



Edited by Angus Hogg and Dave Grant



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Cover photo: Red-billed Chough at Turnberry Point (*Angus Hogg*)

Editorial

Welcome to the 2019 Ayrshire Bird Report. With the completion of yet another bird report, the progress towards getting it back on track continues, and the plan is to have another one finished by the end of this year. Of course, none of this would be possible without help from a great variety of people, and particular thanks must go to our local recorder, Fraser Simpson, for his assistance with numerous queries regarding records. Please remember to keep sending your records to him at recorder@ayrshire-birding.org.uk or on any of the alternative recording systems e.g. Birdtrack.

For those of you who have submitted records and are wondering why they do not appear in the report, please be assured that they still exist on the “master” spreadsheet held by the local recorder. This forms the base for the bird report. These records are important in offering a more complete picture of events in Ayrshire for any given year, while the bird report concentrates on features like trends and highlights. Either way, one important aspect of SOC recording remains – verification. All records which appear within the report have been checked, and while occasional errors will occur from time to time, every effort is made to provide a totally accurate publication.

The layout of the report follows the same format as last year’s, having adopted the systematic order currently used by both the British Ornithologists’ Union and the SOC. Some important changes to scientific names have appeared and we’ve adopted these too, along with the commonly used vernacular names. This is a constantly changing scene and one which we hope we’ve managed to keep up with. Also in the process of change are the species status symbols. This is still a work in progress, and we’re always looking for volunteers to help with bird report work.

When submitting records, it’s useful to glance at the contents of the report which will give a general indication of what kind of information is required. Some scarce or rare species may require additional written and/or photographic evidence, and your attention is drawn to a list of those species appearing at the end of the report.

Finally, our thanks are due to Kevin Waite for his help with the online provision of this report on the Ayrshire Birding website, Tom Byars for his annual Lesser Whitethroat report, Dave Grant for his Lady Isle Gull colour ringing update, and Dougie Edmond for his photographic contribution – always good to have some fresh input!

Angus Hogg and Dave Grant

The Lesser Whitethroat in Ayrshire – 2019

Ten Lesser Whitethroat territories were found in Ayrshire, with low numbers recorded again in the established core sites of ICI Ardeer, Hillhouse quarry, Heads of Ayr/Bower Hill and the new site at Fairways View.

Arrival

The first arrival, an unringed male at Garnock lagoons, gave only three short song phrases and took 50 metre flights on linear patrols on 22 April. Four Lesser Whitethroats were discovered during the early morning at Garnock East in classic “fall” conditions on 5 May – the first time I’ve seen a migration fall of Lesser Whitethroats in nearly 40 years of fieldwork. At least two of them from this group were singing males, which eventually moved through the area.

Territories

One territory had been established at Garnock lagoons by 1 May, with a pair having settled in by 5 May. Another pair had also become established at a Garnock lagoons subsite by 5 May. A further 2 territorial males were located at Bower Hill on 4 May. On 6 May a male was holding territory at Hillhouse quarry west, followed by another singing male at a new site at Hillhouse quarry south, also on 6 May. On the same date, yet another territorial male was watched inspecting Bramble patches for potential nest sites at Fairways View. During his bouts of singing, two separate “shriek” calls were heard, 10 metres apart in extremely dense understorey, indicating the presence of another couple of hidden Lesser Whitethroats which were tracking the territorial male.

At the Heads of Ayr another male was holding territory on 8 May while, two days later, a further male had claimed a territory at the Ardeer Fen south subsite. This latter male was observed pursuing a female in tight, spiralling, helter-skelter turns in a chase around a mature Hawthorn. An established territory at Garnock east on 18 May might have involved one of the males from the earlier “fall” group. By 24 May, two Lesser Whitethroat territories were confirmed at Fairways View, the singing males separated by a distance of 80 metres. One unmated male still remained there on 27 May.

Breeding Summary

North Ayrshire

Two territories were located at Fairways View, with four fledged birds at this site on 8 June.

Within the ICI Ardeer study site, a brood of one at Garnock east was discovered on 29 June. Single territories were located at Garnock lagoons and Ardeer Fen south.

South Ayrshire

Single territories were located at Hillhouse quarry west and Hillhouse quarry south.

Two territories were found at Bower Hill and one at the Heads of Ayr.

Ringling

No birds were ringed during the 2019 season.

Tom Byars

Report on the gull colour ringing project on Lady Isle 2013-2019

Since 2013, there has been a colour ringing project of large gulls (Herring Gull and Lesser Black-backed Gull) on Lady Isle, which is situated 5.6km off the coast of Troon. A report for the 2013-2014 season was produced in the 2014 Ayrshire Bird report, and this is an update on the project. In 2017, Great Black-backed Gulls were included in the project. Both adult and juvenile gulls have been caught and have had metal BTO rings placed on their right tarsus and a colour ring, with a unique alpha-numeric code, on their left tarsus. It was easier to capture and process unfledged juvenile gulls (at a rate of approximately six birds per fieldwork hour) compared to adult birds (requiring approximately two hours per bird).

Ringing results for the 2015-2019 Period

Table 1 shows the number of birds colour ringed during the period 2015-2019 (and includes the cumulative total for the 2013-2014 period). A total of 371 birds were colour-ringed during this period with a mean (stdev) number of birds ringed annually at 61.83 (27.59). Table 1 clearly shows that effort was predominantly on chicks from Herring and Lesser Black-backed Gull. No adult Great Black-backed Gulls were caught.

Table 1: A comparison of colour ringing productivity for the 2013-2019 period for large gulls on Lady Isle

Species (age)	2013-2014 Total birds ringed	2015 Total birds ringed	2016 Total birds ringed	2017 Total birds ringed	2018 Total birds ringed	2019 Total birds ringed	Cumulative Total	Mean (stdev) annual ringed
HERGU (adult)	24	0	2	0	0	0	26	4.33 (9.67)
HERGU (chick)	34	32	29	52	8	15	170	28.33 (15.47)
LBBGU (adult)	10	0	1	0	2	0	13	2.17 (3.92)
LBBGU (chick)	30	35	17	21	27	1	131	21.83 (12.04)
GBBGU (chick)	0	0	0	6	24	1	31	5.17 (9.52)
Total	98	67	49	79	61	17	371	61.83 (27.59)

NB: HERGU- Herring Gull; LBBGU – Lesser Black-backed Gull; GBBGU – Great Black-backed Gull

The 2016 and 2019 periods were below the cumulative mean effort. Weather was a factor in this as, in poor conditions, it is not possible to access the island. Therefore, the number of visits was reduced during these years and hence the ringing effort was also reduced.

Citizen Science in Action

One of the key factors of a colour ringing scheme is for the bird to be seen and reported, and this where such a project relies heavily upon input from the general public. During the 2013-2019 period 165 individuals contributed to this project, reporting at least once. Table 2 shows a breakdown of reports by year and species. Interestingly, the number of sightings, compared to the number of birds ringed, is not constant. Whilst there were many more young birds ringed compared to adults there was a higher ratio of adults reported, with reports of adult HERGU being 1.64 times higher than juveniles. For LBBGU this was even higher, as the ratio of birds ringed against birds reported was 3.28 times higher for adults, compared to juveniles. This is probably explained by a higher mortality rate amongst juveniles, as the adults have developed survival strategies during the four-year maturation period (from juvenile to breeding adult).

Table 2: A comparison of sightings of colour ringed gulls over the period 2013-2019

Species (age)	2013-14 Sightings reported	2015 Sightings reported	2016 Sightings reported	2017 Sightings reported	2018 Sightings reported	2019 Sightings reported	Cumulative total	Mean (stdev) annual sightings	Number of sightings/ number ringed
HERGU (adult)	13	35	33	16	12	8	104	19.50 (11.54)	4.00
HERGU (juv)	34	45	50	114	170	36	415	74.83 (55.27)	2.44
LBBGU (adult)	10	26	16	5	6	5	58	11.33 (8.33)	4.46
LBBGU (juv)	30	62	37	21	31	27	178	34.67 (14.38)	1.36
GBBGU (juv)	0	0	0	0	13	9	22	3.67 (5.82)	0.71
Total	87	168	136	156	232	85	864	144 (55.24)	2.33

Whilst some individuals reported seeing a colour ringed gull only once, many individuals reported multiple times. In fact, there are a hardcore of individuals who focus primarily upon going out, seeing and reporting colour ringed gulls. This is not a UK phenomenon as there are many keen gull watchers reporting from Portugal and Spain, especially during the winter period. Table 3 compares the number of individuals who reported during each year, and the approximate number of sightings reported per individual during that year. Over the 2013-2019 period there is a mean (stdev) of 40.5 (13.43) individuals reporting seeing colour ringed gulls.

Table 3: A comparison of number of individuals who reported during the period 2013-2019 with sightings per observer.

	2013-2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Mean (stdev)
Individuals submitting reports	60.00	52.00	31.00	30.00	43.00	27.00	40.50 (13.43)
Sightings per observer	1.45	3.23	4.39	5.20	5.40	3.15	3.80 (1.49)

Distance from Lady Isle was recorded for each sighting. As expected, there is a clear difference in the distance of the reports of Herring Gulls compared to Lesser Black-backed Gulls, as can be seen in table 4. Herring Gulls are only partial migrants and tend to stay within approximately 40km of their natal home. By comparison, Lesser Black-backed are migrants, with most spending the winter around the Iberian Peninsula. There were two reports, in 2016 and 2019, of birds ringed on Lady Isle that were seen in Dahkla, Western Sahara on the western coast of Africa, a round trip journey of over 7200km. There were also two reports, in 2017 and 2018, from Morocco. It is likely that more birds venture further south than the Iberian Peninsula, but the limiting factor is people with an interest in gulls who report them from those areas.

Table 4: A comparison of the annual mean distance (stdev) in km of movement of colour ringed gulls from Lady Isle during the non-breeding season over the period 2013-2019.

	2013-2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
HERGU	52 (104)	117 (195)	33 (58)	24 (37)	49 (93)	43 (60)
LBBGU	1588 (511)	1656 (401)	1110 (977)	1278(1023)	1055 (959)	1985 (665)
Furthest distance km (Location)	2118 (Cadiz, Portugal)	2094 (Malaga)	3654 (Dahkla, Western Sahara)	2703 (Essaouria, Morocco)	2409 (Temara, Morocco)	3654 (Dahkla, Western Sahara)

Epilogue

The success of any colour ringing scheme is down to those individuals who report colour rings seen. A big thanks is due to all of those 165 individuals who have so far contributed to this project. If you are interested in contributing to a colour ringing scheme, then all you need to do is take a note or, ideally, a photograph of the colour ring and report it online. For details on how to do this see below.

Getting Involved

To report sightings of any colour ringed bird an observer can go to a website called European Colour-Ring Birding, found at: www.cr-birding.org.

Below are instructions specifically for the colour ring scheme used on Lady Isle gulls (but could be adapted for any colour ring that you see):

1. Once on the web page the observer clicks on the tab '**Info Field-Observer**', which will produce a drop-down menu.
2. Click on '**Find a Colour-Ring Project**'.
3. There are a series of data fields that need to be completed but should not be too daunting.
4. Under '**English species name**' insert either Herring Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull or Great Black-backed Gull.
5. Under '**Colour-ring type**' click on 'Leg ring: on, coded';
6. Under '**Colour-ring colour**' click on 'Orange'.
7. Under '**Colour-ring code**' click on 'Four alpha-numeric code (4 letters/number)';
8. Click '**Apply**'.
9. This will show you a list of potential schemes, and this is where you need the code of the bird that you have seen, for example Lady Isle has a code which is "alpha:alpha numeric" e.g. A:B75.
10. By looking down the right-hand columns the observer should be able to find either the first letter or the last letter. In the case of Lady Isle Herring/Lesser Black-backed Gulls the first letter is an '**A**', whereas for the Great Black-backed Gulls the first letter is an '**F**'. On the left-hand side of the table is a link which, if clicked, takes you to information on the co-ordinator, which includes an email address. For Lady Isle this is: dave.grant@uws.ac.uk;
11. Most colour ring scheme co-ordinators will reply to an email of a report of one their birds within a week or so, quite often with a history of that bird.

Dave Grant

Key to Symbols and Abbreviations in the Systematic List

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

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

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

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With apologies to anyone inadvertently omitted.

Systematic List 2019



Pale-bellied Brent Geese at Maidens (Dave Grant)

Brent Goose *Branta bernicla* U w P

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

Winter-Spring: 9 Maidens 2 Jan- 4 Apr, 11 on 24 Feb, 2 on 12 Apr

Autumn-Winter: 1 Dipple 20 Oct, 2 Maidens 25 Oct, 8 on 29 Nov, 12 on 14 Dec, 13 on 31 Dec. 8 juvs were present within the flock on 31 Dec.

Canada Goose *Branta canadensis* C B P

Breeding pairs were located at Loch Riecawr (3 – B/6 noted), Garnock Floods (2 – B/5 noted), Martnaham Loch (B/6 noted).

Counts at main sites	
Capringstone	30 on 4 Jan, 125 on 2 Oct, 80 on 18 Oct.
Martnaham Loch	25 on 17 Jan, 100 on 27 Feb, 250 on 31 Aug, 180 on 30 Sep, 152 on 10 Nov.
Dalmaca	450 on 31 Aug.
Fail	258 on 15 Sep, 520 on 29 Sep, 50 on 19 Oct.

Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis* U w P

Winter-spring: 1 Ochiltree 9 Jan.

Autumn-winter: 2 Garnock estuary 24 Sep, 10 Martnaham 25 Sep, 4 Auchincross 26 Sep, 13 Pow Burn 27 Sep, 25 Hunterston 1 Oct, 2 on 15 Oct 30 Bogside 1 Oct, 42 Ardneil Farm 11 Oct, 10 on 23 Oct.

Greylag Goose *Anser anser* C b W

Breeding pairs included: Blairquhan Approach Loch (2), Hunterston (B/4 noted).

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	48 on 23 Jan, 14 on 23 May, 31 on 7 Feb, 40 on 5 Mar.
Tarbolton-Martnaham-Coylton	120 on 3 Jan, 105 26 Feb, 100 on 27 Feb, 73 on 5 Apr.
Maybole	67 on 15 Jan, 53 on 11 Mar.

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	130 on 16 Aug, 426 on 15 Oct.
Loans	14 on 20 Oct, 16 on 24 Nov, 38 on 1 Dec.
Tarbolton-Martnaham-Coylton	190 on 8 Sep, 30 on 26 Oct, 200 on 17 Nov, 14 on 2 Dec.
Auchincross	27 on 19 Jul, 49 on 28 Jul, 408 on 24 Nov.
Maybole	400 8 Dec, 300 on 13 Dec.



Pink-footed Goose at Martnaham (Dave Grant)

Pink-footed Goose *Anser brachyrhynchus* C W P

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Ochiltree	600 on 8 Jan, 1578 on 9 Jan, 1156 on 21 Jan.
Martnaham Loch	1100 on 26 Mar, 1500 on 27 Mar.
Blairbowie	800 on 26 Feb, 250 on 27 Feb, 2500 on 12-13 Mar, 1200 on 29 Mar.
Fail	1500 on 17 Jan, 4200 on 24 Feb, 2200 4 Mar, 900 on 14 Mar.
Elsewhere	450 Loans 26 Feb, 342 Bogside 9 Mar.

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Tarbolton-Mossblown	120 on 28 Sep, 150 on 29 Sep, 150 on 9 Oct, 300 on 23 Oct, 750 on 28 Oct, 451 on 17 Dec.
Prestwick-Troon	3000 on 22 Oct, 2000 on 26 Oct, 3000 on 30 Oct, 3000 on 2 Nov, 2000 on 1 Dec, 3000 on 22 Dec, 2000 on 31 Dec.
Martnaham Loch	6 on 18 Sep, 22 on 30 Sep, 600 on 17 Nov.
Elsewhere	250 Blairbowie on 8 Dec.

Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens* R E

An adult remained at Auchincross/Loch o' th' Lowes from 18 Oct – 29 Dec (MH *et al.*).

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

Greenland race <i>flavirostris</i> U w P
1 st w bird Fail on 17 Jan, 1 Hunterston on 24 Mar, 1 Martnaham 26 Mar, 8 Blairbowie on 25-26 Nov.

Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiaca* E

A pair was at Blairbowie from 9-11 Apr, one later seen at Martnaham on 16 Apr, with a subsequent report of a pair B/6 at Kirkmichael on 12 Jun.

Mute Swan *Cygnus olor* C B

Breeding results:

Site	Result	Site	Result
Auchenharvie	B/5	Rozelle	B/7
Dundonald Camp	pr present	Trabboch Loch	B/5
Culzean Country Park	B/5	Girvan hbr-Bridgemill	B/9
Lands of Turnberry	B/6	Dipple	B/3
Pinbraid	B/7		

Counts at main sites	
BSC Hunterston	10 on 20 Mar, 30 on 13 Sep, 19 on 13 Oct.
Bogside	12 on 1 Jan, 15 on 28 Jan, 36 on 25 Aug.
Ayr-Doonfoot	31 on 1 Mar, 55 on 10 Apr, 55 on 18 Jun, 82 on 27 Jun, 22 on 18 Oct, 58 on 28 Nov, 50 on 15 Dec.
Elsewhere	40 Martnaham on 5 Feb, 43 Saltcoats on 11 Feb, 41 Saltcoats on 20 Mar.

Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus* C W

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Bogton Loch	11 on 2 Jan, 19 on 6 Jan, 36 on 23-24 Mar.
Martnaham-Loch Fergus	7 on 3 Jan.
Elsewhere	10 Nith Valley on 8 Jan, 14 Garnock Floods SWT on 11 Jan, 26 Broomhill on 3 Feb, 11 Fail on 23 Mar.

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Bogton Loch	8 on 14 Nov, 12 on 26 Dec.
Martnaham-Loch Fergus	6 on 4 Oct, 35 on 27 Oct, 10 on 5 Nov.
Fail	87 on 3 Oct, 40 on 7 Oct, 34 on 26 Oct.
Elsewhere	54 Auchincross on 16 Oct, 45 Auchenblane on 4 Nov, 39 Kirkoswald on 3 Dec.

Black Swan *Cygnus atratus* E

1 was reported at Saltcoats on 24 May.

Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna* C b

Breeding results from N Ayrshire southwards: B/4 Hunterston, B/6 Maidens, B/5 Dipple.

