
			1068 days 467 (NNE)

The most Northerly movement of a Calf-ringed Herring Gull

GY06276 T7WG

1	N	30/06/19	Calf of Man
	S	26/09/22	Strandhall, Isle of Man 1184 days 9km 65deg (ENE)

GY06285 T1YZ

1	N	30/06/19	Calf of Man
5	S	21/03/20	Grange Castle Business Park, Co. Dublin, Eire 265 days 134km 234deg (SW) also 20/09/20 448 days
7	S	03/01/21	Grange Castle Business Park, Co. Dublin, Eire 553 days
7	S	07/04/21	Grange Castle Business Park, Co. Dublin, Eire 647 days
9	S	03/02/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 949 days 57km 296deg (WNW)
	S	24/10/22	Langness, Isle of Man 1212 days 14km 82deg (E)

GY06289 T6YV

1	N	30/06/19	Calf of Man
	S	06/08/22	Millquarter Bay, Strangford Lough, N. Ireland 1133 days 56 km 303deg (WNW)

GY06297 T8YW

1	N	03/07/19	Calf of Man
	S	17/07/20	Millquarter Bay, Strangford Lough, Co. Down, N. Ireland 380 days 56 km (WNW)
	S	26/08/20	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 420 days 57km 296deg (WNW)
7	S	10/03/21	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 616 days
	S	08/08/21	Millquarter Bay, Strangford Lough, Co. Down, N. Ireland 767 days
9	S	11/01/22	Queen's Park Lake, Blackburn, Lancashire 923 days 135 km (E) also 12/01/22 924 days also 31/01/22 943 days & 01/02/22 944 days also 03/02/22 946 days

GY06303 T2YZ

1	N	03/07/19	Calf of Man
3	S	27/10/19	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 116 days 7km 75deg (ENE)
7	S	10/10/21	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 830 days
	S	04/01/22	Lundy Island, Devon 916 days 321km 179deg (S)
	S	23/08/22	Millquarter Bay, Strangford Lough, Co. Down, N. Ireland 1147 days 56km 303deg (WNW)

GY06305 T9YX

1	N	03/07/19	Calf of Man
5	S	06/08/20	Hilbre Island, Wirral, Merseyside 400 days 129km (SE)
9	S	13/02/22	Seaforth Nature Reserve, Merseyside 956 days 121km (ESE)

GY06309 T0YY

1	N	03/07/19	Calf of Man
5	xA	12/10/22	Fleshwick Bay, Isle of Man 1197 days 8km 39deg (NE)

An unfortunate victim of bird flu

GY06327 T7VE

1	N	03/07/19	Calf of Man
	S	04/08/22	Tyrella Beach, Co. Down, N. Ireland 1128 days 64km 291deg (WNW)

GY06338 T6VE

1	N	03/07/19	Calf of Man
	S	27/07/20	Millquarter Bay, Strangford Lough, Co. Down, N. Ireland 390 days 57km 305deg (WNW)
	S	19/08/20	Dundrum (Inner Bay), Co. Down, N. Ireland 413 days 71 km 289deg (WNW) also 09/09/20, 13/05/21 & 09/08/21 also 22/09/21, 27/09/21, 07/10/21 & 08/10/21
	S	02/04/22	Dundrum (Inner Bay), Co. Down, N. Ireland 1004 days
	S	11/10/22	Dundrum (Inner Bay) 1196 days
	S	28/10/22	Dundrum (Inner Bay) 1213 days

GY06350 T4VB

1	N	03/07/19	Calf of Man
3	S	23/10/19	Liverpool Bay, Merseyside 112 days 112km (SW)
	S	10/09/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 1165 days 8km 61deg (ENE)

GY06354 T1VC

1	N	03/07/19	Calf of Man
5	S	10/10/20	Strandhall, Isle of Man 465 days 5km 65deg (ENE)
7	S	17/07/21	Calf of Man
7	S	16/09/21	Millquarter Bay, Strangford Lough, Co. Down, N. Ireland 806 days 56km 303deg (WNW)
7	S	30/09/21	Millquarter Bay, Strangford Lough, Co. Down, N. Ireland 820 days
7	S	25/10/21	Millquarter Bay, Strangford Lough, Co. Down, N. Ireland 845 days
7	S	17/12/21	Strandhall, Isle of Man 898 days
7	S	25/12/21	Strandhall, Isle of Man 906 days

GY06414 T3YP

1	N	12/07/19	Calf of Man
7	S	20/09/21	Ben Head, Gormanston, Co. Dublin, Eire 801 days 102km 245deg (WSW)
7	S	25/10/21	Millquarter Bay, Strangford Lough, Co. Down, N. Ireland 836 days 56km 303deg (WNW)

GY06445 T3WW

1	N	29/06/20	Calf of Man
5	S	07/09/21	Calf of Man 435 days
	S	06/10/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 829 days 8km 61deg (ENE)

GY06473 T8WY

10	N	12/09/20	Calf of Man
	S	20/06/22	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 646 days 4km 91deg (E)
	S	04/08/22	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 691 days

GY06478

10	N	24/10/20	Calf of Man
	xL	13/02/22	Ynys y Fydlyn, Isle of Anglesey, Wales 477 days 78km 169deg (S)

GY06487 J02:M

1 N 16/06/21 Calf of Man
 x 22/02/22 Port Grenaugh, Isle of Man
 251 days 17km 70deg (ENE)

GY06489 J04:M

1 N 17/06/21 Calf of Man
 3 S 09/10/21 near Kentraugh, Isle of Man
 114 days 7km 75deg (ENE)
 3 S 12/10/21 Strandhall, Isle of Man
 117 days 7km 65deg (ENE)
 3 S 17/12/21 Strandhall, Isle of Man 183 days

GY06492 J07:M

1 N 26/06/21 Calf of Man
 S 25/12/21 Strandhall, Isle of Man
 182 days 9km 75deg (ENE)
 S 05/02/22 Strandhall, Isle of Man 224 days
 S 02/05/22 near Kentraugh, Isle of Man
 310 days 8km 61deg (ENE)

GY06493 J08:M

1 N 26/06/21 Calf of Man
 x 23/05/22 Meary Veg, Santon, Isle of Man
 331 days 19km (ENE)

GY06496 J11:M

1 N 26/06/21 Calf of Man
 5 S 28/06/22 Ballinclammer, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford, N. Ireland
 367 days 283km 220deg (SW)

GY06498 J13:M

1 N 26/06/21 Calf of Man
 5 S 08/01/22 Tramore, Waterford, Eire
 196 days 261km 217deg (SW)

GY06512 K76:M

1 N 15/07/21 Calf of Man
 3 S 17/12/21 Strandhall, Isle of Man
 155 days 9km 75deg (ENE)

GY06516 **K80:M**

1	N	19/07/21	Calf of Man
5	S	22/02/22	Ogmore Estuary, Bridgend, Wales 218 days 257km (SSE)
5	S	21/05/22	Castle Park Lake, Newcastle, Co. Down, N. Ireland 306 days 74km 284deg (WNW)

GY06521 **K85:M**

1	N	19/07/21	Calf of Man
3	S	09/09/21	Colt Island, Co. Dublin, Eire 52 days 99km 239deg (WSW)
3	S	17/12/21	Strandhall, Isle of Man 151 days 7km 75deg (ENE)
5	S	23/12/21	Strandhall, Isle of Man 157 days
5	S	25/12/22	Poyllvaish, Isle of Man 524 days 8km 91deg (E)

GY06523 **K87:M**

1	N	19/07/21	Calf of Man
3	S	17/09/21	Clogher Head, Port Oriel, Co. Louth, Eire 60 days 100 km 251deg (WSW)
	S	13/08/22	Strandhall, Isle of Man 390 days 7km 75deg (ENE)
	S	23/08/22	Strandhall, Isle of Man 400 days

GY06524 **K88:M**

1	N	19/07/21	Calf of Man
	xL	11/07/22	White Strand, near Peel, Isle of Man 357 days 21km 26deg (NNE)

GY06531 **K94:M**

1	N	19/07/21	Calf of Man
	S	08/07/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 354 days 6km 56deg (ENE)

GY06545 **T6YE**

10	N	31/10/21	Calf of Man
	S	12/07/22	Calf of Man 254 days
	S	10/09/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 314 days 7km 56deg (ENE)

GY06552	U63:M		
7	S	31/10/21	Calf of Man
9	S	05/04/22	The Sound, Isle of Man 156 days 0km
GY06559	K63:M		
10	N	01/11/21	Calf of Man
10	S	17/12/21	Strandhall, Isle of Man 46 days 8km 61deg (ENE)
GY06560	J57:M		
3	N	01/11/21	Calf of Man
5	S	14/07/22	Millquarter Bay, Strangford Lough, Co. Down, N. Ireland 255 days 57km 302deg (WNW)
5	S	08/09/22	Millquarter Bay, Strangford Lough, Co. Down, N. Ireland 311 days
GY06562	U79:M		
3	N	01/11/21	Calf of Man
	S	15/11/21	Strandhall, Isle of Man 14 days 8km 75deg (ENE)
	S	02/05/22	Strandhall, Isle of Man 182 days
	S	16/08/22	Strandhall, Isle of Man 288 days
GY06563	U59:M		
7	N	01/11/21	Calf of Man
	S	17/02/22	Dundrum (Inner Bay), Co. Down, N. Ireland 108 days 72km 289deg (WNW)
	S	15/07/22	Dundrum (Inner Bay), Co. Down, N. Ireland 256 days
GY06564	U76:M		
3	N	01/11/21	Calf of Man
	S	09/09/22	Dundrum (Inner Bay), Co. Down, N. Ireland 312 days 72km 289deg (WNW)
GY06566	U70:M		
3	N	01/11/21	Calf of Man
5	S	25/12/22	Poyllvaasih, Isle of Man 419 days 8km 77deg (ENE)

GY06567	P16:M		
3	N	01/11/21	Calf of Man
5	S	19/12/22	Mayor Square, D1, Dublin, Eire 413 days 124km 231deg (SW)
GY06655	G85:M		
1	N	09/07/22	Calf of Man
3	S	02/12/22	Ashworth Moor Reservoir, Rochdale, Greater Manchester 146 days 157km (E)
GY06657	P16:M		
3	N	01/11/21	Calf of Man
	S	27/11/22	Peel Inner Harbour, Peel, Isle of Man 391 days 20km 20deg (NNE)
GY06575	G06:M		
1	N	01/07/22	Calf of Man
	xL	12/11/22	Fistard, Port St Mary, Isle of Man 134 days 4km 91deg (E)
GY06584	G14:M		
1	N	01/07/22	Calf of Man
3	S	30/10/22	FR Collins Park, Co. Dublin, Eire 121 days 116km 231deg (SW)
GY06593	G23:M		
1	N	01/07/22	Calf of Man
3	S	09/10/22	Aberaeron, Ceredigion, Wales 100 days 185km (SSE)
GY06609	G39:M		
1	N	03/07/22	Calf of Man
	S	10/09/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 69 days 8km 61deg (ENE)
GY06612	G52:M		
1	N	04/07/22	Calf of Man
3	S	09/10/22	Carew Millpond, Pembrokeshire, Wales 97 days 212km (S)

GY06621	G61:M		
1	N	04/07/22	Calf of Man
3	S	24/09/22	Clones Strand, Co. Wexford, Eire 82 days 176km 212deg (SSW)
GY06624	G64:M		
1	N	04/07/22	Calf of Man
3	S	07/12/22	Duncannon Beach, Wexford, Co. Waterford, Eire 156 days 248km 215deg (SW)
GY06628	G68:M		
1	N	04/07/22	Calf of Man
3	S	04/12/22	New Quay, Ceredigion, Wales 153 days 190km (S)
GY06647	G47:M		
1	N	04/07/22	Calf of Man
	S	08/09/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 66 days 57km 296deg (WNW)
GY06651	G81:M		
1	N	09/07/22	Calf of Man
3	S	11/12/22	Penzance, Cornwall 155 days 440 km 187deg (S)
GY06659	G89:M		
1	N	10/07/22	Calf of Man
3	S	23/07/22	Calf of Man
3	S	17/09/22	Mourne Esplanade, Kilkeel, Co. Down, N. Ireland 69 days 79km 269deg (W)
GY06667	G97:M		
1	N	10/07/22	Calf of Man
	S	23/08/22	Strandhall, Isle of Man 44 days 7km 75deg (ENE)
GY20508	T7WY		
1	N	30/06/20	Calf of Man
	xL	20/08/22	Niarbyl, Isle of Man 781 days 11km 26deg (NNE)

GY20510 T9WY

1	N	30/06/20	Calf of Man
	S	10/04/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 649 days 57km 296deg (WNW)
	S	31/07/22	Coney Island (Bay), Co. Down, N. Ireland 761 days 57km 294deg (WNW)
7	S	08/09/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 800 days

GY20516 T5WZ

1	N	30/06/20	Calf of Man
3	S	08/08/20	Calf of Man 39 days
3	S	26/11/20	Ben Head, Gormanston, Co. Dublin, Eire 149 days 102km 245deg (WSW)
5	S	20/09/21	Ben Head, Gormanston, Co. Dublin, Eire 447 days

GY20535 T4WR

1	N	06/07/20	Calf of Man
5	S	17/12/21	Strandhall, Isle of Man 46 days 8km 61deg (ENE)

GY20538 T7WR

1	N	08/07/20	Calf of Man
7	S	19/02/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 591 days 57km 296deg (WNW)

GY20551 J16:M

1	N	26/06/21	Calf of Man
5	S	21/03/22	Cuskinny Marsh, Cobh, Co. Cork, Eire 268 days 337km 224deg (SW)

GY20556 J22:M

1	N	26/06/21	Calf of Man
5	S	06/04/22	Dundrum (Inner Bay), Co. Down, N. Ireland 284 days 71 km 289deg (WNW)
5	S	08/09/22	Millquarter Bay, Strangford Lough, Co. Down, N. Ireland 439 days 56km 303deg (WNW)

GY20571 J37:M

1	N	26/06/21	Calf of Man
5	S	11/06/22	Seaforth Nature Reserve, Merseyside 350 days 121km (ESE)
5	S	06/07/22	Seaforth Nature Reserve, Merseyside 375 days

GY20572	J38:M		
1	N	26/06/21	Calf of Man
5	S	12/07/22	Strandhall, Isle of Man 381 days 9km 65deg (ENE)
GY20581	J47:M		
1	N	27/06/21	Calf of Man
5	S	05/04/22	The Sound, Isle of Man 282 days 0km
5	S	10/04/22	Calf of Man 287 days
	S	30/06/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 368 days 6km 72deg (ENE)
GY20583	J49:M		
1	N	27/06/21	Calf of Man
3	S	14/07/21	Cow Harbour, Calf of Man 17 days
3	S	28/07/21	Cow Harbour, Calf of Man 31 days
3	S	21/09/21	Ben Head, Gormanston, Co. Dublin, Eire 86 days 104 km 245deg (WSW)
GY20590	J56:M		
1	N	27/06/21	Calf of Man
5	S	05/02/22	Strandhall, Isle of Man 223 days 7km 75deg (ENE)
	S	11/09/22	Strandhall, Isle of Man 441 days
	S	26/09/22	Strandhall, Isle of Man 456 days
	S	25/12/22	Poyllvaish, Isle of Man 546 days 8km 91deg (E)
GY20593	J57:M		
1	N	27/06/21	Calf of Man
3	S	28/07/21	Calf of Man 31 days
	S	19/10/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 479 days 57km 294deg (WNW)
GY20594	J60:M		
1	N	27/06/21	Calf of Man
3	S	26/09/21	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 91 days 6km 75deg (ENE)
	S	16/08/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 415 days
	S	08/09/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 438 days
GY20598	J64:M		
1	N	27/06/21	Calf of Man
5	S	14/08/22	Kilkeel Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 413 days 79km 270deg (W)

