

TYNESIDE BIRD CLUB BULLETIN

MARCH 1963

CLASSIFIED LIST

Black-throated Diver:

2 flew S. off St. Mary's Island on 23rd (JDP).

Great Northern Diver:

1 off Seahouses Harbour on 15th (per MB).

Red-throated Diver:

An oiled bird on Cresswell Ponds and 5 others on sea on 10th (JD). 6 flew S. off Seaton Sluice on 16th (BG) and 4 at St. Mary's Island on 25th (JDP). Single bird at Stag Rocks on 6th (PRE) and dead one found at South Shields on 9th (PR).

Great Crested Grebe:

2 pairs reported from inland waters in Northumberland. 1 at St. Mary's Island on 25th and 29th (JDP).

Red-necked Grebe:

1 at Stag Rocks on 6th (PRE) and another at St. Mary's Island on 23rd (JDP).

Little Grebe:

1 on stream at Whittle Dene on 2nd (BE). First noted back at Gosforth Park on 22nd (BG) and Holywell on 24th (CED). 2 at Holy Island Lough on 27th (PRE).

Manx Shearwater:

2 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 23rd (JDP) one of which was seen off Seaton Sluice (AB).

Fulmar:

25/30 flying S. off Seaton Sluice on 16th (BG). 1 dead bird (dead for approx. two months) found at Plessey Reservoir on 13th (BE).

Gannet:

12 flew N. off Tynemouth on 30th (AB/PR) and 65 flew N. off St. Mary's Island previous day (JDP).

Cormorant:

1 on River Tyne at Ryton, in company with a Shag on 11th (ER).

Mallard:

Maximum numbers reported were 100 nr. Blagdon on River Pont flood water on 17th (MN/BE). c100 off Seaton Sluice on 23rd (JDP) and c120 at Gosforth Park on 31st (ER).

Teal:

85 on River Pont flood water nr. Blagdon on 17th (MN/BE) and c80 at Gosforth Park on 31st (ER).

Gadwall:

A male at Holy Island Lough on 27th (PRE) and a pair at Gosforth Park on 31st (ER).

Wigeon:

Largest reported flock was one of c100 in Cresswell Bay on 30th (FC/AB).

Pintail:

2 males and 1 female at Grindon Lough on 14th and two pairs there on 22nd (RG/EL/WB). A pair on sea at Cresswell on 10th (JD), and another pair at Gosforth Park on 22nd (BG). Single birds at Seaton Burn on 17th (ER) and Holywell Ponds on 23rd (PR).

Shoveler:

3 or 4 pair at Holywell Ponds since the thaw (CED/AB).

Scaup:

c50 in flock off Holy Island on 3rd (JD). 19 (8 males) were on sea off Seaton Sluice Point on 9th (MN).

Tufted Duck:

351 at Whittle Dene on 2nd (BE). 12 at Swallow Ponds during latter half of month and 20 at Hartburn on 31st (FC). Maximum of 70 at Gosforth Park on 31st (ER). 40 at Seaton Burn on 17th (BG).

Pochard:

20 at Holywell Ponds on 17th had all gone by 31st (CED). 27 at Gosforth Park on 23rd (17 males) (JPD). c75 at Seaton Burn on 30th (ER).

Goldeneye:

16 in Budle Bay on 10th (JDP). 7 at Seaton Burn on 17th (BG) and 35+ at Bolam Lake on 23rd (ER).

Long-tailed Duck:

11 at Holy Island on 3rd were displaying and calling (JD). 2 at Stag Rocks on 9th (PRE).

Velvet Scoter:

1 at Seaton Sluice on 17th and 23rd (AB).

Common Scoter:

Only 3-4 off Seaton Sluice during month (CED).

Eider:

c70 in Amble Harbour on 3rd (FC). 45 in Budle Bay, 84 off Stag Rocks and 150+ at Seahouses on 10th (JDP). A steady fall in numbers at Seaton Sluice from 168 on 17th to 85 on 30th (MB/JDP et al).

Red-breasted Merganser:

7 at Holy Island on 3rd and 4 at Cresswell on 10th (JD).

Goosander:

12 at Whittle Dene and 1 at Colt Crag on 24th (DC/PG). 16 flew down Tyne at Riding Hill on 30th (MM/BE).

Snaw:

3 females at Whittle Dene on 2nd (IN) and one remained until 16th (TW).

Shelduck:

175 at Budle Bay on 10th (PRE). 3 at Ashington on same day (BE).

"Grey Geese":

c80 flew W. on 15th (TW).

Canada Goose:

1 at Newton on 15th (arrived from North) and 3 at Holy Island Lough on 27th (PRE).

Mute Swan:

28 at Holy Island on 2nd (DC/PG). 145 at Budle Bay on 10th (PRE).

Whooper Swan:

9 at Grindon on 14th and 13 on 22nd (RG/EL/WB). 25 at Ashington on 24th (JMB). 16 at Holy Island Lough on 27th (PRE). 6 at Swallow Ponds by end of month (DC/PG). A herd of c20 at Holywell during most of month (AB) and 14 at Seaton Burn on 31st (ER).

Bewick's Swan:

7 on 10th at Ashington (BE). 17 on Holy Island Lough on 16th (ER) and single bird at Swallow Ponds on 24th (PR).

Sparrow Hawk:

1 at Gosforth Park on 23rd (JPD).

Merlin:

Single birds at Fenham Flats on 10th, Boulmer on 17th, Rothbury on 23rd, Forest Hall on 28th and Holywell Ponds on 30th.

Water Rail:

1 feeding on rubbish dump at High West Ho. (BE) on 2nd.

Moorhen:

70-100 at High West Ho. on 2nd and when disturbed, many flew into Scots Pine (70' high) in which 15 perched. Fresh droppings showed evidence of regular roost (BE) (cf Swallow Ponds roost). 15 at Cresswell Ponds, when only one pair last year (JD).

Lapwing:

c3000 flew N. over Howdon on 7th (DC/PG). On 16th and 17th a general S.W. movement was noted both inland and at the coast, with parties of up to 16 seen either flying S.W. or coming in off sea at coast (BG).

Golden Plover:

100 at Plessey Reservoir from 13th-20th and 650 at Berwick Hill on 17th (MM/BE). 400 at St. Mary's Island on 9th (DC/PG).

Common Snipe:

1 at Holywell Ponds on 31st, the first since freeze-up (CED).

Woodcock:

On 2nd an influx nr. Hartley where 16 exhausted birds were flushed (MN). Another influx on 16th-17th when c8 in fields behind St. Mary's Island with another found dead and one exhausted. 4 nr. Anble on 17th (ER et al).

Curlew:

Back at breeding sites - displaying and pairing by 9th. A flock of 55 at Kirkley Mill on 17th (MM/BE).

Common Sandpiper:

1 at Swallow Ponds on 23rd (PG/DC).

Redshank:

A flock of c30 nr. Holywell Ponds on 17th (AB). 12 at Swallow Ponds on 21st (DC/PG) and over 50 nr. Seghill on 25th (FC).

Purple Sandpiper:

15 at Seaton Sluice on 16th (EG).

Dunlin:

8 nr. Holywell on 17th (AB) and 3 at Plessey on 23rd (BE/IH).

Sanderling:

48 at St. Mary's Island on 3rd (BG). 20 at South Shields on 9th (PR) and 250+ at Cresswell Pond on 10th (BE).

Lesser Black-backed Gull:

15 at Gosforth Park on 22nd and 5 on 30th (BG/ER). 2 at Monks House and 6 at Budle Bay on 10th (PRE).

Iceland Gull:

1 at Holywell Ponds on 31st was nearly a full adult (CED).

Kittiwake:

c600 per hour flew S. off Seaton Sluice on 16th (BG).

Sandwich Tern:

1 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 29th (JDP) and a party of 3 flew N. off Cresswell on 30th. (FC).

Auks:

Single birds reported by various observers.

Black Guillemot:

1 at Holy Island on 3rd in winter plumage (JD).

Collared Dove:

1 reported nr. Newcastle on 20th.

Barn Owl:

1 in Holywell Dene on 23rd (PR).

Little Owl:

1 nr. Stannington on 19th (RG). 1 found dead with foot caught in gin trap (BE).

Long-eared Owl:

2 in Gosforth Park on 23rd (JPD).

Short-eared Owl:

Single dead birds found at Swallow Ponds and Plessey. 1 nr. Allenheads on 24th (JDP).

Green Woodpecker:

1 nr. Hartley on 2nd (MN).

Skylark:

Large increase in numbers around Holywell Dene - St. Mary's Island area on 9th and 10th, with small parties of larks flying in off sea. Similar movement was noted at Tynemouth, though it had quietened down by afternoon of 9th (PR et al). Scarce until 3rd when c20 nr. Hartley (CED).

Hooded Crow:

1 at High West Ho. on 2nd (BE). Another at Holywell Ponds on 23rd and 29th (MN/BG).

Mistle Thrush: (see overleaf)

- Mistle Thrush:**
A bird sitting on 7th and young had hatched by end of month (BE).
- Fieldfare:**
2 x c500 at Allenheads on 24th (JDP). Many reports of other single birds. 60-100 at Kirkley Mill throughout month (BE/MM).
- Redwing:**
70 at Kirkley Mill on 17th (MM/BE) and 11 flew N. over Swallow Ponds on 21st (DC/PG).
- Ring Ouzel:**
Female at Tynemouth Observatory on 24th (per AB).
- Blackbird:**
A nest with 2 eggs in Walker on 21st (PR). Small falls at Monks House on 12th and 20th. A departure of Blackbirds to E. at dusk was noted on 20th (12+ were watched leaving Bamburgh (PRE)).
- Wheatear:**
2 in Upper Holywell Dene on 14th (per AB) and 2 nr. Elsdon on 23rd (MB). 1 at Holy Island on 27th (PRE).
- Stonechat:**
1 nr. Monks House on 28th (PRE).
- Robin:**
Only 1 seen at Monks House during month (PRE).
- Meadow Pipit:**
Small northerly coasting movements on 19th at Monks House (PRE).
- Pied Wagtail:**
12 nr. Holywell on 13th (per AB) and 2 flew N. off Monks House on 19th (PRE).
- White Wagtail:**
1 nr. Holywell on 13th and 2 in dunes at St. Mary's Island on 23rd (AB).
- Greenfinch:**
Still 1000 - 1500 roosting in Gosforth Park and during severe weather 3000 were estimated to be at the roost (FC et al).
- Crossbill:**
A flock was seen in S. Northumberland on 31st.
- Brambling:**
15 at Hartburn on 31st and still many birds roosting in Gosforth Park (FC).
- Yellowhammer:**
40 at Kirkley Mill and 100+ at West Newsham on 2nd (BE).
- Corn Bunting:**
1 singing at Holywell Ponds on 31st (CED).
- Snow Bunting:**
4 flew S. at Monks House on 21st and 3 flew S. off Holy Island on 27th (PRE).
- Tree Sparrow:**
c250 at West Newsham on 2nd (BE).

CONTRIBUTORS

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In our Annual Report through the years, it is hoped to show present & past distribution of all breeding species to this county. Could I please have breeding & distribution records of the following species both present & past. Any records sent will be kept in utmost secrecy, except where otherwise stated. No-one will be informed of sites etc!

Collared Dove, Goosander, Pochard, Tufted Duck, Raven, Marsh & Willow Tit. Stonechat, Blackcap, Garden Warbler, Wood Warbler, Nightjar, Chiffchaff, Pied Flycatcher. All birds of prey i.e. Hawk, Owls. Any other species which will merit detail in the future.

(Sgd.) M. Bell.

Tyneside Bird Club.

April 1963 Bulletin

Classified List.

- Black-throated Diver:- 4 flew N of St. Mary's Island on 5th. (J.D.P.)
- Great Northern Diver:- 3 reports, each of a single bird off Cresswell, Stag Rocks and St. Mary's Island during month.
- Red-throated Diver:- Over 100 off Ross Links on 15th, c25 being in summer plumage (ER). A total of 23 flew N. of St. Mary's Island on 5th. Many others seen from points along the Northumbrian Coastline.
- Great Crested Grebe:- Single birds at St. Mary's Island on 5th, Cresswell on 13th and Whittle Lane on 24th.
- Red Necked Grebe:- 2 off Stag Rocks on 15th and 16th. (CW/ER.)
- Little Grebe:- 2 on Holy Island Lough on 15th and 2 at Newton Pool on 17th. (PRE)
- Manx Shearwater:- 1 flew N off St. Mary's Island on 5th. (J.D.P.)
- Fulmar:- 1 flew W over Forest Hall on 2nd. (F.C.). Northerly movement noted from 4th-7th. The peak was reached on 5th when c200 birds per hour were counted off St. Mary's Island. Single birds of the "blue" race were noted at the same spot on 6th (J.D.P./B.G./F.C.).
- Gannet:- As northerly movement was noted and obviously connected to that of the fulmar. On the morning of the 5th, about c100 per hour were counted. (J.D.P./M.N.).
- Shag:- 1 sitting on eggs at Dunstanburgh on 12th (B.L.).
- [Purple Heron.] Notes recieved of one seen at Cresswell on 24th and 25th. (M.M.).
- Garganey:- A male at Chevington Burn on 26th was almost certainly the bird seen at Cresswell the following day (B.G./F.C.).
- Shoveler:- A maximum of 8 pairs at Holwell Ponds on 10th. (J.D.P.).
- Pintail:- 2 at Holy Island on 6th (ER). and 3 pairs at Linton on 25th. (MB). 3 pairs at Aslington on 24th and 25th. (M.M.).
- Tufted Duck:- Numbers slowly falling at most ponds during month.

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16 at Swallow Ponds on 1st down to 8 on 30th. (F.C.) 45 at Holymell Ponds on 7th down to 35 on 28th. (C.E.D.)

Pochard:- 15 at Gosforth Park on 9th. (B.G.) 1 at Holymell Ponds on 28th. (C.E.D.)

Goldeneye:- 8 at Newton on 17th. (P.R.E.) The largest group reported was one of 14 at Whingates Moor on 21st. (B.E.)

Long-tailed Duck:- 20 off Stag Rocks on 15th. (E.L.A.) and 36 on 30th. (P.R.E.)

Eider. The flock at Seaton Sluice was down to 68 by 22nd. (E.R.)

Goosander:- c20 at Colt Crag on 20th. (F.C.) and 8 in Holystone Area on 19th. (C.W.) Single male often seen flying out to sea and resting on Cresswell Ponds during last fortnight of month. (M.B./M.M.)

Shelduck:- c100 in Budle Bay on 15th. (F.C.) 2 pairs at Cresswell throughout month (J.D.P.)

Gray Lag Goose:- Single bird at Gosforth Park on 17th was very reluctant to leave when disturbed. A bird of similar characteristics was at Cresswell on 24th (B.G./M.M.) 6 on sea off Seadouses on 18th. (P.R.E.)

Canada Goose:- 3 on Holy Island on 6th and 1 at Holymell Ponds on 21st. (E.R./P.R.)

Mute Swan:- c200 in Budle Bay on 15th. (F.C.)

Whooper Swan:- 5 near Newsham on 3rd (B.G.) 2 at Cranlington on 24th. (M.M.)

Bunyan:- 1 at Puddoe on 21st (B.L.)

Sparrow Hawk:- Single birds at Grindon on 3rd, Haltwhistle on 20th and Cresswell on 27th. (E.L.A./P.R./B.G.)

[Marsh Harrier:- Full notes of male have been received. It was seen on 26th at Eastblevington by J.B. Nicholson.]

Black Grouse:- 1 at Sweetthorpe on 20th. (F.C.)

Water Rail:- 1 at College Valley on 15th (J.D.P.) and another at Bamburgh on 3rd. (P.R.E.)

Oystercatcher:- A pair with 2 eggs at Ninnbanks on 27th. (J.D.P.)

