

**June 2010**  
**Number 93**

# The Eider



A slightly ruffled male Northern Wheatear taken in early May ©Eddie Maguire

**Silver Jubilee Indoor Meeting and Celebrations**

**Biodiversity on your doorstep**

**Britain's last resident orca's**

**BTO survey guide**

**Recent Reports**

## Editor

Mark Williamson: Port Ban, Kilberry,  
Argyll PA29 6YD

Phone: 07731 640804

E-mail: [me41.williamson@btinternet.com](mailto:me41.williamson@btinternet.com)



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## Acknowledgements

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John Bowler, BTO, Danielle Clark, Paul Daw, Eddie Maguire, Nigel Scriven, Morven Summers HWDT.

## Editorial

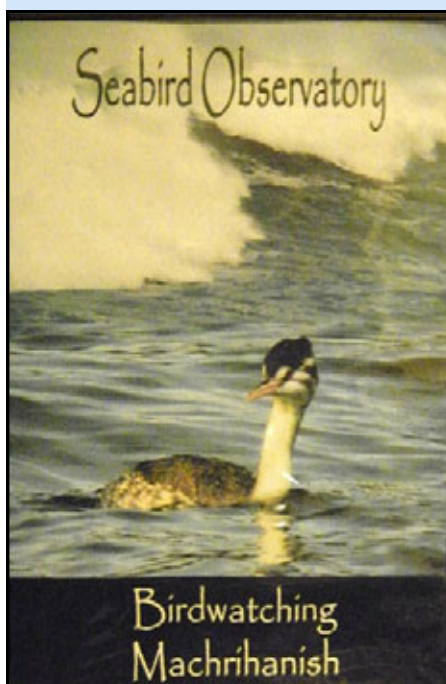
This year has been designated the international year of biodiversity and this will be the theme of the autumn meeting. There is no doubt that many of our eco-systems are in trouble, whether the cause be over-fishing of the oceans, pollution of the air with hazardous chemicals or poor land management caused by short term needs, such as the large-scale destruction of the rainforests for quick profit or agricultural use. This loss of biodiversity on a large scale undermines the health of our planet—these eco-systems provide us with essential services, the purification of air and water, raw materials, protection from disasters such as floods and droughts and allow us to face and adapt to climate changes.

Now, you may feel after reading this that it is an ugly business being part of the human race and that the only thing to do is to either hide away and do nothing, join a monastery, or out of an overwhelming sense of guilt rush headlong into the latest conservation activity only to grind to a halt at a later date, with the need for psychotherapeutic intervention. Alternatively, a more balanced approach can be followed which seeks to become more aware of the surrounding environment and provides intervention and support for the biodiversity in Argyll. On an educational and political level: joining nationally recognised conservation organisations and local clubs such as ABC who can lobby MP's and local councils on your behalf. Or, share your interests in the environment with others in both formal and informal settings in order to promote greater involvement in the environment. On a practical level, change your garden for wildlife, feed the birds, put up nest-boxes, the list is endless-

**but you can make a difference.**

Incidentally, the volcanic eruption in Iceland seems to have done some good—obviously less harmful gases from airplanes have been released into the atmosphere and the ash cloud deflected much of the sun's harmful rays back into space. So, it isn't all bad.....

## MSBO DVD



If you enjoyed Eddie's last production **Bay of Storms**, then you will enjoy this latest dvd. The accompanying music to the 26min disc is **totally** Scottish/Irish folk & includes **Archie McCallister** (Scottish champion fiddler), **Davie Robertson** (front man for the Campbeltown based folk group the '**Wee Toon Tellers**'), '**The Gallaghers**' (an Irish folk band based in Wolverhampton) and Eddie Maguire singing a song about the old Drumlemble school in The Laggan! The DVD includes mainly images that were taken last year; birds include rarities/common species, seals, otters, people & scenery... Enquiries to **Eddie Maguire** [machrihanishbirds@btinternet.com](mailto:machrihanishbirds@btinternet.com)

## Field Trips


**June:** Jura. This proposed field trip to north Jura has been cancelled for this year as there were too few people expressing an interest, and the timing of the tides made a boat trip to Inverlussa impossible on the proposed weekend.

**26th June** Skipness. Meet 10 am. This will involve a walk from the Seafood Cabin car park through the woods and fields around the castle and returning along the coast.

**August:** Saturday 28 August, Muster at 12 noon at Kennacraig ferry terminal for a round trip to Port Askaig leaving at 1300hrs and returning at 1735hrs.

**September:** 25th provisional trip to Machrihanish Seabird Observatory. More information will be published in the September Eider.

