

TYNESIDE BIRD CLUB

JANUARY 1965 BULLETIN

SUMMARY

Northerly winds until the 3rd changed due to an anticyclone which moved into France by the 5th. West winds on the 6th continued to the 12th when a series of troughs and ridges crossed the area. A stormy period followed and westerly winds dominated until the 24th, due to depressions coming across the Atlantic. A rise in pressure on the 24th led to development of East or N.E. winds which persisted until the end of the month.

The most interesting record of January was that of an American Bittern (which has yet to be accepted by the Rarities Committee) on the 17th. It is interesting to note that a bird of this species was seen in Ireland in December. There were very low numbers of water fowl recorded for this month of the year, even Common Scoters and Long-tailed Ducks being few and far between at the north of Northumberland. An unusual record is that of a Green Sandpiper at Whittle Dene, as are those of Skuas which were seen at odd times (and confirmed by several people) during the month.

It is pleasant to report a Glaucous and Iceland Gull (both almost certainly due to periods of northerly winds which were in force before their occurrence). A Blackcap at Alnwick is the only recorded of a wintering warbler so far this year.

Classified List

Divers:-

On 31st, 10 flew S. off St. Mary's Island (JDF).

Black-throated Diver:-

6 flew S. off St. Mary's Island on 17th when 5 noted at Seaton Sluice (JDP/MH/PB). 2 flew S. at St. Mary's Island on 24th (SM) and on 28th, 1 flew N. (MH/PB). Another single bird at Cresswell on 23rd (MN). On 30th at St. Mary's Island 7 flew N. and 4 flew S. (JDF).

Great Northern Diver:-

Single birds seen off St. Mary's Island on 17th, 24th, 30th and 31st (JDP/SM et al). 1 at Holy Island on 6th and another at Hauxley on 24th (DB/H.R.S.).

Red-throated Diver:-

A total of c80 during month off St. Mary's Island, most of these were seen on 17th and 30th (JDF), on this latter day 90 were at Cresswell 40 of which flew N. (MN). Usual number of c30 present off Ross Links during month. Smaller numbers seen on most days from the usual sea watching points.

Great Crested Grebe:-

1 off Stag Rocks on 1st (RN). 2 near Warkworth Beach on 23rd (TH).

Slavonian Grebe:-

10 off Budle Bay on 1st and 9th, there on 31st (RN/MM).

Little Grebe:-

At Bolan, 1 on 10th and 2 on 29th (TH).

Fulmar:-

81 at Marsden on 5th had increased to 323 by 23rd (MLC) by which date there were 50 on ledges at Holy Island (JKJ).

Gannet:-

6 off Stag Rocks on 2nd (JKJ) and 7 off Holy Island on 12th (TH).

Cormorant:-

1 flew S. off St. Mary's Island on 30th showing much white on face but it was not of the southern race (JDP).

/Heron

Heron:-

A single bird in Holywell Dene on 2nd (CED).

American Bittern:-

Notes have been received of a bird seen near Stannington on 17th by C.W. and L.M. Rather plain, sandy-brown upper parts and black moustachial stripe noted. Rarities Committee's decision will be printed as soon as it is known.

Mallard:-

A maximum at Whittle Dene on 30th of 425 (JSB/IHA). 400 present off Seaton Sluice for most of month. A maximum of 300 at Gosforth Park on 17th, 400 at Hartburn, 280 at Wingates and 450 at Fontburn on 23rd (MM). Numerous parties of smaller size seen elsewhere.

Teal:-

220 at Gosforth Park on 1st rose to c400 on 17th (ER/MH). A maximum of 80 at Holywell Ponds on 24th and on 30th, there were 30 (CED). 230 at Budle Bay on 31st (MM). 10 at Cresswell on 22nd.

Gadwall:-

1 at Hartburn on 23rd (PB/MM/SM).

Wigeon:-

A total of c5000 in Fenham Flats area throughout month (MM/ER et al). 25 at Gosforth Park on 17th, 55 at Cresswell on 22nd and 60 at Hartburn the next day (MN/MM).

Pintail:-

25 at Holborn Moss on 1st (MN). 1 off Seaton Sluice on 9th and 1 at Cresswell Ponds on 13th (JDP/TH). 11 at Fenham Flats on 31st (MM).

Tufted Duck:-

70 at Gosforth Park on 15th (ER) and a similar number at Holywell Ponds on 30th (CED). Maximum of 243 at Whittle Dene on 3rd (JSB/IHA).

Pochard:-

Numbers well down. 12 at Gosforth Park on 17th (MN) and 14 at Holywell Ponds on 30th (CED).

Goldeneye:-

Only flocks exceeding 4 were at Whittle Dene (5) on 24th and at Budle Bay (6) on 31st (MM). Single birds or very small flocks seen at Cresswell, Fontburn, Hartburn, Seaton Sluice, Bolam, Amble, Beadnell and Colt Crag.

Long-tailed Duck:-

1 at South Shields on 2nd (MLC). 2 at Seahouses and 3 off Stag Rocks on 12th (TH). 5 off Ross on 31st (MM). Numbers are well below the normal for this area.

Velvet Scoter:-

2 flew S. off Seaton Sluice on 24th (JMJ). 1 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 28th (PB/MM) and 1 off Seaton Sluice on 31st (MN).

Common Scoter:-

A very low maximum of 170 off Stag Rocks on 12th (TH).

Eider:-

7 in Tyne Harbour on 2nd and 3 males flew N. off Marsden on 30th (MLC). 560 in Fenham Flats and 90 in Budle Bay on 31st (MM).

Red-breasted Merganser:-

Again! Small numbers reported. A maximum off Ross Back Sands of 7 on 31st (MM). A pair flew S. off St. Mary's Island on 13th (JDP).

Goosander:-

At least 23 at Whittle Dene on 24th (TH/JSB).

Smew:-

The female at Hartburn last month was seen again on 19th but was gone by 25th (TH).

Shelduck:-

570 at Fenham Flats and 200 at Budle Bay on 31st (MM). Small numbers seen off St. Mary's Island, Cresswell and Jarrow Slake.

Grey Geese Sp?:-

13 flew S. off St. Mary's Island on 3rd (SM/PB). 70 flew S. over Seaton Delaval on 30th (PB/SM).

Grey Lag Goose:-

On 2nd, 4 at Fenham Flats (ER). 3 flew in from the sea and landed in a stubble field at South Newsham on 17th (JKJ).

Brent Goose (pale breasted):-

700 at Fenham Flats on 2nd and 250 on 17th (ER). Still present at end of month.

Mute Swan:-

230 in Fenham Flats and 220 in Budle Bay on 17th and 31st (ER/MM). 10 at Newburn all month (BG).

Whooper Swan:-

Numbers rose at most ponds throughout the month. 17 at Cresswell on 22nd (MM). 41 at Bolam on 23rd (TH). 9 at Linton on 30th when 5 at Holywell Ponds (PE/SM). 25 at Fenham Flats on 6th (DB) rose to 220 on 31st (MM).

Bewick's Swan:-

2 at Fenham Flats on 2nd and 17th (ER). 10 at Holy Island Lough on 12th (TH).

Sparrow Hawk:-

1 near Sunderland on 13th (PH). 2 at Stannington and Dipton on 23rd and 24th respectively (MM).

Merlin:-

1 at Holywell Dene on 1st (JDP). 1 at Fontburn on 23rd (MM). 1 in Gosforth Park on 30th (BG).

Kestrel:-

Reported from 11 areas close to Newcastle.

Water Rail:-

4 at Gosforth Park on 3rd and 1 at Cresswell on 23rd (MM). 1 at Bolam (JSB/IHA) on 16th.

Moorhen:-

54 in a flooded field near Holywell Ponds on 24th (CED). 60 at Cresswell on 22nd (MM). 70 - 80 at Swallow Ponds on 28th (MH).

Coot:-

Numbers rose during month, by 24th there were 75 at Bolam (TH) and by 30th a low maximum of 40 at Holywell Ponds (CED).

Oystercatcher:-

At least 900 in Budle Bay on 31st (MM).

Lapwing:-

Over 250 at St. Mary's Island on 28th (MH). See table.

Ringed Plover:-

60 at Fenham Flats on 31st (MM).

Grey Plover:-

2 at Cresswell on 13th (TH) and 1 at St. Mary's Island on 16th (MH). 7 on Fenham Flats and 45 in Budle Bay on 31st (MM). See table.

Golden Plover:-

On 13th, there were c700 at Holywell and the next day this had dropped to 350 (JDP). 200 at Tranwell on 19th (MH/PB) and c1000 at St. Mary's Island on 28th. Over 350 were at Bruridge Farm on 29th and 100 at Budle Bay on 31st (TH/MM).

Turnstone:-

90 in Budle Bay on 31st (MM).

Common Snipe:-

Only 4 at Holywell Ponds during month (CED) and a maximum of 10 at Gosforth Park on 31st (RN).

Jack Snipe:-

1 at Gosforth Park on 10th and 3 there on 31st (MH/IH). 1 at Seahouses on 12th (TH).

Woodcock:-

1 at Tynemouth Golf Course on 6th (MH).

Curlew:-

100 at Holy Island on 12th (TH).

/Bar-tailed Godwit

Bar-tailed Godwit:-

Over 1,800 in Budle Bay on 31st and many in Fenham Flats (MM).

Green Sandpiper:-

On 9th, 10th and 24th, 1 present at Whittle Dene (JSB/IHA).

Redshank:-

27 near Holywell Ponds on 10th and c60 there on 24th (CEO).

Knot:-

Over 900 at Budle Bay on 12th (TH) and a maximum of 500 at St. Mary's Island area during month (MH).

Sanderling:-

50 at South Shields and a similar sized flock at Whitburn for most of month (MLC). c75 in Fenham Flats and 30 in Budle Bay on 31st (MM).

Skua Sp?:-

A single bird flew S. off St. Mary's Island on 17th (JDP).

Arctic Skua:-

2 dark phase birds off Bamburgh on 2nd (MN/JKJ). 3 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 31st (SM).

Glaucous Gull:-

At St. Mary's Island on 9th a single bird flew N. (MH).

Iceland Gull:-

An adult at Blyth Harbour on 28th (TH).

Auks:-

A sea movement off St. Mary's Island on 31st included Guillemots, Razorbills and Puffins in small numbers (SM).

Wood Pigeon:-

Many large flocks of 900+ flew E. between Seaton Delaval and Morpeth on 30th (SM/PB). By 31st, there were over 1000 in a field at St. Mary's Island (SM).

Collared Dove:-

19 at a Sunderland Park on 23rd (MLC).

Barn Owl:-

A dead bird found at Cresswell on 5th (BE). It has been sent away for analysis.

Tawny Owl:-

A bird was roosting inside the factory of a large engineering firm at Birtley (BE).

Long-eared Owl:-

7 in Gosforth Park on 15th (BR).

Short-eared Owl:-

I have received 6 reports of individuals near the coast, and 1 from an inland haunt.

Skylark:-

Small southerly coasting movement on 2nd, 400 flew N. at Hartley on 5th (JDP). A flock of 350 flew E. down Tyne Valley at Newburn on 27th (BG). c1500 in field at Cleadon on 30th (MLC).

Corvidae:-

Between 8 - 10,000 at a roost near Riding Hill on 24th, comprising of Rooks and Jackdaws (MM).

Magpie:-

2 at Cresswell on 22nd (MM).

Marsh Tit:-

5 at Dipton Woods on 24th (MM).

Long-tailed Tit:-

c40 at Dipton on 24th (MM) and 6 in Gosforth Park (MH).

Dipper:-

2 at Fontburn on 23rd (MM).

Fieldfare:-

c200 near Holywell on 13th and total of 2,100 between Barsdon and Laverock Hall the next day (JDP). Very numerous at Cresswell on 22nd

indicating an influx and c700 between Stannington and Hartburn on 23rd (MM). Flocks of 100 or under at Cleadon Hills, Shankhouse, Washington, St. Mary's Island and Long Benton.

Redwing:-

A small southerly coasting movement was noted near St. Mary's Island on 2nd and 3rd, and by 5th this movement had reversed. C200 near Seaton Delaval on 14th (JDP). An influx occurred c27th, when 20 were near Sunderland (PH). The next day saw 90 at St. Mary's Island and 60 in Holywell Dene (MH) and by 30th there were 100 at Preston and over 70 at Cresswell (MM).

Stonechat:-

Single birds at Druridge on 4th (TH) and Banburgh on 8th (B.R.S.).

Blackcap:-

A female was trapped at Alnwick on 24th (BG/ER).

Starling:-

On 28th, 10,000 flew S. over Wallsend in two flocks and c2000 in the fields near Hartley (IH).

Greenfinch:-

At Cleadon Hills there were 2,500 on 31st (MLC).

Goldfinch:-

On 31st, there were 5+ at Holywell Dene (CED) and 13 at Seaton Burn (MM). Smaller numbers reported from Low Horton (2), St. Mary's Island (2), Bruridge (2) and Cresswell (2).

Linnet:-

Over 1,200 at Cleadon Hills on 30th (MLC).

Redpoll:-

15 at Gosforth Park on 10th, 1 of which showed the characteristics of a Healy (MH).

Bullfinch:-

Many flocks of up to 30 were visiting gardens in Alnwick during the early part of the month (ER). 3 in Holywell Dene on 3rd (PB/SM). 13 between Stannington and Hartburn on 23rd and 4 at Riding Mill on 24th (MM).

Crossbill:-

2 in Gosforth Park on 10th (NH/SM) and 30 in Dipton on 24th (IH).

Chaffinch:-

Over 180 at Riding Mill on 24th (MM). A flock of 20 in Cleadon Hills on 30th (MLC) and another flock of 20 at Fenwick Grange on 31st (MM).

Brambling:-

200 at Cleadon Hills on 30th (MLC) when 11 at Tynemouth (MC). Others seen at Hartburn, Plessey, Newsham and North Shields.

Yellowhammer:-

90+ at Riding Mill on 24th and 100 at Fenham Flats on 31st (MM).

Snow Bunting:-

A maximum of 100 at South Shields on 16th and 350 at Whitburn the same day (MLC). c60 at West Boldon on 27th (PH).

Tree Sparrow:-

30 at Cresswell on 22nd and 40 at Fenwick Grange on 31st (MM).

On 17th, E. Robson made a count of some of the waders at Fenham Flats. His results are as follows:-

Lapwing	500
Grey Plover	30
Redshank	1400
Dunlin	1200
Knot	2600

All notes for February to be sent in by 9th March, 1965 in Wetmore order please.

/List

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SYNCRONISED SEA WATCH

On 27th February, 1965 there is to be a sea watch and all members are asked to turn up at the coast complete with watch, notebook and telescope (or binoculars). It is hoped that there will be coverage from Holy Island to Whitburn Point. Could you send all notes for that day (with times please) on a separate sheet of paper, with your usual notes, and I can then forward the sea and water details to J. D. Parrack, who will be analysing the result.

The next Club Meeting will be held at the Y.M.C.A., Blakett Street, Newcastle upon Tyne on Thursday, 11th March, 1965 at 7.p.m.

TYNESIDE BIRD CLUB

FEBRUARY 1965 BULLETIN

SUMMARY

For the first three days of the month an anticyclone was centred over the area, but from the 4th - 7th, it moved slowly N.W. and later, from the 8th until the 11th moved to the S.W. of Ireland. The resulting winds during this time were from the W. (2nd., 3rd., 9th., 10th., 11th.) and on the remaining days were very strong from the N. On the 12th, a depression brought W. and then on the 13th strong northerly winds as it moved over the continent. The gales moderated on the 14th as pressure rose again with winds from N.W. and on the 17th S.E. winds were due to an anticyclone which gave easterly winds until the 21st. This anticyclone moved to the Denmark Strait on the 22nd and remained there until the end of the month, and with a low pressure area over N.W. Germany, northerly dominated until the 26th. On the 27th, a small depression in the North Sea gave N.E. winds and snow on the 28th.

A Blackcap on the 27th was the second reported this year.

A very quiet month with duck, diver and grebe numbers well below normal, besides those of Turdidae!

Classified List

Divers:-

24 flew N. in 15 minutes during a westerly gale on 11th at Cresswell (TW) and there were 20 here on 27th (RN).

Black-throated Diver:-

1 off St. Mary's Island on 7th (MH) and 2 flew N. on 13th (MN). 3 flew N. off Newbiggin and 2 off Seaton Sluice on 27th (SN/MB).

Great Northern Diver:-

Single birds seen at St. Mary's Island on 7th and Cresswell on 21st. 2 flew N. off Hauxley on 28th (H.R.S.).

Red-throated Diver:-

Many single birds and small parties noted throughout month, though the largest seen was of only 11 off St. Mary's Island on 7th (MN).

Slavonian Grebe:-

1 off Ross Back Sands on 7th (MLC).

Little Grebe:-

2 at Bolam on 7th (JMJ).

Fulmar:-

Over 50 off Cullernose with 10 on the ledges on 7th (JSB/IHA).

Gannet:-

On 27th, 6 flew N. off Newbiggin (MN), when 9 were seen off Whitburn (MLC).

Cormorant:-

At Jarrow Slake on 28th, there were 17 (MLC).

Shag:-

20 off Ross Back Sands on 27th (DB).

Heron:-

2 at Bolam on 11th (TW) and at Dipton on 28th (BE). Single birds reported at Greenlee, Syke Burn, and Hartburn on 6th, Colt Crag on 14th and Nuckle Moss on 20th.

Mallard:-

Largest flocks reported were of 295 at Whittle Dene on 3rd (PJS), 150 at Colt Crag on 6th (RN), 300 at Holywell Ponds on 7th (MH) and 250 at Gosforth Park on 16th (ER). Many smaller flocks elsewhere.

Teal:-

100 at Holywell Ponds on 7th fell to 30 on 20th (CED). Over 90 at Gosforth Park on 14th (CW) and 260 there on 16th (ER). Flocks of c50 in size also seen at Felton, Ashington and Cresswell.

/Wigeon

Wigeon:-

Over 120 present at Grindon Lough during most of month. 90 were at Holywell Ponds from 7th until end of month. On 6th, 40 at Hallington (CW), when 800 off Ross Back Sands and 500 in Budle Bay (DB). 17 at Whittle Dene on 3rd (PJS).

Pintail:-

2 at Holywell on 20th (CW) and 2 at Ashington next day (RN).

Shoveler:-

2 at Gosforth Park on 13th and another pair at Cresswell on 27th (RN).

Tufted Duck:-

Fall in numbers was noted both at Whittle Dene and Holywell Ponds. At Holywell, 120 on 7th fell to 30 by 20th (CW). 60 at Gosforth Park on 16th (ER). On 21st, there were 24 at Swallow Ponds and 10 at Hartburn (RN). 22 at Hallington on 6th (MH).

Pochard:-

Very low numbers reported; 16 at Holywell Ponds on 7th (CED) and on 20th, 50 at Seaton Burn and 30 at Hartburn (CW). Very few small parties seen elsewhere.

Goldeneye:-

On 6th there were c18 at Whittle Dene, 22 at Colt Crag and 4 at Hallington (MN). On 21st, at Cresswell 6, 3 at Hartburn and 4 at Bolam (£N) though there were birds present at Cresswell for most of this month.

Long-tailed Duck:-

Very few seen! On 27th, 5 flew N. off Stag Rocks (DB) and 3 flew N. off Hauxley (H.R.S.).

Velvet Scoter:-

3 off Ross Back Sands on 6th (DB) when 1 seen at South Shields (MLC).

Common Scoter:-

Only one flock of c100 reported from Stag Rocks area on 27th (DB).

Red-breasted Merganser:-

On 6th, over 10 in Stag Rocks locality (DB) and from 21st to 27th 4 at Cresswell (MN). 2 at Hauxley on 27th (H.R.S.).

Goosander:-

A large flock of 38 was present at Hallington during most of month (MH/DH et al), while 22 were seen at Colt Crag on 6th (MH). 9 at Whittle Dene on 14th (JSB/IHA).

Smew:-

The female reported for the last two months was still present at Hartburn on 21st (CW et al).

Grey Lag Goose:-

17 flew E. over Hartley on 21st (PB/SH).

Grey Geese (Sp?):-

8 at Grindon on 6th (RH/MH et al) were almost certainly the 9 Pink-footed which were there from 20th onwards (JSB/IHA).

Brent Goose:-

220 on Fenham Slake on 7th (MLC/TH) and present throughout month.

Canada Goose:-

11 at Colt Crag on 3rd and 14th (DH/RG et al).

Whooper Swan:-

66 at Fenham Flats on 7th (MLC) and besides this flock the largest seen was of 14 at Hallington on 3rd (PJS). Very small herds seen at Colt Crag, Greenlee, Grindon, Swallow Ponds, Gosforth Park and Bolam.

Hen Harrier:-

An adult male on the Simondburn Moor on 3rd (PJS).

Merlin:-

Single birds seen at Greenlee on 6th (MH), Warkworth on 7th (ER) and near Tranwell on 20th (SH).

/Kestrel

Kestrel:-

Usual birds reported including 1 at Rock on 14th (FC).

Moorhen:-

60 at Holywell Ponds on 14th (CED).

Coot:-

50 at Dolan on 6th rose to 75 on 11th (TH). 30 were present during first three weeks of month at Holywell Ponds (CED).

Lapwing:-

550 at Berwick Hill on 6th (BE) and c200 present at Swallow Ponds for most of month. 200 at Cresswell on 21st (RN).

Ringed Plover:-

At Boulmer Haven on 7th there were 25 (JSB/IHA).

Grey Plover:-

2 to 3 birds at Cresswell during month. 2 at Hauxley on 28th (HRS).

Golden Plover:-

100 at Whittle Dene on 7th (SH). 40 at Stannington on 13th and 200 at Rock the next day (BE/FC). 250 at Cresswell on 21st (RN) and on 27th at Hauxley 100 flew in very high from E. (H.R.S.).

Snipe:-

Numbers well down. 20 at Arcott Hall on 1st (BE). 6 at Rock on 7th (FC) and 15 in Gosforth Park on 13th (RN) were the only ones reported.

Jack Snipe:-

Again - very few. 3 at Warkworth on 7th (ER) and 1 at Ashington on 21st (RN).

Woodcock:-

4 at Rock on 14th (FC) and 2 days later 6 in Gosforth Park (ER). Single birds seen at Arcott, Morpeth, Blagdon and Stannington.

Green Sandpiper:-

1 still at Whittle Dene on 14th (JSB/IHA) and 1 near Ponteland at end of month (ER).

Redshank:-

An unusually large flock of 86 at Holywell Ponds on 7th (CW) but only 7 there on 20th. 60 at Cresswell on 27th (RN) and 30 at Harrow Slake the next day (MLC).

Knot:-

300 at St. Mary's Island on 13th (RN) and 120 at Harrow Slake the following day (MLC).