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Lapwing:- A pair with young in upper Holywell Dene on 27th. (A.B.) Much scarcer than usual as a field nesting bird (E.L.A.).

Ringed Plover:- A pair in breeding grounds near Hexple on 19th. (CW)

Golden Plover:- On 19th and 20th two flocks comprised of birds of northern race were seen. 400 near Pegswood (B.G.) and c500 in upper Holywell Dene (AB). Many other small flocks reported. 200 at Embleton on 17th. (P.R.E.) and had fallen to 50 on 24th.

Turnstone:- c20 in summer plumage at Scaun Sluice on 28th. (AB)

Common Snipe:- Over 30 at Gosforth Park on 18th. (M.N.)

Woodcock:- Pair at Great Hall on 30th. [male roding - CED]

Lurlew:- Light N.W. movement on 19th. noted at Hauxley, involving parties of up to 6. (B.G.)

Whimbrel:- 6 at Cresswell on 26th (MB).

Black-tailed Godwit:- 2 on Holy Island Lough on 15th and another at Cresswell on 27th. (PRE/FC).

Bar-tailed Godwit:- 18 in Budle Bay on 15th. (FC). Flock of 10 flew N on 26th at Chevington (B.G.).

Green Sandpiper:- Single bird in Holywell Dene on 24th. (S.R.S./RHW).

Common Sandpiper:- On 19th, 4 pairs near Huxple (CW). 1 at Tanfield (RMP) and 10 at Seaggyford (P.R.).

Redshank:- Flock of 35 at Hauxley on 19th and up to 12 at Killingworth during month. (B.G.). A bird ringed as a pullus at Brenkley on 26th. May 1962 was recovered on the 18th September 1962 at Oosterschelde Estuary, Zeeland, Netherland. 51°35'N, 4°00'E. (FC).

Spotted Redshank:- 1 in full summer plumage at Aslington on 26th. (B.E./B.S.)

Knot:- Flock of 100 at Scaun Sluice on 28th. (AB)

Purple Sandpiper:- Maximum of 50 in Scaun Sluice / St. Mary's Island area on 2nd (J.D.P.) but by end of month, total was down to c20

Sanderling:- 84 at St. Mary's Island on 3rd. (J.D.P.) and 50 at Hauxley on 19th. (B.G.). There were 60 at St. Mary's Island by 23rd. (CED).

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Ruff:- Single bird at Holywell Ponds on 2nd. (J.P.P.) and also on 22nd (SRS/RMW). A cove at Cresswell on 26th. (MB).

Grey Phalarope:- A bird was found badly injured at St. Mary's Island on 17th. (S. Moffitt / AB).

Common Gull:- Northerly movement of 150-200 at Hauxely on 17th (B.G.)

Glaucous Gull:- An immature flew N past Longstone on 18th. (PRE)

Iceland Gull:- A first winter bird at St. Mary's Island on 3rd (B.G.) another on Wamses (Faroes) on 16th and 18th. (PRE).

Kittiwake:- Movement of 70-80 per hour during 7th and correlated with that of the Common Gull. (B.G.)

Sandwich Tern:- c40 on Faroes on 16th and about c150 present on Knores Reef on 18th (P.R.E.).

'Commie' Tern:- 1 flew N off St. Mary's Island on 5th. (J.P.P.) and 5 off Stag Rocks on 16th. (CW).

Collared Dove:- On 24th a pair on Bamburgh Green (PRE).

Buccon:- Single bird at Hauxely on 16th. (per BL.) and 2 at Chevington Beacon dunes on 26th. (B.G.)

Barn Owl:- 1 near Tugall on 24th (PRE). An adult ringed at Wallend on 13th May 1962 was picked up exhausted at North Shields on 2nd/3rd February 1963, being released when stronger. It was then found at Longbenton on 20th/21st March 1963 and died shortly afterwards. (FC).

Short-eared Owl:- 1 on Longstone on 18th. (PRE).

Swift:- First reported one at Corbridge on 24th. (T.W.). Other single birds at Gosforth Park on 28th and at Killingworth the next day (WRS/B.G.)

Swallow:- 2 in the evening of 11th at Monks House (PRE) and by 22nd had become common throughout county. Most heavy movements were noted on 12th and from 18th-21st. (MB/B.G. et al).

House Martin:- The birds had returned to Starward by 22nd (JDP) and from then onwards, birds were seen in coastal areas and moving inland.

Sand Martin:- 1 at Stag Rocks on 11th. (PRE). Movements tied in closely to that of Swallow though not involving such large numbers as in previous years. During last week of month was generally in most breeding areas.

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Hooded Crow:- Single birds at Dunstanburgh on 12th (B.G.), Bamburgh on 6th and 17th. 2 flew in from E. of Farnes on 18th. (PRE).

Rook:- The rookery in Newcastle is estimated to have 11 occupied nests (See T.B.C. bulletin April 1962. (R.M.P.))

Marsh Tit:- 6 at Howick on 15th. (FC)

Nuthatch:- 1 at Prudhoe on 22nd (BL). A new area?

Fieldfare:- Several large flocks reported:- all of which were seen during first three weeks of month. 500 near Wark on 10th, (ELA) 250 near Haltwhistle on 19th. (P.R.) and the last reported were on 25th when 10 were seen near Portland (EM) and 9 on Inner Farnes (P.R.E.).

Song Thrush:- A continental bird was trapped at Hauxley on 12th. (B.G.)

Ring Ouzel:- About 20 on moors near Haltwhistle on 19th. (PR).

Wheatear:- During first part of month numbers rose very slowly. However, from 15th-21st there was a marked influx. Over 15 at Holy Island on 15th and 21 at Stag Rocks on 20th. (PRE/SRS).

Stonechat:- 1 at Bamburgh on 1st. (PRE).

Whinchat:- Male at Stag Rocks on 20th. (SRS/RMW). 4 other single birds at Cresswell on 22nd, Inner Farnes on 25th, North Sunderland (Northumberland) on 27th and Holywell Ponds on 28th.

Redstart:- Female at Monk's House on 17th and another at Spindleston on 18th. (PRE). By 28th it was back to its usual haunts on the Tyne and in Newcastle district; though in small numbers as yet.

Black Redstart:- 1 at Hartley on 3rd and 7th. (J.D.P.) and a male at Dunstanburgh on 21st. (ER)

Grasshopper Warbler:- On 28th, single birds at Prudhoe and Gosforth Park. (BL/M.N.). 1 at North Sunderland on 27th. (PRE).

Sedge Warbler:- 1 at Red Row on 25th (FC) at 2 at Bherington Burn. on 26th. (B.G.)

Blackcap:- A male at Cresswell from 25th-27th. (B.G./FC)

Lesser Whitethroat:- 1 seen and heard at Arcot Hall on 28th. (almost certainly another present. (J.D.P./CED.))

Whitethroat:- 1 at Haltwhistle on 20th (PR). Another at North Sunderland on

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27th. (PRE). A third at Swallowwell on 30th. (J.S.B.)

Phylloscopae:- c12 at Stag Rocks on 20th. (SRS/RMW).

Willow Warbler:- 3 at Horwich on 15th. (FC) and by 21st there were c50 in Annet Hall (CW/B.G.). Thereafter, common in all parts.

Shiffchaff:- Bird in Gosforth Park from 9th till end of month. (B.G.) 1 at Wylam on 12th (JSB) By middle of month, general distribution of single birds.

Wood Warbler:- On 22nd a single bird in Gosforth Park (MN) and 3 at Bywell by 28th. (JSB).

Goldcrest:- Pair in Upper Holwell Dene on 11th. (AB). A tired bird in Whitey Bay Cemetery on 17th and 2 at Hauxley on 19th. (B.G.).

Pied Flycatcher:- 1 at Bywell on 28th. (JSB).

Pipits:- Moving N in small numbers on 1st and a N.W. movement at Monks House on 11th. (PRE).

Meadow Pipits:- A steady trickle at Monks House on 12th. A passage also noted at Tanfield on 13th and 14th. (RMP). There were many in Hauxley area on 16th and a further influx on 19th, with birds moving N all day. Many in Killingworth area on 28th, in flocks of up to 30 (B.G.).

Tree Pipits:- 3 at Wylam on 20th (JSB) and 1 at Dixton on 22nd (BL)

Pied Wagtail:- A small N.W. coasting movement on 11th at Monks House. (PRE).

White Wagtail:- On 15th there were 2 at Holystone (B.G.) and 1 at Swallow Ponds (TW). On 19th single birds at Hepple (CW) and Hauxley (B.G.).

Yellow Wagtail:- A male at Holwell Ponds on 15th (CED). Old birds began to turn up at various parts of the coastline after this date until 22nd-26th when large scale influx took place. 55 at Cresswell on 24th. (MM). Only 10 next day.

Greenfinch:- Bird ringed at Monks House during cold spell was retrapped at Gosforth Park during March (FC)

Crossbill:- Pair near Boddridge on 17th. (WB/R.G./EL)

Brillling:- 1 at Harwood Ponds on 8th. (EM)

Bullfinch:- 20 at Horwich on 15th (FC) and pair at Gosforth Park on 21st. (CW)

Corn Bunting:- Flock of 10 at Swallow Ponds on 12th. (FC)

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T Y N E S I D E B I R D C L U B

M A Y 1 9 6 3 B U L L E T I N

CLASSIFIED LIST

Manx Shearwater:-

2 nr. Farnes on 8th (PRE)..

Cormorant:-

17 occupied nests at Marsden Rock (MN).

Mallard:-

A bird bred in an open hole about 9' up in a tree (MM).

Tufted Duck:-

20 at Havannah Ponds on 18th (MM). 1 at Swallow Ponds on 28th (PR).

Pochard:-

Single bird in company with a single Scaup at Cresswell on 5th (BG).

Velvet Scoter:-

A male in Holy Island Harbour on 4th (SSM).

Shelduck:-

6 at Cresswell on 23rd (SSM).

'Grey Geese':-

12 flew N.W. over Holy Island on 4th (PRE).

Grey Lag Goose:-

1 flew N. off Bamburgh on 3rd (PRE) and 3 nr. Rothbury on 25th (MM/BE).

Whooper Swan:-

1 at Craggside on 12th (SSM).

Buzzard:-

1 mobbed by Crows at Wingates on 5th (MM/BE).

Sparrow Hawk:-

Nest and female destroyed at Blagdon, as was that of a Kestrel.

Woodcock:-

2 dead at St. Mary's on 11th (PR).

Whimbrel:-

1 nr. Rothbury on 5th and nr. Blagdon on 13th (BE).

Wood Sandpiper:-

1 at Hazelrigg on 12th (BG) and 1 at Swallow Ponds on 31st (MN).

Greenshank:-

1 at Ashington on 18th (MM).

Sanderling:-

40+ at Holy Island on 4th (PRE). 1 at Cresswell on 18th (MM).

Kittiwake:-

2 gathering nest material at Swalwell on 2nd (JSB).

Black Guillemot:-

1 off Bamburgh on 1st and 3rd (PRE).

Little Owl:-

Prey taken to four Newcastle sites during May:- Skylark, Yellow-

hammer, Chaffinch, Jackdaw, Water Vole and a Frog (BE).

Tawny Owl:-

An adult was watched hunting in broad daylight. It supported itself

on the dead bracken with outspread wings and lowered its feet to the

ground watching intently as it did so. It hopped back on top of the

bracken then repeated the action several times. After c5 minutes it

started to rain and the bird flew off. On examination of the spot, a

nest of fully-fledged Dunnocks was found, just out of reach of the owl

(MM).

Cuckoo:-

1 hatched in Dunnock's nest at Fenham by 30th (PR).

Swift:-

A notable N.W. passage on 11th with numerous parties up to 30 being

seen (BE).

Raven:-

A brood reared in N. Northumberland.

Carrion X Hooded Crow:-

A nest found nr. Rothbury during April. The eggs were destroyed by farmers and the Hooded Crow was not seen thereafter.

Hooded Crow:-

2 flew E. at Holy Island on 4th (PRE).. 1 on Inner Farne on 6th.

Magpie:-

29 young fledged from 6 nests in S.E. Northumberland.

Sedge Warbler:-

By 9th, all residents had arrived to the N.E. Coastal Area (PRE). On 18th, there were 41 at Chevington Burn (MM).

Garden Warbler:-

2 pairs in Holywell Dene on 25th. 1 pair had nest with 5 eggs (AB).

Wood Warbler:-

3 pairs in Holywell Dene on 25th (AB).

Lesser Whitethroat:-

1 at Hauxley on 5th (BG).

Spotted Flycatcher:-

Over 20 at Ford on 19th (BE).

Pied Flycatcher:-

Pair in Holywell Dene on 5th and 12th (AB).

White Wagtail:-

1 at Holy Island on 4th (SSM) and 4 at Cresswell on 18th (MM).

Yellow Wagtail:-

100+ at Cresswell on 5th (BG).

Blue-headed Wagtail:-

An adult male at Cresswell on 18th (M).

Siskin:-

2 pairs at Staward on 12th (MM et al).

Bullfinch:-

Pair at Gosforth Park on 18th (PR).

Crossbill:-

Male at Wylam on 4th (JSE).

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

A. Belshaw.

J. S. Booth.

P. R. Evans.

B. Etheridge.

M. Marquis.

P. Routledge.

B. Galloway.

M. Nattrass.

S. S. Moffitt.

Breeding and nest records of Carrion Crows required. Clutch size and date. If possible, number of young fledged. Previous or recent years wanted.

Could this information be sent to:- B. Etheridge, 2 Hillary Avenue, Forest Hall, Newcastle upon Tyne, 12.

All records for June to be in by 7th in WETMORE ORDER please.

Copies of:- "Bird Migration" price 3s. 6d., "Bird in the Hand" (Revised Edition) price 6s. 0d., "Identification for Ringers I" (Revised) The Genera Cettia Locustella Acrocephalus and Hippolais price 6s. 0d. are available from:- A. Belshaw, 29 Lovaine Place, North Shields.

Due to the "Combined Rarities Committee" requesting notes on reports of uncommon species, members are asked to submit full notes when reporting the occurrence of any of the species mentioned below.

Members having experience of any of the under-mentioned need only state their experience, together with any distinguishing features of the bird, in their reports.

In the case of extreme rarities, full notes will be required from everyone.

It is hoped that all members will co-operate by sending in notes as requested.

Diver:- Black-throated. Great Northern. (any diver in summer or transitional plumage.

Grebe:- Red-necked. Slavonian. Black-necked.

Petrel:- Leach's. Storm.

Shearwater: Cory's. Great. Sooty.

Garganey:- Male and female in eclipse plumage.

Red-crested Pochard.

Female Smew.

All Geese.

Bewick's Swan.

Golden Eagle.

Buzzard:- Rough-legged. Honey.

Harrier:- Marsh. Hen. Montagu's.

Osprey.

Hobby.

Quail.

Crake:- Spotted. Little. Corn.

Plover:- Little Ringed. Kentish.

Dotterel.

Great Snipe.

Temminck's Stint.

Avocet.

Phalarope:- Grey. Red-necked.

Stone Curlew.

Skua:- Great. Pomarine. Long-tailed.

Gull:- Glaucous. Iceland. Little.

Black Guillemot.

Hoopoe.

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker.

Wryneck.

Woodlark.

Shore Lark.

Golden Oriole.

Black Redstart.

Nightingale.

Bluethroat.

Warbler:- Reed (outside Gosforth Park). Marsh. Barred.

Lesser Whitethroat.

Yellow-browed Warbler.

Firecrest.

Red-breasted Flycatcher.

Pipit:- Richard's. Tree. Water.

Blue-headed Wagtail.

Shrike:- Great Grey. Red-backed.

Twite.

Bunting:- Cirl. Ortolan. Little. Lapland.