GY20605 J71:M

1	N	27/06/21	Calf of Man
3	S	18/12/21	Seaforth Nature Reserve, Merseyside 174 days 121km (ESE)
5	S	14/01/22	Seaforth Nature Reserve, Merseyside 201 days
5	S	05/02/22	Seaforth Nature Reserve, Merseyside 223 days
5	S	13/02/22	Seaforth Nature Reserve, Merseyside 231 days

GY20608 J74:M

1	N	27/06/21	Calf of Man
3	S	17/07/21	South Harbour, Calf of Man 20 days
3	S	29/07/21	Cow Harbour, Calf of Man 32 days
3	S	22/09/21	Loughshinny, Co. Dublin, Eire 87 days 102km 236deg (WSW)

GY20612 J78:M

1	N	27/06/21	Calf of Man
3	S	28/07/21	Cow Harbour, Calf of Man 31 days
5	S	05/02/22	Strandhall, Isle of Man 223 days 7km 75deg (ENE)
	S	26/09/22	Strandhall, Isle of Man 456 days

GY20615 J81:M

1	N	27/06/21	Calf of Man
5	S	27/02/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 245 days 57km 294deg (WNW)
5	S	17/03/22	Calf of Man 263 days
5	S	29/05/22	Ardglass Harbour, Co. Down, N. Ireland 336 days

GY20621 J87:M

1	N	28/06/21	Calf of Man
3	S	28/07/21	Calf of Man 30 days
5	S	30/09/22	Dungarvan Bay, Co. Waterford, Eire 459 days 288km 221deg (SW)

GY20644 K08:M

1	N	03/07/21	Calf of Man
5	S	22/04/22	Howth Harbour, Co Down, N. Ireland 293 days 111km 228deg (SW)

GY20647 **K11:M**

1	N	03/07/21	Calf of Man
5	S	16/08/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 409 days 8km 61deg (ENE)
5	S	10/09/22	near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 434 days

GY20649 **K13:M**

1	N	03/07/21	Calf of Man
5	S	08/02/22	Llanelli WWT, Carmarthenshire, Wales 220 days 269km 171deg (S)

GY20672 **K36:M**

1	N	06/07/21	Calf of Man
5	S	19/02/22	Dunmore East, Co. Waterford, Eire 228 days 256 km 215deg (SW)
5	S	23/04/22	Bray Harbour, Co. Wicklow, Eire 291 days 127km 222deg (SW)

GY20673 **K37:M**

1	N	06/07/21	Calf of Man
5	xA	21/06/22	Green Island, Portavogie, Co. Down, N. Ireland 350 days 60km 318deg (NW)

GY20683 **K47:M**

1	N	10/07/21	Calf of Man
3	S	29/07/21	Cow Harbour, Calf of Man 19 days
3	S	10/12/21	Castletown, Isle of Man 153 days 12 km (E)
5	S	27/01/22	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 201 days 7km 56deg (ENE)

GY20687 **K51:M**

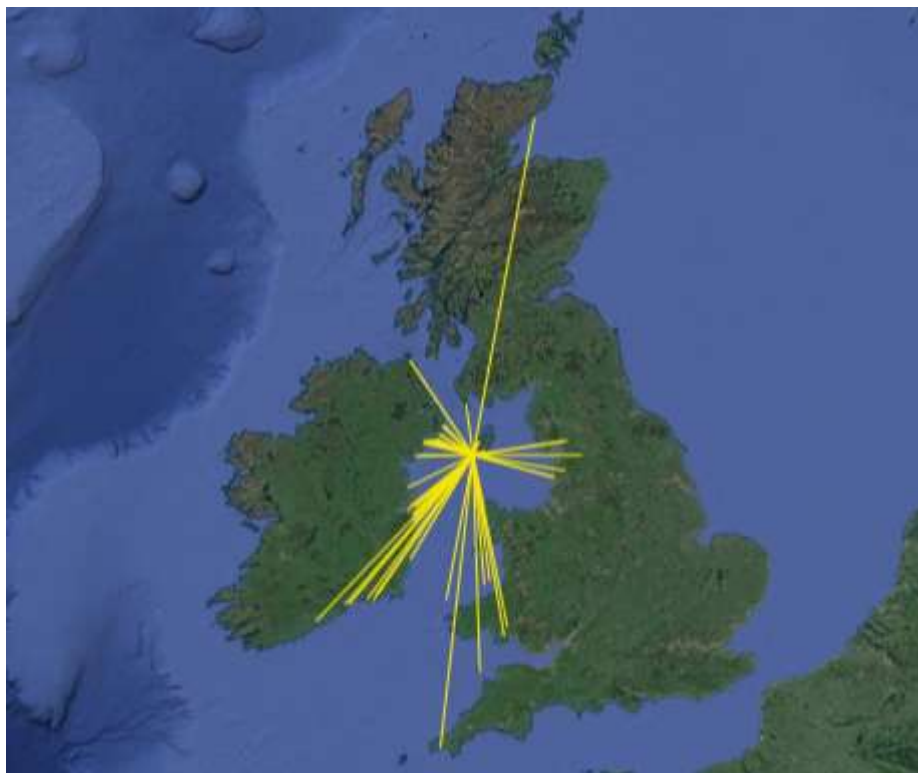
1	N	10/07/21	Calf of Man
5	S	30/11/22	Duncannon Beach, Wexford, Co. Waterford, Eire 508 days 249km 215deg (SW)

GY20693 **K57:M**

1	N	11/07/21	Calf of Man
5	S	09/01/22	Bulloch Harbour, Co. Dublin, Eire 182 days 121km 226deg (SW)
5	S	23/04/22	Sandycove, Co. Dublin, Eire 286 days 121km 226deg (SW)

HT95458 **M66:M**

1	N	18/07/19	Calf of Man
3	S	10/09/19	Colt Island, Co. Dublin, Eire
			54 days 99km 239deg (WSW)
	S	17/08/21	Cruisetown, Co. Louth, Eire
			761 days 97km 256deg (WSW)
	S	27/06/22	Rue Point, Rathlin Island, Co. Antrim, N. Ireland
			1075 days 162km 327deg (NNW)
	S	27/08/22	Rue Point, Rathlin Island, Co. Antrim, N. Ireland
			1136 days



Razorbill

	Eire	England	IOM	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Up to 2021	8	20	2	1	5	15
2022	0	1	0	0	1	0

	BELGIUM	FRANCE	ITALY	NORWAY	PORTUGAL	SPAIN
Up to 2021	4	14	1	1	1	7

	THE NETHERLANDS
Up to 2021	2

M56957

8 N 20/06/01 Calf of Man
 xA 12/01/22 Battery Bay, St. Lawrence, Isle of Wight
 11164 days 456km 148deg (SSE)

A new longevity record for a Calf-ringed Razorbill.

M89029

6 N 21/05/01 Calf of Man
 6 R 27/06/01 Calf of Man 37 days
 xL 03/10/22 Maidens, South Ayrshire, Scotland
 7805 days 143km 0deg (N)

Blackbird

	Eire	England	IOM	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Up to 2021	15	53	38	5	7	1

	DENMARK	FINLAND	FRANCE	GERMANY	NORWAY	SPAIN
Up to 2021	15	3	1	8	24	1
2022	0	0	0	0	1	0

	SWEDEN	THE NETHERLANDS
Up to 2021	11	8

LL61685

3F N 06/11/20 Calf of Man
 xA 09/06/22 Gaupne, Luster, Sogn og Fjordane, NORWAY
 580 days 1086km 42deg (NE)

Robin

	Eire	England	IOM	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Up to 2021	11	11	23	4	8	3
2022	0	1	0	0	0	2

	CHANNEL ISLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS
Up to 2021	1	1

ADX1281

3 N 27/08/22 Calf of Man
 3 R 03/10/22 Kilpaison Marsh, Rhoscrowther, Pembrokeshire, Wales
 37 days 266km 184deg (S)

ADX1638

3 N 01/09/22 Calf of Man
 xA 10/09/22 Rhyd-y-clafdy, Gwynedd, Wales
 9 days 132km 171deg (S)

AFL2528

5M N 22/05/21 Calf of Man
 xA 15/04/22 Hitchin, Hertfordshire
 328 days 383km 128deg (SE)

A sad end for two of the above birds being taken by cats, a far too common fate for many UK songbirds.

Stonechat

	England	IOM
Up to 2021	2	4
2022	0	1

	FRANCE	PORTUGAL	SPAIN
Up to 2021	1	1	1

ADX0536

3J N 22/07/22 Calf of Man
 S 11/08/22 Burroo Ned, Isle of Man 20 days 2km 91deg (E)

Grey Wagtail

	IOM	Scotland	Wales
Up to 2021	1	1	0
2022	5	0	1

ADX0536

3J N 29/06/22 Calf of Man
 S 07/09/22 Port Soldrick, Isle of Man
 70 days 15km 76deg (ENE)

ADX1130

3J	N	09/08/22	Calf of Man
	S	11/08/22	Ballachurry MWT reserve, Isle of Man 2 days 7km 56deg (ENE)
	S	15/08/22	Ballachurry MWT reserve, Isle of Man 6 days

ADX1133

3J	N	09/08/22	Calf of Man
	S	15/08/22	Ballachurry MWT reserve, Isle of Man 6 days 7km 56deg (ENE)

ADX1555

3	N	30/08/22	Calf of Man
	S	20/09/22	Bae y Rhigol, Gwynedd, Wales 21 days 145km 180deg (S)

ADX2260

3	N	17/09/22	Calf of Man
2	S	13/12/22	Port St Mary, Isle of Man 87 days 7km 56deg (ENE)

There have previously been only two recoveries of Calf-ringed Grey Wagtails, so the six re-sightings received represents an excellent start. to the colour-ringing project.

Wheatear

	England	IOM	Scotland	Wales
Up to 2021	9	3	1	7
2022	1	0	0	3

	ALGERIA	CHANNEL ISLANDS	FRANCE	GERMANY	MOROCCO	SPAIN
Up to 2021	1	1	1	2	6	1
2022	0	0	1	0	0	0

THE NETHERLANDS	
Up to 2021	1

AFE6415

3J N 21/06/19 Calf of Man
 3J R 15/07/19 Calf of Man 24 days
 5M R 19/06/20 Calf of Man 364 days
 6M S 13/03/22 Kingston Seymour, Somerset
 996 days 280km (SSE)

AFE9371

3 N 01/08/20 Calf of Man
 6M S 13/03/22 Merville Franceville, Normandy, FRANCE
 589 days 594km (SE)

AFL2733

3J N 03/07/21 Calf of Man
 5F S 06/06/22 South Stack, Isle of Anglesey, Wales
 338 days 84km 175deg (S)
 5F S 07/06/22 South Stack, Isle of Anglesey, Wales 339 days
 4F S 21/08/22 Great Orme, Llandudno, Conwy, Wales
 414 days 102km 142deg (SE)

Chiffchaff

	Eire	England	IOM	Scotland	Wales
Up to 2021	2	14	9	1	4

	CHANNEL ISLANDS	FRANCE	GAMBIA	MOROCCO	SENEGAL	SPAIN
Up to 2021	0	1	2	1	2	1
2022	1	0	0	0	0	0

THE NETHERLANDS	
Up to 2021	1

LDE761

4 N 15/05/22 Calf of Man
 4 R 19/05/22 Calf of Man 4 days
 3 R 12/11/22 Mannez Quarry, Alderney, CHANNEL ISLANDS
 181 days 515km 160deg (SSE)

Our first recovery of a Chiffchaff in Alderney and only the 6th recovery of a Calf-ringed bird in the Channel Islands.

Willow Warbler

	Eire	England	IOM	Scotland	Wales
Up to 2021	3	30	15	8	9
2022	0	0	0	1	0

	BELGIUM	CHANNEL ISLANDS	FRANCE	GAMBIA	PORTUGAL	SPAIN
Up to 2021	1	1	5	1	1	5

LDE547

4 N 29/04/22 Calf of Man
 4F R 03/07/22 RSPB Mersehead, Dumfries & Galloway, Scotland
 65 days 119km 39deg (NE)

Blackcap

	England	IOM	Wales	FRANCE
Up to 2021	2	2	0	2
2022	1	0	1	0

AFL2253

5F N 08/05/21 Calf of Man
 6F R 11/05/22 Skokholm Island, Pembrokeshire, Wales
 368 days 263km 187deg (S)

AJT6323

3M N 01/11/21 Calf of Man
 x 25/03/22 Stroud, Gloucestershire
 144 days 310km 146deg (SE)

Sedge Warbler

	Eire	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland
Up to 2021	2	9	2	2
2022	0	1	0	0

	CHANNEL ISLANDS	FRANCE	SPAIN
Up to 2021	1	7	1
2022	0	1	0

ADX1171

3	N	14/08/22	Calf of Man
3	R	22/08/22	Icklesham, East Sussex 8 days 510km 134deg (SE)

ADX4352

4	N	05/05/22	Calf of Man
4	R	05/09/22	Donges, Loire-Atlantique, FRANCE 123 days 776km 166deg (SSE)

Goldcrest

	Eire	England	IOM	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK Channel
Up to 2021	1	52	77	3	4	13	1
2022	0	1	1	0	0	0	0

	BELGIUM	FRANCE
Up to 2021	2	1

LDD338

3M	N	25/09/21	Calf of Man
4M	R	13/10/22	Rainford, Merseyside 383 days 148km 114deg (ESE)

LYH627

3M	N	28/09/22	Calf of Man
3M	R	03/12/22	Ballachurry MWT reserve, Isle of Man 66 days 7km 56deg (ENE)

Blue Tit

	IOM	Scotland
Up to 2021	53	1
2022	1	0

AFL5814

3 N 10/10/21 Calf of Man
 5 R 11/01/22 Ballagawne, Colby, Isle of Man
 93 days 7km 56deg (ENE)

Great Tit

	IOM	Northern Ireland
Up to 2021	52	2
2022	4	0

ADB2925

3M N 25/10/18 Calf of Man
 4M R 22/12/20 St. John's, Isle of Man
 789 days 21km 36deg (NE)
 6M R 30/01/22 St. John's, Isle of Man 1193 days

AFL3796

3 F N 29/09/20 Calf of Man
 4 F R 17/12/22 Gordon, Patrick, Isle of Man
 809 days 17km 28deg (NNE)

AFL4829

3F N 16/09/21 Calf of Man
 5F R 30/01/22 Ballagawne, Colby, Isle of Man
 136 days 7km 56deg (ENE)

AFL5823

3F N 10/10/21 Calf of Man
 xA 08/02/22 near Bradda Hill, Isle of Man
 121 days 7km 31deg (NNE)

Chough

	IOM	Northern Ireland
Up to 2021	93	1
2022	0	0

EY88462 G,M G,W

6 N 18/05/17 Calf of Man
 2 S 24/08/18 Strandhall, Isle of Man 463 days 7km (ENE)
 2 S 06/10/18 Strandhall, Isle of Man 506 days

2 S 31/10/18 Strandhall, Isle of Man 531 days
 2 S 29/12/18 Strandhall, Isle of Man 590 days
 4 S 04/01/19 Strandhall, Isle of Man 596 days
 4 S 02/06/19 Calf of Man 745 days
 4 S 11/06/19 Calf of Man 754 days

An additional sighting on 6th October 2018

EY88470 G,M N,B

1 N 23/05/17 Calf of Man
 3 S 20/07/17 Calf of Man 58 days
 4 S 10/06/18 Langness, Isle of Man 383 days 13km (E)
 4 S 16/11/18 Langness, Isle of Man 542 days
 4 S 14/04/19 Derbyhaven, Isle of Man 691 days 13km
 4 S 19/03/20 Castletown Bay, Isle of Man 1031 days 10km
 S 21/09/20 Derbyhaven, Isle of Man 1217 days

An additional report from September 2020

EZ87093 B,R R,M

4 N 05/08/18 Calf of Man
 2 S 24/10/18 Strandhall, Isle of Man 80 days 7 km (ENE)
 2 S 06/10/18 Strandhall, Isle of Man 62 days
 2 S 31/10/18 Strandhall, Isle of Man 87 days
 2 S 29/12/18 Strandhall, Isle of Man 146 days
 2 S 04/01/19 Strandhall, Isle of Man 152 days
 2 S 29/09/19 Strandhall, Isle of Man 420 days
 2 S 31/12/20 Strandhall, Isle of Man 513 days
 2 S 07/08/20 Calf of Man 733 days
 4 S 17/01/21 near Kentraugh, Isle of Man 896 days 10 km
 2 S 14/11/21 Strandhall, Isle of Man 1197 days 10km

Additional records from 6th October 2018 and January 2021.