Purple Sandpiper:-

20 at Seaton Sluice on 20th (MN) and 40 roosting near Blyth Pier on 23rd (TH).

Dunlin:-

On 7th, there were c200 at Boulmer and 100 at Cresswell (IHA/MN). 550 at Jarrow Slake on 28th (MLC).

Sanderling:-

52 at South Shields on 2nd (MLC) and 55 at Boulmer Haven on 7th (JSB).

Arctic Skua:-

Taking into consideration the reports given in December and January, it seems as if there is a bird wintering in this area for one was seen off Whitburn on 27th (MLC).

Gulls:-

A large roost at Jarrow Slake on 14th was estimated to contain 280 Greater Black Backs, 4000 Herring, 3000 Common and 1300 Black-headed (MLC).

Collared Dove:-

c20 at Holywell Ponds throughout month.

Barn Owl:-

1 at Morpeth on 13th (BE).

Little Owl:-

2 pairs near Morpeth on 21st (BE).

Tawny Owl:-

At least 3 at Preston (North Shields) during month.

Short-eared Owl:-

A bird present at Cresswell throughout month. 2 at Ross Links on 6th (DB). Other single birds seen at Shiremoor on 7th, Hauxley on 14th and Ashington on 27th.

Magpie:-

c30 in a roost near Morpeth on 13th (BE).

Fieldfare:-

80 at Grindon on 11th (RG/EL/WB) and 95 at Morpeth 2 days later (BE). There were 20 at Gosforth Park on 20th when there were 80 at Swallow Ponds (RN). 150 at Rock on 14th (FC). 40 at Cresswell on 27th rose to c100 by 27th (TH/RN) when 100 at Arcott Hall.

Song Thrush:-

40 in Holywell Dene on 21st (MH).

Redwing:-

Several parties totalling 70 near Morpeth on 13th and 50 near Birtley on 24th (BE). 40 at Preston on 27th (SM).

Blackbird:-

Many thousands roosting with Redwings etc., near Ponteland.

Blackcap:-

A male in Fenham (newcastle) on 27th (TW).

Greenfinch:-

A flock of 100 feeding at Rock on 14th (FC).

Goldfinch:-

5 at Heddon on 7th (JSE/IHA).

Redpoll:-

1 at Fenham le Moor on 1st (TH).

Bullfinch:-

3 at Rock on 14th and 1 in Gosforth Park on 19th (FC). 1 at Hartburn on 21st (RN).

Chaffinch:-

On 14th, c150 in a field near Gosforth Park (IH) and 80 - 100 near Rock with a further flock of 150 (FC).

Brambling:-

on 1st, 20 at Budle Bay and 5 near Widdrington(TH).

Yellowhammer:-

100 near Gosforth Park on 14th (IH).

Corn Bunting:-

9 in Holywell Dene on 7th (MH).

Snow Bunting:-

On 1st, there were 13 at Stag Rocks on 1st (TH) and 22 at South Shields the next day (MLC). 5 at Ross Back Sands on 6th and 2 on 27th (DB).

In an old sprout field near Morpeth, B.E. counted 60 Dunnocks, 120 Greenfinches, 300 Chaffinches, 350 Brambling, 70 Yellowhammers, 110 Reed Buntings and 400 Tree Sparrows.

List of Contributors

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R. Norman. E. Robson. P. J. Stead. C. Ward. T. Winter.

Records for March in by 6th April, 1965 in Wetmore order please.

A.G.M. nominations to be given to any Committee Members no later than 1st April, 1965.

A.G.M. - 8th April, 1965 - 7.p.m. Y.M.C.A., Blackett Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, 1.

TYNESIDE BIRD CLUB

MARCH 1965 BULLETIN

SUMMARY

The month began with strong easterly winds, and from 2nd to 5th a depression moved from Iceland to France, giving variable winds. From 6th, winds were affected by an anticyclone which moved slowly from Iceland to France. On the 12th and until the 18th, a series of troughs crossed the area and S.W. winds predominated at this time. From the 19th to the 23rd, winds were from an easterly quarter due to a trough of low pressure. It was at this time that a Lesser Black-backed Gull and Grey Phalarope were seen. On the 24th the winds were from the W. and by the 26th, when the first Wheatears and Sand Martins were seen, the winds were S.W. due to a small depression. By the 27th a large anticyclone developed to the S. of the country and moved slowly northwards to become centred over the North Sea by the end of the month, the resultant winds being westerly and then backing to S. During this fairly calm spell of weather, Terns, Phylloscopus Warblers and a White Wagtail were observed.

NEW COMMITTEE OF TYNESIDE BIRD CLUB

Chairman - J. P. Deacon, 14 Moorfield, Newcastle upon Tyne, 2.
Secretary - C. E. Douglas, 25 Briardene Road, Whitley Bay.
Treasurer - A. Belshaw, 29 Lovaine Place, North Shields.
Recorder - N. Bell, 15 Rosewood Crescent, Newcastle upon Tyne, 6.

I. H. Armstrong.
F. Colley.
J. D. Farrack.
E. Robson.
T. Winter.

RARITIES

The Club's Rarities Committee have now accepted the undermentioned species seen in 1964, and they should now be removed from the square brackets.

1 adult Water Pipit at Holywell Ponds on 2nd April (JDP).
a Little Gull off Seaton Sluice on 11th April (SM).
A Reed Warbler at Hauxley on 9th May.
A Hen Harrier at Holy Island on 5th May and 1 at Cresswell on 9th May (per MM/ER).
Marsh Harrier at Swallow Ponds on 21st May (FC).
Red-necked Phalarope at Gosforth Park on 16th June (ER/DB et al).
Icterine Warbler at Blyth Cemetery on 16th August (MH/MH).
Sooty Shearwater off Seaton Sluice on 17th August (MH).
2 Red-throated Pipits at Hauxley from 9 - 11th September (H.R.S.).
Icterine Warbler at Blyth Cemetery on 4th September (JDP).
Wilson's Phalarope at Holy Island from 12 - 17th September (PJS et al).
Spoonbill at Budle Bay on 2nd October (GWT/RAJ).
Flamingo off Bamburgh on 8th November (B.R.S.).
Long-billed Dowitcher at Cresswell from 27th October until mid-December (TH et al).
3 Reed Warblers in Holywell Dene 13th May.
Iceland Gull at Cresswell on 8th March (MM).
Firecrest at Hauxley on 30th October (H.R.S.).
Red-breasted Flycatchers at Holy Island on 6th and 16th October, and at Hauxley on 11th October (TH/H.R.S.).
All Yellow-browed Warblers.
Gull-billed Tern. All occurrences accepted (i.e. at Hauxley and St. Mary's Island).
Hoopoe at Hauxley on 8/9th of November (H.R.S.).
Grey Phalarope at Seahouses on 1st April (MM).

/Species

Species mentioned in Report but now in square brackets or deleted altogether are:-

Lesser Whitefront at Cresswell on 25th October.

Red-throated Pipit at St. Mary's Island on 4th October.

Red-throated Pipit at Hauxley on 9th May.

Iceland (could have been small Glaucous) at Holywell Ponds in April.

Ortolan Bunting at Tynemouth on 24th September.

(Sgd.) C. E. Douglas.

P. Yeoman.

M. Bell.

CLASSIFIED LIST

Divers:-

17 flew N. and 6 S. off St. Mary's Island on 6th (PB) and on the next day there were over 60 off Ross Back Sands (MN/MH/RN). 6 at Seaton Sluice on 14th (MLC). On the 27th at Cresswell there were over 70, 55 of which flew N. (CJW) and by 28th the movement has reversed and 25 flew S. off Hauxley (H.R.S.).

Black-throated Diver:-

On 27th, there were 2 off St. Mary's Island (PB/SM) and 1 off Snab Point. (CJ/).

Great Northern Diver:-

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

Great Crested Grebe:-

1 at Holywell Ponds on 13th (MN et al) and 1 present on a local breeding water from 14th until end of month. 3 off Ross on 6th (IHA/MB). 1 at Cresswell on 27th (CJW).

Red-necked Grebe:-

Off Ross Back there were 2 on 6th, and 3 on 7th, when 1 appeared off Budle Point (MN/MB et al).

Slavonian Grebe:-

Over 40 off Ross Back on 6th and only 15 counted the following day. Numbers continued to fall until 26th/27th when 7 were present (MB/MH et al).

Grebe (Slav./Black n.):

2 off Cresswell on 27th (CJW).

Little Grebe:-

First birds of the Spring at Holywell Ponds on 21st (CED). Single birds at Budle Bay on 26th (B.R.S) and Ashington on 27th (PB/SM).

Heron:-

On 26th, 1 at Hartburn and Wingates Moor (IH). Next day, 1 at Cresswell and by 28th, 3 at Bolan (per MB).

Mallard:-

Maximum numbers were all recorded in first half of month, numbers falling rapidly after this time with onset of breeding season and birds retiring to secluded areas. Over 150 at Gosforth Park on 1st, fell to 12 by 17th (JHD). 110 at Holywell Ponds on 7th (MN) fell to 30 on 21st (JHD). 300 at Blyth Bay on 14th (MLC).

Teal:-

As above. c40 at Holywell Ponds on 14th but far fewer (only a few pairs) on 28th (CED). 80 at Gosforth Park on 6th (CED) and 40+ by 20th (MN). Over 180 at Ashington on 27th (SM).

Wigeon:-

175 at Holywell Ponds on 7th (MN) fell to less than 50 by end of month (MN). 1000+ at Fenham Flats on 6th (MB) and 100 at Grindon throughout month. 45 at Cresswell on 6th rose to 120 on 20th (JKJ/ER). 11 at Whittle Dene on 13th rose to 30 by 27th (JSB/IHA). Over 30 at Gosforth Park on 1st and by 10th only 15 (MH/JHD).

Pintail:-

6 at Ashington on 27th (PB et al). 1 at Holywell Ponds on 7th (MN).

/Shoveler

Shoveler:-

2 at Havannah on 14th rose to 9 on 25th (CJW). 3 males at Gosforth Park on 17th, 2 of which remained until 20th (JHD). 16 at Ashington on 27th (PB et al). Other single birds reported from 16th onwards at Grindon, Holy Island and Holywell Ponds.

Scaup:-

A male flew N. off Ross Back on 13th (B.R.S.). A female at Amble on 19th (D. H. Howey) and a male at Warkworth on 28th (BG/ER).

Tufted Duck:-

100 at Holywell Ponds on 6th had decreased to 45 by end of month (MN). At Whittle Dene 66 on 7th fell to 4 on 13th (IHA/JSB) when there were 50 at Grindon (FC). 26+ at Gosforth Park throughout month, as were 20 at Havannah Ponds. 46 at Bolam on 26th (IH) and 12 at Cresswell on 28th (BG). Smaller parties reported at Seaton Burn and Swallow Ponds.

Pochard:-

60+ at Seaton Burn all month. At Holywell Ponds 25 on 14th fell to c12 from 21st until end of month. 40 at Grindon on 13th (FC). Over 12 present at Gosforth Park for most of month. A few also seen at Swallow Ponds and Cresswell.

Goldeneye:-

6 in Budle Bay throughout month (B.R.S.). 6 at Newton on 6th (MB). 15 at Whittle Dene on 7th and 7 on 13th (IHA/JSB) when 5 at Cresswell (CJW). 35 at Capheaton on 28th (LGH). 1 at Holywell Ponds all month (CED).

Long-tailed Duck:-

Off Ross Back on 6th there were none seen until 4.p.m. when two flocks arrived. One of 117 and the other 37. It was estimated that over 180 were present by 5.p.m. (MB/IHA). Only 40 were present the next day (RN et al). A single bird off Amble on 21st and 28th (BG/ER) when there were 2 off Hauxley (H.R.S.).

Valvet Scoter:-

2 off Ross Back on 13th (DB), 1 off Hauxley on 27th/28th (H.R.S.). 2 off Stag Rocks on 26th (probably same two as seen on 13th (B.R.S.)).

Common Scoter:-

Maximum off Stag Rocks was 400 on 26th (B.R.S.).

Eider:-

c220 in Amble Harbour on 21st (ER) and 450 off Stag Rocks on 26th (B.R.S.).

Red-breasted Merganser:-

On 13th, 10 off Cresswell (CJW) and 15 off Ross Back (DB). 10 off Budle on 26th (B.R.S.).

Goosander:-

54 at Colt Crag on 14th when 7 at Hallington (RG/EL/WB). 6 at Whittle Dene throughout month. 10 at Linshields on 20th (FC). 6 flew S. off Hauxley on 27th (H.R.S.).

Smew:-

A female at Capheaton on 7th (CJW/LJM) and a female (Probably the same bird) at Hartburn on 14th and 26th (MB et al).

Shelduck:-

Over 250 in Budle Bay on 13th (B.R.S.). Small parties seen at Amble, Hartley, St. Mary's Island, Warkworth and Cresswell. 1 at Gosforth Park on 17th (JHD).

Grey Geese (Sp?):-

10 at Grindon on 13th and 11th (RG/EL/WB/FC).

Brent Geese:-

120 pale breasted on Fenham Flats on 7th (MH/RN/MN). 93 at the Needles (Ross Back) on 13th (DB).

Barnacle Goose:-

1 on Fenham Flats on 7th (MH et al).

Mute Swan:-

c20 at Amble on 28th (BG).

/Whooper Swan

Whooper Swan:-

18 at Grindon on 13th (FC) when 25 at Fenham Flats (B.R.S.) and 5 at Cresswell (CJW). 8 on Holy Island Lough on 7th (MH/RN). 7 at Haydon Letch on 27th (PB/SH). Single birds at Newburn, Whittle Dene and Seaton Burn.

Bewick's Swan:-

14 on Holy Island Lough on 6th (JKJ)✓

Sparrow Hawk:-

1 near Arcott Hall on 14th (BG) and another near Bolam on 28th (LJM).

Merlin:-

1 at Budle Bay on 13th (SH).

Kestrel:-

Many reports of birds in usual areas.

Water Rail:-

A single bird at Banburgh on 13th/14th (B.R.S.).

Coot:-

200 at Holywell Ponds on 7th (MM). Maximum of 110 at Seaton Burn on 25th (CJW). 100 at Bolam Lake on 27th (MNC).

Oystercatcher:-

2 at Ridley Hall on 11th and 1 at Grindon on 16th (RG/EL/WB). 45 at St. Mary's Island on 14th (MLC).

Lapwing:-

On 5th, a few single birds flew W. up Tyne and on 13th/14th several small parties passed S.W. high over Killingworth and birds were numerous in fields in Ashington/Widdrington area (BG).

Grey Plover:-

3 at Fenham Flats on 7th (MH). Single birds at Cresswell and Hauxley.

Golden Plover:-

60 at Fenham le Moor on 13th including 2 northern (B.R.S.). Over 600 at Cresswell on 20th (ER). 250 near Ouston on 13th (CJW). 100 at Linton on 27th including 1 northern (PB/SM).

Turnstone:-

Maximum of 150 at St. Mary's Island on 21st (AB).

Common Snipe:-

10 on Holy Island Lough on 7th (MH). 30 at Felton on 28th (AB/FC).

Jack Snipe:-

Single birds at Gosforth Park on 1st and 7th (MH/SH) when 1 on Holy Island Lough (MH/RN).

Woodcock:-

4 at Gosforth Park on 1st (MH) and 1 on 27th (CED). 2 at Felton on 28th (AB/FC). Single birds reported at Banburgh, Arcott, Holywell Dene and Ross Links.

Curlew:-

10 at Banburgh on 14th (B.R.S.). 120 flew in at Grindon on 16th and 14 there on 30th (RG/WB/EL). 10 at St. Mary's Island on 27th (PB/SM). and 9 at Holywell Ponds on 28th (CED).

Green Sandpiper:-

1 at Whittle Dene on 13th (IHA).

Redshank:-

4 at Grindon on 16th and 5 on 30th (RG/EL/WB). 1 at Whittle Dene on 27th (IHA/JSE) and 40 at Cresswell next day (BG).

Spotted Redshank:-

1 at Beal Road Ends on 6th (per AB).

Knot:-

A maximum of 300 at Seaton Sluice and 850 at St. Mary's Island on 21st (AB).

Purple Sandpiper:-

c30 at Amble on 21st (ER). 41 at St. Mary's Island on 25th (PB/SM).

/Sanderling

Sanderling:-

Over 70 flew S. at Fenham Flats on 13th (B.R.S.). 80 at Hauxley during month (H.R.S.). Smaller parties seen elsewhere.

Grey Phalarope:-

A bird in winter plumage on sea at Amble on 21st/28th (BG/ER).

Lesser Black-Backed Gull:-

1 on River Tyne at Newcastle on 19th (MLC). 2 at Holywell Ponds on 21st (AB) and 1 at Ashington Tip on 27th (PB/SM).

Sandwich Tern:-

1 off St. Mary's Island on 29th (JDP).

Little Auk:-

1 found dead at Hauxley on 7th (H.R.S.).

Collared Dove:-

1 at Hauxley on 30th (H.R.S.).

Barn Owl:-

1 near Hexham on 8th (RG/EL).

Tawny Owl:-

2 in Holywell Dene on 14th (MLC). 2 near Felton at beginning of month (AB/FC) and 3 roosting in Gosforth Park on 26th (FC).

Long-eared Owl:-

1 in Gosforth Park on 3rd and 17th (JHD).

Short-eared Owl:-

2 at Holy Island on 7th (JKJ). Other birds seen at Ross Links, Whitley Bay, Earsdon, Hauxley and Banburgh.

Greater Spotted Woodpecker:-

5 in Gosforth Park on 1st (MH). 2 near Felton on 28th (FC/AB).

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker:-

1 at Gosforth Park on 7th (SM).

Skylark:-

On 1st, many flocks of up to c150 flying E. down the Tyne Valley (BG). In the St. Mary's/Holywell Dene area there were 4000 in addition to the many small flocks coasting E. and then following the coastline northward. By the 2nd there were over 2000 in this area and 700 were in Holywell Dene on 3rd (PB). On 22nd a flock of c100 at a scrap heap at Newburn (BG).

Sand Martin:-

3 at Wingates Moor on 26th (IH).

Swallow:-

1 at Stannington on 28th (per SM).

Hooded Crow:-

2 at Chevington Burn on 20th (ER).

Magpie:-

5 seen at Cresswell on 6th (JKJ). 2 pairs at Wickham throughout month (JEO). 2 at Haydon Letch on 27th (SM).

Long-tailed Duck:-

17 at Wickham on 17th and 1 on 28th (JEO).

Fieldfare:-

20 at Holy Island on 7th (MH). Over 30 at Ashington on 13th (CJW). A roost of 50 at Sunnyside on 16th/17th (JEO). Larger flock built up towards end of month before departure. 30 flew S. over South Shields on 26th (PB). On 28th, 75+ near Felton (AB/FC) and 20 at North Walbottle (JSE@IHA). 80 - 100 near Hexham on 30th when 100 near Haydon Bridge and 15 at Grindon (RG/EL/WB).

Song Thrush:-

25 at St. Mary's on 2nd (PB). Numerous in Holywell Dene on 13th (MM).

Redwing:-

40 in Whitley Bay Cemetery on 2nd when 26 at St. Mary's Island (PB). Over 30 at Ashington on 13th (CJW). 30 at Alwinton on 20th (FC) and 35 at Holywell Ponds next day (SM). 40 near Sunnyside on 16th/17th (JEO).

/50 at

50 at Northumberland Park on 26th (MH).

Blackbird:-

25 at St. Mary's Island on 25th (PB). Large influx at Bamburgh on 26th/27th following S.E. winds (B.R.S.) and at Hauxley on 27th/28th 300 were present. On evening of 27th, 200 flew E. and many left on 28th (H.R.S.).

Wheatear:-

First recorded was on 26th at Wingates Moor (IH), next was at Hauxley the following day (H.R.S.). On 29th there were 2 at Low Horton Farm, 2 at Seaton Sluice, 3 males near Hartley (JKJ/CED). On 30th single birds at Hauxley and Peel Crag (H.R.S./RG).

Stonechat:-

1 at Newton on 6th (IHA/MB).

Phylloscopus:-

1 near Felton on 28th (AB/FC) and 1 at Hauxley on 30th showed characteristics of Willow Warbler (H.R.S.).

Goldcrest:-

Up to 12 at Hauxley on most days after 20th (H.R.S.). Many near Felton on 28th (FC). 2 at Newsham on 29th (JKJ).

Pipits:-

Continuous northerly movement noted over Bamburgh and Cresswell from 26th to 28th.

Alba Wagtail:-

A northerly passage over Bamburgh on 26th/27th/28th including 20 birds. At Hauxley during this period small numbers of Pied were also noted flying N. and a White was seen on 29th (B.R.S./H.R.S.).

Grey Wagtail:-

2 at Whittle Dene on 14th and 1 at Devils Water on 20th (IHA/JSB).

Goldfinch:-

On 3rd, there were 6 - 7 at St. Mary's Island and 3 at Newsham (PB/JKJ). 1 at Felton on 28th (FC).

Bullfinch:-

2 near Wickham on 17th (JEO) and 1 at Gosforth Park on 26th (FC).

Crossbill:-

A single bird at Gosforth Park on 7th (SM).

Brambling:-

A bird at Hartley on 1st and 3 at St. Mary's island next day (PB). c50 at Beamish (nr. Stanley) on 14th (DB).

Yellowhammer:-

10 at St. Mary's Island on 2nd and 50 in Holywell Dene the following day (PB/MH).

Corn Bunting:-

20 - 30 at Newsham throughout month (JKJ). 55 in Holywell Dene on 7th (MH) and c80 at Bamburgh roost on 26th (B.R.S.). Fairly numerous elsewhere.

Snow Bunting:-

c30 at Forest Hall on 1st (BG). 6 at Bamburgh on 6th (B.R.S.). and at Hauxley on 21st and 28th (H.R.S.). Also up to 3 seen at St. Mary's Island during month.

Tree Sparrow:-

Over 100 on Cleadon Hills on 13th (MLC).

List of Contributors

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The next meeting of the Club will be held in the Y.M.C.A. Hall, Blackett Street, Newcastle on Thursday, 13th May, 1965.

There will be a talk by Mr. J. Alder.

TYNESIDE BIRD CLUB

APRIL 1965 BULLETIN

SUMMARY

An anticyclone at the beginning of the month gave southerly winds until the 3rd and at this time a very weak wave of Wheatears, Sand Martins and a few warblers occurred. On the 4th a trough moved across, followed by a strong depression and until the 16th, the winds were predominantly westerly. Very early Ruffs were seen at this time and one Greenshank. Sand Martin and Wheatear numbers were slowly building up in inland areas. On the 17th, very cold northerly and North-easterly winds resulted from a depression and on 19th - 21st, seas were running very high. Manx Shearwaters and 2 Arctic Skuas were reported at this time. From the 24th onwards a weak ridge and then a depression dominated the weather, and cold, light winds came from an easterly quarter until the close of the month. After the virtual absence of Summer visitors during the middle two weeks of the month, these birds began to make slow progress into this region in the last week. It is estimated that Warblers, Swallows, Martins etc., are all at least a week behind their usual time of arrival in large numbers.