Due to the "Combined Rareities Committee" requesting notes on reports of uncommon species, members are asked to submit full notes when reporting the occurrence of any of the species mentioned below. Members having experience of any of the under-mentioned need only state their experience, together with any distinguishing features of the bird, in their reports. In the case of extreme rarities, full notes will be required from everyone. It is hoped that all members will co-operate by sending in notes as requested.

- Diver:- Black-throated. Great Northern. (any diver in summer or transitional plumage.
 Grebe:- Red-necked. Slavonian. Black-necked.
 Petrel:- Beach's. Storm.
 Shearwater:- Cory's. Great. Sooty.
 Gannet:- Male and female in eclipse plumage.
 Red-crested Pochard.
 Female Snow.
 All Geese.
 Bewick's Swan.
 Golden Eagle.
 Buzzard:- Hough-legged. Honey.
 Harrier:- Marsh. Hen. Montagu's.
 Osprey.
 Hobby.
 Quail.
 Crane:- Spotted. Little. Corn.
 Plover:- Little Ringed. Montagu.
 Dotterel.
 Great Snipe.
 Temminck's Stint.
 Avocet.
 Phalarope:- Grey. Red-necked.
 Stone Curlew.
 Skua:- Great. Pomarine. Long-tailed.
 Gull:- Glaucous. Iceland. Little.
 Black Gull.
 Hoopoe.
 Lesser Spotted Woodpecker.
 Wren.
 Woodlark.
 Shore Lark.
 Golden Oriole.
 Black Redstart.
 Whistling.
 Bluetit.
 Warbler:- Reed (outside Gosforth Park). Marsh. Barred.
 Lesser Whitethroat.
 Yellow-browed Warbler.
 Pipit.
 Red-breasted Flycatcher.
 Pipit:- Richard's. Tree. Water.
 Blue-headed Vagtail.
 Thrush:- Great Grey. Red-backed.
 Tit.
 Brambling:- Girl. Ortolan. Little. Lapland.

TYNESIDE BIRD CLUB

JUNE 1963 BULLETIN

CLASSIFIED LIST

Red-throated Diver:-

2 off Seaton Sluice on 29th (JMB).

Manx Shearwater:-

369 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 29th during 3 1/2 hours in the morning (MB/JMB).

Fulmar:-

Single birds reported at Dollington on 4th and Alnwick on 11th (PRE). On morning of 29th, 592 flew N. off St. Mary's Island (MB/JMB).

Gannet:-

Feeding parties noted off-shore during most days of month.

Scaup:-

3 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 29th and 30th (JMB/MB).

Tufted Duck:-

At Bolam on 8th, 12 which rose to 25 on 30th (MN).

Velvet Scoter:-

6 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 29th, and 4 also noted at Dunstanburgh (MB/TW).

Common Scoter:-

On 29th, 150 flew N. and 9 flew S. of St. Mary's Island (MB).

Buzzard:-

A single bird flew E. over Inner Farne on 6th (PRE).

Honey Buzzard:-

On 23rd, a bird, probably of this species, flew W. over Whitley Bay at c250'. Full notes received (DH).

Sparrow Hawk:-

2 at Dipton on 1st and 1 at Hexham on 21st (MN/JMB).

Hen Harrier:-

A female at East Chevington on 30th (JMB/MB/MN).

Kestrel:-

10 young at 2 nests nr. Newcastle (BE/MN).

Black Grouse:-

A male at Grindon on 1st (JSB/TW).

Oystercatcher:-

28 at St. Mary's Island from 7th to 30th (MN/MB). c30 at Cresswell throughout the month.

Lapwing:-

Flock of c100 at Linton (MB). Nesting in small isolated colonies of a few pairs each (PRE). A 50 per cent. reduction in breeding pairs in Swallow and East Denton areas (FC). Also in Upper Holywell Dene area (AB).

Corncrake:-

1 heard nr. Ashington on 30th (MB et al).

Turnstone:-

26 at Holy Island on 15th (PRE) and 8 at Monks House on 12th. Small parties seen along shoreline during month.

Woodcock:-

6 at Dipton on 1st and 8 on 22nd (MN/JMB).

Curlew:-

7 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 29th (MB).

Whimbrel:-

On 13th, 2 at Newton (PRE).

Bar-tailed Godwit:-

3 flew N. on 29th, and 1 on 30th off St. Mary's Island (MB).

Wood Sandpiper:-

5 at Ashington on 30th (JMB/MB).

Common Sandpiper:-

3 passage birds at Beadnell on 5th and 1 at Seahouses on 8th (PRE),

Spotted Redshank:-

1 at Cresswell on 30th (MB).

Greenshank:-

1 at Ashington on 30th (MB).

Knot:-

20 on Farnes on 6th (PRE).

Purple Sandpiper:-

2 at St. Mary's Island on 29th and 30th (MB).

Dunlin:-

On 29th, 4 at Ashington and 5 at Linton (JMB/MB).

Ruff:-

2 males and a female at Cresswell on 2nd (DC/PG). 2 pairs at Ashington on 30th (MB/JMB).

Arctic Skua:-

3 flew N. off Dunstanburgh on 29th (JSB/TW) and 1 off St. Mary's Island on 30th (MB/JMB).

Black Headed Gull:-

A partial albino of dilute form on Holy Island Lough on 5th (PRE).

Kittiwake:-

A heavy northward movement on 29th (MB).

Black Tern:-

7 all in breeding plumage at Grindon Lough on 1st (JSB/TW).

Common Tern:-

Single bird at Kirkley Hill on 23rd, c10 miles inland.

Auks:-

Over 500 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 29th (MB/JMB).

Collared Dove:-

2 nr. Seahouses on 4th (PRE).

Turtle Dove:-

1 flew W. from Inner Farne on 6th (PRE).

Little Owl:-

10 young from 3 nests (FC/BE). Large Lapwing chick's remains were found beneath nest (MB).

Nightjar:-

2 pairs on 1st rose to 4 at Dipton on 22nd (MB/MB).

Hooded Crow:-

1 in field nr. Seaton Delaval on 9th (AB).

Great Tit:-

10 young from 1 nest nr. Morpeth (BE).

Wren:-

A great absence of breeding birds in most local areas probably due to hard winter (MB/BE).

Redstart:-

Female on Holy Island on 5th (PRE).

Grasshopper Warbler:-

1 singing at Heddon on 15th (nr. area - JSB). Common in parts of Kielder.

Lesser Whitethroat:-

1 nr. Seaton Delaval on 9th (AB).

Grey Wagtail:-

Very very scarce by Northumberland burns due to hard winter.

Blue-headed Wagtail:-

An almost typical example of a male seen carrying food at Cresswell on 30th (JMB/MB).

Hawfinch:-

Single bird at Bywell on 16th (JSB).

Redpoll:-

(see over).

Redpoll:-

Appearing to be more common in lowland areas than in former years (MM/EE).

Crossbill:-

A bird at Dipton on 1st (EE).

Corn Bunting:-

13 newly fledged birds seen nr. Wallsend (FC).

CONTRIBUTORS

J. M. Bayldon.

M. Bell.

A. Belshaw.

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D. Howey.

H. Marquiss.

M. Nattrass.

T. Winter

PLEASE SEND IN REPORTS FOR JULY, BY 3rd AUGUST, 1963 at the very latest to M. Bell, 15 Rosewood Crescent, Walkerville, Newcastle 6. The reason for this early date is that Mr. Bell and his parents will be on holiday from 4th August, 1963.

Request for Information:-

COLOUR RINGED LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULLS. Approximately 2,500 Lesser Black-backed Gull chicks (*Larus fuscus*) are to be ringed in June 1963 at Walney Island, Lancashire, with a coloured plastic ring on one leg and in addition a metal ring on the other leg, as part of a dispersal and migration study of this species. Please send any records of these birds together with details of the rings, date, numbers and locality, to E. D. Ponting, 7 Burlington Grove, Morecambe, Lancashire.

appearing to be more common in lowland areas than in former years.
(M/E.S.)
Grossbill:-
A bird at Dighton on 1st (E.S.)
Gorm Swallow:-
13 newly fledged birds seen at Walsand (E.S.)

CONTRIBUTORS

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| J. M. Baylson. | B. Betheridge. |
| M. Bell. | P. H. Evans. |
| A. Bishaw. | P. Garland. |
| J. S. Bost. | D. Howey. |
| F. Colley. | A. Harpiss. |
| D. Collinson. | M. Hatters. |
- T. Winter

PLEASE SEE IN REPORTS FOR JULY, MAY AND AUGUST, 1963 at the very latest to
M. Bell, 15 Rosewood Crescent, Wakefield, West Yorkshire. The reason for
this early date is that Mr. Bell and his parents will be on holiday from
4th August, 1963.

Request for Information:-

COLOUR RINGED LESSER BLACK-BACKED GUILLS. Approximately 2,500 Lesser Black-
backed Gull chicks (Larus fuscus) are to be ringed in June 1963 at Walney
Island, Lancashire, with a coloured plastic ring on one leg and in addi-
tion a metal ring on the other leg, as part of a dispersal and migration
study of this species. Please send any records of these birds together
with details of the rings, date, number and locality, to E. D. Ponting,
7 Burlington Grove, Horcotes, Lancashire.

TYNESIDE BIRD CLUB
JULY 1963 BULLETIN

CLASSIFIED LIST

Black-throated Diver:-

1 in breeding plumage flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 1st (JDP).

Manx Shearwater:-

c25 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 1st (JDP). 4 flew N. off Hauxley on 21st (ERM).

Fulmar Petrel:-

1 at Holywell Ponds on 7th (CED).

Heron:-

1 at Cresswell Ponds on 6th (CED/MM) and then 2 until end of month (MM/ERM/MN) and 3 there on 28th (MN). 2 at Gosforth Park on 30th (DR).

Teal:-

Bred successfully at Ashington Ponds (MM) and at Cresswell Ponds (BE/MM).

Garganey:-

2 at Ashington Ponds and 2, possibly the same, at Cresswell Ponds on 21st (ERM). 3 at Cresswell Ponds on 28th (MN).

Gadwall:-

Single birds at Gosforth Park on 27th and Cresswell on 28th (MN).

Wigeon:-

1 present at Gosforth Park throughout month (MM).

Pintail:-

1 at Cresswell Ponds on 13th (MN) and 2 females at Linton Pond on 30th (DR).

Shoveler:-

Bred successfully at Ashington Ponds (BE/MM).

Scaup:-

A male at Cresswell Ponds on 6th (CED/MM/JDP).

Tufted Duck:-

2 pairs bred successfully at Holywell Ponds (CED/JDP).

Pochard:-

Single females at Cresswell Ponds (JMB/M.) and Holywell Ponds (CED) on 20th. 4 at Sweetthope on 30th (ERM).

Velvet Scoter:-

Off Cresswell, 4 flew N. on 3rd and 3 flew N. on 23rd. (BE/MM). Off St. Mary's Island a single bird flew N. on 6th (MB/MM/SSM) and another seen there on 23rd (SSM).

Common Scoter:-

Flock of c100 flew S. off Hartley on 19th ((AB). Flock of c30 off Cresswell during latter half of month (MM).

Eider Duck:-

c30 off Cresswell on 24th (MM).

Red-breasted Merganser:-

Single bird flew S. off Cresswell on 3rd (BE/MM) and another on the sea there on 20th (JMB/MM). 2 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 6th. (MB/MM/SSM).

Shelduck:-

3 flew S. off St. Mary's Island on 1st (JDP). At Cresswell Ponds two pairs reared 10 and 9 young respectively; one bird of a third pair there was killed (M).

Sparrow Hawk:-

1 at Cresswell on 13th (SSM/MN).

Corncrake:-

The bird heard near Ashington on 30th June was still calling on 1st July (MM). 1 heard at Corbridge on 11th (RG/EL).

Moorhen:-

On 1st, when passage waders were arriving at Cresswell Ponds, 1 was picked up there in a totally exhausted condition (MM).

Oystercatcher:-

Throughout month c30 rested at Cresswell Ponds over the periods of high tide (BE/MM).

Lapwing:-

c100 at Ashington Ponds on 1st increased to almost 400 on 23rd (BE/MM). 8 flew S. over the sea off Cresswell on 3rd (BE/MM). 6 came in off the sea at Blyth Bay on 28th (JDP).

Ringed Plover:-

2 or 3 at Cresswell Ponds throughout month (MM). A single bird at Seaton Burn Pond on 8th (CED).

Golven Plover:-

1 at Cresswell on 24th (MM). 40 at Swallow Ponds on 20th (SSM/MN). had risen to c100 by 29th (MN).

Common Snipe:-

None seen at Ashington Ponds until 23rd when there were 5 (MM) but there were c50 there on 30th (DR). c20 at Linton Pond on 30th (DR).

Curlew:-

c60 roosted at Cresswell Pond on 2nd (MM). 8 at Holywell Ponds on 10th (JDP).

Whimbrel:-

An extraordinary movement over Blyth Bay on 28th when 135 came in off the sea from E.N.E. (JDP). 2 flew N. off Cresswell on 2nd and 4 were at Cresswell Point on 24th (MM). 4 at Cresswell Ponds on 20th (SSM/MN). 1 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 6th (MB/MM/SSM), and 3 at Holywell Ponds on 10th (JDP).

Bar-tailed Godwit:-

Single birds seen flying N. off Cresswell on 2nd and 23rd (MM).

Green Sandpiper:-

2 at Ashington Ponds on 1st (MM) and 1 or 2 at Cresswell Ponds 1st - 3rd (MM). 5 at Ashington Ponds on 20th (SSM/MN) and 1 at Cresswell Ponds 21st - 24th (BE/ERM/MM). 4+ at Cresswell on 28th (MN) and 2 there on 30th (DR) when there were also 2 at Ashington (DR). 2 flew in off the sea at Elyth Bay on 28th (JDP) and 2 at Gosforth Park on 29th (MN).

Wood Sandpiper:-

At Ashington Ponds 6 on 1st, 8 on 2nd, 5 on 3rd and 6 on 6th (BE/MM). At Cresswell Ponds, a single bird on 20th (JMB/MM) and 2 there on 21st (ERM). 1 at Brenkley on 30th (ERM) and another came in off the sea at Blyth Bay on 28th (JDP).

Common Sandpiper:-

Several records of birds on passage at Cresswell, Lynemouth, Holywell Ponds, St. Mary's Island and Hartley including one of 14 at Cresswell Ponds on 24th (MM).

Redshank:-

Numbers steadily increased at Cresswell Ponds during month reaching a maximum of c85 on 20th (MM).

Spotted Redshank:-

Single birds at Cresswell Ponds 1st - 6th (MM), on 20th (SSM) and again on 28th (MN). In the area of Ashington and Linton Ponds there were 3 on 13th and 1 on 20th (SSM/MN).

Greenshank:-

Single birds at Ashington Ponds on 1st (MM) and 20th (SSM/MN). At Cresswell Ponds 1 on 3rd (MM) and several records of up to 4 between 20th and 30th (ERM/MM/SSM/MN/DR). 1 at Hallington Reservoir on 31st (RG/EL).

Knot:-

32 at Cresswell on 24th (MM).

Purple Sandpiper:-

2 at St. Mary's Island on 25th and 26th (SSM).

Dunlin:-

5 at Ashington Ponds on 1st and 2 remained until 6th (MM). Only 1 at Cresswell Pond 1st - 3rd, but c60 on 6th and these remained until end of month (BE/MM).

Sanderling:-

27 at Cresswell on 23rd and 24th (MM).

Ruff:-

At Ashington and Linton Ponds there were 6 during first few days of month, then 3 until 13th and a single bird remained until end of month (MM). 2 were seen there on 30th (DR). 1 at Cresswell Ponds on 1st, 2nd and 6th but 6 there on 3rd (MM). At least 2 there on 28th (MN). 1 at Gosforth Park on 29th (MN).

