

Ayrshire Bird Report 2023



Edited by Fraser Simpson and Angus Hogg



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Cover photo: Bohemian Waxwings at Prestwick (*Angus Hogg*)

Editorial

Welcome to the 2023 Ayrshire Bird Report. The publication of this year's report marks steady and encouraging progress towards bringing the series fully up to date. This has long been a key objective, and reaching this point reflects the sustained efforts of a wide and dedicated community of observers, contributors and recorders. Observers are encouraged to keep submitting sightings, whether via platforms such as BirdTrack or eBird, or directly to the Local Recorder (Fraser Simpson) at recorder@ayrshire-birding.org.uk to ensure that Ayrshire's avian record remains as complete and representative as possible.

It is important to emphasise that not all submitted records appear within the published report. While the report focuses on notable occurrences, trends and highlights, all records are retained within the master dataset held by the Local Recorder. This archive forms the backbone of the report and provides a vital long-term resource for understanding changes in Ayrshire's birdlife. Central to this process is verification: every record included in the report has been carefully assessed, and although occasional errors may arise, every effort is made to ensure a high standard of accuracy. For scarce or rare species, additional supporting evidence, such as detailed descriptions or photographs, is often required, and observers may be asked to submit further information. Depending on the species, records are reviewed by the Ayrshire Birds Records Committee, the Scottish Birds Records Committee or the British Birds Rarities Committee, and their work is essential in maintaining the integrity of the record. See page 83 for details.

A few simple steps can greatly enhance the value of your record. Clear location details, including reference to the nearest farm or settlement, are particularly important in a county where place names can be repeated, e.g. Bogside. Grid references are also extremely useful. Counts of birds, even approximate ones, provide valuable context. Adding a short note such as "singing male" indicates a possible territory and a useful piece of breeding information. Observers are encouraged to consult the report's contents when submitting records, as this gives a helpful indication of the level of detail required, particularly for species that are scarce or rarely recorded in the county. While we all love to see scarce and rare species, we would encourage observers to submit more records of breeding birds, particularly declining farmland species.

The reports follow the systematic order currently adopted by both the BOU and the SOC, and recent updates to both scientific and vernacular names have been incorporated. Species status symbols are also under ongoing review.

Finally, we extend our sincere thanks to all those who have contributed to the preparation and production of this year's report. Mike Howes provides an article on the breeding bird changes around New Cumnock since 2010 and Tom Byars updates on the breeding fortunes of the Lesser Whitethroat. Photographic contributions this year come from Dougie Edmond, Dave Grant and Angus Hogg.

Above all, we thank the many observers whose records form the foundation of this report. It is your continued dedication that ensures the Ayrshire Bird Report remains an important and enduring record of the region's birdlife.

Fraser Simpson and Angus Hogg

The Lesser Whitethroat in Ayrshire 2023

Tom Byars

Arrival

Two ♂♂ were singing against each other at a new site in Garnock North on 22nd April at 13.30 hrs, although this site had been checked earlier in the morning at 11.55 hrs, and no singing ♂♂ were heard during tape lure playback! Both ♂♂ were highly vocal, giving full song, “sub warble” and shriek calls.

One ♂ was ringed on the left leg with a BTO ring X645746 (2021). This bird had previously held territory in the traditional site at Ardeer Boundary Fence (1.42km away), but the habitat at this site had been degraded by widening the path routes, using JCB machinery. The unringed ♂ was shadowing the ringed ♂ at 2m distance. There were also 2 singing ♂♂ at North Croy shore on 25th April, with another ♂ singing at Hillhouse Quarry (east) on 26th April.

Territories

The 2 ♂♂ were still holding territory at Garnock North on 28th and 29th April, this time with the ringed ♂ shadowing the other ♂. Another ♂ was holding territory at Garnock West on 28th April, and 2 ♂♂ were holding territory at Garnock East on 29th April. By 1st May, the 2 territorial ♂♂ were joined by a possible ♀ at Garnock North. The Garnock West ♂ was still holding a territory on 1st May, while a new ♂ was on a territory at Garnock Lagoons, and the 2 ♂♂ were still singing against each other at Garnock East. This brought the total to six territories in the I.C.I. Ardeer study site.

Two ♂♂ held territory at Hillhouse Quarry on 2nd May (1 on the west side and 1 on the east side). Interestingly, the ♂ on the west side was mimicking a Blackcap ♂ in full song. This is the first observation of Blackcap mimicry in a Lesser Whitethroat (*Scottish Birds* 43:4 2023). A ♂ was holding territory at Croy shore car park on 3rd May, while 2 ♂♂ held territories at North Croyburnfoot on the same day. The 3rd of May also produced another territorial ♂ at Dunure (south) with one more at Bower Hill. The Heads of Ayr (west) and Heads of Ayr (quarry) each had single territorial ♂♂ with probable females nearby on 3rd May. With another ♂ holding territory at Greenan Beach, the 3rd of May turned out to be quite a day, producing a total of 10 territories recorded in south Ayrshire.

On 5th May a new ♂ was holding territory at Ardeer Boundary Fence with a distinct “pree-pree-pree” introduction before its main song phrase. It was still singing on 7th May. A ♂ was still holding territory at Garnock East on 13th May. And a new territory was located at Ardeer Fen (west railway embankment) on 19th May. An unmated ♂ continued to hold a large territory (5ha) at Ardeer Boundary Fence on 30th May, giving 5-6 song flights around 30-50m long. The song flight had a distinct pattern, with the ♂ rocking from side to side on stiff downturned wings while

on a horizontal track. Multiple song flights were conducted during weather conditions typified by warm, dry, bright sunshine and no wind.

Breeding

A pair, including the unringed ♂, was located at Ardeer Boundary Fence on 4th May. There was a pair plus an unmated ♂ at Garnock North, also on 4th May. Garnock East held 2 territorial ♂♂ from 4th–28th May, whilst a pair, with an unringed ♂, was located at Ardeer Pipe embankment on 5th May. A ♂ was heard giving a “sub-warble” at Garnock North on 5th May. The paired ♂ interacted with an unmated ♂ by chasing it through dense gorse scrub, before the situation was reversed, at Ardeer Boundary Fence from 19th–26th May.

The territorial ♂ was still present at Ardeer Boundary Fence on 17th June, and a family party including 3 juveniles was located there. The young appeared to be 7-10 days old and out of nest on 21st July. This is the latest ever record of a family party for SW Scotland in the entire study, indicating either a failed/predated first brood bringing about a second successful attempt, or an extremely late first breeding attempt. Another possible explanation could be that of a second brood from the same breeding pair, which would be hard to prove, but not impossible through DNA sampling.

A ♂ was still present at North Croyburnfoot on 9th June, and a possible pair was still holding territory at Heads of Ayr (west) on 9th June. Here, a ♂ gave a 103m song flight 100m to the east of the territorial pair (the furthest song flight I’ve observed in Lesser Whitethroat!). Another breeding pair was located on 9th June at Heads of Ayr (quarry), collecting food and becoming agitated at my presence, indicating near-fledged young on a nest.

Transient

A singing ♂ was located at Garnock North on 7th July.

Ringling

A ♂ caught at Garnock East on 6th May, was aged as a 4 and ringed on the right leg.

A ♀ was caught alongside the ♂ at Garnock East on 6th May, indicating a possible pair. It was aged as a 5 and ringed on the right leg. Finally, a ♂ was caught at Garnock East on 6th May, was aged as a 5 and ringed on the left leg.

Breeding summary

I.C.I. Ardeer Study sites

Garnock North	Two territories – one pair present
Garnock West	One territory
Garnock East	Two territories
Garnock Lagoons	One territory
Ardeer Boundary Fence	One territory – a pair with b/3
Ardeer Fen (West)	One territory
Ardeer Pipe Embankment	One territory pair present

South Ayrshire study sites

Hillhouse Quarry (East)	One territory
Hillhouse Quarry (West)	One territory
Croyshore carpark	One territory
North Croyburnfoot	Two territories
Dunure (South)	One territory
Bower Hill	One territory
Heads of Ayr (West)	One territory – pair present
Heads of Ayr (Quarry)	One territory – pair present – feeding hidden young
Greenan Shore	One territory

Total: 19 territories

Changes in Breeding Bird populations in the New Cumnock Area 2010-2024

Mike Howes

Following on from my article relating to an update of the Birds of New Cumnock Parish by JA Begg (Howes 2025). I have been able to glean information about the historical distribution of certain breeding species in the New Cumnock area, adding to it census results and up-to-date information from recent windfarm development surveys.

The historical data, some of it published in census results, and some of it anecdotal, is supported by additional information from Ayrshire SOC reports. Using my knowledge of the area I have tweaked the data where I think appropriate but wherever possible I have resisted the temptation to assume or speculate.

To illustrate the changes that have taken place in the New Cumnock area over the last 14 years I concentrate here on upland species which have seen serious declines. The examples I have chosen for breeding distribution mapping are, Red Grouse, Black Grouse, Lapwing, Golden Plover and Redshank. Sufficient data exists for these species to produce the following maps. Large green dots represent probable breeding, medium dots possible breeding/present in suitable habitat. And small dots represent a single isolated record. These dots are placed within 2km tetrads.

Species Key

Probable breeding



Possible breeding/present in suitable habitat



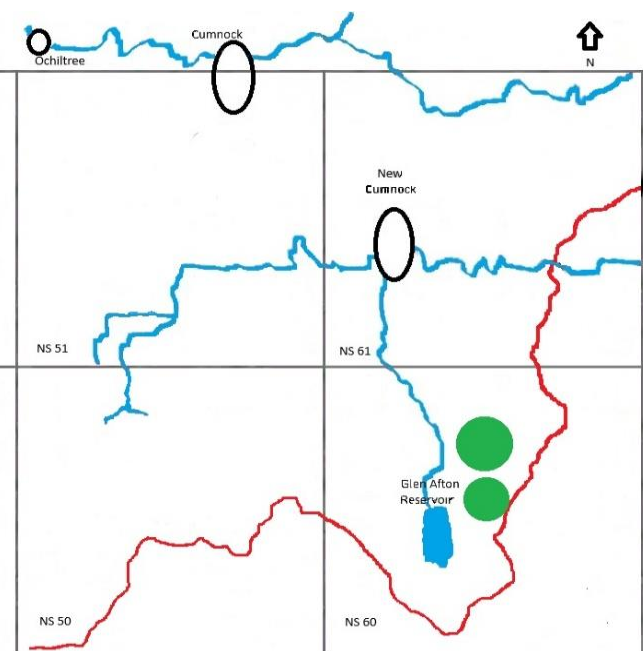
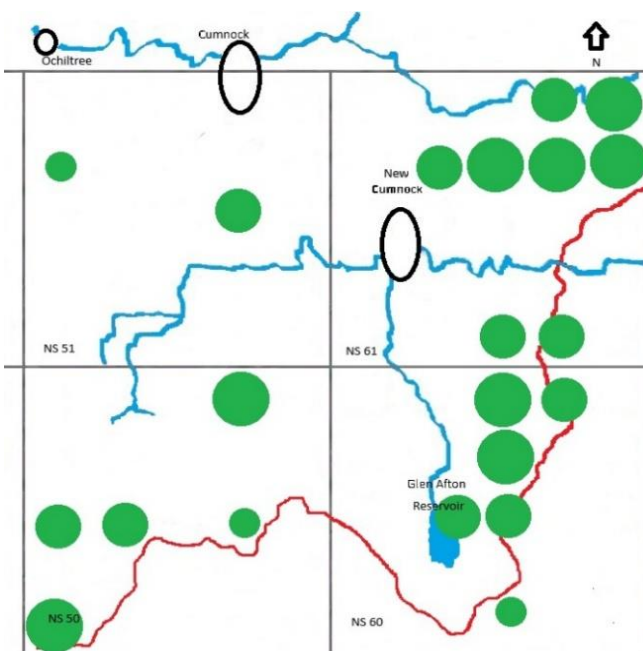
Isolated record



European Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*)

2010

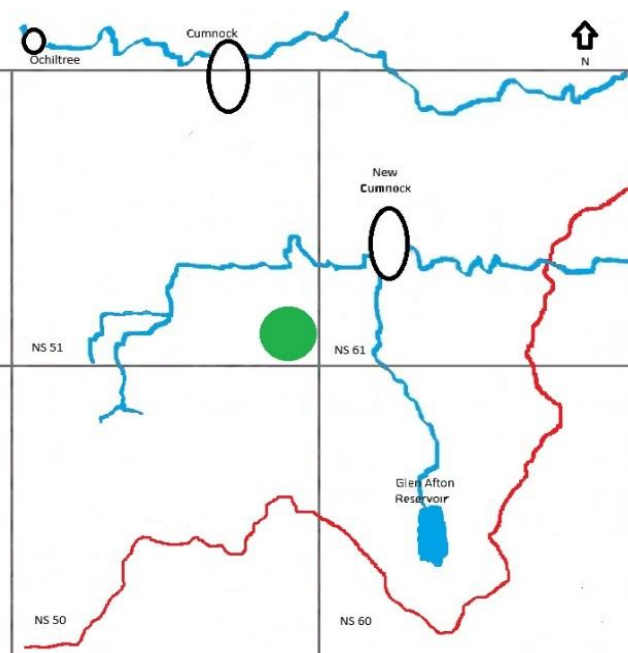
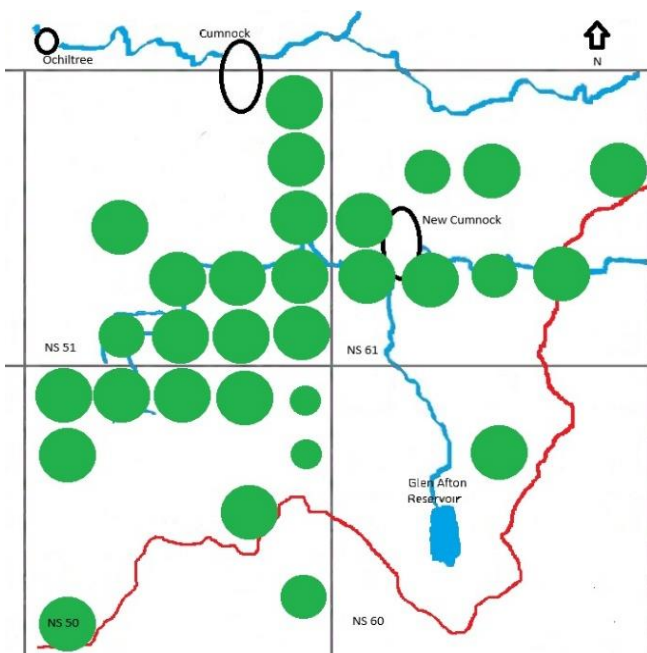
2024



Common Redshank (*Tringa Vanellu*)

2010

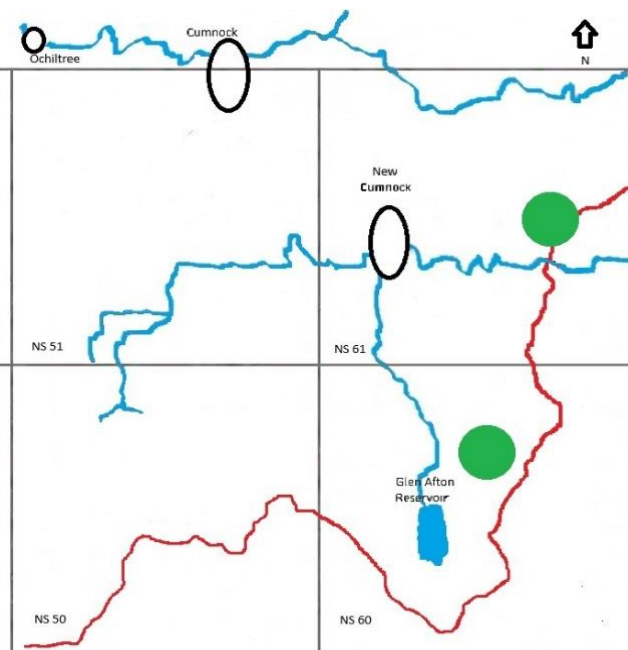
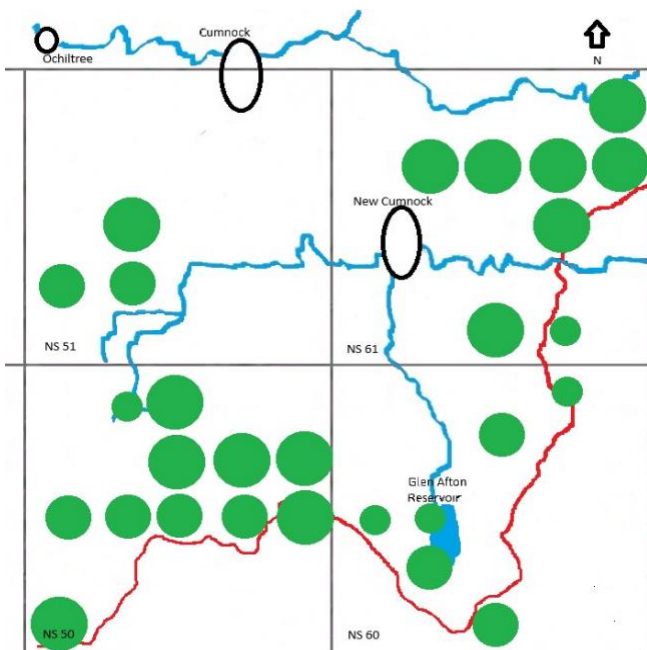
2024



Red Grouse (*Lagopus scotica*)

2010

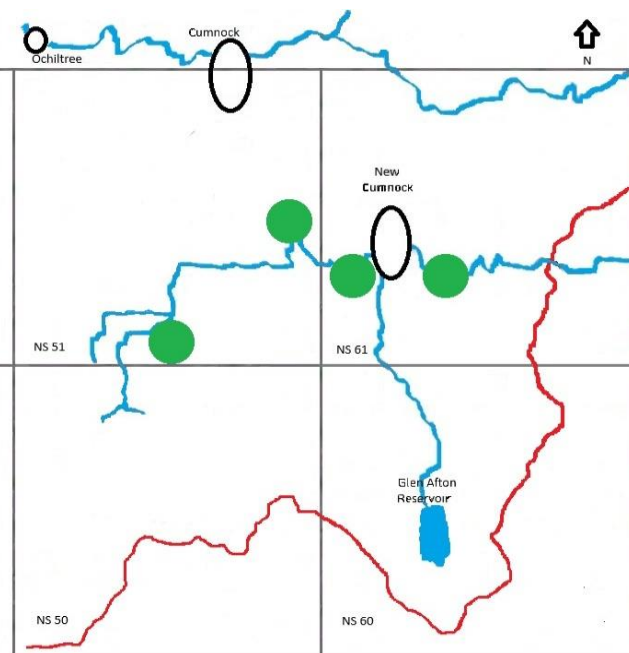
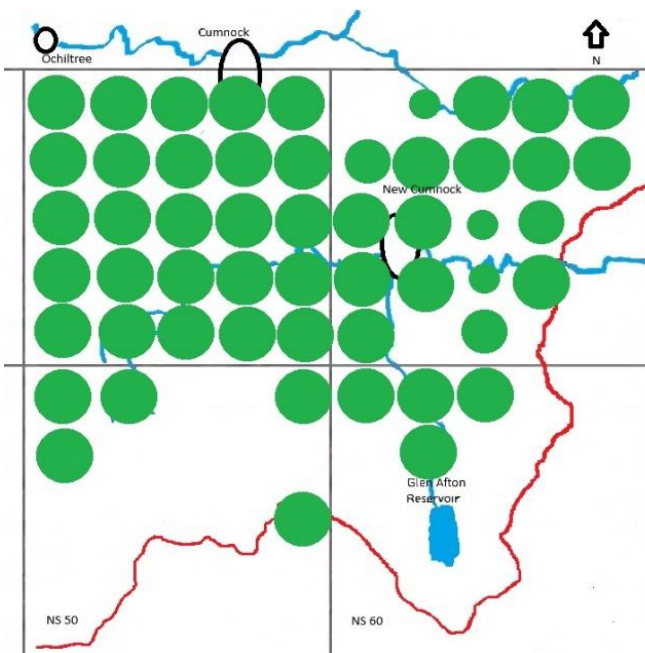
2024



Northern Lapwing (*Vanellus 8anellus*)

2010

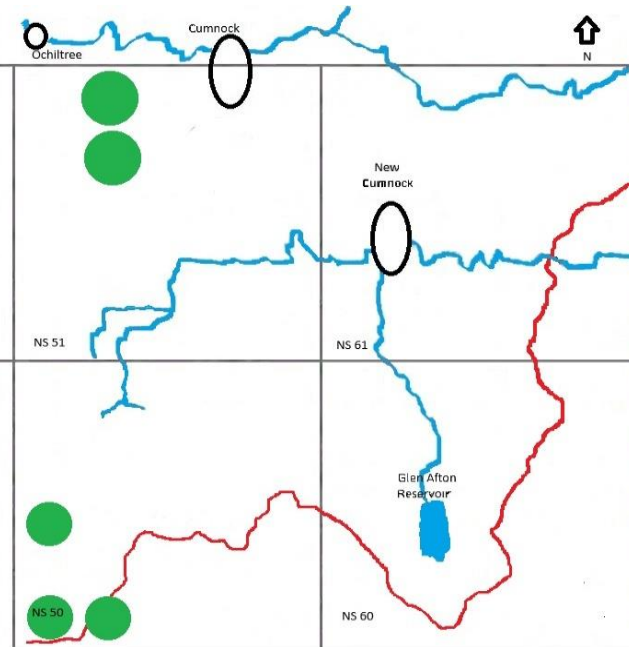
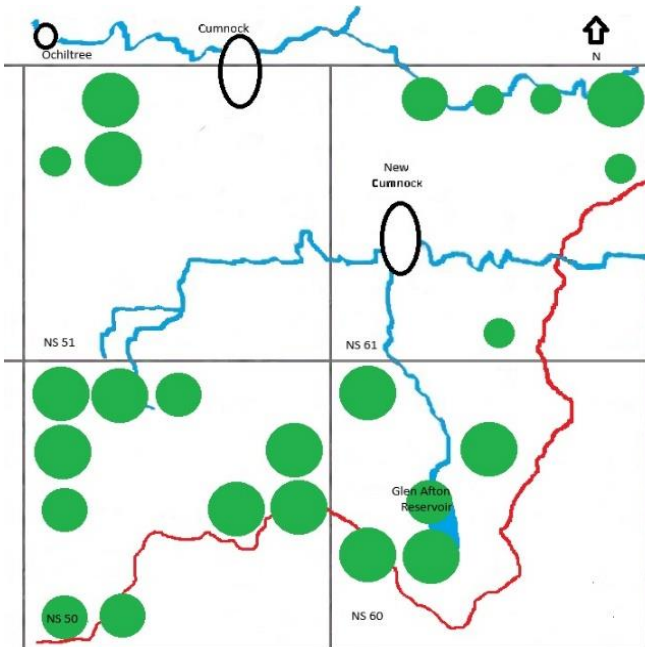
2024



Black Grouse (*Tetrao tetrix*)

2010

2024



Map key

 River/watercourse

 County boundary

 Settlement

The maps speak for themselves. Latest information (2025) for Black Grouse suggests this species is now extinct as a breeder in the New Cumnock area. Individual birds are occasionally encountered but no positive lekking sites have been reported. Redshank, Lapwing and Red Grouse cling on but predation appears to be taking a heavy toll on these species. Gulls and Corvids are prime suspects but increases in Fox and Badger populations have also been cited in Wind Farm EIA reports.