The occurrence of 9 Glaucous Gulls is remarkable - especially when so few have been seen earlier in the year, but no doubt several of these records concern the same bird. A Great Grey Shrike at Craster and a Flamingo at Fenham Flats are also of interest.

Classified List

Divers (Sp):-

Single birds or small parties seen moving N. throughout month.

Black-throated Diver:-

1 on sea at Seaton Sluice on 2nd (H.D.Pattison). 1 present at Cresswell on 3rd and by 24th it was in full Summer plumage (MN/CW).

Great Northern Diver:-

1 flew N. off Bamburgh on 19th (B.R.S.).

Red-throated Diver:-

4 off Lauxley on 3rd (B.R.S.). 3 off Cresswell on 24th, 2 of which remained until 29th (CW/TH). A maximum off Ross Back Sands of 20 on 12th (B.R.S.).

Great Crested Grebe:-

1 on sea at Seaton Sluice on 1st (H.D.Pattison). Single birds at two local waters during month.

Manx Shearwater:-

On 19th, 10 flew N. off Holy Island (per MH) when 6 were seen at Bamburgh (B.R.S.). The next day only 2 seen off Bamburgh though 16 counted off St. Mary's Island where another 2 flew N. on 27th and 3 on 28th (B.R.S./H.D.Pattison).

Fulmar:-

Over 120 flew N. during a half-an-hour sea watch at Bamburgh on 20th (B.R.S.).

Gannet:-

A northerly movement of over 100 per hour during whole of 19th was noted at Bamburgh (B.R.S.) but by next day movement was far smaller. From this time onwards small northerly movements were noted daily from most parts of the coast.

Flamingo:-

During first three weeks of month 1 was at Fenham le Moor (B.R.S.).

Mallard:-

A maximum of 60 at Holywell Ponds on 21st (SM) and 40 at Gosforth Park on 4th.

Teal:-

c100 at Ashington on 3rd (CW/MN) and 70 at Gosforth Park next day (SM).

Garganey:-

3 (1 male, 2 females) at Cresswell on 24th.

/Gadwall

Gadwall:-

6 flew onto Cresswell Pond on 16th (B & T.H.). The 2 at Gosforth Park remained until 14th and 1 there on 18th (CW).

Wigeon:-

A few seen at Gosforth Park, Swallow Ponds and Holywell Ponds during month.

Pintail:-

3 pairs in the Ashington/Cresswell area throughout month.

Shoveler:-

15 at Ashington on 3rd and up to 4 pairs present at Linton all month (TH). Smaller flocks reported in early half of month from Cresswell, Holywell Ponds, Swallow Ponds, Newton Pond and Gosforth Park.

Scaup:-

1 in Cresswell area all month. 2 at Hauxley on 16th later flew N. (H.R.S.).

Tufted Duck:-

36 at Holywell Ponds on 2nd fell to 8 pairs by 24th (AB). Also 8 pairs at Swallow Ponds on 27th (MH). Reported at Havannah, Cresswell and Wingates during month.

Pochard:-

5 at Holywell Ponds on 2nd and then 2 there for remainder of month (CED). On 3rd there were 6 at Gosforth Park (MH) and 3 on 18th.

Goldeneye:-

A maximum of 5 at Newton on 9th and only 2 there on 21st (TH). 1 at Whittle Dene on 3rd (IHA). 4 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 20th (H.D.Pattison). 2 at Grindon on 29th (CED).

Long-tailed Duck:-

Over 45 off Ross Back Sands on 12th, rose to 130 on 13th (B.R.S.). 2 at Hauxley on 3rd when 1 was at Amble (H.R.S.).

Velvet Scoter:-

1 at Hauxley on 3rd (H.R.S.) and 6 off Stag Rocks on 12th (B.R.S.).

Common Scoter:-

Over 90 off Ross Back Sands on 3rd (DE).

Eider:-

Only 3 off Seaton Sluice on 3rd (SM). Several flocks totalling 550 off Budle Bay on 12th/13th (B.R.S.).

Red-breasted Merganser:-

35 were counted off Ross Back on 3rd (DB) and as month progressed numbers declined to 7 on 26th.

Shelduck:-

29 flew N. at St. Mary's Island on 20th and 3 on 27th (H.D.Pattison).

Grey Lag Goose:-

3 flew over Cresswell and landed on sea on 3rd (CW/MN).

Whooper Swan:-

On 8th, 18 landed at Cresswell Pond but were seen driven off by Mute Swan (TH). 4 at Linton on 12th. 1 at Grindon on 29th (CED).

Kestrel:-

1 came in off sea at St. Mary's Island on 11th (PB/SM). During month there were 3 different birds in Tanfield Ponds area (RMP). Also reported from Styford, Beamish, Seaton Delaval and Ross Back besides the usual areas.

Moorhen:-

c75 at Swallow Ponds on 29th (FC).

Coot:-

A first record for Hauxley was 1 on 2nd (H.R.S.).

Oystercatcher:-

22 at St. Mary's Island on 4th (AB).

Golden Plover:-

A flock of c100 present at Linton throughout month. 1 at top of Cheviot on 18th (PB). 45 in a flock near Cresswell on 27th (B & T.H.).

Turnstone:-

Over 85 at St. Mary's Island during first fortnight.

Snipe:-

40 at Ashington on 3rd (CW/MN). About 12 birds present at Gosforth Park and Holywell Ponds until 25th.

Jack Snipe:-

1 at Bamburgh on 22nd (B.R.S.).

Woodcock:-

Present at Langleeford and Arcot.

Whimbrel:-

2 single birds flew N. over Hauxley on 7th (H.R.S.) and North Shields on 27th (H.D.Pattison).

Black-tailed Godwit:-

1 at Bamburgh on 25th (B.R.S.) and 6 at Cresswell next day (B & T.H. et al).

Bar-tailed Godwit:-

2 at Newton on 9th and Druridge on 29th (B & TH).

Common Sandpiper:-

2 were on rocks at Bamburgh on 15th (B.R.S.). 1 at Fenham Flats on 17th (MH) when 1 at Alnwick (SM). It was generally distributed by 25th, but numbers well down for this time of year.

Redshank:-

17 at Swallow Ponds on 10th (H.D.Pattison). 50 at Holywell Ponds on 14th fell to 20 on 21st (SM/PB).

Greenshank:-

1 flew in over Whitley Bay on 10th (CED) and another over Gosforth Park on 24th (RM/CW).

Knot:-

c100 at St. Mary's Island on 4th (AB).

Purple Sandpiper:-

60 at St. Mary's Island on 4th and 65+ at Stag Rocks on 15th (AB/BRS).

Dunlin:-

19 at Cresswell on 26th (PB).

Sanderling:-

Maximum number reported was of over 150 at Fenham Flats on 17th (MH).

Ruff:-

1 at Cresswell on 8th rose to 8 on 24th (B & TH). 9 at Linton on 16th fell to 2 on 29th (TH et al). 4 at Bamburgh on 11th/14th and single birds seen here until end of month.

Arctic Skua:-

On 19th, 2 flew N. off Holy Island (per MH) and the next day 2 flew N. off St. Mary's Island (H.D.Pattison).

Lesser Black-backed Gull:-

6 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 11th (SM). There was 1 off Bamburgh the next day and by 20th, 20 were seen (B.R.S.).

Glaucous Gull:-

A remarkable influx. 4 at Wallsend (3 adult, 1 second year) on 8th (AB). 1 at Bamburgh from 16th/19th (B.R.S.). 1 at Howdon on 26th (DC). 1 at Cresswell on 27th/28th when 1 at St. Mary's Island and at Swallow Ponds (TH/HDP/MH et al).

Iceland Gull:-

1 on River Tyne near Wallsend on 30th (DC).

Kittiwake:-

Several adults seen every day in the Newburn - Blaydon area from 15th onwards (BG).

Sandwich Tern:-

2 near Monks House on 2nd (JKJ) and on the next day 2 flew N. off Cresswell and Hauxley (H.R.S.). From 10th onwards there were many at Bamburgh (B.R.S.). A northerly passage of 100 per hour was noted off Hauxley on 17th (H.R.S.).

/Stock Dove

Stock Dove:-
Over 10 in Bamburgh area (B.R.S.).

Collared Dove:-
1 at Killingworth on 10th (BG).

Cuckoo:-
Earliest was at Langleeford on 19th (PB). Then seen at Hauxley on 22nd/23rd, Alnwick on 24th and Bamburgh on 25th.

Barn Owl:-
1 at Hauxley on 9th (H.R.S.).

Little Owl:-
Single bird at Hauxley throughout month, and at Dinnington on 27th/29th.

Tawny Owl:-
2 nests reported with almost fully fledged young by end of month. A juvenile at North Shields on 28th fell down a chimney but managed to climb out and spend the rest of the day on the chimney (MH).

Short-eared Owl:-
Reports from Alwinton, Hauxley, Holywell Ponds, Newsham, Cresswell and Bamburgh.

Greater Spotted Woodpecker:-
Single birds at Rock on 11th and Seaton Delaval on 24th (MH).

Swallow:-
On the 3rd, 2 at Cresswell (MN) and 1 at Hauxley (H.R.S.). 1 at Cullernose on 4th (PB). No others seen until 16th and thereafter birds slowly began to trickle into the inland haunts.

House Martin:-
2 early birds at Hartley on 4th then none until 1 at St. Mary's on 24th. 2 at Lanchester on 30th (RMP) were the only others seen.

Sand Martin:-
Single birds seen on coast from 2nd/4th, 1 at Whittle Dene on 2nd (DH). 4 at Bywell on 3rd and numbers increased rapidly here from 12th onwards (IHA). Birds continued to move into other areas very slowly during the rest of month, and by 30th, numbers were well down to what they usually are at this time of year.

Raven:-
A pair nesting in Cheviots had fully fledged young on 19th (ER).

Hooded Crow:-
1 at Bamburgh on 18th/19th (B.R.S.).

Rook:-
16 occupied nests at the rookery in the Haymarket, Newcastle by 30th (RMP).

Marsh Tit:-
1 at Heddon on 25th (CED).

Willow Tit:-
During month a pair at Tranwell Wood and at Horsley Wood. 2 near Seaton Delaval on 24th (MH/AB).

Long-tailed Tit:-
4 at Langleeford on 19th (PB/DR).

Treecreeper:-
Slight evidence for an increase in population in coastal areas.

Fieldfare:-
During month, 70 at Gosforth Park and 100+ in Holywell Ponds area. 50 at Swallow Ponds on 25th until end of month. 80 at Arcot on 18th (CW). 120 at Thropton on 4th (PB) when 250 at Alwinton. 12 at Newsham on 30th (JKJ).

Redwing:-
2 in Whitley Bay Cemetery on 3rd (H.D.Pattison). 5 on Holy Island on 9th (TH). 1 at St. Mary's Island on 27th (PB).

Ring Ouzel:-
Males at Hauxley on 2nd, Alwinton on 11th and Bamburgh on 18th. A female near Seaton Delaval on 24th. A female on nest with eggs at

Alwinton by end of month. (H.R.S./BG/B.R.S./MH/JKJ).

Wheatear:-

From 2nd/4th many single birds or small parties seen on or near coast. By 5th the species was well established inland though only odd ones were seen after this date in coastal regions.

Stonechat:-

1 at Lynemouth on 2nd and 26th (TH). A male at Hauxley on 3rd/4th (H.R.S.). The pair at Bamburgh were proved to be breeding (B.R.S.).

Redstart:-

The earliest record was of a male at Beamish on 6th (DB) thereafter none were seen until 21st when 1 at Arcot (CED). A small trickle of birds continued to flow through the region up to the 30th. Maximum number recorded was of c4 at Ponteland on 28th (ER).

Robin:-

c12 at Bruridge Farm Wood on 28th and none on 30th (TH).

Grasshopper Warbler:-

1 at Bamburgh on 25th (B.R.S.).

Sedge Warbler:-

At Gosforth Park 1 on 25th and 27th (MN/CW).

Blackcap:-

On 10th, singing males at Gosforth Park (BG) and Horsley Wood (IHA). No other birds reported.

Common Whitethroat:-

2 near Seaton Delaval on 24th (AB/MH).

Willow Warbler:-

3 in Gosforth Park on 10th (BG). On 11th seen at Holywell Dene and Rock (PB/SM). Increasing in numbers from 16th onwards, though still not numerous (except in few inland haunts) by end of month.

Chiffchaff:-

1 at Hauxley on 3rd (H.R.S.). the next day 2 at Netherwitton (SM), 2 at Horsley Wood on 7th (IHA). From 10th to 18th reported from various localities.

Phylloscopus:-

1 at Bamburgh on 12th (B.R.S.).

Wood Warbler:-

1 in Holywell Dene on 25th (SM).

Goldcrest:-

Small influx in first 11 days of month, noticed at Hauxley, Whitley Bay and Gosforth areas, a few birds remaining until end of month. 20 inland near Alwinton on 11th (BG).

Fied Flycatcher:-

1 at Holywell Dene on 21st and 2 at Simonside on 25th are the only records (PB/H.D.Pattison).

Meadow Pipit:-

At Bamburgh a northerly movement on 14th and a marked influx on 17th (over 100 in one field) when birds were again seen moving N. (B.R.S.).

Tree Pipit:-

1 at Tanfield Ponds on 7th (RMP).

Pied Wagtail:-

14 in St. Mary's/Hartley area on 1st (H.D.Pattison). 2 came in off sea at St. Mary's Island on 11th (PB/SM).

White Wagtail:-

1 came in off sea with the 2 birds noted above. Single birds at Cresswell on 16th and 28th, Holywell Ponds on 21st.

Yellow Wagtail:-

2 at St. Mary's Island on 11th (PB/SM). At Holywell Ponds, 1 on 10th/11th and 5 on 4th (CED et al). At Cresswell 1 on 16th, 2 on 17th and 4 on 24th. Numbers slowly increasing thereafter.

Great Grey Shrike:-

A male at Dunstan Steads (Craster) on 21st (per IHA).

/Hawfinch

Hawfinch:-

2 at Bywell on 29th (IHA).

Greenfinch:-

A flock of over 250 in a field at Cresswell on 24th (CW).

Redpoll:-

8 at Cresswell on 10th (CW).

Bullfinch:-

2 at Cockle Park (Nr. Morpeth) on 15th (RMP).

Tree Sparrow:-

A flock of 30/40 in ploughed field at Hartley on 10th/16th some remaining until end of month (CED).

ADDENDUM: March: Bewick's Swan:- The square brackets should be removed. These birds were also seen on 12th and 14th (B & TH).

List of Contributors

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As the Recorder, Secretary and Chairman are away from 5th June, 1965, it would help if all observations for May reach me not later than 4th June, 1965.

B.T.O. Enquiries. Great Crested Grebe Enquiry. Census of Breeding Herons

Will members please keep a special watch for these two species, reporting all occurrences and particularly any evidence of breeding.

Birds of Prey Survey.

This survey is being continued this year. Please send in all records of birds of prey and all sight records of Sparrow Hawks, Kestrel, Barn Owls and Tawny Owls from mid May to the end of June, giving locality (with map reference if possible) and time of day when observed.

The next Club Meeting will not be held until the second Thursday in September.

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

M A Y 1 9 6 5 B U L L E T I N.

SUMMARY

For the first two days of the month pressure was high to the E. and N.E. of the British Isles, giving South Easterly winds over the area which gave a northerly sea movement and small influxes of passerines. Pressure fell on the 3rd and a complex depression moved across the area to the North Sea to be followed by ridges and troughs from the W.

Pressure rose once more on the 9th and the weather was anticyclonic until the 14th, when unsettled weather lasted until the 19th. In this period an Ortolan was trapped at Hauxley and a Black Guillemot noted at Holy Island, whilst a hirundine movement was also noted along the coast.

An anticyclone formed over the British Isles on the 20th before moving away towards Germany, with a depression being centred over Ireland, giving South Easterly winds over the area.

This depression filled slowly and an anticyclone became established over N.W. Scotland giving N. to N.E. winds over the last few days of the month when another sea movement was noted.

Summer visitors continued to move in through the coastal area whilst late Fieldfares, Scaup, Hooded Crow etc., were also seen. Two Great Grey Shrikes, an Ortolan, a 'ring-tail' Harrier and some reasonable counts of waders gave the usual mixture that we expect in May.

CLASSIFIED LIST

Red-throated Diver:-

On 1st, 2 at Cresswell (MN) and 2 flying N. off Hauxley (H.R.S.).

Great Crested Grebe:-

1 at Seaton Burn on 29th (CED).

Little Grebe:-

c7 pairs at Holywell Ponds where young were hatched by 22nd (CED).

Manx Shearwater:-

12 flew N. off Hauxley on 1st (H.R.S.) and 2 flew N. off Cresswell on 28th (TH).

Fulmar:-

A northerly movement of 200 per hour was noted off Hauxley on 1st and smaller northerly movement on 27th (H.R.S.).

Heron:-

Single birds seen near Wolley on 2nd (JHD), Wark on 1st (JED) and at Cresswell on 30th (TH).

Mallard:-

Young birds were present at Holywell Ponds by 8th (CED).

Garganey:-

3 at Linton on 1st (MN). At Cresswell 1 on 15th and 22nd and 2 on 27th (MN/ER).

Gadwall:-

5 at Holywell Ponds on 22nd (AB).

Wigeon:-

2 drakes at Holywell Ponds throughout month and pair at Gosforth Park on 29th (CED).

Shoveler:-

Throughout month 2 at Holywell Ponds, 2 at Gosforth Park and 1 at Cresswell (CED/MN/TH).

Scaup:-

A drake in Seahouses Harbour on 30th (JKJ).

Tufted Duck:-

36 at Bolam on 1st and 15-20 at Holywell Ponds throughout the month (IHA/CED).

/Pochard

Pochard:-

A drake at Colt Crag on 4th and 2 or 3 at Holywell Ponds throughout the month (IHA/CED).

Long-tailed Duck:-

3 flew N. off Hauxley on 1st (H.R.S.).

Red-breasted Merganser:-

2 at Cresswell on 1st (MN).

Gob-sander:-

1 at Colt Crag on 4th (IHA). On North Tyne 4 near Falstone on 3rd and 3 pairs between Wark and Bellingham on 15th (CED/JEO).

Geese (sp?):-

c300 flew E. very high over Holy Island on 4th (TH).

Mute Swan:-

The pair at Holywell Ponds had hatched 8 cygnets by 14th (CED).

Sparrow Hawk:-

1 near Plankey Hill on 30th (JHD).

Harrier (sp?):-

A "ring-tailed" harrier was seen at Shankhouse on 23rd (JKJ).

Coot:-

Young birds present at Holywell Ponds by 22nd (CED).

Oystercatcher:-

5 pairs on shingle between Wark and Bellingham (JEO).

Lapwing:-

A nest found in Cheviots on 17th contained 6 eggs - human interference was not suspected (ER).

Ringed Plover:-

2 pairs at Colt Crag on 4th (IHA).

Grey Plover:-

1 in Summer plumage at Holy Island on 15th (JKJ).

Common Snipe:-

1 heard 'drumming' after dark at Arcot (CED).

Woodcock:-

At least one pair at Arcot 'roding' during month (CED).

Whimbrel:-

At Bamburgh 1 on 8th, 2 on 15th and 1 on 16th (B.R.S.). 3 flew N. over Seaton Delaval on 22nd (AB).

Black-tailed Godwit:-

1 at Cresswell on 13th (TH/JKJ).

Bar-tailed Godwit:-

1 at Holy Island on 15th (JKJ).

Wood Sandpiper:-

At Bamburgh 4 on 15th and 2 the following day (B.R.S.). A very tired bird at Hauxley on 27th (H.R.S.).

Common Sandpiper:-

12 pairs at North Tyne between Wark and Bellingham - 1 pair with 3 eggs (JEO). 2 at Hauxley on 15th and 1 at Bamburgh the following day (H.R.S./B.R.S.).

Greenshank:-

Single birds at Tanfield Ponds from 1st - 8th (RMP), at Ashington on 15th (MN) and at Cresswell on 27th (ER).

Ruff:-

1 at Linton on 1st (MN). At Cresswell 1 on 12th, 11 on 13th, 4 on 14th, 15 on 15th and a single male in Summer plumage on 27th (TH/JKJ/MN/ER).

Glaucous Gull:-

A second Summer bird at Bamburgh on 4th (TH) and a similar bird at Wallsend Slipway from 14th - 19th (DC).

/Iceland Gull

Iceland Gull:-

At Wallsend Slipway the bird reported last month was seen again on 3rd (DC).

Kittiwake:-

At Cresswell 115 flew N. in two hours on 28th (TH).

Common Tern:-

At Holywell on 2nd, 4 came in from W. and left flying due E. (IHA).

Little Tern:-

1 at Hauxley on 8th (H.R.S.) and 2 at Holy Island on 14th (TH).

Sandwich Tern:-

Seen moving N. at 100 per hour off Hauxley on 1st (H.R.S.). A party of 10 was seen flying E. over Frestwick Carr on 23rd (ER).

Auks:-

Moving N. at 300 per hour off Hauxley on 1st (H.R.S.). At Cresswell 53 flew N. in two hours on 28th (TH).

Black Guillemot:-

A bird in Summer plumage very close to the shore at Holy Island on 15th, later flew N. (JKJ).

Collared Dove:-

c12 in Holywell Dene on 22nd (COO) and a roost of c40 at Ponteland on 23rd (ER).

Cuckoo:-

2 at Bamburgh on 1st, and single birds at Bywell on 3rd, Northumberland Park on 4th and Holywell Dene on 5th (B.R.S./IHA/MNC/AB). Fairly widespread afterwards.

Tawny Owl:-

4 pairs raised young near Newcastle and another pair had young on 22nd near Lewisburn (ER/JKJ).

Swift:-

8 at Holywell Ponds on 2nd and 3 at Bywell on 3rd (IHA). Heavy northerly movements with hirundines on 8th/9th and 15th/16th at Bamburgh (B.R.S.).

Green Woodpecker:-

Single birds seen at Bolam on 6th, at Wark on 15th and at Waren Mill on 30th (IHA/JEO/JKJ).

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker:-

A male at Bywell on 8th (IHA).

Swallow:-

Northerly movements noted along coast on 1st/2nd, 4th, 8th/9th and 15th/16th when 60 per hour were passing (H.R.S./TH/H.R.S.).

