

## NOVEMBER 2016

**30 November: Islay:** the pale wheatear on Islay after further study of photographs from Mike Peacock has been identified as an **Isabelline Wheatear** subject to acceptance by the BBRC. It is hoped to get confirmatory photos of the tail and underwing detail if it continues hangs around...(Jim Dickson).

**27 November: Islay:** a very pale wheatear was seen at Machir Bay (Mike Peacock/Ian Brooke/Peter Roberts) and was probably the same bird seen there on 23 Nov. It required close study to rule out Isabelline Wheatear however in the end it was considered to be a very late, pallid **Northern Wheatear** and perhaps the latest ever in Argyll by a few days.



Wheatear - Islay 27 Nov (Mike Peacock).



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**26 November: Mid-Argyll:** On the ABC trip to Loch Gilp & the Add Estuary today the highlights were a **Kingfisher** and 2 **Long-tailed Ducks** at Loch Gilp and a **Waxwing** in Ardrishaig in the morning and then a **Peregrine** carrying off a wader at Loch Gilp in the afternoon (Jim Dickson). Mike Harrison spotted 3 m **Black Grouse** as he headed back north across the Moine Mhor.

**Kintyre:** A **Little Egret** near Kennacraig, West Loch Tarbert around mid-day (Toby Green).

**Tiree:** a juv **Glaucous Gull** was at Loch a' Phuill this afternoon (John Bowler).



Glaucous Gull - Tiree 26 Nov (John Bowler).



Little Egret - West Loch Tarbert 26 Nov (Toby Green).



Black Grouse - Moine Mhor 26 Nov (Mike Harrison).

**25 November: Mid-Argyll:** now 51 **Dunlins** at Loch Gilp. 82 **Barnacle Geese** in the Canada Goose flock at Barsloisnoch are new. A single ad **Lesser Black-backed Gull** at the Add Estuary (Jim Dickson). As I drove past the head of Loch Fyne today I saw a white-winged gull (maybe the long staying **Glaucous** from last winter)– prob 2CY, maybe 3CY. ID still to be confirmed (David Jardine). Got a message from Jo Markland in Oban to say her neighbours had a **Hawfinch** in their garden.

**Tiree:** 1 **Woodcock** in our garden at Balephuill this am also 1 *abietinus*-type **Chiffchaff** at Mannal (John Bowler).

**24 November: Mid-Argyll:** A flock of around 30 **Waxwings** this afternoon in the grounds of the Argyll & Bute Hospital, Lochgilphead (Christine Urquhart) and later 18 birds nearby at Manse Brae, probably part of the same group (Jim Dickson). **Kingfisher** again at Loch Gilp pier (David Jardine).

**Tiree:** 1 **Coal Tit** again at the Glebe, where also 1 **Pink-footed Goose** in with 2,400 **Barnacle Geese** (3 ringed birds). 3 **Little Grebe** at Loch Bhasapol (John Bowler).



Barnacles and a Pink-footed Goose- Tiree 24 Nov (John Bowler).

**22 November: Islay:** A m **Green-winged Teal** with 150+ Teal from the viewing platform overlooking Gruinart floods/scrapes this afternoon (Toby Green per Angus Murray).

**21 November: Mid-Argyll:** A **Kingfisher** at Furnace, Loch Fyne around mid-day. At Loch Gilp: 32 **Dunlin**, 27 **Ringed Plover** and 2 **Red Knot** plus a **Grey Wagtail**, however counts disrupted by presence of a hovercraft! Also at Cairnbaan 8 **Long-tailed Tits** on feeders (Jim Dickson).

**Islay:** A **Red Kite** over Kinnabus and a **Long-tailed Duck** on the loch this afternoon – both firsts on the reserve for me (David Wood).



Grey Wagtail - Loch Gilp 21 Nov (Jim Dickson).



Long-tailed Tits- - Cairnbaan 21 Nov (Jim Dickson).



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**20 November: Islay:** A **Little Egret** was reported from Machir Bay this afternoon (Toby Green per Angus Murray).

**Tiree:** 2CY **Iceland Gull** at Kilkenneth – quite likely the bird that over-summered there. 1 m Blackcap at Balephuil (John Bowler).



Blackcap - Tiree 20 Nov (John Bowler).



Iceland Gull - Tiree 20 Nov (John Bowler).



Little Egret - Islay 20 Nov (Toby Green).

**19 November: Tiree:** 1f **Blackcap** at Balephuill, 1 imm/f **Greater Scaup** at Loch a' Phuill (John Bowler).

**18 November: Mid-Argyll: Whooper Swans** heard over Cairnbaan at 01:50 hrs (Jim Dickson).

**Cowal:** a m **Blackcap** in my garden at Corra farm, 2 **Dippers** at the mouth of the Killail burn and a f **Merlin** on the wall at Killail. Also, throughout the day hundreds of gulls and auks (mainly **Razorbills**) actively feeding from Loch Gair through the Otter Ferry narrows (Tom Callan).

**17 November: Cowal:** 33 **Turnstones**, 16 **Ringed Plovers**, and 2 **Redshanks** at Cluniter, Dunoon. Also 11 **Purple Sandpipers** at Crazy Golf, Dunoon (Tom Callan).

**16 November: Mid-Argyll:** The WeBS count of 67 **Eider** on Loch Etive today was the highest since March 2007 (Mike Harrison).

**15 November: Tiree:** a drake **Green-winged Teal** new at Clachan – very distant in with 190 Teal, also 1 **Pale-bellied Brent Goose** at Sorobaidh Bay and 1 imm/f **Greater Scaup** at Loch a' Phuill (John Bowler).