Arctic Skua:-

A single bird flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 7th (MB/MM) and another was seen there on 24th (SSM). Single birds seen off Seaton Sluice on 28th (ERM) and Cresswell on 20th (SSM) and 2 spent the entire day at Cresswell Ponds on 24th and were seen to attack many of the other birds there (MM).

Great Skua:-

1 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 6th (MB/MM/SSM) and another was seen off Cresswell on 7th (SSM).

Black-headed Gull:-

At least 500 roosted at Swallow Ponds during last two weeks of month (MN).

Black Tern:-

1 at Cresswell on 30th (DR).

Roseate Tern:-

Small numbers seen off Cresswell during latter half of month with a maximum of 14 off the point on 20th (JMB/MM).

Little Tern:-

2 off Cresswell on 24th (MM).

Razorbill:-

12 on the sea off Cresswell on 7th (SSM) and 3 off Seaton Sluice on 28th (CED).

Collared Dove:-

A party of 5 visited a stack yard near Holywell Dene during month (AB). A single bird in Northumberland Park, Tynemouth on 31st (AB).

Barn Owl:-

A pair at Sacriston again reared 2 young (FC).

Swift:-

Substantial southerly movement along the dunes at Cresswell on the evening of 21st (ERM). Flocks of up to 30 were also seen by MM flying S. over Cresswell.

House Martin:-

A substantial colony on the cliffs at Cullernose (MM). The colony at Longbenton Estate has increased and spread to many of the three-storey flats (MM).

Sand Martin:-

A bird ringed as a juvenile at Romford, Essex, in 1962 was trapped at a colony at Felton, 270 miles N.W. (FC).

Raven:-

1 over Ovingham on 19th (JMB/MM).

Wheatear:-

Single birds at St. Mary's Island on 18th and Hartley Point on 19th (AB). Three at Cresswell Ponds and 1 at Cresswell Point on 24th were birds of the year (MM).

Lesser Whitethroat:-

1 caught and ringed near Seaton Delaval on 7th (AB).

All records for August to be sent to M. Bell, 15 Rosewood Crescent, Walkerville, Newcastle upon Tyne, 6 by the 7th September, 1963 please.

Please note date of next meeting - Thursday, 12th September, 1963.

CONTRIBUTORS: Bayldon. Bell. Belshaw. Colley. Douglas. Etheridge. Geraghty. Miss Grey. Loble. Marquiss. Meek. Moffitt. Nattrass. Parrack. Richardson.

TYNESIDE BIRD CLUB

AUGUST 1963 BULLETIN

SUMMARY

Below, is a list of Summer migrants. Unfortunately, the list is incomplete, no early dates were sent in for Garden Warblers and Spotted Flycatchers. If you have any early dates for the above-mentioned species will you please send them to the Recorder so that the list can be completed.

This month started off quietly with small numbers of waders and passerines moving along the coast. Then on the 11th. came a large influx of waders especially in the Cresswell area. A table of species and numbers at Cresswell is included with the bulletin.

The 17th. brought another influx of waders to the Cresswell area, including large flocks of Lapwings and Common Snipe, also an early Jack Snipe and 3 Black Terns on the 21st. The passerines were represented in this movement with Wheatears (40+), Whinchats (16 rising to 70+ by the 25th.), Redstarts (3), Wood Warblers, Pied Flycatchers and Yellow Wagtails at Cresswell.

On the 31st. the passerines came into their own with large numbers of Wheatears, Redstarts, Garden Warblers, phylloscopus Warblers, Spotted and Pied Flycatchers being present all along the coast line. The rarities at this time included an Icterine Warbler at Cresswell, a Barred Warbler at Monks House and a Red Backed Shrike at Craster. This drift, which continued into the first week of September was better covered by observers and ringers than ever before.

Will those members who have notes on the drift please send them in to the Recorder as soon as possible so that a "Drift Report" can be compiled, in time for the next Bulletin.

ARRIVAL OF SUMMER MIGRANTS.

Common Sandpiper	23.3.63	PG/DC
Terns	29.3.63	JDP
Swift	24.4.63	TW
Swallow	11.4.63	PRE
House Martin	21.4.63	MB
Sand Martin	11.4.63	PRE
Ring Ouzel	24.3.63	per AB
Wheatear	14.3.63	per AB
Whinchat	20.4.63	SRS/RMW
Redstart	17.4.63	PRE
Black Redstart	3.4.63	JDP
Grasshopper Warbler	27.4.63	PRE
Sedge Warbler	25.4.63	FC
Blackcap	25.4.63	BG/FC
Garden Warbler		
Whitethroat	20.4.63	PR
Lesser Whitethroat	28.4.63	CED
Willow Warbler	15.4.63	FC
Chiffchaff	9.4.63	DG
Wood Warbler	22.4.63	MN
Pied Flycatcher	28.4.63	JSB
Spotted Flycatcher	28.4.63	JSB

CLASSIFIED LIST

Black-throated Diver:-- 1 flew S. off St. Mary's Island on 16th (JDP).

Black-necked Grebe:-- 2 at Havannah on 12th were in full winter plumage (ER). 1 at Seaton Burn on 14th (BG). Another bird in Cresswell Bay on 17th was almost in full summer plumage (AB/FC).

Manx Shearwater:--

This is usually the best month for observing this species from our /coast line

coastline, but this year has proved the exception to the rule. On the 4th there were c12 off Chevington (ER/EM) and three days later, 18 flew N. off Cresswell (JDP). On the 11th, c25 flew N. off Stag Rocks (JDP). A single bird flew S. off Seaton Sluice on 17th (BG).

Sooty Shearwater:-

2 flew N. off Cresswell on 7th (JDP).

Fulmar:-

On the 10th during one hour, 60 flew N. (IH/ER), while on the 17th during a half-hour sea watch, 15 were counted flying S. (BG).

Gannet:-

13 immatures and 147 adults flew N. during half-an-hour off Stag Rocks on 5th (PRE).

Heron:-

At Cresswell, birds present for most of the month, building up to a maximum of 8 on 31st (EE). A total of 9 other birds were seen in other parts of the county.

Mallard:-

64 at Grindon Lough on 21st and over 50 at Capheaton by 23rd (EM).

Teal:-

40 in Gosforth Park on 21st (BG) and c60 at Capheaton on 23rd (EM).

Garganey:-

2 at Havannah on 3rd rose to 4 by 5th (ER). 2 at Ashington on 8th (EM).

Gadwall:-

Single birds at Capheaton on 12th, Gosforth Park on 21st, Seaton Burn on 23rd and Newton on 26th.

Pintail:-

7 at Cresswell on 8th with 3 during the remainder of month. 8 at Fenham Mill on 5th (ER).

Wigeon:-

A party of 4 flew S. over Linton Ponds on 8th (EM) and 3 were at Gosforth Park on 21st (BG).

Shoveler:-

15 at Havannah on 3rd and c40 at Gosforth Park on 21st (BG).

Tufted Duck:-

There were c60 at Capheaton on 23rd, 10 of which were birds of the year (EM).

Pochard:-

Population rose to 40 at Capheaton by 23rd (EM).

Goldeneye:-

Single birds at Capheaton on 19th and Hack Hall on 27th (EM/BG).

Velvet Scoter:-

On 5th, 8 flew N. off Cresswell and 12 flew N. off Stag Rocks (IH/PRE). 3 flew N. off Chevington Burn on 19th (BG).

Common Scoter:-

A flock of 30 flew S. at Seaton Sluice on 17th and another of 40 flew N. off Chevington on 19th (BG).

Eider:-

There were between 500 and 600 off Amble on 10th (ER).

Canada Goose:-

A flock of 19 flew S. at Cresswell on 24th (IH/BE/ER).

Hobby:-

An immature was at Swallow Ponds on 29th (MB/FC).

Spotted Crane:-

Brian Redhead, a milk farmer near Ponteland, caught a 1st. winter bird in a moorhen trap (per ER)

Oystercatcher:-

7 at Killingworth on 5th (EM) and 24 flew S.W. over the pond on 31st (BG). 150 were counted from Hartley to St. Mary's Island on 29th (AB) while 40 - 60 were at Cresswell throughout month (BE).

Lapwing:-

Surprising enough after the bad winter, many large flocks were reported, the largest being of 520 at Prestwick Carr on 20th (ER) and 350 at Greencroft Ponds on 23rd (RMP).

Ringed Plover:-

30 at St. Mary's Island on 4th (AB) and 3 at Colt Crag (RG/WB/EL).

Golden Plover:-

500 at Budle Bay on 13th (PRE) and c400 at Chevington on 19th (BE).

Snipe:-

At Havannah, there were 25 on 3rd (BG/ER). Holywell had 60 on the 11th (AB), Linton 100 on 12th and a similar number at Prestwick Carr on

on 21st (EM). 16 at Gosforth Park on 17th (JPD) and 40 at Killingworth the following day (BG). On 7th there were 20+ at Tanfield Ponds and 30+ at Greencroft Ponds (RMP). 60 at Ashington and 100 at Ellington on 16th (PR).

Jack Snipe:-
An unusual record of one on 18th at Cresswell (BE/ER) as this species usually arrives in September.

Curlew:-
40 flew S. over Hauxley on 10th (EM/ER).

Whimbrel:-
On 10th, 4 flew N. over Hauxley and a party of 9 flew over Cresswell on 17th (AB/FC). 8 were seen at Prestwick Carr on 25th (EM). There were many sightings of parties of up to 3 birds from nearly all the coastal areas.

Turnstone:-
40 at Hauxley on 19th (BG) and substantial numbers present at Cresswell during month reaching a maximum of 80 on 28th (BE/MM).

Bar-tailed Godwit:-
Very few birds were seen. 4 at Budle Bay on 10th (PRE) was the largest number noted.

Black-tailed Godwit:-
A single bird at Cresswell on 21st (IH).

Green Sandpiper:-
This wader, contrary to the opinion stated in most books, seems to be the rarer of the three Sandpipers in Northumberland. Single birds were seen at Beal, Ashington, Linton, Budle Bay, Newton, N. Walbottle during month, while 2 remained at Hallington Reservoir throughout this period (RG/WB/EL). 5 at Tanfield Ponds on 7th (RMP), 3 at Gosforth Park on 18th (JPD), 4 at Swallow Ponds on 12th (FC) and 3 at Holywell on 8th (AB). 3 at Ashington on 3rd (BE).

Wood Sandpiper:-
Besides the phenomenal numbers at Cresswell (see table) a single bird was reported at Ashington. On 6th, there were 5 at Prestwick, 4 at Linton on 8th (EM). 2 at Budle Bay the next day (PRE) and 8 at Swallow Ponds on 12th (FC).

Common Sandpiper:-
Single birds at Killingworth, Widdrington and Hartburn. 7 at Gosforth Park on 5th (EM) 12+ at Budle Bay on 9th (PRE), 3 at Chevington on 4th and 4 at Hauxley on 10th (BG). 4 at Ashington on 5th (IH/BE) and 3 at Tanfield Ponds on 21st (RMP).

Redshank:-
c70 at Seahouses on 7th, 300 at Budle Bay on 9th (PRE) and 25 at St. Mary's Island on 29th (AB).

Spotted Redshank:-
Single birds reported from almost every part of county. Besides those of Cresswell, there were 3 at Gosforth Park from 5th to 17th (ER/JPD).

Greenshank:-
3 at Gosforth Park from 5th to 14th were joined by another on 6th (EM/JPD). 1 at Hallington throughout month and other single birds along the entire coastal plain. 4 at Tanfield Ponds on 21st (RMP), 10 at Prestwick Carr on 23rd (EM), 4 at Seaton Burn on 15th (JPD), 3 at Beal on 13th and the same number at Hartburn on 19th (EM) and at Beadnell on 29th (PRE). 11 flew over Seaton Delaval on 11th (AB) and 5 also flew over Shankhouse on 31st (IH).

Knot:-
Two large flocks of 150 birds were reported at Amble on 11th (JDP) and Budle Bay on 9th (PRE). At Cresswell, there were 45 during the latter half of month which rose to 60+ by the 28th (MM).

Purple Sandpiper:-
1 at Seaton Sluice on 27th (BG).

Little Stint:-
Single birds at Beadnell on 23rd, Boulmer on 27th and Seahouses on 31st (PRE).

Dunlin:-
1 at Tanfield Ponds on 20th and 21st (EM/RMP). A flock of 300 at Budle Bay on 6th (PRE).

Curlew Sandpiper:-
1 at Boulmer on 21st and 25th and 6 at Seahouses on 31st (PRE).

Sanderling:-
A very large flock for this time of year of 80 was at Hauxley on 10th

(EM/EM) while elsewhere small parties of up to 10 were seen.

Ruff:- 15 at Prestwick Carr on 20th (EM), 4 at Holywell Ponds on 8th (AB) and another 4 at Boulmer on 21st (PRE). 12 at Beadnell on 23rd. Other single birds reported from most ponds near the coast line.

Arctic Skua:- As with Shearwaters, this has been a poor month for Skuas, especially during the last fortnight, when only very few single birds have been seen. On 10th, 12 were seen off Hauxley (EM) and on 15th and 16th there was a minor passage of 12 and 18 birds seen from Cresswell and St. Mary's Island respectively.

Pomarine Skua:- 2 flew N. off Cresswell on 5th (IH) and another off St. Mary's Island on 16th (JDP).

Little Gull:-

1 at Cresswell on 5th (IH/BE).

Kittiwake:- A northerly movement on 19th of 300 per hour off Hauxley (BG).

Black Tern:- 1 flew S. off Stag Rocks on 11th and there were 3 at Cresswell on 21st (JDP).

Sandwich Tern:-

1 flew S. over Swallow Ponds on 13th (BG).

Cuckoo:- A 1st. winter bird at Chevington on 4th and another at Cresswell on 29th (ER/MM).

Barn Owl:- A pair nesting at Seaton Burn were still on eggs at end of month (ER).

Little Owl:- 1 near Seahouses on 3rd (PRE).

Tawny Owl:- A completely soaked, fledged juvenile was picked up off the middle of the road at 10.p.m. on 4th near Bamburgh, and dried out overnight. When released next day it flew away strongly. While it sat in the road the previous night, at least 2 cars had run "over" it (PRE).

Long-eared Owl:- 1 was trapped at Swallow Ponds on 21st (FC/BE).

Swift:- c30 at Prestwick Carr on 24th (EM) and 8 over Wallsend on 27th (FC).

Swallow:- A marked passage on morning of 9th at Monks House (PRE).

Tree creeper:- 2 juveniles were seen at Craster. 1 on 1st and the other on 15th (PRE).

Wheatear:- After easterly winds and heavy rain on evening of 16th, there were c45 in the Cresswell area (EM/ER). On 31st, the first signs of the coming September 'drift' were noticed when 20+ were at Scrog Hill, Craster (ELA) and c20 at Hauxley (ER).

Stonechat:- A 1st. winter bird at Cresswell on 4th (EM/ER).

Whinchat:- 16 at Cresswell on 17th had risen to 70+ by 25th (ER). c20 at Scrog Hill, Craster on 31st (ELA).

Redstart:- 3 at Cresswell on 17th (ER). On 31st there were 4 at Hauxley and 8 at Scrog Hill, Craster (ER/ELA).

Reed Warbler:- Juveniles were caught at Craster on 19th and 23rd (PRE). 1 was trapped at Hauxley on 31st (ER).

Icterine Warbler:- 1 was trapped at Cresswell on 31st (BE).

Barred Warbler:- A juvenile was trapped at Monks House on 31st (PRE).

Garden Warbler:- 4 at Hauxley on 31st (ER).

Whitethroat:- c12 at Hauxley on 31st (ER/EM).

Willow/Chiff:- c70 at Hauxley on 31st (ER).