House Martin:-

1 at Mitford on 1st, 5 along coast on 4th and 2 in Holywell Dene on 5th (MNC/TH/AB) after which it had returned to all normal haunts. Seen moving N. with Swallows on 8th/9th and 15th/16th (B.R.S.).

Sand Martin:-

At Alnwick a gathering of 250 birds on 9th (ER).

Hooded Crow:-

1 at Bamburgh from 8th - 15th (B.R.S.).

Jackdaw:-

A colony of c30 nests on a riverside cliff at Redesmouth (JEO).

Willow Tit:-

A pair at Bolam on 1st (IHA).

Dipper:-

Birds feeding young at Tarsset Burn and Cateleugh (IHA/DH).

Fieldfare:-

35 at Cresswell on 1st (MN), c100 at Holy Island on 4th (TH), and 40 at Hauxley on 8th (H.R.S.). 4 other records of single birds or small parties up to 9th. Last record was of 1 at Bamburgh on 16th (B.R.S.).

/Redwing

Redwing:-

1 at Hauxley on 16th was only record (H.R.S.).

Ring Ouzel:-

A pair with young at Allendale on 10th (RG/WE/EL).

Wheatear:-

Influx on 8th when 40 noted at Hauxley (H.R.S.).

Stonechat:-

A pair at Lynemouth throughout the month (TH). A pair reared nestlings at Bamburgh (B.R.S.).

Whinchat:-

Only 4 records - Cresswell, Bamburgh, Falstone and Bellingham.

Redstart:-

1 at Tynemouth on 2nd (MNC). Small movement of birds coming in on 8th/9th (B.R.S.). A nest with 5 eggs at Arcot (CED).

Robin:-

Influx (with Dunnocks) at Bamburgh and Hauxley on 1st, 60 being recorded at the latter place.

Grasshopper Warbler:-

Single birds recorded at Horsley Wood on 1st, at Bamburgh on 2nd and 8th, and at Lewisburn on 23rd (IHA/B.R.S./JKJ).

Sedge Warbler:-

Several at Bamburgh and Cresswell at beginning of month with small influxes on 11th/12th and 15th (B.R.S./TH/JKJ). 40 in Gosforth Park on 8th (MN). c60 at Hauxley on 15th (H.R.S.).

Blackcap:-

Single birds recorded at Seaton Delaval, Felton and Hauxley and a pair at Cresswell (AB/TH/MN/H.R.S.).

Garden Warbler:-

2 at Bamburgh on 15th/16th and 1 at Seaton Delaval on 16th (B.R.S./AB).

Whitethroat:-

Numerous in all parts by 15th.

Lesser Whitethroat:-

At Bamburgh 1 on 2nd, 1 on 15th and another the following day (B.R.S.). 1 at Cresswell on 23rd (AB). 2 at Hauxley on 23rd, 1 staying to end of month (H.R.S.).

Willow Warbler:-

50 at Cresswell and numerous at Bamburgh on 1st (MN/B.R.S.). Small influxes at Bamburgh and Holy Island on 4th (TH).

Chiffchaff:-

At Hauxley 1 on 1st, 3 on 2nd, and 1 on 15th (H.R.S.). Single birds recorded at Tanfield Ponds on 4th and Bamburgh on 16th (RMP/B.R.S.). 3 at Seaton Delaval on 22nd (AB).

Wood Warbler:-

At Bywell 1 on 4th, and 4 on 8th (IHA). On 30th several by River Allen and 1 at Simonburn (JHD/IHA).

Spotted Flycatcher:-

2 at Hopeshield Burn Dene on 12th and 2 at Bamburgh on 16th (IHA/B.R.S.) were only records.

Dunnock:-

Marked influx (with Robins) at Bamburgh on 1st (B.R.S.).

Tree Pipit:-

3 at Holywell Ponds on 2nd, 1 at Bamburgh and 3 there on 16th (IHA/B.R.S.).

Grey Wagtail:-

Pairs noted at Plashetts and Lewisburn during month (IHA/JKJ).

Yellow Wagtail:-

1 at Tarsset on 4th, 3 at Bamburgh on 8th and 6 near Bellingham on 15th (IHA/B.R.S./JEO) were only records.

/Blue-headed Wagtail

Blue-headed Wagtail:-

A pair at Cresswell on 10th (TE).

Great Grey Shrike:-

1 at Bamburgh from 1st - 9th and 1 on Holy Island on 4th (B.R.S/TH).

Hawfinch:-

A party of 4 birds at Lywell on 4th (IHA).

Goldfinch:-

3 at Bamburgh on 16th and 3 at Woolsington on 25th (B.R.S/IHA).

Siskin:-

A female at Bamburgh on 8th (B.R.S).

Redpoll:-

Many moving N.W. at Bamburgh on 8th/9th and fairly numerous there on 15th/16th (B.R.S.). Numerous in North Tyne area on 15th and Gibside area on 22nd (JEO).

Corn Bunting:-

c35 at a roost in Bamburgh on 1st (B.R.S.).

Ortolan:-

A female bird was trapped at Hauxley on 15th (H.R.S.).

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SUMMARY

The first four days produced westerly winds from an anticyclone and from the 5th to 8th there was a drop in pressure and light winds from the S. or E. On the 9th, pressure rose again (due to a ridge) and the weather was fairly calm. From the 12th to 26th a series of troughs and low pressure areas crossed the area giving disturbed weather and winds from a Westerly quarter (especially from the 16th onwards). On the 26th pressure rose and this remained so until the end of the month resulting in a continued Westerly air stream.

A fairly large Northerly movement of Manx Shearwater reaching its peak on 27th is worthy of note, as is the Osprey at Seaton Bird (another bird at Hexham). Otherwise a very quiet month with the first few Arctic Skuas, Sandpipers and Ruff making their Autumn appearance.

Classified List

Great Crested Grebe:-

Single pairs breeding in two Northumberland, and one Durham area.

Manx Shearwater:-

Northerly movements were noted on 23rd when in c threequarters-of-an hour at Stag Rock 35 (TW). 10 off Newton on 26th (RN) and during a three-and-a half hour sea watch off Seaton Sluice on 27th, 245 were counted; this included flocks of 80 and 28 very close in (MN/CW/RN). 11 flew off St. Mary's Island on 25th in half-an-hour (SM).

Gannet:-

A southerly movement off Holy Island on 16th of 180 per hour (IHA) was largest noted.

Heron:-

1 at Haggerston on 19th and 23rd when 1 at Beal Point.

Mallard:-

c45 at Gosforth Park throughout month. 3 broods totalling 17 raised at Rock during month.

Teal:-

10 at Gosforth Park on 13th (MN).

Garganey:-

A pair breeding near Ponteland came to grief when area they were breeding in was drained.

Shoveler:-

A male at Seaton Burn on 11th (IHA). A pair with 4 ducklings at Newton on 27th (FC).

Tufted Duck:-

4 nests found in a Northumberland water during month, 1 of which had hatched 9 ducklings by 27th (BG). 21 at Holywell Ponds on 27th and also a brood of 7 ducklings (CED).

Pochard:-

1 at Seaton Burn on 8th and 12th (CW).

Common Scoter:-

18 off Stag Rocks on 25th (B.R.S.). 1 off Seaton Sluice on 27th (RN et al).

Canada Goose:-

4 flew E. down North Tyne on 12th and on 13th, 12 adults and 11 young at Sweethope Lough (BG). 2 at Seaton Burn on 3rd (ER). 3 flew S. off Bamburgh on 27th (B.R.S.).

Sparrow Hawk:-

1 at Shepherds Dene on 26th (CW).

Osprey:-

1 at Seaton Burn on 3rd until at least 15th (ER). Another flew E. down River Tyne at Hexham on 7th (BG).

Kestrel:-

Birds reported at Kylloe, Haggerston, Chatton, Fenwick and Blanchland.

Coot:-

50 at Seaton Burn on 15th and 60 at Newton Pond on 29th (ER).

Oystercatcher:-

A flock of 6 near Scotswood Bridge on 22nd (BG).

Lapwing:-

A northerly passage off Bamburgh on 12th where 3 parties totalling 118 were seen (B.R.S.). A party of 120 at Prestwick Carr on 15th (ER).

Grey Plover:-

1 on Holy Island on 24th (IHA).

Turnstone:-

20 on Holy Island on 24th (IHA).

Woodcock:-

Over 6 at Dipton Woods on 26th (MN/CW/RN). 1 at Kylloe Woods on 20th (IHA).

Curlew:-

c10 pairs with young in the Brenkley area (MH).

Whimbrel:-

A single bird flew N. off Seaton Sluice on 27th (CW/MN).

Bar-tailed Godwit:-

9 at Holy Island on 23rd, only 4 by next day (IHA).

Green Sandpiper:-

1 at Swallow Ponds from 24th until 29th (FC).

Wood Sandpiper:-

1 at Cresswell on 20th (MN).

Common Sandpiper:-

Over 7 pairs between Bywell and Riding Mill (CW).

Redshank:-

50+ on Fenham Flats during last two weeks of month (IHA). 3 pairs with young at Swallow Ponds

Dunlin:-

1 at Holy Island on 23rd and 20 in Budle Bay 2 days later (IHA).
2 at Swallow Ponds on 25th (MH).

Sanderling:-

2 at Holy Island on 16th (IHA).

Ruff:-

1 at Gosforth Park on 12th and another at Cresswell on 20th (MN/CW). 6 at Newton on 26th (RN).

Arctic Skua:-

1 off Holy Island on 23rd (IHA) and 2 flew N. off Cresswell next day (TW).

Common Tern:-

1 at Hexham on 7th (BG).

Little Tern:-

2 in Budle Bay on 12th (B.R.S.).

Sandwich Tern:-

2 flew S. over Seaton Delaval on 5th (BG).

Stock Dove:-

Breeding at Gosforth and Rock (FC).

Turtle Dove:- Addendum:-

1 at Cresswell on 15th May (MH).
1 at Bamburgh on 20th (IHA).

Barn/Little/Tawny Owl:-

Several reports of birds of these species in and around Newcastle.

Short-eared Owl:-

1 at Harbottle on 12th (BG) and a bird, probably with young at Holy Island on 24th (IHA). 1 at Bamburgh on 27th was being mobbed by a Kestrel (B.R.S.).

/Nightjar

Nightjar:-

4 at Dipton on 26th (MN/CW/RN). 1 at Keilder on 11th (BG).

Swift:-

There appears to be fewer birds of this species this year in the Hexham area. c200 on 8th at Gosforth Park (CW) and on 10th, 100 at Tynemouth which dropped to 60 on 25th (MH).

Raven:-

1 at Haggerston on 23rd (IHA).

Hooded Crow:-

1 at Bamburgh on 27th (B.R.S.) and at Haggerston on 19th (IHA).

Marsh Tit:-

A pair at Twizel Bridge on 18th (IHA).

Nuthatch:-

On 18th young were being fed at a South Northumberland site (TW).

Blackbird:-

At North Shields a pair nested in a hole in a tree (MH).

Whinchat:-

Birds noted at the coast near Bamburgh from 12th onwards (B.R.S.).
Breeding at Dipton Woods on 26th (RN).

Lesser Whitethroat:-

2 birds trapped at Rock and Arcott during month (FC/CED).

Spotted Flycatcher:-

Very scarce at the Rock and Felton areas this year (FC).

Pied Flycatcher:-

Breeding in Langleeford Valley in numbers similar to last year.

Tree Pipit:-

1 in Holywell Dene on 13th (MH/AB). Breeding at Bamburgh (B.R.S.).

Grey Wagtail:-

A pair breeding at Chirton Burn (MN) and 1 at Roughinglinn (IHA).

Yellow Wagtail:-

More than 10 at Swallow Ponds on 25th (MH).

Hawfinch:-

3 near Bywell on 26th (CW).

Goldfinch:-

4 at Rock on 20th and over 12 at Haggerston during latter half of month (FC/IHA).

Bullfinch:-

A nest with 5 eggs at Rock (FC). A pair in Gosforth Park on 24th (RN).

Corn Bunting:-

Birds singing at East Benton, Rock and West Moor throughout month (FC).

Will all records for JULY be sent to Mr. C. E. Douglas,
25 Briardene Road, Whitley Bay, as I will be away on my annual
migration North.

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TYNESIDE BIRD CLUB.

JULY 1965 BULLETIN.

SUMMARY.

During the first few days of the month pressure was high to the W. of Ireland resulting in light N. or N.W. winds. Although the high pressure system had declined by the end of the first week, the country remained in a northerly air stream for several more days and the weather was cool and showery. A period of quiet, overcast conditions followed, with rain and drizzle and continuing low temperatures. Rising pressure towards the middle of the month brought some slight improvement but the wind was still northerly, and conditions generally cool. Cyclonic weather during the last ten days bringing more rain, drizzle and overcast skies, with mist and fog and only very infrequent periods of sunshine concluded a somewhat dismal July.

Many records were received during the month of waders presumably grounded by adverse weather conditions. At sea the movement was almost entirely northerly and included Manx Shearwaters, Velvet and Common Scoters, Arctic and Great Skuas and Terns. Reports received this month of the successful breeding of Garganey and Gadwall are most encouraging.

The Osprey continues to pay intermittent visits to Seaton Burn Pond and it was here that a Yellow-headed Blackbird, an American species not previously recorded in Europe, appeared about the middle of the month and was seen by many Club Members. Will anyone who knows of this species having been kept in captivity locally please send full details to the Recorder.

Classified List.

Red-throated Diver:-

1 flying N. off St. Mary's Island on 3rd (SM/HP).

Great Crested Grebe:-

One of the pairs breeding in Northumberland has successfully reared one young.

Manx Shearwater:-

Many reported during the month, chiefly from the St. Mary's Island/Seaton Sluice area and almost all being birds flying N. Peak periods were 3rd - 6th, 13th - 16th and 25th - 27th and the maximum seen on one day 60/70 off St. Mary's Island on 4th (many observers).

Fulmar:-

12 nests recorded on Inner Farne (ERM) but fewer pairs breeding at Tynemouth, possibly due to increased number of Kittiwakes (MH).

Heron:-

4 at Whingates Moor on 1st (MH); 2 flying N. near Alnwick on 14th (BG); 1 over Keilder on 17th; 2 on Fenham Flats and 1 at Waren Mill on 24th (JJJ). 1 flying S. over Gosforth Park on 22nd (BG).

Mallard:-

Highest number reported was c100 at Cresswell on 31st.

Teal:-

Maxima 30 at Ashington and 25 at Cresswell on 31st (CW/MN).

Garganey:-

A pair bred successfully on a pond in Northumberland (MH et al).

Gadwall:-

A male at Cresswell on 31st (MN/CW). A pair reared 6 young on a pond in Northumberland (ER).

Wigeon:-

12 off the Inner Farne on 14th (ERM). 1 or 2 at Cresswell Ponds throughout month (BG/MH). 3 at Gosforth Park on 21st (MH/HP) when there was 1 at Havannah Pond (MH).

Pintail:-

A pair at Cresswell during latter part of month (MH/TH et al).

Shoveler:-

Reported present in small numbers on several ponds of S.E. Northumberland, maximum being 30 at Cresswell on 31st. (LGH/MN/CW). A pair bred successfully on this pond.

Scaup:-

A male at Cresswell Ponds 17th - 18th and a pair there 19th - 21st. (many observers).

Tufted Duck:-

Young successfully reared at Holywell Ponds (3 broods) Cresswell, Havannah and Linnheads (CED/MM et. al.).

Pochard:-

Maxima 14 at Hartburn on 18th (JKJ), 5 at Cresswell on 14th (BH/TH) and 4 at Holywell Ponds on 1st (MH). One on sea off Cresswell on 17th (H.R.S.).

Goldeneye:-

4 flew N. off Cresswell on 25th (BG).

Velvet Scoter:-

25 off St. Mary's Island on 15th (RN) and up to 7 reported off St. Mary's Island, Seaton Sluice and Cresswell on several occasions between 16th and 25th. All were of birds flying N. (several observers).

Common Scoter:-

The flock on the sea off Cresswell reached a maximum of c500 on 22nd (MH/HP). 166 flew N. off St. Mary's Island in 3 hours on 15th (RN) and c100 flew N. off Seaton Sluice on 16th (SM/MN/HP). Many other reports received of smaller numbers almost all of which were flying N. but c250 flew S. off St. Mary's Island on 15th (HP).

Eider:-

664 nests were found on Inner Farne and c300 on Coquet Island (Durham University Research Students per ERM). 200 off Cresswell on 13th (MH/TH).

Red-breasted Merganser:-

7 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 15th (RN) and 4 were off the Inner Farne on 17th (ERM).

Shelduck:-

At least 3 pairs bred at Cresswell rearing 7, 6 and 1 young respectively (TH/MH) and successful breeding is also reported from Hauxley (H.R.S.) and on West Wideopen (C. Brown per ERM).

Buzzard sp.:-

2 watched for several minutes drifting S.E. over West Bolton, calling loudly (FC).

Sparrow-hawk:-

Female near Whittledene on 12th (RN).

Osprey:-

1 at Seaton Burn on 16th (ER). Perhaps the same bird that was seen regularly at this wader during first half of June.

Merlin:-

3 nests found in Northumberland from which 11 young were reared (ER).

Kestrel:-

16 nests found in Northumberland, mostly in hill country, from which 64 young were known to have been reared (ER).

Corncrake:-

1 heard near Sinderhope, Allendale on 1st (WB/RG/EL). 1 at Cresswell 7th June (DB).

Coot:-

c240 (including juveniles) at Seaton Burn on 28th (ER). c70 at Holywell Ponds by end of month (CED).

Ringed Plover:-

Only 5 young reared from 4 nests out of 13 found on Inner Farne (C. Adamson and C. Brown per ERM).

Golden Plover:-

Several small flocks reported, most in second half of month, maxima being c60 near Sinderhope on 14th (WB/RG/EL) and c25 at Cresswell on 21st (MM).

Turnstone:-

200+ on Inner Farne on 31st (ERM) when there were c100 on Holy Island (ER).

Curlew:-

Small northerly passage at beginning of month when several small parties of up to 24 were seen moving off St. Mary's Island and over North Shields (SM/HP/PB).

Whimbrel:-

Many records of single birds and small parties of up to 5 reported from several places as far apart as Whitley Bay and Holy Island from 11th - 31st (many observers).

Black-tailed Godwit:-

2 at Cresswell on 27th and 28th (IDH/MM).

Bar-tailed Godwit:-

2 at St. Mary's Island (SM/HP) and 6 at Hauxley (H.R.S.) on 17th, 5 at Bamburgh on 24th (B.R.S.) and 3 at Dunstanburgh on 31st (BG) were all flying N. 37 on Fenham Flats and 16 on Holy Island on 24th (JKJ). Single birds at Cresswell on 21st, 27th and 28th (IHD/MM).

Green Sandpiper:-

Maximum of 4 at Tanfield Ponds on 30th and it was estimated that 7 individuals passed through during month (RMP). 2 at Cresswell on 27th (IDH) and many records of single birds from Ashington, Bothal, Cresswell Ponds, Gosforth Park and Holy Island throughout month (many observers).

Wood Sandpiper:-

1 at Cresswell Ponds on 14th (MM/TH); 1 at Holywell Ponds on 24th and 30th (CED); 2 at Swallow Ponds 24th - 31st (FC/IDH); 1 at Tanfield Pond 30th and 31st (RMP) and 1 (trapped and ringed) at Bamburgh 30th and 31st (B.R.S.).

Common Sandpiper:-

Single birds and small parties reported on migration from many places throughout month, but mostly in second half (many observers). Maximum of 8 at Whittle Dene on 23rd (JSB).

Redshank:-

47 at St. Mary's Island on 21st (JKJ) and 55 at Cresswell on 28th (MM). c200 at Fenham le Moor and c40 on Holy Island on 31st when a small northerly movement of small parties of up to 6 birds was recorded at Dunstanburgh (BG).

Spotted Redshank:-

2 at Gosforth Park on 18th and 24th (FC/ER). 1 at Swallow Ponds on 24th and 25th (JHD). 1 at Cresswell Ponds on 25th and 28th and 2 there on 27th and 29th (BH/TH/IDH/MM).

Greenshank:-

5 at Gosforth Park on 21st and up to 4 there between 24th and 31st. 1 at Cresswell on 17th and 18th and 30th and 31st. 1 at Ashington on 18th and 31st and 1 at Bothal on 24th (MH/MN et al). 1 at Swallow Ponds 24th/25th (JHD). 2 at Holywell Ponds 24th and 30th (CED) and 3 at Fenham le Moor on 31st (BG/ER).

Knot:-

c100 at Budle Bay on 25th (JKJ). c50 at Cresswell on 28th (H.R.S.) and smaller flocks at St. Mary's Island, Fenham, Dunstanburgh and on Inner Farne, almost all during the last 10 days of month (many observers).

Purple Sandpiper:-

c15 on Inner Farne on 13th, 30+ on 17th and c45 there on 24th - 31st (ERM).

Little Stint:-

1 at Cresswell Ponds on 21st (TH/MM). 3 there on 27th (IDH) and 1 at Tanfield Ponds on 31st (RMP).

Dunlin:-

c300 in Budle Bay on 24th (B.R.S.) when there were about the same number on Fenham Flats (JKJ). c100 in Fenham le Moor area, the majority still in breeding plumage, on 31st (ER). Many other records of smaller parties or individuals, mainly on the coast, but several at inland waters,

Ruff:-

1 at Swallow Ponds on 3rd (CED). 2 at Cresswell Ponds on 7th, 21st and 24th and 1 there on 25th (TH/MM/MN). 3 at Gosforth Park on 25th (IDM) and 1 at Tanfield Ponds on 30th and 31st (RMP).

Arctic Skua:-

Seen on most days of month and where the direction of movement was recorded it was nearly always N. The most interesting of the many records received are 7 mobbing a Short-eared Owl on Holy Island on 24th (JKJ), 5 flying S. (one of the few reports of birds moving S.) and 6 flying N. in Druridge Bay on 10th (SM/PB/DR) and 8 off Holy Island on 31st (ER).

Great Skua:-

1 off Holy Island on 4th (BG), 2 in Druridge Bay on 10th (SM/PB/DR), 1 flying N. off Inner Farne on 14th (ERM), 1 flying N. off Craster on 17th (H.R.S.), and 1 at Craster (ER) and 1 at Dunstanburgh again flying N. (BG) on 31st.

Little Gull:-

1 flying N. off Cresswell on 17th (LGM/RN).

Black-headed Gull:-

Of more than 1000 gulls at Cresswell on 28th, the majority were of this species (M).

Kittiwake:-

Probably 5 occupied nests on C.W.S. Warehouse, Newcastle Quayside (FC). Northerly movement of c1200 an hour off Cresswell on 25th (BG). 1 at Cresswell Ponds throughout month and 8 there on 13th (MM).