## Argyll Bird Club indoor meeting

Saturday 6th November 2010 AUTUMN MEETING PROGRAMME		
0930	Doors open and coffee/tea	
0950 - 1000	Welcome & introduction <i>Nigel Scriven, Chairman of the Argyll Bird Club</i>	
1000 - 1015	Recent birds sightings <i>Paul Daw, Argyll Bird Recorder</i>	
1015 – 1045	Biodiversity in Argyll: Past, Present and Future <i>Marina Curran-Colthart</i>	
1045 – 1100	Argyll Bird Club’s Contribution to Argyll’s BAP <i>Nigel Scriven</i>	
1100 - 1120	Coffee/tea	
1120 – 1150	Threats to Biodiversity 1: Mink	
1150 – 1220	Threats to Biodiversity 1: Wind farms	
1220 - 1340	Lunch (available in the hotel)	
1340 - 1420	Annual General Meeting	
1420 – 1450	Monitoring Bird Biodiversity 1:	
1450 – 1450	Monitoring Bird Biodiversity 2: Black Grouse in Argyll <i>Alison Philip</i>	
1515 - 1540	Tea/coffee	
1540 - 1600	Practical Backyard Biodiversity: Gardening for birds	
1600 - 1615	Raffle and end of meeting	



## Silver Jubilee Dinner Cairnbaan Hotel

A Silver Jubilee celebration dinner at Cairnbaan Hotel has been organised to follow after our meeting on 6th November, 2010 at a cost of £25 per person. The menu will comprise 3 courses with choices as follows -

### ***Starter***

Prawn Marie rose in a basket of crisp lettuce

**or**

Hot smoked Salmon on a bed of mixed leaves with sour cream

### ***Main Course***

Barbreck Gigot of lamb enriched with garlic and fresh rosemary glaze

**or**

Baked fillet of Chicken stuffed with Haggis with a whisky and Thyme sauce.

### ***Sweets***

Profiteroles with chocolate sauce

**or**

Raspberry Cranachan with hazelnut shortbread

### ***Coffee and Petit Fours***

( Soup will be available as an alternative starter, and there will be a vegetarian option for the main dish )

**To assist with catering please complete the form below and return it with £25 per person** (cheque made payable to Argyll Bird Club) to Katie Pendreigh, The Whins, Ferry Road, Tayinloan, Argyll PA29 6XQ

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Number of people attending.....

Payment enclosed.....

### Accommodation within 5 miles of Cairnbaan Hotel

Name & address	Tel	Web Address	Ensuite	Double B&B	Miles ex Cairnbaan
Bellanoach House, Bellanoach, Lochgilphead PA31 8SN	01546 830149	www.bellanoachhouse.co.uk/home.php	All rooms	£90	3
The Corran, Poltalloch St Lochgilphead PA31 8LR	01546 603866	myweb.tiscali.co.uk/lamonthoy/index.htm	All rooms	£65	2.5
Dunchraigaig House, Kilmartin, Lochgilphead PA31 8RG	01546 605300	www.dunchraigaig.co.uk/43.html	All rooms	£70	4
Somerled, Bridgend, Lochgilphead PA31 8QA	01546 605226		All rooms	£70	2
Horseshoe Inn, Bridgend, Lochgilphead, PA31 8QA	01546 602305	www.horseshoeinn.biz/index.htm	All rooms	£65	2
Royal Hotel, Ardrishaig, Lochgilphead PA30 8EU	01546 606017	www.royalhotelargyll.com/index.htm	All rooms	£75	3.5
Empire Travel Lodge, Union Street, Lochgilphead PA31 8JS	01546 602381	www.empirelodge.co.uk/index.htm	All rooms	£60	2.5
White Rock, Tayvallich, Lochgilphead PA31 8PF	01546 870310	www.whiterock-argyll.co.uk/	One	£58	5

The above list is not an exhaustive list of accommodation in the Cairnbaan area, neither does the list represent any form of recommendation for the accommodation shown.

**Cairnbaan Hotel** is offering Bed and Breakfast rates @ £132 for a double room and £79 for a single room although it may be worth contacting Mr Dobson, the hotel manager, for any special offers.

### Photographic Competition 2010

By now, you should have heard that the Oban Times and the Argyll Bird Club are running a **photographic competition** to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the club.

The competition is open to members and non-members as well.

**Cash prizes** will be awarded for both adult and junior categories for the **best pictures of wild birds taken in Argyll**.

**The top junior entry**, by someone under 18 on 21st August 2010, will win the Oban Times prize of a digital camera. Second prize is £30 and

third prize is £20. In the **adult competition**, first prize is £50, second prize £30 and third £20.

**Entries can be submitted by email** to [comp@argyllbirdclub.org](mailto:comp@argyllbirdclub.org) till 31st August 2010 and will be featured on the website throughout the competition. Public voting will start 1st September and close 10th October 2010. **The winners** will be announced in the Oban Times and on the ABC website in time for the prize-giving at the ABC autumn meeting on 6th November 2010.

## Notes



The garden today - bluebells in bloom



Pond formed from an open drain

A young Dunnock—one of the successes



### Biodiversity on your doorstep....

By M Williamson

Last year Katie Pendreigh submitted an article about her efforts to provide nestboxes for Oystercatchers in her garden. Katie has again been rewarded with fledgling Oystercatchers in her garden this year. So, I thought I would write about my own exploits at Port Ban.