	Counts at main sites
Hunterston Sands	30 on 1 Jan, 20 on 6 Feb, 20 on 6 Mar, 41 on 6 Jun, 24 on 2 Jul, 70 on 17 Nov, 65 on 21 Dec.
Ardrossan-Farland Head	5 on 1 Apr, 4 on 2 Jul.
Bogside	2 on 5 Feb, 8 on 6 Jun.
Doonfoot-Greenan	6 on 25 Feb, 5 on 26 Jun.
Maidens	10 on 4 Jan, 17 on 12 Jan, 30 on 30 Jan, 40 on 3 Feb, 15 on 3 Mar, 10 on 22 Jun.
Elsewhere	6 Croy 14 Jan, 7 Dipple 14 Feb, 4 Martnaham 25 Feb, 2 Blairbowie 9 Mar, 6 on 24 Apr.



The party of three Ruddy Shelduck at Fail (Dave Grant)

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea* E

Three long staying birds were present, moving between Fail and Martnham during the period 26 Aug – 1 Oct.

Mandarin *Aix galericulata* E

♀ Martnaham from 29 Jun – 3 Jul (DGr).

Garganey *Spatula querquedula* R (B)

Four individuals recorded, with a ♂ Garnock Floods from 20-29 Apr, pr from 21-24 May, 3 on 18 Jul, ♂ S Turnberry 6 Jun.

Northern Shoveler *Spatula clypeata* U b w P

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Capringstone	1 on 7 Jan.
Fail	♂ on 17 Mar, 2 ♂♂ on 20-28 Mar.
Martnaham	2 (pr) on 18 Apr.
Elsewhere	1 Ardeer Fen 4 Jan, 2 (pr) Blairbowie 26 -29 Mar, 2 Doonfoot 17 Apr, 2 Trabboch 20-23 Apr.

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Capringstone	3 on 24 Sep, 2 on 2 Oct, 1 on 11 Oct.
Fail	6 on 15 Aug, 5 on 23 Aug, 2 on 21 Sep, 6 on 29 Sep, 4 on 9 Oct.
Garnock Floods	4 on 3 Oct.
Martnaham	3 on 31 Jul, 1 on 18 Sep, 2 on 30 Sep, 1 ♂ on 30 Dec.
Elsewhere	1 Doonfoot 1 Aug, 12 Aug, 1 Trabboch 24 Aug, 2 Auchincross 20 Oct, 3 on 2 Nov, ♂ Turnberry 6 Dec, ♂ Blairbowie 8 Dec.

Gadwall *Mareca strepera* U (B)

A pair was seen with B/5 at Lands of Turnberry on 12 Jun (DGr).

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston	5 on 9 Jan, 3 on 23 Jan, 3 on 17 Mar, 4 on 23 Sep, 2 on 17 Nov.
Irvine-Bogside-Garnock	8 on 2 Jan, 13 on 28 Jan, 4 on 17 Feb, 6 on 14 Apr, 2 on 14 Jul, 2 on 29 Sep, 4 on 3 Oct, 5 on 12 Oct, 19 on 27 Oct.
Culzean	4 on 13 Feb, 4 on 16 Feb.
Other sites	8 Ardeer 4 Jan, 4 Rozelle 17 Feb, 3 Doonfoot 10 Aug, 4 Capringstone 15 Aug.

Eurasian Wigeon *Mareca penelope* C (B) W

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston	300 on 1 Jan, 400 on 6 Feb, 240 on 8 Mar, 60 on 3 Apr, 130 on 13 Sep, 1500 on 29 Oct, 150 on 6 Nov.
Ardrossan-Farland Head	25 on 2 Feb.
Capringstone	300 on 4 Jan, 440 on 9 Jan, 118 on 11 Feb, 30 on 2 Oct.
Bogside	200 on 1 Jan, 470 on 23 Jan, 500 on 28 Jan, 500 on 1 Mar, 120 on 19 Oct, 400 on 18 Nov.
Doonfoot	55 on 14 Jan, 50 on 3 Mar, 31 on 10 Nov, 35 on 26 Dec.
Blairbowie	169 on 9 Feb, 161 on 11 Mar, 82 on 6 Dec, 170 on 8 Dec, 180 on 16 Dec.
Elsewhere	100 Pow Burn 4 Jan, 90 Martnaham 27 Feb.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* C B W

In the breeding season 10 sites held 16 broods totalling 59 juvs. First brood out at Blairbowie on 20 Apr. A pair laid a clutch of 10 eggs in a nest on a road bridge at Gadgirth – outcome unknown.

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston	30 on 1 Jan, 46 on 13 Sep, 40 on 1 Oct, 12 on 31 Dec.
Ardrossan-Farland Head	4 on 2 Feb, 14 on 2 Jul.
Capringstone	8 on 7 Apr, 6 on 18 Oct.
Ayr-Prestwick	14 on 14 Jan, 16 on 10 Feb, 20 on 8 Sep, 35 on 28 Nov.
Doonfoot	40 on 14 Jan, 27 on 10 Feb, 150 on 12 Aug, 34 on 10 Nov, 64 on 15 Dec.
Blairbowie	16 on 14 Feb.
Trabboch-Martnaham	8 on 5 Jan, 19 on 23 Mar, 71 on 29 Jan, 100 on 22 Jul, 250 on 7 Aug, 182 on 19 Nov.
Elsewhere	72 Rozelle 6 Jan, 87 Gypsy Pool 3 Feb, 123 Fail 17 Aug.

Northern Pintail *Anas acuta* U w P

In spring: ♂ Trabboch 5-7 Jan, ♂ Ayr 18-28 Jan, 4 Hunterston 23 Jan, 2 ♂♂ on 6 Feb, ♂ Barassie 23 Jan- 1 Feb, ♂ Meikle Westland New Cumnock 19 Feb

In autumn: ♂ Trabboch 6 Jul, 3 Hunterston on 1 Oct, ♀ on 31 Oct, 1 Bogside on 12 Oct.

Common Teal *Anas crecca* C b W

The only report from breeding sites was a ♂ at Loch Slochy on 1 Jun.

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston	30 on 1 Jan, 6 on 3 Apr.
Capringstone	82 on 4 Jan, 47 on 11 Feb, 150 on 2 Oct.
Fail	61 on 18 Feb, 117 on 26 Feb, 153 on 20 Mar, 31 on 14 Apr, 120 on 27 Aug, 200 on 13 Sep, 100 on 6 Oct.
Doonfoot	74 on 14 Jan, 84 on 10 Feb, 28 on 17 Mar, 46 on 12 Oct, 92 on 10 Nov, 90 on 15 Dec.
Blairbowie	130 on 14 Feb, 115 on 29 Mar, 90 on 5 Sep, 90 on 16 Dec.
Elsewhere	150 Bogside 23 Jan, 164 Auchincross 26 Sep, 105 Garnock Floods SWT 18 Oct, 97 Martnaham 18 Nov.



Green-winged Teal at Doonfoot (Dave Grant)

Green-winged Teal *Anas carolinensis* R w

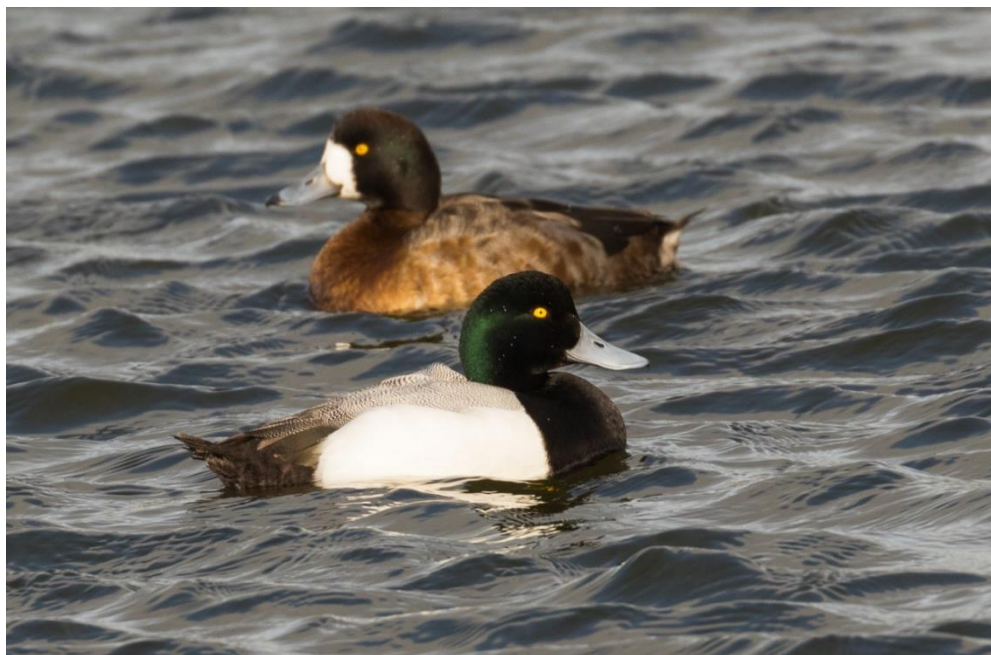
A ♂ was at Doonfoot from 16 Nov – 11 Dec (MR *et al.*).

Common Pochard *Aythya ferina* C (B) W

Counts at main sites	
Eglinton	5 on 9 Jan.
Martnaham-Trabboch Loch	1 ♂ 21 Jan – 20 Mar, 3 on 28 Jul, 4 on 6 Oct, 1 on 15 Oct.
Elsewhere	1 Kirkbride Pond 16 May, ♂ Loch o' Lowes 20 Oct.

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula* C b W

Counts at main sites	
Trabboch Loch	15 on 20 Mar.
Martnaham Loch	90 on 14 Jan, 90 on 9 Feb, 104 on 13 Mar, 53 on 16 Apr, 22 on 30 Jun, 40 on 18 Sep, 100 on 5 Oct, 104 on 2 Nov, 130 on 29 Dec.
Lands of Turnberry	23 on 21 Feb, 28 on 3 Mar, 16 on 12 Apr.
Elsewhere	16 Bogton Loch 14 Nov, 20 Barnshean Loch 6 Dec.



Greater Scaup pair at Auchenharvie Pond (Dave Grant)

Greater Scaup *Aythya marila* U W

Counts at main sites	
Auchenharvie GC	4 on 2-5 Jan, 8 on 27 Jan, 10 on 11-20 Mar, 12 on 23 Mar-3 Apr, 8 on 7 Apr, 2 on 3-16 Dec.
Ayr-Prestwick-Troon	7 on 1 Feb, 2 on 5 Feb, 6 on 21 Oct, 2 on 17 Dec.
Stevenston	2 on 11 Feb, 11 on 3 Apr.
Elsewhere	1 Martnaham 15-21 Feb, 1 Irvine 1-18 Mar, 6 Maidens 1 May, 3 Maidens 8 Aug, 1 Collennan 17 Sep, 1 Balkenna 3 Oct, 1 Dipple 31 Dec.

Common Eider *Somateria mollissima* C B

In the breeding season 19 broods totalled 70 juvs at 5 sites. First brood out at Fairlie on 21 May. 70 prs were reported from Lady Isle.

Counts at main sites	
Ardrossan-Farland Head	93 on 1 Jan, 22 on 6 Jan, 17 on 3 Apr, 86 on 13 Aug, 148 on 13 Sep, 25 on 2 Nov.
Stevenston Point	40 On 30 Jan, 24 on 11 Feb, 31 on 8 Aug, 70 on 16 Nov.
Troon-Gailes	229 on 17 Jan, 153 on 22 Feb, 317 on 8 Mar, 144 on 5 Apr, 87 on 12 Sep, 280 on 28 Oct, 176 on 22 Nov, 247 on 3 Dec.
Ayr Bay	22 on 25 Sep, 40 on 12 Oct, 22 on 10 Nov.
Turnberry Point-Dipple	67 on 1 Feb, 400 on 3 Oct, 400 on 29 Nov, 36 on 6 Dec.

Velvet Scoter *Melanitta fusca* U W

In spring: 1 flew N at Troon Harbour 27 Jan.

In autumn: imm flew S at Maidens 9 Dec.

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra* C W P

Counts at main sites	
Stevenston Point-Irvine Bay	15 on 2 Jan, 29 on 24 Jan, 15 on 11 Feb, 14 on 30 Mar, 24 on 1 May, 16 on 2 Nov, 29 on 21 Dec.
Troon	11 on 18 Jan, 4 on 1 Feb, 2 on 14 Mar, 3 on 5 Apr, 2 on 18 Aug, 24 on 16 Nov, 5 on 25 Nov, 2 on 31 Dec.
Ayr-Prestwick	3 on 26 Feb, 1 on 4 Mar.
Croy-Dipple	3 on 4 Jan, 3 on 3 Mar, 7 on 26 Mar, 16 on 12 Apr, 7 on 21 May, 9 on 29 Jul, 6 on 12 Aug, 6 on 6 Sep, 7 on 4 Nov, 29 on 29 Nov.
Elsewhere	♂ Martnaham 28 Jul.

Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis* U W

Counts at main sites	
Stevenston Point	2 on 28 Jan-6 Mar, 1 on 3 Apr, 2 on 6 Oct, 8 on 3-9 Nov, 12 on 15 Nov, 10 on 18-28 Nov, 13 on 31 Dec.
Irvine Bay	1 on 31 Jan, 2 on 1 Mar, 1 on 6-9 Nov, 4 on 16 Nov, 1 on 11 Dec.
Ayr-Prestwick	5 on 13-17 Nov, 9 on 24 Nov, 5 on 26-27 Nov, 7 on 31 Dec.
Elsewhere	1 Croy 4 Jan, 3 Dipple 14 Jan, 2 on 18 Apr, ♂ Trabboch 27 Oct, 7 Turnberry Point 9 Nov, 1 Martnaham 1 Dec, 9 Dipple 31 Dec.

Common Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula* C W

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Bogside	12 on 2 Jan, 18 on 17 Feb.
Shewalton	16 on 23 Jan, 19 on 12 Feb, 16 on 13 Feb, 15 on 4 Mar.
Martnaham Loch	22 on 14 Jan, 10 on 17 Jan, 15 on 24 Jan, 26 on 9 Feb, 20 on 27 Feb.
Maidens-Girvan	19 on 31 Jan, 11 on 3 Feb, 20 on 16 Feb.
Elsewhere	7 Munnoch Res 10 Apr.

There were no records of summering birds.

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Martnaham Loch	13 on 2 Nov, 23 on 18 Nov, 38 on 29 Dec.
Prestwick-Ayr	9 on 10 Nov, 13 on 13 Dec, 18 on 22 Dec.
Elsewhere	3 Kilbirnie Loch 14 Oct, 4 Bogton Loch 14 Nov, 4 Garnock Floods 12 Dec, 5 Dipple 31 Dec, 5 Stevenston Point 31 Dec.

Smew *Mergellus albellus* U W

A redhead stayed at Martnaham Loch from 2 Feb-24 Mar (DGr *et al.*).

Goosander *Mergus merganser* C b w

Birds in suitable breeding locations included a ♀ B/5 on the Upper Garnock estuary, and prs at Outerwards. Glen Afton, Auchinleck estate, Dumfries House, Annbank.

Counts at main sites	
Bogside	6 on 4 Jan, 6 on 28 Jan, 6 on 29 Jun, 7 on 2 Jul.
Martnaham Loch	13 on 14 Jan, 20 on 5 Feb, 8 on 12 Nov.
Doonfoot	51 on 24 Jun, 64 on 18 Jul, 33 on 12 Aug.
Other sites	6 Kay Park 23 Feb, 7 Munnoch Res 7 May, 8 Kay Park 22-30 Dec.

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator* C b p

No reports were received from former breeding sites.

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston	32 on 23 Sep, 19 on 1 Oct.
Farland Head-Ardrossan	17 on 11 Feb, 15 on 8 Nov.
Irvine	35 on 23 Jan, 28 on 24 Jan.
Ayr-Prestwick-Troon	17 on 24 Jan, 16 on 15 Feb, 25 on 26 Feb, 17 on 20 Dec.
Maidens-Dipple	11 on 15 Apr, 11 on 31 Dec.

Red Grouse *Lagopus lagopus scoticus* U b

Very few records, with most coming from breeding areas: 1 Greenock Mains 5 Apr, 5 displaying ♂♂ Loch Bradan 8 Apr, 1 Airds Moss East 9 May, 2 Fairlie Moor 21 Sep.

Black Grouse *Tetrao tetrix* U b

10 ♂♂ present at one lek site, and single ♂♂ at 2 other sites.

Counts and presence: ♂ Cronberry 9 Jan, 23 Feb, 2 Airds Moss 11 Feb, 1 Jun.

Grey Partridge *Perdix perdix* U b

Only one breeding record of this rapidly declining species was noted, at Sandyford, with a covey of 7 there on 22 Aug.

Counts: 4 Sandyford 2 Jan, 1 Bogside 30 Jan, 3 Loans 9 Feb, 2 on 28 Sep, 2 Trabboch Loch 27 Apr.

Common Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus* C B

No breeding records received.

Widespread reports from the following areas: Largs, Kelburn, Fairlie, Portencross, Hunterston, Outerwards, Flashwood, Kirkleegreen Res, Bogside, Eglinton CP, Barony, Dumfries House, Cronberry, Airds Moss, Auchinleck estate, Culzean, Tarbolton, Fail, Martnaham, Trabboch, Annbank, Sandyford, Shewalton Wood, Loans, Prestwick, Ayr harbour, Burton, Greenan, Craig Tara, Turnberry Point, Pow Burn, Maidens, Bogton Loch, Loch Doon, Ballantrae, Finnarts Bay.

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

Few records received, including 1 Burton 19 Feb, 1 Mar, 1 Trabboch 27 Apr, 2 East Balig 8 May, 1 Kirklea Crosshill 4 Aug, 4 Fail 28 Aug-28 Oct.

Common Swift *Apus apus* C B S p

Breeding birds were seen at the following locations: c15 prs Largs, 3 prs Ochiltree, up to 3 prs Crosshill.

Arrival was from 1 May when 2 were at Saltcoats. Another 2 appeared over Martnaham Loch on 4 May, and a single was at Fail on 5 May.

Feeding flocks or departing parties included 30 Kirkoswald 12 Jun, 24 Muirhead Troon 24 Jun, 25 Culzean 8 Jul, 22 Saltcoats 24 Jul, 30 on 29 Jul, 40 Fail 23 Aug, 24 Ochiltree 25 Jul.

Most departed by end Aug, with the last singles appearing over Saltcoats on 14 and 15 Sep, and a "Swift sp" seen at Stevenston on 11 Oct.

Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus* C B S p

During the breeding season territorial ♂♂ included birds at Loch Doon (min 3), Kirriereoch (3), Slaethornrig (2), Rowantree Toll (2), Upper Glen App (2), Glen Afton (min 1), Loch Skelloch, Ballochling, Loch Gower, Loch Riecawr, Loch Bradan, Ballochbeatties, Eldrick Hill, Black Hill, Tallaminnoch, Craigens Wood, Barr, Artnoch, Loch Crongart, Airds Moss, Altigabert Burn, Mark Glen App, Auldraigoch, Outerwards, Greeto Falls, Caaf Res, Fairlie Moor, Munnoch Res, Fairlie Castle, Drumboy Hill.