Meadow Pipit

	Eire	England	IOM	North Sea	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Up to 2021	1	3	1	1	1	1	1
2022	0	0	2	0	0	0	0

	FRANCE	PORTUGAL	SPAIN
Up to 2021	12	7	11

AFL4305

3 N 28/08/21 Calf of Man
 x 24/05/22 Gansey Point, Isle of Man
 269 days 7km 56deg (ENE)

AFL4875

3 N 16/09/21 Calf of Man
 + 13/06/22 Lhiatee Ne Beinnie, Isle of Man
 270 days 10km 37deg (NE)

Goldfinch

	Eire	England	IOM	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Up to 2021	3	23	25	5	21	6
2022	0	0	0	0	2	0

	BELGIUM	FRANCE	SPAIN
Up to 2021	2	6	1

ADX0453

3J N 18/06/22 Calf of Man
 3 R 26/09/22 Torwood Lodge, Lockerbie, Dumfries & Galloway, Scotland
 100 days 151km 38deg (NE)

AJT6195

3M N 25/10/21 Calf of Man
 5M R 26/03/22 Leswalt, Stranraer, Dumfries & Galloway, Scotland
 152 days 100km 350deg (N)

Siskin

	England	Scotland
Up to 2021	4	3
2022	0	1

AFL1365

4M N 13/10/20 Calf of Man
 6M R 01/03/22 Cnoc, Argyll & Bute, Scotland
 504 days 239km 2deg (N)

Lesser Redpoll

	England	IOM	Northern Ireland	Scotland
Up to 2021	2	1	1	2
2022	0	0	0	3

BELGIUM	
Up to 2021	1

AFL1675

3M	N	16/10/20	Calf of Man
6M	R	26/03/22	Leswalt, Stranraer, Dumfries & Galloway, Scotland 526 days 100km 350deg (N)
6M	R	02/05/22	Leswalt, Stranraer, Dumfries & Galloway, Scotland 563 days
6M	R	23/05/22	Leswalt, Stranraer, Dumfries & Galloway, Scotland 584 days

Chaffinch

	Eire	England	IOM	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Up to 2021	3	19	57	4	18	4
2022	0	0	4	0	0	0

	NORWAY	SWEDEN	THE NETHERLANDS
Up to 2021	1	1	1

ADX4050

5F	N	23/04/22	Calf of Man
4F	R	15/06/22	Scard, near Ronague, Isle of Man 53 days 10km 42deg (NE)

AFL3727

5M	N	29/09/20	Calf of Man
	xA	08/07/22	Silverdale Glen, Isle of Man 647 days 13km 63deg (ENE)

AFL5815

3F	N	10/10/21	Calf of Man
	R	24/03/22	Gordon, Isle of Man 165 days 17km 28deg (NNE)

AJT6116

3F	N	20/10/21	Calf of Man
	xA	18/03/22	Dalby, Isle of Man 149 days 15km 23deg (NNE)

Controls

Controls are birds ringed elsewhere and caught subsequently on the Calf. A total of 24 reports were received in 2022.

Storm Petrel

	Eire	England	IOM	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Up to 2021	82	84	9	86	366	60
2022	0	0	0	1	2	1

	CHANNEL ISLANDS	PORTUGAL
Up to 2021	1	8

Ring number

Age/Sex Code Date Location Details

2468390

6 N 20/07/21 Craig David Croft, Inverbervie, Aberdeenshire, Scotland
 4 R 01/07/22 Calf of Man 346 days 351km 208deg (SSW)

2511975

4 N 10/07/20 Collieston, Aberdeenshire, Scotland
 4 R 01/07/22 Calf of Man 721 days 407km 207deg (SSW)

2593621

4 N 12/07/20 Point Lynas, Isle of Anglesey, Wales
 4 R 23/07/22 Calf of Man 741 days 79km 334deg (NNW)

2619817

4 N 18/06/22 Copeland Bird Observatory, Co. Down, N. Ireland
 4 R 23/06/22 Calf of Man 5 days 85km 147deg (SSE)

Herring Gull

	EIRE	IOM	Northern Ireland	Wales
Up to 2021	0	13	1	1
2022	1	5	0	0

GR97473 V18:M

6 N 08/07/15 Peel Bay
 10 S 16/07/17 Calf of Man 739 days 21km 203deg (SSW)
 10 S 02/07/18 Calf of Man 1090 days

10	S	08/07/18	Calf of Man 1096 days
10	S	23/03/19	Calf of Man 1354 days
10	S	03/04/19	Calf of Man 1365 days
10	S	12/04/19	Calf of Man 1374 days
10	S	26/04/19	Calf of Man 1388 days
10	S	25/09/20	Strandhall, Isle of Man 1906 days 7km (NE)
10	S	06/11/20	Calf of Man 1948 days
10	S	26/07/21	Calf of Man 2210 days
10	S	17/08/21	Calf of Man 2232 days
10	S	31/03/21	Calf of Man 2458 days
10	S	04/04/22	Calf of Man 2462 days
10	S	18/07/22	Calf of Man 2567 days
10	S	20/07/22	Calf of Man 2569 days
10	S	21/07/22	Calf of Man 2560 days
10	S	11/08/22	Calf of Man 2591 days

GY10505

1	N	07/07/19	Ireland's Eye, Howth, Co. Dublin, Eire
8	R	25/09/22	Calf of Man 1176 days 111km 50deg (NE)

Great Black-backed Gull

	Eire	Wales
Up to 2021	5	0
2022	4	1

HW98726

3	N	01/07/18	Ireland's Eye, Co. Dublin, Eire
5	S	30/03/19	Bull Island (also 2 nd & 6 th April 2019)
7	S	25/01/20	Millquarter Bay, Co. Down
9	S	07/04/21	Bull Island
9	S	22/06/21	Shennick Island, Skerries, Co. Dublin
9	S	20/09/21	Shennick Island, Skerries, Co. Dublin
10	S	10/11/22	Calf of Man 1593 days 110km 49deg (NE)

MA24998

1	N	13/06/21	Ynys Gwylan Islands, Gwynedd, Wales
5	S	21/07/22	Calf of Man 403 days 141km 357deg (N)

MA29044

1 N 11/07/10 Ireland's Eye, Co. Dublin, Eire
 10 S 20/09/20 Calf of Man 3724 days 112km 49deg (NE)
 10 S 12/05/22 Calf of Man 4323 days
 10 S 21/05/22 Calf of Man 4332 days
 10 S 28/08/22 Calf of Man 4429 days

MA29044 is likely to have been breeding on Caigher.

Willow Warbler

	Eire	England	IOM	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Up to 2021	1	43	6	3	20	13
2022	0	1	0	1	0	0

	BELGIUM	CHANNEL ISLANDS	FRANCE	THE NETHERLANDS
Up to 2021	5	2	5	1

LCX607

4M N 14/06/20 University of Ulster, Coleraine, Londonderry, N. Ireland
 4 R 10/04/22 Calf of Man 665 days 172km 136deg (SE)

NAR858

3 N 01/09/21 Portland Bill, Dorset
 4 R 07/05/22 Calf of Man 248 days 425km 338deg (NNW)

LCX607 perhaps gives some indication of the destination and breeding areas of birds moving through the Calf on spring passage, whilst NAR858 shows a typical northerly spring movement of a bird ringed during its first southerly passage towards its wintering grounds in Africa.

Chough

	IOM
Up to 2021	
2022	

EL12692

1 N 26/05/04 Holy Island, Anglesey, Wales
 2 S 05/09/04 Calf of Man 102 days 92 km (N)
 4 S 19/02/05 Skerrisdale Moar, Isle of Man
 4 S 27/02/05 Skerrisdale Moar, Isle of Man
 4 S 06/03/05 Skerrisdale Moar, Isle of Man

4	S	12/03/05	Skerrisdale Moar, Isle of Man
4	S	16/05/05	Burroo Ned, Isle of Man
4	S	20/05/05	Burroo Ned, Isle of Man
4	S	06/06/05	The Chasms, Isle of Man
4	S	21/06/05	Shenvalley, Isle of Man

Re-ringed EL67200

4	S	18/05/07	Scarlett, Isle of Man
4	S	25/05/10	Scarlett, Isle of Man
4	S	03/05/11	near Castletown, Isle of Man
4	S	20/05/11	near Castletown, Isle of Man
2	S	18/09/11	Scarlett, Isle of Man
4	S	15/05/12	near Castletown, Isle of Man
2	S	14/09/18	Scarlett, Isle of Man

A previously unreported sighting of the first proven movement of a Chough moving from its natal area in Wales to the Isle of Man and being recruited into the Manx breeding population.

Chaffinch

	England	IOM	Northern Ireland	Scotland
Up to 2021	11	19	1	3
2022	0	1	0	0

	BELGIUM	DENMARK	NORWAY	THE NETHERLANDS
Up to 2021	1	1	1	1

ATV5518

3F	N	21/09/22	Gordon, Patrick, Isle of Man
3F	R	13/10/22	Calf of Man
22 days 17km 208deg (SSW)			

Lesser Redpoll

	England	IOM	Northern Ireland	Wales
Up to 2021	47	1	7	1
2022	1	0	0	0

	BELGIUM
Up to 2021	1

Y532768

4M	N	10/11/21	Dungeness Bird Observatory, Kent
6M	R	20/04/22	Calf of Man
161 days 524km 312deg (NW)			

Goldfinch

	England	IOM	Scotland	Wales
Up to 2021	22	11	0	3
2022	3	0	1	0

	BELGIUM	FRANCE
Up to 2021	5	1

S593812

6M N 23/01/22 Long Belt Bilsthorpe, Nottinghamshire
 5M R 01/04/22 Calf of Man 68 days 269km 292deg (WNW)

ABT5357

4M N 14/11/21 Butterknowle, Durham
 5M R 29/03/22 Calf of Man 135 days 203km 252deg (WSW)

AHV0160

3F N 13/11/21 Thorpe Marsh, Doncaster
 5F R 15/04/22 Calf of Man 153 days 249km 283deg (WNW)

ALY7314

5 N 25/04/22 Leswalt, Stranraer, Dumfries & Galloway, Scotland
 5M R 05/05/22 Calf of Man 10 days 100km 170deg (S)

Non-Avian Report – 2022

Mammals

Pygmy Shrew (*Sorex minutus*)

152 records from 25th March to 6th November, with a peak count of four on 15th May.

The Pygmy Shrew can be found almost anywhere on the island, although most sightings were in and around the observatory. There was plenty of evidence of Pygmy Shrew activity across the island on the non-toxic wax blocks used to detect Long-tail presence.

Small mammal trapping was carried out for eight nights during late autumn, around the Observatory and along the Silo bank, however none were caught.

Brown Rat [Long-tail] (*Rattus norvegicus*)

For the first time since 2016, there were no records of live individuals on the Calf; however, half a dead long-tail was found, in an advanced state of decomposition, on the track near the old Mill. It is thought that this may have been carried to the Calf by a gull or corvid and was unlikely to constitute a biosecurity threat.

There was one live sighting of an individual, caught on camera trap, on Kitterland, where it had been present for much of the winter period. Contingency measures were instigated, and subsequent monitoring visits showed that control measures were likely to have been successful, as there were no further sightings or evidence of Long-tails detected.

Brown Long-eared Bat (*Plecotus auritus*)

One individual on 20th September was accidentally trapped by mist net near the Observatory.

The only confirmed sighting for this year, a decline from six recorded in 2021. There have been records in six out of the last 10 years.

Pipistrelle Bat sp. (*Pipistrellus sp.*)

15 records between 9th April and 12th September, with a peak count of three on 23rd June and 11th September.

With only 14 individuals recorded over the last 17 years, 2022 has the highest number recorded in any recent year. The majority of records were from around the Observatory buildings with one in April, two singles in May, three on 23rd June, two on 20th July, three on 11th and two on 12th September. Additionally, one was seen at South Harbour on 7th June and one was at the Withy on 15th July.

All records were of individuals seen or heard and species-specific identification was not possible.

Bat spp. (*Chiroptera* spp.)

29 individuals between 5th May and 23rd October.

Of two different species heard at South Harbour on 7th June, sound recordings suggest that one was possibly a Noctule Bat (***Nyctalus lasiopterus***), the other was believed to be a Pipistrelle sp.

A series of nine observations occurred between 7th – 29th August, mostly around the farmhouse; with at least six further recordings of bats being picked up on the Nocmig recorder, nightly between 23rd – 28th. In September, further singles were observed on three dates and recorded on Nocmig on four dates, whilst in October a single on 8th was followed by two on 23rd October including one at Cow Harbour.

Rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)

During 2021, the Rabbit population on the Calf was at an extremely high level and this resulted in grazing for the MNH Loaghtan flock to be in short supply through winter and early spring. To try and ease this pressure a cull of 130 Rabbits was made on 21st January. In March the Rabbit numbers were still high but an outbreak of myxomatosis over the spring reduced numbers considerably, such that by mid-summer there were areas of long grass and wildflowers growing in the glen fields. Rabbit numbers increased through summer, with a plentiful supply of grass and largely dry conditions providing ideal conditions for rabbit reproduction.

There were numerous sightings of 'black' Rabbits throughout the year. A new sighting at Big Head occurred on 28th March but most were seen in the Front Field, with several at the Lighthouse Fields.

Hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*)

One record of a long-dead corpse found above South Harbour on 2nd November.

This is the third record for the Calf, the previous two records also being of long-dead specimens that were either washed here by the tide or carried by gulls.