The breeding distribution of the once common Curlew is interesting. Now much reduced in numbers birds are widely encountered during the breeding season but breeding success is largely unknown.

Closely monitored species such as the Hen Harrier are regular in small numbers in winter but, along with the Short-eared Owl, are almost certainly extinct as a breeder.

The reasons for the changes in breeding status around New Cumnock appear to be a combination of:

1. Afforestation of open moorland with the consequent disturbance from access roads and consequent management.
2. Changes to agricultural land management including both overgrazing and under grazing, drainage, improvement of marginal and pasture land, with changes to predator control.
3. Large scale surface mining of coal seams underlying moorland and peat bogs. The infrastructure associated with such mines also requires considerable land area. While the effect of drainage on remaining areas is a problem, incomplete or poor restoration leaves large areas impoverished.
4. The march of the windfarms is now relentless affecting forested areas as well as undeveloped moorland. Here also, the disturbance caused by construction and the need for easy access can make the situation worse.
5. There is undoubtedly an issue relating to climate change. Extensive research has highlighted changes to habitats that can be attributed to changes in rainfall and temperature. A number of studies have directly related climate change to patterns of bird behaviour and breeding, with a consequent reduction in food availability posing a problem for specialist feeders. It may be that, with all the other pressures, climate change is now radically tipping the balance.

The status of passerine species around New Cumnock is more difficult to assess. Whilst historical records are of great interest, they rarely quantify changes, often being just comments and observations. Within the New Cumnock area Wood Warbler, Pied Flycatcher, Whinchat and Willow Tit have become much rarer as borne out by frequency of observation. Some formerly common birds in the area such as Yellowhammer and Tree Sparrow seem to have undergone range restrictions possibly due to changes in agricultural practice. Whilst other species such as the Goldfinch have shown a clear increase. Although there have been undoubted habitat changes, other factors such as those encountered on migration, and in wintering grounds, may be at play.

As some breeding species decline so the New Cumnock area has seen the establishment of newcomers notably Nuthatch, Red Kite, Osprey and Goshawk. Historical observations indicate that the populations of Buzzards, Magpies and Carrion Crow are clearly larger than in Jimmy Begg's early days!

The overall picture on balance is not a good one. We are yet to see the full impact of climate change. And further loss of prime habitat continues. The forthcoming British Breeding Bird Census will, hopefully, provide the

opportunity to more accurately assess the current situation.

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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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Systematic List 2023

Brent Goose *Branta bernicla* U w P

Pale-bellied race *B. b. hrota*:

Winter-Spring: the Maidens flock stood at 9 on 1-7 Jan, 11 from 9-27 Jan, 15 on 31 Jan, 17 on 2 Feb, 19 on 6-24 Feb, 21 on 28 Feb-6 Mar, 23 on 9 Mar-5 Apr, last 12 on 11 Apr – all were ads.

Elsewhere: 1 Hunterston 28 Mar, 1 Barassie 18 May.

Autumn-Winter: 3 Stevenston Point 4 Oct, at Maidens 2 ads on 11 Oct, 9 on 9-15 Oct, 10 on 22 Oct, 14 (9 juvs) 10-24 Nov, 15 on 1 Dec, 19 on 10-14 Dec, 16 on 26 Dec, 13 from 29-31 Dec.

Dark-bellied race *B. b. bernicla*: 1 Barassie 23-30 Oct, probably same at Maidens 10 Nov-10 Dec.

Canada Goose *Branta canadensis* C B P

Breeding pairs were located at Garnock Floods (6 ads and 22 juvs noted), Auchincross (3 prs – 3 x b/4 noted), L Riecawr (3 prs – b/5 noted), Outerwards Res (3 prs), L Macaterick (2 prs back 8 Apr - 3 prs – 3 juvs noted), Kilbirnie L, Ardeer, Knockshinnoch lagoons.

Counts at main sites	
Kilbirnie Loch	178 on 10 Feb.
Martnaham Loch	185 on 6 Dec.
Bogside	46 on 8 Apr, 101 on 19 Aug, 85 on 7 Oct, 377 on 30 Sep.
Auchincross	123 on 13 Jan, 106 on 17 Oct.
Fail	52 on 3 Aug, 134 on 7 Aug, 556+ on 31 Aug, 960 on 20 Sep.
Elsewhere	60 Auchenharvie pond 2 Jan, 70 East Holmes 11 Feb, 80 on 10 Mar. 70 East Holmes 4 Aug, 71 Hunterston PS 25 Feb, 334 Capringstone 22 Aug.

Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis* U w P

Winter-spring: 15 Hunterston 14 Jan, 3 Martnaham L 22-25 Jan, 1 on 26 Jan-7 Mar, 2 Loans 28-30 Jan, 2 Kilbirnie L 10 Feb, 1 Barassie 19 Mar, 1 Bogside 25 Mar, 1 Hunterston 30 Mar, 29 May, a skein flew N Troon 2 Apr, 2 Kerse Bridge 6 Apr, 1 Auchincross 6 May.

Autumn-winter: 1 Capringstone 21-22 Aug, at Bogside 5 Sep and Fail 7-20 Sep, skeins noted flying S at Troon 16. 23 Sep, and large passage on 3 Oct, 3 Doonfoot 26 Sep, 12 Fail 28 Sep, 10 on 8 Oct, 4 on 21 Oct, 1 from 26 Oct-2 Nov, 8 Nith floodplain 29 Sep, 5 Bogside 30 Sep, 9 on 30 Oct, 12 on 31 Oct, 1 Hunterston 30 Sep-3 Oct, 3 on 9 Oct, overnight passage noted Ochiltree 30 Sep, 3 Chapeldonan 27 Dec.

Barnacle Goose x Canada Goose hybrid: 2 Seamill-Hunterston 16 Sep-11 Nov.

Greylag Goose *Anser anser* C b W

Breeding pairs included: Pinbraid (4 prs – b/5, b/4, b/2 noted).

Winter-Spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	352 on 23 Jan, 250 on 28 Feb, 51 on 23 Mar, 20 on 25 Apr, 36 on 29 May.
Martnaham Loch	300 on 8 Mar, 170 on 27 Mar.
Blairbowie	219 on 14 Jan.
Auchincross	192 on 23 Feb.
Elsewhere	250 West Lochridge Kilbirnie 3 Jan, 212 Ballantrae 7 Feb, 320 Beith 20 Feb, 350 on 8 Mar, 120 East Holmes 10 Mar, 90 Kerse Bridge 6 Apr.

Autumn-Winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	28 on 4 Aug is typical showing of feral birds at several locations throughout summer, 273+ on 23 Aug also likely involving a movement of feral birds, 1500 on 22 Sep, 600 on 3 Oct, 114 on 4 Dec.
Fail	78 on 31 Aug.
Auchincross	88 on 4 Nov.
Elsewhere	510 Nith floodplain 28 Dec.

Pink-footed Goose *Anser brachyrhynchus* C W P

Winter-Spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	450 on 26 Jan, 667 on 17 Feb, 1100 on 8 Mar, 1000+ on 25 Mar, 550 on 28 Mar, 74 on 30 Mar, 3 on 1 May.
Loans	550 on 30 Jan, 1394 on 1 Mar,
Martnaham Loch	300 on 23 Jan, 200 on 5 Feb, 700 on 8 Mar, 2338 on 19 Mar, 2 on 27 Mar, 375 on 15 Apr, 15 on 6 May, 3 on 10 May.
Fail	220 on 6 Jan, 276 on 26 Jan.
Elsewhere	360 West Kilbride 1 Jan, 440 Ochiltree 3 Jan, 600+ Drumdroch 6 -31Jan, 230 Beith 20 Feb, 2000 Capringstone 2 Mar, 500+ Craigdow 9 Mar, 90 Auchincross 19 Mar, 84 on 1 Apr, 300 flew N Dunure 1 Apr, 112 New Cumnock 7 Apr, 254 flew N Troon 15 Apr, 400 flew N Dundonald Camp 25 Apr, 100 Middleyard 27 Apr, 150 flew N Hurlford 3 May, 112 flew N Troon 3 May, 4 flew N on 3 Jun.

Autumn-Winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	10 on 13 Sep, 269 on 13 Dec.
Loans	800 on 9 Oct.
Fail	137 on 14 Sep, 300 on 16 Sep, 1000+ on 30 Sep, 4282 on 19 Oct, 900 on 4 Nov, 100+ on 19 Dec.
Martnaham Loch	160 on 3 Nov, 85 on 26 Dec
Elsewhere	Arrival was on 11 Sep when 50+ at Middleyard, 388 flew SE Ochiltree 12 Sep, 100+ over on 13 Sep, 420 flew S Pow Burn 28 Oct, 122 Knockentiber-Springside 2 Nov, 400 North Mains 10 Nov, 100+ Drumdroch 18 Nov, 353 Bogside 27 Nov, 105 Blairbowie 13 Dec, 270 Hurlford-Galston 26 Dec.

Mute Swan *Cygnus olor* C B

Breeding results

Site	Result	Site	Result
Ardeer	pr	Kay Park	pr b/6
Auchenharvie pond	pr ON	Kirkbride pond	pr - failed
Bogton Loch	pr	Ladyton Loch	pr
Culzean CP	pr – no breeding	Lands of Turnberry	pr b/5
Darnconner	pr	Pinbraid	pr - failed
Garnock Floods	pr	Rozelle	pr b/7
Glenburn Res	pr	Stanecastle	pr
Glengarnock pool	pr ON	Trabboch Loch	2 prs
Irvine Beach Park	pr b/3	Shewalton	pr b/5

Counts at main sites	
Saltcoats	25 on 17 Jan.
Auchenharvie pond	36 on 29 Jan, 39 on 8 Feb, 20 on 25 Mar.
Martnaham Loch	12 on 15 Jan, 27 on 12 Feb, 12 on 19 Mar, 20 on 16 Dec.
Auchincross	33 on 2 Jan, 23 on 6 Feb, 38 on 17 Oct, 49 on 4 Nov.
Ayr-Doonfoot	40 on 6 Jan, 53 on 30 Mar, 74 on 12 Apr, 51 on 17 May, 161 on 26 Jun, 78 on 27 Jul, 23 on 16 Oct, 41 on 11 Dec
Chapeldonan-Burnside	17 on 16 Jan, 27 on 14 Feb, 19 on 27 Dec.
Elsewhere	24 L o' the Lowes 22 May, 38 Hunterston 7 Sep, 64 on 25 Nov, 39 Bogside 3 Oct, 30+ Fairlie Bay 3 Nov.

Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus* C W

Winter-Spring	Counts at main sites
Nith floodplain	51 on 3 Jan, 30 on 22 Jan, 20 on 28 Mar, 6 on 7 Apr.
Martnaham Loch	17 on 19 Jan, 3 on 12 Feb, 2 on 3 Mar.
Fail	10 on 4 Jan, 8 on 4 Mar, 22 on 30 Mar, 6 on 7 Apr.
Chapeldonan-Burnside	17 on 1 Jan, 31 on 19 Jan-13 Feb.
Elsewhere	15 Bogton L 2 Jan, 12 Eglinton CP 11 Jan, 6 on 9 Feb, 19 Broomhill fishery 3 Feb, 22 on 19 Mar, 8 Auchincross 5 Feb, 8 Blacktop Hill 14 Feb, 9 Kerse Bridge 23 Feb, 11 Ardneil Bay 14 Mar, 23 Craigdow L 9 Mar, 26 Bogside 21 Mar, 3 flocks totalling 265 birds flew N Dunure 26 Mar, 40 flew N Saltcoats 30 Mar, 11 flew NW L Doon 31 Mar, 15 flew N Skelmorle 19 Apr, 2 ads Dalmaca 25 Apr.

Summering birds: single ads summered at Hunterston and a S Ayrshire site.

Autumn-Winter	Counts at main sites
Nith floodplain	12 on 29 Sep, 13 on 16 Nov, 26 on 8 Dec
Martnaham Loch	20 on 11 Oct, 5 on 11 Nov, 6 on 16 Dec.
Fail	7 on 23 Sep, 5 on 4 Nov.
Chapeldonan-Burnside	17 on 1 Dec, 29 on 27 Dec.
Elsewhere	Arrival on 22 Sep when 30 flew S Doonfoot, 2 Auchincross 25 Sep, 13 flew S Maidens 12 Oct, 12 Bogside 13 Oct, 7 Capringstone 30 Oct, 8 Doonfoot 30 Oct, 54 (inc 14 juvs) North Mains 10 Nov, 13 Belston L 16 Nov-17 Dec, 14 Broomhill fishery 16 Nov, 24 on 29 Dec, 24 Eglinton CP 23 Dec.

Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna* C b

Breeding results from N Ayrshire southwards: 3 juvs noted Hunterston, 2 prs Hallowshean (b/2 noted), single prs Culzean Bay, Dipple, Ardneil Bay.

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston	74 on 25 Jan, 55 on 14 Feb, 48 on 14 Mar, 70 on 25 Apr, 59 on 25 May, 32 on 26 Jun, 17 on 21 Jul, 13 on 21 Oct, 44 on 20 Nov, 76 on 29 Dec.
Maidens	7 on 19 Jan, 14 on 7 Feb, 7 on 3-23 Mar, 2 on 15 May, 3 on 8 Jul, 1 on 10-14 Dec.
Elsewhere	1 Blairbowie 30 Jan, 2 on 6-26 Mar, 2 East Holmes 22-23 Apr, 2 Barcully 11 May, 21 West Kilbride-Fairlie 31 May.

Mandarin Duck *Aix galericulata* E

1 Hurlford 4 Apr (MA) was the year's only record.

Garganey *Spatula querquedula* R (B)

3-4 individuals were reported in spring: ♂ Garnock Floods 14 Apr-1 May (FD et al), ♂ Martnaham L 16 Apr (MMcG et al), ♂ Fail 1-5 May (DE/DGi et al), perhaps a second ♂ Garnock Floods 13 May (RK).

Northern Shoveler *Spatula clypeata* U b w P

Winter-Spring	Counts at main sites
Auchincross	♂ on 6-28 Mar, 4 on 1 Apr.
Capringstone	♂ on 15-19 Feb, pr on 30-31 Mar, 4 on 6 Apr, 5 on 21 Apr.
Elsewhere	2 ♂♂ Blairbowie 21 Feb, ♂ Fail 25 Mar, 2♂♂/♀ Garnock Floods 26 Mar, 5 on 4 Apr, ♂ until 9 Jun, pr Hastings L 15 Apr, pr Kilbirnie L 24 Apr.

Autumn-Winter	Counts at main sites
Auchincross	1 on 22 Aug, 8 Oct, 4 on 4 Nov, 2 on 6 Nov.
Garnock floods	1 on 18 Sep.
Capringstone	pr on 5 Nov.
Elsewhere	2 Fail 18 Sep, ♂ on 30 Sep, juv on 30 Sep, 4 on 8 Oct, 3 on 19 Oct, 3 Martnaham L 30 Oct, ♂/2 ♀♀ Bogside 4 Nov, 1 Loans 13 Dec.

Gadwall *Mareca strepera* U (B)

Breeding: pr Knockshinnoch lagoons 15 Apr – no evidence of successful breeding.

Counts at main sites	
Bogside-Garnock Floods/Ardeer	7 on 14 Jan, 2 on 25 Jan, ♀ on 15 Feb, 4 on 23 Feb, 1 on 28 Apr, ♂ on 11 May, 2 on 15 Jun, 2 on 24 Oct, 4 on 4 Nov, 5 on 10 Nov.
Auchincross	♂ on 2 Jan-7 Mar, 6 on 25 Sep, 11 on 22 Oct, 6 on 4 Nov.
Elsewhere	pr Southannan Sands 6 Jan, ♂ on 25 Jan-30 Mar, 2 ♂♂ on 8-16 Apr, 2 Fail 15 Jan, 1 Tarbolton fishery 16 Jan, ♂ Doonfoot 2-4 Feb, pr on 19-23 Apr, 1 on 7 Jun, 3 Bogside 21 Mar, pr Stevenston Pt 3 May. 1 Doonfoot 14-22 Aug, 2 on 1 Oct, 2 Southannan Sands 28 Aug, 3 on 16 Nov, 2 on 13 Dec, 4 Capringstone 18 Sep, 1 on 20 Sep, 5 on 11 Oct, 2 Nith floodplain 10 Oct, 2 Culzean 27 Oct, 1 Barassie 4 Dec.

Eurasian Wigeon *Mareca penelope* C (B) W

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston-Fairlie	388 on 2 Jan, c1000 on 25 Feb, 470 on 23 Mar, 23 on 30 Mar, 3 on 29 Jun, 11 on 28 Aug, 34 on 3 Sep, 100 on 16 Sep, 427 on 15 Oct, c500 on 5 Nov, 210 on 13 Dec.
Capringstone	71 on 6 Jan, 187 on 2 Feb, 313 on 20 Feb, 293 on 7 Mar, 73 on 26 Mar, 12 on 18 Sep, 126 on 30 Oct.
Irvine-Bogside-Garnock	100 on 19 Jan, 319 on 21 Mar, 33 on 8 Apr, 150 on 30 Sep, 283 on 5 Nov, 60 on 29 Dec.
Pow Burn	126 on 27 Jan, 132 on 28 Feb, 11 on 4 Mar, 56 on 30 Oct.
Blairbowie	330 on 14 Jan, 77 on 6 Feb.
Auchincross/Dalgig	105 on 26 Jan, 121 on 23 Feb, 120 on 19 Mar, 21 on 6 Jul, 67 on 17 Oct, 194 on 4 Nov.
Elsewhere	265 Loans 9 Jan, 76 Martnaham L 20 Jan, 24 Feb, 92 on 20 Mar, 220 Turnberry-Dipple 23 Jan, 36 on 15 Mar, 30+ on 1 Apr, 45 Darnconner 3 Mar, 3 Garnock Floods 17 May. 11 Turnberry-Dipple 17 Sep, 44 on 16 Oct, 134 on 21 Nov, 64 on 19 Dec, 48 Fail 8 Oct, 148 Blairbowie 20 Nov, 146 on 13 Dec, 25 Doonfoot 26 Nov, 216 Loans 18 Dec, 50 Martnaham L 26 Dec.

American Wigeon *Anas americana* R w p

An imm ♂ was discovered at Darnconner quarry on 1 Mar (DG et al), staying until 19 Mar. This is the 12th Ayrshire record.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* C B W

In the breeding season 18 prs had a total of 103 juvs at 8 sites. First brood out on 18 Apr.

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston	30 on 3 Jan, 5 Feb, 4 Aug, 122 on 28 Aug, 82 on 23 Sep, 50+ on 16 Nov, 32 on 29 Dec.
Fail	40 on 3 Aug, 122 on 20 Sep, 22 on 19 Oct.
Auchincross	55 on 26 Jan, 57 on 6 Feb, 14 on 19 Mar, 50 on 12 Jul, 71 on 17 Oct, 33 on 4 Nov.
Trabboch Loch	97 on 9 Jan, 19 on 3 Mar, 201 on 26 Jun, 116 on 16 Nov, 33 on 29 Dec.
Doonfoot	30 on 25 Jan, 22 on 22 Feb, 26 Mar, 20 on 12 Apr, 24 on 22 Sep, 36 on 11 Dec.
Elsewhere	66 Tarholm 2 Jan, 39 Turnberry-Dipple 25 Jan, 28 Auchenharvie pond 27 Jan, 21 Garnock Floods 2 Feb, 21 Annbank 4 Mar, 14 Kilbirnie L 2 May. 26 Culzean 11 Jul, 33 on 21 Oct, 31 on 12 Nov, 51 Kay Park 17 Aug, 59 Capringstone 19 Aug, 118 on 18 Sep, 37 Turnberry-Dipple 17 Sep, 20 Auld Brig Ayr 23 Sep, 53 Cronberry 13 Dec, 39 Loans 18 Dec, 24 Blairbowie 19 Dec, 42 Rozelle 22 Dec.

Northern Pintail *Anas acuta* U w P

Winter/Spring: ♂ Auchincross 2 Jan-27 Mar, 2♂♂ on 7-19 Mar, 2♂♂ Southannan Sands 2-23 Jan, 2 prs on 6 Jan, ♂ Pow Burn 17 Jan-15 Mar, 1 Martnaham L 14 Feb, pr Seamill 19 Mar.

Autumn/Winter: ♀/juv Hunterston/Southannan Sands 28 Aug, 2 on 13 Sep, 3 on 5 Nov, ♂ on 25 Nov, ♂/3 ♀♀ on 27 Nov, ♂/4 ♀♀ on 4 Dec, 2 ♀♀ on 5 Dec, 3 Fail 19-20 Sep, juv on 19 Oct, ♂ from 31 Oct-18 Nov, ♂ Nith floodplain 10 Oct, ♂ Capringstone 18 Oct-18 Nov, ♂ Barassie/Loans 10 Nov-18 Dec, ♂ Blairbowie 18 Dec.

Common Teal *Anas crecca* C b

Breeding records came from L Slochy, L Gower, L Riecawr, L Moan.

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston-Southannan	426 on 2 Jan, 2 on 24 May, 66 on 13 Sep, 100+ on 16, 27 Nov, 200 on 4 Dec.
Garnock Floods	150 on 25 Jan, 30 on 9 Mar, 14 on 22 Jun, 23 on 15 Aug, 108 on 17 Sep, 41 on 18 Oct, 52 on 16 Nov, 28 on 13 Dec.
Fail	72 on 25 Jan, 70 on 25 Mar, 24 on 23 Apr, 233 on 20 Sep, 150 on 8 Oct, 276 on 16 Nov, 39 on 19 Dec.
Martnaham Loch	30 on L 15 Jan, 55 on 8 Feb, 35 on 20 Mar, 80 on 21 Sep, 140 on 30 Oct, 51 on 26 Dec.
Auchincross	85 on 26 Jan, 92 on 23 Feb, 38 on 17 Oct, 75 on 4 Nov.
Blairbowie	70 on 14 Jan, 25 Feb. 75 on 21 Mar, 59 on 12 Apr, 14 on 8 Oct, 225 on 20 Nov, 114 on 19 Dec.
Elsewhere	50 East Holmes 2 Jan, 40 on 4 Mar, 25 Pow Burn 26 Jan, 41 Capringstone 2, 20 Feb, 66 on 23 Mar, 47 on 8 Apr, 230 Caaf Res 6 Feb, 68 on 26 Mar, 29 Maidens 15 Mar, 30 Seamill 19 Mar, 54 Doonfoot 26 Mar, 25 on 12 Apr, 2 on 7 Jun, 49 Millstonford Bridge 30 Mar. 37 Capringstone 18 Sep, 64 on 9 Nov, 27 Eglinton CP 22 Sep, 66 on 6 Oct, 134 Dalmaca 4 Oct, 43 Garnock estuary 24 Oct, 70+ Hallowshean 30 Oct, 38 East Holmes 31 Oct, 50 Bogside 7 Nov, 42 Chapeldonan 5 Dec, 81 Loans 18 Dec, 28 Turnberry-Dipple 19 Dec, 39 Doonfoot 24 Dec.

Green-winged Teal *Anas carolinensis* R w

♂ Hunterston-Southannan Sands 23-25 Jan (DC/MMcG et al), ♂ Fail 15-16 Nov (DC/DGr et al).

Common Pochard *Aythya ferina* C (B) W

A ♂ at Auchincross from 6-15 Jan was the year's only record.

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula* C b W

Breeding reported from Auchincross where 3 broods totalled 17 juvs in Jul-Aug. Also single pairs noted in suitable

habitat at Glengarnock pond, Garnock Floods, Glenbuck and Lands of Turnberry.