Wood Warbler:-

2 in the dunes at Cresswell on 17th and 1 on 18th (BE).

Spotted Flycatcher:-

A single bird at Hauxley on 4th and c15 on 30th (ER). The following day there were 8 at Scrog Hill, Craster (ELA).

Pied Flycatcher:-

1 at Monks House on 20th and 31st when other single birds were seen at Seahouses, Newton and Craster Village (PRE). 6 at Cresswell on 17th (ER). On 31st there were 8 at Scrog Hill, Craster, 6 at Hauxley, 1 at Meggies Burn and another at Blyth Cemetery.

Yellow Wagtail:-

30 at Cresswell on 17th rose to 70+ by 24th (ER).

Red-backed Shrike:-

A juvenile was seen at Scrog Hill, Craster on 31st (ELA).

Twite:-

An adult female at Cresswell on 25th (BE/ER).

Crossbill:-

An adult male at Seaton Sluice on 31st (JPD/CED).

Chaffinch:-

c35 at Hauxley on 31st (EM).

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

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W. Brady
F. Colley
J. P. Deacon
C. E. Douglas

B. Etheridge
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R. Grey
I. Harrison
E. Lobley
M. Marquiss

E. Meek.
S. S. Hoffitt.
M. Nattrass
R. H. Palmer
J. D. Parrack
E. Robson
P. Routledge

All observations for September to be sent to me, M. Bell,
15 ROSEWOOD CRESCENT, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, 6 by Saturday, 5th October,
1963.

COMMON AND BLACK-HEADED GULL WINTER DISTRIBUTION
AND HABITAT PREFERENCES

Observations in the Severn Estuary suggest that separate flocks of these species are usual and that they show different preferences in feeding areas. E.G., Common Gull in upland pastures and on sandy beaches, Black-headed Gull on wetter, low-lying pastures and on mud flats.

The main object of the enquiry is to find out if this situation exists in other parts of the British Isles and also to discover more about the winter distribution of the two species.

Observers are asked to record details of all gull flocks seen between August 1963 and April 1964 and information from past years would also be welcome.

It is very much hoped that observers in our area will take part in this enquiry and anyone interested should write to the organiser:-

J. D. R. Vernon, 22 St. David's Road, Thornbury, Nr. Bristol.

LETTER TO CLUB MEMBERS.

Dear Member,

As you probably know, the A.G.M. is to be held on 10th October, 1963 in the Y.M.C.A. Building, Blakett Street, Newcastle at 7.p.m.

During the past year there may have been many or some of the Committee's decisions with which you may not have agreed. The Bulletin may or may not be all that you would like it to be, and if this is so, then your attendance at this meeting is necessary so that you can air your grievance. It is better to state ones views in open meeting than to say nothing and live in hope that things will change in time, or to have them reach the Committee second or third hand with the possibility of distortion.

This is your opportunity to choose your Committee, so please do attend if at all possible. (Sgd.) M. Bell. p.p. The Committee.

WADERS AT CRESSWELL PONDS DURING AUGUST

	3rd.	4th.	5th.	8th.	11th	12th	15th	16th	17th	18th
LAPWING	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	400	200
RINGED PLOVER ...	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GREY PLOVER	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	14	-
GOLDEN PLOVER ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
SNIBE	71	53	60	-	140	-	-	-	170	170+
CURLEW	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	38
WHIMBREL	2	5	5	2	25	1	9	2	12+	4
GREEN SANDPIPER.	5	1	5	-	2	2	-	-	2	5
WOOD SANDPIPER .	3	6	8	-	32	15	6	2	23+	c20
COMMON SANDPIPER	4	-	-	2	2	-	-	1	3	3
REDSHANK	52	-	-	-	25	-	-	-	-	50
SPOTTED REDSHANK	-	-	2	-	6	-	2	1	5	3
GREENSHANK	3	9	10	6	14	1	-	2	15+	12
LITTLE STINT ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
DUNLIN	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	5
CURLEW SANDPIPER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RUFF	5	6	5	16	18	12	6	-	20+	12

COMMON AND BLACK-HEADED GULL WINTER DISTRIBUTION AND HABITAT PREFERENCES

	19th	21st	23rd	24th	25th	26th	28th	29th	31st
LAPWING	-	850+	400	-	-	-	-	-	-
RINGED PLOVER ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	6	1
GREY PLOVER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GOLDEN PLOVER ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	600	-
SNIBE	-	450	150+	300	250	-	200+	100+	-
CURLEW	-	200	-	-	-	-	2	1	-
WHIMBREL	-	17	1	1	25	-	2	-	1
GREEN SANDPIPER.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
WOOD SANDPIPER .	4	11	6	c10	6	-	5	3	1
COMMON SANDPIPER	-	-	2	6	-	-	-	-	-
REDSHANK	-	-	-	150	150	-	75	60	10
SPOTTED REDSHANK	1	5	6+	8	3	-	7	1	5
GREENSHANK	1	-	2	12	1	-	17	2	5
LITTLE STINT ...	-	1	-	-	2	3	6	3	2+
DUNLIN	-	-	-	3	20	-	30	30	5
CURLEW SANDPIPER	-	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
RUFF	12	25	15+	30	-	-	18	20	-

SEPTEMBER 1963 BULLETIN

SUMMARY

The weather at the end of August and the beginning of September became favourable to passerine immigration from the continent, resulting in an extensive drift along the East Coast. A Drift Migration Report for Northumberland has been compiled, giving in detail, weather conditions and species concerned.

Unfortunately, weather conditions changed, and we had westerly winds until the 18th, when they abated for a short while and an anti-cyclone centred over Europe resulted in N. - N.E. winds. This did not hold for very long and the winds soon reverted back to the West. The end of the month, however, was not without incident, and the deep depression passing to the North of Scotland resulted in the appearance of an American Wader - a "White Rumped Sandpiper" at Whittledene Reservoir. This was seen by a number of observers.

CLASSIFIED LIST

Species marked * are dealt with in the September Drift issue.

Red-throated Diver:-

Seen with increasing regularity from the 12th onwards, especially during the last three days of the month. 5 flew N. off Seaton Sluice on 28th (MN) and 3 on the sea at Cresswell on 29th (D. Richardson).

Great Crested Grebe:-

A pair on a Northumberland water on 15th (MB/JMB).

Sooty Shearwater:-

1 flew N. off Hauxley on 21st (ER).

Gannet:-

Small parties seen throughout month, and a light Northerly passage was noted on 28th - 30th at Hauxley, with 150-160 per day; many of which were first winter birds (EG/ER).

Heron:-

Single birds and very small parties seen at Cresswell, Gosforth and Holy Island. 4 flew N. off Seaton Sluice on 29th (D. Richardson).

Mallard:-

c250 at Gosforth Park on 4th (ER) and c880 at Capheaton on 29th (IH).

Teal:-

Over 450 at Gosforth Park on 13th (ER) and 120 at Capheaton on 29th (IH).

Wigeon:-

On 21st a flock of over 120 flew N. off Seaton Sluice and Hauxley (TW/ER).

Pintail:-

7 at Cresswell on 12th (BG) and about 20 on Holy Island Lough on 22nd (PRE). Small numbers at Gosforth and Grindon.

Shoveler:-

Over 90 at Gosforth Park on 4th and 29th (ER) and 60 at Capheaton on 29th (IH).

Scaup:-

A female at Whittledene on 13th (TW).

Tufted Duck:-

20 at Whittledene on 13th (TW) and 40 at Capheaton on 29th (IH).

Pochard:-

c90 at Capheaton on 29th (IH).

Velvet Scoter:-

1 off Holy Island on 14th (ER) and 2 on 19th off Hartley (MM).

Common Scoter:-

On 14th there were 150+ off Stag Rocks and 200 off Holy Island (ER).

Eider:-

c600 off Holy Island on 14th (ER) and 60 at Hauxley on 22nd (EM).

Red-breasted Merganser:-

Many single birds seen. 4 at Stag Rocks on 14th (MB/JMB).

Shelduck:-

2 until 18th at Swallow Ponds (FC/DC). 62 at Budle Bay on 4th (PRE).

Grey Lag Goose:-

2 and a Pinkfoot flew S. over Seaton Sluice on 29th (DGB).

Pink-footed Goose:-

Flocks flying in off sea at Hauxley were 36 on 27th, 18 on 28th and 5 on 30th (BG/ER). 5 at Goswick Rigg on 22nd (MM).

Whooper Swan:-

12 flew in off sea at Hauxley on 7th (per BG). 3 at Cresswell on 29th (DGB).

Merlin:-

Single females at Monks House on 4th, Craster on 10th (PRE). Holy Island and Swallow Ponds on 14th (ER/DC).

Kestrel:-

4 at Scrog Hill, Craster on 10th (PRE).

Oystercatcher:-

c550 roosting on Budle Sands on 4th (PRE).

Grey Plover:-

c40 at Budle Bay on 4th (PRE). Small parties and single birds seen in most parts of the county.

Golden Plover:-

A flock of 1000 including many "altifrons" at Widdrington on 12th with flocks coming in off sea at Cresswell then and the following day (BG).

Snipe:-

c250 at Cresswell during most of the month (BG). c150 on Holy Island on 14th (ER) and 130 at Gosforth on 16th.

Jack Snipe:-

1 at Whittledene on 29th (JSE).

Whimbrel:-

10 at Holy Island on 3rd (per MB). Last one seen was at Cresswell on 13th (BG).

Black-tailed Godwit:-

1 at Cresswell on 13th (BG).

Bar-tailed Godwit:-

Over 400 at Holy Island on 2nd (per MB). 5 at Hauxley on 28th - 30th (BG/ER).

Green Sandpiper:-

3 at Cresswell on 1st and 14th (JMB) and 3 at Gosforth on 13th (ER).

Wood Sandpiper:-

3 at Holy Island on 3rd (per MB). 6 - 7 at Cresswell on 13th (JMB) and 2 on 22nd (EM). Single birds at Monks House on 5th and at Gosforth on 17th.

Common Sandpiper:-

15+ at Holy Island on 3rd (per MB) and a total of 16 were reported from other coastal localities in the first ten days of the month.

Redshank:-

Up to 600 birds at Holy Island in the first half of the month.

Spotted Redshank:-

2 at Holy Island on 7th (MB/MM/JMB) and other single birds at Cresswell and Seghill (BG).

Greenshank:-

A total of about 30 birds were reported, including maximums of 8 at Cresswell on 1st, 7 on 17th and 6+ at Holy Island on 7th (BG/ER/MM).

Knot:-

c300 at Hauxley on 22nd (ELI).

Purple Sandpiper:-

1 at Whittledene on 30th (TW).

Little Stint:-

A maximum of 7 at Boulmer on 8th and 12 at Budle on 4th (PRE).

Others reported from Newton (1), Cresswell (2) and Jarrow (3 on 28th).

White Rumped Sandpiper:-

1 at Whittledene on 29th and 30th (BG/TW/JSB et al).]

Curlew Sandpiper:-

A total of 45 birds reported from coastal areas including maximums of 8 at Budle on 14th (MN), 8 at Berwick on 3rd (ELA) and 17 at Holy Island on 14th (ER).

Sanderling:-

c350 on Holy Island on 14th and c70 at Hauxley all month (BG/ER).

Ruff:-

65+ at Cresswell on 7th fell to c35 on 8th remaining there until 13th (BE/BG). c40 at Holy Island on 14th (ER). Many other records of smaller numbers were received from other localities.

Arctic Skua:-

At Stag Rocks 6+ on 14th (MB). 4 on 27th and 28th (PRE). 5 at Hauxley on 28th and 13 flew N. in half-an-hour on 30th (BG/ER).

Great Skua:-

Single birds at Holy Island on 21st, Stag Rocks on 27th and Seaton Sluice on 28th.

Black-headed Gull:-

An all creamy-white bird off Seaton Sluice on 29th. The white plumage was only relieved by a faint sub terminal tail band and a hint of dark cheek patch (DGB).

Black Tern:-

2 at Holy Island on 7th - 9th (MB/PRE) and 14th (ER). 3 at Swallow Ponds on 3rd (FGG).

Turtle Dove:-

Single bird at Tynemouth Park on 3rd (PR).

Barn Owl:-

The pair at Seaton Burn (reported last month) have had their eggs stolen (ER).

Swift:-

3 at Killingworth on 2nd (BG). 1 at Hauxley on 15th (BL).

Green Woodpecker:-

1 at Bamburgh on 7th (MB).

*Wryneck:-

Over 25 birds reported during drift.

Swallow:-

Still a few in Hauxley, Alnwick and Bamburgh areas at end of month.

House Martin:-

2 pairs still with young at Forest Hall and Ford at the end of month (FC/MN).

Blue Tit:-

On 11th, flocks of 15-20 were coasting S. off Howick and abnormal numbers were reported from Monks House, Hauxley Craster and Blyth. Many passed S. through Hauxley on 28th (BG/ER).

Fieldfare:-

2 at Cresswell on 1st (ER) and 1 at Gosforth Park on 23rd (BG).

Blackbird:-

An influx of 30+ at Craster on 19th with a few Song Thrushes (PRE) while two days later there were 50 birds at Hauxley (ER).

*Wheatear:-

During Drift over 1200 birds counted along coastline.

Stonechat:-

2 at Cresswell on 1st (IH) and 1 at Berwick on 3rd (ELA).

*Whinchat:-

Over 700 counted during September Drift. Ones and two's at most coastal localities on 18th - 21st. 7 at Hauxley on 21st (ER). 2 at Cresswell on 27th (BG).

*Redstart:-

Over 1600 birds seen during drift. Numbers dropped rapidly from 7th onwards. Single birds were reported on 18th - 21st in coastal areas and again on 25th - 27th.

Bluethroat:-

An adult male and a juvenile on Inner Farne on 3rd - 4th when 1 was on Brownsman also. An adult male at Craster on 7th (PRE). on 2nd 1 at Hartley (MI) and next day 1 at Hauxley (BL).

Robin:-

A single bird on Inner Farne on 3rd and 19th. An influx of c40 at Hauxley on 21st (ER) and another influx on 30th (BG).

*Reed Warbler:-

Over 9 birds either seen or caught during drift.

Marsh Warbler:-

1 trapped at Hauxley on 3rd (BG).

Sedge Warbler:-

Single birds at Holy Island on 3rd (per MB) and Monks House on 5th (PRE).

*Icterine Warbler:-

4 trapped and 1 seen during the drift.

Blackcap:-

1 at Holy Island on 5th (per MB) and at Lowick on 15th. 4 at Craster on 16th (PRE) and 1 at Hauxley on 22nd (ER).

*Barred Warbler:-

8+ seen during the drift.

*Garden Warbler:-

Over 900 counted during drift - very high number when one realised that this bird has very skulking habits. 3 at Craster on 16th and 2 on 23rd (PRE). 1 at Hauxley on 25th (BG).

*Whitethroat:-

175 counted during drift.

*Lesser Whitethroat:-

Over 28 seen, especially along the southern half of the county coastline, during the drift. 1 at Bedlington on 15th (BL).

*Phylloscopi:-

400+ seen during drift along coastline. 2 at Craster on 23rd (PRE) and 1 or 2 moving through Hauxley from 28th - 30th (BG).

Chiffchaff:-

1 singing at Exhibition Park on 10th (TW). 1 of Scandinavian race at Hauxley on 21st (ER) and a 'normal' bird on 25th (BG).

*Wood Warbler:-

A total of 7 during drift.

Goldcrest:-

2+ at Craster on 20th (PRE) and 45 at Hauxley, 2 at Hartley, 3 at Whitley Bay on 21st - 22nd.

Spotted Flycatcher:-

200+ and scarce in most areas except at Holy Island where it outnumbered the Pied Flycatchers. Single birds at Lowick on 15th and Craster on 19th (PRE).