Common Seal (*Phoca vitulina*)

121 records between 19th March and 4th November.

This species was seen sporadically throughout the season with a peak count of 13 on 1st October.

	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV
Max.	1	1	1	3	3	2	4	13	5

The tagged seal (Yellow – 3084), that was sighted several times in 2021 and tagged by RSPCA Stapeley Grange Wildlife Centre and Cattery on 27th October 2020 as a juvenile, was spotted twice, first on 26th March at Leodan and again on the 13th April on the beach at South Harbour.

Grey Seal (*Halichoerus gryphus*)

13,790 records between 19th March and 4th November.

Grey Seals are seen all year round on the Calf. Undertaking monthly seal counts has resulted in a peak count of 244 on 29th March. On 21st January there were 250 in South Harbour.

The ‘pupping’ season saw 65 pups born during autumn, an increase of seven on last year’s total.

	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV
Max.	244	190	132	177	110	168	206	163	145

Cetaceans

Harbour Porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*)

121 records between 24th March and 20th October, with a peak count of seven on 27th July.

By far the most regular cetacean to be seen from around the Calf and it is likely that there were resident family groups for much of the season. Records occur from almost anywhere around the islet, but South Harbour and Gibdale are two regular locations to see the species.

Common Dolphin (*Delphinus delphis*)

Two records of possibly the same super-pod.

At least 50 were actively feeding off Rarick and The Puddle on 1st August and the second group of 30+ were off South Harbour on 9th August.

Bottlenose Dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*)

11 records from three dates during the late summer and autumn

Two on 17th August were thought to be 'Moonlight & Starlight', then five on 9th September and four on 27th September.

Risso's Dolphin (*Grampus griseus*)

116 records between 6th June and 31st October, with a peak count of 15 on two dates, the 9th and 10th July.

The first sighting for the year was on 6th June approximately two km SE of the Calf. The following day on 7th June one large male was spotted feeding off Rarick, several more were seen from the Lighthouses and another group later in the afternoon off Kione ny Halby. On 22nd June a pod was filmed NW of the Calf by Ian Scott, which confirmed mating taking place for the first time in Manx waters. The last sighting for the year was on 31st October off Cow Harbour.

Minke Whale (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*)

Nine records between 10th July and 11th October, with a peak count of two on both the 10th July and 30th September.



An excellent year for sightings began with one on 10th July off South Harbour, then five sightings on four dates in September, including two on 30th September. Another was seen off Big Head on 8th October and the final sighting on 11th October was in the Sound.

Fish

Basking Shark (*Cetorhinus maximus*)

14 records between 7th May and 20th August, with a peak count of three on 10th July and 11th August.

One sighted on the 7th May off South Harbour, the next sighting was on 6th June off the Lighthouses with a second spotted on 15th off Baie Fine. On the 10th July, three were seen off the Lighthouses and one at South Harbour the following day. Three were seen along the East coast on 11th August and there were four further sightings of singles during the month including the last of the year on 20th, which was moving south off Culbery, and seen during a seawatch.

European Eel (*Anguilla Anguilla*)

One recorded on 8th August. There was no work carried out at the Millpond this season explaining the decrease in records.

Blenny (*Lipophrys pholis*)

Three seen in total, one on 29th March, 28th June and on the 8th August. This species is greatly under-recorded.

Reptiles

Common Lizard (*Lacerta vivipara*)

75 records between 26th March and 10th September, with a peak count of five on 27th August.

There were regular sightings of small numbers in March through to June, then numbers shot up for July and August, tailing off into September.

Odonata

Blue-tailed Damselfly (*Ischnura elegans*)

539 records between 29th May and 10th September, with a peak count of 105 on 22nd June.

First sighting recorded on 29th May with 10 in one day. Numbers increased in June and July with the largest daily count of 105 on 22nd June. By August the number recorded was only 35 for the month, followed by six spread out in early September. This year saw the second highest count in the last 10 years.

Migrant Hawker (*Aeshna mixta*)

89 records between 10th July and 20th October, with a peak count of eight on 19th September.

This year saw the highest count in at least the last 20 years. On 10th July the first sighting occurred, with only one other spotted later that month. August saw an increase to 12 for the month, with two seen mating on 28th August. Numbers shot up in September with 73 sightings but in October only two singles were recorded.

Hawker spp. (*Aeshna* spp.)

Three records on 14th and 19th August and 8th October.

All three records were likely to be *A. mixta*

Emperor Dragonfly (*Anax imperator*)

20 records between 26th July and 7th September, with a peak count of three on 14th August.

This year's count is the highest in over 20 years. The first of the season were two Emperor Dragonflies seen on 26th and 27th July. August saw 14 sightings with one seen ovipositing on 10th August. Only four were sighted in early September.

Common Darter (*Sympetrum striolatum*)

107 records between 19th June and 28th September, with a peak count of nine on 17th August.

This year's count is the third highest on the Calf since 1978. Seven sightings in late July, followed by 54 individuals in August, with the highest count of nine on 17th August. September saw 44 sightings spread throughout the month.

Dragonfly spp. (*Anisoptera* spp.)

Four records between 21st June and 19th August.

Coleoptera

Minotaur beetle (*Typhaeus typhoeus*)

1,173 records between 16th March and 6th November, with a peak count of 150 on 23rd October.

This beetle can be seen crawling slowly almost anywhere around the island. High numbers were recorded in April and May, trailing off over June and July with only one recorded sighting in August. A fresh immergence in September saw an increase to 23 sightings which jumped to 751 in October and 48 in the first six days of November.



Violet Ground Beetle (*Carabus violaceus*)

30 records between 25th June and 31st October, with a peak count of three on 24th September.

Can be found almost anywhere across the island.

Green Tiger Beetle (*Cincidela campestris*)

20 records between 24th April and 14th June, with a peak count of nine on 29th May.

This common beetle is best found along the tracks during May and June with the highest counts in late May and early June.

Dor Beetle (*Geotrupes stercorarius*)

Two records, one on 18th March and another on 15th July.

Devil's Coach Horse Beetle (*Ocypus olens*)

19 records between 4th May and 8th October, with a peak count of 10 found on 18th September.

Can be found almost anywhere on the island.

Black Clock Beetle (*Pterostichus madidus*)

26 records between 22nd April and 16th October, with a peak count of three on 22nd April.

The first three were recorded on 22nd April on the Lower Lighthouse door. September saw the highest amount recorded with seven seen throughout the month.

Black Snail Beetle (*Silpha atrata*)

One record on 1st April. Not an April fool's joke.

Black Sexton Beetle (*Nicrophorus humator*)

56 records between the 5th May and 21st October, with a peak count of 12 on 6th May.

Most sightings involved individuals attracted to the moth trap.

Banded Sexton Beetle (*Nicrophorus investigator*)

538 records between 30th June and 24th October, with a peak count of 56 on 3rd October.

Most sightings involved individuals attracted to the moth trap. August saw the highest total for the month with 298 recorded.

Brown Chafer (*Serica Brunnea*)

Two records of singles on 10th July and 28th July.

Common Red Soldier Beetle (*Rhagonycha fulva*)

29 records between 15th July and 27th July, with a peak count of 13 on 18th July.

This beetle can be found around the Observatory feeding on flowers such as Ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*).

Pterostichus nigrita

18 records between 27th March and 2nd November, with a peak count of three on 29th July.

Most sightings have occurred around the Observatory but can be found anywhere across the island.

Carabus granulatus

44 records between 17th March and 3rd October, with a peak count of three on 8th July.

Most sightings have occurred around the Observatory but can be found anywhere across the island.

Abax parallelepipedus

One record on 14th April, found halfway up to Janes' House from Cow Harbour was the first record of the species in the Isle of Man since 1998.

There are 53 Isle of Man records listed on NBN Atlas, with just one previous record for the Calf from 1904.



Willow Leaf Beetle (*Lochmaea caprea*)

Two recorded on 26th March.

There are just three previous Isle of Man records listed on NBN Atlas, including two from the Calf in April and June 2018.

Heather Beetle (*Lochmaea suturalis*)



Two records of different individuals on 25th April and 26th April would appear to be the first records for the Calf.

There are 12 previous Isle of Man records listed on NBN Atlas, all situated in the northern half of the Island.

Mottled Dingy-Brown Click Beetle (*Agrypnus murinus*)

One record on 14th May from South Harbour was a new species recorded on the Calf.

There are just three previous Isle of Man records listed on NBN Atlas, all situated in the northern half of the Island.



Common Sun Beetle (*Amara aenea*)

One record on 21st May.

Only one sighting at the Observatory of this, likely, under-recorded species. Of 33 previous Isle of Man records listed on NBN Atlas, just one is from the Calf in 1941.

Black Vine Weevil (*Otiorhynchus sulcatus*)

14 records between 7th May and 21st September.

Clover-root Weevil (*Sitona hispidulus*)



One found near Fold Point on 24th October is a new species record for the Calf.

There are just eight previous Manx records listed on NBN Atlas, all occurring north from SC37.

Hemiptera

Plagiognathus arbustorum

One recorded on 7th September on some nettles in the garden at the Observatory, would appear to be a new species for the Calf.



The species is extremely common in the UK and likely to have been overlooked in the past, however there are no records for the Isle of Man on NBN Atlas.

Green Shield Bug (*Palomena prasine*)

Two records of singles on 10th and 12th October.

Birch Catkin Bug (*Kleidocerys resedae*)

One record on 16th May.

Another new species for the Calf and Isle of Man, was found near the Lighthouses.



Phytocoris longipennis

One was photographed on 10th September, and subsequently identified as this species.



This would appear to be the first Calf and Manx record of this species of plant bug that is found commonly in most parts of Europe.

Bombus

White-tailed Bumblebee (*Bombus lucorum*)

71 records between 5th March and 20th September with a peak count of five on 22nd April.

Buff-tailed Bumblebee (*Bombus terrestris*)

143 records between 18th March and 5th November with a peak count of nine on 1st November.

White/Buff-tailed Bumblebee spp.

489 records between 16th March and 6th November with eight days in September marked as present.

Bilberry Bumblebee (*Bombus monticola*)

Three records on 3rd April, 14th May and 31st May.

Only the second year that the species has been recorded, following three records in May 2019.

Garden Bumblebee (*Bombus hortorum*)

11 records between 18th March and 17th July.

Heath Bumblebee (*Bombus jonellus*)

12 records on 7th September with four days in September marked as present, with numerous sightings on these dates anywhere on the Island that had Heather (*Calluna vulgaris*).

Of 46 records listed for the Isle of Man on NBN Atlas, none have previously been reported from the Calf, with the closest Manx record being from the Langness peninsula in 1940 and 1963.



Common Carder Bee (*Bombus pascuorum*)

227 records between 24th March and 16th October.

A common bee across the island, especially around the Observatory, with a peak count of 22 caught in the moth trap at the Observatory on 20th September. There were eight days in September recorded as present.

Carder Bee sp.

Five records on 7th September, believed to be **Moss Carder Bee (*Bombus muscorum*)**.

There are just 11 records of Moss Carder Bee listed in NBN Atlas for the Isle of Man, none of which were previously recorded on the Calf.

Heather (Girdled) Colletes (*Colletes succinctus*)

73 records on 5th, 13th, 15th & 25th August and 8th September.

The highest count was 30 on 15th August seen at the quarry. Other sightings were at the back gate and around the Observatory. The species is likely to be the most common of the Colletes recorded on the Calf.

There are three previous records from the Calf included in the 18 that are listed on NBN Atlas.

Honeybee sp.

12 records on three dates, 14th July, 1st August and 24th August.

Brown-footed Leafcutter Bee (*Megachile versicolor*)

Three records on two dates, 21st June, and 23rd June.

Leafcutter Bee sp (*Megachile sp*)

16 records in July, with three days marked present.

10 records on 10th July believed to be **Patchwork Leafcutter (*Megachile centuncularis*)**. There are just four previous Isle of Man records of *M. centuncularis* listed on NBN Atlas, none of which were recorded on the Calf.

Yellow-legged Furrow Bee (*Halictus rubicundus*)

Two records of singles on 7th April and 8th April.

Of 66 records listed for the Isle of Man on NBN Atlas, none have previously been reported from the Calf, however there is one record from SC16, involving a single recorded at Cregneash in May 1972.

Ivy Mining Bee (*Colletes hederæ*)

Identified from photographs taken on 10th September of a colony near to the tractor shed, it is likely that this species is relatively common on the Calf. However, this is the first confirmed record of the species on the Isle of Man, of this recently (1993) described distinct species.



Buffish Mining Bee (*Andrena nigroaenea*)

One record on 1st May.

Of just 19 records listed for the Isle of Man on NBN Atlas, only one previous Calf record exists with one recorded on 15th May 1951. There is also a record from July 2010 from the nearby Sound area.

Chocolate Mining Bee (*Andrena scotica*)

One record on 8th June.

Of just 18 records listed for the Isle of Man on NBN Atlas, only two previous Calf records exist with singles recorded in April and May 1941.

Apocrita

Ruby-tailed Wasp (*Chrysis ignita*)

26 records between 29th May and 11th August.
Can be seen across the island.

Common Wasp (*Vespidae vulgaris*)

94 records between 23rd March and 4th November.

Mostly seen around the Observatory. September and October saw the highest monthly counts with 27 in September and 37 in October.

Red Wasp (*Vespula rufa*)

Singles recorded on 19th April and 13th September; the latter being photographed.

Of nine records listed for the Isle of Man NBN Atlas all were from the main-Island, and this would seem to be a new species for the Calf.



Ichneumon Wasp (*Ichneumon sacitorius*)

One record on 23rd June. No further sightings.

Ichneumon Wasp sp. (*Ichneumonidae sp*)

Seven recorded between 5th July and 25th October.

Diptera

Bumblebee Plumehorn (*Volucella bombylans*)

Nine records between 22nd June and 26th July.



A new species recorded on the Calf, the first three were found at the Withy with subsequent sightings at the Central Heath, Spaghetti junction, Mill Giau and Lower Twin Fields.

There are just two records listed for the Isle of Man on NBN Atlas.

Hoverfly sp. (*Chrysotoxum arcuatum*)

One photographed on the Ivy, opposite HG2, on 13th September was subsequently identified as this species – a new record for the Calf.

There is only one previous listed record for the Isle of Man on NBN Atlas



Marmalade Hoverfly (*Episyrphus balteatus*)

Four recorded between 7th July and 12th September with three days in September marked as present.

This species is particularly abundant during autumn, when many can be found feeding on the Ivy opposite HG2.

Hoverfly sp. (*Eupeodes corollae*)

One photographed on the 8th September was subsequently identified as this species – a new record for the Calf.



There are 13 records from the Isle of Man listed on NBN Atlas.

Hoverfly sp. (*Eristalis nemorum*)

One photographed on the 8th September was subsequently identified as this species – a new record for the Calf.



There are just five records from the Isle of Man listed on NBN Atlas, all occurring in the north of the Island.

Hoverfly sp. (*Meliscaeva auricollis*)

One photographed on the Ivy, opposite HG2, on 13th September was subsequently identified as this species – a new record for the Calf.



There are 15 previous listed records for the Isle of Man on NBN Atlas

Hoverfly sp. (*Syrphus ribesii*)

One photographed on the Ivy, opposite HG2, on 10th September was subsequently identified as this species – a new record for the Calf.