I have long been interested in habitat conservation and adaptation and had the opportunity to assist the RSPB warden in creating some wet-land habitat for wading birds when I lived on Tiree. Similarly, I have been given the charge of creating/ conserving habitats on the caravan park where I live and work. Where better to start than in my own garden?

I inherited a triangle of willow scrub and bracken, interspersed with bluebells. I knew that I would have to clear the willow scrub and remove the bracken if the bluebells and other wild flowers were to be encouraged to spread. In addition, I noticed that a small party of House Sparrows and Greenfinches liked to gather around the reception area- so maybe I could provide habitat for breeding. About 30 feet of willow scrub was removed immediately ( the bracken took about 3 years to eradicate by hand ). The branches of the willow scrub were interwoven into bramble growing around the edges of the garden. I built a small garden shed with a turf roof which seems to have attracted bumble and solitary bees. I brushed all the trees around the garden ( sycamore, whitebeam, willow and spruce ) to a height of 6 feet to allow more light penetration. I'm glad to report that the bluebells are thriving and attracting butterflies such as Peacock and good numbers of bees. The bramble has woven around the discarded willow branches to form an impenetrable thicket. The House Sparrows and Greenfinches have bred each year and increased in numbers. In addition, Dunnock, Blackbird, Song Thrush, Robin, Willow Warbler and Sedge Warbler have used the hedging in which to breed and roost. The thicket also provides good cover for the smaller

birds in winter- there are regularly over 100 Chaffinches, 40+ House Sparrows, 8 Greenfinches, Robin and Dunnock visiting my feeding station- which attracts the attention of Sparrowhawks!!!

The final part of the work in the garden has involved the creation of a pond. This was done by damming an open drain and putting in a simple sluice. The pond is used for breeding by toads, frogs and newts and provides a watering hole for the resident birds.

Although not very scientific, this small project has benefitted wildlife and it looks pretty good too!

## Britain's last resident 'orca' population



The Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust (HWDT) and PhD student Andy Foote have together been studying the small population of killer whales that inhabit the waters off the west coast of Scotland.

The 'west coast community', as they are known in the field, is only thought to consist of nine animals. Using a technique called photo-identification (photo-ID), each animal in the group can be recognised by the unique

markings on their dorsal fins. The photo-ID studies have also revealed that of the nine individuals, there are four males and five females. All the animals associate with each other although some individuals are more regularly sighted together than others. The conservation status of the group is thought to be critical

since no live calves have been sighted since research began almost two decades ago.

Photo-ID has also helped HWDT better understand the wide-ranging nature of these apex predators. Although, dubbed the 'west coast community', in the past two months sightings

off Ireland have been reported, on one occasion all nine individuals were present off the Cork coast. An extremely distinctive male 'John Coe' (pictured below left) was also sighted off the Pembrokeshire coast in 2008 and 2007. However, Andy Foote's research into orca populations of the north east Atlantic has shown that there is no association between the Hebridean orca and the groups found around the rest of Scotland's coast, mainly off the coasts of Orkney and Shetland. Moreover, recent findings have revealed that the populations are also morphologically different, suggesting separate ancestry. Genetic analysis indicates the twotypes belong to two different populations.



© Nienke van Geel

"Type 1 specimens (groups found in the Northern regions) were from closely related lineages, but the type 2 whales (the west coast community) were more closely related to a group of Antarctic killer whales," Dr. Foote explains.

Unlike the other orca populations in the north Atlantic, who feed on pelagic fish and seals, HWDT still have little evidence of what the west coast group are feeding on, although it is likely that they are feeding on other cetaceans, such as harbour porpoises and possibly minke whales. Differentiation in tooth wear from stranded orca has allowed Foote to highlight this difference in diet and ecological niche; the west coast community have virtually

no tooth wear while in the other groups adults have worn their teeth down quite substantially.

There is still much to learn about the Hebridean orca. Only with continued study can we better understand the only 'resident' population found in British waters. HWDT Chairman, Maxwell MacLeod said "I find it really alarming that no youngsters have been seen for such a long time. It is vital that we maintain this research as we know so little about the role these animals play in our eco-system." Every year HWDT welcomes volunteers on board their research yacht *Silurian* to assist with data collection from on board. These cetacean research surveys, alongside reports from the public and other organisations, have allowed for more information on Scotland's cetaceans to become apparent. If you would like to join HWDT onboard or would like to report a sighting please visit [www.hwdt.org](http://www.hwdt.org)



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**Morven Summers HWDT**



## BTO Surveys: a guide for volunteers

[www.bto.org/survey](http://www.bto.org/survey)

### Wetland Bird Survey WeBS ( Large Sites )

Help monitor the UK's internationally important waterbirds by adopting a site and counting the birds once per month.

#### *Time commitment and skill level*

Ability to identify all species of waterbird at selected sites, ability to estimate numbers accurately.