Arrival was from 18 Apr when 1 was at Dalcairney. This was followed by singles at Knockylaigh on 19 Apr, Corphin and Ness Glen on 21 Apr.

The only departure date was of a juv at Loch Macaterick on 5 Aug.

Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon *Columba livia* C B

Counts included 60 Carlung Farm 4 Jan, 81 Troon-Loans 25 Jan, 104 on 11 Sep, 283 on 19 Sep, 364 on 15 Oct, 482 on 2 Nov, 87 on 29 Dec, 37 Bogside 6 Feb, 43 Prestwick 17 Feb. 40 Templand 18 Feb, 43 Newton on Ayr 19 Feb, 60 Saltcoats 24 Feb, 47 Dunure 6 Nov, 75 Ayr harbour 26 Nov.

Stock Dove *Columba oenas* C B w

Breeding pairs or territorial ♂♂ were reported from Hunterston (min 3), Kilkerran (2), Bargany (2), Airds Moss East, High Dalblair, Auchinleck estate, Rozelle, Cloyntie, St John's Cottage Maybole, Dalcairney, Dalmorton, Balbeg, Culzean CP, Martnaham Lodge, Fail, Monk Castle Dalry, Hawking Craig.

Counts included 8 Rozelle 26 Jan, 8 Fail 23 Mar, 11 on 26 Nov, 27 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec, 16 Loans 29 Dec.

Common Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus* C B W

No large flocks recorded, but 77 Loans 20 Jan, 120 on 28 Feb, 178 on 6 Mar, 143 on 8 Sep, 100 Dumfries House 1 Feb, 46 Bogside 9 Mar, 82 Fullarton Woods 30 Jun.

Eurasian Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto* C B

Breeding birds were recorded from most of lowland Ayrshire, mostly in or near urban areas.

Counts included 34 Loans 22 Aug, 16 Muirhead 18 Sep.

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus* C b W

Birds seen or heard in suitable breeding habitat included Trabboch Loch (3+), Ardeer Fen (!+), Heart Loch, Garnock Floods (juv on 15 Jul), Garnock East, Oldhall

Outside the breeding season: 1 Bogside 5. 8 Jan, 2 on 18 Jan, 1 Trabboch Loch 5 Jan, 5, 26 Feb, 2 on 2, 14 Mar, 4 on 4 Oct, 1 on 15, 18 Oct, 1 Shewalton 1 Mar, 1 Ladyton Loch 30 Dec.

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* C B

Pairs in suitable breeding habitat included Garnock Floods (juv noted), Capringstone (juv noted), Gypsy Pool (juv noted), Lands of Turnberry, Culzean, Auchenharvie Pond, Kay Park, Whitehill Cumnock, Auchlin, Kirkbride Pond.

Counts included 7 Lands of Turnberry 14 Jan, 15 Culzean 16 Feb. 8 Trabboch Loch 1 Mar, 10 Burns Fishery Tarbolton 30 Aug, 6 Jay Park 30 Dec

Common Coot *Fulica atra* C B

Pairs in suitable breeding habitat included Trabboch Loch (3, B/3, B/2, B/1 noted), Gypsy Pool (2, B/3 noted), Auchenharvie Pond (2), Garnock Floods (2), Kay Park (min 1). Gables Marsh, Eglinton CP, Lands of Turnberry.

Counts included 10 Auchenharvie Pond 3, 6 Jan, 12 on 11 Feb, 17 on 29 Sep, 10 Martnaham Loch 17 Jan, 21 Shewalton 23 Jan, 17 on 9 Mar, 16 on 25 Dec, 6 Kay Park 23 Feb, 12 Trabboch Loch 23 Mar, 8 on 8 Sep, 2 Blairbowie 11 Apr, 12 Burns Fishery 2 Oct, 10 Auchenharvie GC 3 Dec.

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* C B

At least 25 pairs were present at 21 sites.

Site	Result	Site	Result
Auchenharvie Pond	pr	Glengarnock Pool	pr
Bargany	2 prs	Kirkbride Pond	2 prs – pr B/2
Barnshean Loch	pr	Ladyton Loch	pr
Blairquhan Approach L	pr	Lands of Turnberry	3+prs - pr B/1 noted
Burns Fishery	pr – B/2 noted	Martnaham Loch	min 1 pr – B/2 noted
Colennan Res	pr	Pinbraid	pr
Craigengillan	pr	Shewalton	pr
Culzean	min 1 pr	Todhill	pr
Eglinton CP	pr	Trabboch Loch	pr B/1
Garnock Floods	min 1 pr	Troon Gypsy Pool	pr
Garnock lagoons	pr		

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston lagoon	7 on 11 Jan, 18 on 14 Sep
Auchenharvie pond	2 on 11 Feb, 2 Nov
Bogside	2 on 23 Jan, 3 on 29 Sep
Shewalton	7 on 24 Jan
Pow Burn	3 on 5 Sep, 6 on 29 Oct
Maidens	2 on 4 Jan, 3 on 30 Jan, 4 on 2 Feb, 1 on 18 Sep, 6 on 29 Nov, 2 on 31 Dec
Elsewhere	1 Lugar Water Dumfries House 2 Jan, 1 Rozelle 3 Jan, 2 Trabboch Loch 5 Jan, 8 Lands of Turnberry 14 Jan, 9 on 6 Feb, 8 Collennan Res 2 Feb, 2 Ladyton Loch 23 Feb, 6 Culzean 26 Feb, 6 Martnaham Loch 27 Feb, 10 Burns Fishery 27 Aug, 6 Doonfoot 2 Dec

Red-necked Grebe *Podiceps grisegena* U W

One was present at Maidens from 30 Jan-1 Feb (ZB/DC *et al.*), one at Bracken Bay on 21-22 Dec may have been a returning bird (HF).

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus* C b p

Results from breeding sites:

Site	Result
Kilbirnie Loch	1 on 20 Jan, 2 on 15 Jun – no breeding reported
Eglinton CP	1 on 30 Apr, pr reared B/2
Shewalton	1 on 1=9 Mar– no breeding reported
Loch Fergus	1 on 23 Apr– no breeding reported
Martnaham Loch	1 returned 12 Feb, 4 ads and 1 imm on 26 Feb, nest built but no young seen

Winter-spring counts included 2 Irvine Bay 23 Jan-1 Feb, 3 on 24 Jan.

Autumn counts included juv Barnshean Loch 2 Nov. 3 Martnaham Loch 14 Nov.

Slavonian Grebe *Podiceps auritus* U W

One was on the Garnock estuary on 2 Jan (BDK/RHH *et al.*), possible the same between Irvine and Barassie on 18 Jan (GMcA).

Eurasian Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus* C B W P

Breeding pairs included: pr B/1 Ayr Hospital, pr B/1 Maidens, birds also noted in suitable habitat at Barony bing, Broomfield Cumnock, Glenside Cumnock, Knockroon Cumnock, Flashwood, Deil's Dyke, Hunterston PStn, Dalmaca, Airds Moss West, Airds Moss East, Maich Water, Munnoch Res, Little Brigurd, Loch o' the Lowes

Early arrival back inland from 6 Feb when 5 at Maich Water Kilbirnie Loch, 20+ Airds Moss East on 29 Mar.

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	100+ on 1 Jan, 150 on 6 Feb, 85 on 8 Mar, 40+ on 3 Apr
Ardrossan-Stevenston	84 on 3 Jan
Bogside-Irvine hbr	98 on 23 Jan, 70 on 20 Feb, 100+ on 17 Mar, 53 on 8 Apr
Barassie	178 on 25 Jan, 112 on 22 Feb, 63 on 4 Mar
Doonfoot	82 on 1 Mar
Maidens	43 on 27 Feb
Elsewhere	31 Seamill 10 Apr

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	50 on 25 Jul, 84 on 13 Aug, 280 on 23 Sep, 250+ on 6 Nov, 140 on 3 Dec, 400 on 30 Dec
Ardrossan-Stevenston	30+ on 14 Sep, 30 on 28 Nov, 75 on 31 Dec
Bogside-Irvine hbr	57 on 25 Aug, 75 on 2 Oct, 65 on 18 Nov
Barassie	23 on 4 Jul, 33 on 8 Aug, 84 on 24 Sep, 292 on 30 Oct, 248 on 27 Nov, 114 on 17 Dec
Doonfoot	17 on 26 Jun, 45 on 21 Sep, 59 on 15 Dec
Maidens	26 on 5 Sep
Elsewhere	20+ Seamill 28 Sep, 33 West Kilbride-Portencross 26 Oct, 24 Auchenhavie pond 2 Nov

Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* C B W P

Few breeding reports: pr B/3 Killoch, 5 Blairbowie 4 Apr, pr + ♀ on 16 Apr – no breeding, other prs seen in suitable breeding habitat included 1-2 prs Airds Moss East, 1-2 prs Airds Moss West, single prs Cowan's Law, Crossroads, Munnoch Res, Maich Water.

Returned inland by 25 Feb when 2 Airds Moss.

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	40 on 1 Jan
Fail	112 on 24 Jan, 209 on 24 Feb, 175 on 2 Mar, 31 on 5 Apr
Loans	151 on 28 Jan, 104 on 8 Feb
Blairbowie	85 on 21 Feb
Elsewhere	109 Martnaham Loch 17 Jan, 82 on 13 Feb 170 Capringstone 25 Jan, 62 on 11 Feb

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	39 on 14 Sep
Bogside-Irvine hbr	25+ on 13 Jul, 50 on 2 Oct, 200 on 27 Oct, 40 on 18 Nov
Auchincross	50 on 24 Jun, 70 on 23 Oct, 100 on 2 Nov
Dundonald Camp	25 on 19 Oct
Fail	36 on 9 Aug, 93 on 24 Sep, 192 on 28 Oct, 100 on 23 Nov, 82 on 29 Dec
Loans	20 on 12 Aug, 39 on 20 Oct, 223 on 9 Nov, 126 on 1 Dec
Doonfoot	12 on 12 Aug
Blairbowie	24 on 10 Sep, 90 on 9 Dec
Elsewhere	25 Capringstone 14 Jul, 132 on 18 Oct, 150 Garnock Floods 22 Jul, 222 on 25 Aug, 68 Dalmaca 25 Oct, c60 Maich Water 5 Nov

European Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria* C B w P

Birds in suitable breeding habitat included 5 Airds Moss East 25 Feb, 1 on 19 May, 2 Airds Moss West 3 May.

	Counts at main sites
Barassie-Troon	85 on 12 Jan, 36 on 12 Sep, 90 on 20 Sep, 200 on 7 Oct, 240 on 30 Oct, 249 on 25 Nov, 137 on 31 Dec
Fail	223 on 24 Feb, 50 on 29 Mar, 64 on 7 Apr, 1 on 9 Aug
Balkenna-Dipple	115 on 27 Feb, 250+ on 1 Apr, 350 (<i>P a altifrons</i>) on 14-17 Apr, 45 on 4 Nov, 23 on 31 Dec
Elsewhere	90 Killoch 20 Apr, 50 Blackcraig Hill 22 Oct, 35 Ballantrae 31 Dec, 60 West Kilbride 31 Dec

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola* C w P

	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	2 on 14 Sep-15 Oct, 1 on 17 Nov
Bogside-Stevenston Pt	1 on 23 Jan, 2 on 26 Jan
Troon-Prestwick	1 on 15 Sep-27 Oct, 2 on 9-25 Nov, 5 on 20 Nov
Turnberry Bay	1 on 21 Oct



Ringed Plovers and Dunlin roosting at Balkenna (Angus Hogg)

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula* C B W P

The only breeding record reported involved a pair with well-grown B/1 at Maidens on 22 Jul. Other birds noted in suitable breeding habitat at Hunterston, Airds Moss and Dalgig.

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Stevenston	32 on 17 Jan, 39+ on 28 May
Barassie-Troon	50 on 21 Jan, 27 on 22 Feb, 24 on 8 May
Doonfoot	20 on 11 Jan, 60 on 17 Apr
Maidens	27 on 1 Feb, 46 on 18 May
Balkenna-Dipple	70+ on 17 Apr, 60+ on 19 May
Elsewhere	13 Saltcoats 11 Feb, 10 Seamill 10 Mar. 11 Pow Burn 22 Apr, 60 Meikle Craigs 28 May

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	20+ on 13 Aug, c500 on 14 Sep, 129 on 23 Sep, 250 on 15 Oct
Stevenston	30 on 18 Aug, 65 on 24 Sep, 40+ on 16 Nov, 82 on 28 Nov
Barassie-Troon	26 on 8 Aug, 120 on 20 Sep, 110 on 16 Oct, 64 on 16 Nov, 70 on 29 Dec
Maidens	25 on 22 Jul, 37 on 5 Aug, 5 Sep
Balkenna-Dipple	55 on 16 Sep
Elsewhere	22 Auchincross 19 Jul, 18 Seamill-Portencross 5 Aug, 7 Fail 18 Aug, 150 on 23 Aug, 30 Saltcoats 6 Oct-6 Nov 42 Doonfoot 16 Nov

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius* R P

2 sites were occupied by single pairs, and nesting occurred, but both failed. A group of 4 birds at a third site was thought to be a family group which may have involved local breeding.

Spring arrival was from 14 Apr when 1 was at Barleith Pool. This was followed by 1 Fail 15 Apr, 2 Blairbowie 18 Apr-1 on 24 Apr, 1 Martnaham Loch 18 Apr, 1 Munnoch Res 5 May-2 on 14 May, 1 Garnock Floods 7 May-2 on 8 May, 1 Kilbirnie Loch 10 May.

Autumn records involved 2 Auchincross 24 Jul, 1 Martnaham Loch 9 Sep, 2 Fail 19 Sep.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* U P

An over-wintering bird was at Bogside on 8 Jan.

The first spring records involved 1 Munnoch Res 15 Apr, 1 Dowhill Port and 3 Stevenston Point 17 Apr

Spring passage counts at main sites	
Hunterston	2 on 28 Apr, 1 on 10 May, 2 on 11 May
Saltcoats-Stevenston	4 on 7 May, 13 on 15 May
Munnoch Res	37 on 5 May, 20+ on 7 May
Bogside-Irvine hbr	8 on 26 Apr, 2 on 29 Apr, 9 on 10 May, 1 on 7 Jun
Barassie-Troon	1 on 18, 25 Apr, 5 May, 13 May, 4 on 15 May
Martnaham Loch	1 on 18 Apr, 6 on 28 Apr, 13 on 1 May
Doonfoot-Bracken Bay	1 on 20 Apr, 24 on 27 Apr, 2 on 8 May, 4 on 13 May
Culzean Bay	17 on 21 Apr, 25 on 25 Apr, 10 on 27 Apr, 17 on 4 May, 1 on 12 May
Elsewhere	1 Pow Burn 19 Apr, 6 Fail 20-23 Apr, 1 Maidens 25 Apr, 2 Jun 9 Meigle Bay 1 May, 5 Bennane Head 8 May, 7 Dipple-Balkenna 19 May, 8 Lendalfoot 3 Jun

Autumn passage counts at main sites	
Hunterston	1 on 13 Aug
Bogside-Irvine hbr	1 on 27 Aug
Barassie-Troon	1 on 5 Sep
Doonfoot-Bracken Bay	1 on 18 Aug, 2 on 22 Aug, 3 on 21 Oct
Elsewhere	1 Maidens 27 Jul, 12 Aug, 17 Aug, 6 Sep, 3 on 31 Aug, 2 on 4 Sep

Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata* C B W P

Breeding pairs or territorial ♂♂ included: Airds Moss (6+), Darntaggart-Skares (2), Garpel quarry, Auchlin, Loudoun Hill, Glenside Cumnock, Beoch Farm, Wee Hill of Berbeth, Dalnean Hill. Also present in suitable habitat at Auchenlongford, Middlefield and Netherwood.

Returned inland by 17 Feb when present at Kilbirnie Loch.