There are 27 previous listed records for the Isle of Man on NBN Atlas

Hoverfly sp. (*Myathropa florea*)

One photographed on the Ivy, opposite HG2, on 8th September was subsequently identified as this species – a new record for the Calf.



There are just seven previous listed records for the Isle of Man on NBN Atlas

Pied Hoverfly (*Scaeba pyrastris*)

Five recorded between 4th June and 18th October with one day in June marked as present.

Common Drone Fly (*Eristalis tenax*)

Seen in large numbers (100+) along the Ivy opposite HG2 during September and October.

NBN Atlas shows just 20 previous records for the IOM and none for the Calf.

Hoverfly sp (*Syrphidae* sp.)

Six records between 22nd March and 11th August.

Blue Bottle Fly (*Calliphora vomitoria*)

16 recorded between 17th March and 6th August with 11 days marked present.

Yellow Dung Fly (*Scathophaga stercoraria*)

Five records between 14th April and 14th June.

Of 10 records listed for the Isle of Man on NBN Atlas, none have previously been reported from the Calf. However, recent records have been reported in Calf reports for 21st & 23rd July 2019, 8th November 2020 and four records in 2021, including 30 at Gibdale on 7th October.

Smokey-winged Woodlouse-Fly (*Melanophora roralis*)

12 records between 1st August and 18th September.

A new species recorded for the Calf. The first two were believed to be females, with the species then seen quite frequently on the walls of the Observatory.

Of nine records listed for the Isle of Man on NBN Atlas, none have previously been reported from the Calf.



Marsh Crane Fly (*Tipula oleracea*)

One photographed on 8th September was later identified as this species.



This is the first time that the species has been confirmed as occurring on the Calf, however given its status as being prevalent in Europe it is likely that it occurs commonly here. There are just seven records listed on the IOM NBN Atlas.

Crane fly sp. (*Tipulidae* sp.)

1892 recorded between 29th September and 25th October.

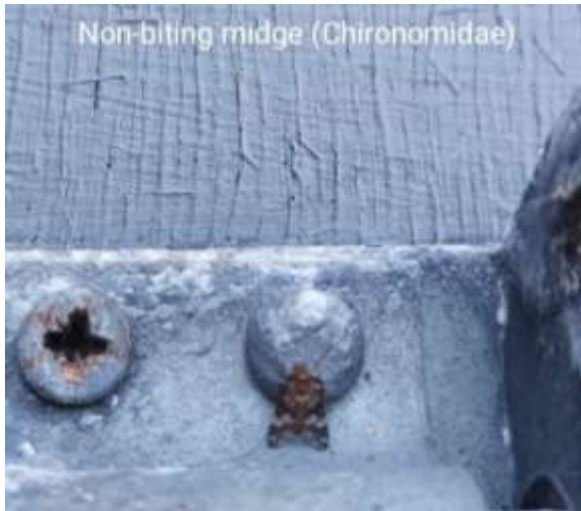
250 caught in the moth trap at the Observatory on 29th September, the following day on 30th September 1000 were counted in a large emergence in the back field.

Tiger Crane Fly sp. (*Nephrotoma* sp.)

One record on 21st July.

Non-Biting Midge (*Psectrotanypus varius*)

One recorded on 28th March was found in the hide at Cow Harbour.



Psectrotanypus is a genus of non-biting midges in the subfamily Tanypodinae of the bloodworm family Chironomidae.

Psectrotanypus varius is known to occur in very polluted waters with only a few other accompanying species.

A new species recorded for the Calf and Isle of Man.

St. Mark's Fly (*Bibio marci*)

12 records between 27th April and 7th May.

The first six were sighted at the Withy.

Black Snipe Fly (*Chrysopilus critatus*)

One record on 1st July.

Of 19 records listed for the Isle of Man on NBN Atlas, one has previously been reported from the Calf on 28th June 2021.

Bristle Fly sp. (*Thelaira* sp.)

One record on 1st July.

Molluscs

Large Red Slug/Black Slug (*Arion rufus/ater*)

265 records between 12th April and 18th October.

Can be found anywhere across the island especially around the Observatory with a peak count of 25 on 3rd May.

Tree Slug (*Limax marginatus*)

115 records between 17th March and 12th September.

Found at the Observatory with a peak count of 10 on 17th May.

Common Garden Snail (*Cornu aspersum*)

Found commonly around the Observatory.

Hemerobiformia

Green Lacewing (*Chrysoperla carnea*)

Three recorded on 23rd March and on 20th October.

Araneae

European Garden Spider (*Araneus diadematus*)

Eight records between 9th June and 22nd September.

Can be commonly seen on Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) anywhere across the island and is significantly under-recorded.

Zebra Jumping Spider (*Salticus scenicus*)

Three records, two on 15th May and one on 1st June.

Black Lace-Weaver Spider (*Amaurobius ferox*)

One record on 14th May.

A new record for the Calf, was found in the volunteer's bedroom at the Observatory. There is only one other Manx record listed on NBN Atlas, of one at Union Mills on 13th March 1995.



Crab Spider (*Thomisidae spp*)

One record on 4th June.

Toothed Weaver (*Textrix denticulata*)

One record on 30th June.

A new species recorded for the Calf and Isle of Man was found in the assistant wardens' kitchen sink at the Observatory.



Candy Striped Spider (*Enoplognatha ovata*)

One record on 28th July, caught in the moth trap at the Observatory. There are just three records listed for the Isle of Man on NBN Atlas, none have previously been reported from the Calf.

Harvestman sp. (*Phalangium opilio*)

Three individuals were photographed and later identified as this species: a male on the 8th and another male and a female on 10th September.



Although this species is listed as having occurred on the Calf previously, of the 13 Manx records listed on NBN Atlas none are from the Calf.

Orthoptera

Common Field Grasshopper (*Chorthippus brunneus*)

Six records between 1st June and 21st September with five days in July marked as present.

Can be found anywhere in long grass and likely under-recorded considerably.

Zygentoma

Silverfish (*Lepisma saccharinum*)

363 records between 22nd March and 9th October.

A species not previously documented as occurring on the Calf. Often found in the hide at Cow Harbour but also around the Observatory and in the Withy hide.

Smaller Groups

Pill Millipede (*Glomeris marginata*)

14 records between 20th April and 23rd June.

Highest count recorded was three on two separate occasions, on 7th and 22nd June.

Millipede sp. (*Julida spp*)

One record on 17th May.

Common Shiny Woodlouse (*Oniscus asellus*)

Seven recorded at the end of March.

Woodlice are common in and around the Observatory and very much under-recorded.

Common Earwig

One record on 3rd May.

As with the previous species, Earwigs are commonly found in and around the Observatory.

Springtail sp. (*Collembola sp*)

One record on 31st May.

Black Ant (*Lasius niger*)

Three records on 31st May.

Yellow Meadow Ant (*Lasius flavus*)



There were 50 recorded anthills on 31st May.

A full report on the anthills on the Calf can be found on page 250.

Crustacea

Common Sea Slater (*Ligia oceanica*)

47 records between 22nd March and 18th June.

Commonly found at both Cow Harbour and South Harbour with a peak count of 20 on two separate occasions, 22nd March and 14th April.

Barnacle (*Austrominius modestus*)

There were many recorded on 3rd June at the gully west of Cow Harbour. There is only one other record of this invasive species for the Isle of Man listed on NBN Atlas, found off Langness on 26th March 2006.

Scyphozoa

Lion's Mane Jellyfish (*Cyanea capillata*)

85 records between 2nd June and 1st October

Found commonly throughout the waters of the Calf, often spotted in South Harbour.

Barrel Jellyfish (*Rhizostoma pulmo*)

22 records between 19th May and 22nd October.

One sighting in May, all other sightings in October. The highest count in any one day was seven seen on 13th October.

Moon Jellyfish (*Aurelia aurita*)

30 records between 2nd June and 24th August.

Can be found anywhere in the waters around the Calf.

Blue Jellyfish (*Cyanea lamarckii*)

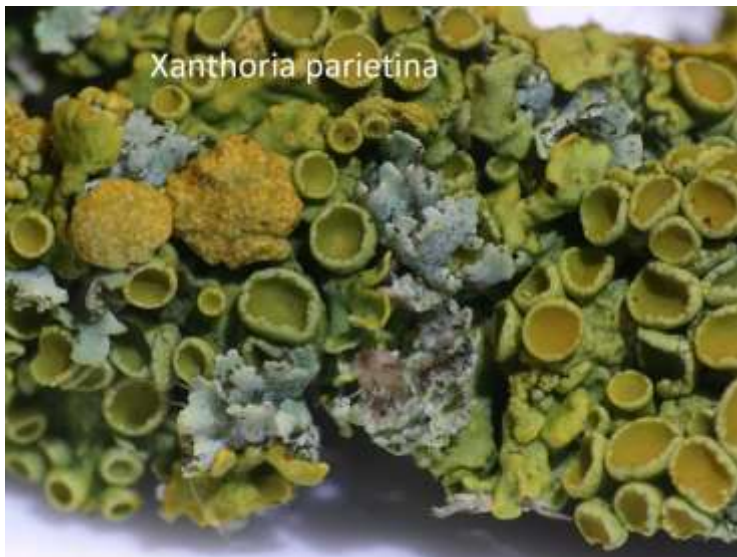
19 records between 2nd June and 1st August.

Can be found anywhere in the waters around the Calf.

Lichen

Common Orange Lichen (*Xanthoria parietina*)

Found at Cow Harbour Store, this would appear to be a relatively common maritime species.



Butterfly Report – 2022

This year was the fifth highest count in the last ten years as shown in Figure

1. There were some large increases on numbers of Large White, Red Admiral, Speckled Wood and Meadow Brown and a large decrease in the numbers of Green-Veined White and Dark Green Fritillary.

Conditions on the Calf were very mild in the spring with weeks of dry weather, the summer was hot with little rainfall.

The butterfly transect used this year is as follows:

1. Starting at the information board by the outdoor ringing room heading towards Spaghetti Junction.
2. From Spaghetti Junction to the left-hand side gate into Seafield just past the Mill. Including around Mill.
3. From the Gate at the Mill follow the track around the Seafield and through the gate, closest to South Harbour, and up through Seafield to the gate to Withy.
4. From the gate at the bottom of the Withy through Withy and to the gate at the top of Top Withy
5. From the gate at the top of Top Withy, going into then past the Observatory and ending at the gate by End Field.

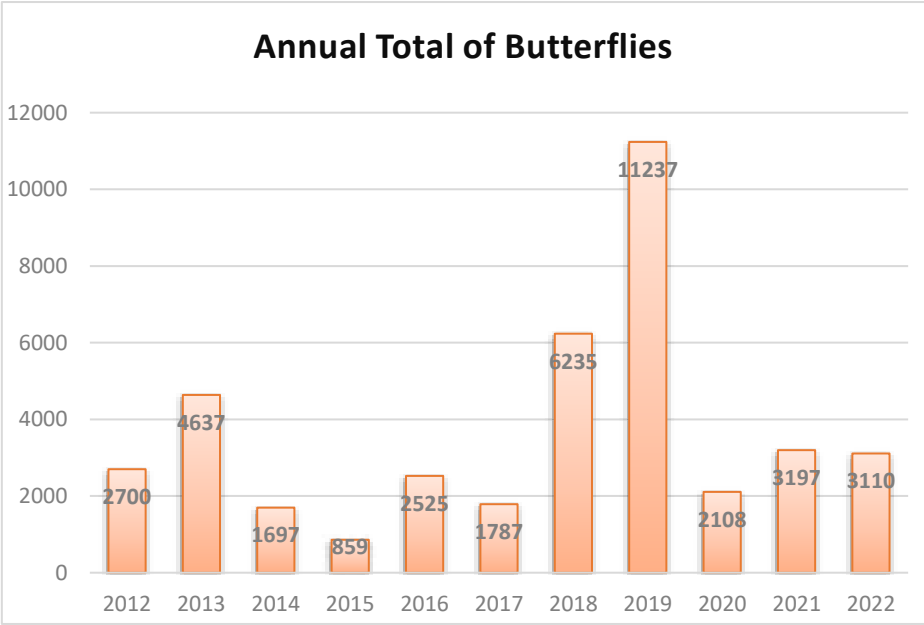


Figure 1

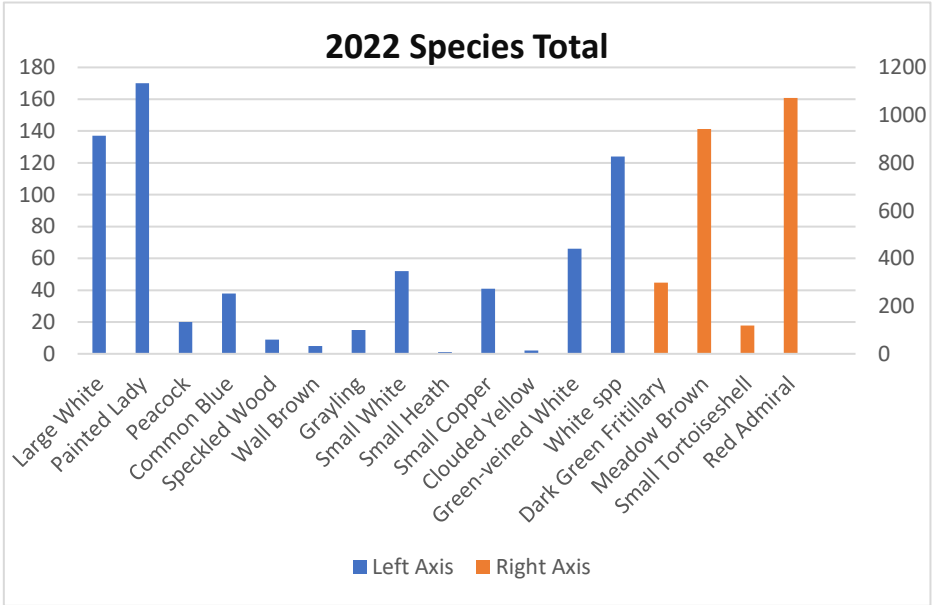


Figure 2

Clouded Yellow (*Colias croceus*)

Two records, most likely of the same individual, on 4th and 5th September were seen on Rarick.

This species was last recorded in 2011, with only one sighting back then.

Large White (*Pieris brassicae*)

137 records between 4th June and 9th September, with a peak count of eight on 10th August.

A big increase on the recorded sightings from last year where only 12 were recorded. The highest months this year being July with 30 recorded and August with 78.

Small White (*Pieris rapae*)

52 records between 19th April and 9th September, with a peak count of six on 26th April.

A slight increase on last year's 41 sightings. April saw the highest number recorded with 22, May saw 15 records. Numbers took a dip with one seen in June, six recorded for July and five in August trailing off with three in September.

Green-veined White (*Pieris napi*)

66 records between 27th April and 16th September, with a peak count of six on 7th September.

A large decrease in numbers from last year, down from 724, though higher than the 49 recorded in 2020. September saw the highest count with 18 for the month.

White spp.

124 records between 21st April and 1st September.

All sightings relate to fast flying 'white' butterflies that were seen briefly not being able to assign to species level.

Small Copper (*Lycaena phlaeas*)

41 records between 24th April and 30th September, with a peak count of five on 7th August.