*Pied Flycatcher:-

Over 800 during drift but less numerous than Redstart and Garden Warbler. 6 at Hauxley on 21st - 22nd (ER) and 6 at Whitley Bay Cemetery on 28th (FC).

Red-breasted Flycatcher:-

1 trapped at Craster on 19th (PRE) and another at Marsden on 21st.

Duncock:-

An influx of (probable) juvenile birds at Craster on 16th and at Bamburgh on 19th (PRE). Another influx was noted on 30th in Hauxley area (BG).

Meadow Pipit:-

30+ on both Brownsman and Inner Farne on 4th (PRE). On 10th a S. coasting movement in small numbers noticed (BG).

Tree Pipit:-

See drift report.

Red-throated Pipit:-

1 trapped on 7th and seen again on 8th at Hauxley (BG/ER/BL).

Grey Wagtail:-

1 flew over Craster on 16th (PRE).

Yellow Wagtail:-

1 at Annstead on 5th (ELA) and 2 flew in from N.E. at Hauxley on 22nd (ER).

*Red-backed Shrike:-

Over 25 recorded during drift. Some remaining for over a fortnight.

Linnet:-

A flock of 100 flew in from N.E. at Hauxley on 21st (ER) while a similar movement was noted at Hartley (MN).

Twite:-

2 at Hauxley on 21st (ER) and 2 at Bamburgh on 28th (MM/JDP).

Redpoll:-

50+ near Lowick on 15th and 100+ near Chatton on 18th (PRE). c100 in Gosforth Park on 23rd (BG).

Crossbill:-

See drift report.

Yellow Bunting:-

3 unfledged young being fed in the nest at Craster on 7th (MM).

*Ortolan Bunting:-

Besides the 1 on Inner Farne, another at Hauxley on 8th (ER).

Reed Bunting:-

Small movement from 27th onwards (PRE).

Snow Bunting:-

A female at Hauxley on 8th (BG).

List of Contributors.

E. L. Arnold.
J. M. Bayldon.
D. G. Bell.
M. Bell.
A. Belshaw.
J. S. Booth.
W. Brady.
F. Colley.
D. Collinson.

P. R. Evans.
B. Galloway.
F. G. Grey.
R. Grey.
I. Harrison.
M. Hodgson.
B. Little.
M. Marquiss.
E. Meek.

S. S. Moffitt.
M. Nattrass.
J. D. Parrack.
D. Richardson.
P. Routledge.
C. Watson.
T. Winter.
P. Yeoman.

New Committee

Chairman:- J. P. Deacon, 14 Moorfield, High West Jesmond.
Treasurer:- A. Belshaw, 29 Lovaine Place, North Shields.
Secretary:- C. E. Douglas, 25 Briardene Road, Whitley Bay.
Recorder:- M. Bell, 15 Rosewood Crescent, Walkerville, Newcastle 6.

J. D. Parrack, P. Yeoman, T. Winter, C. Watson, S. Stobart.

Fees for coming year 1st October, 1963 - 30th September, 1964 are 10s. Od. and should be sent to the Treasurer, A. Belshaw as soon as possible.

Next Club Meeting will be held in Y.M.C.A. Blackett Street, Newcastle on Thursday, 14th November, 1963.

OCTOBER 1963 BULLETIN

SUBSCRIPTIONS+

Club members are reminded that subscriptions are now due and should be sent to the Treasurer immediately. Should outstanding subscriptions not be received by 7th December, 1963 no more bulletins will be issued. If, by 1st April, 1964, outstanding subscriptions are not received, then membership of the Club will be terminated automatically.

RATITIES+

Species marked * are being considered by the Ratities Committee.

CLASSIFIED LIST

Divers:-

On the 13th at Cresswell, there were 41, while 14 flew S. during half-an-hour (BB/TH). 26 were there on 19th (TH).

Great Crested Grebe:-

A young bird off Warkworth on 2nd (ER) and other single birds at Cresswell on 19th, Whittledene on 22nd (TH/TH), while there were 2 at Seaton Burn on 13th (BG).

Red-throated Diver:-

Small numbers throughout month off coastline. 10 flew S. off Seaton Sluice on 27th (per MB).

Black-throated Diver:-

1 flew S. off Hauxley on 19th in summer plumage (HRS).

Little Grebe:-

2, probably immigrants at Cresswell on 13th (TH).

Petrel (Sp.?):-

1 flew S. off Seaton Sluice on 19th (JSB).

Hanx Shearwater:-

At Hauxley, 5 flew N. on 2nd and 1 on 19th (HRS). On 13th, 2 flew S. off Cresswell (BB).

Fulmar:-

On 19th, at Hauxley, 1 flew N. (HRS).

Gannet:-

About 1,000 fishing off Lamburn on 23rd (JSB) and 32 flew N. off Hauxley on 2nd (HRS).

Shags:-

400 still on Farnes on 26th (TH).

Heron:-

1 at Hauxley on 2nd (HRS). 2 at Font on 6th (BB/TH), 1 at Gosforth on 12th (BG). 1 flew in off sea at Cresswell on 19th (TH). 2 at Farnes on 26th almost certainly immigrants.

Mallard:-

The largest flock reported was one of c700 at Font Reservoir on 6th (TH).

Teal:-

350 at Gosforth on 13th dropped to 150 on 25th (ER) and on 26th, over 150 flew N. during the morning, at Hauxley (HRS).

Wigeon:-

500 at Goswick on 1st (TH). Represented in thousands, moving N. at Hauxley and Seaton Sluice on 26th. Flocks of 200 counted. At Hauxley many flew $\frac{1}{4}$ mile inland, evidently cutting the corner (HRS et al).

Pintail:-

A maximum of 5 at Gosforth Park on 12th and 13th (BG/ER). 4 at Cresswell on 13th (TH/TH) and 1 at Holywell Ponds on 12th (JDP).

Shoveler:-

A maximum of 30-35 at Gosforth Park on 12th (BG). 20 at Capheaton on 6th (ER).

/Scaup

Scalp:-

A male at Hauxley on 1st and 2nd, and 25 birds flew N. on 26th (HRS). Another male at Tynemouth on 31st (FC) and a female at Newton Pool on 9th (PRE).

Tufted Duck:-

The two largest flocks reported were of 45 at Holywell Ponds on 26th (CHD) and 40 at Capheaton on 6th (EM).

Pochard:-

80 at Wingates on 6th dropped to 3 on 19th (EM/IH). 37 at Seaton Burn on 13th also fell to 16 on 25th (BG/EM). 18 flew N. off Hauxley on 26th (HRS).

Goldeneye:-

Highly scattered in small numbers, the largest flock being at Holywell on 16th, when 19 were counted (JDP).

Long-tailed Duck:-

1 flew S. at Hauxley on 3rd (HRS) and 1 at Bamburgh on 23rd (JSB).

Velvet Scoter:-

At Budle Bay on 4th, 4 flew N. (PRE).

Common Scoter:-

75 at Cresswell on 19th (MH) and c500 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 28th (per JDP).

Eider:-

c200 at Farnes on 26th (M).

Red-breasted Merganser:-

10 at Cresswell on 13th (IH). 7 at Bamburgh on 23rd and 25th (JSB/JDP). 3 present at Hauxley for most of month (HRS).

Goosander:-

2 at Greenlea Lough on 10th (BE).

Shelduck:-

110 flew N. at Budle Bay on 4th (PRE). 23 also flew N. off Hauxley on 26th (HRS).

Grey Geese (S.):

130 flew S. over Gosforth on 5th (SSM).

Grey Lag Goose:-

8 at Hauxley on 1st flew S. while single birds on 5th and 15th flew N. (HRS). 23 at Longhorsley on 19th (MH).

Whitefront (Sp.):

2 in company of Barnacles flew S. off Hauxley on 16th (HRS).

Pink-footed Goose:-

An exhausted bird at Warkworth on 1st (BG) and another flew S. with the Grey Lags at Hauxley (see above). 40 flew S. at Hauxley on 4th (HRS). Other single birds at Cresswell on 13th and at Whittledene on 22nd (IH).

Barnacle Goose:-

21 flew S. off Hauxley on 16th (HRS) and later in month on 22nd and 23rd, 19 and 11 were seen flying S. from St. Mary's Island (JDP).

Mute Swan:-

75 on Beal Swad on 1st (MH).

Whooper Swan:-

2 at Tanfield Ponds on 13th (during northerly winds) were the first seen there by RMP during 14 years. Numbers rose at Swallow Ponds to 13 by 31st (FC). 3 at Grindon Lough on 5th (PRE). Small parties reported from many other parts of the county.

Buzzard:-

1 at Ponteland on 18th September (per R).

Hen Harrier:-

A male at Crag Lough on 10th (BE).

Peregrine:-

An immature flew N. at Cresswell on 19th (MH).

Merlin:-

Single birds at Monks House on 3rd, Seaton Sluice on 21st, West Moor on 22nd and at Bamburgh on 25th.

Lesser Noddy:-

Full notes of an adult male seen at Hauxley on 19th by E. Robson, are now before the Rarities Committee.

Lapwing:-

18 came in off the sea at Hauxley on 3rd, and flocks of up to 25 arriving on 26th both at Hauxley, Bamburgh and many other coastal areas.

Grey Plover:-

Over 20 at Budle Bay on 4th (PRE) could have been those seen flying S. off Hauxley on 6th when 24 were counted (HRS). 2 at Whittledene on 5th (JSE) and 8 at Cresswell on 19th (MM).

Golden Plover:-

2,500 at Bondicar on 3rd (HRS) and c2,000 near Stamfordham on 6th (ER). Numerous smaller flocks of over 50 reported throughout the county.

Turnstone:-

Over 300 on the Farnes on 26th (MM).

Sniipe:-

Small numbers coming ashore during immigration dates at Hauxley and elsewhere. c100 at Cresswell on 6th (ER), 140 at Ashington on 13th (BE) and c180 at Holywell Ponds on 16th (JDP).

Jack Snipe:-

1 at Hauxley on 4th, and 1 on the rocks at low tide on 5th (HRS). Other single birds at Cresswell on 6th, Swallow Ponds on 8th, Prestwick on 20th and at Havanna on 25th.

Woodcock:-

A total of 3 immigrants arrived on 26th/27th at Bamburgh, St. Mary's Island and Hartley.

Curlew:-

20 at Hauxley on 1st had risen to 50 by 26th (HRS).

Whimbrel:-

2 at Hauxley on 2nd (HRS).

Black-tailed Godwit:-

At Hauxley, a single bird flew S. calling (HRS).

Bar-tailed Godwit:-

On 1st, 100 at Beal Swad (M). Smaller numbers elsewhere throughout month.

Green Sandpiper:-

1 on Ouse Burn near Brunton on 20th (ER).

Greenshank:-

1 found dead at Swallow Ponds on 11th (FC) and single bird at Cresswell until 19th (MM et al). 1 at Gosforth on 13th (ER).

Purple Sandpiper:-

Over 100 at the Farnes on 26th (MM).

Dunlin:-

About 100 at Hauxley on 6th, while there was not more than 10 previous to this (HRS). 200 at Budle Bay on 4th (PRE). 75 at Cresswell on 19th (MM) and 1 at Killingworth on 12th (BG).

Curlew Sandpiper:-

1 at Budle Bay on 4th (PRE).

Sanderling:-

50+ at Beal Swad on 1st (MM) and 80 at Hauxley on 26th (HRS).

Ruff:-

2 at Budle Bay on 4th (PRE) and 1 remained at Cresswell until 20th (ER/EN) where 6 were seen on 13th.

Arctic Skua:-

Northerly movements of 11 on 2nd and 40 on 19th were noted at Hauxley (HRS). Small numbers were present in most coastal waters during the month.

Great Skua:-

Single birds at Stag Rocks on 4th, Hauxley on 3rd and St. Mary's on 27th. 5 were present at Hauxley on 19th (HRS).

Pomarine Skua:-

26 flew N. at Hauxley on 2nd during one hour, comprising of 2 flocks of 4, 1 flock of 14 and 4 odd birds (HRS). Other Skuas passed too far out to make positive identification possible.

Lesser Black Back Gull:-

1 flew S. off Cresswell on 19th (MH).

Glaucous Gull:-

1 flew S. off Hauxley on 19th (HRS).

Kittiwakes:-

On the 2nd, there were 500 at Warkworth (ER) and at Hauxley between 2.15.p.m. and 3.15.p.m. 1,000 flew N. and by 5.30.p.m. this rate had doubled (HRS).

Terms:-

Present in diminishing numbers throughout month at Hauxley and Stag Rocks. 1 Roseate and 3 Sandwich at Stag Rocks on 4th (PRE).

Stock Dove:-

Single bird at Swallow Ponds on 21st (FC).

Turtle Dove:-

A juvenile at Hauxley on 5th (HRS).

Barn Owl:-

A bird of the dark-breasted form at Hauxley on 4th (HRS).

Tawny Owl:-

A grey-phase bird also at Hauxley on 4th (HRS).

Long-eared Owl:-

6 roosting in Gosforth Park on 13th (ER).

Short-eared Owl:-

on the 26th, a total of 4 birds were seen to arrive at Hauxley, Bamburgh and St. Mary's Island.

Skylark:-

Many birds coming in off sea on 13th at Cresswell (IH/BE) and similar movements occurred along the coastline on 26th and 27th. Noted moving S. at Hauxley during month (HRS).

Swallow:-

Small numbers noted moving S. until 13th. Thereafter, only two records, the first being of 3 over Forest Hall on 18th (FC) and the second being 4 at Hauxley on 20th (HRS).

House Martin:-

The last one reported was at Heddon on 24th (JSB).

Sand Martin:-

2 at Whittledene on 22nd were the last seen for this month (IH).

Blue Tit:-

During first week of month, many passing through Bamburgh. Large number in Avenue, Seaton Delaval on 21st (AB).

Coal Tit:-

4 immigrants at Hauxley on 3rd (HRS).

Tree Creeper:-

On the 6th, 2 arrived at Hauxley (HRS).

Fieldfare:-

Birds flying over Benton on 16th and 17th (IH). There were 10 at Priors Park, Tynemouth by 20th and on 23rd a large immigration took place. 700 came in at St. Mary's Island and 255 arrived on the 26th (SSH). A few at Hauxley on 20th and many moving in on 26th and 27th (HRS). Over 1,000 counted flying W. over the Farnes on 26th while 150 were feeding on Staple Island (MH).

Song Thrush:-

Small parties arrived during the last fortnight. c50 were counted on the Farnes on 26th (MH).

Redwing:-

Numbers increased slowly at first, but a high peak of arrival was attained on 14th and 23rd/27th. 2 at Bamburgh on 3rd (PRE) when 20

came in at Hauxley (HRS). c500 at Gosforth Park on 14th (BG) when flocks of up to 50 were passing over Killingworth. There were 80 at Priors Park on 20th and 450 were counted coming in at St. Mary's Island on 23rd and 235 on 26th (SSM).

Blackbird:-

Influxes occurred at the same time as those of the other thrushes, namely on the 3rd, and from 23rd to 27th. On the 23rd at Bamburgh an influx of 80 per hour with Redwings during the afternoon, while at St. Mary's Island 134 came in (JSB/SSM) against moderate S.W. wind. The 26th saw over 100 arrive at Hartley and 125 on the Inner Farne (SSM/MM). c100 in Whitley Bay Cemetery on 31st (FC).

Wheatear:-

The 26th saw the last records, 5 near Hartley (SSM/MM) and 1 on Farnes (M).

Whinchat:-

2 single birds:- 1 at Bondicar until 5th (HRS) and 1 at Seaton Burn on 20th (M).

Redstart:-

1 at Priors Park and another at Tynemouth Park on 3rd (SSM). 1 on Farnes on 26th (MM).