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	56+ on 1 Jan, 60+ on 6 Feb, 45 on 8 Mar, 100 on 24 Mar, 28 on 3 Apr
Stevenston-Auchenharvie	50 on 3 Jan, 67 on 17 Feb
Bogside-Irvine hbr	34 on 2 Jan, 61 on 23 Jan, 14 on 9 Mar
Loans	90 on 11 Jan, 88 on 24 Feb, 86 on 7 Mar, 34 on 9 Apr
Maidens	30 on 12 Jan, 67 on 1 Feb, 36 on 21 Feb, 37 on 17 Apr
Elsewhere	34 Meikle Craigs 1 Jan, 42 Garnock East 3 Jan, 100 Skelmorlie Castle 3 Jan, 15 Lendalfoot 4 Jan, 35 Pow Burn 4 Jan, 31 Eglinton CP 9 Jan, 47 on 14 Mar, 24 Garnock Floods 12 Feb, 46 Martnaham Loch 27 Feb, 68 on 2 Mar, 31 Fail 14 Mar, 18 Seamill 10 Apr, 16 Munnoch Res 10 Apr, 29 Blairbowie 11 Apr, 54 Mochrum Loch 14 Apr. 28 Kirkleegreen Res 16 Apr

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	53 on 2 Jul, 218 on 13 Aug, 428 on 23 Sep, 80 on 6 Nov, 50 on 31 Dec
Stevenston-Auchenharvie	20 on 6, 28 Nov, 25 on 16 Dec
Bogside-Irvine hbr	61+ on 13 Jul, 143 on 25 Aug, 76 on 9 Sep, 170 on 29 Sep
Loans	44 on 6 Aug, 75 on 20 Sep, 151 on 15 Oct, 67 on 12 Nov, 103 on 17 Dec
Maidens	27 on 2 Nov, 14 on 31 Dec
Balkenna	65 on 16 Jul, 80 on 10 Sep
Elsewhere	26 Dykeneuk Moss 6 Jul, 59 Auchincross 19 Jul, 96 on 1 Aug, 75 Seamill-Ardrossan 6 Aug, 80+ Dundonald Camp 13 Sep, 42 Portencross 13 Oct, 73 West Kilbride-Portencross 2 Nov, 21 Doonfoot 10 Nov, 40 Skelmorlie Castle 23 Nov, 60 High Greenan 9 Dec, 108 Laigh Hillhouse Barassie 31 Dec

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* C W P

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston-Fairlie	8 on 29 Jan, 17 on 17 Mar, 1 on 9 Apr, 8 on 6 Jun, 7 on 7-11 Jun
Barassie	2 on 1 May
Maidens	1 on 4 May
Elsewhere	1 Dipple 14 Apr, 1 Stevenston Point 28 May

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston-Fairlie	1 on 25 Jul, 13 Aug, 3 on 11 Sep, 9 on 14 Sep, 5 on 23 Sep, 7 on 6 Nov, 9 on 13 Nov, 33 on 3 Dec, 25 on 21 Dec
Barassie	1 on 6 Sep, 2 on 25 Oct, 9-20 Nov, 1 on 3 Dec
Doonfoot	3 on 22 Aug, 1 on 1-5 Sep, 15 on 15 Oct, 1 on 9 Dec
Maidens	1 on 4 Aug, 28 Aug-10 Sep, 2 on 15-23 Sep, 3 on 28 Sep-3 Oct
Elsewhere	1 Meikle Craigs 7-11 Jul, 15-20 Aug 2 on 23 Aug, 1 Pow Burn 29 Jul, 26 Sep, 2 Stevenston Point 14 Sep, 3 Turnberry Point 21 Sep, 1 Seamill 28 Sep

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa* U w P

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	2 on 1 Jan, 1 on 1 May
Bogside-Garnock Floods	4 on 9 Apr, 5 on 29 Apr
Fail	1 on 10-16 Apr
Doonfoot	1 on 1 Apr
Elsewhere	4 Blairbowie 12 Apr, 1 on 16 Apr, 4 Maidens 17 Apr, 7 Dalmaca 18 Apr, 1 Munnoch Res 29 Apr. 12 May

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	1 on 14 Sep, 31 Oct
Bogside-Garnock Floods	1 on 30 Jun, 2 on 15 Jul, 4 on 27 Jul, 2 on 28-29 Jul, 1 on 30 Jul, 9, 24 Sep
Barassie-Troon-Loans	8 on 12 Aug (<i>see Fail below</i>), 1 on 5 Sep, 7 on 15-20 Sep, 5 on 22 Sep, 1 on 15 Oct
Fail	1 on 4-5 Aug, 3 on 9 Aug, 8 on 12 Aug, 1 on 18-19 Aug, 5 on 21 Aug, 2 on 23 Aug, 10 on 26 Aug, 13 on 27 Aug, 1 on 28-29 Aug, 2 on 13-18 Sep, 3 on 21-26 Sep, 2 on 27 Sep-2 Oct,
Pow Burn	10 on 30 Jul
Doonfoot	1 on 26 Jun, 1, 22 Aug, 9 Sep
Blairbowie	9 on 5 Sep, 12 on 6 Sep
Maidens	1 on 18 Jul, 8 on 23 Jul, 2 on 26 Jul, 1 on 28 Jul, 2 on 5 Sep
Elsewhere	20 Auchincross 30 Jun-1 Jul, 4 on 8, 24 Jul, 1 Martnaham Loch 3 Jul, 2 Capringstone 15 Aug, 1 Dundonald Camp 13 Sep

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* C W s P

	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	26 on 26 Jan, 23 on 20 Mar, 10 on 5 Apr, 6 on 13 Aug, 39 on 31 Dec
Stevenston Point	6 on 3 Jan, 20 on 11 Feb, 10 on 28 Nov
Bogside-Irvine hbr	12 on 23 Jan, 20 on 21 Feb, 40 on 30 Aug, 30 on 10 Sep, 12 on 29 Sep, 40 on 24 Dec
Barassie-Troon	29 on 1 Jan, 31 on 22 Jan, 41 on 6 Feb, 14 on 5 Apr, 45 on 2 Sep, 70 on 27 Sep, 95 on 14 Oct, 50 on 16 Nov, 57 on 25 Dec
Doonfoot	8 on 14 Jan, 13 on 10 Feb, 18 on 2 Mar, 9 on 21 Sep, 22 on 18 Oct, 33 on 28 Nov, 29 on 15 Dec
Balkenna-Dipple	12 on 3 Mar
Elsewhere	19 Largs 6 Jan, 16 on 1 Apr, 7 Seamill 9 Jan, 16 on 10 Mar, 7 on 10 Apr, 15 Saltcoats 20 Mar, 1 Maidens 22 Jul, 12 on 14 Dec, 4 Seamill 28 Sep, 19 Ayr harbour 10 Nov, 20+ Saltcoats 28 Nov, 11 Prestwick Bay 9 Dec, 11 West Kilbride 31 Dec



Red Knots landing at Troon (Angus Hogg)

Red Knot *Calidris canutus* C W P

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston	25 on 13 Aug
Bogside-Irvine hbr	1 on 5, 28 Aug, 60 on 30 Aug, 222 on 31 Dec
Barassie-Troon	4 on 8 Feb, 1 on 16 Aug, c170 on 22 Aug, 165+ on 28 Sep, 200 on 30 Sep, 404 on 30 Oct, 415 on 2 Nov, 486 on 9 Nov, 450 on 29 Dec
Doonfoot	1 on 28 Jun, 1 on 5=12 Aug, 8 on 8 Aug, 4 on 18 Aug, 9 on 21 Aug
Maidens-Turnberry Pt	1 on 10 Feb, 7 on 21 Feb, 4 on 24-26 Jul, 3 on 27 Jul, 2 on 4 Aug, 16 on 19 Aug, 2 on 20-28 Aug, 28 on 30 Aug, 54 on 31 Aug, 7 on 11 Sep, 75 on 14 Dec
Elsewhere	1 Meikle Craigs 28 Jun, 13 on 29 Jul, 24 on 15 Aug, 17 on 23 Aug, 1 Balkenna 9 Aug, 23 on 4 Nov, 3 Stevenston Point 24 Sep-6 Oct, 300 on 3 Nov, 81 on 28 Nov, 27 Seamill 29 Sep. 51 Saltcoats 19 Oct, 65 on 6 Nov, 150 on 28 Nov, 314 on 31 Dec

Ruff *Calidris pugnax* C P

No spring records.

In the autumn: 1 Garnock Floods 14 Jul, 1 Auchincross 16 Jul, 2 on 24 Jul, 1 Pow Burn 30 Jul, 1 Fail 4-27 Aug, 2 on 21 Aug, 3 on 27 Aug, 4 on 28-29 Aug, 1 on 23 Sep-5 Oct, 3 on 30 Sep, 2 Maidens 12 Aug, 1 on 20-23 Aug, 5 Dundonald Camp 22 Aug, 2 on 29 Aug, 1 Doonfoot 23-28 Aug, 1 Bogside 31 Aug-11 Sep, 1 Blairbowie 4-6 Sep, 4 on 10 Sep.

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea* U P

Very few autumn records involving only 3 individuals: 1 Bogside-Garnock Floods 28 Aug-1 Sep, 1 Maidens 30 Aug-4 Sep, 1 Bogside 22 Sep

Sanderling *Calidris alba* C w P

Counts at main sites	
Stevenston	90 on 23 Jan, 78 on 9 Feb, 30 on 3 Apr, 43 on 1 May, 3 on 28 May, 5 on 8 Aug, 50 on 18 Aug, 178 on 7 Sep, 80 on 3 Nov, 103 on 28 Nov, 124 on 31 Dec
Barassie-Troon	5 on 1-2 Jan, 1 on 31 Jan, 150 on 19 Apr, 23 on 5 May, 15 on 23 Aug, 17 on 22 Nov, 4 on 4 Dec
Meikle Craigs	30 on 28 May, 60 on 29 Jul, 11 on 20 Aug, 34 on 23 Aug
Pow Burn	20 on 23 May
Doonfoot	8 on 6 Aug, 6 on 9 Aug, 2 on 21-22 Aug, 5 on 1 Sep
Maidens	1 on 16 Jan, 3 on 27 Feb, 2 on 26 Apr, 4 on 27 Jul, 3 on 29 Jul-9 Aug, 2 on 21-31 Aug, 4 on 1 Sep, 8 on 4 Sep, 5 on 11 Sep
Balkenna	1 on 14 Feb, 14 Apr, 35 on 19 May, 4 on 2 Jun, 2 on 21 Oct
Elsewhere	23 Saltcoats 11 Feb, 6 Culzean Bay 20 Jul, 1 Seamill 5 Aug

Dunlin *Calidris alpina* C b W P

In former breeding area, 1 was at Airds Moss East on 19 May.

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	150+ on 1 Jan, 133+ on 6 Feb, 15 on 20 Mar, 12 on 23 May
Saltcoats-Stevenston	80 on 20 Jan, 13 on 28 May
Barassie-Troon	412 on 25 Jan, 400 on 5 Feb, 250 on 3 Mar
Maidens	120 on 4 Jan, 187 on 3 Feb, 52 on 3 Mar, 15 on 26 Apr, 72 on 18 May, 6 on 15 Jun
Dipple-Balkenna	86 on 14 Feb, 110 on 19 May, 20 on 2 Jun
Elsewhere	80 Meikle Craigs 22 May

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	26 on 25 Jul, 75 on 13 Aug, 100 on 14 Sep, 80 on 26 Dec
Saltcoats-Stevenston	14 on 6 Nov, 30+ on 28 Nov, 32 on 31 Dec
Bogside	25 on 5 Aug, 60 on 19 Oct
Barassie-Troon	23 on 17 Oct. 140 on 8 Nov, 200+ on 16 Nov, 350 on 17-29 Dec
Doonfoot	30 on 28 Jul
Maidens	18 on 18 Jul, 190 on 24 Jul, c400 on 27 Jul, 515+ on 29 Jul, 110 on 5 Aug, 15 on 2 Nov, 47 on 29 Nov, 51 on 6 Dec
Elsewhere	1 returned Garnock Floods 14 Jul, 4 on 16 Jul, 40 Meikle Craigs 29 Jul, 53 Seamill-Portencross 5 Aug, 11 Fail 7 Aug, 14 on 1 Sep

Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima* C W P

Counts at main sites	
Saltcoats	1 on 20 Jan, 7 on 3 Mar, 2 on 19 Oct, 6 on 2 Nov, 12+ on 28 Nov
Stevenston	20 on 4 Jan, 7 on 11 Feb, 5 on 3 Apr, 5 on 28 Nov. 6 on 31 Dec
Barassie-Troon	22 on 3 Jan, 37 on 8 Jan, 24 on 23 Feb, 40 on 23 Mar, 33 on 19 Apr, 5 on 8 May, 2 on 30 Oct, 15 on 3 Nov, 29 On 9 Nov, 61 on 24 Nov, 40 on 2 Dec
Ayr harbour	7 on 4 Feb, 1 on 11 Jul, 10 on 10 Nov
Maidens-Turnberry	7 on 27 Mar
Elsewhere	4 Seamill 10 Mar, 2 on 10 Apr, 2 on 27 Dec, 4 Carleton Port 21 Mar, 9 Ballantrae 6 Apr

Little Stint *Calidris minuta* U P

A very poor autumn with only 2 individuals observed: 1 Hunterston 13 Aug (ZB), juv Fail 28 Sep (DGr/HF *et al.*).

White-rumped Sandpiper *Calidris fuscicollis* A

2 juvs were discovered at Fail on 16 Oct (DC/DGi), staying until 23 Oct. This is the 5th Ayrshire record and is the first multiple sighting.

Eurasian Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola* C B W

The only records from potential breeding areas came from Auchinleck estate, Ayr Gorge and Barony.

Counts and migrants – Spring: 1 Garnock East 3 Jan, 2 on 8 Jan, 1 Doonside 3, 13 Jan, 1 Barony 5, 23 Jan, 1 Ochiltree 5 Jan, 1 Byne Hill 7 Jan, 2 Braid Wood 17 Jan, 1 Mochrum Loch 19 Jan, 1 Darntaggart 23 Jan, 1 Shewalton 28 Jan, 3+ Drumbo Hill 28 Jan, 10 Feb, 1 Fullarton Woods 30 Jan, 1 Syke Farm 10 Feb, 2 Martnaham Loch 17 Feb, 1 Knockroon 22 Feb, 2 Outerwards 22 Feb, 1 Milton Stair 1 Mar, 6 Beith 4 Mar

Counts and migrants – Autumn: under-recorded, with 1 Beith 4 Nov, 1 Garnock Floods 22 Nov, 1 Stair 25 Dec.

Jack Snipe *Lymnocyrtus minimus* C w P

In the winter-spring period: 2 Greenan 2 Jan, 1 Gypsy Pool 4 Jan, 2 Fairlie 11 Jan, 1 Lands of Turnberry 14 Jan, 1 Maidens 17 Jan, 1 Kilbirnie Loch 6 Feb, 1 Stevenston LNR 9 Feb, 2 Doonfoot 21 Feb, 1 on 22 Feb, 1 Darntaggart 22 Feb, 1 Turnberry GC 3 Mar, 1 Airds Moss East 29 Mar, 1 Seamill 10 Apr.

In the autumn: 4 Kilbirnie Loch 5 Nov, 1 Gypsy Pool 13 Nov, 1 Gogo Glen 30 Nov, 1 North Craig Res 30 Dec.

Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago* C B w P

Birds observed during the breeding season in known breeding areas included min 2+ Airds Moss West, 2 Bogton Loch, singles Dalmellington Moss, Mutton Hall, Garnock North, Garnock East, Garnock Floods, Kilbirnie Loch Maich Water, Shalloch, Garpel Burn, Low Moss, Auchincross.

Counts and migrants: 7 Greenan 2 Jan, 8 Gypsy Pool 4 Jan, 9 Maidens 30 Jan, 6 on 21 Feb, 2 on 17 Apr, 7 Kilbirnie Loch Maich Water 6 Feb, 7 on 12 Apr, 11 Stevenston LNR 9 Feb, 16 Auchenharvie GC 11 Feb, 25 Martnaham Loch 26 Feb, 10 Turnberry 3 Mar, 9 Hunterston lagoon 20 Mar, 10 Airds Moss East-Greenock Mains 29 Mar, 5 Apr

Grey Phalarope *Phalaropus fulicarius* U w P

A ♀ was observed flying S at Maidens on 26 May (DGr).

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* C B S P

Territorial or breeding birds were recorded at Loch Spallander (2+ prs with several juvs seen), Dipple (min B/2 noted), Dumfries House, Barony, Auchinleck estate, Gargirth, Martnaham Loch, Loch Doon dam, Blackcraig, Auchincross, Outerwards, Camphill Res, Pundeavon Res, Munnoch Res, Maich Water, Greenock Mains, Ardeer, Failford, Balkenna, Finnarts Bay, Currarie Port, Ballantrae South, Pinbain Burn, Altigabert Burn, Hallowchapel Bridge

First arrivals were singles at Hag Burn on 6 Apr, Collennan on 8 Apr, and Maich Water on 12 Apr. Present over much of county by 17-20 Apr.

Autumn counts/departure: 12+ Loch Spallander 3 Jul, 7 Dalgig 8 Jul, 13 Pow Burn 29 Jul, 10 on 31 Jul, last singles were seen at Pow Burn 27 Sep, Bogside 29 Sep and Doonfoot 7 Oct.

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus* U w P

The only spring record was 1 at the Garnock estuary on 10 Apr.

Autumn records involved 1 Garnock Floods 9-10 Jul, another on 22 Jul, with 2 on 29-30 Jul, 1 on 31 Jul, 25 Aug, 4 Auchincross 16 Jul, 1 on 1 Aug, 1 Pow Burn 23 Jul, 1 Capringstone 30 Jul, 2 on 1-14 Oct, 1 Loch Cornish 5 Aug, 1 Fail 27 Aug, 1 Garnock estuary 17 Nov.

Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes* A

A juv at Capringstone from 1-3 Oct (DG *et al.*) was the 3rd Ayrshire record.

Common Redshank *Tringa totanus* C b W P

Birds were observed in potential breeding areas at Airds Moss East, Airds Moss West and Loch o' the Lowes.

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	140 on 1 Jan, 54 on 6 Feb, 33 on 20 Mar
Ardrossan-Saltcoats	26 on 3 Jan, 40 on 14 Feb
Bogside-Irvine hbr	60 on 1 Jan, 125 on 23 Jan,
Barassie-Troon	41 on 3 Jan, 32 on 5 Mar
Doonfoot	65 on 14 Jan, 80 on 10, 19 Feb, 87 on 26 Mar, 72 on 7 Apr
Maidens	61 on 4 Feb, 160 on 24 Feb, 44 on 26 Mar, 13 on 15 Apr
Elsewhere	2+ Airds Moss East 29 Mar

Site	Count
Hunterston	30 on 25 Jul, 147 on 13 Aug, 116 on 23 Sep, 90 on 6, 17 Nov
Ardrossan-Saltcoats	12 on 8 Jul, 30 on 28 Nov
Bogside-Irvine hbr	100 on 31 Aug, 75 on 2 Oct, 170 on 19 Oct
Barassie-Troon	10 on 8 Aug, 46 on 8 Nov, 58 on 22 Nov
Pow Burn	20 on 2 Oct
Doonfoot	28 on 23 Jul, 38 on 21 Sep, 66 on 30 Sep, 45 on 18 Oct, 60 on 28 Nov, 89 on 9 Dec
Maidens	14 on 22 Jul, 30 on 27 Jul, 35 on 16 Sep, 37 on 2 Nov, 82 on 13 Dec
Elsewhere	3 Dalgig 8 Jul, 67 Girvan harbour 11 Dec

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* U P

No spring records.

Two individuals in the autumn: 1 Garnock Floods 9-10 Jul (DG/GMcA), juv on 29 Jul-2 Aug (GMcA *et al.*).

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* C w P

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	9 on 22 Jan, 21 on 6 Feb, 8 on 20 Mar
Bogside-Capringstone	2 on 2 Jan, 3 on 2 Feb, 1 on 17 Feb, 1 on 15-16 Apr
Pow Burn	1 on 4, 23 Jan, 19 Apr
Doonfoot-Heads of Ayr	1 on 1 Jan, 10 Feb, 1 Mar
Elsewhere	1 Fail 28 Mar, 1 Black Neuk 17 Apr

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	2 returned on 6 Jun, 15 on 25 Jul, 8 on 7 Aug, 11 on 28-29 Sep, 8 on 15 Oct, 6 Nov, 14 on 17 Nov, 16 on 3 Dec
Bogside	6 on 29 Jul, 10 on 27 Aug, 16 on 29 Aug, 15 on 10 Sep, 11 on 12 Oct, 3 on 27 Oct, 25 Nov
Pow Burn	1 on 30 Jul-31 Dec, 3 on 27 Sep
Doonfoot-Heads of Ayr	1 on 24 Jun, 3 on 7 Jul, 4 on 18 Jul, 5 on 24 Jul-9 Sep, 6 on 1 Aug, 4 on 29-30 Sep, 1 on 4 Oct, 3 on 16 Nov
Elsewhere	2 Martnaham Loch 30 Jun, 1 Maidens 29 Jul, 1 Fail 4-15 Aug, 17 Nov

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

Passage Counts	
Stevenston Point	6 on 13 Apr, 6 on 30 May, 10 on 2 Sep.
Troon	70 on 2 Apr, 8 on 30 Aug, 21 on 9 Oct, 7 on 8 Dec.
Maidens	20 on 7 Jan, 109 on 9 Feb, 50 on 26 May, 152 31 Aug, 67 on 4 Sep, 73 on 6 Sep, 98 on 15 Sep, 16 on 12 Nov, 78 on 6 Dec.