Roseate Tern:-

3 at Cresswell Ponds on 28th (M) and 2 there the following day (TH).

Little Tern:-

5 pairs bred at 1 locality in Northumberland (ER). Several records of single birds and small parties of up to 4 recorded off St. Mary's Island, Seaton Sluice, Cresswell, Dunstanburgh, Budle Bay, Fenham and Holy Island most of them in the second half of month (many observers) and there were 2 at Cresswell Ponds on 28th (MM).

Tern sp.:-

c500 an hour moving N. off Cresswell on 17th (MN) and c1000 came to Cresswell Ponds from the sea on 24th (CW).

Black Guillemot:-

1 in Summer plumage off the Megstone on 18th (W. Shield per ERM).

Turtle Dove:-

1 at Blagdon Ponds on 31st (JSB).

Barn Owl:-

A pair reared 4 young in North Northumberland (ER).

Little Owl:-

1 at Plessey Checks on 8th (PB).

Short-eared Owl:-

1 near Linnheads on 3rd (LGM). 1 at Kirkwhelpington on 17th (PB). 1 at Holy Island on 4th (BG) and 2 there on 24th (JKJ).

Nightjar:-

Reported from Dipton Woods where 5 were heard on 17th (PH). Keilder and Rothbury (ER).

Swift:-

100/150 moving S. over Holywell Dene on 21st (AB) and on same day c200 flying high and moving S. were reported over Bamburgh (B.R.S.). c200 over Morpeth on 24th (AB/MM) and about same number over Holywell Ponds early in the evening of 30th almost all of which had gone soon afterwards (CED).

Green Woodpecker:-

Nest with 2 young at Dipton on 4th (MH/TH). 1 at Bamburgh Trap on 11th and 1 in Castle Wood, Bamburgh on 24th (B.R.S.).

Hooded Crow:-

1 at Bamburgh on 31st (B.R.S.).

Marsh Tit:-

5 at Dipton on 4th (MH/TH).

Stonechat:-

1 juvenile at Bamburgh on 11th and 25th and 2 there on 24th (B.R.S.)

Whinchat:-

3 pairs bred at Heddon rearing 10 young (JSB). Reported as being fairly common on Black Fell (RN). Family party at Bamburgh on 24th (B.R.S.).

Grasshopper Warbler:-

2 at Blayney Row Ponds on 1st (JSB). 2 at Greenlee on 9th. 1 at Gosforth Park on 18th (RN) and 2 there on 20th (MN). 1 (trapped) at Arcot Hall on 20th (MH).

Chiffchaff:-

1 singing at Dipton on 4th (MH) and 1 at Gosforth Park 12th (MH).

Wood Warbler:-

At least 11 pairs at Dipton (MH). 1 at Bardon Mill on 27th (PH).

Pied Flycatcher:-

5 nests found at Dipton (MH) and 1 juvenile nr. Allendale Town on 5th (RN).

Grey Wagtail:-

2 at Shipley Burn on 7th (DB). 5 near Keilder on 17th (JKJ) and 1 near Thropton on 19th (MH).

Blue-headed Wagtail:-

2 at Swallow Ponds on 27th (FC).

Starling:-

A cream coloured bird with a yellow bill roosting with other Starlings at Tanfield Ponds 16th - 30th (RMP).

Goldfinch:-

2 near Allendale Tarn on 5th (RN). 2 at Shipley Burn on 7th (DB). 6 at Thropton on 12th (FC) and up to 3 at Bamburgh on several dates between 16th and 31st (B.R.S.).

Yellow-headed Blackbird:-

A male of this American species was seen by ER at Seaton Burn Pond on 17th and was still there on 31st having made itself thoroughly at home in the reed bed on N.W. bank, where it was seen by many observers. We understand that these birds are imported very rarely, if at all, and the bird at Seaton Burn did not behave as if it had escaped from captivity. If not an escape it will be the first record of the species in Europe.

List of Contributors

Bamburgh Ringing Station.	B. Galloway.	M. Marquiss.	E. Robson.
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Oystercatchers:-

Records are urgently required of the breeding of Oystercatchers in Northumberland and Durham. Localities, particularly inland ones, and actual or estimated numbers of pairs breeding should be quoted. Please send any information you may have to C. E. Douglas, 25 Briardene Road, Whitley Bay, Northumberland, or to the Recorder M. Bell.

All reports for August to be sent to the Recorder, M. Bell,
15 Rosewood Crescent, Walkerville by the 9th September, 1965.

Meetings will be resumed on the second Thursday of every month in the Y.M.C.A., Blackett Street, Newcastle upon Tyne at 7.p.m. The first being on Thursday, 9th September, 1965.

THE CLUB'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1964 WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THE END
OF THIS MONTH PRICE 4S. OD. PLUS 8D. POSTAGE. COPIES CAN BE OBTAINED
FROM MR. A. BELSHAW, 29 LOVAINE PLACE, NORTH SHIELDS.

TYNESIDE BIRD CLUB.

AUGUST 1965 BULLETIN.

SUMMARY.

Until the 7th there were westerly winds due to cyclones moving westwards to the N. of the country, but on this date pressure rose and an anticyclone remained over the North Sea until the 13th. Troughs moved across the country on 14th and 15th giving light or S.E. winds. From the 18th until the 28th, weather became unsettled with either calm periods or westerly winds. On the 29th an anticyclone was centred off S.W. of the country and moved slowly eastwards resulting in northerly winds until close of month.

Points of interest were the small influx of Buzzard on or around the 19th, a steady stream of warblers moving through the county all month and an Osprey at Seaton Burn, where the Yellow-headed Blackbird remained for quite a while. On the whole waders were not as numerous as in previous years, though around 22nd numbers of most species were at their maximum.

An interesting month with few notable influxes - very few Skuas and Shearwaters seen for this time of year.

Classified List.

Black-necked Grebe:-

A single 1st. year bird at Cresswell Ponds on 20th/22nd (EM/ER) and also one at Holywell Ponds about the same time (CED).

Great Crested Grebe:-

A pair bred in North Durham.

Manx Shearwater:-

Only three records, totalling 10 birds flying N. during first half of month.

Heron:-

Many reports of single birds or small parties from the usual areas.

Gannet:-

230 flew N. at Newton in one hour on 1st. (PB).

Mallard:-

Numbers on local waters built up during month. 200 at Cresswell on 20th/28th (EM/MN et al), 110 at Gosforth Park on 26th (ER) and 150 at Capheaton on 22nd (MH/LGM).

Teal:-

As with Mallard, the local population built up during month as birds from farther N. passed through. Maxima on 28th when there were 300 at Cresswell, 200 at Gosforth Park and 100 at Bothal (EM/MN et al).

Garganey:-

Up to 2 at Cresswell throughout month and other single birds at Gosforth, Prestwick Carr and Havannah (MN et al).

Gadwall:-

A male at Cresswell from 20th until at least 28th (ER/EM) and 2 at Ashington on 20th (PB).

Wigeon:-

10 off Cresswell on 28th (LGM et al).

Pintail:-

2 at Cresswell during month and 2 at Alnmouth on 22nd (EM/ER). 1 at Hauxley on 15th (H.R.S.) and next day there were 3 at Ellington (PB).

Shoveler:-

10 at Gosforth Park at beginning of month rose to 45 by 25th (LGM et al).

Tufted Duck:-

Breeding proved at Whittle Dene where a duck had 4 young on 8th (JSB/IHA).

/Pochard

Pochard:-

About 3 in Gosforth/Seaton Burn area during month (RN) and 8 at Grindon on 15th (JSB/IHA).

Scaup:-

2 flew N. off Hauxley on 3rd (H.R.S.).

Goldeneye:-

A female off Hauxley on 15th (H.R.S.).

Common Scoter:-

A total of c400 flew N. of Hauxley during month.

Velvet Scoter:-

1 flew N. off Cresswell on 3rd and 8th (RN).

Shelduck:-

2 parties of 7 and 5 flew N. at Hauxley on 29th and 30th (H.R.S.).

Grey Goose (Sp?):-

1 seen feeding on Fenham Flats on 14th (JKJ).

Canada Goose:-

11 at Cresswell on morning of 28th (MN et al).

Harrier (Sp?):-

A ring-tail flew in from the sea at St. Mary's Island on 7th (MN).

Common Buzzard:-

2 tired birds at Bamburgh on 21st, 1 of them remaining until end of month (B.R.S.). 1 seen near Sunderland on 19th was found dead two days later.

Osprey:-

Single bird again at Seaton Burn on 9th. This bird showed adult plumage which is different to the bird seen here earlier this year. (Though it may have moulted).

Kestrel:-

Very numerous in most areas from middle of month onwards. This may be due to post breeding dispersal, e.g., 5 at St. Mary's Island and 4 at Hauxley from 15th (MN/H.R.S. et al).

Corncrake:-

A juvenile found dead near Blagdon on 22nd (JSB/IHA).

Water Rail:-

A juvenile near Felton on 28th (FC/AB).

Oystercatcher:-

40 at St. Mary's Island on 3rd had risen to c100 by 21st (MN).

Lapwing:-

A general increase in most areas during month. Several sightings of flocks of up to 300 in coastal and inland haunts.

Ringed Plover:-

A rise in numbers was noted in most coastal localities after 22nd. when 40 at Alnmouth (BG/EM/ER). 30 at Jarrow Slake and 110 at Hauxley on 30th (H.R.S./MN).

Grey Plover:-

4 at Fenham Flats on 14th (JKJ).

Golden Plover:-

300 at Ouston on 8th (IHA/JSB). 400 at Jarrow Slake on 30th and 200 at Deadnall on 4th (MN/PB).

Common Snipe:-

Over 40 at Bothal on 29th (BG) was typical of a general rise in numbers after 15th, 25 at Havannah on 19th, 35 at Tanfield on 25th and 40 at Cresswell on 20th (EM/RMP/ER).

Jack Snipe:-

One at Tanfield Folds on 25th (RMP).

Curlew:-

A general southerly movement noted in coastal areas during month with a small rise in numbers. 50 at Cresswell on 20th, 100 at Hauxley on 30th (EM/H.R.S.).

/Whimbrel

Whimbrel:-

Passage was noted during the first week in most coastal areas e.g., a flock of 21 flew S. at Hauxley on 2nd (H.R.S.) and from 13th until close of month. During 13th/14th a total of c30 came in from E. over Inner Farne (EM). Small parties of up to 7 seen in most of the regular haunts.

Black-tailed Godwit:-

2 at Cresswell on 3rd (RM) and another 2 (both adults) at Bothal on 29th (BG et al).

Bar-tailed Godwit:-

Present in small numbers. Built up at Hauxley from 4 on 5th to 17 on 30th (H.R.S.).

Green Sandpiper:-

Single birds seen during month at Bamburgh, Cresswell, Havannah, Newton, Blaydon and Swallow Ponds. Of other places 2 at Druridge on 6th and 4 on 22nd (BG/ER). 3 at Holywell Ponds on 13th, 2 at Longhurst on 16th, 5 at Tanfield Ponds on 18th, 2 at Alnmouth on 22nd, 2 at Chevington on 31st.

Wood Sandpiper:-

Single birds at Alnmouth, Bamburgh, Cresswell and Lynemouth during first week of month. Present at Swallow Ponds throughout month. On 22nd, 3 at Druridge when a flock of 13 at Tanfield Ponds (RMP).

Common Sandpiper:-

A general rise in numbers with a peak on or about the 22nd, when 12 at Alnmouth and 2 at Druridge. 4 at Gosforth Park on 15th had risen to 12 on 26th (ER) and during this time 6 were at Tanfield Ponds, 4 at Blaydon Ponds and 12 at Whittle Dene.

Redshank:-

300 at Alnmouth on 7th (ER) and numbers well up to normal in other areas.

Spotted Redshank:-

Single birds at most ponds during month. From 20th/29th the maximums of 4 at Longhurst, 2 at Swallow Ponds and 3 at Cresswell were recorded. Not so numerous as previous years.

Greenshank:-

Single birds in most areas until 14th and from then onwards numbers rose until 20th/28th when they became stable. 12 at Longhurst on 20th (PB), 7 at Tanfield on 22nd (RMP) when there were 7 at Druridge. on 26th, 7 in Gosforth Park.

Knot:-

A maximum of 80 on Inner Farne during first two weeks (EM). Up to 70 at Hauxley during month (H.R.S.).

Purple Sandpiper:-

46 on Inner Farne on 1st had risen to 90 on 13th (EM).

Dunlin:-

A general rise in numbers in cost coastal localities after 22nd when 100 were at Alnmouth (BG/EM/ER) and 60 at Cresswell. During period 28th/30th there were 50 at Hauxley, 70 at St. Mary's Island and 250 on Jarrow Slake (H.R.S./MN).

Little Stint:-

Only record is for single bird at Tanfield Pond on 1st (RMP).

Curlew Sandpiper:-

1 at Tanfield Pond on 18th and 2 there on 22nd (RMP).

Ruff:-

Numbers well below normal for this time of year! Only odd ones noted until 14th when a slight influx took place and there were 14 at Cresswell from then until close of month (ER/BG/MN et al). From 14th onwards a general passage through most areas was noted. 7 at Druridge on 22nd (BG/EM/ER). 6 at Longhurst on 30th (BG). 9 at Swallow Ponds on 26th (FC). 6 at Tanfield from 15th/28th (RMP) and present at Blaydon Pond from 15th onward with maximum of 3 on 17th (JSB/TW).

Sanderling:-

55 at Hauxley on 2nd had risen to c110 by 30th (H.R.S.).

/Arctic Skua.

Arctic Skua:-

Up to 20 seen in Cresswell areas on most days with maximum of c40 on 20th (PB/TW et al). 10 at Hauxley on most days during month with a general movement S. on 29th when a total of c100 flew S. during the day (H.R.S.). At St. Mary's the maximum seen was c21 on 21st (MN).

Great Skua:-

Single birds at St. Mary's on 17th and 21st (DC/MN). 1 off the Inner Farne on 8th (EM) and 1 at Fenham Flats on 14th (JKJ).

Gulls (sp):-

During second half of month "many thousands" were in the Druridge Bay area. To give a true estimate of the number is quite impracticable but several observers report "tens of thousands". The majority are adults with only approximately ten per cent. first year birds. All the common species are represented as well as 250-500 Scandinavian Lesser Black-backs. On 28th at Hauxley c1100 "Larus" Gulls moved S. during seven hours (H.R.S./TW/MN et al).

Iceland Gull:-

A sub-adult flying N. at Hauxley with Herring Gulls on 31st (H.R.S.).

Black Tern:-

A first year bird at Cresswell on 6th (BG) where one present until at least 27th (C/). On 15th at Cresswell 6 birds were present of which 5 were adults still showing some Summer plumage (BG/ER). 1 at Seaton Burn on 16th (CW).

"Commic" Tern:-

By 13th there were only c50 on the Inner Farne (EM). Several hundred off Hauxley on most days during month.

Common Tern:-

2 at Seaton Burn on 8th and 3 on 16th (TW/CW). Many thousands of Terns at Cresswell Bay on 22nd were Sandwich, Arctic and this species (TW/JSB/IHA).

Roseate Tern:-

c10 at Cresswell on 22nd (BG/EM) and 8 flew S. on 30th and 21 flew N. on 31st at Hauxley (H.R.S.).

Little Tern:-

2 at Cresswell on 1st and 6 at Beadnell during first week of month (PB/ER/BG). 1 offshore at Hauxley on 29th (H.R.S.).

Turtle Dove:-

1 near Wickham on 31st (IHA/JSB).

Cuckoo:-

Single first year birds noted at Inner Farne on 1st (EM). Cresswell on 22nd (IHA/JSB) and Hauxley on 15th and 28th (H.R.S.).

Short-eared Owl:-

Single birds reported from Hartley on 3rd (MN). Linton on 8th and Holywell on 15th (PB/HDP). Druridge on 22nd and Ellington on 30th (ER/EM/BG). 1 at Chevington Burn during whole of month and 1 at Hauxley on 27th (H.R.S.).

Swallow:-

A roost of c700 built up at Chevington Burn by 6th (ER/BG). 100 roosted at Seaton Burn on 17th when c40 roosted at Wallsend Swallow Ponds (FC/ER).

Hooded Crow:-

1 present at Banburgh throughout month. This bird probably summered in this area.

Blue Tit:-

Noted moving through Hauxley and Banburgh during month in small numbers.

Willow Tit:-

2 parties at Cresswell on 15th totalling c12 birds, the same day 1 at Hauxley.

Coal Tit:-

A party of 10 at Felton on 28th (FC/AB).

/Long-tailed Tit.

Long-tailed Tit:-

A party of c25 at Felton on 28th (FC/AB).

Yellow-headed Blackbird:-

Last seen at Seaton Burn on 14th (ER).

Redwing:-

A single bird at Hauxley during month. This bird has no doubt summered as it was ringed here in late May.

Wheatear/Whinchat:-

Noted passing through both Hauxley and Bamburgh throughout month in small numbers. c30 Whinchats were at Druridge on 22nd (EM/ER).

Stonechat:-

A total of 9 seen at Bamburgh on several days during month (B.R.S.). A male at Druridge on 22nd (ER).

Redstart:-

Report from coastal localities are 1 at Bamburgh on 15th, 1 at Hauxley on 21st and another next day and 1 in Tynemouth Park on 29th (MH/B.R.S./H.R.S.).

Robin:-

During last eight days of month c8 passed through Hauxley.

Sedge Warbler:-

Many passed through Hauxley and Bamburgh during month.

Garden Warbler:-

At Hauxley single birds on 2nd, 4th and 15th and 3 on 29th and at Bamburgh singles on 18th and 30th and 2 on 29th (H.R.S./B.R.S.).

Grasshopper Warbler:-

During first eight days birds were reported from Chevington Burn (3), Prudhoe (1), Corbridge (1) (WB/BG/IHA).

Whitethroat:-

Noted passing through Hauxley and Bamburgh throughout month in fair numbers.

Lesser Whitethroat:-

Only two records of single birds trapped at Hauxley and Bamburgh both on 30th.

"Phylloscopus" Warblers:-

Noted passing through both Hauxley and Bamburgh all month. Falls of 3 on Inner Farne on 6th when a light fall was noted at Hauxley. (B.R.S./EM/H.R.S.). c20 were in Northumberland Park on 8th (MH) and a fall of c12 at Hauxley on 28th which was also reflected at Bamburgh.

Chiff-chaff:-

A single bird at Bamburgh from 29th until end of month.

Goldcrest:-

3 at Hauxley on 22nd (H.R.S.).

Spotted Flycatcher:-

2 at Tynemouth on 8th and 2 at Whitley Bay on 31st (MH). 2 at Hauxley on 22nd and 4 on 30th (H.R.S.).

Pied Flycatcher:-

1 at Elyth on 8th and 15th (LGM/MN). During 14th/15th a light fall noted with 1 at Druridge (TW). 4 at Hauxley (H.R.S.) and 1 at Bamburgh (B.R.S.).

Yellow Wagtail:-

Numbers well below normal at Cresswell and other favoured passage places. During August in normal years as many as 60/70 are regular at Cresswell but as yet the maximum appears to have been about 10. Bamburgh Ringing Station also noticed their absence.

Goldfinch:-

9 at Bamburgh during month (B.R.S.) and a party of c20 near Blanchland on 29th (FC).

Linnet:-

Up to 200 roosting at Seaton Burn and Chevington during month (ER).

Redpoll:-

c30 at Havannah and Gosforth during the month (LGM/EM).

List of Contributors.

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E. Robson.
C. Watson.
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The next Club Meeting will be held in the Y.M.C.A., Blackett Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, 1. on Thursday, 14th October, 1965 at 7.p.m.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Will Members please send their subscriptions of 10s. 0d. to the Treasurer as soon as possible. The Treasurer's address is:-

MR. A. BELSHAW,
29 LOVAINE PLACE,
NORTH SHIELDS.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Club's Annual Report for 1964 is now ready. Members wishing to obtain a copy of the above-mentioned Report should send 4s. 8d. (postage included) to:-

MR. A. BELSHAW,
29 LOVAINE PLACE,
NORTH SHIELDS.

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

S E P T E M B E R 1 9 6 5 B U L L E T I N .

SUMMARY.

During the month there were two very interesting sea movements on 13th/14th and 18th/19th, involving numbers of Skuas, Shearwaters and Sea Duck. The most interesting observations, however, were made on 19th when a Frigate Bird, Black-browed Albatross and Cory's Shearwater were seen off Hauxley.

On the coast and at Ringing Stations this month has proved the most interesting for several years. This being the case, it was felt necessary to summarise the passerine migration in chronological order. The Blyth/Tynemouth area has been put under the heading "South-east Northumberland" and is hereafter abbreviated - S.E.N. Species with a static population during this period have been omitted from the classified list due to lack of space and time (it has taken myself and E. Robson over 20 hours to compile this report).

Barred Warblers have proved to have been more numerous this month than in any previous year with at least 24 being recorded.

A bird new to the county and in fact the British mainland (the previous five records come from Fair Isle) is the Thrush Nightingale a first Winter, being trapped at Hauxley on 26th and 27th. Another first for the county is the Greenish Warbler at Bamburgh which was trapped on 4th and stayed until 7th. A Woodchat Shrike on Holy Island, Arctic Warbler and Richard's Pipit at Hauxley are also very interesting and there are very few records for either of these from the county.

A total of at least three Icterine Warblers is quite outstanding as is the very low numbers of Bluethroats considering the circumstances.

Classified List.

Divers:-

2 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 24th (HP) and 3 flew S. off Seaton Sluice on 30th (C/).

Black-throated Diver:-

1 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 3rd (JDP).

Great Northern Diver:-

1 flew S. off Holy Island on 23rd (RW) and another off Seaton Sluice on 30th (CW).

Red-throated Diver:-

3 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 19th (HP). A total of 8 flew N. off Hauxley during afternoon of 23rd and there was a single bird there and at Druridge Bay on 25th (H.R.S./IHA).

Great Crested Grebe:-

1 off Bamburgh on 13th (B.R.S.). 1 off Hauxley on 19th and 1 in Holy Island Harbour on 22nd/23rd (H.R.S./RN).

Red-necked Grebe:-

1 flew N. off Bamburgh on 9th, and from next day onwards up to 3 were present in the Stag Rocks/Holy Island area (B.R.S.).

Black-necked Grebe:-

2 at Cresswell on 11th and 1 remained until 16th (CW/LGM). 1 at Holywell Ponds on 22nd (MH).

/Frigatebird:-

On 19th, 1 flew N. off Hauxley at 16.08 hours. To be considered by the Rarities Committee. (ER/MM)_/

/Albatross:-

On 19th, 1 flew N. off Hauxley at 16.04 hours. Its large yellow bill suggests that it was Black-rbowed. To be considered by the Rarities Committee. (ER/MM)_/

/Manx Shearwater

Manx Shearwater:-

Small numbers seen moving N. during most days of month. On 17th, 94 flew N. off St. Mary's Island in evening (JDP) and two days later 105 were counted off Hauxley during three hours (H.R.S.).