**13 November: Mid-Argyll:** A **Kingfisher** on shore at Ardrishaig today during WEBS count and 3 **Black-throated Divers** out from the harbour (David Jardine).

**Kintyre:** Katie Pendreigh noted a **Barn Swallow** at Tayinloan on 9 Nov.

**11 November: Mid-Argyll:** Andy Paton got in touch to say he saw 3 **Black Grouse** together in the central forested part of the Moine Mhor on 30 Oct and has had two sightings of m **Hen Harrier** there. He also reported 50 **Lesser Redpolls** and 4 **Woodcock** near Rhudle Mill on 4 Nov.

A flock of 155 **Woodpigeons** flew over Cairnbaan this morning heading S towards Knapdale forest (Jim Dickson).

**Tiree:** 1 **Waxwing** briefly and a 1m **Blackcap** at Balephuill this morning (John Bowler).

**10 November: Mid-Argyll:** The Connel **Waxwing** flock appears to be 28 strong when they all stick together. This morning they were dispersed over an area of perhaps 400m square feeding on various bushes or perching in tree tops. They were also flycatching on flights from or between the perch trees (Mike Harrison).



Waxwings - Connel 10 Nov (Mike Harrison).



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**09 November: Tiree:** 1 Coal Tit, 1 Mistle Thrush, 1 Chiffchaff, 3 Goldcrests, 3 Greenfinch, 2 Goldfinch, 30 Redwings and

2 **Dunnocks** at the Glebe. 2 **Pale-bellied Brent Geese** and 2 **Black-headed Gulls** at Gott Bay (John Bowler).

**Mid-Argyll:** 1 f **Kingfisher** and 1 **Dipper** at the head of Loch Gilp this morning (Jim Dickson).

**08 November: Mid-Argyll:** A **Brambling** in the garden at Connel this morning (Mike Harrison).

**Tiree:** A 1 hour sea-watch from Hynish in SE7 with rain produced (all heading SW): 1 **Sooty Shearwater**, 1 **Pomarine Skua**, 224 **Gannets**, 26 **Kittiwakes**, 16 **large auks**, 24 **Shag**, 4 **Fulmars** and 1 **Great Northern Diver** (John Bowler).

**07 November: Tiree:** 1 **Yellow-browed Warbler** still at Balephuill (has been seen here daily since 31 October), also 1 **Fieldfare** and 10 **Goldfinch**. An immature **Sea-Eagle** at Loch a' Phuill – also 1 **Slavonian Grebe** new there, 2 imm /f **Greater Scaup**, 48 **Goldeneye**, 92 **Tufted Duck**, 3 **Pintail** and 1 **Jackdaw** – no sign of the Ring-necked Duck but many ducks on far side of loch (John Bowler).

**Mull:** Photographing Otters on Loch Beg today and a flock of 10 **Long-tailed Tits** came flashing past - at least two of the birds were the '**Northern**' variety! (Bryan Rains/Stephen Hiscock). Note: if accepted by the BBRC this would become the first record in Argyll of this race from Scandinavia and European Russia through to northern Asia and is noted as rare on the east coast and northern isles of the UK. (Jim Dickson).



'Northern' Long-tailed Tit - Loch Beg, Mull 7 Nov (Bryan Rains).



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**06 November: Cowal:** a report of a **Nuthatch** at Glendaruel caravan park on 25 Sep (Allister Hamilton). A male **Hen Harrier** at Kilfinan (Yvonne McCrone).

**05 November: Mid-Argyll:** A report of 6 **Waxwings** seen today in Connel (Mike Harrison).

**Dunoon:** A hirundine was observed in Kirn (Dunoon) this afternoon. Initially thought to be a late **House Martin** the bird showed a fanned/rounded tail, brownish wings and brown wash on the underparts so identity is still unknown....hopefully will be seen again (Sybil Baldwin).

**Tiree:** An immature male **Ring-necked Duck** at Loch a' Phuill plus 2m **Pochard** and 1 imm/f **Greater Scaup** (John Bowler).

**04 November: Cowal:** 4 **Common Crossbills**, plus lots of **Goldfinch**, **Redpolls** and **Chaffinch** as well as various thrushes in Dunoon garden today (George Newall).

**Mid-Argyll:** 8 **Woodpegeons**, first here for a while, and 2 **Jays** in the Cairnbaan area with m **Blackcap** again there. Also 2 **Moorhens** on the Crinan canal at Crinan wood. (Jim Dickson).

**03 November: Mid-Argyll:** Morag Rea kindly sent some thrush photos taken at Tayvallich recently.



Redwing - Tayvallich 29 Oct (Morag Rea).



Blackbird - Tayvallich 29 Oct (Morag Rea).

**02 November: Islay:** In calm conditions this afternoon a count of divers between Port Charlotte and Gartbreck/Laggan Point produced 48 **Great Northern Divers**, 9 **Red-throated Divers** and 87 **Common Scoters** (Mike Peacock).

**Tiree:** 1 **Waxwing**, 1 **Yellow-browed Warbler** and 3 **Blackcaps** at Balephuill (John Austin).  
2 **Snow Buntings** at Sandaig (Janet Hunter).

**Cowal:** About 10 Purple **Sandpipers** new in at Dunoon crazy golf area and a mixed flock of about 30 on far end of breakwater evenly split with **Turnstones** (George Newall).

**Mid-Argyll:** 12 **Greenland White-fronted Geese** at Loch na Cille, just before you go onto the Isle of Danna (Peter Douglas).