Adult Ivory Gull released at Stevenston Point (Dave Grant)

Ivory Gull *Pagophila eburnea* A

An adult was found at Stranraer (D&G) on 23 Jan in poor condition. It was taken to Hessilhead Wildlife Rescue Centre on 27 Jan to recuperate. On the 11 Feb it was released from Stevenston Point and watched by the largest gathering of birders within Ayrshire for many a year as it flew off northwards.

Black-headed Gull *Croicocephalus ridibundus* C B W

The only breeding report came from Hunterston lagoon where 8 juvs were seen at the small colony of 25+ birds on 11 Jun.

Counts: 500 Barassie 10 Jan, 500 Hunterston 11 Feb, 1000 Trabboch Loch 1 Mar, 640 on 9 Apr, 18 Stevenston Point 30 May, 40 Dalmaca 1 Jun, 100 Maidens 28 Jul, 307 Loans 19 Aug, 160 on 24 Sep, 200 Troon 27 Oct, 663 Barassie 22 Nov, 1034 on 27 Dec.

Little Gull *Hydrocoloeus minutus* U P

Up to 5 birds were seen during the year.

In winter-spring: 1 Greenan 15 Jan, ad Capringstone 9-13 Apr, ad Maidens 21 May.

In autumn: ad Stevenston 2 Nov, 1st w Lendalfoot on 3 Nov.



Mediterranean Gull with Herring Gull at Troon (Dave Grant)

Mediterranean Gull *Ichthyaetus melanocephalus* R P

Winter-spring	Counts at main sites
Barassie-Troon	ad on 5 Jan, 2 on 19 Jan, 3 on 21 Jan.
Pow Burn-Prestwick	ad on 5, 28 Jan, 7 Mar.
Elsewhere	ad Capringstone 4, 25 Jan, ad Shewalton 7 Jan, ad Kay Park 15 Jan, 1 st w Rozelle 26 Jan, 4 ads and 1 st w Fail 1 Feb, 1 st w Turnberry Point 3 Mar.

Autumn-winter	Counts at main sites
Barassie-Troon harbour (inc Meikle Craigs)	1 st s on 3 Jul, 9 on 16 Jul, 36 on 29 Jul, 10 on 15 Aug, 26 on 20 Aug, 38 on 28 Aug, 31 on 30 Sep, 7 on 25 Nov.
Pow Burn-Prestwick	1 on 20 Aug, ad on 18 Sep, 2 ads on 12-13 Dec.
Doonfoot	ad on 9 Sep-4 Oct, 1 on 21 Oct.
Elsewhere	1 st s Maidens 30 Jul-4 Aug, 2 on 30 Aug 10 Sep, ad on 30 Sep. 2 nd w 1 Oct, ad and 1 st w 24 Oct, 1 Collennan 23 Sep, 11 Oct, ad Capringstone 3 Oct, 2 ads on 11 Oct, ad on 29 Dec, ad and 1 st w Fail 17 Oct, 1 st w Hunterston 31 Oct, ad Kay Park on 30 Dec.

Common Gull *Larus canus* C B W

Breeding occurred at Hunterston Lagoon where 3 juvs were noted at the small colony on 11 Jun.

Counts: 454 Barassie 3 Jan, 1088 on 11 Jan, 323 on 1 Feb, 2500 Hunterston 11 Feb, 900 Blairbowie 15 Mar, 610 Pow Burn 15 Aug, 1279 Barassie 22 Nov.

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

Breeding: between 80 and 100 prs bred on Lady Isle.

Counts: 13 Doonfoot 6 Jan, 22 on 1 Mar, 34 Troon 25 Jan, 36 on 3 May, 19 Noddsdale Water 12 Feb, 10 Barassie 4 Apr, 20 Maidens 23 Jul, 10 Stevenston Point 14 Sep, 13 Saltcoats 6 Oct, 21 Troon 22 Nov, 71 Shewalton 29 Dec.

Iceland Gull *Larus glaucoides* U W P

Up to 6 birds were seen during the year.

In winter-spring: ad Doonfoot 19 Feb, 2nd w Fail 28 Mar, ad Blairbowie 29 Mar, ad Pow Burn 8 Apr, ad Doonfoot 11 Apr.

In autumn: ad Lendalfoot on 3 Dec.

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus* C B W

Breeding: c 900 prs Lady Isle, c 70 AON Currarie Port, 27 birds beside 5-6 active nests Garry Point 15 Jun.

Counts: 789 Shewalton 23 Jan, 357 Troon 1 Feb, 848 on 27Apr, 637 on 3 May, 427 on 21 Jun, 1000 Trabboch 1 Mar, 437 Troon on 16 Jul, 828 on 22 Nov, 400 on 14 Dec, 342 Fail 17 Aug, 300 on 29 Sep, 17 Oct.

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

Breeding: c 400 prs Lady Isle.

Arrival: 20 Trabboch 1 Mar, 43 Doonfoot 4 Mar, 93 Blairbowie 13 Mar, 125 Fail 28 Mar.

In the autumn: 198 Loans 13 Aug, 300 Troon 17 Aug, 500 Fail 24 Sep.

Wintering adults included: numerous single figure records around Troon throughout winter, plus 11 Doonfoot 18 Feb.



Sandwich Tern at Doonfoot– (Dave Grant)

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

Arrival was from 21 Mar when 1 was at Troon, followed by 4 at Fairlie on 27 Mar.

Site	Count
Hunterston Sands	7 on 23 Apr, 30 on 23 Aug, 32 on 5 Sep.
Stevenston Point	40 on 12 Jul, 56 on 18 Aug, 175 on 4 Sep, 15 on 14 Sep, 12 on 9 Oct, 1 on 3 Nov.
Irvine-Bogside	1 on 2 Apr, 15 on 26 Apr, 8 on 1 May, 40 on 12 Jul, 40 on 29 Jul, 7 on 29 Sep, 3 on 6 Oct.
Barassie-Troon	3 on 5 Apr, 80 on 16 Jul, 37 on 22 Jul, 127 on 18 Aug, 140 on 23 Aug, 35 on 4 Sep, 4 on 30 Sep, 1 on 11 Oct.
Ayr-Doonfoot	2 on 1 Apr, 4 on 27 Jun, 105 on 9 Aug, 200 on 21 Aug, 60 on 10 Sep, 1 on 7 Oct.

Maidens-Turnberry Point	1 on 2 Apr, 2 on 10 Apr, 6 on 4 May, 10 on 21 Jul, 41 on 19 Aug, 218 on 31 Aug, 51 on 4 Sep, 80 on 15 Sep, 6 on 28 Sep.
Elsewhere	7 Girvan 12 May, 17 Dipple 21 Jul.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo* C B S P

Arrival: 2 at Ardeer on 1 May was the only spring record.

In the autumn: 1 Meikle Craigs on 18 Aug, 1 Irvine harbour mouth 1 Sep, 2 Stevenston Point on 4 Sep, 2 Doonfoot on 23 Sep.

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea* C B S P

Between 1 and 3 birds summered at Meikle Craigs with no evidence of breeding.

Arrival was from 26 Apr when 1 was at Irvine, 4 N Maidens 20 May, 5 Meikle Craigs 28 May.

In the autumn: 1 Doonfoot 21 Aug, 1 S Maidens 31 Aug, 3 S on 4 Sep.

Great Skua *Stercorarius skua* U S w P

Spring passage was poor with 2 N at Saltcoats on 30 May, and 2 on 3 Jun.

Autumn passage counts	
Ardrossan-Saltcoats	1 on 2 Jul, 1 on 17 Aug.
Irvine	1 S on 30 Aug
Troon	1 on 17 Aug, 1 on 4 Sep.
Maidens-Turnberry	1 on 19 Aug, 1 on 28 Aug, 3 S on 31 Aug, 4 S on 4 Sep.



Arctic Skua at Stevenston Point (Dougie Edmond)

Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus* U S P

In spring: 4 N Prestwick 24 Apr, 2 N Irvine 26 Apr, 1 on 26 May, 1 S Maidens 26 May, 1 N Saltcoats on 26 May, 1 N on 30 May.

Autumn passage counts	
Saltcoats	1 on 2 Jul.
Irvine	1 on 12 Jul.
Elsewhere	2 Meikle Craigs 15 Aug, 1 S Maidens 4 Sep.

Long-tailed Skua *Stercorarius longicaudus* U p

1 Irvine on 25 May flew west (GMcA).

Common Guillemot *Uria aalge* C B w p

No report from breeding site on Ailsa Craig.

Counts/passage:

Site	Count
Ardrossan	23 on 24 Mar, 46 on 19 May, 24 on 5 Jul.
Troon	88 on 3 Jun, 10 on 9 Oct.
Maidens	35 on 9 Feb, 60 on 15 Sep, 92 on 6 Dec.

Razorbill *Alca torda* C B w p

No reports from breeding sites.

Counts/passage:

Site	Count
Maidens	28 on 9 Feb, 171 on 15 Sep, 300 on 30 Sep, 39 on 6 Dec.
Elsewhere	30 Turnberry Point 27 Feb, 28 Troon 3 Jun, 39 on 8 Dec.

Black Guillemot *Cepphus grylle* C B W p

At breeding sites (from N southwards): 6 on pier Fairlie, 4 on pier Hunterston (ad with juv noted 19 Jul), 10 on sea Dove Cove-Curraie Port, 5 on sea Finnarts Point-Craigantzeart. Also noted in breeding areas at Troon Harbour and Ayr Harbour.

Counts: 20 Troon 1 Feb, 23 (9ads/14 juvs) Dipple 1 Aug, 21 on 30 Sep, 23 on 31 Dec, 14 Hunterston 1 Oct, 14 Troon 28 Oct, 24 on 24 Nov.

Atlantic Puffin *Fratercula arctica* U b S p

No reports received from Ailsa Craig.

Birds seen from mainland:

Site	Count
Saltcoats-Ardrossan	5 on 27 May, 1 Jun, 3 from ferry 27 Jun, 2 on 5 Jul.
Troon	2 on 13 May, 1 on 16 May, 2 on 3 Jun.
Elsewhere	2 Portencross 7 May, 2 Kennedy's Pass 20 May, 4 Maidens 21 May, 1 Hunterston 14 Sep.

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

Monthly peaks	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Skelmorlie-Ardrossan			4						2	4	2	1
Ardrossan-Troon	9	6	6	2	7			1		5	6	5
Troon-Turnberry Point	11	3	3	4	2			11	20	4	10	11
Turnberry Point-Finnarts Bay		10	27	4	2		2		15	20	9	31

Highest counts/movements: 20 S/2 hrs Maidens 1 Sep, 28 Dipple-Maidens 30 Sep, 31 Dipple 31 Dec.

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

Monthly peaks	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Skelmorlie-Ardrossan												
Ardrossan-Troon	1	5										1
Troon-Turnberry Point	1	2	1	3								4
Turnberry Point-Finnarts Bay	1	9	1	17					5	5	4	9

The spring maximum was 17 between Dipple and Milton Burn on 4 Apr.

Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer* U W P

Monthly peaks	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Skelmorlie-Ardrossan												
Ardrossan-Troon	1	1	1	2	2		1		2	1	1	1
Troon-Turnberry Point	1	3	2	8	2						1	4
Turnberry Point-Finnarts Bay	1	4	5	5	6					3	7	16

No notable counts or movements were recorded.

White-billed Diver *Gavia adamsii* A

An immature bird was observed flying S past Maidens on 9 Feb (DGr). This is the 4th Ayrshire record, a previous record of an adult off Troon on 1 June 2015 (3rd record) having been inadvertently omitted from the 2015 report.

Leach's Storm Petrel *Hydrobates leucorhoa* U P

Three autumn records: 1 S Maidens 31 Aug (RHH/DGr), 2 off Troon 3 Sep (DGi/DC), 2 S Maidens 6 Sep (DGr).



Northern Fulmars near Ballantrae (Angus Hogg)

Northern Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis* C B P

Continued decline in breeding numbers: 12 AON Culzean, 5 AON Bennane Head, 1 AON Pinbain, 1 AON Currarie Port.

Passage and counts: 6 off Maidens 9 Feb, 12 S on 20 May, 18 S/3 hrs on 31 Aug, 13 S/hr on 4 Sep, 20 Stevenston Point 3 Jun.

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus* C S P

Spring arrival was marked by 3 early birds off Troon on 3 Mar. This was followed by 2 off Maidens 26 Mar, 45 offshore there on 14 Apr.

Counts at main sites.

Site	Count
Saltcoats-Stevenston	50+ on 2 Jul, 170 on 21 Jul, 130 on 8 Aug, 541 on 18 Aug, 50 on 6 Oct
Troon	69 on 20 Jun, 135 on 18 Aug, 1 on 11 Oct
Maidens	200 on 26 May, 100 on 21 Jul, 500+ on 1 Aug, 2000+ on 19 Aug, 4 Sep, 2500 on 31 Aug, 3000 on 6 Sep, 301 on 15 Sep
Elsewhere	28 Lady Isle 16 May, 7 Largs 10 Aug

Northern Gannet *Morus bassanus* C B p

Winter/spring arrival back in outer Clyde: ad Maidens 27 Jan, 3 on 9 Feb. ad Stevenston Point 11 Feb, 4 Troon 27 Feb, 2 Portencross 6 Mar.

Counts: 20 Stevenston Point 3 Apr, 30 May, 42 Troon 3 May, 71 on 30 Aug, 30+ Saltcoats 2 Jul, 100 on 6 Oct

Departure from Clyde and winter records included 12 Maidens 4 Nov, 3 on 11 Dec, 1 Lendalfoot 31 Dec.

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* C B p

Breeding: 23 AON Garry Point – 8 nests held 23 juvs, plus 2 still incubating.

Counts: 15 Deil's Dyke 24 Jan, 9 on 22 Apr, 21 Ayr harbour 17 Feb, 19 on 23 May, 20 on 20 Nov, 10 Troon 3 Jun, 14 on 22 Jul, 14 Hunterston 2 Jul, 40 on 11 Sep, 10 on 6 Nov, 13 Maidens 13 Sep, 30 Girvan harbour 17 Sep, 16 Doonfoot 21 Sep, 18 Portencross 24 Sep, 28 Craig Tara 25 Sep, 10 Irvine harbour 2 Oct.

A notable inland count involved 26 Kilbirnie Loch 6 Feb.

European Shag *Gulosus aristotelis* C B w

No breeding reports.

Counts	
Hunterston-Portencross	10 on 1 Jan, 12 on 6 Feb, 38 on 23 Sep, 10 on 6 Nov
Stevenston Point	12 on 11 Feb, 70 on 16 Nov, 15 on 31 Dec
Irvine hbr mouth	54 on 11 Jan
Troon-Barassie	13 on 1 Jan, 24 on 1 Feb, 30 on 8 Aug, 55 on 22 Sep, 68 on 28 Oct, 41 on 8 Nov, 44 on 31 Dec
Elsewhere	44 Meikle Craigs 1 Jan

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea* C B w

There were no reports from breeding sites.

Counts and migrants: 18 Hunterston/Fairlie 1 Jan, 11 on 6 Feb, 16 on 11 Jun, 9 on 23 Sep, 16 on 24 Oct 6 Ferguslea 1 Jan, 19 Fairlie 11 Jan, 8 Broomfield Cumnock 16, 25 Jan, 9 on 8 Feb, 10 Bogside 19 Oct.



Great Egret at Garpel Bridge, Loch Doon (*Angus Hogg*)

Great Egret *Ardea alba* R P

An adult in breeding plumage was present at Garpel Bridge, Loch Doon from 16-20 Apr (FMcC *et al.*).

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* U S p

Precise totals for this rapidly expanding species are difficult, but at least 12 individuals were present during year, involving the following: 2 Garnock Floods-Irvine 1 Jan-22 Nov, 3 on 11 Jan, 2 on 5 May, 1 Pow Burn-Loans 5 Jan-30 Mar, 1 on 2 Jul-31 Dec, 2 on 3 Dec, 1 Doonfoot-Heads of Ayr 6 Jan-4 Apr, 2 on 19-24 Jun, 1 on 4-21 Nov, 1 Fairlie-Seamill 8 Jan-14 Sep, 2 on 20 Oct-1 Nov, 3 on 28 Oct-30 Dec, 4 on 21 Dec.



Osprey over Maidens (*Angus Hogg*)

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* R FB P

Breeding: 3 sites were occupied and a total of 5 juveniles fledged.

In spring: 2 at Loch Doon on 31 Mar were the first back. These were followed by singles at Martnaham Loch on 8 Apr and N over Maidens on 9 Apr. Other migrants or non-breeders were noted during late Apr, May and June at Loch o' the Lowes, Crosshouse, Dreghorn and Turnberry GC.

In autumn: Migrants were noted at Fairlie Moor, Lugar, Penwhapple Res, Saltcoats, Hunterston (2) and Shewalton, with the last one at Doonfoot on 1 Sep.

Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos* U (B)

No records were received.

Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus* C B

Breeding: reported over a wide area with birds noted in suitable habitat at Hunterston, Loans, Fairlie, Dumfries House, Shewalton Wood, Martnaham, Eglinton CP, Rozelle, Barcraigs and Bower Hill.

Northern Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis* U (B)

Although becoming more widespread, breeding success remains very low. Seven sites were occupied by pairs, but only two fledged juvs were noted. Failure was due to poor weather and competition with other raptors where recorded.

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

Up to 8 individuals, involving a 2CY ♀ at Ardeer from 7-9 Apr (TB *et al.*), juv at Fail on 18-19 Aug (DGr/DC *et al.*), juv at Bogside on 25 Aug (SW), ♀ over Stevenston on 7 Sep (PMcE), juv at Fail on 11-13 Sep (DGi), 2 juvs Bogside on 24 Sep (FMcC *et al.*), and a juv at Auchincross on 26 Nov (MH).

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus* U b p

No reports were received from breeding areas.

Migrants and wintering birds were reported from Bogside, Ashgrove Loch, Fail, Martnaham Loch, Dunduff, Craigs Kirkoswald, Auchincross and Beith.

Red Kite *Milvus milvus* FB A

The Loch Doon area continued to be important for spring sightings, with 1-3 birds noted from Mar-mid May. Others included 1 New Cumnock 31 May, 1 Chapelton Loch 3 Jul, 1 Garpel Burn 15 Jul, 2 Auchincross 16 Oct, 1 Fail 18 Oct, 1 Bogton Loch 12-14 Nov, 1 Ochiltree 19-21 Nov.