One visit per month during September to March. Duration of visit varies depending upon the size of site.

[www.bto.org/webs](http://www.bto.org/webs)

### Breeding Bird Survey BBS

BBS is the major survey for measuring the populations of widespread breeding bird species in the UK. The survey involves recording all birds seen and heard in randomly selected 1– kilometre squares.

#### *Time commitment and skill level*

Able to identify birds by sight, song and call.

3 visits between April and June. Visits take approximately 1.5 hours each to complete

[www.bto.org/bbs](http://www.bto.org/bbs)

### Waterways Breeding Bird Survey WBBS

Like BBS, but measuring change in breeding bird populations along rivers and canals.

#### *Time commitment and skill level*

Able to identify birds by sight, song and call.

3 visits between April and June. Visits take approximately 1.5 hours each to complete

[www.bto.org/survey/wbbs](http://www.bto.org/survey/wbbs)

**Are you able to recognise some common birds by sight?**

**YES**

**Are you able to recognise a range of common birds by sight, song and call?**

**YES**

**Are you able to recognise most birds by sight, song and call?**

**YES**

**Then these surveys could be for you**

### Bird Atlas 2007– 2011 Timed Tetrads

Help to cover every 10km square of Britain and Ireland by taking on a 2x2 kilometre square and record all the birds you see and hear in the winter and breeding seasons.

#### *Time commitment and skill level*

Able to identify all birds likely to occur by sight, song and call. Minimum of 2x one hour visits.

[www.birdatlas.net](http://www.birdatlas.net)



**Unable to recognise a range of common birds by sight, song and call?  
Then these surveys could be for you**

**Nest Record Scheme**

Count the eggs and chicks in any nest you find and send in your observations. You can submit records for any species in any habitat, including gardens.

*Time commitment and skill level*

One of the simplest surveys to take part in. You can choose whether to monitor a single garden nestbox or carry out a larger study.

[www.bto.org/survey/nest\\_records](http://www.bto.org/survey/nest_records)

**Bird Atlas 2007– 11  
Roving Records**

An exciting 4– year project which will map the distribution and abundance of all the birds of Britain and Ireland. Just record any bird, any time, any where. If you see it, record and we'll map it!

*Time commitment and skill level*

Only record birds that you can identify with confidence. No minimum time.

[www.birdatlas.net](http://www.birdatlas.net)

**Garden BirdWatch**

By recording the birds using your garden each week throughout the year, you can help provide vital information about this important habitat. Anyone can take part, whether you have a window box or a mansion.

*Time commitment and skill level*

Able to identify common garden birds by sight. No minimum time commitment.

[www.bto.org/gbw](http://www.bto.org/gbw)

**Unable to recognise most birds by sight, song and call?  
Then these surveys could be for you**

**Birdtrack**

An online project which plots the arrival and departure of migrants and maps the distribution of species throughout the year. Taking part in Bird-Track is easy and fun and it's a great place to store your bird records.

*Time commitment and skill level*

No minimum time commitment. Only record birds that you can identify with confidence.

[www.birdtrack.net](http://www.birdtrack.net)

**Wetland Bird Survey ( Small Sites )**

Help monitor the UK's internationally important waterbirds by adopting a site and counting the birds once per month.

*Time commitment and skill level*

Ability to recognise the restricted number of species of waterbird at your selected site.

One visit per month, ideally at least September to March. Duration of visit varies depending upon size of site.

[www.bto.org/webs](http://www.bto.org/webs)

**Ringling Scheme**

Marking birds with individually numbered rings allows us to follow bird movements, calculate their chances of survival and monitor their populations.

*Time commitment and skill level*

Training to ring requires time and dedication, and to reach the level to ring independently you will need to train for at least 18 months. Basic bird id skills and a reasonable level of dexterity are advantageous.

If you find a ringed bird, report it at [www.ring.ac](http://www.ring.ac)

[www.bto.org/ringing](http://www.bto.org/ringing)

Bird Atlas is a joint project between BTO, SOC and Birdwatch Ireland. Birdtrack is a partnership project between BTO, RSPB, Birdwatch Ireland and SOC, Breeding Bird Survey is a partnership between BTO, JNCC and RSPB. Nest Record Scheme is a partnership between BTO and JNCC. Wetland Bird Survey is a partnership between BTO, RSPB and JNCC with support from WWT.

## Recent Reports

### February- April 2010

Paul Daw

(Tel. 01546 886260)

e-mail:

[monedula@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:monedula@globalnet.co.uk)

The latest news on bird sightings in Argyll is available on the Argyll Bird Club website at [www.argyllbirdclub.org](http://www.argyllbirdclub.org) See 'Click here for latest bird reports' on the home page.