Cory's Shearwater:-

A party of 3 flew N. of 17.04 hours and a further party of 18 at 17.18 hours on 19th off Hauxley (ER/MM). To be considered by the Rarities Committee.]

Great Shearwater:-

1 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on evening of 17th (JDP).

Sooty Shearwater:-

1 flew S. off St. Mary's Island on 18th (PB/SM). 4 flew N. off Hauxley next day and 2 birds were seen following a fishing boat into Amble Harbour on 21st (H.R.S.). 1 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 1st and 3 on 17th (JDP).

Gannet:-

Large numbers seen offshore during month.

Heron:-

1 at Cresswell during last half of month.

Mallard/Teal:-

Numbers continued to build up on local waters during month.

Wigeon:-

A northerly movement offshore noted on 18th and 26th at Bamburgh and Hauxley, smaller movements noted generally from 13th onwards (B.R.S.).

Pintail:-

4 flew S. at Bamburgh on 13th (B.R.S.). 1 at Holy Island on 23rd and another at Cresswell on 27th (RN/CW).

Scaup:-

7 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 2nd (JDP). A party of 20 flew S. off Bamburgh on 17th (B.R.S.). 2 at Cresswell on 22nd and 24th (CW et al).

Goldeneye:-

An adult male flew N. off Bamburgh on 18th (B.R.S.) and 1 at Cresswell on 26th.

Velvet Scoter:-

Off St. Mary's Island, 3 flew N. on 1st (HP) and 4 flew N. on 3rd and 7th (RH). 1 at Bamburgh next day (B.R.S.).

Common Scoter:-

Small parties moving offshore during month. Over 400 flew N. in 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours off St. Mary's Island on 2nd (JDP).

Red-breasted Merganser:-

A party of 17 flew N. off Hauxley on 10th (H.R.S.).

Grey Geese:-

26 flew S. over Holy Island on 25th (LGH/RN).

Grey Lag Goose:-

1 flew S. off Bamburgh on 5th (B.R.S.).

Buzzard:-

1 at Bamburgh on 30th (B.R.S.).

Osprey:-

Single bird flew in from E. at Hauxley on 4th (H.R.S.).

Kestrel:-

Large numbers noted in coastal areas.

Coot:-

Over 240 at Holywell Ponds on 26th (CED).

Lapwing:-

250 at Embleton on 15th (FC) was the largest flock reported.

Grey Plover:-

2 at Hauxley on 3rd, 3 at Holywell Ponds on 16th and 3 at Hauxley at end of month. Single birds at Howick and Sleekburn. Small numbers in Holy Island area.

Turnstone:-

211 at Enbleton on 26th (IHA).

Snipe:-

At least 40 at Tanfield Ponds on 25th (RMP).

Curlew:-

Up to 100 at Hauxley during month (H.R.S.).

Whimbrel:-

Between 1st and 4th birds were noted coming in at Bamburgh, Hauxley and Hartley. Many single birds and small parties were seen elsewhere until middle of month.

Black-tailed Godwit:-

2 at Longhirst on 3rd (BG).

Bar-tailed Godwit:-

A bird out of a flock of 31 at Jarrow Slake on 10th/11th, was a dilute form. A flock of 18 very tired birds at Hauxley on 3rd (H.R.S.). Usual parties in Holy Island area, and small numbers seen at other coastal points.

Green Sandpiper:-

Single birds at Tanfield on 7th (RMP) and Holywell Ponds on 18th and 27th (CED/TH).

Wood Sandpiper:-

2 at Hauxley on 8th (H.R.S.). 2 at Holywell Ponds on 12th and 18th (CED).

Common Sandpiper:-

14 came in at Hauxley on 3rd (H.R.S.). 2 at Bamburgh on 7th/8th and 2 at Holywell on 26th (B.R.S./CED). 1 at Bamburgh on 25th (B.R.S.).

Spotted Redshank:-

1 at Hauxley on 3rd (H.R.S.). Another behind Whitley Bay Cemetery on 5th (HF). 2 at Usworth on 10th (MLC).

Greenshank:-

3 at Gosforth Park and surrounding area, for most of month. 2 over Arcot on 19th. 1 at Swallow Ponds on 26th when 11 were at Cresswell (CED/TH).

Purple Sandpiper:-

Numbers gradually building up along coastline.

Little Stint:-

All records during first 11 days. On 4th there were 2 at Hauxley (H.R.S.) and by next day 1 at St. Mary's Island (PB/SM) and at Northumberland Park, Tynemouth (MH). There were 2 at Swallow Ponds on 7th (CW) and 1 at Cresswell on 11th (LGM).

Dunlin:-

Several flocks of over 200 reported.

Sanderling:-

200 at Hauxley on 4th (H.R.S.).

Ruff:-

35 at Cresswell on 11th. Some remaining throughout month. 13 at Usworth on 6th (MLC) and 14 at Monks House Pool on 18th (MB et al).

Arctic Skua:-

Large passage on 3rd when over 80 counted off St. Mary's Island (JDP). Small parties and single birds seen every day during month and another fairly heavy movement was noted on 17th/18th.

Great Skua:-

1 off St. Mary's on 1st (HP) and Bamburgh on 18th (B.R.S.) when 5 seen around St. Mary's Island (JDP). 3 flew N. off Hauxley on 19th and 2 at Cresswell on 29th (TH).

Pomarine Skua:-

1 at Hauxley on 11th and 19th when 1 at St. Mary's (HP). 1 at Bamburgh on 13th (B.R.S.) when 1 off South Shields Pier. On 2nd/3rd over 12 flew N. off St. Mary's Island (JDP).

/Little Gull

Little Gull:-

A single bird at Holywell Ponds on 14th (CED) and another at Monks House Pool on 18th (M).

Black Tern:-

Off Hauxley, 1 flew S. on 4th and 2 on 16th (H.R.S.). 4 at Holywell Ponds on 26th (CED). 1 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 18th (JDP).

Gull-billed Tern:-

2 flew N. off St. Mary's on 2nd (JDP). To be considered by Rarities Committee.

Auks:-

On 26th/27th there was a great raft of oil off Hauxley, many oiled birds seen and found. 12 Guillemots had to be destroyed (H.R.S.).

Black Guillemot:-

1 off Holy Island on 22nd/23rd (MN/RN).

Turtle Dove:-

1 at Bamburgh on 10th (B.R.S.) and a Collared Dove at Hauxley on 27th (H.R.S.).

Cuckoo:-

1 at Hauxley on 4th/5th (H.R.S.) and another at Bamburgh on 25th (B.R.S.).

Tawny Owl:-

1 at Cresswell was found shot (CW).

Long-eared Owl:-

1 on Holy Island on 25th (JDP/M) and 1 at Bamburgh on 15th (B.R.S.).

Short-eared Owl:-

Widespread throughout most coastal areas in small numbers. 1 was seen to kill a juvenile Moorhen at Swallow Ponds (FC).

Swift:-

On 3rd/4th a very large southerly movement noted and a smaller one on 14th/16th. 2 over Forest Hall on 28th (FC).

Greater Spotted Woodpecker:-

1 at Holy Island on 5th (RG/WE). 1 flew over Newcastle and into Leazes Park on 24th (RMP).

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker:-

1 at Gosforth Park on 14th (DB).

List of Contributors.

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The next Club Meeting will be held in the Y.M.C.A., Blackett Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, 1. on Thursday, 11th November, 1965 at 7.p.m.

ANNUAL REPORT:-

This Report is now available. Members wishing to obtain a copy should send 4s. 8d. (postage included) to the Treasurer, Mr. A. Belshaw, 29 Lovaine Place, North Shields, Northumberland.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS:-

Members please send their subscriptions (10s. 0d.) to the Treasurer (address above), as soon as possible.

TYNESIDE BIRD CLUB

Passerine Migration.

SEPTEMBER, 1965.

- 1st/2nd. A ridge of high pressure resulted in fairly strong N. to N.E. winds. Holy Island had 1 Cuckoo, 2 Barred Warblers and 8 Redstarts whilst Bamburgh had 3 'northern' Wheatears.
- 3rd. A complex depression moved from France and drifted slowly northwards over the North Sea deepening all the while. The morning began with heavy drizzle and by mid-day the strong N.E. wind brought heavy rain which continued until the morning of the 4th. Holy Island had a fall of 10 Redstarts, 6 Garden Warblers, 8 Spotted and 10 Pied Flycatchers, 2 Lesser White-throats, a few Goldcrests, single Fieldfares and a Ring Ouzel. Bamburgh had odd Whinchats and Pied Flycatchers and a single Ring Ouzel. Hauxley - A very light fall of Redstarts, Willow Warblers, Garden Warblers and a single Sedge Warbler. South East Northumberland had much the same as the above-mentioned places.
- 4th. The deep low depression was now centred off our coastline resulting in strong N.E. winds which became E. by mid-day and then backed to N.E. again by evening. Rain cleared very early, and by mid-afternoon the sky had cleared and the weather was warm and sunny. For the four localities, the impression was gained that the commonest migrant by far were Wheatears (420)* The other migrants, though not as numerous as the heavy falls noticed in previous years (e.g., 1956, 1960, 1963) were fairly prominent. Whinchats (180)*, Redstarts (140)* Garden Warblers (100)*, Pied Flycatchers (150)*. At Holy Island there were 3 Wrynecks, 2 Red-backed Shrikes, 30 Phylloscopus Warblers and 2 Tree Pipits. Bamburgh had 2 Barred Warblers, 2 Wrynecks, 2 Grasshopper Warblers, a Siskin, 18 Sedge Warblers and a Greenish Warbler which was trapped, odd Whitethroats and Blackcaps. Hauxley - 5 Red-backed Shrikes, a Cuckoo, a Blue-throat, Reed Warbler, 3 Barred Warblers, 16 Crossbills, a male Ortolan Bunting, 3 Lesser Whitethroats and small numbers of Sedge Warblers, Goldcrest and Phylloscopus. S.E.N. - 2 Red-backed Shrikes, 2 Lesser Whitethroats, 1 Acrocephalus, a Fieldfare, small numbers of Phylloscopus. Only a few Garden Warblers reported for this area which is probably due to the lack of trapping facilities compared to the areas further N. From all coastal areas, a marked southerly movement of House Martins and Swifts was noticed.
- 5th. The depression had moved away, and the area was affected by a series of shallow pressure systems. The winds were light to moderate N. - N.E. decreasing to light northerly by mid-day. Most birds were by now moving out, or through coastal localities. Particularly noted at Bamburgh and Hauxley where numbers of Pied Flycatchers, Redstarts and Garden Warblers fell during the day and by the evening were building up again. Holy Island - 3 Barred Warblers, 2 Red-backed Shrikes, 1 Lesser Whitethroat, many Garden Warblers, and small numbers of Spotted Flycatchers and Goldcrests. Bamburgh - 1 Icterine Warbler, a Tree Pipit and a Fieldfare. Hauxley - a Reed Warbler and another Barred Warbler, Lesser Whitethroat and Red-backed Shrike. S.E.N. - All numbers seemed to drop. A red-backed Shrike and a Barred Warbler were additions to the previous day. Two other points of interest were a Pied Flycatcher at Burradon (6 miles inland) and 4 Wrynecks at Cullernose.

*These are grand totals for Hauxley, Holy Island, Bamburgh, South East Northumberland inclusive.

/6th/8th.

SEPTEMBER, 1965.

- 6th/8th. A large, but very shallow depression centred over southern Sweden, gave light N.E. - E. winds during these three days. The weather was showery with overcast skies for most of the time. Bamburgh - Another Icterine Warbler, 2 Reed Warblers, and a Grey Wagtail. Pied Flycatchers decreased from 22 on 6th to 7 on 8th and this decrease was general with other migrants. During this time a light southerly movement of Swallows was taking place. Hauxley had a general passage through of all migrants in small numbers. A Wryneck on 8th. S.E.N. On the 6th there were 2 Barred Warblers, a Lesser Whitethroat, a Ring Ouzel and an Icterine the next day. The general passage, and decline in numbers of migrants that was noted at Bamburgh, was evident here too. During one hour in Tynemouth on the 8th over 1000 Swallows flew S. (This helps to confirm the Bamburgh/Hauxley picture).
- 9th/10th. A depression centred off Norway moved slowly S.E. The winds were strong N.Westerly and as the depression filled and lessened in strength until light N.N.W. on evening of 10th. Bamburgh/Hauxley. Both stations noted similar small movements of Redstarts, Pied and Spotted Flycatchers, Whinchats, Wheatears and Garden Warblers. At this time began what we now have come to expect, the annual movement of Blue Tits in coastal localities. A Turtle Dove at Bamburgh on 10th. 5 Red-backed Shrikes at Chevington.
- 11th/15th. During this period a ridge of high pressure moved slowly over the area, the winds during these five days were light to moderate from the N. and later W. and S.W. Holy Island - On the 11th there was a Lesser Whitethroat and a Wood Warbler. Bamburgh - 2 Grey Wagtails passed through (1 caught on 13th was retrapped at Cresswell on 30th). At both ringing stations a general rise in Goldcrest numbers was noted, and Song Thrush and Dunnocks were evidently moving through with the first Wrens. Wheatears, Whinchats, Redstarts, Garden Warblers, Pied and Spotted Flycatchers continued to move through daily in small numbers. At Bamburgh on the 15th a Barred Warbler, Wryneck, Long-eared Owl and Blackcap, and on the previous day Hauxley had a Blackcap and Chiffchaff. S.E.N. had at least 1 Icterine Warbler on 11th and the 12th saw 2 Wrynecks and 1 Blackcap. A Red-backed Shrike on 14th.
- 16th/18th. On the 16th a shallow ridge gave light W. to S.W. winds but the rapid approach of a deep, intense depression which had centred over S.E. Ireland by the evening of 17th resulted in the strengthening of the winds from the S.E. by nightfall. By the 18th the depression had moved over the North Sea to Norway. During the morning the winds were strong northerly but they moderated during the day and came from the N.W. Apart from an adult Arctic Warbler at Hauxley on 16th, both ringing stations had little else of interest though Bamburgh had 2 'northern' Tree Creepers, a Blackcap and a Siskin. Both stations noted a light southerly movement of Swallows and pipits during these three days, the peak being on the 17th when 1000 flew S. Only report from S.E.N. was of 4 phylloscopus on 17th.
- 19th/22nd. An anticyclone over N.E. France moved slowly eastwards and extended its sphere of influence. The winds were moderate westerly for the next three days and it was not until the 23rd when the high pressure began to fall that the weather and winds began to change. Holy Island. The origin of the birds seen here at this time is difficult to explain, but nevertheless they turned up. A 1st. W. Woodchat Shrike, 2 Red-breasted Flycatchers, 16 Robins and a Tree Pipit. Bamburgh and Hauxley Again very quiet. Bamburgh had 4 Blackcaps, 4 Coal Tits, 4 Pied Flycatchers and a dozen Goldcrests while Hauxley had c25 Goldcrests and a Chiffchaff. It was evident that Song Thrushes were beginning to move through in small numbers. Nothing reported from S.E.N.

/23rd/24th

SEPTEMBER, 1965.

23rd/24th. A low pressure system off Iceland, and the weakening of the anticyclone resulted in a light southerly airstream on 23rd and by the next day a complex depression, from W. Scotland to Bay of Biscay had formed. The winds were S.E. light.
Holy Island - A Red-backed Shrike joined the Woodchat and both were last seen on 24th. Whinchats, Garden Warblers, Wheatears, Redstarts were noted to be coming in in small numbers on both days. A light southerly movement of Meadow Pipits was noted and 2 Tree Pipits were present. By now both Stations were noticing a small rise in migrants. Bamburgh had several Pied Flycatchers, Song Thrushes, Robins and a Blackcap. Hauxley had a few Redstarts and single Chiffchaff, Garden Warbler and Whitethroat. 2 Coal Tits at Hauxley on 23rd the day previous 4 at Bamburgh. S.E.N. was neglected, only 3 Redstarts being reported from this area.

25th. The depression had by now become very active, the winds were strong S. Easterly throughout the day with cloudy conditions.
Holy Island - a fairly large influx of the commoner drift migrants i.e., Whinchat (60), Redstart (50), Pied Flycatcher (40), Wheatear (20+) with odd Garden Warblers and Spotted Flycatchers. During the afternoon migrants were seen to alight on the rocks near Nessend. A long-eared Owl, Cuckoo, 2 Black Redstarts, 1 Hippoboscids (prob. Icterine) and a Ring Ouzel. Also 2 Fieldfares. Bamburgh - a Cuckoo and a few Pied Flycatchers, Redstarts and a Blackcap. A light fall of Song Thrushes which was also noted at Hauxley who also had 16 Wheatears, 40 Whinchats, 20 Redstarts, 10 Pied Flycatchers, 2 Red-breasted Flycatchers and a single Richard's Pipit. At S.E.N. there was 3 Wheatears, 14 Whinchats, 8 Redstarts, 1 Black Redstart, 17 Pied Flycatchers and the first Snow Bunting for the Autumn.

26th/27th. The complex low pressure system persisted though it was centred off N.W. Scotland and later Ireland. Winds were light and easterly later veering to the S. Most of the migrants which arrived on 26th, had fully recovered by the evening of that day due to good weather conditions, and by next day most of them had continued on their way. Bamburgh - a noticeable fall of migrants the most predominant being Song Thrush. Small parties were arriving throughout the 26th. Pied Flycatchers (14), Redstarts (16), Blackcaps and Garden Warblers present in equal numbers there being about 10 of each. 2 Spotted Flycatchers, 3 Siskins and a Red-backed Shrike. Hauxley. Similar movement of Song Thrushes to that noted at Bamburgh but also 20 Redwings, 1 Fieldfare, Wheatears (20), Whinchats (80) and Redstarts (c180), Garden Warblers (45), Blackcaps (5), 2 Barred Warblers and Whitethroats. 10 Spotted and 50 Pied Flycatchers and single Red-backed Shrike, Chiffchaff, Bluethroat and a Thrush Nightingale which was caught and ringed. 4 Siskins and a strong southerly movement of Meadow Pipits, when 2 Tree Pipits were present. Dunnocks and Wrens (the Dunnocks were also noted at Bamburgh) were noted passing through. In S.E.N. about 110 Song Thrushes were seen, and the influx already mentioned for further N., was reflected here with Whinchat (17), Redstart (50), 12 Siskins, 4 Tree Pipits small numbers of Blackcaps, Garden Warblers, Pied and Spotted Flycatchers and a single Ring Ouzel and Brambling. Dunstanburgh - similar species to elsewhere and in addition a Bluethroat. On the 27th both Bamburgh and Hauxley noticed that most of the migrants from the previous day had departed, but they were replaced in very small numbers with Garden Warblers, Redstarts, Blackcaps and Phylloscopus Warblers. However, a Barred Warbler was amongst these commoner migrants at Marsdon on this day.

28th/29th. A centre of a small depression came over the North Sea deepening on the 29th when it moved towards the Yorkshire

/coast

SEPTEMBER, 1965:

28th/29th. coast. On the 28th winds were light N. West but by the following morning they had veered to N.E. moderate. Bamburgh. Odd Redstarts, Whinchats, Spotted Flycatchers, Goldcrests and Siskins passing through. The beginnings of what appeared to be a Chaffinch influx.

30th. A low which was over France moved N.W. to be over the Channel by evening. The winds were moderate N.E. veering to S.E. by nightfall. Bamburgh - Fieldfares, Redwings, Song Thrushes and Blackbirds were coming in in small numbers, as did a Ring Ouzel. Small numbers of Whinchats and a single Spotted Flycatcher and more Chaffinches. S.E.N. There was a similar Thrush movement noted and also 45 Robins and small Wheatear numbers.

30th/1st. The complex low pressure system persisted though it was centered off N.W. Scotland and later Ireland. Winds were light and easterly after veering to the S. West at the night. Birds which arrived on 30th, had fully recovered by the evening of that day due to good weather conditions, and by next day most of them had returned to their way. Bamburgh - a notice-able fall of migrants the next afternoon being Song Thrushes. Small parties were arriving throughout the 30th. Fieldfares (10), Redstarts (10), Blackbirds and Goldcrests (10), Whinchats (10), Siskins and a Red-backed Shrike. 2 Spotted Flycatchers, 3 Siskins and a Red-backed Shrike. Wickham. Similar movement of Song Thrushes to that noted at Bamburgh but also 20 Redwings, 1 Whinchat, 10 Goldcrests (20), Whinchats (20) and Redstarts (10). Garden Warblers (10) and 20 Red-backed Shrikes and single Red-backed Shrike, Chiff-chaff, Chinchilla and a Thrush which was caught. Wickham. 4 Siskins and a strong southerly movement of Red-backed Shrikes, when 2 free fliers were present. Bamburgh and Wickham. The Dunrobin was also noted at Bamburgh and Wickham were seen passing through. In S.E. about 10 Song Thrushes were seen and the influx of migrants for further S. was reflected here with Whinchats (10), Redstarts (10), 12 Siskins, 4 free fliers small numbers of Blackbirds, Garden Warblers, Red and Spotted Flycatchers and a single Ring Ouzel and in addition a Dunrobin. On the 27th both Bamburgh and Wickham noticed that most of the migrants from the previous day had departed but they were replaced in very small numbers with Garden Warblers, Redstarts, Blackbirds and Whinchat migrants. However, a large number of these common migrants at Bamburgh on this day.

30th/1st. A centre of a small depression came over the North Sea deepening on the 30th when it moved towards the Yorkshire coast.

TYNESIDE BIRD CLUB.

OCTOBER 1965 BULLETIN.

SUMMARY.

A depression moved across the country on the 1st and S. to S.E. winds, strong at times, prevailed until 6th. It was on the first three days that a huge immigration of Song Thrushes, Goldcrests, Robins, Ring Ouzels and other Turdidae took place. Of the rarer species, another Thrush Nightingale was at Hauxley, several Great Grey Shrikes were seen and large numbers of Blackcaps and Garden Warblers for this time of year. Hauxley seemed to be in the centre of this movement, for numbers of these migrant birds were much lower further north at Bamburgh. After the 6th a change in the weather brought about a speedy disappearance of most birds which had arrived on 2nd/3rd. However, an anticyclone near Iceland moved S.E. and on 8th/9th there were easterly winds, and small falls of Goldcrests, Ring Ouzels took place. A Bearded Tit and Yellow-browed Warbler arrived at Bamburgh and most of the last records of Warblers and Chats occurred at this time. The anticyclone became centred over Scotland from 10th to 12th (resulting in easterlies) but on 13th moved S.E. From 15th to 17th though the winds were westerly, a Barred Warbler arrived at Hauxley and the first Waxwings (which at the time of writing seem to herald an invasion year). From the 18th another anticyclone became centred to the N.E. of the North Sea and from this date until the 26th the winds were constantly S.E. or S. Waxwings, Fieldfares and few Redwing continued to come in but on the 23rd/24th with low cloud and drizzle, Blackbirds began to arrive in huge numbers and there was a Black Redstart at Hauxley.