White-tailed Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla* FB A

An immature bird was seen at Bogside on 16 Feb (DCo). Increased occurrences of this spectacular raptor might be expected as the successfully re-introduced Scottish breeding population expands.

Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo* C B

A widespread and common breeding raptor.

Pairs or territories reported included the following: Hunterston (3-4), Ardeer (2-3), Carlock Hill (B/3 noted), Sandloch Hill (B/2 noted), Fail (B/1 noted), Hawking Craig (min B/1 noted), Annbank, Fail, Eglinton CP, Trabboch, Dumfries House, Collennan, Outerwards, Knock Castle, Airds Moss East, Airds Moss West, Flashwood, Dundonald Wood, N Hourat, Munnoch, Auchinleck estate, Kilruskin Wood, Kirkleegreen Res, Loudoun Hill, Ness Glen, Ladykirk, Whitehill, Lanemark, Netherwood, Limmerhaugh.

Migration/counts: 9 Lands of Turnberry 11 Mar, 13 Loch Doon 25 Mat, 14 Auchincross 26 Sep.

Barn Owl *Tyto alba* C B

No breeding results were received, and survey work carried out within Ayrshire has been stopped at the moment.

Sightings were reported from the following areas: 1 Martnaham 2 Jan, singles Blairbowie, Carlung and Hunterston 11 Jan, 1 Auchinweet 15 Jan, 1 Troon Cemetery 2 Feb, singles Dunree, Barnford and Holebogs 7 Feb, 2 Craigs of Kyle 36 Feb, 1 Knockshinnoch lagoons 28 Feb, 1 Kingswell 20 Mar, 1 Little Brigurd 12 Apr, 1 Muirhead 28 Aug, 3 Auchincross 8 Nov, 1 Beith 15, 18 Nov, 1 Pennyburn 17 Nov, 1 Newhouse of Threepwood 30 Dec.

Long-eared Owl *Asio otus* U b

Very few records of this elusive species. 1 Craigs Kirkoswald 17 Jan, 25 Feb, 1 Hunterston 31 Jan, 1 Auchinleck 10 Mar, 1 Drumboy Hill 23 Oct.



Short-eared Owls at Bogside (Angus Hogg)

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

No reports were received from breeding areas.

Counts/migrants: 4 Bogside 1-17 Jan, 3 from 20 Jan-28 Feb, 2 from 1 Mar-20 Apr, 1 on 21 Apr, 1 Garnock Floods 28 Apr, 1 Airds Moss West 21 May.

In the autumn-winter period: 2 at Bogside 14 Jul, 1 on 14 Nov, 2 on 18 Nov, 1 Dalleagles 23 Oct, 1 Skares-Garlaff 28 Nov.

Tawny Owl *Strix aluco* C B

Breeding pairs or territorial birds were noted at Holehouse Farm (juv heard), Hawking Craig, Drumboy Hill, Eglinton CP, Sports Training Centre Largs, Dalry Station, Auchinleck estate, Shewalton Wood, Castlehill Ayr, Auchincruive, Penwhapple Glen.

In winter, singles were reported from Annbank, Barclaugh Wood, Greeto Falls, Beith and Newhouse of Threepwood. 4 were heard at Annbank on 9 Nov.



Common Kingfisher at Pow Burn (Dougie Edmond)

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis* U b

During the breeding season, birds or pairs in suitable breeding habitat were seen on the lower River Irvine valley where pr feeding young on 26 May, also Eglinton CP. Annbank, Ochiltree.

In the autumn dispersing birds were seen at the following locations: 3 Doonfoot 1 Aug, 1 Garnock Floods 23 Aug, 1 Pow Burn 26 Aug, 1 Milton Stair 15 Sep, 1 Munnoch Res 15 Sep, 1 Auld Brig Ayr 21 Sep, 1 Ness Glen 21 Sep, 1 Capringstone 5 Oct.

Winter records included singles at Rozelle, Auchincruive. Hurlford and Dumfries House 2 Jan, 1 Doonfoot 3 Jan. singles Kilmarnock and Bogside 6 Jan, 1 Fullarton Woods 14 Jan, 1 Slaphouse Burn 21 Jan, 1 Garnock Floods 23 Jan, 1 Annbank 26 Jan, 1 Pow Burn 1 Feb, 2 Dumfries House 19 Mar, 1 Stevenston Point 3 Apr, 1 Troon harbour 9 Nov, 1 Irvine harbour 18 Nov, 1 Maidens 29 Nov, 1 Rozelle 15 Dec, 1 Busbie Muir Res 19 Dec, 1 Doonfoot 21 Dec, 1 Kirkleegreen Res 26 Sep, 1 Dipple 31 Dec.

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major* C B

During the breeding season, birds or pairs in suitable breeding habitat were seen at Noddsdale estate, Holehouse Largs, Hunterston House, Hawking Craig, Sorn, Dean Castle, Howford Bridge, Loudoun Hill, Shewalton Wood, Fullarton Woods, Dumfries House, Auchinleck estate, Clews, Milton Stair, Braehead Mauchline, Easter Smithstone, Whitehill, Ayr Gorge, Failford, North Boig Farm, Dalhanna, Dalleagles, Craigencallie, Balbeg, Ness Glen, Craigengillan, Bogton Loch, Craigfionn, Gala Lane, Loch Gower, Ballochling, Culzean, Lady Glen, Hamilton Bridge, Kirkbride, Loch Dornal, Laigh Drumlamford, Craigenrae, Kirriereoch, Laggan Barrhill, Kirkbride. The first drumming birds were heard at Fullarton Woods on 5 Jan.

One flying E at Turnberry Point on 21 Oct was in an unusual location.

Green Woodpecker *Picus viridis* U (B)

Two records involved 1 at Culzean from 21 Feb-14 Apr (RB/JL), and 1 at Ness Glen on 30 Oct (RHH).

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* C B

Full annual breeding summary unavailable. A pair reared 2 at a disused quarry site.

Outside the breeding season, notable records included 3 Bogside 4 Jan, 5 Feb, 12 Oct, 3 Glenside Auchinleck 23 Feb, 2 Gales Marsh 2 Aug, 2 Fail 7, 28 Aug, 2 Dalgig 27 Oct, 2 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec.

Merlin *Falco columbarius* C b W

No reports were received from breeding areas.

Wintering birds/ or migrants were noted as follows: 1 Byne Hill 4 Jan, ♂ Fail 9 Jan, 4 Mar, ♂ Craighs Kirkoswald 17 Jan, ♀ Stevenston Point=Bogside 18 Jan, ♀ Tarbolton 20 Jan, ♂ Troon 6 Feb, 1 Dalmaca 11 Feb, 2 Loans 11 Feb, 1 Turnberry 22 Feb, 1N Ness Glen 25 Mar, ♂ Pinmore 27 Mar, 1 Auchincross 1 Jul, 1 Fail 24 Sep, ♀ Seamill 9 Nov, 1 Highfield Farm Fenwick 10 Nov, 1 Bogside 18 Nov, 2 Thirdpart 23 Nov, 1 Galston 26 Nov, ♀ Dipple 29 Nov, juv Loans 17 Dec.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* C b w

Of the 43 sites which were checked, 18 were occupied by pairs. 3 by single birds. 11 pairs reared 23 young to fledging stage. 6 pairs failed, mainly due to poor weather or disturbance, and one pair had the nest site occupied by Raven (SSRSG).

Winter sightings were widespread and mostly from coastal locations.

Ring-necked Parakeet *Psittacula krameri* E

Five birds were present in Kay Park throughout the summer (AF).

Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius* C B

Birds seen in suitable areas during the breeding season included the following: Eglinton CP, Knockdolian, Craighengillan, Dumfries House, Failford, Shewalton Wood, Gadgirth, Eldrick Hill, Culzean, Lovestone, Barclaugh Wood, Auchincruive, Dean Castle CP.

Outside breeding season between 1 and 3 birds were noted at Barclaugh Wood, Sorn, Barony, Airds Moss West, Auchinleck, Finnarts Bay, Garnock Floods, Cowan's Law, Oldhall, Drumboy Hill, Martnaham, Barnshean Loch, Annbank, Knockentiber viaduct, with max count 5 Kilkerran 22 Oct.

Black-billed Magpie *Pica pica* C B

Now a widespread breeding bird in Ayrshire – breeding prs noted included 3-4 prs Muirhead Troon – 4 juvs noted.

Counts included 21 Muirhead Troon 24 Jan, 11 on 24 Feb, 16 on 16 Nov, 14 Irvine harbour 4 Mar, 10+ Dean CP 28 Sep, 38 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec.



Red-billed Chough at Turnberry Point (Dougie Edmond)

Red-billed Chough *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax* A FB

One at Turnberry Point on 30 Jan (SB *et al.*) was the first in Ayrshire since 1929. It stayed around this area, occasionally making short forays northwards to Maidens, Segganwell and Heads of Ayr, and was last seen on 27 Oct, back at Turnberry Point. See article in *Ayrshire Birding* 19 Feb 2019.

Eurasian Jackdaw *Corvus monedula* C B w

No significant breeding records were received.

High counts, frequently in association with Rooks: 370 Irvine 2 Jan, 400 Coylton 12 Jan, 206 Loans/Troon 20 Jan, 172 on 28 Feb, 121 on 26 Mar, 146 on 22 Apr, 140 on 24 Jul, 150 on 6 Sep, 263 on 26 Sep, 473 on 11 Nov, 423 on 11 Dec, 100 Doonfoot 2 Mar, 118 Fail 2 Mar, 102 Collennan 2 Apr, 210 Saltcoats 7 Aug, 600 Fairlie Sands 31 Oct, 538 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec.

Rook *Corvus frugilegus* C B

No rookery counts recorded but rookeries noted at Netherhall Largs and Marr College Troon.

No large winter flock counts noted, but 400 Coylton 12 Jan, 123 Gypsy Pool 29 Aug, 165 on 9 Nov, 128 Loans 26 Sep, 153 on 30 Nov, 249 on 17 Dec, 50 Dean Castle CP 16 Nov, 648 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec

Carrion Crow *Corvus corone* C B

No significant breeding reports were received.

Counts: 46 Troon S Beach 1 Jan, 58 Maidens 6 Jan, c300 Coylton 12 Jan is highest recorded roost count for Ayrshire, 46 Loans 24 Apr, 84 on 13 Oct, 57 Barassie 4 Nov, 61 Stevenston 31 Dec.

Hybrid Carrion x Hooded Crow: 1-2 Southannan Sands-Hunterston 9 Jan-13 Nov, 1 Prestwick 20 Jan, 1 Doonfoot 25 Feb-23 May, 1 Loans 22 Apr-13 Nov, 1 Ardrossan-Stevenston Point 28 Nov-31 Dec.

Hooded Crow *Corvus cornix* U (b) p

Singles were noted at Southannan Sands on 22 Jan-14 Nov, 1 Troon-Loans 13 Apr-7 Nov, 1 Kilbirnie Loch 14 Oct-5 Nov, 1 Glen Muck 16 Oct.

Common Raven *Corvus corax* U b

48 sites were checked, of which 34 were occupied. 24 pairs laid eggs and 23+ pairs reared 67+ young where the outcome was known. (SSRSG).

Counts: 21+ Flashwood 22 Apr, 22 Loch Doon 27 Oct, 40 Drumboy Hill 16 Nov.

Bohemian Waxwing *Bombycilla garrulus* R w P

A poor year with few records.

Site	Peak counts
Saltcoats	19 on 31 Dec
Stevenston	5 on 13 Dec, 4 on 14 Dec, 8 on 15 Dec
Irvine-Gailes	15 from 21-30 Dec
Troon	1 from 29 Nov-3 Dec

Coal Tit *Periparus ater* C B

Counts and post-breeding groups included 10 Loch Doon dam 1 Jan, 11 Fullarton Woods 10 Feb, 13 on 20 Oct, 11 Shewalton Wood 28 Apr, 23 Jun, 23 on 25 Aug, 15 Collennan 2 Jul, 10 Loans 21 Jul, 8 Knockshinnoch lagoons 1 Sep.



Willow Tit at Bogton (Dave Grant)

Willow Tit *Poecile montanus* U b

Little change suggested, with 2, possibly 3, territories maintained around Bogton Loch. 3 birds were seen on 20 Mar.



Blue Tit at Crosshill (Angus Hogg)

Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus* C B

Counts and post-breeding groups included 10 South Wood 1 Jan, 15 Shewalton Wood 9 Jan, 31 on 25 Aug, 19 on 23 Oct, 11 Garnock Floods 11 Jan, 26 Fullarton Woods 27 Jan, 22 on 16 Jun, 17 on 20 Oct, 10 Ayr Gorge 2 Oct, 22 Milton Stair 4 Dec, 13 Annbank 11 Dec, 21 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec.

Great Tit *Parus major* C B

Counts included 9 Braid Wood 27 Jan, 8 Shewalton Wood 27 Jun, 8 Drybridge Park 14 Jul, 12 Ayr Gorge 2 Oct, 12 Milton Stair 4 Dec, 10 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec.

Sky Lark *Alauda arvensis* C B W P

Breeding or territorial ♂♂ noted at Airds Moss where 12 back on 25 Feb. Also at Laglass Hill (10+), Turnberry GC (10), Prestwick GC (9+), Auchenlongford (4), Shewalton Wood (4), Drumboy Hill (3), Feoch Meadows (3), Low Moss (2), Collennan (2), Garnock Floods, Loans, Gypsy Pool, Loudoun Hill, Kaim Hill, Seamill, Fairlie Moor, Shawfarm ind est, Mauchline, High Dalblair, Gogo Burn, Munnoch Res, Eglinton CP.

Autumn passage: 35 Fail 16 Sep, 60 on 5 Oct, 34 S Maidens-Dipple 30 Sep, 300 Ardneil Farm 9 Oct, 47 Loans 19 Oct, 78 on 22 Oct.

Winter and autumn counts included 120 Fail 17 Jan, 71 Loans 4 Feb, 34 Martnaham Loch 5 Feb, 50+ Thirdpart 23 Nov, 150 Highfield 30 Nov, 200 Monkton 31 Dec.



Sand Martin at Kilkerran (Angus Hogg)

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia* C B S p

Breeding was reported from Gales Marsh (30 AON).

Arrival was from the very early date of 1 Mar (earliest Ayrshire record), when 2 were at Trabboch Loch. This was followed by 1 at Irvine on 5 Mar, but no more until 23 Mar when 2 at Trabboch Loch, with 6 at Martnaham on 26 Mar. Spring counts included 50+ Mochrum Loch 2 Apr, 150+ on 14 Apr, 25+ Martnaham Loch 3 Apr, 50 on 4 May, 40+ Gales Marsh 20 Apr, 30 Garnock lagoons 20-27 Apr, 38 Annbank 7 May, 30 Munnoch Res 7 May. Counts and autumn departure: 80 Martnaham Loch 30 Jun, 200 on 24 Jul, 1 Collennan 18 Sep, last 2 Loans 12 Oct.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* C B S p

10 occupied nests were reported from Ochiltree.

Arrival was from 1 Apr when 1 was at Greenan. 4 more arrived at Mochrum Loch on 2 Apr, with singles at Trabboch and Irvine on the same date. Spring counts included 20 Martnaham Loch 4 May, 20 Munnoch Res 7 May,

Counts and autumn departure: 50 Martnaham Loch 30 Jun, 24 Jul, 30 Dean Castle CP 12 Aug, 50 Fail 21 Aug, 200 on 14 Sep, 83 Muirhead 23 Aug, 30 Trabboch Loch 8 Sep, 20 S on 30 Sep, 40 Hollybush 22 Sep, 30 Ladyton Loch 30 Sep, 2 Loans 12 Oct, last 1 Troon 26 Nov.

House Martin *Delichon urbica* C B S p

Breeding was reported from Ochiltree (58 AON), New Farm Loch (39 AON), Loch Derclach (6 AON), Ayrshire Central Hospital (6 AON), Castleview Dundonald (5 AON).

Arrival was from 5 Apr when 1 was at Tarbolton. This was followed by singles at Collennan and Gypsy Pool on 13 Apr, and 3 at Mochrum Loch on 14 Apr. Spring counts included 28 Muirhead 7 Jun.

Counts and autumn departure: 40 Martnaham Loch 30 Jun, 30+ Fairlie 13 Aug, 34 Loans 20 Aug, 54 on 7 Sep, 25 Trabboch Loch 21 Aug, 50 Monk Castle Dalry 21 Aug, 60 Dupin Glen App 25 Aug, last singles Loans 12 Oct and Saltcoats 28 Nov.

Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus* C B

Counts included 11 Knockshinnoch lagoons 1 Sep, 15 Hunterston Sands 11 Sep, 21+ Mark Glen App 2 Oct, 12 Trabboch Loch 6 Oct, 10 Whitelee windfarm SW 13 Oct, 13 Fail 19 Oct, 10 Cumnock Kings Drive 19 Oct, 11 Saltcoats Sharpill Road 19 Oct, 10 Bogton Loch 14 Nov, 10 Garnock Floods 22 Nov, 11 Drybridge Park 24 Nov, 12 Gypsy Pool 28 Nov, 15 Fullarton Woods 4 Dec, 17 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec.



Wood Warbler in Ness Glen (Dougie Edmond)

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* U B S p

Arrival was on 20 Apr when a ♂ was singing in Ness Glen. This, or another, ♂ maintained a territory in Ness Glen until at least 22 May, but breeding was not proven.

Other single ♂♂ were seen at Fullarton Woods on 21 Apr and Balbeg on 22 May.

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus* C B S P

Breeding birds or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Shewalton Wood (50+), Ardeer (19), Garnock W, N and Floods (18), Outerwards (18), Ness Glen (14), Heads of Ayr (13), Coal Hill (11), Todhill Community Woodland (10), Bracken Bay (10), Noddsdale estate (9), Bower Hill (8), Boydston Braes (7), Tarbert Hill (7), Ayr Gorge (6), Munnoch Res (6), Ardeer Mains (6), Laglass Hill (5), Hunterston PS (5), Hillhouse quarry (5), Mainholm smallholdings (5), Trabboch Loch (5), Muirkirk (4), Hawking Craig (3), Flashwood (3), Sandylands-Stevenston (3), Croyburnfoot (3), Dalhanna (3), Collennan (3), Failford (3), Dalmellington Moss (3), Ardneil Bank Wood (2), Fairlie Castle (2), Fairways View (2), High Dalblair (2), Sourlie Wood (2), Feoch Meadows (2), Pow Burn (2), Gypsy Pool (2), Carwinshoch (2), East Balig (2), Doonfoot (2), Lands of Turnberry (2), Finnarts Nay (2), St Nicholas GC, Muirhead, Loans, Shewalton cemetery, Greenan, Maidens, Kelburn CP, Lawthorn Wood, Airds Moss East, Auchinleck estate, Darley GC, Marr College, Troon cemetery, Auchlin, Low Moss, Cronberry, Common Farm, Nether Heilar, Barcraigs Res.