A decrease from last year's 276 records. First sighting was on 24th April with three seen. A few days later one was seen during a trip over to Kitterland on 29th April. Small numbers seen from May to July with August seeing the highest number recorded at 19 for the month. Eleven were recorded in September with the last of the season on 30th.

Common Blue (*Polyommatus Icarus*)

38 records between 4th June and 7th September, with a peak count of nine on two dates, 14th and 17th August.

A slight increase on the 28 recorded last year and the highest count since 2011. A single record for June with an individual spotted by Mill Giau. July had no counts and then a jump to 32 sighted in August, then down to five for September.

Dark Green Fritillary (*Argynnis aglaja*)

298 records between 18th May and 17th August, with a peak count of 26 on 23rd June.

A decrease in numbers from last year when 500 were recorded. June saw the highest number recorded with 193 counts, followed by July with 99.

Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*)

170 records between 19th May and 4th November, with a peak count of 23 on 5th September.

The 4th highest record in the last 10 years and a noticeable increase on last year's 75 records. Peak month was September with 102 sightings.

Grayling (*Hipparchia Semele*)

15 records between 10th July and 30th August, with a peak count of six on 20th July.

Another season with 15 recorded sightings, considered a poor year for this species. The first couple spotted on 10th July with the highest daily record of six on 21st July.

Red Admiral (*Vanessa atalanta*)

1,072 records between 18th March and 6th November with a peak count of 120 on 10th September.

A large increase on last year's 641 recorded. The highest record in the last 17 years. Sightings in March and April, increasing through June and July then jumping to 319 sightings in August and 508 in September. Numbers dropped to 64 in October and only seven sighted in November.



Small Heath (*Coenonympha pamphilus*)

One record on 27th August.

One individual seen, making this a slight decrease on last year's three sightings. Only 11 have been sighted on the Calf in the last 10 years.

Small Tortoiseshell (*Aglais urticae*)

118 records between 23rd March and 18th October, with a peak count of 10 on 10th September.

This year has the 5th highest record for the last 10 years but was a decrease on last year's 211 recorded sightings. Highest months were July with 32 sightings and September with 36.



Peacock (*Inachis io*)

20 records between 27th June and 4th November, with a peak count of three on 17th September.

A small increase on last year's 12 recorded sightings and the 4th highest record in the last 10 years. The first sighting was at the end of June, no other sightings until 9th August then 11 were seen that month. September had seven sightings, none for October then one sighting in November.

Speckled Wood (*Pararge aegeria*)

Nine records between 30th August and 20th September, with peak counts of two on both 2nd and 4th September.

An increase on last year's one sighting and the second highest record in the last 15 years. Individuals were seen at the Observatory and Kione ny Halby.



Wall Brown (*Lasiommata megera*)

Five records between 4th August and 8th September, with a peak count of two on 4th August.

A slight increase on last year's single sighting and the highest record since 2018's 13 sightings. The first two seen in August were found at Bushels.

Meadow Brown (*Maniola jurtina*)

942 records between 3rd June and 13th September, with a peak count of 111 on 20th July.

A large increase on last year's 625 records and the third highest record in the last 15 years. Only one seen in June, then a large jump to 581 for July, August saw a count of 351 before sharply dropping off to only nine sightings for the start of September.

2022 Moth Report

2022 followed a similar moth surveying method to previous seasons with the use of a mercury vapour trap and day-time observations. This season, due to the absence of COVID-19 restrictions and perhaps, the good weather, we have been able to carry out a higher number of trapping nights and therefore, have recorded an increase in species and individuals. The primary trapping location was at the Plantation with the Front Hedge and Courtyard being used more frequently towards the end of the year.

	2019	2020	2021	2022
Trap nights	84	44	55	65
Individuals	9151	3180	3742	6925
Species	211	126	152	156

A total of 157 species of moth were recorded this season consisting of 114 macro and 43 micro species. The macro total included recordings of two new species for the Calf; Triple-spotted clay (*Xestia ditrapezium*), a local and scarce species on Mann but a fairly widespread and well distributed moth in the rest of the UK (similar to Setaceous Hebrew Character, a fairly common moth on the Calf but without a conspicuous pale triangular block) and Archer's dart (*Agrotis vestigialis*), one of the most distinctive members of the 'darts' and a resident/local species with a scattered distribution around the coast of Britain, Isle of Man and Ireland. Archer's darts are regularly seen visiting the flowers of heathers whilst the Triple-spotted clay prefers wooded habitat.

Our arrival on the Calf was slightly postponed due to a delay on the repair and transport of our generator. The season began on the 16th March and luckily, we were blessed with beautiful weather for the first couple of months. Our first moth observation and trapping night took place on the evening of 26th March and our last recorded observation on the 7th November. A total of 65 trap nights took place overall with an additional 39 dates on which casual observations were made collecting a total of 6926 individuals.

Of our 157 species, 10 were migrants, with particularly high counts of Rusty-dot Pearl (*Udea ferrugalis*) and Rush Veneer (*Nomophila noctuella*). We also recorded good counts of the usual summer migrants, including Square-spot Dart (*Euxoa obelisca*) and Crescent Dart (*Agrotis trux* spp. *lunigera*), however, it was a poor year for Silver Y (*Autographa gamma*) with only 12 records in comparison to the past few years when over 100 have been recorded regularly. One migrant highlight from this season was a Vestal (*Rhodometra sacaria*), with only five previous records on the Calf. The Vestal was found after a trapping session on the evening of 10th October. The Vestal we recorded was dull in colour, suggesting an immigrant from northern Europe where lower temperatures are experienced by the pupae.

Another highlight was the Red Underwing (*Catocala nupta*), recorded by Aron as a 'daytime observation' when found resting on the side of Heligoland 1 on 28th August. With only four previous records on the Calf, the last being in 2004.

The species account in the table below is organised by the recent ABH (D.J. Agassiz, S.D. Beavan & R.J. Heckford) recording system showcasing the full extent of our species list from this season. A selected number of species with Calf records of 10 and below are documented in more detail alongside those of particular interest. Species highlighted in **bold** typeface indicate that they are new additions to the Calf list.

2022 Species Account

BF	ABH	Taxon	Vernacular	Sum	Days	Peak	Peak date	Earliest	Latest
15	3.001	<i>Triodia sylvina</i>	Orange Swift	2	2	1	01-Aug	01-Aug	13-Aug
18	3.003	<i>Korscheltellus fusconebulosa</i>	Map-winged Swift	2	1	2	04-Jun	04-Jun	04-Jun
16	3.004	<i>Hepialus hecta</i>	Gold Swift	2	2	1	05-Aug	05-Aug	09-Aug
227	12.036	<i>Monopis rusticella</i>	Skin Moth	1	1	1	24-Aug	24-Aug	24-Aug
228	12.036	<i>Monopis</i> sp.	Skin Moth	4	1	4	19-Sep	19-Sep	19-Sep
231	12.040	<i>Monopis imella</i>	Felt Clothes Moth	1	1	1	9-Sep	9-Sep	9-Sep

BF	ABH	Taxon	Vernacular	Sum	Days	Peak	Peak date	Earliest	Latest
200	12.048	<i>Psychoides filicivora</i>	Fern Smut	1	1	1	07-Sep	07-Sep	07-Sep
425	16.002	<i>Yponomeuta padella</i>	Orchard Ermine	1	1	1	14-Jul	14-Jul	14-Jul
464	18.001	<i>Plutella xylostella</i>	Diamond-back Moth	1	1	1	04-May	04-May	04-May
647	28.01	<i>Hofmannophila pseudospretella</i>	Brown House-moth	1	1	1	19-Jul	19-Jul	19-Jul
714	32.035	<i>Agonopterix yeatiana</i>	Coastal Flat-body	1	1	1	08-Apr	08-Apr	08-Apr
670	32.039	<i>Depressaria daucella</i>	Dingy Flat-body	2	2	1	26-Mar	26-Mar	27-Mar
776	35.146	<i>Teleiopsis diffinis</i>	Large Groundling	51	17	14	17-Aug	25-May	13-Sep
873	41.002	<i>Blastobasis adustella</i>	Dingy Dowd	6	2	5	28-Jul	04-Jul	28-Jul
1524	45.044	<i>Emmelina monodactyla</i>	Common Plume	1	1	1	17-Aug	17-Aug	17-Aug
970	49.025	<i>Pandemis cerasana</i>	Barred Fruit-tree Tortrix	11	7	3	07-Aug	06-Jul	11-Aug
986	49.028	<i>Syndemis musculana</i>	Dark-barred Tortrix	39	5	19	04-Jul	04-May	04-Jul
1042	49.07	<i>Acleris rhombana</i>	Rhomboid Tortrix	1	1	1	02-Oct	02-Oct	02-Oct
1062	49.071	<i>Acleris emargana</i>	Notch-wing Button	1	1	1	23-Sep	23-Sep	23-Sep
1048	49.077	<i>Acleris variegana</i>	Garden Rose Tortrix	2	2	1	09-Sep	09-Sep	02-Oct
1055	49.082	<i>Acleris hyemana</i>	Heath Button	3	3	1	27-Mar	27-Mar	23-Oct
945	49.127	<i>Aethes cnicana</i>	Thistle Conch	1	1	1	06-Jun	06-Jun	06-Jun
966	49.139	<i>Cochylis atricapitana</i>	Black-headed Conch	5	2	4	24-Aug	24-Aug	31-Aug
4355	49.139	<i>Cochylis atricapitana</i>	Black-headed Conch	7	5	2	17-Jun	15-Jun	05-Aug
1197	49.269	<i>Eucosma campoliliana</i>	Marbled Bell	1	1	1	04-Jul	04-Jul	04-Jul
1184	49.285	<i>Epiblema scutulana</i>	Thistle Bell	1	1	1	11-Aug	11-Aug	11-Aug
1174	49.292	<i>Notocelia cynosbatella</i>	Yellow-faced Bell	1	1	1	06-Jun	06-Jun	06-Jun
1462	62.015	<i>Argyresthia semifusca</i>	Brown Rowan Agent	1	1	1	15-Jun	15-Jun	15-Jun
1386	63.016	<i>Anania fuscalis</i>	Cinerosus Pearl	1	1	1	06-Jun	06-Jun	06-Jun

BF	ABH	Taxon	Vernacular	Sum	Days	Peak	Peak date	Earliest	Latest
1376	63.025	<i>Anania hortulata</i>	Small Magpie	14	8	3	15-Jun	05-Jun	14-Jul
1395	63.031	<i>Udea ferrugalis</i>	Rusty-dot Pearl	23	9	13	23-Oct	22-May	07-Nov
1405	63.038	<i>Pleuroptya ruralis</i>	Mother of Pearl	1	1	1	09-Aug	09-Aug	09-Aug
1398	63.052	<i>Nomophila noctuella</i>	Rush Veneer	31	15	6	23-Oct	21-Jul	28-Oct
1334	63.064	<i>Scoparia ambigualis</i>	Common Grey	1	1	1	22-Jun	22-Jun	22-Jun
1342	63.069	<i>Eudonia angustea</i>	Narrow-winged Grey	1	1	1	23-Oct	23-Oct	23-Oct
1293	63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	79	20	11	02-Jul	06-Jun	13-Aug
1294	63.081	<i>Crambus pascuella</i>	Inlaid Grass-veneer	1	1	1	13-Jun	13-Jun	13-Jun
1305	63.089	<i>Agriphila tristella</i>	Common Grass-veneer	26	7	6	17-Aug	31-Jul	22-Aug
1303	63.092	<i>Agriphila selasella</i>	Pale-streak Grass-veneer	8	3	4	13-Aug	27-Jul	13-Aug
1304	63.093	<i>Agriphila straminella</i>	Straw Grass-veneer	41	7	23	13-Aug	13-Aug	09-Sep
1309	63.095	<i>Agriphila geniculea</i>	Elbow-stripe Grass-veneer	188	15	55	24-Aug	07-Aug	23-Sep
1638	66.008	<i>Macrothylacia rubi</i>	Fox Moth	1	1	1	15-Apr	15-Apr	15-Apr
1981	69.003	<i>Laothoe populi</i>	Poplar Hawk-moth	29	10	8	22-Jun	15-May	14-Jul
1984	69.01	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>	Humming-bird Hawk-moth	6	6	1	22-Jun	22-Jun	10-Oct
1708	70.011	<i>Idaea dimidiata</i>	Single-dotted Wave	2	2	1	14-Jul	14-Jul	22-Jul
1702	70.013	<i>Idaea biselata</i>	Small Fan-footed Wave	3	3	1	28-Jul	28-Jul	22-Aug
1713	70.016	<i>Idaea aversata</i>	Riband Wave	10	6	3	14-Jul	04-Jul	09-Aug
1689	70.023	<i>Scopula marginepunctata</i>	Mullein Wave	14	10	2	14-Jul	04-Jun	29-Aug
1716	70.038	<i>Rhodomestra sacraria</i>	Vestal	1	1	1	10-Oct	10-Oct	10-Oct
1728	70.049	<i>Xanthorhoe fluctuata</i>	Garden Carpet	1	1	1	15-Jun	15-Jun	15-Jun
1742	70.059	<i>Camptogramma bilineata</i>	Yellow Shell	46	6	30	14-Jun	05-Jun	14-Jul
1738	70.061	<i>Epirrhoe alternata</i>	Common Carpet	3	2	2	17-Aug	05-Aug	17-Aug

BF	ABH	Taxon	Vernacular	Sum	Days	Peak	Peak date	Earliest	Latest
1777	70.074	<i>Hydriomena furcata</i>	July Highflyer	3	2	2	04-Jul	04-Jul	31-Jul
1752	70.087	<i>Cosmorhoe ocellata</i>	Purple Bar	6	4	2	13-Aug	13-Jun	31-Aug
1755	70.09	<i>Eulithis testata</i>	Chevron	15	8	4	17-Aug	05-Aug	19-Sep
1760	70.095	<i>Chloroclysta siterata</i>	Red-green Carpet	3	2	2	23-Oct	20-Oct	23-Oct
1764	70.097	<i>Dysstroma truncata</i>	Common Marbled Carpet	1	1	1	05-Jun	05-Jun	05-Jun
1862	70.141	<i>Gymnoscelis rufifasciata</i>	Double-striped Pug	1	1	1	22-Jul	22-Jul	22-Jul
1846	70.168	<i>Eupithecia nanata</i>	Narrow-winged Pug	40	18	8	13-Aug	05-May	13-Aug
1825	70.173	<i>Eupithecia centaureata</i>	Lime-speck Pug	1	1	1	29-Aug	29-Aug	29-Aug
1830	70.179	<i>Eupithecia absinthiata</i>	Wormwood Pug	5	3	3	14-Jul	04-Jul	22-Jul
1834	70.183	<i>Eupithecia vulgata</i>	Common Pug	1	1	1	06-Jun	06-Jun	06-Jun
1887	70.207	<i>Lomaspilis marginata</i>	Clouded Border	1	1	1	01-Jul	01-Jul	01-Jul
1902	70.222	<i>Petrophora chlorosata</i>	Brown Silver-line	106	17	21	15-Jun	04-May	04-Jul
1906	70.226	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	4	3	2	14-Jul	01-Jun	14-Jul
1913	70.234	<i>Ennomos alniaria</i>	Canary-shouldered Thorn	8	7	2	12-Sep	09-Aug	02-Oct
1921	70.241	<i>Crocallis elinguaris</i>	Scalloped Oak	2	2	1	27-Jul	27-Jul	05-Aug
1937	70.258	<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>	Willow Beauty	2	2	1	07-Aug	07-Aug	13-Aug
1952	70.275	<i>Ematurga atomaria</i>	Common Heath	13	3	9	14-May	14-May	26-May
1956	70.278	<i>Cabera exanthemata</i>	Common Wave	1	1	1	06-Jun	06-Jun	06-Jun
1964	70.287	<i>Charissa obscurata</i>	Annulet	1	1	1	18-Jul	18-Jul	18-Jul
2003	71.013	<i>Notodonta ziczac</i>	Pebble Prominent	8	4	4	05-Aug	25-May	05-Aug
2469	72.001	<i>Scoliopteryx libatrix</i>	Herald	1	1	1	03-Apr	03-Apr	03-Apr
2477	72.003	<i>Hypena proboscidalis</i>	Snout	2	2	1	04-Jul	04-Jul	31-Jul