Robin:-

A slight influx was noted on 20th at Whitley Bay, Tynemouth and Hauxley. A large number noted in Avenue, Seaton Delaval on 21st (AB).

Blackcap:-

A female at Hauxley on 4th and a male on 12th (HRS).

Barred Warbler:-

1 trapped at Hauxley on 26th was an adult (HRS).

Garden Warbler:-

3 birds:- 1 at Hauxley on 5th, 1 at Monks House on 8th and the last reported for this month at Gosforth on 20th (HRS/PRE/JPD).

Whitethroat:-

1 at Monks House on 10th (PRE).

Lesser Whitethroat:-

A single bird on the Farnes on 26th (M).

Phyloscopus:-

1 at Hauxley on 20th and another at Hartley on 27th (MN/HRS).

*Chiffchaff:-

The Chiffchaff trapped on 21st September at Hauxley belonged to the "trestis" (Siberian race) and not to the "abietinus" (Scandinavian race) as stated (HRS). My apologies! (MB).

Goldcrest:-

An influx of 12 at Hauxley on 12th (HRS).

Pied Flycatcher:-

Last reports were of 2 at Whitley Bay Cemetery on the 20th and 3 on 21st (SSM).

Dunnock:-

A continental bird was trapped at Hauxley on 12th (BG) and another at Holywell Dene on 20th (AB), while an influx was also noted a little farther S. at Cresswell on 12th (BG), also large numbers were noted at Seaton Delaval and Holywell Dene on 20th (AB).

Yellow Wagtail:-

1 at Whitley Bay Cemetery on 26th (JSB et al.).

Waxwing:-

1 at Holy Island on 30th (BL).

Goldfinch:-

3 at Bamburgh on 27th (MM/JMB).

Siskin:-

2 flew in on 11th at Bamburgh (MM/CW).

Twite:-

1 at Hauxley on 19th (HRS).

Bullfinch:-

At Pigdon there were 10 on 19th (Mi).

Brambling:-

1 at Monks House on 3rd (PRE) and another at Hauxley on 20th (HRS).

On 23rd, 8 arrived at St. Mary's Island and on 26th, 21 came in there while 12 were seen at Hauxley (SSM/HRS).

Snow Bunting:-

2 at Hartley on 12th (SSM). 3 other birds were seen at other sites during the first half of month and on 26th/27th, 2 were in the Monks House area and 1 at St. Mary's Island (SSM/MM/et al.).

List of Contributors

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E. Robson.

C. Watson.

The next Club Meeting will be held at Y.M.C.A., Blackett Street, Newcastle on 12th December, 1963 at 7.p.m. when an identification quiz will be held. Everyone is invited to attend.

BAMBURGH AND HAUXLEY RINGING STATIONS:-

The Committee has been requested to inform Club Members that the above-mentioned ringing stations are on private land, and attendance at these stations is strictly by invitation only. Anyone being found there without an invitation is trespassing.

These traps have cost a great deal and a lot of very hard work has gone into the building of them. The ringing groups concerned, are dependent upon the goodwill of the landowners on whose land the traps have been built, so I am sure Club Members will not wish to jeopardise the existence of these ringing stations by going uninvited.

All enquiries for permission etc., are to be sent to:-

MR. C. WATSON (for Bamburgh Ringing Station):-

47 Whitecroft Road, Killingworth Station, Newcastle upon Tyne, 12.
(Telephone No. Newcastle 665096.

MR. B. LITTLE (for Hauxley Ringing Station):-

19 Priestclose Road, Oaklands Estate, Prudhoe on Tyne.

The Ringing Station at Bamburgh is in the Wyndings near the Quarry.

On 30th November, 1963, Mr. B. Little is giving a talk on the "Birds of Northumberland" at Wooler Youth Hostel. All members of the Club and N.E.S. are cordially invited whether they are members of the Y.H.A. or not.

Cost of a Bednight is - Over 16 years - 3s. 6d.

Und. 16 years - 2s. 0d.

Sleeping bags (sheet) 1s. 3d. is required.

Meals can be provided if booked a few days in advance. Evening meal 3s. 0d. Breakfast 2s. 6d. Packed lunch 1s. 6d.

Bookings to:- The Warden, Youth Hostel, Cheviot Street, Wooler.

REPORTS FOR NOVEMBER TO BE SENT TO M. BELL NOT LATER THAN
7TH DECEMBER, 1963 PLEASE.

T Y N E S I D E B I R D C L U B

NOVEMBER, 1963 BULLETIN

CLASSIFIED LIST

X Denotes record being considered by Rarities Committee.

Divers:-

c40 on sea at Cresswell on 3rd (IH).

Red-throated Diver:-

Odd ones off Hauxley during month (HRS). 10 off Stag Rocks on 10th (MH).

Great Crested Grebe:-

1 at Whittledene Reservoir on 3rd (JSB).

Fulmar:-

C30 at Bamburgh Castle on 30th (ER et al).

Heron:-

On 16th, 1 at Whingates Moor and another at Hartburn (IH).

Mallard:-

Very few at Holywell on 26th (CED). 120 in Gosforth on 24th (MM).

Teal:-

c60 at Holywell on 26th (CED).

Wigeon:-

c5000 at Fenham Flats on 3rd and 550 off Seaton Sluice on 10th (JDP). 60 at Holywell Ponds on 26th (CED). On 30th, 80 at Seaton Sluice (MN) and c1800 at Holborn Moss (ER). 85 at Hartburn on 16th (MH).

Pintail:-

Over 20 at Holborn Moss on 30th (ER).

Scaup:-

A male at Tynemouth from 1st to 8th (EC/SM). 2 females at Hauxley on 2nd (HRS).

Tufted Duck:-

Increases at Seaton Burn from 6 on 16th to 40 on 30th (BG). c120 at Holywell Ponds on 26th (CED). 15 at Wingates and 15 at Hartburn on 16th (MH).

Pochard:-

147 at Whittledene Reservoir on 3rd (JSB). 25 at Gosforth Park on 16th (MH) and c20 at Holywell on 26th (CED).

Goldeneye:-

Single birds at Cresswell on 3rd and Gosforth Park on 9th (IH/BG). On 16th, 7 at Wingates Moor and 8 at Hartburn (IH). 8 at Holywell Ponds on 26th (4 males) and 21 at Bolam on 30th (CED/JDP).

Velvet Scoter:-

1 at Seaton Sluice on 2nd and 3 on 10th (SM/CED). 2 off Stag Rocks on 10th (MH).

Common Scoter):-

Eider

None at Seaton Sluice on 24th and 26th. Rather unusual at this time of year (CED). c500 Common Scoter and c300 Eiders off Stag on 10th (MH).

Red-breasted Merganser:-

1 at Whitley Bay on 23rd (JSB). 6 off Stag Rocks on 10th (MM).

Grey Lag Goose:-

On 16th, 1 at Hauxley (HRS), and 139 near Rothbury (IH). c200 at Holborn on 30th, of which 90 flew on to the "Moss" to roost (ER).

Bean Goose:-

A single bird at Whittledene on 13th (ELA).

Mute Swan:-

284 in Budle Bay/Fenham Flats areas on 3rd (JDP).

/Whooper Swan

Whooper Swan:-

On 3rd, 47 at Fenham Flats and 5 at Ashington (JDP/PY). 11 flew over Killingworth on 11th (BG). 13 at Holywell Ponds on 23rd (JDP). 30 at Hartburn on 16th (IH). 13 at Grindon Lough on 20th (ELA). 34 at Linton by 27th (IH). Last months herd was still present throughout the month at Swallow Ponds. One found dead, was presumed to have struck the overhead cables (FC).

Common Buzzard:-

1 flew S. over Seaton Burn on 16th (BG).

Honey Buzzard:-

1 at Holywell Dene on 2nd (JDP).

Sparrow Hawk:-

A male at Haydon Bridge on 1st (ELA) and another at Hauxley on 16th (HRS).

Peregrine:-

A male at Hauxley on 23rd was preying on Golden Plover (HRS).

Merlin:-

A female present at Hauxley throughout month (HRS).

Water Rail:-

Many heard calling in Gosforth Park during month (BG). 1 at Hauxley on 10th (HRS).

Coot:-

1115 at Hartburn on 16th (IH). A fall from 130 at Seaton Burn on 16th to 70 on 30th (BG).

Ostercatcher:-

Over 85 at St. Mary's Island on 27th (CED).

Lapwing:-

3 - 400 came ashore on 2nd at Hartley (MN). A flock of 2000 near Plessey on 23rd (ELA). 400 at Marsdon on 30th (MN). Flocks coming in off sea at end of month (MN).

Grey Plover:-

On 7th, there were 27 in Cresswell area (IH) and 7 flew N.E. at Hauxley. Odd ones during the rest of month (HRS).

Golden Plover:-

Up to 3000 at Hauxley during month (HRS).

Snipe:-

On 3rd, several were noted coming in at Hauxley and 53 were counted at Whittledene Reservoir (HRS/JSB).

Woodcock:-

At Hauxley, there were 3 on 2nd, 1 on 10th and 2 on 17th (HRS). Single birds at Gosforth on 17th and 20th, at North Shields on 20th and Bolan on 30th. 1 at Whitley Bay Cemetery (MN).

Green Sandpiper:-

1 at Holywell Ponds on 30th (CED).

Knot:-

A maximum at Seaton Sluice of 250 on 17th (CED).

Purple Sandpiper:-

67 at Seaton Sluice on 23rd (JDP).

Sanderling:-

A maximum of 105 at St. Mary's Island on 27th (CED). Up to 80 during first two weeks of month at Hauxley (HRS). c50 at Cresswell on 3rd (MN).

Arctic Skua:-

1 at Seaton Sluice on 3rd (CED). 3 at Stag Rocks on 10th (MN).

Great Skua:-

2 flew N. off Hauxley on 2nd (HRS).

Lesser Black Backed Gull:-

1 (of British Race) at Seaton Burn on 16th (BG).

'Comic' Tern:-

On 9th, 1 at Seaton Sluice and 2 at St. Mary's Island (MN).

/Wood Pigeon

Wood Pigeon:-

A flock of 700 flew S. over Gosforth on 8th (ER).

Long-eared Owl:-

c6 in Gosforth Park during month (BG). 2 trapped at Hauxley on 2nd (HRS).

Short-eared Owl:-

Single birds at St. Mary's Island on 2nd and Tynemouth on 4th (CED/FC). 2 in Whitley Bay Cemetery on 2nd (Mli).

Green Woodpecker:-

1 (on telegraph pole) at Hauxley on 30th (HRS).

Greater Spotted Woodpecker:-

3 flew up the Old Waggon Way at Hartley on 2nd, almost certainly immigrants (JDP).

Skylark:-

Coasting movements were noted at Hauxley on 2nd, 9th and 16th (HRS). Part of this movement was noted at Cresswell on 3rd (IH).

Swallow:-

At Hauxley, 1 on 3rd, 2 on 9th and 3 on 10th (HRS). 1 at Blyth Cemetery on 2nd (MN).

House Martin:-

1 in Newcastle on 3rd (PH) and 1 at Warkworth on 16th (ER).

Raven:-

1 flew over Bamburgh on 9th (AD et al).

Hooded Crow:-

Single birds at Hauxley on 2nd, and at Whittledene and Alnmouth on 3rd (HRS/JSB/PY).

Jackdaw:-

A bird in Forest Hall has white wing bar on upper wing which is very prominent in flight (FC).

Treecreeper:-

1 at Hauxley on 10th (HRS) and 3 - 4 at Bolam on 30th (JDP).

"Turdidae":-

Small flocks arriving at Hauxley on 1st and 2nd (HRS). Large numbers in Gosforth Park area by 9th (BG).

Fieldfare:-

c40 at Seaton Burn on 16th, increased to over 200 on 30th (BG). c40 North of Hartburn on 16th (Mli).

Redwing:-

cl50 at Arcot Hall on 20th (Mli).

Blackbird:-

An ad. female Blackbird ringed at Upper Holywell Dene on 6.1.63 was recovered on 27.7.63 at Tostamaa ((Parnu) Estonia. (58° 21' N) (23° 59' E) (AD).

Wheatear:-

Two reports, each of single birds, at Hartley on 2nd (MN) and at Acklington on 5th (ELA).

Robin:-

An influx at Hauxley on 2nd - 3rd when cl7 were trapped (HRS).

"Acrocephalus":-

3 at Hauxley on 2nd. 1 trapped was a 1st. winter Reed Warbler (HRS).

Blackcap:-

At least 3 at Hauxley on 2nd and 3rd when 2 were at Cresswell (HRS/IH). 1 at Tynemouth on 4th (FC).

XSubalpine Warbler:-

An adult male was trapped at Hauxley on 2nd. On the 3rd, it was observed again, and occasionally it sang (HRS).

Will/Chiff:-

c6 at Hauxley on 2nd and one was identified as a "tristig" Chiffchaff. At least 2 present the next day (HRS), one being a Northern Chiffchaff.

Goldcrest:-

On the 2nd, an influx noted. c80 at Hauxley and 20 at Hartley; many of these remaining in these and adjoining areas until the 10th (HRS/MN).

Firecrest:-

At least 2 at Hauxley on 2nd to 3rd (HRS).

Pied Flycatcher:-

A first winter bird at Hauxley on 2nd and 3rd (HRS).

Dunnock:-

15 - 20 at Cresswell on 3rd (IH).

Waxwing:-

c20 from 13th to 20th in North Shields, the largest flock being one of 18, 5 at Monkseaton on 16th (SH). 3 in Whitley Bay and 2 at Earsdon on 10th (per JDP). c20 came in at Bamburgh on evening of 9th (AB). 9 in the centre of Newcastle from 20th to end of month (RMP et al). 10 at Benton, Newcastle on 4th and 3 on 8th (IH). 9 in Warkworth on 16th (ER). Many single birds reported from throughout the county.

Great Grey Shrike:-

1 at Holywell Dene on 2nd (JDP) and another at Tynemouth on 4th (FC).

Starling:-

A new roost at Hartburn of at least a million birds (IH/MN).

Goldfinch:-

A few at Seaton Burn on 30th (EG).

Redpoll:-

A flock of c40 at Hauxley on 9th (HRS).

Bullfinch:-

6 at Hauxley on 16th (HRS) and c6 roosting in Gosforth Park on 20th (FC). 10 at Netherwitton on 16th (MH).

Brambling:-

c10 at Hauxley on 2nd (HRS). 2 at Cresswell on 3rd (IH) and 8 at Tynemouth on 4th (FC).

Yellowhammer:-

c40 at Arcot Hall on 20th (MH).

Snow Bunting:-

9 at St. Mary's Island on 2nd (SH). 2 at Hauxley on 9th (HRS) and 30 at Warkworth on 16th (ER) and several at Wingates (MH).

List of Contributors

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B.T.O. Enquiry on Inland Roosting of Gulls

Information is required about any inland gull roosts occupied during the second half of December. The maximum number of birds using the roost and the species concerned should be reported.

Last year the only roosts found were at Colt Crag reservoir and Ashington Ponds. Details about these sites and any new ones should be sent in to M. Bell so that they can be passed on to the B.T.O. Regional Representative.

We are informed that one of our Club members, Mr. E. Meek, broke his leg whilst playing rugby football. The Club members wish him a speedy and complete recovery from this unfortunate accident.

The Committee wish to extend to all our members and friends the seasons greetings for Xmas and New Year.

SUMMARY

The main movement of birds during December came with the spell of cold weather from the 13th until the end of the month. This was reflected in the movement of Turdidae, especially Redwings at roosts in Gosforth Park and Tynemouth. At the Gosforth Park roosts, Redwings and Song Thrushes were in reasonable numbers at the beginning of the month, but by the end, very few were to be seen. The reverse happened at the Tynemouth roost, where there were very few Redwings at the beginning of the month, but by the 28th, it was estimated that there were over 300 birds roosting along with other Turdidae. Also on the 20th of the month 500+ Redwings passed through the Tynemouth Park during the day. Of the Turdidae, the Fieldfare seems to be the most scarce, very few flocks were reported.