Counts at main sites	
Trabboch Loch	12 on 25 Jan, 13 on 5 Feb, 10 on 1 Apr.
Martnaham Loch	105 on 20 Jan, 12 Feb, 139 on 6 Mar, 69 on 15 Apr, 35 on 22 Oct, 97 on 30 Nov, 166 on 31 Dec.
Auchincross	59 on 6 Jan, 90 on 6 Feb, 30 on 19 Mar, 16 on 17 Oct, 20 on 11 Dec.
Elsewhere	10 Common L 26 Jan, 5 Ardeer quarry 27 Jan, 13 Irvine Beach Park 12 Feb, 14 on 25 Mar, 18 Cronberry 3 Mar, 15 Darnconner quarry 3 Mar, 5 Auchenharvie pond 31 Mar, 8 on sea Ayr 13 Jun, 16 Culzean 31 Dec.

Greater Scaup *Aythya marila* U W

Counts at main sites	
Auchenharvie GC	♂ on 27 Jan-9 Feb, 2 ♂♂ 19 Feb-7 Mar.
Stevenston Point	3 on 17 Mar.
Martnaham Loch	2 on 9 Oct.
Elsewhere	imm ♂ Auchincross 2-15 Jan, ♂ Craig Tara 24 Jan, ♂ Loch o' the Lowes 19 Mar-14 Apr, 2 Ayr Bay 17 Apr. ♀/imm Auchincross 25 Sep, ♀ Ardmillan 11 Nov, 1 Creoch L 12 Dec.

Lesser Scaup *Aythya affinis* A

An ad ♂ was present at Martnaham Loch on 7-8 Apr (DGr). This is the 4th Ayrshire record.

Common Eider *Somateria mollissima* C B

Breeding was reported at Hunterston where 256 ducklings on 17 Jun, 32 ducklings Lendalfoot on 20 Jun, several broods noted Fairlie Bay 29 Jun, 8 ducklings noted Stinking Rocks 8 Jun, 5 ducklings Bogside on 26 May, b/1 noted Maidens 3 Jul.

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston-Fairlie	40+ on 23 Mar, 80 on 16-22 Apr, 100+ on 24 May.
Stevenston Point-Farland Head	70 on 27 Jan, 60 on 25 Feb, 28 on 7 Mar, 22 on 26 Apr, 26 on 1 May, 15 on 24 Nov.
Troon-Gailes	357 on 18 Jan, 307 on 18 Feb, 89 on 1 Apr, 100 on 10 Sep, 200 on 30 Nov, 439 on 9 Dec.
Maidens-Dipple	63 on 16 Oct, 185 on 10 Nov.
Elsewhere	25+ Largs 25 Feb, 32 Portencross 25 Feb, 28 Lendalfoot 28 Mar.

Velvet Scoter *Melanitta fusca* U W

2 records in spring: ♀/imm Saltcoats-Stevenston Point from 4 Jan-7 Apr (HF et al), ♂ flew N at Carleton Port on 15

Apr (RHH).

Autumn saw quite an influx with 2 ♀♀ Ayr Bay-Bracken Bay 22 Oct, 3 ♀♀ on 23-25 Oct (HF/DGi), 2 ♀♀/imms flew N Dipple 25 Oct (DGi), ♂ and imm ♂ Maidens 26 Oct (RHH), 7 Chapeldonan from 13 Nov-31 Dec (DE et al), 2 Stevenston Point 19 Nov-19 Dec, 1 on 7-11 Dec (DE), imm Hunterston 21 Nov-5 Dec (AR/DGR/RHH).

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra* C W P

Counts at main sites	
Stevenston Point-Irvine Bay	26 on 17 Jan, 40 on 20-29 Jan, 50 on 27 Jan, 59 on 7 Mar, 67 on 29 Apr, 8 on 24-27 Jul, 7 on 30 Sep, 17 on 21 Oct, 40+ on 11 Nov, 95 on 30 Nov, 118 on 13 Dec, 40 on 26 Dec.
Dunure	4 on 3 Jan, 14 on 9 Apr, 8 flew N 9 May, 14 on 19 May, 11 on 13 Jun.
Maidens	6 on 7-24 Jan, 5 on 25 Jan-10 Feb, 4 on 13 Feb, 16 flew N 3 May, 14 flew S 3 Jul, 10 flew S 16 Jul, 25 on 10 Oct.
Dipple	8 on 1 Jan, 9 on 9 Oct, 18 on 21 Nov, 28 on 5 Dec, 60 on 11 Dec, 29 on 27 Dec.
Elsewhere	2 Hunterston 21 Jan, 4 Doonfoot 2 Feb, ♂ Creoch L 14 Apr, 5 flew S Troon 14 Apr, 28 on 16 May, pr L Riecawr 6 May, 15 Ayr Bay 4 Nov, 21 Croy Bay 28 Nov.

Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis* U W

Counts at main sites	
Stevenston Point	♂ flew N on 27 Jan, 5 (inc 3 ♂♂) on 29 Apr, 1 on 11-14 May, ♀/juv on 16 Oct-1 Dec. 2 imms on 13 Dec.
Troon-Pow Burn	1 on 15 Sep-27 Oct, 2 ♀♀/juvs on 28 Oct-11 Dec, ♀ on 11-19 Dec, 3 on 28 Nov.
Dipple	3 on 1-24 Jan, 4 on 25 Feb-26 Apr, 1st s ♂ on 22 Jun-12 Oct, also seen flying S Maidens 28 Sep, 3 on 10 Nov, ♂ on 5 Dec, ♂ and ♀ on 11-27 Dec.
Elsewhere	2 Lendalfoot 14 Jan, 1 on 26 Jan-14 Feb, ♂ Bogside 31 Oct, 2 flew S Ballantrae 3 Nov, 1 Ayr harbour 7 Nov, 1 Martnaham L 26 Nov.

Common Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula* C W

Winter-Spring	Counts at main sites
Bogside	10 on 25 Jan, 21 on 16 Feb, 10 on 1 Apr.
Auchincross	62 on 13 Jan, 66 on 5 Feb. 47 on 19 Mar, 39 on 27 Mar.
Martnaham Loch	35 on 15 Jan, 43 on 12-24 Feb, 56 on 6 Mar. 38 on 27 Mar, 28 on 7 Apr.
Elsewhere	8 Doonfoot 20 Jan-26 Mar, 4 Hunterston 26 Jan, 14 on 25 Feb, 30+ on 2 Apr, 7 Auchenharvie pond 30 Jan, 5 Kilbirnie L 10 Feb, 10 on 20 Apr, 30 Craigdow L 9 Mar, last 1 of spring at Garnock Floods 1 May.

Autumn-Winter	Counts at main sites
Bogside	4 on 18 Nov.
Martnaham Loch	12 on 30 Oct, 36 on 26 Dec.
Auchincross	First 4 of autumn on 25 Sep, 7 on 17-22 Oct, 17 on 4 Nov, 31 on 11 Dec.
Elsewhere	4 Culzean 21 Oct, 6 on 12 Nov, 10 on 31 Dec, 6 Hunterston 25 Nov, 8 Stevenston Pt 30 Nov, 7 Barassie 11 Dec, 10 Doonfoot 26 Dec.

Goosander *Mergus merganser* C b w

Reports of birds in suitable breeding habitat came from Alloway (b/8 noted), Failford (b/6 noted), Crookedholm (b/4 noted), Hurlford area (2 prs), Annbank, Auchincruive, Airds Moss, Ness Glen, Glenauchie, L Riecawr.

Counts at main sites	
Bogside	6 on 15 Jun, 26 on 12 Jul, 27 on 18 Aug, 16 on 30 Sep.
Ayr-Doonfoot	6 on 23 Mar, 4 on 12 Apr, 50 on 22 Jul, 65 on 22 Aug, 4 on 24 Dec.
Elsewhere	3 Bogton L 2 Jan, 31 Mar, 3 L Bradan 7 Jan, 5 Kay Park 8 Jan, 4 Kilbirnie L 10 Feb, 5 on 22 May, 4 Hurlford 2 Mar, 9 Auchincross 27 Mar. 9 Auld Brig Ayr 5 Jul, 2 Maidens 4 Aug, 10 Nov, 16 Pow Burn 13 Sep, 24 Barassie 17 Sep, 6 Nith floodplain 10 Oct, 8 Portencross 27 Oct, 2 Fail 29 Dec.

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator* C b p

The only report of breeding came from Fairlie Bay where b/7 and b/6 noted.

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston	6 on 3 Jan-11 Feb, 15 on 23 Mar, 24 on 8 Apr, 20 on 21 Jul, 15 on 23 Sep, 10 on 15 Oct, 18 on 13 Dec.
Saltcoats-Stevenston Pt	15 on 20 Jan, 30 on 25 Feb, 12 on 7 Apr, 11 on 1 May, 21 on 9 Oct.
Bogside	3 on 12 Jan, 15 on 2 Feb, 4 on 29 Dec.
Ayr-Prestwick-Troon	8 on 15 Jan, 5 on 5 Mar, 7 on 2 Apr, 26 on 16 Nov.
Maidens-Dipple	3 on 4 Jan, 8 on 10 Feb, 16 on 10 Apr, 20 on 17 Sep, 14 on 1 Dec.

Red Grouse *Lagopus scotica* U b

Very few records, with most coming from breeding areas: 2 Craigdullyeart 10 Feb, 1 Cairnadloch 3 Mar, ♀ with brood on 22 Jun, 2 Misty Law/Hill of Stake 3 Mar, 2 Kaim Hill 30 Mar, 5 on 24 Nov, 1 Berry Hill 22 Apr, 1 Crawhin Res 31 May, 2 Kelly Burn 5 Jul.



Red Grouse at Craigdullyear (Dougie Edmond)

Black Grouse *Lyrurus tetrix* U b

Very few submitted records, but a continued decline, with 3 ♂♂ present at one lek site Jan.

Grey Partridge *Perdix perdix* U b

Only one breeding report: a brood of 4 at Little Raws.

Counts: 2 Sandyford 4-24 Jan, 1 on 26 Feb, 1 Wellhome 26 May, 1 Craig Tara 17 Aug.

Common Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus* C B

Breeding records received included b/9 Common Farm 9 Jun, and reported to have bred Blairquhan. No large counts submitted.

Common Quail *Coturnix coturnix* R (B)

At least 3 singing ♂♂ were recorded. A singing ♂ was reported at Adamhill on 11 Jul (DC), 2 at Fail on 12 Jul-9 Aug probably included the previous bird (DGr), 1 until 14 Aug, another ♂ was heard at Stair on 19 Jul (MH).

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

Very few records of this widely released game bird were received, but included 3 Greenan 18 Jan, 10 Burton 1 Feb, 3 Glenalmond 29 Apr.

European Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus* R FB

1 churring, Kingswell 17 Jun (SI). This was the first record since 1996.



Common Swift at Ardeer (*Dougie Edmond*)

Common Swift *Apus apus* C B S p

No estimate available on breeding numbers, but bird totals for potential breeding locations are as follows: Largs (14+), Culzean (12+), Ballantrae (10), Sharphill Rd, Saltcoats (8), Saltcoats town centre (8), Crookedholm (5), Dailly (4), Crosshill (3), Kilbirnie (3), Fairlie (3), Blairquhan (2).

Arrival was from 29 Apr when 1 was at Garnock E. This was followed by 2 at Dunure 30 Apr, 2 at Auchincross 1 May, 5 Kennedy's Pass 2 May, 1 Culzean and 1 Troon on 2 May. 50 were at Ardeer 31 May, 62 flew S Dunure 8 Jul, 10 Kilmarnock 19 Jul, 30 Ayr 27 Jul, 93 Dalgig 31 Jul, last departing birds were seen at Crosshill on 27 Aug, and 2 at Troon on 31 Aug.

Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus* C B S p

During the breeding season territorial ♂♂ included birds at Carrick Lane-L Riecawr (8+), Caaf Res (4), Cairnfore-Tarfessock (4), Tarfessock-Craigenrae (4), Craigencolon (2), Doughty (2), Ballochling (2), Waterhead on Minnoch (2), Bellamore (2), Berry Burn, North Plantation, Whitelee windfarm, Outerwards, Kaim Hill, Fairlie Castle Path, L Nevan, Glenmuir, Glenbuck, Clawfin, Farroch Brae, Glenauchie, Craig Dhu, Eriff platation, Culloch Knowes, Aldinna, White Scourins, Balloch Hill, Barr, Garnaburn, Ness Glen, Garpel Bridge, Craiglee, Starr, L Skelloch, Ballochbeatties, Shiel Rig, Delamford, Mull of Milljoan, Lochend, Laigh Drumlamford, L Dornal, L Maberry.

Arrival was from 14 Apr when a ♂ was at Loch Doon. Following this came singles at Fairlie Moor on 17 Apr, Doonfoot on 25 Apr and The Glen on 28 Apr. No departure date submitted.



Common Cuckoo at Waterhead on Minnoch (*Angus Hogg*)

Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon *Columba livia* C B

Counts included 35 Kilbirnie town centre 10 Jan, 27 Dundonald Camp 22 Feb 28 on 31 Aug, 47 Irvine Beach Park 26 Mar, 45 Barassie 25 Mar, 25+ Largs 28 May, 30 Culzean 12 Aug, 50 Seamill-Hunterston 16 Sep, c150 Portencross Rd 27 Oct, 70 Maidens 30 Oct, 30 Girvan 16 Dec.

Stock Dove *Columba oenas* C B w

Breeding pairs or territorial ♂♂ were reported from Hunterston area (6+), Glenauchie (2), Portencross, Knock Castle, Aught Wood, Ladyton L, Hurlford, East Holmes, Annbank, Barcully, Burton, Craighead quarry, Bargany, Barr, South

Threave, Craig Farm Straiton.

Larger counts included 50 Fail 11 Mar.

Common Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus* C B W

No large counts were submitted, with 50 Portencross 4 Mar being the highest number recorded.

European Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur* U s P

A juv was present at Barmill from 21-28 Oct (DO et al).



European Turtle Dove at Barmill (*Dougie Edmond*)

Eurasian Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto* C B

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

Very few counts of 5 or more, but 16 Hurlford-Galston path, 35+ Barmill 28 Oct.

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus* C b W

A frequently overlooked bird, more often heard than seen. Birds seen or heard in suitable breeding habitat included Ardeer Fen, Bogside, Garnock Floods, Ladyton L, Martnaham L, Knockshinnoch lagoons, Doonfoot.

Outside the breeding season: singles at Culzean Swan Pond 16 Jan, Shewalton 15 Feb, and Ladyton L 28 Feb.

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* C B

Pairs in suitable breeding habitat included Ladyton L (b/2 noted), Capringstone (b/2 noted), Pinbraid (b/2 noted), Garnock Floods (b/1 noted), Irvine Beach Park (b/1 noted), Barassie GC (b/1 noted), Glengarnock pool, Ardeer, Tarryholme, Rozelle, Knockshinnoch lagoons, Culzean, Blairquhan Approach L.

Counts included 12 Trabboch L 19 Jan, 10 Culzean 30 Mar, 13 on 21 Oct, 15 on 31 Dec, 6 Kay Park 17 Aug, 31 Belston L 3 Dec.

Common Coot *Fulica atra* C B

Pairs in suitable breeding habitat included Auchincross (2 – b/5, b/1 noted), Kay Park (b/2 noted), Irvine Beach Park (b/1 noted), Glengarnock pool, Garnock Floods, Capringstone, East Holmes.

Counts included: 7 Shewalton 25 Jan, 7 Mar, 12 Cronberry 3 Mar, 11 Trabboch L 3 Mar, 31 Kay Park 17 Aug, 60+ Auchincross 26 Aug, 15 on 4 Nov, 16 Martnaham L 6 Dec.

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* C B

At least 19 pairs were present at 14 sites.

Site	Result	Site	Result
Auchenharvie pond	pr	Garnock Floods	pr
Auchincross	3 prs – b/2, 2 x b/1 noted	Garnock lagoons	pr
Bargany	3 prs – b/4, b/2 noted	Glenbuck	pr
Blairquhan Approach L	pr	Kirkbride Pond	pr
Capringstone	pr	Ladyton Loch	pr b/3
Culzean	pr	Lands of Turnberry	pr
East Holmes	pr b/1	Pinbraid	2 prs

Site	Counts at main sites
Hunterston lagoon	10 on 25 Feb, 4 Mar, 7 Sep, 39 on 25 Nov.
Auchenharvie pond	2 on 12 Jan, 1 on 7 Mar, 15 Dec.
Bogside	10 on 5 Sep.
Pow Burn	6 on 27 Jan, 10 on 26 Feb.
Auchincross	23 on 6 Aug, 44 on 26 Aug, 33 on 17 Oct, 15 on 4 Nov.
Martnaham Loch	2 on 15 Jan, 2 on 20 Mar, 5 on 26 Dec.
Doonfoot	3 on 25 Jan, 1 on 22 Feb, 2 on 10 Dec.

Culzean	12 on 31 Dec.
Maidens	5 on 19 Jan, 2 on 13 Feb, 2 on 15 Mar, 3 on 3 Nov, 4 on 1 Dec.
Elsewhere	5 Bogton L 2 Jan, 2 Cronberry 3 Mar, 1 Monkcastle 28 Mar, 1 Blairbowie 8 Oct, 16 Fairlie Bay 3 Nov, 4 Shewalton 19 Dec.

Red-necked Grebe *Podiceps grisegena* U W

The returning individual was present between at Bracken Bay from 1-24 Jan, and also from 1-11 Dec, perhaps same at Newton shore on 13 Nov, and from 11-13 Dec (HF/DGi et al), 1 Hunterston 21 Oct (DGr).

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus* C b p

Results from breeding sites:

Site	Result
Kilbirnie Loch	1 on 2 May.
Eglinton CP	1 on 22 Sep.
Tarryholme	pr b/2.
Shewalton	2 on 26 Mar – no breeding reported.
Martnaham Loch	6 on 30 Mar – no breeding reported.

Winter-spring counts included 4 Stevenston Pt 27 Jan, 1 returned Martnaham L 5 Feb, 4 on 12 Feb, 1 Darnconner quarry 3 Mar.

Autumn counts included 1 Bogside 31 Oct, 2 Stevenston Pt 11 Nov, 1 Hunterston-Fairlie 17 Nov-29 Dec, 1 Martnaham L 31 Dec.

Slavonian Grebe *Podiceps auritus* U W

Another poor year, with only 1 record: 1 Ardrossan-Stevenston Pt 16-20 Jan (BT/RHH).

Eurasian Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus* C B W P

Breeding pairs or pairs in suitable breeding habitat included: Hawking Craig, Little Brigurd, Knowes Farm, Girdle Toll, Crookedholm, Sandyford, Dumfries House, Brunston Castle Dailly, Dunure, Girvan water treatment plant, Ardneil Bay, Finnarts Bay.

Early arrival back inland from 10 Feb when 13 Kilbirnie L, 5 Auchincross 22 Feb.

Winter-Spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	338 on 13 Jan, 120 on 3 Feb, 68 on 4 Mar, 40 on 8, 16 Apr, 60 on 8 May.
Ardrossan-Stevenston	83 on 2 Jan, 100+ on 5 Feb, 29 on 25 Mar, 26 on 1 May.
Bogside-Irvine harbour	40 on 19 Jan, 34 on 17 Feb, 41 on 21 Mar.
Barassie-Troon	52+ on 4 Jan, 35 on 5 Mar, 23 on 2. 30 Apr, 14 on 8 Jun.
Doonfoot	150 on 8 Jan, 35 on 22 Feb, 11 on 12 Apr, 23 on 7 Jun.
Maidens	23 on 10 Feb, 28 on 30 Mar, 16 on 3 Apr.
Turnberry-Dipple	24 on 1 Apr.
Elsewhere	111 Ballantrae 27 Jan, 131 Laighdykes playing fields 3 Feb, 40 Martnaham L 6 Mar.

Autumn-Winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	43 on 29 Jun, 47 on 21 Jul, 167 on 4 Aug, 250 on 16 Sep, 300 on 1 Oct, 384 on 28 Nov, 200+ on 13, 30 Dec.
Ardrossan-Stevenston	20 on 4 Aug, 60+ on 16 Sep, 50 on 30 Oct, 27 on 15 Dec.
Bogside-Irvine harbour	25 on 19 Aug, 112 on 2 Sep, 20 on 7 Nov, 50 on 29 Dec.
Barassie-Troon	57 on 30 Jul, 60+ on 31 Aug, 241 on 30 Sep, 269 on 29 Oct, 258 on 11 Nov.
Doonfoot	50 on 27 Jul, 39 on 14 Aug, 25 on 23 Sep, 54 on 16 Nov, 35 on 11 Dec.
Maidens	15 on 27 Jul.
Turnberry-Dipple	76 on 17 Sep, 88 on 16 Oct, 50 on 21 Nov, 44 on 19 Dec.
Elsewhere	26 Loans 18 Dec.

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola* U w P

Counts at main sites	
Bogside-Stevenston Pt	1 on 5 Sep, 16 Oct-4 Nov, 1 on 23 Nov.
Troon-Prestwick	1 on 1-14 Jan, 30 Apr, 2 on 18 Aug, 1 on 2 Dec.
Maidens-Turnberry Bay	1 on 11 Jan-28 Feb, 7 on 12 Oct, 5 on 25 Oct, 2 on 10 Nov, 1 on 16 Dec.
Elsewhere	1 Ballantrae 16 Jan.

European Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria* C B w P

No breeding reports.

Counts at main sites	
Barassie-Troon-Meikle Craigs	89 on 2 Jan, 80 on 28 Feb, 40 on 19 Apr, 12 on 3 Aug, 21 on 30 Aug, 190 on 6 Nov, 87 on 2 Dec.
Fail	8 on 15 Feb, 29 on 18 Mar, 160 on 13 Apr.
Elsewhere	4 Kaim Hill 15 Jan, 70 Seamill 22 Apr, 85 High Glenmuir 16 Nov.

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula* C B W P

Breeding pairs or pairs in suitable breeding habitat included: Stevenston Pt, Glenbuck, Croy Bay, Girvan harbour, Ardwell, Pinbain, Ballantrae.

Winter-Spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	53 on 10 Apr.
Ardrossan-Stevenston	30 on 2, 28 Jan, 8 Apr, 47 on 1 May, 22 on 24 May.
Barassie-Troon	38 on 2 Jan, 42 on 30 Apr, 3 on 6 Jun.
Doonfoor	50 on 10 Jan, 23 on 27 Feb, 4 on 12 Apr.
Maidens	20 on 4 Jan, 33 on 17 Apr, 22 on 19 May.
Turnberry-Dipple	18 on 15 Mar, 32 on 1 Apr.
Elsewhere	28 Ballantrae 16 Jan.

Autumn-Winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	50 on 23 Aug, 200 on 16 Sep.
Ardrossan-Stevenston	22 on 21 Jul, 20 on 4 Aug, 58 on 28 Aug, 50+ on 3 Sep, 72 on 1 Oct, 50 on 13 Dec.
Barassie-Troon	20 on 25 Jul, 73 on 19 Aug, 166 on 23 Aug, 41 on 7 Sep.
Pow Burn-Meikle Craigs	50 on 11 Aug.
Doonfoot	45 on 22 Aug, 15 on 10 Dec.
Maidens	49 on 14 Aug, 170 on 28 Aug, 190+ on 2 Sep, 70+ on 29 Sep, 50 on 22 Oct.
Turnberry-Dipple	59 on 17 Sep, 88 on 16 Oct, 150 on 26 Dec.
Elsewhere	40 Maryborough Rd, Prestwick 1 Sep, 25 Seamill-Hunterston 16 Sep, 126 Largs 17 Nov, 52 Ballantrae 29 Nov, 14 Girvan 16 Dec.

