

## Bardsey Bird and field Observatory

### 1. Monthly highlights. (five points, not necessarily birds)

- 11th record of Shoveler during a seawatch on 18th
- 40th record of Golden Oriole (19th to 23rd) which was heard singing at one point.
- 27th record of Eider during a seawatch on 19th
- 37th record of Osprey (19 in last 8 years)
- Some unexpected skua records during a rather windy month.



### 2. Weather. Give brief summary of weather details..

**Predominantly wet and windy with high rainfall totals towards the end of the month.** The second week was fairly dry and settled but the rest of the month was very wet with strong to gale force winds at times. The wind switched to a force 8 northerly in the final week making it feel more like January than May!

### 3. Ringing number of birds ringed during month (excluding pulli). 286 birds of 15 species (very poor!)

Top three species Full Grown 1st. Manx Shearwater 191. 2nd. Sedge Warbler 38. 3rd. Chiffchaff 23.

#### Unusual Ringing activity 1 Turtle Dove, 1 Whimbrel

#### 4. Main Movements

#### Dates and Numbers

- 1<sup>st</sup>** 1 Bar tailed Godwit, 20 Turnstone, **1 Great Skua, 1 Black Guillemot**
- 2<sup>nd</sup>** 129 Oystercatcher, 26 Whimbrel
- 3<sup>rd</sup>** 2 Knot, 5 Black headed Gull, 443 Swallow, 21 Goldfinch
- 4<sup>th</sup>** 21 Purple Sandpiper, 270 Swallow, 1 Yellow Wagtail, 1st Garden Warbler, 1st 7 Spotted Flycatcher, 55 Goldfinch, 45 Lesser Redpoll
- 5<sup>th</sup>** 10 Purple Sandpiper
- 6<sup>th</sup>** 1st Lesser Whitethroat, 17 Chiffchaff, 21 Lesser Redpoll
- 8<sup>th</sup>** **2 Pomarine Skua**, 1st Turtle Dove, 3 Cuckoo, 1 'flava' Wagtail
- 9<sup>th</sup>** 1 Turtle Dove
- 10<sup>th</sup>** 1 Turtle Dove, 1 Black Redstart
- 11<sup>th</sup>** 13 Dunlin, 1 Song Thrush, **3 Common Redpoll**, 51 Lesser Redpoll
- 12<sup>th</sup>** 118 Oystercatcher, 24 Whimbrel, 30 Sedge Warbler
- 13<sup>th</sup>** **1 Pomarine Skua**, 1 Turtle Dove, 1 Black Redstart, 5 Whinchat, 26 Sedge Warbler, 31 Whitethroat, 35 Spotted Flycatcher
- 14<sup>th</sup>** 2 Black throated Diver, 500 Manx Shearwater, 10 Dunlin, 1 Turtle Dove, 1st Reed Warbler, 15 Lesser Redpoll, 16 Twite
- 15<sup>th</sup>** 2 Turtle Dove, 2 Tree Pipit
- 16<sup>th</sup>** 1 Turtle Dove, 361 Swallow, 3 Tree Pipit, 17 Wheatear, 2 Starling
- 17<sup>th</sup>** 29 House Martin
- 18<sup>th</sup>** 3500 Manx Shearwater, **1 Shoveler**
- 19<sup>th</sup>** 83 Fulmar, 4500 Manx Shearwater, 113 Gannet, **1 Eider**, 1 Cuckoo, **1 Golden Oriole**
- 20<sup>th</sup>** 2265 Manx Shearwater, 138 Gannet, 1 Hobby, 616 Razorbill, 1 Turtle Dove, **1 Golden Oriole**, 14 Crossbill
- 21<sup>st</sup>** 1 Turtle Dove, 1 Cuckoo, **1 Golden Oriole**, 31 Goldfinch, 27 Lesser Redpoll
- 22<sup>nd</sup>** 1 Red throated Diver, 192 Fulmar, 3000 Manx Shearwater, 3 Storm Petrel, 15 Dunlin, 27 Turnstone, **1 Golden Oriole**
- 23<sup>rd</sup>** 1 Cuckoo, **1 Golden Oriole**
- 24<sup>th</sup>** 1000 Manx Shearwater, 18 Common Scoter, 167 Oystercatcher, 1 Cuckoo
- 25<sup>th</sup>** 1 Long-eared Owl
- 26<sup>th</sup>** 1 Redshank, 13 Spotted Flycatcher
- 28<sup>th</sup>** **1 Osprey**
- 30<sup>th</sup>** 1 Grey Heron
- 31<sup>st</sup>** 170 Oystercatcher, 150 Lesser Black-backed Gull, 400 Herring Gull, 500 Kittiwake, 350 Guillemot, 700 Razorbill, 1 Yellow Wagtail

### 5. Notable absentees and species well below normal strength.

Very few scarce migrants, or rarities recorded compared to previous years. Spring migration has been disappointing to say the least, with very small numbers of common migrants moving through. Passage waders present in small numbers.

### 6. Give early or late dates for your observatory

#### 7. Rarities Interpret rare fairly liberally for your observatory

Black Guillemot 1st  
Shoveler 18th  
Eider 19th  
Osprey 28th

Great Skua 1st  
Pomarine Skua 2 on 8th and 1 on 13th  
Golden Oriole 19th to 23rd  
Common Redpoll 3 on 11th

#### 8. Sea Passage. List notable movements with dates

**17<sup>th</sup>** 104 Gannet, 420 Razorbill,  
**29<sup>th</sup>** 280 Kittiwake

#### 9. Other news, notes, requests for help etc.

Turtle Dove ringed on 13th found dead on 24th,

Unusual numbers of Manx Shearwaters attracted to the lighthouse from 21st to 26th, coinciding with the new moon period and heavy overnight rain. 50 to 60 birds were attracted on 3 nights.