#### ARGYLL SPRING MIGRANTS 2010 – early arrivals & passage migrants

This report focuses on the arrival of spring migrants in the county. I have included in the species table not just the first arrivals but as many other records as possible to give the fullest possible picture of the overall pattern. This had meant that the remaining recent reports are very brief and include just the highlights. As always, thanks are due to all those who took the trouble to send in records. We have had a very good response to the request for arrival dates of spring migrants in Argyll and as a result have a good picture of the pattern this year. Many thanks to all of you. If any of you have observations that would add to this picture it is not too late to send them in.



A significant find this Spring– male Stonechat at Port Ban ©editor

**Where have all the Robins (etc) gone?** Jim Dickson and others have already commented on the disappearance of a large part of our Stonechat population, presumably as a result of the recent unusually cold weather. There are already signs that this has had an effect on other resident breeding species. In my case it's the Robins. For the first time since we moved to Tullochgorm (near Minard) 14 years ago there are no Robins breeding in or near our garden – usually there are at least 2 pairs. In fact I haven't seen one in the garden at all for at least 4 weeks! My neighbours have also commented on this. Robins have also been very thin on the ground during Bird Atlas timed tetrad visits in the Inveraray area this spring. Wrens also seem to have been affected. John Halliday has been carrying out Common Bird Censuses at Taynish NNR for the past 20 years and I asked him if he had noticed anything similar there during census work this spring. He tells me that numbers of Robins, Wrens, Song Thrushes and Blackbirds are definitely well down at Taynish this year.

I'd be very interested to hear if any of you have noticed anything similar in your gardens – or indeed if you have an abundance of all these species.

**Spring arrival pattern.** Despite the very cold weather this winter and early spring several migrants were relatively early. However, arrival times are usually more to do with weather patterns further south. A very early **Osprey** was seen over the "roadside lochs" on Coll on 21 March but the main arrival at nest sites, around 27/28 March was more typical. The first **Corn Crakes** arrivals, on 9 April on Coll and Iona, were again on the early side – similar to 2009. Following one at Loch Gru-

inart, Islay on 27 March the main arrival of **Whimbrel** started at Machrihanish Seabird Observatory on 12 April - see below for details of an exceptional passage in Argyll. **Greenshanks** are relatively common in winter here these days so it's hard to tell them from passage birds. However **Greenshanks** at West Loch Tarbert on 10 March and Machrihanish Seabird Observatory and Escart, Kintyre on 29 March were probably early migrants.

The first **Common Sandpiper** on Ormidale, Cowal on 9 April was on the early side and from 12 April, when one was at Loch Nell, Mid-Argyll, records were fairly widespread. Two early **Sandwich Terns** were at Machrihanish Seabird Observatory on 21 March but other tern species appear to have been rather late in arriving, most not being reported until near the end of April.

The earliest **Common Cuckoos** reported so far were in the Glen Euchar/Scammadale on 10 and 12 April, slightly earlier than usual. It's good to report that from 13 April there were reports from many areas and first impressions are that numbers are up on last year's poor showing. Dunoon and Oban had their first **Common Swifts** on 6 and 8 May respectively, again slightly earlier than usual.

Two early **Sand Martins** at A' Chleit on the W coast of Kintyre on 25 March were much as normal. They were followed by 20 or more over Loch Ederline, Mid-Argyll on 27 March and by 10 April most Argyll areas had birds. Although the first **Barn Swallows**, on Islay on 2 April and at Ardpatrik Home Farm, Mid-Argyll on 4 April were not especially early the main arrival was, with widespread records from 7 to 10 April. No **House Martins** were reported until two appeared at Bellanoch, Mid-Argyll on 10 April. Several people have commented on the lack of **House Martins** generally – I have still not seen one at Tullochgorm (Minard) . I'd be interested to hear from anyone who has noticed the same thing, or indeed from anyone who has plenty of them!

**Tree Pipits** were slightly earlier than usual, with one in Loch Nant, Mid-Argyll on 10 April and 2 at Silvercraigs near Lochgilphead on 12 April.

The last week in April is fairly typical for the first **Common Redstarts** so birds at Taynish NNR on 14 April and at Carnassarie Castle, Mid-Argyll on 17 April were on the early side. Like Common Redstarts, Whinchats are a declining species so it was good to hear that birds had arrived at Loch na Keal. Mull on 25 April and at Loch Gruinart RSPB Reserve and near Otter Ferry on 26 April.

**Northern Wheatears** were first recorded Treshnish, Mull; Ardnave, Islay and Loch Sween, Mid-Argyll on 20 March and were widespread by the end of the month.

First **Grasshopper Warblers** were at Aros Moss, Kintyre on and Cairnbaan, Mid-Argyll on 10 April: quite an early date, as was a **Sedge Warbler** at Portnahaven, Islay on 19 April.

**Blackcap** on 10 April and **Garden Warbler** on 26 April were fairly typical first dates as was **Common Chiffchaff** on 27 March. However **Wood Warbler** on 19 April and **Willow Warbler** on 7 April were both on the early side.