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius* R P

Breeding: 2 were present at a Central Ayrshire site on 6 Apr, 3 on 8 Apr. Copulation was noted on 23 Apr, but no young were reported. Another pr appeared at nearby site on 15 Apr, but no outcome was recorded. Two other sites had single birds present, with no breeding.

Spring arrival was from 6 Apr, 3 Fail 12 Apr, 2 Kilbirnie L 22 May, 1 L o' the Lowes 28 May, 2 on 2 Jun. The only Autumn record involved 1 at Mossdown on 11 Jul.

Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* C B W P

Very few breeding reports: 3 prs Fail – b/3 + 2 prs incubating 5 May, ♂/2 ♀♀ Blairbowie 3 Apr – no breeding.

Winter-Spring	Counts at main sites
Bogside-Garnock Floods	5 on 7 Jun.
Capringstone	34 on 12 Feb, 77 on 2 Mar, 4 on 23 May.
Dundonald Camp	4 on 11 Jun.
Fail	170 on 13 Jan, 103 on 26 Feb, 145 on 4 Mar, 10 on 13 Apr.
Blairbowie	11 on 30 Jan, 22 on 25 Feb, 8 on 21 Mar.
Elsewhere	11 Killoch 20 Jan, 21 Darnhay 23 Jan, 27 on 25 Feb, 25 Turnberry Bay 23 Jan, 33 Maidens 6 Feb.

Autumn-Winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	2 on 29 Jun, 40 on 7 Sep.
Bogside-Garnock Floods	30 on 15 Jun, 51 on 22 Jun, 237 on 15 Aug, 224 on 11 Sep, 197 on 4 Nov.
Capringstone	12 on 19 Jun, 25 on 15 Aug, 94 on 9 Nov.
Dundonald Camp	25 on 7 Jul, 38 on 31 Aug, 65 on 20 Sep, 13 on 25 Oct.
Fail	73 on 9 Aug, 32 on 30 Sep, 200 on 31 Oct, 15 Nov, 230 on 29 Dec.
Martnaham Loch	35 on 16 Dec.
Doonfoot	7 on 29 Jul.
Blairbowie	21 on 8 Oct, 49 on 16 Nov, 133 on 13 Dec.
Elsewhere	75 Barmuir 31 Aug, 45 Auchincross 6 Nov, 20 Ballantrae 29 Nov.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* C P

The first spring records involved 1 at Troon on 27 Mar, followed by another at Troon on 14 Apr and 1 at Ayr 17 Apr.

Spring Passage	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	3 on 21 Apr, 28 on 25 Apr, 1 on 26 Apr, 20 on 28 Apr, 13 on 30 Apr, 4 on 1 May, 1 on 10-14, 31 May.
Saltcoats-Stevenston	1 on 19 Apr, 10 on 28 Apr, 3 on 29 Apr, 1 on 2 May, 2 on 7 May, 1 on 14 May.
Bogside-Irvine harbour	2 on 20 Apr.
Barassie-Troon-Meikle Craigs	3 on 19, 22 Apr, 2 on 24, 25, 27 Apr, 1 on 30 Apr, 3 May, 2 on 16 May.
Martnaham Loch	7 on 20 Apr, 1 on 25 Apr, 6 on 29 Apr.
Doonfoot-Bracken Bay	2 on 19 Apr, 1 on 23 Apr, 7 May.

Dunure	1 on 22 Apr, 7 on 24 Apr, 2 on 25 Apr, 3 on 30 Apr.
Culzean Bay	3 on 27 Apr, 14 on 28 Apr, 11 on 1 May, 14 on 3 May.
Maidens	3 on 4 May, 1 on 11, 18 May.
Turnberry Bay	5 on 19, 26 Apr.
Elsewhere	23 Kilbirnie L 24 Apr, 30 on 25 Apr, 4 Lendalfoot 30 Apr, 5 on 2 May, 2 Pow Burn 1 May, 9 on 3 May, 7 Bower Hill 2 May.

Autumn passage	Counts at main sites
Hunterston-Fairlie	2 on 16 Sep.
Bogside-Irvine harbour	2 on 12 Jul, 7 on 23 Aug.
Barassie-Troon- Meikle Craigs	1 on 3, 29 Jul, 2 on 11 Aug.
Elsewhere	1 Turnberry Pt 1, 6 Jul, 1 Maidens 3, 15 Jul, 1 Stevenston Pt 18 Jul, 1 Doonfoot 22 Jul, 1 Balkenna 25 Jul, 9 Aug, 1 Heads of Ayr 14 Aug, 1 Fail 1 Sep.



Whimbrel at Lendalfoot (*Angus Hogg*)

Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata* C B W P

Breeding pairs or territorial ♂♂ included: Clauchanton Hill (2 prs), Hurlford (2+), Caaf Res, Loudoun Hill, Darnhay, Carrick Hills, Beoch Farm, Brockloch Maybole, Duhorn Hill, Large Knowe, Auchinclery.

Returned inland by 22 Feb when 4 at Auchincross, 31 on 5 Mar.

Winter-Spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	300 on 14, 21 Jan, 120 on 3 Feb, 130 on 10 Mar, 309 on 9 Apr.
Saltcoats-Stevenston	75 on 30 Jan, 94 on 8 Feb.
Bogside-Irvine harbour	30 on 19 Jan, 97 on 17 Feb, 43 on 21 Mar.
Barassie-Troon	32 on 7 Jan, 16 on 5 Mar.
Loans	140 on 16 Jan, 107 on 18 Feb.
Pow Burn	51 on 4 Jan, 35 on 9 Feb, 8 on 21 Mar.
Doonfoot-Bracken Bay	95 on 24 Jan, 11 on 22 Feb.
Maidens	42 on 17 Feb, 4 on 26 Mar.
Ballantrae	130 on 9 Mar.
Elsewhere	13 Martnaham L 24 Feb, 48 on 7 Mar, 20 Dundonald Camp 23 Mar.

Autumn-Winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	16 on 26 Jun, 28 on 21 Jul, 120 on 4 Aug, 290 on 30 Sep, 235 on 15 Oct, 142 on 21 Nov, 250 on 2, 4 Dec.
Saltcoats-Stevenston	35 on 21 Nov, 25 on 15 Dec.
Bogside-Irvine harbour	20 on 14 Jul, 105 on 30 Sep, 25 on 29 Dec.
Dundonald Camp	38 on 7 Jul.
Loans	96 on 18 Dec.
Doonfoot-Bracken Bay	30 on 14 Aug, 12 on 16 Oct, 5 on 16 Nov.
Maidens	14 on 10 Jul, 60 on 27 Jul.
Turnberry-Dipple	28 on 21 Nov, 35 on 19 Dec.
Elsewhere	62 Portencross 27 Oct.

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* C W P

Winter-Spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston-Fairlie	50+ on 3 Jan, 35 on 21 Jan.
Barassie-Troon	7 on 2 Jan, 10 Feb, 22 Mar, 9 on 5-11 Jan, 8 on 30 Jan-27 Feb, 6 on 17 Apr, 2 on 24 Apr, 1 until 11 Jun.
Maidens-Turnberry Bay	13 on 19 Apr.
Elsewhere	1 Pow Burn 16 Jan, 16 Feb, 2 Stevenston Pt 8 Apr.

Autumn-Winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston-Fairlie	6 on 28 Aug, 5 on 3 Sep, 2 on 16 Sep, 4 on 15 Oct, 7 on 17 Nov, 6 on 13 Dec.
Barassie-Troon	1 on 24 Jul, 2 on 20 Aug, 4 on 27 Aug, 7 on 4 Sep, 13 on 17 Sep, 7 on 22 Sep, 30 Oct, 9 on 9-25 Nov, 14 on 1 Dec, 18 on 18 Dec.
Doonfoot	4 on 16 Sep, 7 on 22 Sep, 2 on 26 Sep, 16 Nov, 11 Dec, 4 on 6 Dec.
Maidens	4 on 14 Aug, 5 on 25 Aug, 1 on 2 Sep, 3 Oct-10 Nov, 2 on 1-31 Dec.
Elsewhere	1 Bogside 4 Sep, 2 on 30 Sep, 6 Nov, 5 on 4 Nov, 1 Pow Burn 15 Sep, 24 Oct, 3 on 3 Nov, 2 on 15 Nov, 2 Turnberry Bay 17 Sep, 2 Fail 15 Nov.

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa* C w P

Winter-Spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston-Fairlie	6 on 17 Jan, 1 on 28 Jan, 29 Mar, 30 Apr, 39 on 28 Apr.
Bogside-Garnock Floods	2 on 8 Mar, 4 on 1 Jun.
Pow Burn	2 on 17-20 Jan, 1 until 10 Mar.
Elsewhere	1 Auchenharvie pond 3-6 Jan, 1 Loans 6 Jan, 1 Monkton 28 Jan, 1 East Holmes 24 Mar, 6 Barassie 23 Apr, 1 Kilbirnie L 25 Apr, 1 Auchincross 1-6 May.

Autumn-Winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston-Fairlie	2 on 3-23 Sep, 4 on 16 Sep, 3 on 1 Oct, 2 on 15 Oct, 1 on 17 Nov.
Bogside-Garnock Floods	1 on 3, 18 Aug, 2, 5, 22 Sep, 18 Nov.
Barassie-Troon-Loans	1 on 24 Jun, 8 Jul.
Auchincross- L o' the Lowes	3 on 24 Jun, 1 on 28 Jun, 31 on 29 Jun, 49 on 4 Jul, 5 on 26 Jul.
Fail	8 on 11 Aug, 3 on 13-15 Aug, 2 on 16-22 Aug, 1 on 24 Aug, 19 Sep, 31 Oct.
Pow Burn	1 on 30 Jul-11 Aug, 15 Sep.
Doonfoot	1 on 20 Jul, 3 Aug, 4 on 22 Jul, 20 on 31 Jul, 1 on 16 Oct.
Maidens	27 on 4 Jul, 1 on 7, 15 Jul, 13, 22, 28 Aug, 28 Sep, 3 on 23 Aug.
Elsewhere	8 Prestwick 4 Jul, 2 on 1 Sep, 3 Martnaham L 15 Jul, 11 Mossblown 22 Aug, 1 Stevenston Pt 23 Nov.

Jack Snipe *Lymnocyptes minimus* C w P

In the winter-spring period: singles Dundonald Camp 2 Jan, Doonfoot 10 Jan-2 Mar, Trabboch L 13 Jan, 2 Prestwick GC 20 Jan, 2 Northcraig Res 28 Jan, 4 Stevenston LNR 29 Jan.

In autumn: 1 Auchincross 4 Nov, 3 Gypsy Pool 10 Nov, singles Pow Burn 29 Nov, 3 Dec, Doonfoot 30 Nov, 10 Dec, Auchenharvie pond 1 Dec, Shewalton Wood 1 Dec, Trabboch L 3 Dec, Hunterston Sands 5 Dec, Stevenston LNR 15 Dec.

Eurasian Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola* C B W P

Records from potential breeding sites included singles at Martnaham, Daisy Wood and Bogside.

Counts and migrants – spring: singles Southannan Sands 2 Jan, E of Kilbirnie 10 Jan, Glen App 13 Jan, 2 Daisy Wood 17 Jan, 4 on 15 Feb, singles Tairlaw 17 Jan, Moss Mulloch 18 Jan, Glenburn Res 25 Jan, Montfode Dr Ardrossan 26 Jan, Ardmillan 30 Jan, 2, 16 Mar, Jan, Dumfries House 30 Jan, Cambusdoon 2 Feb, Fail 3 Feb, Martnaham L 5 Feb, 8 Mar, 2 St Phillans 20 Feb, singles Warrix 23 Feb, L Bradan 3 Mar, Misty Law 3 Mar, 2 Craigens Kirkoswald 3 Mar, 2 Craigdow 9 Mar, 1 Kilbirnie Place Bridge 17 Mar.

Counts and migrants – autumn: singles Dundonald Wood 1, 16 Nov, Shewalton Wood 12 Nov, 1, 3 Dec, Powgree Burn 22 Nov, Fairlie Moor 2 Dec, R Ayr Craigie 2 Dec, Ayr Gorge 8 Dec, Martnaham 16 Dec.

Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago* C B w P

Birds observed during the breeding season in known breeding areas included Gogo, Kilbirnie L, Ardeer, Garnock E, Garnock Floods, Bogside, Crook Moss, Barassie GC, Dundonald Camp, Auchencloigh, Benquhat, Knockshinnoch lagoons, Bogton L (N), Garpel Bridge, Craigmalloch, L Macaterick, Cairnadloch.

Counts and migrants: 8 Martnaham L 20 Jan, 20+ on 22 Mar, 13 Garnock Floods 25 Jan, 11 Hunterston Sands 26 Jan, 15 Stevenston LNR 29 Jan, 8 Kilbirnie L 10 Feb, 3 Darnhay 6 Mar, 5 East Holmes 6 Apr, 12 Fail 21 Aug, 12 Garnock Floods 17 Sep, 6 Martnaham L 9 Oct, 12 Pow Burn 17 Oct, 53 Gypsy Pool 10 Nov, 3 Doonfoot 18 Nov, 9 Stevenston LNR 15 Dec.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* C B S P

Territorial or breeding birds were recorded at Kilbirnie L, upper Garnock estuary, Hurlford, East Holmes, R Ayr Annbank, Martnaham L, Knockshinnoch lagoons, Greenock Water Bridge, R Ayr Muitkirk, Dumfries House, Afton Caravan Park, Afton dam, Penwhapple Res, N Croyburnfoot, L Bradan, L Doon dam, Garpel Bridge, L Riecawr, L Moan, Bargany.

First arrival was 1 at Lugar Water on 13 Apr, followed by singles at Auchincruive on 14 Apr, Martnaham L on 15 Apr and Saltcoats harbour on 19 Apr. Present over much of county by 20 Apr.

Autumn counts/departure: 5 Auchincross 12 Jul, 8 Pow Burn 12 Jul, 7 Martnaham L 15 Jul, 3 Maidens 27 Jul, 2 Bogside 22 Sep, with the last singles at Ayr on 1 Oct and Garnock Floods on 18 Oct.

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus* U w P

Spring records involved singles at Pow Burn 8 Jan-27 Mar, 2 on 16 Jan, Lugar Water Barony 16 Jan, Garnock estuary 25 Jan-1 Apr, Garrier Burn Springside 9 Feb-23 Mar, East Holmes 20-22 Apr.

Autumn records: singles High Glenmuir 7 Jul-4 Aug, Fail 16 Jul, another on 21 Aug, Pow Burn 25 Jul-30 Nov, Capringstone 7 Aug, another from 11 Sep-4 Nov, 2 Garnock estuary/Floods 25 Aug, 3 on 31 Aug, 1 till 3 Sep.

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* U P

3 in the autumn: 1 Mossblown 23 Jun (DGi), juv Fail 21-24 Aug (DGi), 1 Garnock Floods 31 Aug (GMcA).

Common Redshank *Tringa totanus* C b W P

Winter-Spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston-Fairlie	210 on 6 Jan, 106 on 25 Feb, 181 on 26 Mar, 107 on 8 Apr, 83 on 14 Apr.
Ardrossan-Saltcoats	27 on 2 Jan, 25 on 5 Feb, 62 on 23 Mar.
Bogside-Irvine harbour	30 on 19 Jan, 21 Mar.
Barassie-Troon	125 on 4 Jan, 43 on 5 Mar.
Pow Burn	100 on 8 Jan.
Doonfoot	121 on 25 Jan, 140 on 22 Feb, 124 on 30 Mar, 100 on 4 Apr, 46 on 12 Apr.
Maidens	144 on 14 Jan, 110 on 2 Feb, 104 on 26 Mar, 76 on 1 Apr.

Autumn-Winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston-Fairlie	60 on 31 Aug, 114 on 23 Sep, 169 on 1 Oct, 140 on 27 Nov, 92 on 13 Dec.
Ardrossan-Saltcoats	70 on 1 Oct, 30+ on 21 Nov, 22 on 7 Dec.
Bogside-Irvine harbour	30 on 14 Jul, 60 on 18 Aug, 30 on 22 Sep, 136 on 30 Sep, 30 on 29 Dec.
Barassie-Troon	22 on 29 Jul, 20 on 15 Oct, 66 on 9 Nov.
Doonfoot	38 on 23 Sep, 35 on 16 Oct, 70 on 16 Nov, 92 on 11, 24 Dec.
Maidens	44 on 11 Jul, 39 on 2 Sep, 74 on 20 Nov, 79 on 31 Dec.
Elsewhere	2 Lendalfoot 20 Jun, 47 Girvan 16 Dec.

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus* U w P

Only one autumn record – 1 at Bogside on 3 Oct (HF).

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* C W P

Winter-Spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	5 on 2-18 Jan, 17 on 23 Jan, 16 on 11 Feb, 15+ on 23 Mar, 4 on 8 Apr, 1 on 28 Apr.
Bogside-Capringstone	4 on 16 Jan, 10 on 23 Feb, 8 on 8 Mar, 2 on 1 Apr.
Pow Burn	1 on 4 Jan-7 Mar.
Elsewhere	2 Barassie 29 Mar, 1 East Holmes 23 Apr.



Common Greenshank at Fairlie (*Angus Hogg*)

Autumn-Winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	2 on 23 Aug, 4 on 29 Aug, 12 on 16 Sep, 16 on 21 Oct, 19 on 25 Nov, 23 on 13 Dec.
Bogside	1 on 19 Jul, 8 on 23 Aug, 10 on 15 Sep, 8 on 31 Oct-27 Nov, 12 on 30 Nov, 13 on 13 Dec.
Pow Burn	1 on 13 Jul, 2 on 9 Aug-12 Sep, 3 on 4 Sep-15 Nov, 2 on 17 Nov-14 Dec.
Doonfoot-Heads of Ayr	1 on 20 Jul, 14-17 Aug, 29 Oct, 2 Dec, 2 on 6 Dec.
Elsewhere	1 Fail 12 Jul-7 Aug, 2 on 1 Aug, 3 on 15 Nov, 1 Maidens 21 Jul, 23 Aug, 1 Martnaham L 24 Jul, 1 Auchincross 27 Jul, 3 Balkenna 9 Aug, 2 Stevenston Pt 24 Nov, 1 Loans 18 Dec.

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* C W s P

Winter-Spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	7 on 6 Jan, 12 on 5 Feb, 19 on 24 Mar.
Saltcoats	12 on 13 Jan, 10 on 5 Feb, 12+ on 23 Mar, 30 on 19 Apr.
Stevenston Point	8 on 2 Jan, 10 on 8 Feb, 10 on 29 Apr.
Bogside-Irvine harbour	16 on 19 Jan, 15 on 12 Feb.
Barassie-Troon	36 on 4 Jan, 64 on 19 Feb, 52 on 18 Mar, 60+ on 10 Apr, 14 on 30 Apr, 4 on 6 Jun.
Doonfoot	20 on 6 Jan, 44 on 22 Feb, 32 on 26 Mar, 30 on 4 Apr.

Maidens	15 on 10 Feb.
Elsewhere	6 Girvan 26 Jan, 15+ Largs on 25 Feb, 40+ on 4 Mar, 15 Prestwick beach 8 Mar, 12 Balkenna 1 Apr, 15 Dipple 9 Apr.

Autumn-Winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston	8 on 23 Sep, 11 on 1 Oct, 22 on 16 Nov, 8 on 13 Dec.
Saltcoats	1 on 21 Jul, 8 on 4 Aug, 13 on 28 Aug, 32 on 1 Oct.
Stevenston Point	6 on 25 Aug, 16 Sep, 10 on 30 Oct.
Bogside-Irvine harbour	13 on 2 Sep, 20 on 16 Oct.
Barassie-Troon	10 on 25 Jul, 15 on 31 Aug, 90 on 29 Oct.
Doonfoot	10 on 15 Aug, 8 on 23 Sep, 38 on 16 Oct, 19 on 16 Nov, 26 Dec.
Maidens	6 on 10 Dec.
Elsewhere	16 Girvan 16 Aug, 10 on 16 Dec, 30 Maryborough Rd Prestwick 1 Sep, 24 Turnberry-Dipple 16 Oct, 15 on 21 Nov, 30 Prestwick beach 5 Nov, 12 Largs 4 Dec.

Red Knot *Calidris canutus* C W P

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston	9 on 15 Jan, 1 on 26 Jan, 7 on 23 -28 Aug, 9 on 3 Sep, 17 on 21 Oct, 8 on 16 Nov, 11 on 13 Dec.
Saltcoats-Stevenston	2 on 27 Jul, 4 on 5 Sep, 3 on 6 Dec.
Bogside-Irvine harbour	9 on 23 Aug, 13 on 5 Sep, 16 on 15 Sep, 6 on 31 Oct.
Barassie-Troon	93 on 7 Jan, 12 on 12 Mar, 1 on 15 Apr, 11 Jun, 4 on 25 Jul, 22 on 3 Aug, 8 on 23 Aug, 12 on 6 Sep, 22 on 19 Sep, 23 on 29 Oct, 37 on 30 Oct, 29 on 6 Nov, 45 on 30 Nov, 39 on 12 Dec.
Doonfoot-Ayr	7 on 22 Feb, 4 on 1 Aug.
Maidens-Turnberry Point	7 on 20 Aug, 22 on 22 Aug, 3 on 9 Oct.
Elsewhere	25 Dunure 25 Aug, 9 Turnberry-Dipple 17 Sep.

Ruff *Calidris pugnax* U P

Only one spring record: 15 Fail 4-6 May.

A strong autumn passage with 1 Garnock Floods 2 Aug, 2 Fail 7 Aug, 7 on 8 Aug, 13 on 9 Aug, 2-4 on 10-18 Aug, 7 on 19 Aug, 10 on 21-22 Aug, 14 on 25-26 Aug, 17 on 27 Aug, 20 on 30 Aug, 17-19 until 3 Sep, 11 on 4 Sep, 5 on 7-10 Sep, 1-2 until 11 Oct, 1 on 1 Nov, 2 Stevenston Pt 8 Sep, 1 Dalmaca 4 Oct.

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea* U P

Very few autumn records involving 4 individuals: ad Meikle Craigs-Pow Burn 5-6 Aug (HF et al), juv Maidens 8 Sep (RHH), juv Barassie-Troon 16-17 Sep (BDK et al), 1 Barassie 24 Sep (BDK).



Curlew Sandpiper at Pow Burn (*Dougie Edmond*)

Sanderling *Calidris alba* C w P

Counts at main sites	
Hunterston-Fairlie	2 on 15 Jan, 26 on 15 Feb, 4 on 21 Oct.
Stevenston	108 on 2 Jan, 69 on 8 Feb, 172 on 31 Mar, 80 on 9 Apr, 1 on 24 May, 28 on 28 Jul, 60+ on 28 Aug, 120 on 3 Sep, 144 on 30 Sep, 123 on 12 Oct, 190 on 24 Nov, 85 on 26 Dec.
Barassie-Troon	60 on 7 Mar, 14 on 30 Apr, 50 on 30 May, 15 on 18 Jun, 12 on 25 Jul, 21 on 7 Sep, 2 on 27 Oct, 9 on 28 Nov, 56 on 2 Dec.
Meikle Craigs	50 on 11 Aug, 27 on 24 Aug.
Pow Burn	7 on 9 Feb, 22 on 17 Nov, 50+ on 6 Dec.
Doonfoot	2 on 20 Jul, 13 on 14 Aug.
Maidens	1 on 7 Jan-7 Feb, 2 on 17 Feb, 2 on 15 Jul, 3 on 14 Aug, 20+ on 22 Aug, 7 on 8 Sep.
Balkenna-Dipple	44 on 19 May.
Elsewhere	5 Saltcoats 17 Jan, 20 on 19 Apr, 100+ Bogside 29 Apr, 2 on 23 Aug, 25 Maryborough Rd Prestwick 1 Sep.