The 27th - 29th was notable for the large passage of Lapwings, thousands being noted flying S. off Hauxley and large numbers coming in off the sea at Tynemouth. On the 31st large numbers of Divers and Duck were reported. This movement was probably due to the cold weather in Scandinavia at the time, reaching S.E. England about the 9th January.

Two Chiff-Chaff were reported in the county during the month at a time when we expect these warblers to be thousands of miles away. Reported for the third year running was a Great Grey Shrike. Other late visitors were a Green Sandpiper and a Spotted Redshank.

Below is given a list of rarities which have appeared in previous bulletins as having been sent to the Club Rarities Committee and have now been accepted or rejected by the above-mentioned Committee. Rejection of a record should not be taken as a slur on the observers concerned but that there was insufficient information given to enable complete acceptance of a record.

Records which have been accepted:-

Purple Heron.	24-25. 4.63.	Cresswell.	(MM et al).
Spotted Crake.	1.7.63.	Ponteland.	(per ER).
White Rumped Sandpr.	29-30. 9.63.	Whittle Dene.	(BL et al).
Red-throated Pipit.	7-8. 9.63.	Hauxley.	(H.R.S.).
Lesser Kestrel.	19.10.63.	Hauxley.	(ER).
Money Buzzard.	2.11.63.	Nr. Hartley.	(JDP).
Subalpine Warbler.	2-3.11.63.	Hauxley.	(H.R.S. et al).
Spotted Crake.	23&25.12.63.	Gosforth Park.	(ER/IH).

Records which have not been accepted:-

Marsh Harrier.	26.4.63.	Chevington.	(EJN).
Money Buzzard.	23.6.63.	Whitley Bay.	(DH).

Recently some doubt has been expressed as to the possibilities of a definite identification between Reed and Marsh Warblers. Until the position is clarified, all future reports of Reed/Marsh Warblers will be entered under "Acrocephalus" showing characteristics of Reed or Marsh Warbler.

CLASSIFIED LIST

Divers:-

Over 300 in Cresswell Bay on 31st (MM/BE).

Great Northern Diver:-

3+ at Cresswell on 31st (MM/BE) and 1 at Seaton Sluice on 26th (DR). Another at Hauxley on 27th (H.R.S.).

Black-throated Diver:-

At least 1 at Cresswell on 31st (MM/BE).

/Red-throated

Red-throated Diver:-

Frequent off all the coastline during month. A flock of 8 flew N. off Hauxley on 27th (H.R.S.) and over 16 off Ross Back Sands on 31st (MB/CW).

Great Crested Grebe:-

1 off Stag Rocks on 31st (MB/CW).

Slavonian Grebe:-

On 31st, 2 at Cresswell and 2 off Stag Rocks (MM/MB).

Little Grebe:-

1 at Whittle Dene on 29th (JSB/IHA).

Fulmar:-

Prospecting around Lamburgh in early half of month (MM/DC/CW).

Gannet:-

An adult flew S. off Stag Rocks on 8th (MM/JMB).

Shag:-

c400 on sea off Stag on 8th (MM/JMB).

Mallard:-

100 at Cresswell on 1st, rose to c250 on 31st (MM/BE). Maximums of 20 at Holywell on 7th and 219 at Whittle Dene on 15th (CED/IHA). 65 at Hallington and c550 at Colt Crag on 29th and 35 at Gosforth Park on 24th (MM).

Teal:-

On 7th at Prestwick Carr c180 (ER). A maximum of 20 at Holywell Ponds on 7th (CED) and 60 at Gosforth Park on 22nd (BG). c100 on sea at Cresswell on 31st (MM/BE).

Wigeon:-

Over 400 off Stag Rocks on 31st (MB). 100 at Cresswell during month, c70 at Hallington and 10 at Colt Crag on 29th (MM). On 21st at Holywell 40 and at least 100 off Seaton Sluice (CED). 25 at Whittle Dene on 28th (JSB/IHA).

Pintail:-

6 at Colborn Moss on 6th and 1 at Gosforth Park on 31st (DR). 3 at Holywell Ponds on 28th and 1 at Whittle Dene on 30th (PR).

Shoveler:-

1 at Cresswell on 6th (M). 4 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 14th (JDP).

Scaup:-

Single females at Holywell Ponds on 7th and Seaton Sluice on 26th (CED/DR). 1 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 21st (SM). 2 at Cresswell Pond on 1st (MM/IH).

Tufted Duck:-

On 7th, 70 at Gosforth Park and c60 at Holywell Ponds (ER/CED). Rising in numbers at Whittle Dene to 307 on 29th (JSB/IHA). On 29th, 3 at Hallington and 2 at Colt Crag (MM).

Pochard:-

50 at Gosforth Park on 1st (EG). c60 at Holywell Ponds on 7th, thereafter none (CED). 76 at Whittle Dene on 22nd (JSB/IHA). 3 at Hallington on 29th (MM).

Goldeneye:-

8 at Gosforth Park on 1st (BG). 3 at Holywell on 7th (CED) and 5 flew N. off Seaton Sluice the following day (ER). Maximum of 11 at Whittle Dene on 30th (PR). 2 at Cresswell throughout month and at least one pair at Colt Crag on 29th (MM). 3 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 14th (JDP).

Long-tailed Duck:-

Over 50 off Stag Rocks on 8th (MM/JMB) dropped to 2 on 31st (MB). 5 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 14th (JDP).

Velvet Scoter:-

1 flew N. off Seaton Sluice on 14th (SM) and a male off Stag Rocks on 30th (PR). 2 off Stag Rocks on 21st (DC/MM). Total of 17 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 14th (JDP).

Common Scoter:-

A maximum of c400 off Stag Rocks on 8th (JMB/MM). c40 at Seaton Sluice on 29th (CED).

Eider:-

At Stag Rocks, c200 on 8th and c100 on 21st (MM). 20 at Seaton Sluice on 28th (PR).

Red-breasted Merganser:-

25 at Cresswell on 31st (MM/BE) and a maximum off Stag Rocks of 11 on 8th (JMB). 1 off Hauxley on 28th and 1 off Seaton Sluice on 29th (H.R.S/CED). 5 flew S. off St. Mary's Island on 14th (JDP).

Goosander:-

14 at Whittle Dene on 8th and 13 on 29th (JSB/IHA). 1 at Hallington and 21 at Colt Crag on 29th (MM).

Snew:-

A female at Bolam on 12th (TW).

Shelduck:-

1 at Whittle Dene on 15th (JSB/IHA). A flock of 42 at Hartley on 24th (MM). Over 250 off Stag Rocks on 21st (MM/DC).

Mute/Whooper Swans:-

On 31st, a flock of 175 at Rudle Bay and 170 on Fenham Flats (PRE).

Whooper Swan:-

14 at Gosforth Park on 7th (ER). 5 at Whittle Dene on 8th (JSB/IHA). 8 birds last seen at Swallow Ponds on 21st (FC). 6 at Bolam Lake on 12th (TW). A maximum of 34 at Holywell Ponds on 28th (per PR).

Sparrow Hawk:-

1 at Whittle Dene on 22nd (JSB/IHA) and 1 at Gosforth Park on 26th (MM).

Peregrine:-

1 at Bamburgh on 21st (MM/DC).

Merlin:-

1 at Palmersville on 14th (PR).

Red Grouse:-

At Colt Crag and 1 at Whittle Dene on 29th (IHA/MM).

Water Rail:-

16 seen in Gosforth Park on 1st (IH). 1 at Bamburgh on 15th (DC/CW) and 3 on 31st (PRE).

Spotted Crake:-

1 seen on separate occasions by different observers. On 25th (ER) and 23rd (IH).

Moorhen:-

70-80 at Swallow Ponds during first fortnight (MM).

Coot:-

10 on 28th, these being the first noted since the Spring (JSB/IHA). 75 at Holywell Ponds on 21st and only 30 on 29th due to icing over (CED).

Lapwing:-

Over 2000 at Cresswell on 1st (MM/IH). Over 200 at Holywell Ponds and 70 feeding on the rocks at St. Mary's Island on 21st (CED/MM). Many thousands flew S. at Hauxley on 27th/28th (H.R.S.). On 29th at North Shields during the early afternoon 500 came in off the sea. $\frac{2}{3}$ of the total travelled in a N.E.-S.W. direction and the remainder flew from E. - N.W. (AB/CE).

Grey Plover:-

4 at Cresswell on 28th (MM).

Golden Plover:-

c40 at Bamburgh on 21st (MM) and at Holywell (CED). A regular flock of 5000 at Hauxley during month (HRS) and c500 at Whittle Dene (JSB/IHA).

Turnstone:-

40-100 at Cresswell throughout month and 40 at Bamburgh on 21st (MM/DC).

Common Snipe:-

On 1st, 140 at Gosforth Park (IH). 16 at Whittle Dene on 15th and 2 on 28th (IHA). c130 at Ashington on 1st to 6th (IH). 30-40 at Cresswell throughout month (MH). 2 at Bamburgh (MH/DC) on 21st.

Jack Snipe:-

16 at Gosforth Park on 1st (IH), dropping to 3 on 28th (MH). 1 nr. St. Mary's Island on 21st (CED).

Woodcock:-

2 at Tynemouth during month (AB), and 10 at Gosforth Park on 26th (MH). 1 at Bamburgh on 21st (DC).

Green Sandpiper:-

1 at Gosforth Park on 8th and another wintering on River Pont (ER).

Spotted Redshank:-

1 nr. causeway to Holy Island on 31st (PRE).

Knot:-

300 at Seaton Sluice on 22nd (MH).

Dunlin:-

100 at Cresswell on 1st rose to c150 by 31st (MH).

Sanderling:-

c30 at Hauxley during month (H.R.S.) and a maximum of 40 at Cresswell on 6th (MH). 50+ at St. Mary's Island on 24th (MH). 6 at Gosforth Park on 29th (JPD).

Arctic Skua:-

1 flew S. off St. Mary's Island on 14th (JDP). 3 at St. Mary's Island on 7th (MH).

Lesser Black Backed Gull:-

1 at Swallow Ponds on 28th and 5 at Hallington on 29th (FC/MH).

Common Gull:-

A roost of well over 2000 at Colt Crag on 29th (MH).

Black-headed Gull:-

An albino at Ashington on 6th was completely white except for a black crescent behind the eye and pink bill and legs (MH).

Auks:-

c15 off Cresswell on 31st (MH).

Stock Dove:-

A flock of c100 flew S. at Whittle Dene on 8th (JSB/IHA).

Barn Owl:-

A light phase at Hauxley on 21st (H.R.S.).

Little Owl:-

1 at Bamburgh on 15th (MH).

Tawny Owl:-

1 at Hauxley on 27th (H.R.S.).

Long-eared Owl:-

7 at Gosforth Park on 7th (ER). 7 roosting in Holywell Dene during month (JDF).

Short-eared Owl:-

A bird at Whittle Dene on 28th (JSB/IHA). 1 in off sea at St. Mary's Island on 14th (JDF).

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker:-

1 at Gosforth Park on 7th (ER).

Skylark:-

Notable influx at Cresswell on 31st (BE).

Carriion Crow:-

A flock of 71 at Whittle Dene on 8th (JSB/IHA).

Hooded Crow:-

1 at Gosforth Park on 22nd (BG) and c20 nr. Ponteland on 26th (ER).

Rook/Jackdaw:-

A roost of many thousands at Prestwick Carr.

Maggie:- 1 on frozen Gosforth Park lake on 22nd (BG). 2 at Bamburgh on 21st (CW) and 3 at Cresswell during month (M).

Jay:- 2 at Cresswell on 31st (BE/MM). first there for many years.

Turdidae:-
A roost of 1000 at Tynemouth (AB). Influx at Bamburgh on 21st/22nd (MM/DC).

Fieldfare:-
c40 at Cresswell on 31st (MM). 2 at Tynemouth during month (AB).

Song Thrush:-
Influx of c100 at Cresswell on 31st (BE).

Redwing:-
Small numbers came ashore at Hartley and Tynemouth on 24th (MN). The roost at Tynemouth rose to 300 by end of month (AB). On 20th, numbers of Redwings estimated at c500+ passed through Northumberland Park, Tynemouth (per AB).

Robin:-
12 in a hedge at Bamburgh on 14th/15th (CW et al).

Chiff-chaff:-
2 at Bamburgh on 29th and 31st (PRE).

Grey Wagtail:-
1 at Dunle Bay on 21st and 31st (MM/PRE).

Waxwing:-
2 in Tynemouth on 14th (SH) and 1 at Bamburgh on 31st (PRE).

Great Grey Shrike:-
An adult at Bamburgh on 14th/15th (MM/CW/DC).

Goldfinch:-
At Whittle Dene, 5 on 15th (JSB/IHA). 2 at Swallow Ponds on 28th (FC).

Bullfinch:-
2 at Hauxley on 22nd and 3 on 27th (H.R.S.). 3 at Gosforth Park on 15th (DR). 4 at Bamburgh on 8th (MM). 4 at Houghton Grange on 29th and 4 at Cresswell on 31st (MM).

Chaffinch:-
On 29th, c400 at Kirkley and 200 at Hallington (MM).

Brambling:-
c60 at Prestwick Carr on 26th and present until end of month (ER). 3 at Cresswell on 6th (MM).

Yellowhammer:-
c40 at Cresswell on 1st rose to c200 on 31st (MM/BE).

Snow Bunting:-
1 at Cresswell on 6th (MM). 5 over Howdon on 22nd (DR). 12 on Town Moor on 23rd (PR). 1 at Seal on 31st (PRE).

Tree Sparrow:-
A resident flock of c100 throughout month at Whittle Dene (JSB/IHA).

CONTRIBUTORS

I. M. Armstrong.	F. Colley.	B. Galloway.	J. D. Parrack.
J. M. Bayldon.	D. Collinson.	I. Harrison.	D. Richardson.
R. Bell.	J. P. Deacon.	Hauxley Ringing Station.	E. Robson.
A. Belshaw.	C. D. Douglas.	M. Marquiss.	P. Routledge.
C. Belshaw.	B. Etheridge.	S. Hoffitt.	C. Watson.
J. S. Booth.	F. R. Evans.	M. Nattrass.	T. Winter.

Would Members visiting Gosforth Park Sanctuary please not wander into the Scouts Park. The boundary to Gosforth Park Sanctuary on the north and N.E. sides is the Race Course and land to the north of this is strictly private and separate from the Bird Sanctuary.

The Natural History Society Annual Report for 1962 is now available to Club Members at the price of 4s. 6d. per copy. Will members who require a copy write to Mr. A. Belshaw, 29 Lovaine Place, North Shields.

The next meeting of the Tyneside Bird Club will be held in the Y.M.C.A., Blackett Street, Newcastle upon Tyne on Thursday, 13th February, 1964, at 7.p.m. Mr. F. Yeoman will give a talk on ringing.

All reports etc., should reach M. Bell (address given below) by 7th February, 1964.

Please note the following addresses:-

Secretary:-

Mr. C. Douglas, 25 Briardene Road, Whitley Bay, Northumberland.

Treasurer:-

Mr. A. Belshaw, 29 Lovaine Place, North Shields, Northumberland.

Recorder:-

Mr. M. Bell, 15 Rosewood Crescent, Walkerville, Newcastle 6.

During the early part of January 1964 a large number of sea birds were found in an oiled condition all along the coastline. Will members having any records of oiled birds please send them to A. A. Belshaw (address given above).

COMMITTEES

J. A. Armstrong	A. Galloway	J. A. Barrack
J. A. Barrack	J. A. Barrack	J. A. Barrack
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