Arrival was from 6 Apr when 1 was at Ballantrae. Following this came 3 at Ardeer on 7 Apr, singles at Pow Burn and Greenan on 9 Apr, 5 at Bogton Loch and 1 at Shawfarm ind est on 10 Apr. Numbers increased from 14 Apr when 27 singing ♂♂ Shewalton Wood., widespread in S Ayrshire by 18 Apr, and 64 singing ♂♂ Garnock lagoons 19 Apr.

In the autumn late singles were seen at Gypsy Pool on 18 Oct and Martnaham Loch on 25 Oct.

Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita* C B S w p

At least 172 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded including Garnock W, N and lagoons (10+), Todhill Community Woodland (6), Croy (6), Fullarton Woods (6), Portencross-Hawking Craig (5), Shewalton Woods (4+), Craigengillan (4), Collennan Res/Aught Wood (4), Ardeer Fen (4), Drybridge Park (4), Ayr Gorge (4), Galston (3), Knockdolian (3), Hunterston House (3), Changue (3), Martnaham (3), Annbank (3), Heads of Ayr (3), Fairlie Castle (2), Fairways View (2), Eglinton CP (2), Dreghorn (2), Dumfries House (2), Prestwick GC (2), Mainholm smallholdings (2), Dunure (2), Mochrum Loch (2), Doonfoot-Greenan (2), Fisherton (2), Penwhapple Glen (2), Bargany Pond (2), Glenshalloch Hill (2), Carlock House (2), Dupin (2), Mark Glen App (2), Finnarts Bay (2), Sourlie Wood (2), Lower Glen Afton (2), Noddsdale estate, Fairlie, Montfode, Gypsy Pool, Brisbane Lodge, Knock Castle, Ardeer boundary fence, Ancumor Farm, Saltcoats Sharpill Rd, Kirkleegreen Res, Kilmarnock Sturrock St, Gales Marsh, Darley GC, Loans, Muirhead, Gadgirth, Barony, Clews, Capringstone, Pow Burn, Rozelle, Craigs of Kyle, Crosshill Kirklea, Lands of Turnberry, Penwhapple Bridge, Bracken Bay, Ballantrae, Laigh Drumlamford, Knockycoid, Craigneil, Liggetcheek, Easter Smithstone, Lawthorn Wood, Failford, Whitehill, Tarbert Hill, Garnaburn Bridge, Knoweside, Largs Stevenson Court, Marr College, Warrix interchange, Hamilton Bridge, Kilkerran, Pennyburn roundabout, Ardneil Bank Wood, Fencefoot, Kilkerran Lodge, Cairnhill, Hoodston Girvan, Kirkbride Pond, Liggetcheek, Irvine Bourtreehill, Kirkoswald, Kilbirnie Loch, Kirriereoch.

Arrival was from 17-20 Mar when singles at Barclaugh Wood and Trabboch Loch (perhaps same as earlier). 2 Auchincruive and 2 Fullarton Woods 21 Mar. This was followed by 3 Ardeer, 2 Garnock N, with singles Dalry and Collennan 23 Mar.

Departure: 1 Kilkerran and 2 Gypsy Pool 18 Oct, with the last 1 Shewalton Wood 23 Oct.

Wintering singles were noted at Southannan Sands 9 Jan, Barclaugh Woods 26 Feb, Trabboch Loch 3-5 Mar. With higher than average daytime temperatures in late February, the last 2 birds were heard singing.

1 Auchenhavie 2 Dec, 1 Hunterston 20 Dec, 1 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec.



Auchenhavie's Siberian Chiffchaff (Dave Grant)

Siberian Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita tristis*

1 Auchenhavie GC 30 Nov-3 Dec (JMcm *et al.*).

Please note: this sub-species requires a description, with photographs if possible. There is an article on the Ayrshire-birding website that explains the key identification points when differentiating *tristis* from *collybita*: <https://www.ayrshire-birding.org.uk/images/documents/Siberian%20Chiffchaff.pdf>

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* C B S p

Up to 124 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Bracken Bay (14), Garnock E, N and Floods (13), Shewalton Wood (8), Munnoch Res (6+), Trabboch Loch (6), Bogton Loch N (6), Dalcairney (6), Portencross-Hunterston (6), Croy (5), Ardeer Fen (4), Airds Moss W (4), Doonfoot-Greenan (4), Todhill Community Woodland (3), Bower Hill (3), Nether Culzean (3), Lands of Turnberry (3), Gypsy Pool (2 – 2 juvs noted), East Lochridge (2), Ladyton Loch (2), Dundonald Camp (2), Heart Loch (min 2), Maidens (2), Sandylands, Boydston Braes, Little Brigurd, Fairlie, Kilbirnie Loch Maich Water, Fairways View, Auchenharvie GC, Auchenharvie pond, Ardrossan harbour, Dykeneuk Moss, Auchinleck estate, Pow Burn, Eglinton CP, Whitehill, Loans, Balkenna, Kirkoswald ford, Laggan Bridge.

Arrival was from 15 Apr when 3 were discovered at Munnoch Res. Another followed at Greenan on 17 Apr, 3 more at Garnock lagoons on 19 Apr, with singles at Pow Burn, Gypsy Pool, Seamill and Hunterston on the same date.

The last autumn bird was seen at Gypsy Pool on 10 Sep.

Common Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia* C B S

At least 32 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded including Shewalton Wood (8), Garnock N and lagoons (4), Ardeer Fen (2), Ardeer pipe embankment (2), Munnoch Res (2), Coal Hill (2), Loch Doon (2), Pow Burn, Eglinton CP, Ladyton Loch, Airds Moss West, Bower Hill, Chapelhill roundabout, East Lochridge, Gypsy Pool, Greenan, Pinbraid.

Arrival was from 17 Apr when one was at Shewalton Wood. This was followed by 2 at Bogton Loch, 2 at Garnock lagoons and singles at Garnock N, Ardeer Fen and Pow Burn on 19 Apr

The last 3 autumn birds were seen at Bogside on 21 Jul.

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla* C B S w p

At least 230 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded including Shewalton Wood (8), New Cumnock cemetery-Dalhanna (8), Ardeer Fen (7), Fullarton Woods (7), Garnock W. E and N (7), Knockdolian (6), Ayr Gorge (6), Failford (6), Garnock conifer belt (6), Garnock Floods (6), Bargany Pond (6), Gadgirth (6), Culzean CP (min 4), Hillhouse quarry (5), Ardeer (5), Muirhead (4), Hawking Craig (3), Portencross (3), Boydston braes (3), Annbank (3), Greenan (3), Heads of Ayr (3), Drumshang (3), Balbeg (3), Finnarts Bay (2+), Mark Glen App (2), Noddsdale estate (2), Laglass Hill (2), Darley GC (2), Whitehill (2), Lawthorn Wood (2), Capringstone (2), Mainholm smallholdings (2), East Balig (2), Bower Hill (2), Bracken Bay (2), Croyburnfoot (2), Goat's Green (2), Barr (2), Garnaburn Bridge (2), Hallowchapel (2), Pinwherry (2), Ness Glen (2), Blairquhan Broad Wood (2), Ladyburn Glen (2), Glenshalloch Hill (2), Penwhapple Glen (2), Carlock House (2), Currarie Port (min 1), Largs Netherhall, Largs waste water treatment plant, Outerwards Bridge, Outerwards Res, Ardneil Bank Wood, Poteath, Hessilhead, Castle Hill, Hunterston Sands, Hunterston Castle, Southannan roundabout, Sourlie Wood, Saltcoats Sharphill Rd, Tarbert Hill, Coal Hill, Eglinton CP, Hurlford, Newmilns, New Cumnock Station, Auchinleck estate, Todhill Community Centre, Fairways View, Collennan, Gypsy Pool, Troon South Wood, Marr College, Loans, Pow Burn, Irvine Bourtreehill, Shewalton cemetery, Middleyard, Springside, Gales Marsh, Troon cemetery, Shawfarm ind est, Segganwell, Lands of Turnberry, Kirkoswald, Trabboch Loch, Carcluie Toll, Blairquhan entrance, Tairlaw Bridge, Baltersan, Craigdow Hill, Killkerran Lodge, Killkerran Station, Drumgirnan, Bargany entrance, Lovestone, Cairnhill, Tairlaw Toll, Blackcraig Farm, Dalleagles, Auchlin, Kirriereoch, Tarfessock, Liggetcheek, Altigabert Burn.

Arrival was from 5 Apr when 1 was at Muirhead. Following this came 2 singing ♂♂ at Ballantrae on 6 Apr, 1 at Fullarton Woods on 7 Apr, 2 at Craigengillan, and singles at Loch Doon, Garnock Floods and Bogton Loch on 10 Apr. Large arrival between 19 and 22 Apr.

Autumn departure saw single birds at Annbank on 22 Sep and Turnberry Point on 28 Sep.

Wintering birds in Jan-Mar included singles at Milton Stair on 14 Jan, and Ayr Gorge on 18 Feb.

Wintering birds in Oct-Dec included 1 Auchincruive 5 Oct, 2 West Kilbride 14 Nov, ♂ Girvan 20 Nov,

1 Lanfine 29 Nov, 2 Annbank 2 Dec, ♂ Middleyard 5 Dec.

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin* C B S p

At least 38 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded including Failford (5), Dalhanna-Burns' Cairn (3), Finnarts Bay (2), Dalcairney (2), Craigenallie (2), Bargany entrance (2), Culzean (min 1), Largs Netherhall, Fencefoot, Eglinton CP, New Cumnock station, Glen Afton, Auchinleck estate, Whitehill, Auchenroy, Shewalton Wood, Drybridge Park, Trabboch Loch, Fullarton Woods, Darley GC, Mainholm smallholdings, Hamilton Bridge, Kilkerran station, Glenshalloch Hill, Barr, Pinwherry, Garnaburn Bridge, Currarie Port.

Arrival was from 21 Apr when 1 was heard singing in Fullarton Woods. This was followed by singles at Gypsy Pool on 22 Apr and Garnock Floods on 25 Apr, with a larger arrival from 28 Apr.

The last bird of the year was seen at Loans on 25 Jul.

Lesser Whitethroat *Curruca curruca* U b

10 territories were recorded at Ayrshire study sites, but only 2 were successful in fledgling young. (TB)

Away from the above study areas, a further 8 territories or singing ♂♂ were located at Croyburnfoot (2), Drumshang (2), Bracken Bay, Dundonald Camp, Maidens, Currarie Port.

Arrival was from 17 Apr when 1 was at Greenan. This was followed by 3 at Garnock lagoons on 19 Apr, and singles at Ardeer and Bogside on 22 Apr.

The last departing bird was seen at Garnock Floods on 2 Jul.



Common Whitethroat at Deil's Dyke (Dougie Edmond)

Common Whitethroat *Curruca communis* C B S p

At least 132 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded including Garnock N, W and E (15), Bracken Bay (13), Drumshang (6), Bennane Head (5), Heads of Ayr (4), Finnarts Bay (4), Shewalton Wood (4), Hawking Craig (3), Fairways View (3), Hillhouse quarry (3), Darley GC (3), Doonfoot-Greenan (3), Bower Hill (3), Croyburnfoot (3), Garnock Floods (3), Finnarts Point (2 – inc pr B/2), Barassie (2), Gypsy Pool (2), Collennan (2), Craigdow Hill (2), Laggan Bridge (2), Craigantzeart (2), Hunterston PS (fledged brood noted), Marine construction yard Hunterston, Fairlie Sands, Little Brigurd, Portencross, Outerwards Res, Kilbirnie Loch, Ardrossan harbour, Munnoch Res, Montfode roundabout, Ardeer Mains, Ardeer pipe embankment, Boydston braes, Capringstone, Gailies Marsh, Drybridge Park, Dundonald Camp, Loans, Troon South Wood, Ayr Heathfield Rd, Killoch, Annbank, New Cumnock station, Whitehill, Croy, Knoweside, Maidens, Balkenna, Kennedy's Pass, Blairbowie, Dalcairney, Craigenallie, Tairlaw, Balbeg, Tairlaw Toll, Gallowhill plantation Mochrum, Garryloop, Kirkoswald, Laggan Barrhill, Feoch Bank Wood, Pinbraid, Mark Glen App, Currarie Port.

Arrival was from 19 Apr when the first bird appeared at Fairways View. Close after that came 1 at Greenan on 20 Apr, 2 at Shewalton Wood, 2 at Garnock lagoons, plus singles at Ardeer pipe embankment and Garnock N on 22 Apr.

In the autumn, the last birds were singles at Maidens on 1 Sep, and Gypsy Pool on 19 Sep.

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus* C B p

During the breeding season 4 singing ♂♂ were recorded at Fullarton Woods, pr B/2 Hawkhill retail park, other singing ♂♂ were noted at Garnock E, Eglinton CP, Dalleagles, Troon cemetery, Coylton, Fairlie, Loch Doon, Brisbane Mains, Hunterston House, Bogside, Annbank, Dumfries House.

Counts included 8 Shewalton Wood 15 Feb, 11 Fullarton Wood 15 Feb, 9 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec.

Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes* C B

Territorial, singing ♂♂ were heard at Shewalton Wood (23 on 28 Apr), Fullarton Woods (16 On 1 Jun), Collennan Res/Aught Wood (7 on 23 Mar).

Counts included 12 Shewalton Wood 9 Jan, 12 (roosting in House Martin nest) Middleyard 2 Feb, 22 Failford 5 May, 35 on 7 Jun, 20 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec.

Nuthatch *Sitta europaea* C B

Singing ♂♂ or birds in suitable habitat during the breeding season were reported from Rozelle (3+), Gadgirth (2), Ayr Gorge (2), Dean Castle CP (noted feeding young in castle wall), Dundonald Woods (noted feeding young), Hunterston House, Auld Howford Brig, Dalhanna, Burns' Cairn, Milton Stair, Templand Trail, Easter Smithstone, Dumfries House, Dalleagles, Auchinleck estate, Ayr Gorge, Failford, Bogton Loch Dalcairney Road, Fullarton Woods, Martnaham Lodge, Annbank, Auchincruive, Barclaugh Wood, Glenlochrie, Alloway, Craigencallie, Tairlaw Linn, Glenalty Barrhill, Alton Albany, Bargany Pond, Pinmore, Hallowchapel bridge, Craigneil, Knockdolian, Daljedburch.

11 birds were noted at Dumfries House on 10 Nov.

Eurasian Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris* C B

Birds in suitable habitat during the breeding season were reported from Hunterston (2), Largs waste water treatment plant, Hawking Craig, Garnock conifer belt, Garnock Floods, Eglinton CP, Oldhall Ponds, Dean Castle CP, Glen Afton, Haugh, Dumfries House, Whitehill, Dalleagles, Milton Stair, Easter Smithstone, Auchinleck estate, Dalhanna, Shewalton Wood, Fullarton Woods, Ayr Gorge, Annbank, Gadgirth. Culzean CP.

Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris* C B W

Post-breeding flocks included the following: first fledged juvs seen 31 May, 60 Auchenharvie Pond 2 Jul, 104 Muirhead 24 Jul, 344 on 4 Sep, 472 on 10 Sep.

Winter flocks/migrants included c500 Barmuir Farm 17 Jan, 450 Saltcoats Sharpill Road 19 Jan, 311 Troon S Beach 22 Jan, 300 Muirhead 30 Jan, 26 Feb, 314 on 3 Apr, 114 Newton on Ayr 6 Feb, 200 Irvine 14 Feb, 3000 Fail 3 Mar, 1300 Barassie 9 Mar, 253 Fisherton 3 Apr, 100+ Irvine harbour 2 Oct, 300+ Whitelee 13 Oct, 300+ Tarbolton 19 Oct, 230 Troon S Beach 27 Oct, 110 Seamill 9 Nov, 281 Loans 11 Nov, 400 Muirhead 27 Dec, 207 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec.

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos* C B w P

No significant breeding reports.

Counts and migrants included 8 Southannan Sands 7 Feb, 7 Shewalton Wood 27 Feb, 5 Drumboy Hill-Soame Burn 5 Mar, 7 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec.

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus* C B W

Birds in suitable habitat during the breeding season were noted at Drumboy Hill, Largs, Hunterston House, Hunterston PS, Fairlie, Loudoun Hill, Eglinton CP, Garnock Floods, Shewalton Wood, Collennan, Marr College, Fullarton Woods, Annbank, Ness Glen, Whitehill, High Dalblair, Dalhanna, Culzean.

Counts and post-breeding groups: 6 Fullarton Woods 10 Feb, 4 Drumboy Hill-Soame Burn 9 Mar, 20 Hunterston 2 Aug, 7 Gypsy Pool 19 Oct, 7 Nov.

Redwing *Turdus iliacus* C W P

In the winter-spring period: 50 Eglinton CP 2 Jan, 100 Hunterston 9 Jan, 80 on 23 Jan, 30 on 16 Feb, 53 Barclaugh Wood 18 Jan, 11 Fullarton Woods 3 Mar, the last departing bird was at Fullarton Woods on 3 Mar.

Autumn arrival was from 4 Oct when 15 Capringstone and 10 Crosshill. This was followed by 3 Saltcoats 11 Oct, 7 Loans 17 Oct, 12 Fail 18 Oct, 14 Garnock Floods and Gypsy Pool 18 Oct, before a larger arrival between 19 and 21 Oct when 100 Cumnock 19 Oct, 50 Auchincross 21 Oct, and 250 Wallacetown Dailly 21 Oct. 63 Collennan 10-13 Nov, 46 Fisherton 19 Nov, 200 Thirdpart Hunterston 23 Nov, 130 Crosshouse Hospital 27 Dec, 90 Knockentiber viaduct 27 Dec, 163 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec, 160 Milton Farm 30 Dec.

Common Blackbird *Turdus merula* C B W p

Breeding birds and territorial ♂♂ included the following: Fullarton Woods (14), Shewalton Wood (11), Deveron Road Troon (8), Muirhead (7).

Counts and migrants: 8 Southannan Sands 7 Feb, 8 Fullarton Woods 10 Feb, 15 Loans 14 May, 11 Gypsy Pool 18 Oct, 13 Hogston Farm 2 Nov, 17 Annbank 2 Dec, 42 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec.

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris* C W P

No large flocks in the winter-spring period: 43 Fullarton Woods 5 Jan, 35 Ardeer Fen 17 Feb, 60 Hallowshean 28 Mar, 22 Kirkleegreen Res 16 Apr, the last departing birds were 12 at Knockdon on 18 Apr.