Dunlin *Calidris alpina* C b W P

No breeding reports.

Winter-Spring	Counts at main sites
Hunterston-Fairlie	51 on 19 Jan, 150 on 25 Feb.
Saltcoats-Stevenston	60 on 17 Jan, 30 on 5 Feb, 50+ on 8 Apr, 15 on 24 May.
Barassie-Troon	84 on 18 Jan, 35 on 30 Apr, 3 on 5 Jun.
Doonfoot	20+ on 10 Jan.
Maidens	161 on 7 Jan, 185 on 3 Feb.
Dipple-Balkenna	105 on 23 Jan, 24 on 15 Mar.
Elsewhere	80 Largs 25 Jan, 25 on 25 Feb, 30 Seamill 25 Feb.

Autumn-Winter	Counts at main sites
Hunterston-Fairlie	2 on 7 Jul, 10 on 28 Aug, 75 on 21 Oct, 120 on 5 Nov, 400+ on 21 Nov, 450 on 4 Dec.
Saltcoats-Stevenston	35 on 3 Sep, 20 on 30 Oct, 100+ on 27 Nov, 238 on 13 Dec.
Bogside	43 on 15 Sep, 105 on 4 Nov.
Barassie-Troon	19 on 25 Jul, 27 on 26 Sep, 137 on 27 Oct, 372 on 25 Nov, 297 on 4 Dec.
Meikle Craigs	122 on 10 Nov.
Doonfoot	6 on 20 Jul.
Maidens	31 on 11 Jul, 100 on 15 Jul, 65 on 28 Aug, 70 on 2 Sep, 20+ on 31 Dec.
Dipple-Balkenna	42 on 16 Oct, 50 on 21 Nov, 160 on 26 Dec.
Elsewhere	2 ads/2 juvs Martnaham L 15 Jul, 1 Fail 9 Aug, 8 on 25 Aug, 2 on 27 Aug, 3 on 4 Oct, 2 until 9 Nov, 1 on 21 Nov, 28 Dec, 5 Auchincross 22 Aug, 18 Ballantrae 29 Nov, 300 Largs 11 Dec, 24 Girvan 16 Dec.

Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima* C W P

Counts at main sites	
Seamill	12 on 2-4 Jan.
Saltcoats	12 on 15 Jan, 8 on 11 Feb, 9 on 23 Mar, 10 on 8 Apr, 2 on 28 Oct, 10 on 13 Dec.
Stevenston	2 on 28 Jan, 11 on 8 Feb, 9 on 5 Apr, 6 on 26 Apr, 1 on 2 May, 3 on 29 Oct, 2 on 19 Dec.
Barassie-Troon	9 on 4-22 Jan, 5 on 13 Feb, 7 on 1 Mar, 22 on 17 Apr, 14 on 26 Apr, 4 on 30 Apr, 2 on 29 Oct, 15 on 13 Nov, 10 on 12 Dec.
Ayr harbour	2 on 15 Jan, 8 on 27 Nov.
Turnberry Point	3 on 21 Nov, 4 on 26 Dec.
Ballantrae	5 on 16 Jan, 10 on 7 Apr, 1 on 24 Apr, 9 on 29 Nov,

Elsewhere	1 R Irvine mouth 12 Feb, 10 Dipple 9 Apr, 1 Hunterston 17 Nov, 3 Black Neuk 29 Nov, 2 Maidens 10 Dec.
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Little Stint *Calidris minuta* U P

Another poor autumn with only 5 individuals observed: 2 Bogside 3 Sep (GM), 1 Doonfoot 11 Sep (AMc), another on 18-22 Sep (HF et al), 1 Pow Burn 17 Nov (RL).



Little Stint at Doonfoot (*Dougie Edmond*)

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea* C B S P

30+ were present on Meikle Craigs 30 May, but no breeding was recorded.

Arrival was from 22 Apr when 1 was off Dunure. Other spring records involved 12 Meikle Craigs 15 May, 15 on 30 May, and 1 Saltcoats 17 May.

In the autumn: 10 Stevenston Pt 20 Jun, 4 on 24 Jul, 10 Meikle Craigs 27 Jul, 5 Aug, 12 Turnberry Bay 27 Jul, juv Maidens 12 Aug, 2 Craig Tara 12 Aug, 1 Barassie 30 Aug, with the last being 1 at Troon 20 Sep and 2 at Maidens on 28 Sep.

Little Tern *Sterna albifrons* U (b) S p

Only 2 records: 1 Stevenston Pt 14 May (TB), 3 Meikle Craigs 4-5 Aug (DR/PW et al).



Little Tern at Meikle Craigs (*Dougie Edmond*)

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo* C B S P

Spring records: 1 Martnaham L 29 Apr, 4 Irvine harbour 4 May.

In the autumn: 2 Troon 24 Jun, 4 Meikle Craigs 5 Jul, 1 till 18 Jul, 6 Stevenston Pt 24 Jul, 4 on 25 Jul, 3 Ardrossan-Brodick ferry 12 Aug, singles Craig Tara-Greenan 15 Aug, Barassie 19 Aug, Irvine harbour 2 Sep, with last of autumn at Doonfoot on 16 Sep.

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

No breeding reported.

Arrival was from 16 Mar when 1 was at Prestwick, followed by 4 at Maidens, 2 at Southannan Sands and 1 at Turnberry Pt on 23 Mar.

Site	Counts at main sites
Hunterston-Fairlie	4 on 2 Apr, 7 on 12 Apr, 9 on 19, 22 Apr, 26 on 4 Aug, 15 Sep, 50 on 16 Sep, 24 on 1 Oct.
Saltcoats-Stevenston Point	3 on 1 Apr, 5 on 8 Apr, 16 on 1 May, 23 on 30 Jun, 69 on 6 Jul, 90 on 29 Jul, 15 on 22 Sep, 3 on 12 Oct, 1 on 26 Oct.
Irvine-Bogside	30 on 20 Apr, 1 on 16 Oct.
Barassie-Pow Burn	16 on 8 Jun, 40 on 23 Jun, 99 on 29 Jun, 234 on 8 Jul, 250 on 3 Aug, 50 on 11 Aug, 42 on 3 Sep,
Ayr-Doonfoot	4 on 29 Apr, 11 Aug, 18 on 16 Sep, 15 on 1 Oct.
Dunure	22 on 22 Apr, 23 on 19 May, 19 on 8 Jul, 25 on 29 Aug
Maidens-Turnberry Bay	3 on 1 Apr, 4 on 9 Apr, 34 on 1 Jul, 50 on 8 Jul, 44 (inc only 1 juv) on 21 Jul, 11 on 3 Oct.
Elsewhere	5 Ballantrae 5 Apr, 11 on 15 Apr, 4 Seamill 6 Apr.

Little Gull *Hydrocoloeus minutus* U P

Only 4 records during the year.

In the winter-spring period: 3 ads flew N Newton shore 21 Apr (DGi).

In the autumn-winter period: 1 flew S Dunure on 21 Sep (HF), ad Noddsdale Burn mouth 11-13 Dec (MMcG), 1 Troon harbour 15 Dec (BDK).

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

No information was received from Ailsa Craig.

Counts at main sites	
Stevenston Point	12 on 6 Apr, 147 on 30 Jun, 47 on 2 Jul.
Troon	337 flew S/95 mins on 20 Sep.
Dunure	73 flew N on 1 Apr, 20 on 13 Jun.
Maidens	60 on 19 Jan, 103 flew S/hr on 22 Mar, 35 flew S/90 mins on 22 Aug, 207 flew S/2 hrs on 11 Oct. 230 offshore on 26 Oct, 120 on 3 Nov, 60+ on 20 Nov, 30 on 14 Dec.
Elsewhere	400 flew S Lendalfoot 25 Jan, 28 from Ardrossan-Brodick ferry 5 Jun, 32 on 8 Sep, 100 Ailsa Graig 6 Aug, 110 off Ballantrae 3 Nov, 20 Saltcoats 15 Dec.

Black-headed Gull *Croicocephalus ridibundus* C B W

The only breeding report came from Hunterston where 5 occupied nests on 22 Apr.

Peak Counts at main sites	
Hunterston-Fairlie	400 on 26 Jan, 100+ on 3, 5 Feb, 250 on 14 Feb, 230 on 17 Mar, 100 on 26 Mar, 130 on 14 Apr, 100+ on 25 May, 41 on 7 Jul, 50+ on 4 Aug, 76 on 13 Sep, 40+ on 1 Oct, 60+ on 3 Nov, 34 on 29 Dec.
Stevenston	200 on 17, 28 Jan, 320 on 8. 17 Feb, 90+ on 16 Sep, 100 on 21 Nov.
Bogside	25 on 18 Jan.
Barassie-Troon	84 on 18 Jan, 129 on 23 Aug, 41 on 30 Nov.
Elsewhere	50+ Girvan 26 Jan, 102 Capringstone 2 Feb, 126 on 2 Mar, 132 Auchendarvie pond 8 Feb, 50 East Holmes 25 Feb, 200 on 4 Mar. 80 Fail 11 Mar, 251 Martnaham L 19 Mar, 26 L Doon 15 Jun, 50 Maidens 25 Jul, 60 Girvan 16 Aug, 172 Turnberry-Dipple 17 Sep, 111 on 21 Nov, 120 East Holmes 31 Oct.

Mediterranean Gull *Ichthyaetus melanocephalus* R P

In the winter-spring period: 1st w Barassie-Loans 2-11 Jan, ad on 22 Jan, ad Kilmarnock 14 Jan, 1st w Chapeldonan 16 Jan, ad Doonfoot-Craig Tara 24 Jan-2 Feb, 2 ads on 3 Feb, ad Kay Park 7, 20 Feb, 5 ads and 1st w Loans-Barassie 8-21 Feb, ad Shewalton 8 Feb, ad Capringstone 20 Feb, ad Barassie-Troon 22 Feb, ad Pow Burn 26 Feb, 2 ads, 2nd s and 1st s Fail 11 Mar, 1st w Blairbowie 23 Mar, 1st s Hoodston Bridge 15 Apr, 1st s Stevenston Pt 17 Apr.

Counts at main sites	
Barassie-Prestwick (inc Meikle Craigs & Pow Burn)	1 on 18 Jun, 4 x 1 st s and 2 nd s on 23 Jun, 8 x 1 st s flew S/30 mins on 30 Jun, 3 x 1 st s flew S on 2 Jul, 2 ads and 2 nd s on 8 Jul, 4 ads on 9 Jul, 9 on 21 Jul, 16 on 26 Jul, 37 (inc 2 juvs) on 27 Jul, 38 on 5 Aug, 32 on 15 Aug, c50 on 4 Sep, 13 on 26 Oct, 9 on 3 Nov.
Doonfoot	2 nd w on 22 Sep, ad on 10 Dec.
Elsewhere	1 st s Stevenston Pt 21 Jun, ad on Pt 9 Jul, 22 Sep, 2 nd w on 18 Sep, 1 on 21 Oct 1 st s Dipple 6 Jul, 1 Girvan harbour 11 Jul, 1 st s Maidens 12-23 Jul, 2 nd s on 12 Aug, ad on 12- 30 Oct, ad Balkenna 25 Jul, 4 ads and 6 x 2 nd w Raith Res 22 Oct, ad and 2 nd w Fail 2-21 Nov, ad Noddsdale Water mouth 11-13 Dec, 1 Hunterston 30 Dec.

Common Gull *Larus canus* C B W

Breeding prs were reported from Auchincross (3 recently fledged juvs on 5 Jul), L Riecawr (3+ prs), L Dornal (min 1 pr), Kelly Res.

Counts: 250 Fail 2 Jan, 120 on 11 Mar, 500 on 1 Apr, 300 Hurlford 7 Jan, 903 Hunterston 13 Jan, 750 on 14 Feb, 310 Blairbowie 14 Jan, 250+ on 21 Mar, 300 East Holmes 4 Mar, 200 on 6-15 Apr, 1368 Martnaham L 19 Mar, 115 Turnberry-Dipple 17 Sep, 370 Fail 8 Oct, 567 on 16 Nov, 116 Hunterston 17 Nov, 130 Martnaham L 28 Dec

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus* C B W

No breeding reports.

Counts: 178 Stevenston Pt 2 Jan, 234 Auchenharvie pond 6 Jan, 60+ Girvan 19 Jan, 68 Fairlie 26 Jan, 223 Oldhall ponds 2 Feb, 182 on 14 Mar, 100+ Troon 5 Feb, 83 Bogside 17 Feb, 79 on 21 Mar, 50 Blairbowie 25 Feb, 50 East Holmes 4 Mar, 50 Fail 11 Mar, 73 Shewalton 26 Mar, 100 Fail 29 Apr, 513 Stevenston Pt 6 Jul, 126 on 25 Aug, 200 Maidens 11 Jul, 100 Ayr 27 Jul, 48 Girvan harbour 16 Aug, 158 Seamill 30 Aug, 72 Bogside 2 Sep, 90 Fairlie 16 Sep, 30 Turnberry-Dipple 17 Sep, 710 Fail 8 Oct, 130 Hunterston 14 Oct, 144 Auchenharvie pond 15 Dec, 291 Shewalton 19 Dec.

L. a. argentatus: ad Troon 3 Dec.

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

The only breeding record received involved a pair at Hunterston lagoon – no outcome recorded.

Counts: 14 Auchenharvie pond/GC 6 Jan, 25 on 8 Feb, 19 on 4 Apr, 21 Oldhall ponds 21-26 Feb, 10 Pow Burn 21 Mar, 23 Shewalton 26 Mar, 10 Doonfoot 4 Apr, 30 Ayr 27 Jul, 10 Stevenston Pt 1 Nov, 23 Auchenharvie pond 15 Dec, 37 Shewalton 19 Dec.

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

No breeding reports.

Spring arrival was from 15 Feb when 13 at Doonfoot. Numbers continued to rise, with 20 Martnaham L 24 Feb, 25 East Holmes 25 Feb, 50 Auchenharvie pond and 250 East Holmes 4 Mar, 70 Fail 11 Mar, and 100 Hunterston 26 Mar.

Other notable counts included 100 Fail 29 Apr and 141 Auchincross 20 May.

In the autumn: 150 Ayr Bay 27 Jul, 150 Flemyland 31 Jul, 100 East Mains to Tennox 31 Jul, 82 Bogside 2 Sep, 110 Blairbowie 8 Oct.

Wintering adults included: singles at Blairbowie 7 Jan, Auchenharvie GC 11 Jan, Hunterston 12-20 Jan, 3 on 28 Jan, Lendalfoot 17 Jan, Bogside 19 Jan, 3 Maidens 6 Feb, singles Troon 3 Dec, Ardrossan 13 Dec, Maidens 16 Dec, and 2 Turnberry-Dipple 19 Dec.

Iceland Gull *Larus glaucoides* U W P

Up to 6 individuals were seen during the year.

In winter-spring: ad Humeston-Croy 1-2 Feb (HF et al), imm Troon 2 Feb (PW), 1st w New Cumnock 11 Feb (DE), ad Blairbowie 15 Mar-13 Apr – possibly same as Humeston individual (RHH), 1st w Fail 6-9 Apr (DC), 1st s Newton shore-Pow Burn 30 Apr (DGi).

In the autumn-winter period: 1st w Hunterston 19 Nov-19 Dec (MMcG).

Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus* U S P

Spring arrival was at Dunure where 1 flew N on 10 Apr, with another flying N there on 13 Apr. These were followed by singles at Dipple 19 Apr, Irvine harbour mouth 23 Apr, Dunure 9, 16 May, Saltcoats 15, 16 May, 2 Stevenston Pt 16 May, 1 Troon 17 May, 3 Dunure 13 Jun.

Autumn records included singles Irvine harbour mouth 30 Jun, Maidens 16 Jul, Stevenston Pt 16 Jul, Dunure 19, 20, 28 Jul, Meikle Craigs 21 Jul, Maidens 24 Aug, Troon 20 Sep, 3 from Ardrossan-Brodick ferry 21 Sep, 2 Dunure 21 Sep, singles Troon 21 Sep, Dunure 25 Sep, and from Ardrossan-Brodick ferry 29 Sep.

Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus* U P

Spring migrants: 2 flew NE Stevenston Pt 11 May (DGi), 3 off Saltcoats harbour 16 May (DE), 1 Saltcoats 24 May (DE), 1 from Ardrossan-Brodick ferry 5 Jun (BDK).

Great Skua *Stercorarius skua* U S w P

The sole spring record was 1 Stevenston Pt 24 May.

Autumn Passage Counts	
Stevenston Pt	1 on 31 Jul.
Troon-Meikle Craigs	1 on 3 Aug, 1 on 27 Oct.
Dunure	1 on 14 Sep.
Maidens-Turnberry	1 on 1 Jul, 2 on 3 Oct.
Elsewhere	1 Ailsa Craig 6 Aug.

Atlantic Puffin *Fratercula arctica* U b S p

No reports received from Ailsa Craig.

Counts from mainland sites	
Saltcoats-Stevenston	1 on 14 May, 9 flew N 16 May, 3 on 24 May, 2 on 27 May.
Troon	1 on 14 Apr, 6 on 16 May, 3 flew S 17 May, 1 on 22 Nov.
Dunure	1 on 24 Apr, 3 on 9 May, 1 on 19 May, 2 on 13 Jun.
Maidens	2 flew S 25 Apr, 5 flew N 3 May.
Elsewhere	Present on Ailsa Craig 15 Apr, 1 Turnberry Pt 1 Jul.

Black Guillemot *Cepphus grylle* C B W p

Birds counted during breeding season at breeding (or probable breeding) sites from N Ayrshire southwards:

Fairlie (6), Hunterston (10), Portencross (3), Ardrossan harbour (24), Saltcoats harbour (6), Ayr harbour (28), Girvan

(4), Currarie Port (5), also present Ailsa Craig.

Other counts: 20 Ayr seafront 18 Jun, 12 Ardrossan harbour 22 Jul, 9 Oct, 12 Troon harbour 29 Jul, 10 Carleton Port 29 Oct, 9 Dipple 10 Nov, 25 Ballantrae 29 Nov, 42 Dipple-Chapeldonan 11 Dec.

Razorbill *Alca torda* C B w p

20 birds attending a breeding site S Ayr 10 Jun.

Site	Counts and passage
Maidens	10 on 25 Feb, 110 flew S/hr 22 Mar.
Elsewhere	45+ Ballantrae 25 Mar, 13 Stevenston Pt 31 Mar, 28 on 24 May, 102 Saltcoats 27 May, 68 from Ardrossan-Brodick ferry 21 Sep.

Little Auk *Alle alle* U W

Three winter reports involved 1 flying S at Dunure 6 Jan (HF), 1 flying S Troon 23 Nov (DGr), and 1 flying S Troon 24 Nov (BDK).

Common Guillemot *Uria aalge* C B w p

No report from breeding site on Ailsa Craig.

Site	Counts and passage
Ardrossan-Saltcoats	19 on 12 May, 18 on 18 Sep.
Troon	13 on 1 Oct.
Elsewhere	46 from Ardrossan-Brodick ferry 5 Jun, c500 on 8 Sep, 13 Turnberry Pt 1 Jul, 100+ Fairlie Roads 20 Aug.
Auk sp <i>Guillemot/Razorbill</i>	300 flew S/hr Troon 20 Sep, 160 flew S/2 hrs Maidens (c70% Razorbills) 3 Oct, 700 flew S/2 hrs on 11 Oct, 450 flew S/hr (60% Razorbills) on 23 Oct.

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	6	4	3						3	2	9	2
Ardrossan-Troon	10	14	11	5	8	1	4	3	6	27	18	17
Troon-Turnberry Point	17	10	6	10	5		2	6	20	24	14	17
Turnberry Point-Finnarts Bay	9	20		21	1	1	5	2		10	10	11

Highest counts/movements: 17 Prestwick Bay 20 Jan, 27 Dipple-Maidens 25 Feb, 21 Balkenna 1 Apr, 20 Maidens 2 Sep, 19 flew S/2 hrs 12 Oct, 27 Stevenston Pt 16 Oct, 17 on 11 Dec, 1 Martnaham L 22 Oct, 16 Irvine Bay 21 Nov.



Red-throated Diver at Martnaham Loch (*Dave Grant*)

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

Monthly Peaks	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Ardrossan-Troon		1			2				1			1
Troon-Turnberry Point	5		1	5	6					1		3
Turnberry Point-Finnarts Bay	7	12	3	10	2	1		1		11	16	4

Highest counts: 12 Ballantrae-Kennedy's Pass 25 Feb, 11 Dipple 25 Oct, 16 on 10 Nov.

Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer* C W P

Monthly Peaks	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Skelmorlie-Ardrossan						1						
Ardrossan-Troon	3			1	4				1	2	1	1
Troon-Turnberry Point	5	4	1		9							4
Turnberry Point-Finnarts Bay	24	87	3	52+	16					4	19	20

Winter-spring numbers remain high along the S Ayrshire coast: 87 Ballantrae-Dipple 25 Feb, 52+ Ballantrae-

Kennedy's Pass, plus 27 Ailsa Craig-Girvan 15 Apr.

European Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus* C FB S p

Five birds were trapped and ringed at Turnberry Pt on 5 Aug.

Counts	
Stevenston Pt	2 flew N 3 Jul.
Troon	4 on 2 Jul, 3 on 3 Jul, 1 flew N 16 Jul.
Dunure	singles flew N 1, 3 Aug, offshore on 13 Aug, 5 following trawler 23 Aug, 1 on 29 Aug, 1 flew S on 13 Oct.
Turnberry Pt-Maidens	singles flew N 14 Jun, offshore on 27 Jul, flew S 14, 22 Aug.
Elsewhere	2 flew S Prestwick 2 Jul, 3 on 3 Jul, 1 flew S Newton shore 3 Jul, 1 Ailsa Craig 11 Jul, 8 from Larne-Cairnryan ferry 6 Sep.

Leach's Storm Petrel *Hydrobates leucorhous* U P

The year's only record was 1 flying S at Maidens on 11 Oct (RHH).

Northern Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis* C B P

Still present as a breeding species Ailsa Craig, but doubtful if any breeding birds remain on the Ayrshire mainland. 10 at Dunure cliffs 23 Mar, 2 at Currarie Port 10 Jun, 2 at Culzean Castle 14 Jun, and 4 at Bennane Head on 15 Jun, but no indication of successful breeding.

No large passage or offshore counts, with the highest numbers being 7 flying S/hr Maidens 25 Jan, 2 Stevenston Pt 1 Jul, and 3 Turnberry Pt 1 Jul.

Sooty Shearwater *Ardenna grisea* U P

Only two records: 1 off Stevenston Pt 16 Jul (DE), and 1 seen from Cairnryan-Belfast ferry in L Ryan 25 Aug (BD).

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus* C S P

The first spring record was 1 flying N Dunure 26 Mar, followed by a further 9 on 30 Mar.