The 27th, saw southwesterly winds becoming established with depressions moving rapidly E.N.E. just to the N. of Scotland, and thus the month ended quietly, a complete contrast to its beginning when life for the birdwatcher in coastal areas was hectic to say the least.

Correction:- In September summary, the sea movement should read 3rd/4th and not 13th/14th as printed.

WILL MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE THAT UNLESS SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE RENEWED IMMEDIATELY, THIS BULLETIN IS THE LAST THEY WILL RECEIVE.

SUBSCRIPTIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE TREASURER:-
A. BELSHAW, 29 LOVAINE PLACE, NORTH SHIELDS.

The next meeting of the Club will be held in the Y.M.C.A., Blackett Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, at 7.p.m. on 9th December, 1965.

TYNESIDE BIRD CLUB.

OCTOBER 1965 BULLETIN.

Black-throated Diver:-

A single bird off Banburgh and Ross Back Sands on 18th/19th and the next day 1 flew N. off St. Mary's Island (B.R.S/HP).

Red-throated Diver:-

Single birds and small parties seen offshore from 8th onwards. The largest number reported was of 180 at Druridge Bay on 16th (MN/CW).

Little Grebe:-

On the 10th there were 15 on Bolam Lake (CW) and 3 on River Wear at Durham (RN). 1 at Whittle Dene on 22nd (PH).

Red-necked Grebe:-

A single bird off Ross Back Sands area on 18th/19th (B.R.S.).

Heron:-

5 in the Cresswell area on 9th and 3 at Hartburn the following day (FC/CW). On 16th there were 4 at Haggerston (IHA) when 2 were at Catcleugh and 1 at Otterburn (PB). Single bird at Grindon on 19th.

Mallard:-

Small flocks flying N. at sea on 8th and 9th. On 10th at Capheaton there were 175 (CW) and over 200 were off Seaton Sluice on 23rd (MN). Numbers rather lower than usual for this time of year at Gosforth Park and Whittle Dene.

Teal:-

Small movement offshore in connection with Mallard. Maximum numbers reported were of 120+ at Gosforth Park on 16th (BG). 340+ at Holburn Moss on 20th and 89 at Whittle Dene on 31st (PB/IHA).

Garganey:-

A single bird at Gosforth Park on 9th (LGM).

Wigeon:-

On 8th and 9th several thousand flew N, a peak being reached on the morning of 9th. This offshore movement was still in progress on 10th though smaller numbers were involved. Small parties seen at 4 inland waters and the largest flock seen was of 1000 at Holburn Moss on 30th (JMB).

Pintail:-

Only 3 reported. 2 at Ellington on 9th (1 was shot in flight) and 1 flew N. off St. Mary's Island on 8th (CW/HP).

Shoveler:-

25 at Capheaton on 10th (CW) and 22 at Grindon Lough on 27th (TH). A small party of c5 present at Gosforth Park for most of month.

Scaup:-

From 2nd to 9th, 3 females were at Cresswell (TH). On 3rd at Warkworth 3 were seen (BG). Single birds were reported from Whittle Dene and Havannah on 10th and 16th respectively (LGM). On 19th, 6 flew N. off Hauxley (H.R.S.) and on 31st there were 10 on Holy Island (JMB).

Tufted Duck:-

Numbers have not built up to the normal maximum as yet. Holywell, Bolam, Whittle Dene, Cresswell, all had under 20 birds present. Capheaton with its 55 is therefore the water of note (CW).

Pochard:-

c25 present at Hartburn during most of month. Parties of up to 5 birds were all that was reported from 5 other inland waters.

Goldeneye:-

12 flew N. off Cresswell on 9th (CW). 7 were at Grindon Lough on 27th and at Cresswell on 30th. Very small parties or single birds were frequently reported from many of the larger inland waters.

/Long-tailed Duck

Long-tailed Duck:-

1 off Bamburgh on 18th (B.R.S.).

Velvet Scoter:-

Single birds seen very infrequently off Hauxley, Cresswell and St. Mary's Island during month.

Common Scoter:-

On 8th/9th many were seen flying N. 335 were counted off St. Mary's Island on 8th (HP) and on the next 250 were at Druridge (CW).

Red-breasted Merganser:-

Off Ross Back Sands 53 were counted on 18th and 19th, this total being made up from 3 flocks (B.R.S.). Single birds and small flocks seen offshore at Cresswell, Hauxley and Druridge.

'Grey' Goose Sp?:-

On 3rd at North Shields, c50 flew over heading S.W. On 8th at Tynemouth a party of 7 flew S (SM). On 30th 5 flew N. off Cresswell (MN/CW) and 4 flew N. off Hauxley (H.R.S.).

Grey Lag Goose:-

5 flew in off sea at Bamburgh on 30th (B.R.S.).

Whitefronted Goose:-

6 at Cresswell on 30th (MN/CW) and 9 flew W. over Whittle Dene the following day (IHA/JSB).

Pink-footed Goose:-

On 3rd a flock of 60 flew S. over Ellington (BG) and on 9th, 5 were seen at Holywell Ponds (MN) when 1 was caught at Wallsend (FC).

Whooper Swan:-

From 10th until 17th there was 1 at Hartburn (JMJ) and on the latter date there were 14 near Holy Island (IHA). 6 were present at Gosforth Park from 23rd until end of month, by which time there were 40 at Holy Island (JMB). Also reported were 5 near Flessey on 9th (SM) and 9 at Wingates Moor on 20th (PB).

Buzzard (SP?):-

A single bird at Ellington on 9th (CW).

Merlin:-

On 1st, single birds were seen at St. Mary's Island (HP) and at Wardley (PH). On 3rd, 1 was seen flying S. along the shore at Hadstone (JDP).

Kestrel:-

On 1st, a total of 8 were seen at Prior's Park, Tynemouth (HP). 5 were at Whitburn on 8th and 4 at Cresswell on 16th (PH/CW).

Water Rail:-

1 at Bamburgh on 10th had been joined by another on 30th (B.R.S.). A single bird at Hauxley on 16th (H.R.S.).

Coot:-

c90 at Bolam on 27th (TH). 2 at Whittle Dene on 31st this being an early date, the normal time being December (IHA)JSB).

Lapwing:-

On 1st, small parties were noted flying N.W. up Tyne Valley at Lemington and on the next day a few came in at Hauxley. The 3rd saw 250 at Cresswell (FC). By 5th, parties of up to 10 flew W. at Lemington all day on 8th/9th many flocks of up to 80 flew N. over Killingworth all day (BG). At this time 1000 were present in the Cresswell /Druridge area (CW) when c1000 at Blyth Cemetery with parties moving N.W. all morning. 700 at Whitley Bay. on 18th, 25 flew E. at Lemington (BG).

Grey Plover:-

On 3rd, there were 7 at Dunstanburgh (IHA) and 1 at Howick (FC). 3 at Chevington on 16th (CW/MN).

Golden Plover:-

During 2nd, over 170 came in at Hauxley (H.R.S.) and from 3rd to 9th there were 1000 in this area. At Ellington on 9th there were 125 (CW). By 22nd there were only 200 at Hauxley (H.R.S.) and at Boulmer the next day 150 were counted (CW). On 31st there were c200 at Whitchester (IHA/JSB).

/Turnstone

Turnstone:-

c100 at Craster on 24th (BG).

Snipe:-

From 16th onwards c150 present at Gosforth Park and 40 present at Cresswell throughout month. At Hauxley birds were noted coming in on 2nd /3rd, 10th, 16th and 22nd/23rd (H.R.S.).

Jack Snipe:-

3 at Cresswell on 9th (CW). 1 at Bamburgh on 16th and 2 by 30th (B.R.S.).

Woodcock:-

Single birds seen at Prior's Park on 8th, St. Mary's Island on 20th (HP) and Hauxley on 17th (H.R.S.).

Curlew:-

50 flew N. off Hauxley on 9th and from 16th onwards 10 remained in area (H.R.S.).

Bar-tailed Godwit:-

Small numbers reported from Newton, Bamburgh, St. Mary's Island, Cresswell and Whitburn.

Green Sandpiper:-

A late occurrence of 1 at Tanfield Ponds on 24th (RMP).

Common Sandpiper:-

On 3rd, single bird at Bamburgh and Howick (B.R.S./FC). 1 at Gosforth Park on 23rd (HP).

Redshank:-

80 at Cresswell on 9th (CW) when 80 Dunlin present.

Little Stint:-

1 at Cresswell on 7th (TH).

Sanderling:-

On 9th, 40 at Druridge and on 17th, 20 were at St. Mary's Island (CW).

Ruff:-

Up to 6 present at Cresswell from 9th to 16th (MN/CW). 4 at St. Mary's Island on 1st (JKJ). 2 at Longhurst on 20th (PB) and 2 near Seghill on 31st (AB/FC).

Arctic Skua:-

2 at Whitburn on 8th (PH). At Hauxley 1 flew N. on 20th and 2 flew N. on 23rd (H.R.S.). 1 at Cresswell on 30th (CW) and another off Ross Links the next day (BG).

'Commie' Terns:-

A large southerly movement noted off Whitburn on 5th (PH) and from the 9th/10th when a few were seen at Hauxley, they became rapidly scarce. 4 in Cresswell Bay on 16th and 6 on 30th (CW/MN).

Collared Dove:-

On 8th, 1 at Prior's Park (SH) and on 17th 12 at Lesburn (HG). 50 in Holywell Dene on 17th (AB).

Long-eared Owl:-

A single bird at Hauxley on 10th (H.R.S.).

Short-eared Owl:-

During first 10 days of month single birds seen at Druridge, Washington, Cresswell and Hauxley. On 23rd, 1 flew in off sea at Prior's Park and the next morning there were 3 at St. Mary's Island, 2 of which flew towards Holywell Dene (JDP). A single bird at Bamburgh on 31st (BRS).

Swift:-

On 2nd, a single bird was seen flying S. at Bamburgh, Hauxley and Cresswell. 1 at Howick next day (FC). 1 in Northumberland Park on 31st was the last reported.

Green Woodpecker:-

1 at Dunstanburgh on 17th (BG).

Wryneck:-

A 'tired' bird at Prior's Park on morning of 3rd (SH).

Swallow:-

On 3rd a heavy southerly movement was noted in all areas, and by 14th occurrences of this species became rare, only 3 birds being /seen

seen after this date. Single birds at Killingworth on 16th, at Gosforth Park on 24th and at Beadnell on 31st (BG/LGM).

House Martin:-

Birds were moving S. with Swallows on 3rd. 2 flying around Holywell Dene on 10th (J.J.) and on 30th/31st there were up to 15 at Northumberland Park, North Shields (MNC).

Blue Tit:-

A party of 20 at Prior's Park on 8th/9th (SH).

Willow Tit:-

On 9th/10th up to 3 at Hauxley, and 1 here on 23rd/24th (H.R.S.). 1 at Gosforth Park on 23rd (MN).

Long-tailed Tit:-

A party of 10 at Whitley Bay Cemetery on 2nd (JKJ). 5 at Gosforth Park throughout month and up to 20 in Bamburgh area. 10 at Rothley on 10th (CW), and 15 at Rothbury on 16th (SH).

Bearded Tit:-

From 9th/19th a male was present at Bamburgh where it was caught. This is the first record for the county. This record was closely followed by a pair at Gosforth Park from 23rd onwards (B.R.S/MN et al).

Tree Creeper:-

Single birds at Hauxley on 3rd (H.S.) and Bamburgh on 24th (B.R.S.).

Wren:-

A small influx noted along coastline, which came to a peak on 9th/10th when 12 were at Hauxley and many were seen at Cresswell.

Mistle Thrush:-

Small influx on 1st/2nd/3rd when there were 8 at Hauxley and 8 at Whitley Bay Cemetery (H.R.S/CW) and 6 at Prior's Park (HP).

Fieldfare:-

From 1st until 25th birds were coming in. The peaks of immigration were 2nd/3rd, 10th, 17th and from 22nd/24th, when up to 500 birds came in at Hauxley and Bamburgh.

Song Thrush:-

A very large influx on 2nd noted in all coastal areas, perhaps the largest movement of this species ever seen in this area. Over 750 at Hauxley and 500 at Bamburgh, and over 300 were at Bamburgh on 7th when another wave came over.. After 7th, numbers became far smaller and individuals continued to arrive with Redwings and Fieldfares during remainder of month.

Redwing:-

A movement similar to that of Song Thrush, but it continued throughout the month and therefore, far larger numbers involved. Birds did not remain long in coastal areas. Usually they moved inland within 12 hours of arrival. 500 at Prior's Park on 1st, 700 at Hauxley on 2nd and 400 at Bamburgh on 7th, were the largest daily influxes reported. Only small numbers came in after 26th.

Ring Ouzel:-

A remarkable crop of late records and large numbers. Some birds which came in on 2nd/3rd remained for many days, making it difficult to calculate when new birds arrived. On 1st/2nd there were 10 at Dunstanburgh (JSE/IHA). 10 from Lynemouth to Bruridge (TH). 30 at Hauxley (H.R.S.). 10 at Bamburgh (B.R.S.). 10+ at Whitley Bay Cemetery (CW et al). 5 at Cresswell (FC); most of these birds remaining until 3rd. On 7th there was another 'fall' when 6 were at Bamburgh (B.R.S.) and 9th when 4 at Prior's Park, 3 at Cresswell and 3 at Whitley Bay Cemetery. Birds remained in most areas in 1's. or 2's until 16th but at Bamburgh, 2 fresh birds arrived on 28th, 1 remaining until 30th (B.R.S.).

Blackbird:-

In contrast to the Thrushes mentioned previously, very few came in during the first three weeks of the month. Each day would produce a maximum of 50 coming in (usually much less). But on 23rd/24th there was a heavy 'fall'. Over 500 in Bamburgh area, 300 at Hauxley and Holywell Dene. From this date onwards they were arriving each day in small numbers.

/Wheatear

Wheatear:-

Many scattered reports of individuals until 4th. Only 7 seen after that date. 1 at Cresswell on 7th, 3 at Whitburn on 8th (TH/PH). 1 at Hauxley on 10th (H.R.S.) when 2 at Preston (MN).

Stonechat:-

Single birds reported at St. Mary's Island on 3rd, Boulmer on 23rd and Bamburgh on 31st. 2 at Cresswell and 2 at Druridge on 9th (FC/CW).

Whinchat:-

A late influx in connection with the Thrush movement of 2nd/3rd when c20 at Hauxley and c10 in S.E. Northumberland. Odd birds seen until 9th when 1 at Druridge (CW).

Redstart:-

Here again, a marked fall in the first three days of month. On 1st, 20-30 at St. Mary's Island (JKJ) and c50 from Lynemouth to Druridge (TH). The following day there were c100 at Hauxley (H.R.S.) and over 75 in S.E. Northumberland (SH et al) and a few birds remained in these areas until 10th. Thereafter none occurred until 23rd when 1 at Bamburgh (B.R.S.) and 24th when 1 at Hauxley (H.R.S.).

Black Redstart:-

female at Hauxley on 23rd (H.R.S.).

Thrush Nightingale:-

This bird was trapped and ringed at Hauxley on 2nd. The second this year (see September Report) H.R.S. 7

Robin:-

An extremely large influx on 1st/3rd. Hundreds being present in S.E. Northumberland, Cresswell, Hauxley and Druridge area. Further the movement was not so impressive only 80 being present at Bamburgh compared with over 300 at Hauxley and St. Mary's Island areas. By 10th the numbers had dropped to normal for this time of year.

Grasshopper Warbler:-

1 at St. Mary's Island on 2nd (JKJ et al).

Sedge Warbler:-

1 on St. Mary's Island on 1st (HP).

Reed Warbler:-

On 9th, a bird was trapped at Hauxley (H.R.S.).

"Hippolais" Warbler:-

On 3rd, a bird almost certainly an Icterine, was often watched feeding at Hauxley (H.R.S.).

Blackcap:-

An influx occurred during 1st/3rd drift. On 2nd, 20 were at Hauxley when 15 at Bamburgh. By next day, Hauxley's total had risen to 30 while Bamburgh's had dropped to 5. Groups of 3 or 4 birds were seen elsewhere down to coast during this period, and from 10th onwards all birds had left the area except at Hauxley where individuals were present at end of month (H.R.S.).

Barred Warbler:-

On 1st and 2nd, 1 at St. Mary's Island (HP/SM). 2 at Hauxley on 2nd and another there on 15th (H.R.S.).

Garden Warbler:-

Once again, during the drift on 2nd/3rd, the Hauxley numbers far exceeded those seen elsewhere, 30 being present on both days (H.R.S.). Single birds were seen along the whole coastline, though birds only remained for a short time, the bulk having departed by evening of 3rd. On 9th, the last day of any occurrences, there were 8 at Hauxley (H.R.S.) 1 at Cresswell (CW) and 1 at Blyth Cemetery (BG).

Whitethroat:-

On 2nd/3rd, 6 at Hauxley (H.R.S.) and 1 at Prior's Park (SM). 1 at Seaton Sluice on 9th (BG) and the last reported was 1 on 17th at Hauxley.

Lesser Whitethroat:-

During early drift there were 4 at Hauxley on 2nd and 6 on 3rd (H.R.S.). At this time, 2 were at St. Mary's Island, 1 at Bamburgh, 1 at Blyth Cemetery and 1 in Prior's Park. All had left by 4th. The last record was of 1 at Hauxley on 9th (H.R.S.).

/ "Phylloscopus"

"Phylloscopus" Warbler:-

Over 25 were present in S.E. Northumberland on 2nd. 1 or 2 remaining until 8th (SM et al). There were 10 at Hauxley on 9th (H.R.S.) and 1 at Cresswell on 29th (TH).

Willow Warbler:-

4 at Hauxley on 2nd and 10 on 3rd (H.R.S.).

Chiffchaff:-

Small numbers came in with the other migrants of 2nd/3rd and many of them stayed in area far longer! Single birds were at Whitley Bay Cemetery and Bamburgh, on 2nd, 3 at Cresswell on 5th (JDP) and 1 still present on 9th (FC). 2 at St. Mary's Island on 7th (JKJ). 6 at Hauxley on 2nd and 10 the next day (H.R.S.). A bird of the Scandinavian Race 'abietinus' was caught here on 9th. A single bird at Gosforth Park on 16th (BG) and another at Hauxley from 18th to 23rd. 1 at Bamburgh on 21st (B.R.S.). A bird in full song in Gosforth Park on 30th (BG).

Yellow-browed Warbler:-

; trapped at Bamburgh on 10th (B.R.S.) and another single bird at Blyth Cemetery on 24th (BG).

Goldcrest:-

The commonest species during the drift. They began to arrive during 1st and the largest numbers were reported the next day. Over 150 at Bamburgh (B.R.S.), 300 at Hauxley (H.R.S.) and over 400 in S.E. Northumberland! Numbers were still high on the 3rd, over 450 being present at Hauxley (H.R.S.) when 30 came in off sea during half-an-hour in the morning at Hadstone (JDP). 1000 in Druridge Wood on 1st had reduced by 75% the next day and only 40 were present on 4th (TH). By 10th numbers were down to the normal for the coastal areas, but another slight influx was noted at Hauxley and S.E. Northumberland from 22nd - 26th (H.R.S.). A bird at Lemington on 4th had died through quinoline poisoning (BG).

Firecrest:-

An adult at Hauxley on 22nd/23rd (H.R.S.):

Spotted Flycatcher:-

The only records that came to light were from Hauxley, and coastal areas further S. 1 at Cresswell on 1st (TH) and 6 in S.E. Northumberland on 2nd (some remaining until 5th). A single bird at Hauxley on 3rd (H.R.S.) and on 23rd/24th, 1 at Whitley Bay Cemetery on 23rd/24th (BG/JKJ).

Pied Flycatcher:-

Over 15 in S.E. Northumberland on 2nd when 2 at Hauxley and 1 at Bamburgh. The last birds seen were 2 at Prior's Park on 7th/8th and these had come in on 5th (SM).

Red-breasted Flycatcher:-

A single bird at Bamburgh on 2nd/3rd when there was a maximum of 4 at Hauxley - a very large number for this species in 1 locality (H.R.S.).

Dunnock:-

40/50 birds noted at Cresswell, Howick, Prior's Park and Whitley Bay Cemetery areas on 2nd/3rd. On 25th, c50 in Holywell Dene (JDP).

Meadow Pipit:-

300 at Hauxley on 2nd (H.R.S.) and many hundreds noted at Whitburn on 8th (PH).

Tree Pipit:-

2 at Hauxley on 2nd and 8 on 3rd (H.R.S.). Single birds at Blyth on 2nd, Prior's Park on 3rd and Tynemouth Park on 9th (SM/MN).

White Wagtail:-

1 at Whittle Dene on 31st (IHA/JSB).

Grey Wagtail:-

Single birds at Bamburgh on 16th and 24th (B.R.S.) and at Durham City on 23rd (RN).

Waxwing:-

The first birds of the Winter were seen on 17th when 3 at Howick and 12 at Hauxley (H.R.S.). On 18th there were 10 at Haggerston and 3 at Cambois (IHA/TH). From 19th onwards birds occurred at Bamburgh in increasing numbers, 21 being present on 24th and 23 on the 30th (B.R.S.).

/On the

On the 23rd there were 3 at Holywell Dene (MN et al) and 1 at Cockle Park (MNC), the next day saw 4 at Alwinton, and 7 at Hauxley (DR/H.R.S.) and at Heddon over 10 remained until end of the month (IHA).

Great Grey Shrike:-

By 2nd there were 2 at St. Mary's Island (JDP) and 1 at Hauxley (H.R.S.). Thereafter the only birds reported were single ones at Druridge on 4th (TH), Ellington on 9th (CW) and Ross on 23rd (IHA).

Red-backed Shrike:-

On 1st, an immature at Lynemouth (TH) and a single bird at Prior's Park on 7th (MH/SM).

Starling:-

On 3rd there were several thousands at Hauxley, and on 20th 100 came in from the E. here (H.R.S.) and 250 came in at St. Mary's Island (HP). Another day of immigration was the 22nd when flocks of up to 30 were arriving all day at Hauxley (H.R.S.).

Goldfinch:-

9 at Rock on 30th (PB/SM) and 4 at Durham City on 23rd (RN).

Siskin:-

From 1st to 3rd small parties and single birds were noted along the coastline, the largest number recorded being at Bamburgh when 60 were present on 2nd (B.R.S.) and 12 at Cresswell (FC). After 5th only 6 individuals were seen and on 30th, 2 were at Bamburgh and Gosforth Park (B.R.S./LGM).