## Spring Migrant Records 2010

Species	First Date	GridRef	Location	No.	Observer
<b>Manx Shearwater</b>	07/04/2010	NM3348	Treshnish Point, Mull	1	Anand Prasad
	18/04/2010	NM6510	Garvellach , Mid-Argyll	4	David Jardine
<b>Osprey</b>	21/03/2010	NM2055	Loch na Cloiche, south Coll	1	Simon Wellock
	27/03/2010	NM8602	Loch Ederline, Mid-Argyll	1	Bill Allan
	27/03/2010	NM8602	Loch Ederline, Mid-Argyll	1	John Halliday
	27/03/2010	NM9913	Blarghour, Loch Awe, Mid-Argyll	1	Delys Marks
	27/03/2010	NR2942	Kinnabus, Oa, Islay	1	Andy Schofield
	28/03/2010	NR7688	Fairy Isles, Loch Sween, Mid-Argyll	1	Bill Allan
	04/04/2010	NR8092	Islandadd Bridge, Mid-Argyll	1	Malcolm Chattwood
<b>Corncrake</b>	11/04/2010	NR7992	Bellanoch, Mid-Argyll	1	Lynsey Gibson
	09/04/2010	NM1853	Friesland, Coll	1	Simon Wellock
	09/04/2010	NM2724	Iona , Mull	1	Alan Spellman
	11/04/2010	NL9740	Carnan Mor (E), Tiree	1	John Bowler



Species	First Date	GridRef	Location	No.	Observer
Corn Crake	11/04/2010	NL9841	Balemartine, Tiree	1	David Warden
	12/04/2010	NR2871	Kilnave, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	28/04/2010	NM7317	Easdale Island, Mid-Argyll	1	Richard Wesley
Ruff	29/04/2010	NL9343	Sandaig, Tiree	1	John Bowler
Black-tailed Godwit	03/04/2010	NR2767	Bushmill, RSPB Loch Gruinart, Islay	1	Roger Broad
	17/04/2010	NR3489	Oronsay, Colonsay	6	David Jardine
	19/04/2010	NL9746	Loch Bhasapol (SE), Tiree	1	John Bowler
	20/04/2010	NR2873	Ardnave, Islay	21	per Ian Brooke
Whimbrel	27/03/2010	NR2772	Loch Gruinart RSPB Reserve, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	12/04/2010	NR6220	Machrihanish SBO, Kintyre	1	Eddie Maguire
	13/04/2010	NR6945	Tayinloan Village, Kintyre	1	Katie Pendreigh
	16/04/2010	NR1652	Portnahaven, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	17/04/2010	NR3690	The Strand, Colonsay	2	David Jardine
	18/04/2010	NR6945	Tayinloan Village, Kintyre	6	Katie Pendreigh
	12/05/2010	NR9284	Otter Ferry, Cowal	3	Tom Callan
Greenshank	10/03/2009	NR7759	West Loch Tarbert , Kintyre	1	Mark Williamson
	29/03/2010	NR6220	Machrihanish SBO, Kintyre	1	Eddie Maguire
	29/03/2010	NR8466	Escart, Kintyre	1	Roger Broad
	03/04/2010	NR2767	Bushmill, RSPB Loch Gruinart, Islay	2	Roger Broad
	09/04/2010	NR9284	Otter Ferry, Cowal	1	Tom Callan
	11/04/2010	NR8093	Add Estuary, Mid-Argyll	2	Dickson, Jim
	16/04/2010	NR6945	Tayinloan Village, Kintyre	2	Katie Pendreigh
Common Sandpiper	09/04/2010	NS0081	Ormidale, Cowal	1	Tom Callan
	12/04/2010	NM8927	Loch Nell, Mid-Argyll	1	Richard Wesley
	13/04/2010	NR3796	Colonsay	1	Davis, Alan
	15/04/2010	NR7372	Eilean Traighe, Ormsary, Mid-Argyll	1	Tom Callan
	16/04/2010	NN2141	Loch Dochard, North Argyll	1	Roger Broad
	17/04/2010	NR3895	Mid Loch Fada, Colonsay	1	David Jardine
	17/04/2010	NR6945	Tayinloan Village, Kintyre	1	Katie Pendreigh
	17/04/2010	NR7065	Port Ban Caravan Park, Mid-Argyll	2	Mark Williamson
	18/04/2010	NR2558	Port Charlotte, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	18/04/2010	NR8798	Loch Leathan, Mid-Argyll	1	John Halliday
	19/04/2010	NR3462	River Sorn, Bridgend Woods, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	19/04/2010	NR8144	Grogport Picnic Site, Kintyre	1	Andrew Stevenson
	21/04/2010	NM3548	Treshnish, Mull	1	Anand Prasad
Great Skua	02/04/2010	NM3348	Treshnish Point, Mull	1	Anand Prasad
Little Tern	29/04/2010	NL9943	Crossapol, Tiree	12	John Bowler
	29/04/2010	NR6849	Rhunahaorine Point, Kintyre	1	Tom Callan/ Daphne Campbell
Sandwich Tern	21/03/2010	NR6220	Machrihanish SBO, Kintyre	2	Eddie Maguire
	06/04/2010	NR6945	Tayinloan Village, Kintyre	2	Katie Pendreigh
	17/04/2010	NR3645	Port Ellen & Bay, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	17/04/2010	NR6945	Tayinloan Village, Kintyre	2	Katie Pendreigh
	26/04/2010	NR2961	Loch Indaal, Islay *	3	per Ian Brooke
	28/04/2010	NL9839	Hynish, Tiree	1	John Bowler