Site	Counts at main sites
Saltcoats-Stevenston	40 on 17 Apr, 123 on 27 May, 1000+ on 20 Jun, 529 on 1 Jul, 1803 on 16 Jul, 2741 on 29 Jul, 30 on 18 Sep, 3 on 29 Sep.
Troon	39 on 6 Apr, 507 flew S/hr 3 Jul, 3300 on 29 Jul, 136 on 20 Sep, a very late individual on 22 Nov.
Dunure	42 on 9 Apr, 200 on 13 Apr, 75 on 19 May, 200 on 13 Jun, 150+ on 29 Aug.
Maidens-Turnberry	20 on 9 Apr, 45 on 11 Apr, 4900 on 1 Jul, 5410 on 16 Jul, 2000+ on 21 Jul, 400 on 26 Jul, 200 on 14, 22 Aug, 146 flew S/hr 29 Aug, 18 on 3 Oct, 1 on 11 Oct.
Elsewhere	24 Seamill 27 May, 300 off Girvan harbour 16 Aug, 60 Hunterston 31 Aug.

Balearic Shearwater *Puffinus mauretanicus* U S P

A very dark individual was seen on several occasions between Maidens and Dunure from 26 Jul-28 Aug (RHH/HF).

Northern Gannet *Morus bassanus* C B p

No breeding data was received from Ailsa Craig.

Winter presence/spring arrival back in outer Clyde was noted with an ad Maidens 14 Jan, 2 on 30 Jan, and 10 on 2 Feb. 4 off Dunure 19 Feb, were followed by a few singles until 16 at Troon 17 Mar, and 84 there on 22 Mar.

Counts: 56 Saltcoats 27 May, 185 Troon 29 Jul, 66 Bogside-Irvine Bay 2 Sep, 337 Stevenston Pt 18 Sep, 106 on 29 Sep, 280 Maidens 29 Sep, 95 on 3 Oct, 90 on 26 Oct.

Departure from Clyde and winter records included 11 Troon 1 Nov, 4 Maidens 3 Nov, singles Troon 22 Nov, 9 Dec, with the last 2 on 19 Dec.

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* C B p

No breeding records were received.

Counts	
Hunterston-Fairlie	10 on 16 Jan, 20 on 3, 16 Sep, 28 on 30 Sep, 10 on 27 Nov.
Stevenston-Ardrossan	12 on 28 Aug, 14 on 16 Sep.
Troon-Barassie	10 on 18 Jan, 30 on 29 Jul, 27 on 31 Aug.
Ayr-Doonfoot	10 on 13 Jun, 75 on 1 Oct, 58 on 25 Oct, 16 on 16 Nov.
Elsewhere	13 Lendalfoot 28 Mar, 10 Bogside 27 Apr, 26 on 2 Sep, 12 Maidens 9 Aug, 35 Largs 30 Aug, 20 Maryborough Rd Prestwick 1 Sep, 12 Turnberry-Dipple 17 Sep.

Inland counts included 18 Kilbirnie L 10 Feb, 11 Martnaham L 24 Feb, 19 on 20 Mar.

European Shag *Gulosus aristotelis* C B w

No breeding records were received.

Counts	
Hunterston-Fairlie	10 on 6 Jan, 11 Feb, 15 on 23 Mar, 20 on 16 Apr, 30 on 25 May, 40 on 28 Aug, 45 on 30 Sep, 78 on 1 Oct, 30 on 3 Nov, 12 on 13 Dec.
Stevenston-Ardrossan	110+ on 20 Jan, 11 on 17 Mar, 30 on 29 Apr, 29 on 27 May, 24 on 6 Jul, 55 on 28 Aug, 61 on 18 Sep, 32 on 21 Nov.
Troon-Barassie	17 on 2 Apr, 464 on 21 Aug, 20 on 9 Nov.
Ayr harbour	18 on 18 May, 50 on 27 Jul, 90 on 27 Nov.
Elsewhere	13 Balkenna 1 Apr, 30 Maidens 25 Jul, 96 Carleton Port 25 Oct, 65 Turnberry-Dipple 21 Nov.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* U S p

Precise totals for this rapidly expanding species are difficult to assess, but some idea may be gained from the table below.

Counts	
Fairlie-Seamill	3-4 individuals from 1 Jan-7 Jul, 3 on 23 Aug, 9 on 29 Aug, 15 on 31 Aug, 9 on 15 Oct, 4 on 17-18 Nov, 7 on 21 Nov, 5 on 25 Nov, 3 on 18-29 Dec.
Bogside-Garnock Floods	1 on 8 Feb-16 Mar, 3 on 7 Apr-12 Jul, 1 on 5-18 Aug, 9 on 23 Aug, 3 on 7 Sep, 2 on 15-30 Sep, 1 on 16 Oct-27 Nov.
Barassie-Troon	1 on 20 Mar-28 Apr, 13 Aug, 8-30 Sep, 2 on 21-24 Oct, 1 on 26 Oct-5 Dec, 5 on 8 Nov, 2 on 13 Nov-12 Dec.
Pow Burn	1 on 7 Feb-19 Apr, 27 Aug-24 Oct, 3 on 7-12 Sep, 3 Nov, 2 on 4 Nov-10 Dec.
Doonfoot-Bracken Bay	3 on 24 Jan-15 Feb, 1 on 22 Jul-22 Aug, 25 Oct, 23 Nov-6 Dec, 5 on 9 Nov, 2 on 1 Dec.
Elsewhere	1 Fisherton 6 Jan, 2 Balkenna 9 Aug, 1 R Ayr Annbank 27 Aug, 20 Nov, 2 Fail 8 Oct, 15 Nov, singles Dipple 25 Oct, Enterkine 12 Nov, Riccarton Moss 27 Nov, Lugar Water Barony 1 Dec, Nith floodplain 28 Dec, Skelmorlie 29 Dec.

Great Egret *Ardea alba* R P

There was a single record of this increasingly frequent visitor: one flew S Saltcoats 29 Oct (DL) making this the 9th Ayrshire record.

Western Cattle Egret *Ardea ibis* A

The Kilwinning-Auchenharvie individual from 2022 disappeared after 11 Dec, before being re-discovered at Warwickdale on 17 Jan (HF et al). It remained in the area between Warwickdale and Capringstone until 21 Mar.



Western Cattle Egret at Warwickdale (*Angus Hogg*)

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea* C B w

An under-recorded species: 3 AON East Holmes, plus probable breeding Hunterston, Bogside and Laggan.

Highest counts and migrants: 28 Hunterston 21 Jan, 9 on 15 Feb, 8 on 8 Apr, 14 Fairlie Bay 16 Apr, 11 West Kilbride-Fairlie 31 May, 14 Hunterston 24 Jun, 15 on 16 Sep, 46 on 25 Nov, 6 Bogside 12 Jul, 5 on 6 Oct, 5 Maidens 9 Aug, 6+ Culzean 17 Aug, 6 Maryborough Rd Prestwick 1 Sep.

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* R FB P

A much better breeding season. 7 occupied sites, with 6 pairs rearing 11 young, and 1 pair failing.

Spring migrants and summering birds: pr returned L Doon 31 Mar, prs back at 2 other sites 2, 4 Apr, singles Muirhead Res 7 Apr, Kilbirnie L 20 Apr, Eglinton CP 31 May, L o' the Lowes-Creoch L 10 Jun, perhaps same at Martnaham L 11 Jun and Balkenna 12 Jun, L Dornal 14 Jun, and Busbie Res 16 Jun.

Autumn migrants and departure: singles Southannan Sands 7 Jul, Kilbirnie L 20 Jul, Munnoch Res 16 Aug, Trabboch L 17 Aug, Garnock Floods 2 Sep, and last individual was at Glen Afton Res on 23 Sep.

Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos* U (B)

A second calendar year (2CY) individual drifted E over Stinchar Falls on 2 Apr (RHH).

Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus* C B

During the breeding season this species was reported widely within the county from suitable areas such as Hunterston, Ardeer, Dundonald Woods, Shewalton Wood, Annbank, Culzean, Glenauchie, L Bradan.

More unusual records involved singles on Ailsa Craig on 15 Apr and 16 Aug.

Eurasian Goshawk *Astur gentilis* U (B)

5 sites were checked, 2 of which were occupied by adult pairs, and 3 by single adults. No outcomes were recorded.

Outwith known breeding sites 1 was seen at Bargany on 16 Jun, ad ♀ at Lochlea on 1 Nov, 1 at Carclout Hill on 7 Nov, and a 1CY ♀ at Netherwood on 13 Dec.

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

At least 4 autumn individuals, involving a ♀ Auchincross on 24 Aug (MH), an imm ♂ Auchincross on 25 Aug-2 Sep (HF et al), a ♀/juv at Bogside on 17 Oct (AM), and a ♂ Bogside on 24 Oct (DE).

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus* U b p

No reports were received from breeding areas. The species may be extinct as a breeding bird in the south of Ayrshire.

Migrants and wintering birds were reported from Kelly Res, Bogside, Auchincross, Glenbuck, Glen Afton Res, and Dalmellington.

Red Kite *Milvus milvus* FB A

Following the success of 2022, one pair reared a single juv at a S Ayrshire site (SSRSG).

There were continued observations of 1-2 birds throughout the year in the Patna-Loch Doon area, with other regular sightings of up to 3 birds in the New Cumnock area. Additional observations included singles at Dunure 18 Feb, Loudoun Mains 21 Feb, Cairn Table 27 Feb, Barony A-frame 24 Mar, Sandyford 22 May, Ochiltree 14 Jun, Sundrum 26 Jun, Fairlie 15 Oct, Lochlea 1 Nov, Tarbolton-Fail 19, 28 Nov, Busbie Hills 26 Nov, and Lyttleton Maybole 5 Dec.

White-tailed Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla* FB A

An ad was present in the Hunterston area from 3 Feb-7 Mar (MMcG et al). Probably the same individual was present in the same area from 13 Nov-end Dec (MMcG et al).

Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo* C B

A widespread and common breeding raptor.

Territorial soaring flight or probable breeding noted at the following locations: Knockentiber (2 juvs noted), Laigh Milton Mill (juv noted), Outerwards, Caaf Res, Fairlie Castle, Blackshaw Farm, Hawking Craig, Portencross, Hurlford, Auchmannoch, Bogside, New Mill, Gabroc Hill, Eglinton CP, Oldhall, Shewalton Woods, Dundonald Woods, Fail, Adamton, Annbank, Doonside, Catrine House, Dalleagles, Dumfries House, Glenbuck, Feoch Meadows, Culzean, Blairquhan, Glenuchie, Bellsbank, L Bradan, Glen Tig, Bargany, Barr, L Moan.

Migration/counts: 6 Fail 2 Jan, 11 South Balloch 28 Feb, 11 Ness Glen-Dalnean Hill 31 Mar, 18 Auchincross-Dalgig 21 Sep, 11 Nith floodplain 10 Oct.

Barn Owl *Tyto alba* C B

Prs reared b/4 Dalgig, min b/3 Gardrum Mill Farm, b/3 Ballochbeatties, b/3 Lugton, b/2 (laid C/6) West Auchinhean min b/1 Pennyvenie, min b/1 Dunaskin.

Observations, mostly of single birds, were reported from the following areas: Sandyford Toll 2 Jan, 3 near Muirkirk 7 Jan, Burn Gill 13 Jan, Symington 13 Jan, Busbie Muir Res 15 Jan, High Boydstone 16 Jan, Girthill Farm 16 Jan, Sainsbury's Irvine 3 Feb, Newhouse of Threepwood 7 Apr, 30 May, Leggate New Cumnock 30 May, Barr 18 Jun, Loanhead 19 Jun, Annbank 29 Sep, Cairnadloch 25 Oct, North Hourat 27 Nov.

Road casualty Shavin Brae Ayr 14 Aug.

Long-eared Owl *Asio otus* U b

Very few records of this elusive owl. From breeding areas: 1 calling at dusk Glenmuir 12 Mar – young heard on 19 Jun, between 2-4 Drumboy Hill-Soame Burn-A77 on 27 May- 2 chicks heard food-begging on 27 Jul.

Only 1 other record – 1 E of Largs on 28 May.

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

No reports of breeding birds.

Counts/migrants: 1 Beith 19 Mar, 1 Reuchal 13 Apr, 2 Bushy Bog 2 Sep, 1 Prestwick GC 23 Oct, 1 in off sea Stevenston Pt 26 Oct, another on 1 Nov, 1 Bogside 10 Nov-2 Dec, 3 Boghead Burn 16 Nov, 4 on 5 Dec, 1 Kaim Hill 24 Nov, 1 Whiteside Hill 2 Dec.



Short-eared Owl at Stevenston Point (*Dougie Edmond*)

Tawny Owl *Strix aluco* C B

Breeding pairs or territorial birds in suitable habitat were noted at Alloway (b/2 noted), Tourgill, Catrine House, Kelly Res, Auchincross, Annbank.

In winter, singles were reported from Hawking Craig, Martnaham L, South Balloch, L Bradan, Chapelpark Rd Ayr, Glaisnock St Cumnock, Hunterston Sands.

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis* U b

During the breeding season, birds or pairs in suitable breeding habitat were seen at Knockentiber viaduct (ad and juv noted), Kilwinning, Crookedholm, Laigh Milton Mill, Galston, Annbank, Auchincross.

Wintering or autumn-dispersing birds were seen at the following locations: Dipple 1 Jan, 25 Feb, Saltcoats harbour 2 Jan, Southannan Sands 2 Jan, Maidens 9 Jan-25 Feb, Bogside 14 Jan, 23 Feb, Fairlie 19 Jan- 2 on 21 Jan, Auchenharvie pond 25 Jan, 4 upper Garnock estuary 25 Aug, Pow Burn 27 Sep-27 Oct, Saltcoats harbour 1 Oct, Fairlie Bay 15 Oct, Dipple 16 Oct, Martnaham L 24 Oct, Bogside 30 Nov, Stevenston Pt 1 Dec, Kilwinning 3 Dec, Kilbirnie L 11 Dec, Rozelle 13 Dec.

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major* C B

During the breeding season, birds or pairs in suitable breeding habitat were seen at Hunterston House (juvs noted),

Carleton Castle (juv noted), L Riecawr (2), Allan Wood, Hawking Craig, Aught Wood, Blair, Oldhall, Shewalton Woods, Crookedholm, Ladyton L, Loudoun Hill, Dumfries House, Martnaham, Annbank, Stair Wood, Glen Afton, Castle William, Belleisle, Culzean CP, Hamilton Bridge, Drumgirnan, Lady Glen, Brunston Castle, Ness Glen, Glenauchie, Cairnfore, Craighionn, Craig Dhu, L Slochy, South Balloch, Barr, Craigenrae, Pyet Glen, Darnaconnar, Black Clauchrie.

The first drumming bird was heard at Dumfries House on 4 Feb.

European Green Woodpecker *Picus viridis* U (B)

The year's only record came from Goldenberry Hill-Hunterston where one was present from 24 Apr-12 Jun (RHH/PMcE).

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* C B

Territorial or breeding prs were noted at Barassie GC (pr with juv noted), Hawking Craig, Knock Hill, Pocknave, Hillhouse quarry, Royal Troon GC, Auchincross, Glenauchie.

Outside the breeding season, widespread records of singles, with notable records including 4 upper Garnock estuary 25 Aug, 4 Auchincross-Dalgig 21 Sep, 4 Nov.



Common Kestrel at Hunterston (*Angus Hogg*)

Merlin *Falco columbarius* C b W

No breeding reports were received.

Wintering birds or migrants were noted at the following locations: Adamhill 2 Jan, Irvine Beach Park 7 Jan, Auchincross 15 Jan, 6 Feb, 13 Feb, Chapeldonan 24 Jan, Troon 29 Jan, Hunterston 11 Feb, Kaim Hill 8 Mar, L Doon 30 Mar, Laggan Hill 16 May, Barlosh 27 May, Balkenna 24 Jul, Auchincross 21 Sep, in off sea Maidens 28 Sep, Fail 6 Oct, 15, 17 Nov, Sandyford 22 Oct, Carclout Hill 7 Nov, Black Neuk 11 Nov, L Doon 11 Nov, Ochiltree 19 Nov, 19 Dec, Boghead Burn 5 Dec, Stevenston Pt 9 Dec.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* C b w

A poor year, with low numbers breeding and low productivity. Of the 45 sites which were checked, 12 were occupied by pairs, 1 by a mixed-age pr, and 2 by single ads. 12 successful pairs reared 21 young (SSRSG).

Widespread winter sightings were reported from both inland and coastal locations.



Peregrine Falcon at Kirrieroch (*Angus Hogg*)

Rose-ringed Parakeet *Psittacula krameri* E

The main population is still centred on the Dean Castle CP-Kay Park area in Kilmarnock. Information on breeding birds is still lacking, and the peak count was only 5 in South Dean Rd Kilmarnock on 26 Jan. Elsewhere, 5 were seen at Auchencloigh on 2 Jan, 2 at Glengarnock on 17 Jan, and 1 in Kilbirnie on 17 Mar.

Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius* C B

Birds were seen in suitable habitat during the breeding season at Annbank, Ardeer, Auchencruive, Auchmannoch, Black Hill of Garleffin, Culzean, Hunterston House, Loch Bradan, Loch Macaterick, Martnaham Loch, Monk Road Belt, New Cumnock, Rankinston, Rowantree Toll, Shieldhill Farm.

Outside the breeding season birds were noted at Barclaugh Wood (9), Kirkleegreen Reservoir (3), Monk Road Belt (3), Shewalton Wood SWT (3), Gala Lane (2), Hunterston (2), Irvine Bogside GC (2), Loch Doon (2), Martnaham Loch (2), Maybole (2), New Cumnock (2), Annbank (2), Sorn (2), Ardeer Fen, Barmuir, Barony A-frame, Blairquhan Castle, Bogside, Cairnhill, Culzean, Dailly, Dalquharran, Dean Castle Country Park, Doonside, Dunlop, Fail, Fairlie, Fenwick, Garnock Lagoons, High Glenmuir, Kilwinning, Knockentiber-Springside disused railway line, Ladyton Loch, Maybole, Middleyard, Oxenshaw, Shieldhill Farm.

Eurasian Magpie *Pica pica* C B

Now a widespread breeding bird in Ayrshire. One with nesting material at Newmoor Interchange, Irvine on 8 Apr was the only breeding record received.

Counts included 38 Lighthdykes playing fields 1 Jan, 30 Hurlford-Galston disused railway line 9 Mar, 15 on 23 Feb, 12 Upper Cottage, West Kilbride 31 Mar, 10 Girdle Toll 30 May.

One was observed feeding on Sea Buckthorn (*Hippophae rhamnoides*) berries at Southannan Sands on 1 Oct.

Western Jackdaw *Coloeus monedula* C B w

No significant breeding records were received.

High counts, frequently in association with Rooks: 400 Burn Gill 14 Jan, 100 Hunterston Power Station 14 Jan, 600+ Lighthdykes playing fields 15 Jan, 250 Hunterston House 14 Feb, 400 Saltcoats 23 Feb, 700 Knowes Farm, Beith 11 Mar, 200 Kilbirnie Loch 11 Mar, 200 Dailly 25 Mar, 150 Millstonford Bridge 26 Mar, 200+ Kilwinning 31 Jul, 100 East Mains Farm-Tennox Farm 31 Jul, 300 Bogriggs 15 Oct, 2300 Auchinleck 3 Dec.

Rook *Corvus frugilegus* C B

A breeding survey conducted by MH found:

Square	Total nests	Total in Scots Pine	Rookeries
NS51	101	0	2
NS52	625	329	10
NS61	194	156	4
NS62	52	50	2
Totals	972	535	18

Elsewhere: 160 AON Maybole, 96 AON Lugton, Lochlibo Road, 65+ AON Colmonell, 50+ AON Cumnock Tanyard, 41 AON Middleyard, 37 AON Kilbirnie, Townhead, 36 AON Kilmaurs, Irvine Road, 31 AON Brocklar, 28 AON Dalry, James Street/Sharon Street, 26 AON Baidland Mains, 20 AON Trabboch, 18 AON Hessillhead Wildlife Rescue Centre, 18 AON Largs, Douglas Park, 17 AON Dalry, Kilwinning Road, 11 AON Routenburn Farm, 5 AON Irvine, Redburn Place.

No large winter flock counts noted, but 300+ Grougar Mains 17 Aug.

Carrion Crow *Corvus corone* C B

No significant breeding reports were received.

Counts: 32 Oldhall Ponds SWT 26 Feb, 34 on 14 Mar, c50 Royal Troon GC 2 Mar, 31 Bogside Flats 25 Mar, 105+ on 30 Sep, 34 Doonfoot 26 Mar, 35 on 12 Apr, 79 on 7 Jun, 47 Stevenston Point 6 Jul, 125 Lawhill, 30 Aug, 50 Southannan Sands-Hunterston Sands 14 Oct.

Hybrid Carrion x Hooded Crow: singles Saltcoats 2 Jan, 17 Feb & 6 Apr, Fairlie 26 Jan to 29 Jun, 4 on 25 May, singles Kilwinning 25 Mar, Noddsdale Water mouth 11 Dec, up to 3 Hunterston area throughout the year.

Hooded Crow *Corvus cornix* U (b) p

Pure Hooded Crows are very scarce in Ayrshire and care should be taken with their identification.

One was noted once more at Southannan Sands 5 Feb to 14 Dec.

Northern Raven *Corvus corax* U b

41 sites were checked, of which 29 were occupied. 25 pairs laid eggs and 22 successful pairs reared 55+ young where the outcome was known (SSRSG).

Counts: 21 Corsencon 8 Jan, 9 Auchincross/Dalgig 6 Feb, 18 on 26 Jul, 17 on 21 Sep, 11 Martnaham Loch 24 Feb, 8 on 19 Jul, 11+ Parkfairn, Crosshill 6 Mar, 6 Bourtrees Dark Plantation 26 Mar, 14 Gill Hill 14 Apr, 62+ Glenluie 17 Apr, 30+ on 3 May, 80+ Knoweside 30 Apr, 8 Dalricket Wood 22 Jun, 11 Craigdullyear 29 Sep.

Bohemian Waxwing *Bombycilla garrulus* R w P

Following a single at Ochiltree in the first winter period on 19 Jan, the main influx occurred in mid-November: 7 Irvine 4 Nov, 22 on 6 Nov, 30 on 12 Nov, 13 on 18 Nov; 5 Prestwick 6 Nov, 200 on 13 Nov, 150 on 15 Nov, 74 on 16 Nov, 70 on 17 Nov, 30 on 21 Nov, 49 on 29 Nov, 16 on 7 Dec; 5 Saltcoats 8 Nov, 20 on 10 Nov, 34 on 11 Nov, 70 on 12 Nov; 1 Troon 9 Nov, 10 on 17-18 Nov, 1 on 19 Nov, 1 on 23 Dec; 43 Stevenston 11 Nov, 12 on 19 Nov; 1 Auchinleck 15 Nov; 11 Ayr 15 Nov, 100 on 16 Nov, 400 on 17 Nov, 200 on 18 Nov, 75 on 25 Nov, 45 on 11 Dec, 30 on 16 Dec, 20 on 21 Dec, 11 on 22 Dec; 6 Hunterston 16 Nov; 100 Kilmarnock 19 Nov, 75 on 20 Nov; 12 Ardrossan 21 Nov; 20 Dunure 2 Dec; 6 Dalrymple 3 Dec; 11 Skeldon Mill 3 Dec; 1 Auchinleck 15 Dec.



Bohemian Waxwing at Saltcoats (*Dave Grant*)

Coal Tit *Periparus ater* C B

Counts and post-breeding groups included 21 Shewalton Wood SWT 27 Aug, 7 on 29 Oct; 12 Kirkleegreen Reservoir 3 Nov; 8 Culzean 12 Nov; 7 Rozelle 13 Dec.