Linnet:-

A roost of 250 at Gosforth Park on 9th (LGM).

Twite:-

On 3rd, two parties of 3 and 8 birds flew S. off Hadstone. Bills, rumps and harsh call note clearly seen and heard (JDP).

Redpoll:-

Single birds at Hartley and Prior's Park on 2nd and 4th (SM). On 23rd there were over 20 at Gosforth Park (MN) and 1 at Druridge was a very pale bird (TH). 2 late records for Hauxley of 2 on 24th and 3 on 31st (H.R.S.).

Arctic Redpoll:-

A single bird at Bamburgh from 10th to 16th (B.R.S.).

Bullfinch:-

Single birds at Hauxley on 3rd and 21st and 2 there on 31st (H.R.S.). On 23rd, 7 at Gosforth Park (MN et al) and 4 at Hartburn on 10th (CW).

Chaffinch:-

During 2nd/3rd there were 30 immigrants at Hauxley (H.R.S.), Bamburgh (B.R.S.) and 10 in S.E. Northumberland. On the morning of 8th there were 60 at Prior's Park (SM). On the 22nd another 20 arrived at Hauxley (H.R.S.) and the following day saw over 100 at Gosforth Park (MN). There were 45 near Wooler on 30th (HP).

Brambling:-

Birds arrived in small numbers during whole month. Minor influx on 8th/9th and a peak being reached on 24th when birds came in with Turdidae. 41 were at Bamburgh (B.R.S.) and c20 at Whitley Bay Cemetery (BG). At inland haunts, numbers naturally began to rise during this period. 20 at Gosforth Park (CW) and c30 at Longhirst on 31st (BG).

Corn Bunting:-

Over 300 present at Swallow Ponds on 16th (FC).

Lapland Bunting:-

Only 2 birds seen, both at Hauxley on 9th (H.R.S.).

Snow Bunting:-

A single bird at Longhirst on 4th (RMP) and c12 at North Shields on 30th (MNC).

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TYNESIDE BIRD CLUB.

NOVEMBER 1965 BULLETIN

SUMMARY.

A moderate N. westerly airstream covered the area until the 5th, when an anticyclone came to the North Sea giving S. Easterly or Easterly winds, then and on the 6th. Another depression moved across from the Atlantic and these easterly winds continued until the 8th. These winds then changed to southerlies and from 9th to 11th was a period of light S.E. winds. On the 12th an anticyclone became established over Scandinavia resulting in cold weather, snow and easterly winds until the 20th. The 21st began a period of cyclonic weather, which lasted until the end of the month. Troughs and depression moved in from the Atlantic in quick succession giving northerly winds on 22nd and 29th and westerlies on the remaining days.

A very cold, quiet month. The dispersal of Waxwings from coastal areas soon became evident and Duck numbers are remarkably low for this time of year (exception being Wigeon). Even Divers and Grebes were scarce. The 6th saw two interesting records, a Grey Phalarope at Hauxley and a Black Redstart at Bamburgh. 2 Chiffchaffs are worthy of note as are the late occurrences of Pied Flycatcher and House Martin.

Classified List.

Black-throated Diver:-

2 at Bamburgh on 6th and 1 on 13th (B.R.S.).

Great Northern Diver:-

A single bird at Bamburgh on 6th (B.R.S.).

Red-throated Diver:-

Over 20 off Bamburgh on 6th (B.R.S.) and 1 flew N. off Hauxley on 7th.

Red-necked Grebe:-

More than 4 seen off mouth of Budle area on 6th (B.R.S.).

Slavonian Grebe:-

On 6th there were over 20 off Bamburgh and by 14th only 1 was present (B.R.S./MN).

Little Grebe:-

Single bird at Whittle Dene on 14th (JSB) and 3 at Cresswell on 16th (TH).

Gannet:-

During a strong S.E. gale, 4 flew S. off Bamburgh on 13th (B.R.S.).

Mallard:-

On 6th there were over 300 at Holywell Ponds and 300 off Seaton Sluice (MN) and on following day 280 were seen at Wingates Moor (PB). By 14th there were 108 at Whittle Dene (JSB/IHA), 730 at Hallington and 300 at Colt Crag (RG/WB). 100 at Gosforth Park on 21st (BG).

Teal:-

60 at Gosforth Park on 6th (LGM) rose to a peak of 100 on 21st (BG) and only 40 there on 27th. 21 at Whittle Dene on 14th had dropped to 3 on 21st (IHA/JSB).

Wigeon:-

At Holywell Ponds there were 40 on 7th and on 14th there were 4000 at Fenham Flats and 1000 at Holburn Moss (LGM/MN et al).

Pintail:-

There were 2 males at Cresswell on 11th (TH). 9 flew in off sea at Hartley on 27th (PB/SH).

Shoveler:-

6 present at Gosforth Park throughout most of month. 7 off Seaton Sluice on 6th (MN) and 12 (6 immatures) at Colt Crag on 14th (RG/WB).

/Tufted Duck

Tufted Duck:-

35 at Holywell Ponds on 6th (MN). On 21st there were only 19 at Whittle Dene (a low number for this time of year) and 25 at Grindon Lough (IHA/JSB). Gosforth Park had 40 of which only 1 remained on 28th (BG).

Pochard:-

12 at Holywell Ponds on 6th (MN).

Goldeneye:-

A single bird at Gosforth Park for most of month. There were 4 at Bamburgh on 6th (B.R.S.) and 3 flew N. off Hauxley the next day (H.R.S.). 2 at Whittle Dene on 14th (JSB). 5 at Cresswell on 11th rose to 13 by 26th and 2 or 3 remaining here until end of month. 6 at Rothbury were also seen on this day (TH/LGH).

Long-tailed Duck:-

15 off Bamburgh on 6th and 30 off Ross Back Sands on 14th (B.R.S./LGH).

Velvet Scoter:-

6 flew N. off Bamburgh on 13th (B.R.S.) and 1 off Ross Back on 14th (MN).

Goosander:-

2 at Brinkburn (Coquet) on 27th (LGM).

Shelduck:-

On 14th, 2 flew N. off Amble (H.R.S.) and over 400 present on Fenham Flats (MN et al). A single bird at Cresswell on 16th remained until end of month. It was found dead on 3rd December (TH).

Grey Lag Goose:-

A single bird at Cresswell on 5th (TH) and at Holywell Ponds on 7th (LGH). On 21st, 29 counted at Vingates Moor (PB).

Barnacle Goose:-

2 at Cresswell on 5th (TH) and 2 present in Marsden area from 14th until 27th (R.G. Willis).

Mute Swan:-

Over 560 on Fenham Flats on 14th, 3 were identified as being Whooper, the rest being Mutes (LGM et al).

Whooper Swan:-

1 at Ashington from 5th - 7th (TH). 2 at Hallington on 14th (RG/WB) 4 at Cresswell on 16th rose to 17 on 28th when 10 at Linton (TH). 4 at Grindon Lough (IHA) on 21st.

Bewick's Swan:-

5 (immature) on Holy Island Lough on 14th (LGM/MN et al). A single bird at Linton on 28th (TH).

Sparrow Hawk:-

A male at Whittle Dene on 21st (IHA/JSB).

Merlin:-

1 at Holywell Ponds on 21st (LGM/HP) and another at Hartley on 27th (the same bird perhaps?) (PB/SM).

Water Rail:-

3 at Hauxley on 14th (H.R.S.) and at least 6 present at Gosforth Park on 27th/28th (BG).

Coot:-

162 counted at Holywell Ponds on 28th (R. Gooding).

Golden Plover:-

Over 250 at Hauxley on 13th (H.R.S.) and on 27th there were 800 at St. Mary's Island and 250+ at Cresswell (MN/TH).

Snipe:-

On 11th about 60 at Cresswell (TH) and on 14th, 22 at Whittle Dene (JSB).

Jack Snipe:-

1 at Hauxley on 14th (H.R.S.). 2 at Cresswell on 23rd (TH) and 5 at Gosforth Park on 27th/28th (BG).

/Woodcock

Woodcock:-

Single birds at Hauxley, Bamburgh and Cresswell up to 12th. On 14th 2 at Hauxley (H.R.S.) and on 27th, 3 at Cresswell (TH). 3 at Holywell Dene (PB) and 4 - 6 at Gosforth Park (BG).

Bar-tailed Godwit:-

Only 3 on Fenham Flats on 14th (LGM et al) and 1 flew S. off Cresswell on 28th (TH).

Knot:-

Flocks totalling 5000 at Fenham Flats on 14th (MN/LGM) and 500 at St. Mary's Island on 21st.

Purple Sandpiper:-

Over 100 flew S. past Bamburgh during high tide on 6th (B.R.S.).

Ruff:-

A single bird at Hauxley on 13th/14th (H.R.S.) and another at Cresswell from 23rd to 27th (TH).

Grey Phalarope:-

1 feeding on a rainpool at Hauxley on 6th (H.R.S.).

Greater B.B. Gull:-

Over 40 at Seahouses Harbour on 20th and 65 at Holywell Ponds on 28th (RG).

Glaucous Gull:-

1st. W. bird at Seahouses Harbour on 20th (R. Gooding).

Auks:-

On 13th, during a S.E. gale off Bamburgh over 250 flew S. in two hours. 90 per cent of these were Guillemots (B.R.S.).

Collared Dove:-

52 in Holywell Dene on 21st (LGM).

Barn Owl:-

1 at Hartley on 28th (PB).

/Snowy Owl:-

1 at Hauxley on 28th (ER/PY). _7

Short-eared Owl:-

1 near Holburn Moss on 14th (LGM) and 2 in Holywell Ponds area on 21st and 27th (PB) when 1 at Hartley.

Skylark:-

On 14th, many flocks were noticed passing S. at Hauxley, with 'Turdidae' ahead of snow showers (H.R.S.). On 28th there were 500 in St. Mary's Island area, and over 400 in Holywell Dene (PB).

House Martin:-

A late bird at Holywell Dene on 7th (LGM).

Hooded Crow:-

On 14th, 1 at Ross Links (LGM/MN) and another at Flodden (SM).

Jay:-

A single bird at Cresswell on 11th (TH).

Bearded Tit:-

2 pair present at Gosforth Park on 21st (BG).

Fieldfare:-

On 7th, 250 at Wingates Moor (PB) and on 11th a small influx noted at Cresswell (TH). By 14th many large flocks of up to 200 were arriving from N.W. and W. all day reaching a peak at Hauxley at 11.a.m. On reaching the coast, these birds were flying S. It was snowing inland at the time, and a smaller, though identical movement was noted at Morpeth, Felton, Ross Links (H.R.S et al) and Holy Island. By end of month, numbers very low in most areas.

Song Thrush:-

On 26th/27th there were many more than usual noted at Cresswell (TH) and by 28th there were 80 near St. Mary's Island (PB).

/Redwing

Redwing:-

On 14th a similar movement to that of the Fieldfare was noted. On 26th a large influx in Cresswell area and on 27th birds were still coming in here and at Holywell Dene. There were 200 at St. Mary's Island on 27th and 28th (PB/MN/TH).

Stonechat:-

A pair at Cresswell throughout month. 1 at Hauxley on 14th (H.R.S.) and 2 at Tynemouth on 27th (MNC).

Black Redstart:-

A male at Bamburgh on 6th (B.R.S.).

Blackcap:-

Single male at Hauxley on 14th (H.R.S.).

Phylloscopus Warbler:-

1 at Cresswell on 1st (TH).

Chiffchaff:-

Single bird at Gosforth Park from 21st until 27th (BG).

Goldcrest:-

15 at Hauxley on 7th fell to 1 on 14th (H.R.S.).

Pied Flycatcher:-

Late record on 11th of 1 at Cresswell (TH).

Grey Wagtail:-

Single birds reported from Holywell Dene, Gosforth Park and Whittle Dene.

Waxwing:-

Following the invasion which began last month, many smaller parties were seen. Birds quickly dispersed inland. 50 at Mowbray Park, Sunderland on 11th/12th and left by 16th only 2 remaining (DB). A flock of 20+ were in Heddon Village throughout month (IHA/JSB). A maximum of 14 at Gosforth Park on 20th, though 7 or 8 were present on most of the other days. 32 at Fenham (W. Newcastle) on 10th (LGM). 25 at Lemington on 3rd (BG) and 16 in Hedlington/Cambois areas on 21st/22nd (TH). 28 at Hauxley on 7th (H.R.S.).

Starling:-

A huge concentration driven to sea shore at Bamburgh on 14th, and feeding on seaweed due to weather - this was also noted at Ross where some 10000 birds flew N. (B.R.S.(LGM)).

Greenfinch:-

600 around the cliffs between St. Mary's Island and Hartley (PB).

Goldfinch:-

Single birds at Hauxley on 14th and St. Mary's Island on 28th. 4 at Rothbury on 27th (LGM).

Bullfinch:-

A flock of 30 was feeding on heather seeds near Rothbury on 27th (LGM). 1 at Hauxley on 14th (H.R.S.) and 2 in Holywell Dene on 28th (PB).

Brambling:-

A large flock was noted on or around the 28th. Over 300 in Holywell Dene (R. Gooding/PB). 20 at Heddon were the only others of note, though 10 were present at Cresswell the day previous (IHA/TH).

Corn Bunting:-

80 - 100 at Chevington Burn on 14th were congregating before going to roost (BG).

Snow Bunting:-

A female at Bamburgh on 7th (B.R.S.). 10 at Ross Links on 14th (MN/LGM) and 8 at St. Mary's Island on 21st.

Addendum:- A single Great Grey Shrike on Holy Island on 3rd October (JMB).

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

D E C E M B E R 1 9 6 5 B U L L E T I N .

S U M M A R Y .

Except for northerly winds on the 3rd, southerly winds on 14th and easterly winds on the 24th the entire area was subject to a series of Atlantic depressions moving across the country resulting in westerly winds. Cold weather on the 5th and the 28th resulted in numbers of ducks on inland waters dropping rapidly to extremely low totals for this month of the year. Brent Geese at Holy Island area again. Hen Harrier, Common Buzzard and Great Grey Shrike are the only other species worthy of special mention, besides the Winter record of a Spotted Redshank at Cresswell.

Classified List.

Great Northern Diver:-

4 close inshore at Holy Island on 12th (CW/LGM/MN et al).

Red-throated Diver:-

Over 110 in Cresswell Bay on 18th (MN/CW).

Red-necked Grebe:-

Single bird off Holy Island Harbour on 12th (CW/LGM et al).

Little Grebe:-

8 on half a mile of River Wear at Durham on 5th (RN) when 1 at Whittle Dene. 2 at Bolan Lake on 27th (IHA/JSB).

Fulmar:-

Over 100 around Dunstanburgh Castle on 26th (JKJ).

Heron:-

8 at Bolan Lake on 19th and single birds seen at Broomlee and Grindon on 26th (MN et al).

Mallard:-

Maximum numbers reported were as follows:- 180 at Gosforth Park on 31st, 250 at Colt Crag, 120 at Greenlee, 80 at Broomlee, 730 at Hallington, all on 26th, 210 at the New Edmondbyers Reservoir on 19th (RN). 200 at Cresswell on 18th and c600 off Seaton Sluice on 27th (CW). On 5th, 124 at Whittle Dene (IHA/JSB).

Teal:-

Maximum of 40 at Holywell Ponds on 27th (MN). 20 at Edmondbyers Reservoirs on 19th (RN).

Wigeon:-

On 5th, off Ross Back Sands there were c20,000 in parties of c1,000 (ER) though by 12th this flock was down to c5,000 (MN). Flocks of about 50 in size were seen at Holywell Ponds, Grindon Lough and Hallington.

Pintail:-

6 at Holy Island on 12th (LGM/RN). 2 at Cresswell on 18th, 1 at Gosforth on 24th and 2 at Greenlee Lough on 26th (MN/CW et al).

Tufted Duck:-

A very low total of 20 at Whittle Dene on 5th (IHA/JSB). c150 present at Holywell Ponds for most of month. On 26th there were 30 at Grindon and 50 at Hallington (CW/MN).

Pochard:-

There were none present at Whittle Dene by end of month. The reduction in numbers of all species here is probably due to extensive work on new overflows (IHA/JSB). 25 at Holywell throughout month. 15 at Hartburn on 19th (CW) and 12 at Grindon on 26th (MN).

Goldeneye:-

Small parties (10 birds or less) seen at most inland waters during the month. 15 at Hallington on 26th (LGM/MN et al).

/Long-tailed

Long-tailed Duck:-

35 off Ross Back Sands on 12th (LGM et al).

Velvet Scoter:-

1 flew N. off Ross Back Sands on 12th (CW).

Red-breasted Merganser:-

13 at Cresswell on 18th (CW/MN) besides the usual dozen or so in Holy Island area.

Goosander:-

28 at Greenlee on 26th (CW et al). Small parties seen at Whittle Dene, Hartburn, Broomlee, Colt Crag and Hallington from 19th onwards.

Shelduck:-

A minimum of 160 in Budle Bay on 18th (CED).

Grey Geese:-

35 flew N. off Holy Island on 12th (CW).

Grey Lag Goose:-

A single bird at Cresswell on 4th (MN/CW) and 1 at Hallington on 26th.

Brent Goose:-

c200 pale breasted on Holy Island Slake on 5th (ER) had dropped to 90 on 12th (MB et al).

Barnacle Goose:-

Single bird at Holy Island Lough and present for remainder of month.

Canada Goose:-

Flock of 17 at Colt Crag on 26th (LGM/CW/MN/RN).

Mute Swan:-

Over 400 at Holy Island on 12th (LGM).

Whooper Swan:-

Largest number reported was of 94 at Holy Island on 12th. There were 28 at Gosforth Park on 28th (MNC). 13 near Cresswell on 3rd/4th (MN). Smaller parties seen at Whittle Dene, Holywell Ponds, Colt Crag, Greenlee.

Bewick Swan:-

13 (5 of which were juveniles) on Holy Island Lough on 12th (LGM/CW/MN/RN).

Common Buzzard:-

Single bird seen flying towards Holywell Village and later along Earsdon Road being mobbed by smaller birds on 11th (JKJ) and still in area on 26th (CED).

Sparrow Hawk:-

Female near Hartburn on 19th (CW/LGM).

Hen Harrier:-

Single female was watched at Ross for half-an-hour (ER).

Merlin:-

Bird at Ross on 12th and at Budle Bay on 18th (MB/CED).

Coot:-

110 at Holywell Ponds on 5th and 55 at Seaton Burn on 24th (CW).

Lapwing:-

On 18th there were 350 at Cresswell (CW).

Golden Plover:-

150 at Holy Island on 12th and c500 at Cresswell on 15th (MN/TH). There were 300 - 400 near Stanington on 19th and c150 at Dunstanburgh Castle on 26th (JKJ).

Snipe:-

More than 40 at Cresswell on 4th and over 30 at Holy Island on 12th (CW).

Woodcock:-

Single birds at Cresswell and Tynemouth from 2nd to 6th (CW/TH).

Curlew:-

Over 220 at Holy Island on 12th (MN).

/Bar-tailed

Bar-tailed Godwit:-

The largest total seen near Holy Island was of 2,000 near the causeway on 5th (ER).

Spotted Redshank:-

1 was seen and heard at Cresswell on 15th and 18th (CW/MN/TH).

Knot:-

230 at Seaton Sluice on 27th (CW).

Purple Sandpiper:-

A roost of c50 at Calbois during month (TH).

Dunlin:-

A maximum of 100 at Cresswell on 18th (MN/CW).

Collared Dove:-

4 at Acomb on 16th (CW) and 40 in Holywell Dene on 27th (MN).

Barn Owl:-

1 found dead near Gosforth Park on 5th (MN/CW). A pair near East Sleekburn all month (TH).

Little Owl:-

Single bird at High Heaton on 19th (RN).

Tawny Owl:-

1 present at Northumberland Park all month (MNC).

Long-eared Owl:-

Only 1 reported from Gosforth Park on 5th (CW).

Short-eared Owl:-

Single bird on Holy Island on 5th (MN) when 1 at Cresswell (TH).

Skylark:-

200 at Chare Ends (Holy Island) on 12th (CW).

Carriion Crow:-

2 of resident crow flock at Whittle Dene always seen together, have grey/white trailing edges to their wings (IHA/JSB).

Hooded Crow:-

2 were chasing the Harrier at Ross on 5th (ER). 1 flew N. at Broomlee Lough on 26th (RN).

Rook:-

At dawn on 19th many thousands flew S. of Belsay - probably diurnal movement from a large roost (CW).

Tree Creeper:-

8 at Gosforth Park on 11th (LGM/RN).

Fieldfare:-

Largest flock reported was of only 20 at Cresswell on 28th (TH).

Redwing:-

Over 100 at Cresswell on 4th (MN) and though none on 15th, 60 there on 28th (TH).

Stonechat:-

3 at Beondicar on 4th (MN/CW).

Waxwing:-

3 at Heaton and 2 at Warkworth during early part of month (MN). A party of c20 was at Gosforth from 20th - 24th (ER). 1 at Bedlington on 14th (TH).

Great Grey Shrike:-

1 at Widdrington on 2nd (FG).

Grey Wagtail:-

1 at Gosforth Park on 11th (LGM/RN).

Goldfinch:-

2 at Newsham on 3rd (JKJ).

/Redpoll

Redpoll:-

3 at Newshan on 5th, 2 of which were pale birds (JKJ).

Bullfinch:-

There were 4 at Durham City on 5th (RN) and 5 at Broomlee on 26th (CW).

Brambling:-

4 at Druridge on 2nd and 3 at Cresswell on 3rd (TH).

Snow Bunting:-

A flock of 70 was on Town Moor (Newcastle) on 4th (LGM).

The following records have been accepted by British Birds and square brackets should be removed:-

Thrush Nightingale at Hauxley on 26th/27th September, 1965.

Thrush Nightingale at Hauxley on 3rd October, 1965.

Woodchat Shrike, at Holy Island on 21st/24th September, 1965.

Greenish Warbler at Bamburgh on 3rd/7th September, 1965.

The Hauxley 'Richards Pipit' has been rejected, so the record should be deleted.

(Sgd.) E. Robson.

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If required will applications and fee of 10s. 0d. for permits for Gosforth Park Sanctuary be brought to the Club Meeting in February or sent with name and address to A. Belshaw, 29 Lovaine Place, North Shields.

ANNUAL REPORT:-

Copies of the Club's 1964 Annual Report are still available, price 4s. 0d. plus 8d. postage from A. Belshaw, 29 Lovaine Place, North Shields.

The next Club Meeting is on 10th February, 1966 at Newcastle Y.M.C.A Blackett Street, when Mr. A. J. Clissold will give an illustrated talk on his visits to Iceland.