BF	ABH	Taxon	Vernacular	Sum	Days	Peak	Peak date	Earliest	Latest
2061	72.019	<i>Spilosoma lutea</i>	Buff Ermine	163	22	27	02-Jul	30-May	31-Jul
2060	72.02	<i>Spilosoma lubricipeda</i>	White Ermine	10	5	4	06-Jun	01-Jun	17-Jun
2064	72.024	<i>Phragmatobia fuliginosa</i>	Ruby Tiger	2	2	1	26-Sep	26-Sep	28-Sep
2057	72.026	<i>Arctia caja</i>	Garden Tiger	97	15	25	28-Jul	09-Apr	09-Aug
2069	72.031	<i>Tyria jacobaeae</i>	Cinnabar	348	24	115	28-Jul	15-May	28-Jul
2047	72.046	<i>Eilema complana</i>	Scarce Footman	1	1	1	31-Jul	31-Jul	31-Jul
2492	72.055	<i>Herminia grisealis</i>	Small Fanfoot	3	2	2	17-Aug	13-Aug	17-Aug
2452	72.078	<i>Catocala nupta</i>	Red Underwing	1	1	1	28-Aug	28-Aug	28-Aug
2450	73.001	<i>Abrostola tripartita</i>	Spectacle	58	21	7	28-Jul	25-May	05-Aug
2434	73.012	<i>Diachrysia chrysitis</i>	Burnished Brass	2	2	1	28-Jul	28-Jul	31-Jul
2441	73.015	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	12	11	2	04-Jun	04-Jun	30-Oct
2439	73.022	<i>Plusia festucae</i>	Gold Spot	7	4	4	13-Aug	13-Aug	09-Sep
2289	73.045	<i>Acronicta rumicis</i>	Knot Grass	22	6	9	13-Jun	01-Jun	21-Jul
2243	73.069	<i>Xylocampa areola</i>	Early Grey	3	2	2	10-Apr	28-Mar	10-Apr
2293	73.084	<i>Bryophila domestica</i>	Marbled Beauty	1	1	1	18-Jul	18-Jul	18-Jul
2381	73.096	<i>Hoplodrina alsines</i>	Uncertain	1	1	1	06-Jul	06-Jul	06-Jul
2382	73.097	<i>Hoplodrina blanda</i>	Rustic	155	14	26	27-Jul	09-Jul	17-Aug
2306	73.113	<i>Phlogophora meticulosa</i>	Angle Shades	35	15	9	23-Oct	26-May	24-Oct
2305	73.114	<i>Euplexia lucipara</i>	Small Angle Shades	7	6	2	15-Jun	04-May	22-Jun
2368	73.119	<i>Helotropha leucostigma</i>	Crescent	2	2	1	05-Aug	05-Aug	13-Aug
2364	73.121	<i>Gortyna flavago</i>	Frosted Orange	3	3	1	09-Sep	09-Sep	19-Sep
2361	73.123	<i>Hydraecia micacea</i>	Rosy Rustic	1	1	1	17-Aug	17-Aug	17-Aug
2360	73.128	<i>Amphipoea oculea</i>	Ear Moth agg.	3	3	1	07-Aug	07-Aug	17-Aug
2353	73.131	<i>Luperina testacea</i>	Flounced Rustic	12	7	3	13-Aug	07-Aug	31-Aug

BF	ABH	Taxon	Vernacular	Sum	Days	Peak	Peak date	Earliest	Latest
2375	73.134	<i>Rhizedra lutosa</i>	Large Wainscot	1	1	1	18-Sep	18-Sep	18-Sep
2350	73.144	<i>Denticucullus pygmina</i>	Small Wainscot	24	4	15	24-Aug	28-Jul	24-Aug
2326	73.156	<i>Apamea crenata</i>	Clouded-Bordered Brindle	1	1	1	13-Jun	13-Jun	13-Jun
2321	73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	133	23	43	05-Aug	22-Jun	29-Aug
2343	73.169	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i>	Common Rustic	48	11	17	28-Jul	13-Jun	11-Aug
2337 x	73.173 5	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.	Marbled Minor agg.	3	2	2	11-Aug	11-Aug	17-Aug
2273	73.181	<i>Xanthia togata</i>	Pink-barred Sallow	2	2	1	23-Sep	23-Sep	01-Oct
2274	73.182	<i>Cirrhia icteritia</i>	Sallow	1	1	1	13-Aug	13-Aug	13-Aug
2267	73.186	<i>Agrochola lychnidis</i>	Beaded Chestnut	6	3	4	02-Oct	30-Sep	10-Oct
2263	73.189	<i>Agrochola lota</i>	Red-line Quaker	25	9	6	02-Oct	23-Sep	24-Oct
2262	73.192	<i>Agrochola circellaris</i>	Brick	1	1	1	02-Oct	02-Oct	02-Oct
2270	73.193	<i>Omphaloscelis lunosa</i>	Lunar Underwing	118	12	29	02-Oct	12-Sep	23-Oct
2256	73.21	<i>Eupsilia transversa</i>	Satellite	1	1	1	23-Oct	23-Oct	23-Oct
2232	73.233	<i>Aporophyla nigra</i>	Black Rustic	203	16	41	02-Oct	09-Sep	28-Oct
2229	73.234	<i>Dasypolia templi</i>	Brindled Ochre	2	2	1	02-Oct	02-Oct	20-Oct
2255	73.235	<i>Polymixis lichenea</i>	Feathered Ranunculus	6	5	2	02-Oct	13-Sep	20-Oct
2190	73.249	<i>Orthosia gothica</i>	Hebrew Character	1	1	1	05-May	05-May	05-May
2176	73.254	<i>Cerapteryx graminis</i>	Antler Moth	63	16	11	13-Aug	06-Jul	29-Sep
2160	73.267	<i>Lacanobia oleracea</i>	Bright-line Brown-eye	635	31	91	13-Jun	15-May	26-Sep
2163	73.271	<i>Ceramica pisi</i>	Broom Moth	105	19	18	05-Jun	04-May	02-Oct
2147	73.273	<i>Hada plebeja</i>	Shears	1	1	1	27-Jul	27-Jul	27-Jul
2166	73.276	<i>Sideridis rivularis</i>	Campion	1	1	1	15-Jun	15-Jun	15-Jun
2173	73.281	<i>Hadena bicruris</i>	Lychnis	16	8	5	31-Jul	27-Jul	29-Aug
2171	73.283	<i>Hadena confusa</i>	Marbled Coronet	7	5	2	29-May	29-May	02-Jul

BF	ABH	Taxon	Vernacular	Sum	Days	Peak	Peak date	Earliest	Latest
2174	73.285	<i>Hadena caesia</i>	Grey	18	13	3	30-May	04-May	07-Aug
2167	73.286	<i>Hadena perplexa capsophila</i>	Pod Lover	32	17	4	29-May	15-May	22-Jul
2192	73.29	<i>Mythimna conigera</i>	Brown-line Bright Eye	6	4	3	22-May	05-May	31-Jul
2199	73.291	<i>Mythimna pallens</i>	Common Wainscot	17	7	7	19-Sep	01-Jun	19-Sep
2198	73.293	<i>Mythimna impura</i>	Smoky Wainscot	50	10	22	05-Aug	12-Jul	09-Sep
2205	73.301	<i>Leucania comma</i>	Shoulder- striped Wainscot	1	1	1	01-Jun	01-Jun	01-Jun
2119	73.307	<i>Peridroma saucia</i>	Pearly Underwing	1	1	1	10-Oct	10-Oct	10-Oct
2080	73.312	<i>Euxoa obelisca</i>	Square-spot Dart	811	17	162	13-Aug	26-Jul	19-Sep
2089	73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	36	14	6	05-Jun	01-Jun	26-Jul
2087	73.319	<i>Agrotis segetum</i>	Turnip Moth	10	8	2	01-Jun	01-Jun	24-Oct
2085	73.322	<i>Agrotis vestigialis</i>	Archer's dart	1	1	1	07-Aug	07-Aug	07-Aug
2090	73.324	<i>Agrotis trux ssp. Lunigera</i>	Crescent Dart	850	25	115	28-Jul	22-Jun	12-Sep
2091	73.327	<i>Agrotis ipsilon</i>	Dark Sword- grass	4	4	1	30-May	30-May	12-Sep
2102	73.329	<i>Ochropleura plecta</i>	Flame Shoulder	10	9	2	04-Jun	30-May	29-Aug
2120	73.333	<i>Diarsia mendica</i>	Ingrailed Clay	13	9	4	05-Aug	29-Jun	13-Aug
2123	73.334	<i>Diarsia rubi</i>	Small Square-spot	56	17	12	17-Aug	22-May	19-Sep
2139	73.336	<i>Cerastis rubricosa</i>	Red Chestnut	6	4	3	26-Mar	26-Mar	14-Apr
2118	73.338	<i>Lycophotia porphyrea</i>	True Lover's Knot	1304	27	280	27-Jul	05-Jun	29-Aug
2107	73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	255	40	27	05-Aug	06-Jun	24-Oct
2110	73.343	<i>Noctua fimbriata</i>	Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	2	1	2	09-Aug	09-Aug	09-Aug
2109	73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	13	8	4	05-Aug	18-Jul	12-Sep
2111	73.348	<i>Noctua janthe</i>	Lesser Broad- bordered Yellow Underwing	16	10	4	05-Aug	31-Jul	19-Sep

BF	ABH	Taxon	Vernacular	Sum	Days	Peak	Peak date	Earliest	Latest
2135	73.356	<i>Xestia agathina</i>	Heath Rustic	8	5	2	24-Aug	24-Aug	23-Sep
2134	73.357	<i>Xestia xanthographa</i>	Square-spot Rustic	30	9	9	24-Aug	22-Aug	19-Sep
2126	73.359	<i>Xestia c-nigrum</i>	Setaceous Hebrew Character	35	11	8	02-Oct	20-Jun	02-Oct
2127	73.36	<i>Xestia ditrapezium</i>	Triple-spotted clay	1	1	1	12-Jul	12-Jul	12-Jul
2117	73.365	<i>Eugnorisma glareosa</i>	Autumnal Rustic	9	6	4	31-Aug	17-Aug	12-Sep
2078	74.004	<i>Nola confusalis</i>	Least Black Arches	8	6	3	13-Jun	01-Jun	04-Jul
		<i>Hoplodrina agg</i>	Uncertain/Rustic agg	1	1	1	17-Aug	17-Aug	17-Aug
		<i>Acleris spp.</i>	<i>Acleris spp.</i>	1	1	1	12-Jul	12-Jul	12-Jul
		<i>Eudonia/Scoparia</i>	<i>Eudonia/Scoparia spp</i>	34	17	5	02-Jul	22-Jun	19-Sep
		<i>Gelechiidae</i>		19	5	12	04-Jul	20-Jun	05-Aug
		<i>Pug spp.</i>	Unidentified pug	4	2	2	04-Jul	04-Jul	14-Jul
		<i>Notocelia spp.</i>	<i>Notocelia spp.</i>	2	2	1	02-Jul	02-Jul	12-Jul
			Bird poo agg.	2	1	2	13-Aug	13-Aug	13-Aug

2022 Selected Records of Interest

20.02 (419)

Argyresthia semifusca

One individual was recorded by the MV trap at the Plantation on the 15th June. Only one other individual has been recorded on the Calf and that was in 1996.

32.035 (714) Coastal Flat-body

Agonopterix yeatiana

One individual was recorded on the 8th April as a day-time observation on the East coast. This is the 5th record for the Calf.

32.039 (670) Dingy Flat-body

Depressaria daucella

A total of two individuals were recorded on two separate trapping nights, the first on the 26th March and the second on 27th. These mark the ninth and tenth records for the Calf.

66.008 (1638) Fox Moth

Macrothylacia rubi

One individual was recorded as a day-time observation at Big Head on the 15th April making it the fourth record for the Calf, the last being recorded in 2018.

70.038 (1716) Vestal

Rhodometra sacraria

One individual was recorded after using the MV trap at the Courtyard on the 10th October. Only 5 other individuals have been recorded on the Calf since 1995.

70.278 (1956) Common Wave

Cabera exanthemata

One individual was recorded on 6th June after using the MV trap at the Front Hedge. This is the sixth Calf record.

72.055 (2492) Small Fan-foot

Herminia grisealis

A total of three individuals were recorded over two trapping nights. One on the 13th August at the Front Hedge and two on the 17th August at the Plantation. Prior to this season, only one individual had been recorded on the Calf.

72.078 (2452) Red Underwing

Catocala nupta

One individual was recorded this season as a day-time observation on the 28th August. It was found basking in the sun on Heligoland 1. This is the 5th record of this species on the Calf, the last being sighted in 2004.



73.123 (2361) Rosy Rustic

Hydraecia petasitis

One individual was recorded on the 17th August at the Plantation making it the ninth record since 1939.

73.134 (2375) Large Wainscot

Rhizedra lutosa

An individual recorded on the 18th September at the Plantation was the sixth record on the Calf since 1972.

73.181 (2273) Pink-barred Sallow

Xanthia togata

A total of two individuals were recorded after using the MV trap on the 23rd September and 1st October. These were the 10th and 11th records for this species on the Calf.

73.182 (2274) Sallow

Cirrhia icteritia

One individual was recorded after a trapping night on the 13th August at the Front Hedge. This was the sixth record for this species on the Calf.

73.21 (2256) Satellite

Eupsilia transversa

One individual was recorded on the 23rd October after being trapped at the Courtyard. Only five other individuals have been recorded on the Calf.

73.302 (2205) Shoulder-striped Wainscot

Leucania comma

One individual was recorded on the 1st June after using the MV trap at the Plantation making it the 10th record for the Calf.

73.322 (2085) Archer's dart

Agrotis vestigialis

One individual was recorded on the 7th August with the MV trap at the Plantation. This is a new species for the Calf.

73.36 (2127) Triple spotted clay

Xestia ditrapezium

One individual was recorded on the 12th July with the MV trap at the Front Hedge. This is a new species for the Calf.





Intertidal species list for the Calf of Man 2022

NB. Only South Harbour and the Dock were surveyed.