Willow Tit *Poecile montanus* U b

Continued presence was noted, with up to 2+ territories maintained at Bogton Loch.



Willow Tit at Bogton Loch (*Dougie Edmond*)

Eurasian Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus* C B

Breeding: first fledgling noted in Coylton garden 2 Jun.

Counts and post-breeding groups included 13 Oldhall Ponds SWT 26 Feb; 16 Annbank 4 Mar; 12 Shewalton Wood SWT 17 May, 16 on 11 Jun, 26 on 27 Aug, 12 on 29 Oct.

Great Tit *Parus major* C B

Breeding: first fledgling noted Garnock Floods SWT 15 Jun.

Counts and post-breeding groups included 11 River Irvine Walkway, Drybridge Park 8 Jan; 9 Shewalton Wood SWT 26 Apr; 9 Tarryholme 15 Aug; 8 Bourtrees Dark Plantation 26 Mar.

Eurasian Sky Lark *Alauda arvensis* C B W P

Breeding or territorial ♂♂ noted at Dundonald Camp (4), Airds Moss (3), Garnock Floods SWT (3).

Elsewhere, birds in suitable habitat during the breeding season were noted at Ardwell, Auchmannoch, Bogside Flats SSSI, Darnaconner, Darnhay, Dundonald Camp, Fail, Feoch Meadows, Garnock E, Garnock Floods SWT, Garnock N,

Glenalmond, Glenbuck, Gogo, Green Hill Fairlie, Kaim Hill, Kilmarnock (Barassie) GC, Lendalfoot, Loch Doon, Penwhapple Reservoir, Prestwick Airport, Prestwick GC, Rigging Hill, Shawfarm Industrial Estate, Shewalton Wood SWT, Shieldhill, Stinking Rocks, Turnberry Bay, Turnberry Lighthouse, Whitelee Windfarm.

Counts: 13 Feb, 50+ on 23 Feb to 19 Mar, 80+ on 26 Mar, 30+ on 1 Apr; 51 flew S/30 mins Dipple 9 Oct; 25 flew S/2 hrs Maidens 12 Oct; 40+ Ardneil Bay 15 Oct.

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia* C B S p

Breeding sites were reported from Maidens (10+ prs). Others in potential breeding habitat included reports from Crookedholm, Doonfoot, East Holmes Marsh, Garnock E, Garnock Floods SWT, Garnock Lagoons, Girvan, Greenock Water Bridge, Hunterston Sands, Hurlford Cessnock Water, Loch Bradan, Loch Doon, Loch Moan.

Arrival was from mid-March with 3 Ardeer ICI ponds 18 Mar, 2 Troon 18 Mar, 1 Ladyton Loch 18 Mar, 2 Loch o' the Lowes 19 Mar, 20 Martnaham Loch 20 Mar, 12 Gailes 21 Mar, 30+ Ladyton Loch 26 Mar.

Spring counts included: 40 Ladyton Loch 1 Apr, 50+ Trabboch Loch 4 Apr, c100 Capringstone 8 Apr, c80 Garnock Floods SWT 8 Apr, c150 Kilbirnie Loch 24 Apr.

Autumn counts and departure: 45 S/90 mins Dunure 8 Jul, c50 Auchincross 12 Aug, with a final 4 Garnock Floods SWT 18 Sep.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* C B S p

No significant breeding records were received.

Arrival was from late March with 1 N Lendalfoot 28 Mar, 1 Hurlford 30 Mar, 5 N Barcully 1 Apr, 1 Dunure 1 Apr, 1 Loch Doon 1 Apr, followed by a steady stream of small numbers through April.

The spring maxima were 10 Sorbie Farm 1 May, 11 Burn Gill 14 May, 16 Seamill 27 May.

Counts and autumn departure: 40 S Crosshouse 8 Aug, 50 Kellybank-Kelly Reservoir 11 Aug, 40+ Fortacres 16 Aug, 160+ Knockentiber-Springside disused railway line 23 Aug, 150+ Portencross 15 Sep, 24 S Barassie 27 Sep, 30 Irvine harbour 30 Sep, 10 Martnaham Loch 10 Oct. The remaining October records involved 2 Ardrossan 15 Oct and 1 Fail 21 Oct, with a late individual at Troon on 4 Nov.

Western House Martin *Delichon urbicum* C B S p

Breeding was reported from Loch Bradan Treatment Works (3 prs), Doonfoot (several prs Castle Walk), Culzean (1 pr).

Arrival was from mid-April with 2 Feoch Meadows 15 Apr, 1 Ochiltree 17 Apr, 3 Dumfries House 21 Apr, 2 Eglinton CP 21 Apr. Three more reports were received for April before a steady arrival throughout May.

Spring counts: 10 Culzean 15 May, 10 Glengarnock 27 May, 10 Castle Hill Water Works 6 Jun, 22 Kilwinning Road, Irvine 15 Jun.

Counts and autumn departure: 70 Blairquhan Castle 3 Aug, c250 Culzean 10 Aug, 80 S Maidens 1 Sep, 12 Noddsdale

Water 12 Sep, 3 Little Brigurd 30 Sep.

Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus* C B

Counts included 17 East Holmes Marsh 11 Feb, 10 Eglinton 30 May, 12 Dalry 31 Jul, 12 Kilwinning 31 Jul, 23 Shewalton 23 Aug, 11 Fail 30 Sep, 11 Stevenston 30 Sep, 10 Byne Hill 28 Oct, 11 Fairlie 3 Nov, 10 Garnock Lagoons 4 Nov, 28 Fullarton Woods 20 Dec, 11 Martnaham Loch 26 Dec.

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* U B S p

Breeding: two singing ♂♂ were present in Ness Glen from late May.

Arrival was from late April with 2 singing ♂♂ Dundonald Woods 27 Apr, 1 Glen Afton 3 May, 1 Loch Doon 17 May.

No departing birds were noted in the autumn.

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus* C B S P

Breeding birds or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Rowantree Toll (widespread), Shewalton Wood SWT (69), Garnock Lagoons (66), Garnock N, W & E (42), Ardeer Fen (29), Loch Nevan BBS square (28), Smugglers' Trail (21), Irvine Beach Park (19), Hurlford-Galston disused railway line (14), Martnaham Loch (10), Knockshinnoch Lagoons (10), Hillhouse quarry (10), North Croyburnfoot (10), Outerwards (10), Garnock Floods SWT (10), Bracken Bay (9), Eglinton **C P** (8), Shewalton Sandpits SWT (7), Hurlford River Irvine Walk (7), Mainholm small holdings (7), Loch Doon (7), Bower Hill (6), Kilmarnock (Barassie) GC (6), Tarbert Hill (6), Glenalmond BBS square (6), Benquhat-Lethanhill (6), Caprington (5), Croy Bay (5), Dunure (5), Brunston Castle (5), Irvine Towns Moor (5), Dundonald Camp (5), Lendalfoot (5), Fairlie (4), Oldhall Ponds SWT (4), Greenan (4), Bogside (4), Loudoun Hill (3), Glenside Wood (3), Hawking Craig (3), Boydston Braes (3), East Grassyards (3), Brisbane Glen (3), Culzean (3), Glenbuck (3), Kaimhill Quarry (3), Little Sorn (3), Loch Moan (3), Annbank (2), Bargany (2), Barony A Frame (2), Barr (2), Capringstone (2), Coal Hill (2), Crookedholm (2), Dalsangan (2), Dumfries House (2), Dundonald Camp (2), East Holmes Marsh (2), Gales Marsh SWT (2), Gull's Walk (2), Irvine GC (2), Southannan Sands (2), Turnberry Point (2), Allan Wood, Allanton, Ancumor Farm, Brisbane Bridge, Brisbane Mains, Camphill Reservoir, Finnarts Bay, Green Hill Fairlie, Greenockwater Bridge, Hunterston lagoon, Hunterston Power Station, Knock Castle, Knockencorsan Plantation, Little Brigurd, Middleyard, Millstonford Bridge, Muirkirk, Orchard Cottage, Outerwards Reservoir, Penwhapple Reservoir, Shawfarm Industrial Estate, Tourgill Bridge.

Spring arrival from the end of March with singles at Ardeer boundary fence and Hurlford on 31 Mar, followed by 3 Hurlford-Galston disused railway line 3 Apr, 2 Shewalton Wood SWT 3 Apr, 1 Crosshill Kirklea 5 Apr, 6 Ardeer Fen 7 Apr.

In the autumn: 2 Garnock Floods SWT 10 Sep, 1 on 11 Sep; 1 Fairlie 16 Sep.

Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita* C B S w p

At least 247 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded including Garnock Lagoons (19), Shewalton Wood SWT (14), Ardeer ICI ponds (12), Garnock Floods SWT (8), Culzean (7), Croy (7), Hillhouse quarry (7), Eglinton C P (6), Smuggler's Trai (6), Girdle Toll (6), Hurlford-Galston disused railway line (5), North Croyburnfoot (5), Brunston Castle (5), Caprington (4), Fairlie Bay (4), Bracken Bay (4), Loch Moan (4), Aught Wood (4), Crookedholm (4), Dumfries House (4), Dailly (3), Ardeer Quarry LNR (3), Ayr Gorge SWT (3), Dunure (3), Martnaham Loch (3), Kilmarnock (Barassie) GC (3), Hawking Craig (3), Irvine Beach Park (3), Ladyton Loch (3), Turnberry Point (3), Bargany (3), Capringstone (3), West Kilbride (2), Balkenna (2), Blair Estate (2), Cambusdoon (2), East Holmes Marsh (2), Auchmannoch (2), Hurlford River Irvine Walk (2), Boydston Braes (2), Pyet Glen (2), Brisbane Glen (2), Irvine Towns Moor (2), Fairlie Castle (2), Brisbane Mains (2), Oldhall Ponds SWT (2), Bogside (2), Annbank, Ardstinchar Castle, Ashcraig, Auchencloigh, Balnowlart, Belleisle, Blair Park, Bower Hill, Braes of Ballochmyle, Catrine House, Coal Hill, Craig Hill, Craigneil, Dalsangan, Drumuskin Burn, Dundonald Camp, Eglinton Interchange, Fencefoot, Finnarts Bay, Glenalmond, Goats Green, Greenan, Hamilton Bridge, Hunterston House, Hunterston lagoon, Hunterston Roundabout, Kerse Bridge, Kilwinning, Kirkbride Pond, Knockshinnoch Lagoons, Ladyburn, Ladyburn Bridge, Laigh Kyleston quarry, Liggetcheek, Little Sorn, Mainholm, Maybole, Ness Glen, Rozelle, Saltcoats, Southannan, Stane Castle, Stoopshill, Tarbert Hill, Tourgill Bridge.

Arrival was from mid-March with 1 Ladyton Loch 18 Mar, 1 Ardeer Quarry LNR 21 Mar, 1 Brig o' Doon 23 Mar, 2 Shewalton Wood SWT 23 Mar, 1 Ardeer boundary fence 25 Mar, 2 Ardeer ICI ponds 25 Mar, 3 Woodland Fm-Ardmillan 25 Mar.

Departure: the last singles were at Eglinton C P and Crosshill Kirklea on 21 Oct.

Over-wintering birds were noted early in the year with 1 East Holmes Marsh 2 Jan, 1 Troon 18 Jan, 2 Dow's Burn 23 Jan, 1 Pow Burn 25-29 Jan, 4 Prestwick Airport 26 Feb.

Late, over-wintering individuals were seen at Stevenston cemetery 21 Nov, Auchenharvie 1 Dec, Troon 1 Dec, Doonfoot 10 Dec.

Siberian Chiffchaff *P. c. tristis* A

1 Stevenston cemetery 23 Nov (DG).

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* C B S p

Up to 147 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Garnock Lagoons (20), Bogside (13), Hurlford-Galston disused railway line (9), Garnock Floods SWT (8), Ardeer Fen (8), Shewalton Wood SWT (7), Greenan-Doonfoot (6), North Croyburnfoot (6), Garnock N & E (5), Trabboch Loch (5), Dundonald Camp (4), East Holmes Marsh (4), Ardeer pipe embankment (3), Kilmarnock (Barassie) GC (3), Hurlford River Irvine Walk (3), Hawking Craig (2), Bower Hill (2), Fail Loch (2), Seamill (2), Ladyton Loch (2), Gull's Walk (2), Turnberry Point (2), Ardrossan, Barbae Wood, Bartonholm, Beith, Bogton Loch (N end), Burton, Coal Hill, Dailly, Dunure, East Balig Cottage, Gales Marsh SWT, Garpel Bridge, Girvan, Glenalmond BBS square, Glenbuck, Hawking Craig, Hunterston Power Station, Hunterston Sands, Laggan Bridge, Little Brigurd, Maidens, Mainholm small holdings, Martnaham Loch, Middleyard, Pinbraid, Southannan Sands, Turnberry Bay, Water of Assel.

Arrival was from mid- Apr with 1 Garnock lagoons 16 Apr, 3 on 22 Apr, 1 Martnaham Loch 20 Apr, 1 Dunure 23 Apr, followed by daily arrivals thereafter.

The last autumn birds were seen at Shewalton Wood SWT 27 Aug, Troon 28 Aug, and Auchincross 1 Sep.

Common Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus* R b S p

At Loch o' the Lowes breeding was suspected with 2 singing ♂♂ from 17 Jun, and one still singing on 4 Jul. Three birds were still present on 26 Jul.



Common Reed Warbler at Loch o' the Lowes (*Dougie Edmond*)

Common Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia* C B S

At least 48 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded including Garnock N & E (6), Ardeer Fen (4), Garnock Lagoons SWT (3), Ardeer pipe embankment (2), Dunure (2), Dundonald Camp (2), Loch Nevan (2), Annbank, Barrhill, Bogside, Burn Gill, Dalnaw, Drumboy Hill, East Grassyards, East Holmes Marsh, Eglinton C P, Fairways View, Glenbuck, Hawking Craig, Hillhouse Quarry, Hunterston Sands, Hurlford-Galston disused railway line, ICI Ardeer, Largs, Loch Duisk, Loch o' the Lowes, Martnaham Loch, Pow Burn, Seamill, Shewalton Wood SWT, Stevenston, Stewarton, Trabboch Loch.

Arrival was from mid-April with singles Garnock Floods SWT 14 Apr, Ness Glen 17 Apr, Hurlford-Galston disused railway line 19 Apr, Shewalton Wood SWT 20 Apr, and 3 Greenan-Doonfoot 23 Apr.

The last autumn bird was seen at Shewalton Wood SWT on 27 Aug.

Eurasian Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla* C B S w p

At least 271 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded including Shewalton Wood SWT (19), Finnarts Bay (7), Cloyntie-Auchalton (6), Garnock N, E & W (6), Eglinton (5), Hurlford River Irvine walk (5), Mainholm small holdings (5), Brisbane Glen (5), Crookedholm (5), Garnock Lagoons (4), Smuggler's Trail (4), Hamilton Bridge-Drumgirnan (4), Culzean (4), Pyet Glen (4), Garnock Floods SWT (4), Glenafton Caravan Park-Pencloe (4), Girdle Toll (4), Hurlford-Galston disused railway line (4), Hillhouse Quarry east (4), Barbae Wood (4), West Kilbride-Fairlie (4), Oldhall Ponds SWT (4), Caprington (3), Ardeer (3), North Croyburnfoot (3), Drumgirnan-Ladyburn (3), Bellamore (3), Garnaburn (3), Penwhapple Bridge (3), Dumfries House (3), Tallaminnoch (3), Capringstone (3), East Holmes Marsh (3), Dalgarnven Mill (2), Kirkbride (2), Dean Castle Country Park (2), Ardeer boundary fence (2), Craigneil (2), Bower Hill (2), Boydston Braes (2), Goats Green (2), Ardeer Fen (2), Aught Wood (2), Greenan (2), East Balig Cottage (2), Craigens Wood, Blairquhan (2), Glenauchie (2), Tairlaw (2), Bogton Loch (2 - N end), Craighead quarry (2), Burns' Cairn (2), Penkill (2), Laigh Letterpin (2), Heads of Ayr (2), Bargany (2), Dailly (2), Crookedholm (2), Dunure (2), Allan Wood, Almont, Annbank bridge, Ardeer pipe embankment, Ardstinchar Castle, Balbeg, Balnowlart, Benquhat, Bogside, Bracken Bay, Brig`o Doon, Brisbane Bridge, Brisbane Glen Cemetery, Catrine House, Cloyntie, Collennan Reservoir, Craigenrae, Craighionn, Croy Bay, Culloch Knowes, Daljarrock, Dalquharran Mains, Dalsangan, Deil's Elbow, Drummuck, Drumuskin Burn, East Grassyards, Fairways View, Farden, Gillies Knowe, Glenalmond BBS square, Hallowchapel Bridge, Hawking Craig, Howard Park, Hunterston, Kelburn, Kilgrammie Wood, Kilwinning, Kirkbride Farm, Kirn Bridge, Kirrieroch, Knockdon, Knockroon, Ladyton Loch, Laigh Kyleston quarry, Lamdoughty, Lindsayston, Little Sorn, Loans, Loch Doon, Loch Nahinie, Loch Skelloch, Lochingerroch, Martnaham Loch, Middleyard, Monktonhead Roundabout, Ness Glen, Nith Lodge, Pinwherry, Poundland, Shawsknowe, Shewalton Sandpits SWT, Southannan Roundabout, Straiton, Tairlaw Linn, Tallaminnoch, Tarfessock Ford, Tarryholme, Tralodden, Troon, Turnberry Point.

Arrival was from early April with 1 Auchincruive 3 Apr, 2 East Holmes Pit 6 Apr, singles Ardstinchar, Craigneil and Knockdolian 7 Apr, 1 East Holmes Marsh 8 Apr.

Autumn departure: ♀ Rozelle 29 Sep.

Wintering birds in Jan Mar included 1 Greenan 1 Jan, 1 Annbank 19 Jan to 4 Mar, ♂ Skelmorlie 31 Jan, 1 Milton 6 Mar,

Wintering birds in Oct Dec included: ♀/juv Middleyard 25 Oct; ♀ Southannan Sands 13 Nov, ♂ + ♀ on 16 Nov, ♀ on 13 Dec; ♂ Troon 29 Nov to 6 Dec; ♂ Beith 2 Dec; ♂ Barassie 29 Dec.

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin* C B S p

At least 74 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded including Bargany (5), Glen Afton (5), East Holmes Marsh (4), Shewalton Wood SWT (4), Garnock N, E & W (4), Bartonholm (3), Rowantree Toll (3), Bellamore (2), Bogton Loch (2 - N end), Brunston Castle (2), Dundonald Woods (2), Martnaham Loch (2), North Croyburnfoot (2), Hillhouse Quarry (2), Alton Albany, Annbank Bridge, Ardstinchar Castle, Balloch Burn, Barony A Frame, Barr, Bubbly Cairn, Burns' Cairn, Craigenrae, Craigmalloch, Culzean, Dalmellington, Dalquhairn Bridge, Deil's Elbow, Dumfries House, East Holmes Pit, Farroch Brae, Finnarts Bay, Garnock Floods SWT, Garnock Lagoons, Glengennet, Greenan, Kilgrammie Wood, Lamdoughty, Loch Bradan Treatment Works, Loch Doon, Loch Riecawr (N side), Penwhapple Glen, Pyet Glen, Tairlaw,

Tallaminnoch, Water of Tig.

Arrival was from late April with 1 Ochiltree 26 Apr, 1 Shewalton 28 Apr, 1 Garnock W 29 Apr.

No autumn departure was noted.



Garden Warbler at Pyet Glen (*Angus Hogg*)

Lesser Whitethroat *Curruca curruca* U b

19 territories were recorded at Ayrshire study sites - See Tom Byars' annual breeding report above.

Outside these areas, territorial or singing birds were seen at Lendalfoot 2 May, Finnarts Bay 16 May, Shewalton Wood SWT 17 May.

Arrival was from late April with 2 singing ♂♂ Ardeer on 22 Apr, 1 Dunure 23 Apr, ♂ Hillhouse Quarry 26 Apr.



Lesser Whitethroat at Ardeer (*Dougie Edmond*)

Common Whitethroat *Curruca communis* C B S p

At least 186 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded including Garnock N, E & W (23), North Croyburnfoot (10), Hurlford-Galston disused railway line (7), Dunure (5), Garnock Floods SWT (5), Shewalton Wood SWT (5), Currarie (4), Glenalmond (4), Hillhouse Quarry (4), Irvine Beach Park (4), Irvine Towns Moor (4), Bogside (3), Bower Hill (3), Fairways View (3), Greenan (3), Hurlford Cessnock Water (3), Hurlford River Irvine walk (3), Irvine Kilwinning Road (3), Turnberry Point (3), Ardeer Fen (2), Bracken Bay (2), Craigenrae-Rowantree Toll (2), Darnaconner (2), Darnhay (2), East Holmes Marsh (2), Fairlie Bay (2), Gales Road (2), Hunterston Sands (2), Irvine GC (2), Loch Maberry (2 - W side), Pinbraid (2), Southannan Sands (2), Townhead (2), Turnberry Bay (2), Ardeer boundary fence, Ardeer pipe embankment, Ardwell, Auchenblane, Balgreggan, Balloch Burn, Barbae, Barbae Wood, Barcully, Bartonholm, Benane Head, Blair Farm, Broadshean, Burnton, Burton, Capringstone, Connel Park, Dalsangan, Darnhay, Doonfoot, East Balig Cottage, East Holmes Marsh, Fairlie Bay, Farroch Brae, Finnarts Bay, Gales Marsh SWT, Glenalmond, Grimmet, Gull's Walk, Hallowshean, Heads of Ayr, Hunterston lagoon, Hunterston Sands, Kilwinning, Kirrieroch, Laggan Bridge, Lamdoughty, Lands of Turnberry, Lendalfoot, Little Brigurd, Loch Doon, Maidens, Meigle Bay, Middleyard, Millstonford, Nick o' the Balloch, Oldhall Ponds SWT, Pinbain, Poteathbank Cottage, Rowantree Toll, Sandyford Toll, Shawsknowe, Shewalton Sandpits SWT, Southannan Sands, Tarbert Hill, Water of Assel, Waterhead on Minnoch.

Arrival was from late April with 1 Garnock Lagoons 22 Apr, 1 Dunure 23 Apr, 1 Hurlford-Galston disused railway line 25 Apr, 1 Fairways View 26 Apr, 2 Irvine Beach Park 26 Apr, 1 North Croyburnfoot 27 Apr.

In autumn, the last birds appeared at Maidens on 2 Sep, Hawking Craig on 3 Sep, and Garnock Floods SWT on 10 Sep.

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus* C B p

During the breeding season singing ♂♂, or birds in suitable habitat were recorded at Auchencruive, Bargany, Blair Park, Blairquhan Castle , Bogside, Bracken Bay, Crookedholm, Dumfries House, Fairlie Bay, Gales Marsh SWT, Garnock Floods SWT, Girdle Toll, Glen Afton, Hillhouse Quarry, Holmston, Hurlford-Galston disused railway line, Irvine GC, Kilmarnock (Barassie) GC, Kilwinning, Ladyton Loch, Oldhall Ponds SWT, Outerwards, Rozelle, Shewalton Wood SWT, Smuggler's Trail, Tarbert Hill.

The highest counts were 9 Shewalton Wood SWT 11 Jun, 6 Garnock conifer belt 24 Nov.