Autumn arrival was from 10 Oct when 3 were in Eglinton CP, followed by 17 Garnock Floods 10 Oct and 2 Finnarts Bay 20 Oct. A large arrival occurred between 21 and 29 Oct – 200+ Ochiltree, 200 Wallacetown Dailly, 109 Auchincross and 100 Fail 21 Oct, 300 Longhill Crosshill 22 Oct, 400 Martnaham Loch 25 Oct, 400 Loch Doon, 300 Meigle and 115 Bogside 27 Oct, 200 Trabboch 28 Oct, 1000+ Bracken Bay 29 Oct, 128 Auchincross 7 Nov, 150 South Whittlieburn 9 Nov, 172 Gypsy Pool 14 Nov, 112 Fisherton 19 Nov, 150 Minnybae 29 Nov, 110 Fail 17 Dec, 115 Crosshouse Hospital 27 Dec, 284 Knockentiber-Springside 28 Dec, 160 Milton Farm 30 Dec, 325 Greenside 30 Dec.

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus* U b S p

The year's only record was a ♂ at Nick o' the Balloch on 10 Apr (DGi)

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata* C B S p

At least 17 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Dalhanna-New Cumnock cemetery (2), Knockdolian, Hawking Craig, Lugar, Glenmuir, Middleyard, Auchinleck estate, Whitehill, Failford, Annbank, Ness Glen, Barr, Garpel Burn, Hallowchapel bridge, Tairlaw Linn, Ansheen.

Arrival was from 6 May when 1 was in Glen Afton, followed by another in Ness Glen on 12 May, and 4 at Hunterston on 15 May.

In the autumn the last birds seen were 6 between Auchincross and Dalgig on 1 Sep.

European Robin *Erithacus rubecula* C B W p

No significant breeding records were received.

Counts and migrants included 17 Fullarton Woods 29 Jan, 16 on 1 Sep, 11 Shewalton Wood 28 Apr, 11 Garnock Floods 18 Oct, 20 Eglinton CP 18 Nov, 20 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec.



Pied Flycatcher in Glen Afton (Dougie Edmond)

Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca* U b P

A pair bred at Dalleagles, the ♀ being watched taking food into a nest-hole on 23 Jun. Another pair was present in Lower Glen Afton from at least 5 May-21 Jun, and may have attempted breeding.

Arrival was from 28 Apr when 1 was in Glen Afton. The only other record involved a ♂ at Finnarts Bay on 11 May.

Common Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* C B S p

At least 24 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Dalhanna-New Cumnock cemetery (7), Ness Glen (5), Dalleagles (4), Whitehill (2), Blackcraig Farm (2), Auchinleck estate, Laggan Barrhill, Auchenroy, Craigencallie.

Arrival was from 18 Apr when singles were at Ness Glen and Craigencallie. These were followed by 1 at Loudoun Hill on 19 Apr and 3 at Ness Glen on 24 Apr.

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra* C B S p

Under-recorded, with 14 territories or singing ♂♂ reported from Loch Doon (4), High Dalblair (family group noted), Loch Spallander (B/1 noted), Outerwards, Airds Moss, Muirkirk, Laglass Hill, Beoch, Feoch Bank Wood, Laggan Bridge, Loch Derclach.

Arrival was from 20 Apr when singles were at Greenan and Slot Burn.

The last autumn bird was seen at Annbank on 22 Sep.

Stonechat *Saxicola torquata* C B

At least 38 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Bogside (B/2 noted), Garnock E (B/2 noted), Finnarts Point (B/2 noted), Fairlie Moor, Outerwards, Drumboy Hill, High Dalblair, Stevenston Point, Auchenharvie pond, Gailies beach, Dundonald Camp, Barassie, Shewalton Wood, Fail Brig, Cairn Table, Airds Moss E, Airds Moss W, Laglass Hill, Auchlin, Loch Doon dam, Garpel Bridge, Loans, Gypsy Pool, Prestwick GC, Pow Burn, Greenan, Doonfoot, Craig Tara, Bower Hill, Heads of Ayr, Bracken Bay, Croy, Balkenna, Dipple, Laggan Bridge, Carleton Port, Pinbain Burn, Bennane Head.

Wintering birds (Jan-Mar) were reported from Hawking Craig (4), Heads of Ayr (3), Hunterston (3), Airds Moss W (3), Greenan (3), Ardrossan (2), Garnock Floods (2), Auchenhavie GC (2), Airds Moss S (2), Maidens (2), Turnberry Point (2), Balkenna (2), Kilbirnie Loch Maich Water, Bogside, Gypsy Pool, Gailes, Troon S Beach, Pow Burn, Carleton Port, Auchenroy.

Migrants noted at Craig Tara (10 on 25 Sep), Whitelee (6 on 13 Oct), Troon S Beach (5 on 18 Dec).

Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe* C B S P

Territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Blackcraig Hill (3), Loch Derclach (2 – B/3 noted), Loch Doon dam (2), Mutton Hall, Drumboy Hill, Whitelee windfarm, Pundeavon Res, Flashwood, Munnoch Res, Loudoun Hill, Airds Moss E, Muirkirk GC, Auchincross, Laglass Hill, Gaw Glen, Ness Glen, Loch Bradan, Feoch Meadows, Auchenroy, Delamford, Knockormal, Cairnadloch, Currarie Port.

Arrival was from 29 Mar when 2 ♂♂ were at Loch Doon. These were followed by 4 at Dipple and 2 at Greenan on 1 Apr. A large-scale arrival occurred on 9 Apr when 18 were at Gailes and 22 at Seamil.

Spring passage of Greenland *O o leucorrhoa*: 1 Dalmaca 27 Apr, 2 on 28 Apr, 5 on 29 Apr, 1 Dundonald Camp 2 May. 3 Croy 4 May, 1 Maidens 30 Sep.

In autumn the last birds were singles at Troon on 12 Oct and Stevenston Point on 4 Nov.



White-throated Dipper at Glen Afton (Angus Hogg)

White-throated Dipper *Cinclus cinclus* C B

Birds in suitable habitat during the breeding season were noted at Dalhanna (min B/1 noted), Outerwards, Noddsdale Water, Fairlie Burn, Pundeavon Res, Soame Burn, Crookedholm, Eglinton CP, Airds Moss E, Blackcraig, Haugh, Auld Howford Brig, Auchinleck estate, Dumfries House, Milton Stair, Ayr Gorge, Failford, Gadgirth, Annbank, Auchincruive, Ness Glen.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus* C B

Although the core breeding population appears to remain within the Tarbolton/Kilmarnock/Stewarton area, smaller outlying populations may be being missed e.g. single prs were noted at Milton Farm, Barcally Kilkerran, Alton Ladyton.

Counts included: 25 Kilmaurs 22 Jan, 10 on 23 Nov, 10 Fairliecrevoch 6 Feb, 8 Fail 4 Oct, 40 Heathfield 8 Nov, 2-3 Troon-Loans 6 Nov-31 Dec. 16 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* C B

A widespread breeding species.

Counts included 54 Saltcoats Kerr Avenue 7 Apr, 40 on 2 Nov, 119 Gypsy Pool 20 Jul (c 80% juvs), 130 Loans 6 Aug.

Dunnock *Prunella modularis* C B

No significant breeding reports of this widespread species.

Counts included 9 Hogston Farm 2 Nov, 15 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec.

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

A ♂ Blue-headed Wagtail *M. f. flava* was seen at Munnoch Res on 12 May (DGi).

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea* C B S w P

Territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Annbank (B/3 noted), Fairlie Castle, Outerwards, Galston, Auchinleck estate, Dumfries House, Barony, Templand, Dalhanna, Milton Stair, Ayr Gorge, Failford, Gadgirth, Loch Doon dam, Altigabert Burn.

Counts included 7 Loch Doon 21 Jun, 8 Gadgirth 4 Jul, 3 Saltcoats Sharphill Road 5 Oct.

Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba yarrellii* C B

No significant information received on breeding birds.

Counts and migrants included 20+ Stevenston Point 28 Jan, 11 Feb, 25 Irvine Beach Park 1 Mar, 47 Auchenhavie pond 20 Mar, 30 Hunterston 25 Jul, 20 Dalmaca 31 Aug, 30 Laighdykes playing fields 29 Sep. 20 Marr College 9 Oct, 24 Dundonald Camp 19 Oct, 35+ Troon 30 Oct.

White Wagtail *M. a. alba* Migration and counts: arrival appeared to be from the last week of March with singles at Pow Burn on 25 Mar, Troon on 26 Mar, and Garnock Floods on 27 Mar.

Peak counts appear below.

Date	Count	Location	Date	Count	Location
10 Apr	25+	Seamill	19 Apr	15	Lendalfoot
11 Apr	12	Girvan S Beach	19 Apr	13	Troon
13 Apr	11	Ballantrae	25 Apr	15	Maidens
17 Apr	16	Hunterston	29 Apr	30	Munnoch Res
18 Apr	32	Dipple-Dowhill Port	5 May	30	Munnoch Res

In the autumn: 40 Fail 21 Aug, 18 Troon S Beach 29 Sep.

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis* C B P

Breeding was widespread but noted at Fairlie Moor, Loudoun Hill, Airds Moss, Laglass Hill, Loch Doon, Munnoch Res, Bogside, Loans, Prestwick GC, Pow Burn, Feoch Meadows.

Winter: inland records are scarce, but 3 Loch Doon 1 Jan and 40 Martnaham Loch 2 Jan were notable and may be part of an increasing trend. Others included 20 Braehead Mauchline 24 Feb, 15+ Stevenston Point 28 Nov.

Spring passage counts included 45 N/hr Loch Doon 23 Mar, 110 Pow Burn 9 Apr.

Autumn migrants/post-breeding flocks included 50 Laglass Hill 21 Jun, 34 Gypsy Pool 11 Sep.

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis* C B S p

Territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded Ness Glen (3), Rowantree Toll, Dalhanna, Corsencon, Whitehill, Auchlin, Auchinleck estate, Shewalton Wood, Nick o' the Balloch, Laggan Barrhill, Craigmasheenie.

Arrival was from 10 Apr when 1 was at the Gala Lane. This was followed by singles at Mochrum Loch on 14 Apr and Ness Glen on 21 Apr.



Water Pipit at Lendalfoot (Angus Hogg)

Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta* R w P

At least 6 individuals were recorded: 1 Troon 1 Jan-1 Mar, 2 from 15 Jan-22 Feb (DC, BDK *et al.*), 1 Seamill 3 Jan-9 Apr, 2 from 5 Jan-10 Mar (PMcE, TB *et al.*), 1 Lendalfoot 10 Jan-2 Feb (RHH), 1 Rancleugh Burn 15-21 Feb (HF *et al.*).

1 Seamill 4-19 Nov (GMcA, TB *et al.*).

Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus* C B p

Territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Bracken Bay-Heads of Ayr (3+), Hawking Craig, Portencross, Auchenhavie pond, Ardrossan, Saltcoats harbour, Stevenston Point.

Counts: 12 Lendalfoot 2, 10 Jan, 23 Seamill 5 Jan, 14 on 10 Mar, 14 Troon S Beach 22 Jan, 16 on 6 Feb, 10 Hunterston Sands 26 Jan, 10 Turnberry Bay 3 Feb, 21 Waterside-Seamill 14 Oct, 16 Seamill 9 Nov.

Scandinavian Rock Pipit *A. p. littoralis*

A colour-ringed individual at Troon on 31 Jan had been ringed in Norway (ZB).

Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs* C B W

No significant breeding records were received.

Counts: 30 Southannan Sands 9 Jan, 120 Fail 17 Jan, 37 Barmuir 20 Jan, 24 Coylton 27 Jan, 20 Braehead 10 Feb-3 Mar, 24 Shewalton Wood 15 Feb.

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla* U W p

In the winter-spring period: ♂ Ayr Forehill Road 4 Jan, 1 Lendalfoot 8 Jan, 1 Garnock E 8 Jan, ♀ Barmuir 17 Jan, pr Crosshill Kirklea 18-22 Jan, ♂ from 30 Jan-6 Mar, ♀ Coylton 27 Jan-18 Mar, 1 Hunterston 1-11 Feb, 6 Mauchline 12 Feb. 3 on 16 Apr, ♂ Adamton 24 Feb.

In the autumn: 2 New Cumnock 24 Oct, 1 Bogton Loch 27 Oct-24 Dec, 1 Dreghorn 29 Dec.

Common Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula* C B

Breeding birds or territorial prs were seen at Alloway (B/2 noted), Fullaton Woods (B/1 noted).

Counts: 13 Hunterston 11 Jan, 7 Templand 23 Jan, 14 Barclaugh Wood 25 Aug, 10 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec.

European Greenfinch *Chloris chloris* C B W

Breeding birds or territorial prs were seen over a wide area at Fullarton and Lochgreen GC (2), Gypsy Pool (2), Fairlie, Ardrossan, Gables Marsh, Kilwinning, New Cumnock, South Wood, Shawfarm ind est, Doonfoot, Coylton, Crosshill, Maidens.

Counts: 20 Hunterston 6 Feb, 30 Maidens 17 Feb, 31 Dec, 11 Greenan 25 Feb, 23 on 13 Dec, 45 Stevenston Point/beach 2 Nov, 50+ on 28 Nov, 50 Hunterston 20 Dec.

Twite *Linaria flavirostris* C (B) W

No reports received from breeding locations.

Winter-spring	Counts
Hunterston-Portencross	11 on 11 Jan, 2 on 23 May
Dipple-Girvan Mains	35 on 14 Jan, 19 on 18 Apr
Elsewhere	14 Irvine Beach Park 28 Jan, 5 Ayr harbour 17 Feb

Autumn-winter	Counts
Hunterston-Portencross	3 on 23 Jul
Stevenston	70 on 14 Nov
Troon	2 on 5 Nov
Doonfoot	5 on 2 Dec
Dipple-Girvan Mains	6 on 26 Oct

Common Linnet *Linaria cannabina* C B

Breeding: territories or singing ♂♂ were noted at Hunterston PS (3), Stevenston Point (2), Loans (2), Shawfarm ind est.

Counts: 46 Loans 26 Mar, 63 on 4 Apr, 25 Fail 14 Sep, 20 Dalmaca 18 Sep, 62 Gypsy Pool 28 Sep, 30 West Kilbride-Portencross 26 Oct, 28 Troon S Beach 5 Nov, 25 Pow Burn 22 Dec, 25 Stevenston beach 31 Dec.

Lesser Redpoll *Acanthis cabaret* C B S p

At least 35 territories or singing ♂♂ included Whitehill (5), Shewalton Wood (5), Upper Clen App (3+), Outerwards (3), Low Moss (3), Ness Glen (2-3), Feoch Bank Wood (2-3), Dykeneuk Moss (2), Dalhanna (2), Castle Hill, Fairways View, Dalcairney, Beoch, Changue, Airds Moss W, Auchinleck estate, Linfern Loch.

No large flocks were reported.



Male Common Crossbill at Bogside (Dougie Edmond)

Common Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra* U B w

Numbers were low and scattered over a wide area in S Ayr, suggestive of a poor breeding season. At least 10 singing ♂♂ or birds in suitable breeding habitat were noted in S Ayr, including: Gala Lane (2), Craigmalloch, Garpel Bridge, Loch Riecawr, Loch Bradan, Loch Nahinie, Kirriereoch, Dupin, Altigabert Burn.

Counts and post-breeding groups: 7+ Bogside 24 Feb, 4+ on 1 Mar, 3 over New Cumnock Station 25 May, 7 Loch Spallander 3 Jul, 6 Darnconner 1 Aug, 6 Lethans 27 Aug, 17 Whitelee windfarm 12 Oct, 3 Stinchar Bridge 30 Nov.

European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis* C B

Now a widespread breeding species.

Counts: 50 Hunterston 9 Jan, 20 Coylton 27 Jan, 30 Saltcoats Sharphill Road 3 Mar. 22 Gypsy Pool/Collennan 26 Mar, 36 on 2 Jul, 73 on 24 Aug, 50 Gales Marsh 2 Aug, 50 Hunterston PS 2 Aug, 44 Muirhead 9 Aug, 31 Prestwick airfield 22 Aug, 60 Pow Burn 5 Sep, 150 Whitelee windfarm operations area 13 Oct, 40 Bogside 27 Oct, 43 Fairlie 6 Nov, 32 Garnock Floods 12 Dec, 35 Knockentiber-Springside cycle track 28 Dec.

Eurasian Siskin *Spinus spinus* C B W p

No significant breeding information was received.

Counts: 20 Dumfries House 5 Jan, 19 Dalhanna 21 Jun, 20 Ayr Shalloch Place 27 Jun-7 Jul. 25 on 19 Jul, 24 Shewalton Wood 23 Oct, 20 Outerwards 28 Oct, 22 Stinchar Bridge 30 Nov, 30 Barclaugh Wood 22 Dec, 43 Milton Stair 26 Dec, 25 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec, 31 Loudoun Kirk sluices 30 Dec.



Snow Bunting on Troon South Beach (Dougie Edmond)

Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis* U W p

Winter-spring records included singles at Irvine Beach Park 14 Feb, and over Gala Lane 25 Feb.

In the autumn 1 was at Troon S Beach from 26 Oct-3 Nov, and 2 were at Stevenston Point on 28 Nov.

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella* C B

19 territories or singing ♂♂ were noted at Bracken Bay (5), Croy (4), Bower Hill (3+), Gadgirth (2), Sandhill Farm Coyton (2), Clews, Auchinleck estate, Maidens.

Counts: 8 Fail 9 Jan, 25 on 1 Dec, 9 Auchincruive 14 Feb, 12 Turnberry GC 27 Mar, 7 Knockentiber-Springside cycle path 28 Dec.

Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus* C B

At least 53 territories or singing ♂♂ were noted at Nether Culzean (8+), Ardeer Fen (5), Shewalton Wood (3), Garnock Floods (3), Garnock E (3), Munnoch Res (2+), Bogside (2), Greenock Mains (2), Whitehill (2), Gypsy pool (2), Auchlin, Airds Moss W, Airds Moss E, Hunterston Sands, Hawking Craig, Kilbirnie Loch Maich Water, Eglinton CP, Loans, Collennan, Pow Burn, Shawfarm ind est, Doonfoot, Greenan, Maidens, Lands of Turnberry, Ness Glen, Loch Doon dam, Bogton Loch, Dalmellington Moss, Ballochling, Loch Bradan W.

Counts: 41 Fail 9 Jan, 45+ on 24 Jan, 10 on 1 Dec, 20 Tarbolton 16 Apr, 20 Whitelee windfarm operations area 13 Oct, 12 Hogston Farm 2 Oct, 16+ Middleyard 1 Dec.

Ayrshire Birding - Rarities and Descriptions.

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

A = Ayrshire Birds Records Committee.

S = Scottish Birds Records Committee.

B = British Birds Rarities Committee.

Photographic evidence is always welcome.

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

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

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

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