Green seaweeds

Ulva intestinalis

Ulva lactuca

Cladophora spp

Brown seaweeds

Ascophyllum nodosum

Himanthalia elongata

Fucus spiralis

Laminaria digitata

Fucus serratus

Porphyra umbilicalis

Desmarestia spp

Alaria esculenta

Pelvetia canaliculata

Saccharina latissima

Red seaweeds

Polysiphonia lanosa

Lomentaria articulata

Corallina officinalis

Chondrus crispus

Palmaria palmata

Pink encrusting red seaweed – many species

Chorda filum (Boot-lace Weed) is in the Puddle, seen 9/7/22 – per DB

Anemones and corals

Actina equina

Sponges

Halichondria panicea

Worms

Spirorbis spirorbis

Crustaceans

Cancer pagarus

Chthamulus spp

Carcinus maenas

Austrominius modestus – invasive species

Gammarus spp

Semibalanus balanoides

Molluscs

Littorina obtusata

Patella vulgata

Nucella lapillus and eggs

Callistoma zizyphinum

Littorina littorea

Mytilus edulis

Gibbula cineraria

Fish

Gobius spp

Blenny spp

Anthills on the Calf of Man



Figure 1 - a fully-formed anthill above the Cletts with Spanish Head in the background, 31 May 2022.

Anthills of the Yellow Meadow Ant (*Lasius flavus*) are an important yet threatened, unappreciated and strangely overlooked facet of Manx natural history. Although *L. flavus* is one of the most common and widespread ants to be found on both the Isle and the Calf of Man, their impressive, domed nests are rarely encountered. Rarer still are ‘anthill pastures’, where the nests of this humble invertebrate dominate entire grasslands, to the great benefit of a wide range of biodiversity, from flowering plants to mosses, butterflies, lizard, mammals and even birds, including our famed population of Chough *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*.

Recognising *L. flavus* as a true keystone species and seeking to better understand this most threatened of Manx habitats, in 2022 a thorough mapping exercise was undertaken across the Calf, establishing for the first time the islet to be the most important Manx site for this incredibly rare priority habitat.

During 2021 and 2022 anthills were recorded from 22 sites across the Isle of Man, with a widespread, all-Island distribution, albeit often singularly or in very low numbers. Anthills are known to be long-lived and may remain in situ for up to 500 years, however this study found that in the Isle of Man they are only abundant at three known locations; the Calf of Man (Rushen), Lower Ballabeg (Lonan) and Cronk e Chule (Laxey).



Figure 2 - Anthills at Kione ny Halbey on the east coast of the Calf, 1 June 2022.

After initially finding a small number of anthills on the headlands above the Cletts on 23rd April 2022, a full survey was undertaken over two days, 31st May and 1st June, with some additional records gathered from a final survey from 8th to 10th July. An initial attempt to count every anthill was made, however this became impractical with the finding of approximately 300 anthills scattered around Kione Roauyr. In total, it is estimated that potentially up to 500 (very approximate) anthills are present on the Calf, including active and abandoned nests, making the Calf by far both the most extensive and abundant anthill pasture in the Isle of Man, of national biodiversity importance.

Calf of Man anthill distribution

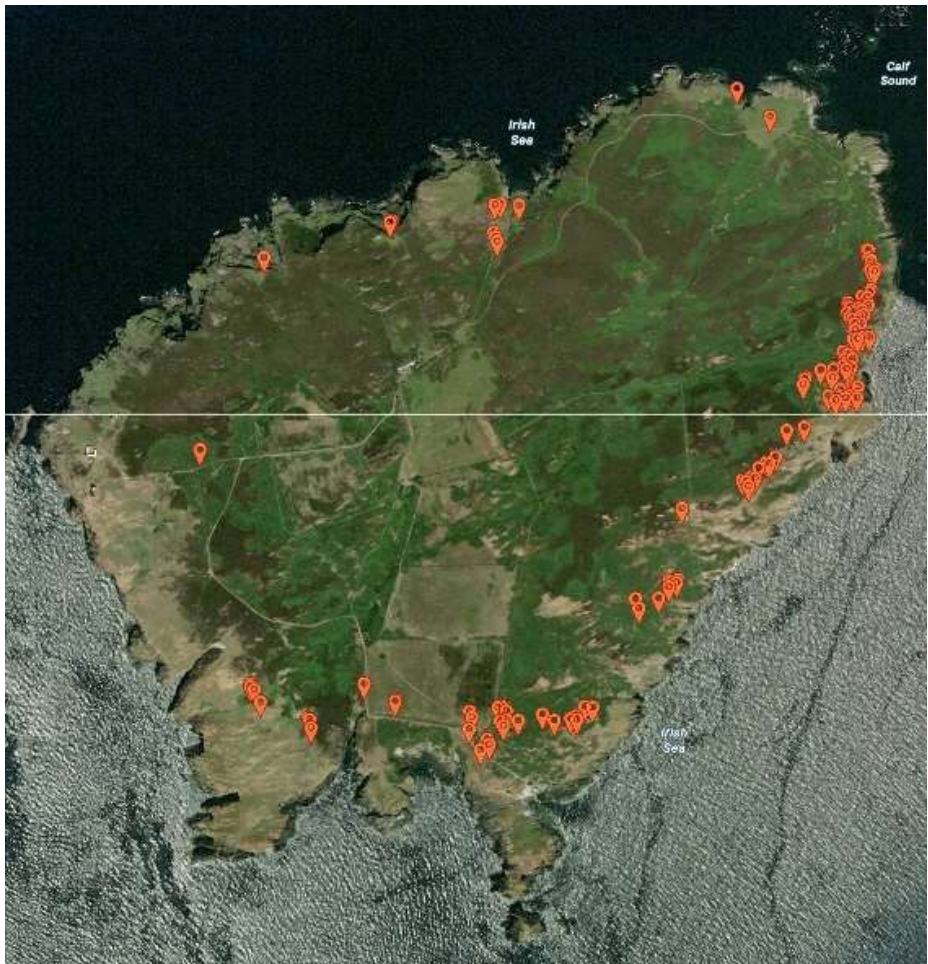


Figure 3 - The location of 126 individual anthills across the Calf and recorded by the author during 2022 using the iNaturalist mobile app to an accuracy of <10m per pin. In areas of high density, especially Kione Roauyr (north east), it was impractical to record every anthill individually, however this map still adequately reflects their overall distribution (and roughly, abundance). Each pin has a photograph of the corresponding anthill available for viewing from iNaturalist.org.

Anthills were found all around the coast of the Calf in small numbers. They were mainly confined to the narrow strip of coastal grassland situated on thin soils between the top of the rocky coast and where the soil becomes deep

enough to support either Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum* or heath vegetation dominated by Heather *Calluna vulgaris*. Despite this cosmopolitan Calf coastal distribution, the vast majority of the anthills were found along the east coast, between Kione Roauyr and the Puddle where true *anthill pasture* can be found. Small aggregations were also found in the Gibdale valley and at two sites near Caigher Point. Only a single anthill was found away from the immediate coastline, along the lane from the Smithy to ‘Spaghetti Junction’. Unsurprisingly, no anthills were found in wet or damp sites, or in the heath or dense, tall Bracken-clad areas. Surprisingly however, no anthills were found in any of the enclosed fields, perhaps owing to historic ploughing prior to the cessation of mixed farming in the 1950’s (cultivation may impact anthill distribution for many decades, if not for well over a hundred years). The occasional flailing of Bracken and heath vegetation in these fields to benefit Chough may be restricting the colonisation of these areas by these nest-building ants.



Figure 4 - Anthill at Ghaw Yiarn, 1 June 2022

Anthill condition assessment

While pleasing to document the Manx nation's most important anthill site, it was unfortunate to record the dire condition of the Calf's anthills (see Figs. 5-8). Initially, an effort was undertaken to document the condition of each anthill, however this was abandoned after large areas were surveyed where hardly a single anthill was found to be in good condition. In many areas, every anthill had been damaged by Rabbits *Oryctolagus cuniculus*, often almost, or even beyond recognition as an anthill. It was not uncommon to find anthills which had been entirely destroyed by rabbits, leaving simply a shallow rim with an excavated centre where an anthill had once stood. This was disappointing, given the absence of agricultural tractors on the Calf, and the current types and levels of human activity, which while unlikely to damage existing anthills, may in some small way prevent the growth of newly established nests into formed anthills.

Being formed of soft earth and allowing for easy horizontal digging, the Calf's anthills, found on dry and otherwise compacted soils, make for easy digging, providing a convenient locality for new Rabbit burrows. It was assessed that Rabbit damage is by far the greatest stressor and ecological threat to the Calf's anthills, seriously endangering their conservation. Furthermore, while grazing by Loaghtan sheep *Ovis aries* is ordinarily wholly compatible with anthill conservation, even being beneficial, owing to the extreme pressure being currently placed upon Calf anthills by Rabbits, it is likely that even sheep grazing is currently detrimental to their conservation, especially factoring in rubbing and accidental trampling. It is not thought that Bracken is currently a major cause for concern, as this fern cannot thrive in the shallow soils where the ants' nests are found. Although current use of lightweight vehicles or even foot-traffic are thought to be of concern, it is recommended that all future staff be made aware of the presence, appearance, and distribution of the Calf's anthills.



Figure 5 - rabbit damaged anthill at Kione Roauyr, 1 June 2022.



Figure 6 - Rabbit damaged (but confirmed as still active) anthill, Kione Roauyr 31 May 2022.



Figure 7 - Rabbit damaged Ghaw Yiarn, 1 June 2022.



Figure 8 - Caigher anthill pasture showing extensive rabbit damage, 9th July 2022. The holes are former anthills.

Conclusion

The Calf of Man was found to be the single most significant locality for anthills within the Manx nation. While it is recognised that despite a year-long effort at recording anthills across the Isle of Man, many more anthill sites are yet to be found, however the author asserts that it is inconceivable that any Manx site will ever be found in future which rivals the Calf in either extent or abundance. It is recommended that all who manage the Calf in future are made aware of the significance of this seemingly invisible habitat, and that the conservation of anthills is factored into the ongoing management of the Calf of Man, with regular monitoring of abundance, distribution and condition.

The Calf has long been known as a site of both national and international importance for biodiversity, most primarily for birds. More than six decades after the establishment of the Calf of Man Bird Observatory, it is pleasing to see the understanding of the Calf's non-avian biodiversity increase from strength to strength, adding to an ever-growing body of evidence which demonstrates the Calf's importance for invertebrate ecology alongside that of its more charismatic megafauna.

With every passing the year, the Calf becomes ever-more important for both our understanding of, and the conservation of, Manx biodiversity. It is surely time that the Calf's importance is formally recognised as both an Area of Special Scientific Interest and as a National Nature Reserve.

Peat on the Calf of Man

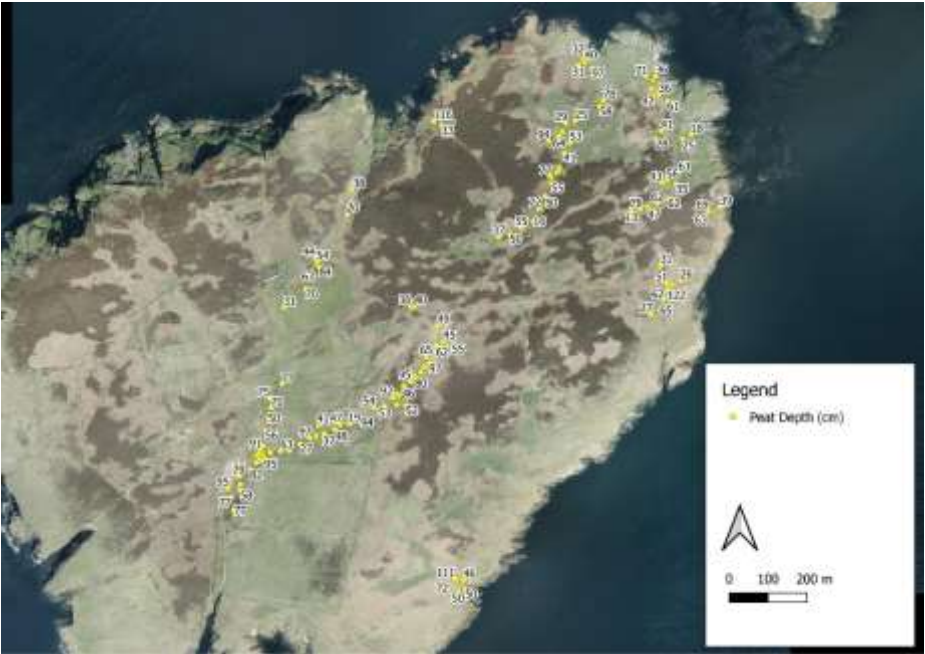
The areas of peat shown in Table 1 are estimates based on depth measurements and the study of aerial photographs.

Carbon stored is estimated by the following calculation:

Peat volume (Area x average depth) x peat density (0.2g/cm³) x %carbon (0.5)

Depth Category	Area (hectares)	Carbon Stored (tonnes)
Deep Peat >99cm	0.14	166
Peat 40 – 99cm	4.38	2803
Shallow Peat <40cm	1.01	293

Table 1: Peat cover by depth category and stored carbon



List of Contributors

Staff & Long-term Volunteers

Ellie Ames – Long-term Volunteer
David Bellamy – Manx Wildlife Trust
Emma Caulfield – Manx Shearwater survey
Catrin Ferguson (CF) – MWT Seal Volunteer
Robert Fisher (RKF)
Phoebe Grzeskowiak – Wheatear & Eider survey
Eleanor Grover (EMG) – Assistant Bird Warden
Lara Howe – Manx Wildlife Trust
Mike Haigh (MDH) – Ornithological consultant
Chloe Hurst (CH) – Assistant Estate Warden
Mollie Kirk (MK) - volunteer
Jim Middleton – MNH Shepherd
Geoff Mitchell – MNH (maintenance)
Leigh Morris – Manx Wildlife Trust
Shaun Murphy – Manx National Heritage
Oliver O’Sullivan – Estate Warden
Howard Osborne - MNH (maintenance)
Phoebe Owen (PCO) – Long-term Volunteer
Hannah Phillips – Manx Wildlife Trust
Clare Rogerson – Manx Wildlife Trust
Aron Sapsford (AS) – Ornithological Warden
Lauren Stokes – MWT Seal Volunteer
Christa Worth - Long-term Volunteer

Local Volunteers

Gillian Bowers	Pat Griffiths
Ned Bowers	Rob Jones
John Collister	James Mylchreest
David Fisher	

Other Contributors

The Bowers family
Rosa Birkelund
Liz Charter
Stephen Clague – ‘Scraayl’
Tim Earl
Mark Fitzpatrick
Annie Haycock
Bob Haycock
Adam Homer
Sandra Kaighin
Brian Kelly (BK)
David Kelly (DK)
Graham Makepeace-Warne
Hannah Midghall

Manx Ornithological Society
Manx Early Birders
Toby Moran
David Neal
Ann Playford
Caroline Roriston – ‘Vagabond’
Phil Roriston - ‘Vagabond’
Karen Sapsford
Anna Sutcliffe (ACS)
Steve Sutcliffe (SJS)
Di Swayne
Bob Taylor – ‘Gemini’
Janet Thompson
Renate Thome



Manx National Heritage
Eiraght Ashoonagh Vannin

Isle of Man Registered Charity No 603

Manx National Heritage,
Kingswood Grove,
Douglas, Isle of Man IM1 3LY
+44 (0) 1624 648000
enquiries@mnh.im
www.manxnationalheritage.im