Eurasian Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes* C B

Territorial or singing ♂♂ were heard at Shewalton Wood SWT (24), Oldhall Ponds SWT (13), Ardeer (5), Culzean (3), Dailly (2), Loch Doon (3), Bogton Loch (2). Widely reported elsewhere.

Counts included 10 Glenalmond 29 May, 9 Loch Nevan 2 Jun, 11 Loch Bradan 2 Jul, 9 Garnock Floods SWT 16 Nov, 1 on seaweed Southannan Sands 13 Dec.



Eurasian Wren at Coylton (Dave Grant)

Eurasian Nuthatch *Sitta europaea* C B

Singing ♂♂ were reported from Ness Glen (2), Alton Albany, Craigenallie, Culzean Castle, Glengennet, Hallowchapel Bridge, Kirkhill House Colmonell, Knockdolian. A ♂ carrying food for young was noted in Pyet Glen on 22 May.

Birds in suitable habitat during the breeding season were also reported from Annbank, Auchencruive, Bargany, Beith, Blair Estate, Brig`o Doon, Crookedholm, Dean Castle Country Park, Dumfries House, Eglinton C P, Glenauchie, Goats Green, Hawking Craig, Holmston, Hunterston House, Hurlford River Irvine Walk, Kilwinning, Knockdolian Barns, Knockshinnoch Lagoons, Martnaham Loch, Loudoun Hill, Loudoun Kirk, Rozelle, Smuggler's Trail, Stair, Tairlaw Linn, Water of Assel, Water of Tig.

Eurasian Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris* C B

Territorial birds in suitable habitat during the breeding season were reported from Aught Wood, Bellsbank, Catrine House, Crookedholm, Dean Castle Country Park, Dumfries House, Girdle Toll, Glenside Wood, Loch Doon, Ness Glen, Smuggler's Trail.

Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris* C B W

Post-breeding flocks included the following: c60 juvs Hunterston Sands 9 Jun, 220+ Saltcoats harbour 21 Jul, c200 Dusk Bridge to Cockenzie 31 Jul, 140 Craig Tara 12 Aug, 260+ Crosshouse 24 Aug, 200+ Stevenston Point 28 Aug.

Winter flocks/migrants included 330 Stevenston Point 8 Feb, 500 East Holmes Marsh 11 Feb, 400 Fail Loch 18 Mar, 1100 Irvine Beach Park 21 Mar, c400 Mhor 15 Oct, c200 Portencross 27 Oct, c250 Dunlop 18 Nov.

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos* C B w P

No significant breeding reports.

Counts and migrants included 8 Hurlford River Irvine walk 30 Mar.

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus* C B W

Birds in suitable habitat during the breeding season were noted at Annbank, Ardeer, Bargany, Blair Estate, Brunston Castle, Camphill Reservoir, East Holmes Marsh, Fairlie Castle, Glen Afton, Glenalmond, Glenauchie-Loch Bradan, Glenburn Reservoir, Hunterston House, Hurlford, Kaimhill Quarry, Kilwinning, Loch Doon, Loch Moan, Loch Nevan, Oldhall Ponds SWT, Routenburn GC, Saltcoats, Seamill, Shewalton Wood SWT, Whitelee.

Counts: 20+ Waterhead on Minnoch 28 Jul.

Redwing *Turdus iliacus* C W P

In the winter-spring period: 300+ Hunterston 6 Jan, c500 on 21 Jan, c700 on 3 Feb, c250 on 28 Feb, 200 on 26 Mar; 2 Hunterston House 7 Apr; 9 New Cumnock 7 Apr.

Autumn arrival was from late September with the main arrival in the second week of October: 12+ Blairbowie 30 Sep, 3 Stewarton 9 Oct, 26 Knockentiber-Springside disused railway line 9 Oct, 44 Martnaham Loch 9 Oct, 250 Barrmill 10 Oct, 60+ Caprington 11 Oct, 70 Crosshill 11 Oct, 100+ South Whittlieburn 11 Oct, 50+ Eglinton 12 Oct, 60+ Garnock E 24 Oct, 70+ Knockentiber-Springside disused railway line 2 Nov, 85 Fullarton Woods 20 Dec, c120 Burn Gill 30 Dec.

Common Blackbird *Turdus merula* C B W p

Singing ♂♂ recorded included birds from Shewalton Wood SWT (9), Culzean Castle Country Park (7), Capringstone (4).

Counts and migrants: 20 Shewalton Wood SWT 11 Jun, 15 Garnock Floods SWT 12 Dec.

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris* C W P

In the winter-spring period: 100 Glenauchie 7 Jan, 112 Martnaham Loch 23 Jan, 80+ Cargilston 8 Feb, 100 East Holmes Marsh 11 Feb, 92 Eglinton 22 Mar, 51 New Cumnock 7 Apr, 10 Bellsbank 16 Apr, 12 Dalrymple 25 Apr.

Autumn arrival was from the second week of October with 2 Auchincross 8 Oct, 12 Martnaham Loch 9 Oct, "small flocks" New Cumnock 10 Oct, 100 Fail 19 Oct, 100+ Largs 22 Oct, 150 Martnaham Loch 22 Oct, 80 Balgreggan 30 Oct, 70 Gass-Grimmet Farms 30 Oct, 90 Hallowshean 30 Oct, 120+ Auchinleck, 2 Nov, 150+ Knockentiber-Springside disused railway line 2 Nov, 100+ Stewarton 2 Nov, 80 Knoweside 7 Nov.

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus* U b S p

Spring passage: ♂ Nick of the Balloch 3 Apr (DG).

A rare late autumn occurrence, with a 1st w ♂ Knoweside 7 Nov (RHH).

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata* C B S p

At least 13 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Aught Wood, Blairquhan Castle, Straiton, Craigencolon, Glenauchie (family party on 8 Jul), Glenmuir, Hunterston, Largs, Loch Doon, Ness Glen, Pyet Glen, Yonderton Farm.

Arrival was from early May with singles at Glen Afton 3 May, Poteathbank Cottage 10 May, and Ness Glen 16 May.

European Robin *Erithacus rubecula* C B W p

Territorial or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Culzean (8), Ardeer (5), Dailly (3).

Counts and migrants included 16 (inc 3 juv) Dundonald Camp 19 Jun, 15 Loch Nevan 2 Jun.

Common Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* C B S p

At least 20 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Craigengillan-Ness Glen (5), Loch Riecawr (3), Lochingerroch (2), Barrhill, Bolt Burn Bridge, Burns' Cairn, Glenauchie, Grimmet, Loch Macaterick, Loch Slochy, Loudoun Hill, Sally Pollock's Bridge, Tairlaw Linn.

Arrival was from mid-April with 1 Loch Doon 15 Apr, 1 Ness Glen 17 Apr, 2 Hawk Hill 25 Apr, 2 singing ♂♂ Loudoun Hill 25 Apr, 1 Molmontend 25 Apr.

No late birds were noted in the autumn.

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra* C B S p

At least 14 territories or singing ♂♂ reported at Barrhill, Beoch Farm, Craigdullyeart (feeding young 6 Aug), Dalnaw, Glen Afton, Glenbuck, Largs, Loch Bradan, Loch Doon, Loch Dornal, Loch Duisk, Loch Nevan, Outerwards, Waterhead on Minnoch.

Arrival was from mid-April with 1 Ardmillan 15 Apr, 1 Shewalton Wood SWT 23 Apr, 1 Stevenston LNR 28 Apr, 3 Dundonald Camp 3 May.

European Stonechat *Saxicola torquata* C B

At least 45 territories or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Ardeer Fen, Auchencrosh, Barrhill, Beith, Benane Head, Beoch Farm, Bogside Flats SSSI, Coal Hill, Crawhin Reservoir, Darnaconner, Darnhay, Delamford, Doonfoot, Dundonald Camp (b/2 on 11 Jun), Finnarts Bay, Garnock East, Garnock Floods SWT, Girvan Waste Water Works, Glebe Knowe (b/1 on 15 Aug), Hawking Craig, Hunterston, Kaim Hill, Kaimhill Quarry, Kellybank, Lamdoughty, Largs, Lendalfoot, Little Brigurd (b/2 on 6 Aug), Loch Bradan, Loch Doon (b/2 on 22 Jun), Loch Dornal (N side), Loch Nevan, North Croyburnfoot, Outerwards, Penwhapple Reservoir (b/2 on 31 May), Pow Burn, Royal Troon GC, Seamill, Shewalton Wood SWT, Stevenston, Troon, White Hill, Whitelee.

Wintering birds (Jan Mar) were reported from Seamill (5), East Holmes Marsh (4), Hunterston (4), Troon harbour (4), Bogside Flats SSSI (3), Bogton Loch (3), Monkton (3), Turnberry (3), Darvel (2+), Barassie (2), Dundonald Camp (2), Garnock Floods SWT (2), Hawking Craig (2), Maidens (2), Portencross (2), Pow Burn (2), Royal Troon GC (2), Shewalton Wood SWT (2), Stevenston (2), Airds Moss, Ardrossan, Auchenharvie, Carleton Port, Dipple, Doonfoot, Drybridge, Fairlie, Far Bowen Craigs, Kilbirnie Loch, Lendalfoot, Loch Doon, Martnaham Loch, Polnessan, Prestwick GC, Southannan Sands, Trabboch.

Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe* C B S P

Territorial or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Beoch-Garpel Bridge (5+), Benquhat-Lethanhill (4), Nick o' the Balloch (2), Ailsa Craig, Bradan Water Treatment Works (2 juvs on 2 Jul), Glenbuck, Knockencorsan, Loch Doon dam, Penwhapple Reservoir, Whitelee.

Arrival was from mid-March with 1 Troon harbour 18 Mar, 1 Prestwick 20 Mar, 1 Troon 20 Mar, 2 Dundonald Camp 21 Mar, 3 Hunterston Sands 26 Mar, 8 Loch Doon 30 Mar, 18 Dundonald Camp 1 May.

In the autumn, the last birds involved 11 Stevenston Point 16 Sep, 1 (Greenland type) Turnberry Point 20 Oct, 1 Prestwick 21 Oct.



Greenland Wheatear at Turnberry Point (*Dave Grant*)

White-throated Dipper *Cinclus cinclus* C B

Birds in suitable habitat during the breeding season were noted at Annbank, Annick Lodge (juv on 20 Aug), Auchencruive, Bargany, Crookedholm, Crossroads (juv on 17 Aug), Dailly, Dumfries House, Glen Afton, Greenockwater Bridge, Hurlford, Hurlford-Galston disused railway line, Kelburn, Kilwinning, Milton, Stewarton.

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. 2 prs built nests in nestboxes at Kirklea in Crosshill.

Counts included: 4 Maidens 13 Feb-3 Mar, 4 St. Quivox 2 Apr, 30+ Fail 17 Aug, 14 West Plann Knockentiber 20 Aug, 4 Knockentiber-Springside disused railway line 9 Oct, 4 Portencross 15 Oct, 3 at garden feeders Kilmaurs 15 Oct, 7+ Hill Street Tarbolton 2 Dec. One or two noted during the winter at Barrmill, Bellisle Farm Galston, Chapeldonan,

Crosbie Church, Hurlford-Galston disused railway line, Loudoun Kirk, Saltcoats, Stair.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* C B

A widespread breeding species.

Very few high counts: 31 Annbank 2 Jan, 30+ Fairlie Bay 2 Apr, c40 Ayr 27 Jul, 80+ Little Raws-Brunthill 17 Aug, c30 Hawthorn Cres, Beith 28 Dec.

Dunnock *Prunella modularis* C B

Few significant breeding reports of this widespread species.

No notable counts were received.

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea* C B S w P

Territorial or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Annbank (3), Alloway, Auchencruive, Balkenna, Bargany, Crookedholm, Crossroads, Dunure, Fairlie, Girvan, Hurlford-Galston disused railway line, Kaimhill Quarry, Kelburn (brood on 2 Jul), Kilbirnie, Killoch, Kilwinning, Largs, Loch Bradan, Loch Doon, Outerwards, Roebank Glen, Rowantree Toll, Water of Tig.

Counts, post-breeding groups, migrants and coastal birds in winter included 1 Seamill 1, 28 Jan, 1 Dipple 23 Jan, 1 Pow Burn 27 Jan, 3 Troon harbour 28 Jan, 1 Maidens 25 Feb, 1 Irvine harbour 18 Nov, 1 Saltcoats harbour 21 Nov, 1 Dipple 21 Nov.

Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba yarrellii* C B

No significant information received on breeding birds.

Counts and migrants included 16 Queen's Drive Kilmarnock 21 Aug, 14 Irvine beach park 23 Aug.

White Wagtail *M. a. alba*

Arrival from 21 Mar with 2 at Bogside Flats and 1 at Nith Bridge.

Migration and counts: 3 Dundonald Camp 23 Mar, 12 on 28 Mar; 1 Hunterston 24 Mar, 1 on 8, 9 Apr, 4 on 28 Apr, 3 on 1 May, 2 on 2 May; 2 Irvine harbour 25 Mar, 2 on 20 Apr; 1 Millstonford Bridge 28 Mar; 1 Capringstone 31 Mar; 4 Balkenna 1 Apr; 1 Fairlie 1 Apr; 2 Auchendarvie GC 4 Apr; 1 Doonfoot 4 Apr; 4 Troon 5 Apr, 4 on 15 Apr; 2 Fail 6 Apr, 3 on 12 Apr, 5 on 13 Apr, 3 on 21 Apr; 1 Maidens 8 Apr, 2 on 17 Apr, 2 on 25 Apr; 1 Laigh Woodston 14 Apr; 1 Saltcoats harbour 16 Apr, 2 on 19 Apr, 5 on 22 Apr, 2 on 24 Apr; 1 Munnoch Reservoir 17 Apr, 2 on 26 Apr; 2 Ayr harbour 17 Apr; 11 Dipple 19 Apr; 1 East Holmes Marsh 21 Apr; 1 Stevenston Point 24 Apr; 7 Barassie 24 Apr; 2 Dunure 25 Apr; 26 Croy 25 Apr, 11 on 28 Apr; 2 Martnaham Loch 25 Apr; 12 Turnberry Point 26 Apr; 26 North Croyburnfoot 27 Apr.

In the autumn: 1 Barassie 10 Sep, 2 Bogside 11 Sep, 1 Capringstone 11 Sep, 1 Garnock Floods SWT 11 Sep, 1

Stevenston Point 18 Sep, 3 Dundonald Camp 20 Sep, 4 Hunterston 30 Sep.



Pied Wagtail at Glen Afton (*Dave Grant*)

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis* C B P

Breeding was widespread once more, with no significant comments on distribution though 7+ were displaying at Cairnfore on 19 Mar.

Winter counts: 30+ Hunterston 6 Jan, 15 Fail 28 Jan.

Spring passage counts included 20 Seamill 19 Mar, 20 Auchmannoch 7 Apr, c40 Burn Gill 14 Apr.

Autumn migrants/post-breeding flocks included 75+ Gass-Grimmet Farms 4 Sep, 20 Stevenston 30 Sep, 40+ Blairbowie 8 Oct, 24 Knockentiber-Springside disused railway line 9 Oct.

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis* C B S p

Territorial or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Loch Riecawr (2), Barrhill, Bellamore, Bolt Burn Bridge, Craigenrae, Craigmalloch, Deil's Elbow, Knockinculloch, Loch Bradan, Loch Doon, Loch Nevan, Loch Skelloch, Ness Glen, Shawsknowe, Shiel Bridge, Whitelee.

Arrival was from late April with 1 Shewalton 28 Apr, 1 Loch Nevan 1 May, followed by a notable arrival from 6 May.

Single autumn migrants were heard calling at Crosshouse on 17 Aug, and West Plann on 23 Aug.



Tree Pipit at Deil's Elbow (Angus Hogg)

European Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus* C B p

Territorial or singing ♂♂ were recorded at Ailsa Craig, Ardrossan harbour, Ardwell, Bennane Head, Girvan, Hunterston Power Station, Hunterston Sands, Lendalfoot, Maidens, Saltcoats harbour, Seamill, Southannan Sands, Stevenston Point, Troon, Turnberry Point.

Counts: 10 Seamill 19 Mar, 12+ Ailsa Craig 3 Sep, 22 Troon 26 Dec.

Eurasian Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs* C B W

No significant breeding records were received.

Counts: very few reports received with c50 Largs Avenue, Largs 5 Feb the being highest.

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla* U W p

In the winter-spring period: 1 Bogton Loch 7-9 Jan, 24 Feb, 1 Mar.

In the autumn: singles at Doonfoot 26 Oct, Largs 1 Nov, Crosbie Church 4 Nov, Crosshill 13 Nov, Barassie 30 Dec.



Brambling at Crosshill (*Angus Hogg*)

Eurasian Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula* C B

Breeding records: pr + b/4 Borland Bridge 9 Aug.

Counts: 15 Dumfries House 28 Jan, 6 Hurlford 27 Mar, 7 Barclaugh Wood 23 Oct, 11 Shewalton Wood SWT 1 Dec, 6 Hurlford-Galston disused railway line 26 Dec. Noted in suburban gardens in winter at Hawthorn Crescent Beith, Inchmurrin Drive Kilmarnock, Woodlands Grove Kilmarnock.

European Greenfinch *Chloris chloris* C B W

No breeding records were submitted this year.

Counts: 20+ Hunterston 6 Jan, 35 Pow Burn 15 Jan, 28+ Girvan 19 Jan, 22 Stevenston Point, 20 Monkton 28 Jan-2 Feb, 20 Maidens 2 Feb, 15 Dipple 13 Feb, 30 Maidens 24 Aug, 40 Ardmillan 11 Nov, 28 Doonfoot 10 Dec.

Twite *Linaria flavirostris* C (B) W

No reports received from mainland breeding locations though singles noted on Ailsa Craig on 15 Apr, 11 Jul and 16 Aug.

Winter-Spring	Counts
Ayr harbour	10 on 11-13 Jan, 8 on 14-15 Jan, 3 on 17 Jan.
Maidens	4 on 6 Jan.
Dipple-Girvan Mains	1 on 23 Jan.

Autumn-Winter	Counts
Saltcoats	6 on 20 Nov.
Troon-Barassie	6 on 13 Nov, 5 on 26 Nov, 6 on 13 Dec.
Doonfoot	12 on 16 Nov, 9 on 26 Nov.
Turnberry Point	10 on 12 Oct.
Dipple-Girvan Mains	c150 on 27 Dec.

Common Linnet *Linaria cannabina* C B

No breeding records were received this year.

Counts: 30 Monkton 28 Jan, c50 Irvine Beach Park 12 Feb, 38 Barassie 12 Feb, 58 Pow Burn 28 Feb, 35 Balkenna 3 Mar, c100 Munnoch Reservoir 17 Apr, 39 Knockentiber-Springside disused railway line 9 Oct.

Redpoll *Acanthis flammea* C B S p

Territorial or singing ♂♂ were reported from Darnaconner, Garpel Bridge, Lamdoughty, Loch Dornal, Loch Maberry (W side), Loch Skelloch, Royal Troon GC. A family party was at Loch Doon Dam on 24 Jul, and other birds were noted in suitable habitat at Craighionn, Dalnaw, Dundonald Camp, Garnock Floods SWT, Irvine Golf Club, Loch Riecawr, Shewalton Wood SWT.

The largest flock counts included: 30+ Shewalton Wood SWT 3 Jan, 15 on 1 Feb; 25+ Eglinton C P 11 Jan; 12 Bogside 25 Oct; 20 Fullarton Woods 20 Dec.

Red Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra* U B w

Singing ♂♂ were reported from Glenauchie, Linnshalloch, and Stinchar Falls. A juvenile was in Ness Glen on 3 Jun.

Birds in suitable breeding habitat were noted at Ballochling, Cairnfore, Clashwine, Corbie, Glenauchie, Hareshawmuir, High Keirs, Loch Bradan, Loch Doon, Loch Finlas, Loch Riecawr, Ness Glen, Stinchar Bridge, Tallaminnoch, Waterhead on

Minnoch.

Counts and post-breeding groups: 14 Loch Nevan 2-Jun, 1 New Cumnock 5 Nov.

European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis* C B W

No breeding records were submitted this year.

Counts: 40 Hurlford-Galston disused railway line 1 Jan, c20 Stevenson Court Largs 9 Jan, 65 Crosshill Kirklea 16 Jan, 30 Hurlford 28 Feb, 28 West Plann 23 Aug, 24 Eglinton C P 23 Aug, 50 Shewalton Wood SWT 27 Aug, 20+ Hawking Craig 3 Sep, 40+ Glenbuck 4 Sep, 80+ Stevenston Point 16 Sep, 23 Fullarton Sq Irvine 7 Oct, 35+ Auchincross 22 Oct.

Eurasian Siskin *Spinus spinus* C B W p

No significant breeding information was received.

Counts: 51 Annbank 2 Jan, 50+ Eglinton C P 3 Jan, c50 West Kilbride 7 Jan, 25 Kay Park 16 Jan, 50+ Ardmillan 27 Jan, 21 Oldhall Ponds SWT 2 Feb, 60+ Crosshill Kirklea 10 Feb, 20 Loch Nevan 2 Jun.

Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis* U W p

The only record was of 1 flying south at Maidens on 11 Oct (RHH).

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citronella* C B

Territorial ♂♂ were noted at Bellslea, Bower Hill, Bracken Bay, Craig Tara, Croy, Croy Bay, Culzean Castle, Doonfoot, Dunure, East Balig Cottage, East Mains Farm, Fail Loch, Girdle Toll, Glenalmond, Greenan, Heads of Ayr, Hurlford River Irvine Walk, Hurlford-Galston disused railway line, Martnaham Loch, North Croyburnfoot, Turnberry Point.

Counts: 12 Knockentiber-Springside disused railway line 9 Oct, 10 on 2 Nov; 13 Doonfoot 10 Dec.

Common Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus* C B

Territorial or singing ♂♂ were noted at Afton Dam, Airds Moss, Ardeer, Ardeer Fen, Ardeer Pipe Embankment, Ardrossan, Balkenna, Beith, Benquhat-Lethanhill, Bogside, Bogton Loch, Dundonald Camp, East Holmes Marsh, East Holmes Pit, Garnock Crematorium, Garnock Floods SWT, Garnock Lagoons, Garpel Bridge, Girvan Waste Water Works, Greenockwater Bridge, Gull's Walk, Hawking Craig, Hurlford Cessnock Water, Hurlford River Irvine Walk, Hurlford-Galston disused railway line, Irvine GC, Kilbirnie Loch, Knockshinnoch Lagoons, Ladyton Loch, Lendalfoot, Loch Doon, Loch Maberry (W side), Martnaham Loch, Oldhall Ponds SWT, Shewalton Sandpits SWT, Shewalton Wood SWT, Tarryholme, Trabboch, Water of Assel, Whitelee.

Counts: 13 Martnaham Loch 20 Jan, 13 Bogside 25 Oct.

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	Greater White-fronted Goose (Eurasian race)
A	Bewick's (Tundra) 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	Rock Ptarmigan
A	Western Capercaillie
A	Common Quail
A	European Nightjar
S	Alpine Swift
B	Great Bustard
B	Pallas's Sandgrouse
A	European Turtle Dove
A	Corn Crake
A	Spotted Crake
B	Little Crake
A	Common Crane
A	Red-necked Grebe
A	Slavonian Grebe
A	Black-necked Grebe
A	Pied 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	Eurasian 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	Eurasian 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	Bohemian Waxwing
A	Marsh Tit
A	Willow Tit
A	Shore (Horned) Lark
S	Cetti's Warbler
A	Yellow-browed Warbler
S	Pallas's Warbler
A	Common (Siberian) Chiffchaff
A	Common Reed Warbler
A	Common 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