Species	First Date	GridRef	Location	No.	Observer
<b>Common Tern</b>	30/04/2010	NR6220	Machrihanish SBO, Kintyre	3	Eddie Maguire
	11/05/2010	NM8623	Loch Feochan , Mid-Argyll	2	Bill Allan
	21/05/2010	NR7065	Port Ban Caravan Park, Mid-Argyll	2	Mark Williamson
<b>Arctic Tern</b>	25/04/2010	NR6220	Machrihanish SBO, Kintyre	1	Eddie Maguire
	28/04/2010	NL9541	Loch a' Phuill, Tiree	1	John Bowler
<b>Common Cuckoo</b>	10/04/2010	NM8419	Glen Euchar, Mid-Argyll	1	Newall, George
	12/04/2010	NM8920	Loch Scammadale, Mid-Argyll	1	Richard Wesley
	13/04/2010	NM3646	Reudle, Mull	1	Anand Prasad
	13/04/2010	NR2163	Kilchoman, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	15/04/2010	NR8668	Tarbert & harbour, Kintyre	1	Paul Daw
	16/04/2010	NM9042	South Shian, North Argyll	1	Harvey, Robin
	18/04/2010	NR8393	Dunadd, Mid-Argyll	1	John Halliday
	19/04/2010	NM9134	Connel, Mid-Argyll	1	Mike Harrison
	19/04/2010	NN1631	Glen Strae, North Argyll	1	David Jardine
	19/04/2010	NR7832	Saddell, Kintyre	1	Andrew Stevenson
	25/04/2010	NR3756	Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	26/04/2010	NR8360	Spion Kop, Kintyre	1	Valerie Wells
	27/04/2010	NM7616	Balvicar, Seil, Mid-Argyll	1	Richard Wesley
	27/04/2010	NN2742	Victoria Bridge, Loch Tulla, North Argyll	4	Roger Broad
	04/05/2010	NR7065	Port Ban Caravan Park, Mid-Argyll	1	Mark Williamson
<b>Common Swift</b>	06/05/2010	NS1776	Dunoon inc. E. & W. Bays, Cowal	1	Newall, George
	08/05/2010	NM8529	Oban & Harbour, Mid-Argyll	1	Bill Allan
	11/05/2010	NM8518	Glen Gallain (SE), Mid-Argyll	1	Lynsey Gibson
<b>Sand Martin</b>	25/03/2010	NR6841	A' Chleit, Kintyre	2	Bill Allan
	27/03/2010	NM8602	Loch Ederline, Mid-Argyll	20	Bill Allan
	28/03/2010	NM8602	Loch Ederline, Mid-Argyll	30	John Halliday
	29/03/2010	NR6220	Machrihanish SBO, Kintyre	1	Eddie Maguire
	04/04/2010	NR3362	Bridgend, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	09/04/2010	NM8920	Loch Scammadale, Mid-Argyll	1	Richard Wesley
	09/04/2010	NR2873	Ardnave, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	09/04/2010	NS0081	Ormidale, Cowal	50	Tom Callan
	10/04/2010	NR6524	Langa Quarry, Kintyre	20	Neil Brown
	10/04/2010	NR8592	Bridgend, Mid-Argyll	4	Malcolm Chattwood
	12/04/2010	NR6945	Tayinloan Village, Kintyre	3	Katie Pendreigh
	13/04/2010	NM3548	Treshnish, Mull	9	Anand Prasad
	13/04/2010	NR6945	Tayinloan Village, Kintyre	20	Katie Pendreigh
	16/04/2010	NN0132	Balure, Loch Etive, Mid-Argyll	1	David Jardine
	16/04/2010	NR3796	Colonsay	1	Davis, Alan
	19/04/2010	NR8351	Crossaig, Kintyre	40	Andrew Stevenson
	21/04/2010	NL9839	Hynish, Tiree	1	John Bowler
<b>Barn Swallow</b>	02/04/2010	NR3756	Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	04/04/2010	NR7459	Ardpatrick Home Farm, Mid-Argyll	1	Barbara McMillan
	05/04/2010	NR3796	Colonsay	1	Davis, Alan
	06/04/2010	NR6220	Machrihanish SBO, Kintyre	1	Eddie Maguire
	07/04/2010	NN1710	Ardkinglas House, Cowal	1	Toplis, Glyn
	07/04/2010	NR2771	Loch Gruinart RSPB Reserve, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke

Species	First Date	GridRef	Location	No.	Observer
<b>Barn Swallow</b>	07/04/2010	NR6919	Stewarton, Kintyre	2	Neil Brown
	07/04/2010	NR7065	Port Ban Caravan Park, Mid-Argyll	1	Mark Williamson
	07/04/2010	NR8589	Crinan Canal, Badden, Mid-Argyll	1	Malcolm Chattwood
	07/04/2010	NS0374	Colintraive, Cowal	1	Graham & Danielle Clark
	08/04/2010	NM9242	Rhugarbh Croft, Appin, North Argyll	1	Gregory, Mary
	08/04/2010	NR8297	Slockavullin, Mid-Argyll	1	John, Brian
	08/04/2010	NR8585	Ardishaig, Mid-Argyll	1	Malcolm Chattwood
	08/04/2010	NR8688	Lochgilphead town, Mid-Argyll	2	Dickie, Anne-Lise
	08/04/2010	NR9284	Otter Ferry, Cowal	1	Tom Callan
	08/04/2010	NS0374	Colintraive, Cowal	1	Campbell, Daphne
	09/04/2010	NM3548	Treshnish, Mull	1	Anand Prasad
	09/04/2010	NM5743	Salen Bay, Mull	1	Roger Broad
	09/04/2010	NM7819	Clachan Seil, Mid-Argyll	1	Richard Wesley
	09/04/2010	NR2771	Loch Gruinart RSPB Reserve, Islay	2	per Ian Brooke
	09/04/2010	NR2873	Ardnave, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	10/04/2010	NM5429	Lub Fhinn, Mull	2	Roger Broad
	10/04/2010	NM8833	Dunstaffnage Bay (intertidal), Mid-Argyll	1	Mike Harrison
	10/04/2010	NM8845	Port Ramsay, Lismore, North Argyll	1	David Jardine
	10/04/2010	NR8592	Bridgend, Mid-Argyll	1	Lynsey Gibson
	12/04/2010	NR2163	Kilchoman, Islay	2	per Ian Brooke
	12/04/2010	NR6945	Tayinloan Village, Kintyre	12	Katie Pendreigh
	13/04/2010	NR6945	Tayinloan Village, Kintyre	3	Katie Pendreigh
	15/04/2010	NR8585	Ardishaig, Mid-Argyll	1	Paul Daw
	19/04/2010	NR8351	Crossaig, Kintyre	3	Andrew Stevenson
	20/04/2010	NS1776	Dunoon inc. E. & W. Bays, Cowal	1	Newall, George
	21/04/2010	NL9943	Crossapol, Tiree	1	John Bowler
	23/04/2010	NM0244	Baugh (N), Tiree	3	Simon Wellock
	26/04/2010	NR8360	Spion Kop, Kintyre	1	Valerie Wells
<b>House Martin</b>	10/04/2010	NR7992	Bellanoch, Mid-Argyll	2	Lynsey Gibson
	18/04/2010	NR9482	Barr Lagan, Cowal	1	Tom Callan
	26/04/2010	NR8360	Spion Kop, Kintyre	1	Valerie Wells
	28/04/2010	NL9541	Loch a' Phuill, Tiree	1	John Bowler
	03/05/2010	NM7616	Balvicar, Seil, Mid-Argyll	1	Richard Wesley
<b>Tree Pipit</b>	10/04/2010	NN0023	Loch Nant (SE), Mid-Argyll	1	Robinson, Andy
	12/04/2010	NR8985	The Barr, Silvercraigs, Mid-Argyll	2	Paul Daw
	14/04/2010	NR7384	Taynish NNR, Mid-Argyll	1	John Halliday
	14/04/2010	NR8589	Crinan Canal, Badden, Mid-Argyll	1	Paul Daw
	16/04/2010	NM9146	Ardtur, Appin, North Argyll	1	David Jardine
	25/04/2010	NN0901	Strachur House, Cowal	2	David Warden
	27/04/2010	NN2841	Doire Darach, Loch Tulla, North Argyll	4	Roger Broad
	30/04/2010	NR7462	High Carse, Knapdale, Mid-Argyll	1	Mark Williamson
	03/05/2010	NS1776	Dunoon inc. E. & W. Bays, Cowal	1	Newall, George
	12/05/2010	NS0882	Cruaich Neuran (N), Cowal	1	Tom Callan
<b>Yellow Wagtail</b>	02/05/2010	NR6507	Carskiey, Kintyre	1	Andrew Stevenson
	03/05/2010	NM3125	Kintra, Mull	1	Hilary Adams
	16/04/2010	NR6945	Tayinloan Village, Kintyre	3	Katie Pendreigh
	19/04/2010	NL9839	Hynish, Tiree	1	John Bowler
	19/04/2010	NL9839	Hynish, Tiree	1	John Bowler



Species	First Date	GridRef	Location	No.	Observer
<b>White Wagtail</b>	16/04/2010	NR6945	Tayinloan Village, Kintyre	3	Katie Pendreigh
	19/04/2010	NL9839	Hynish, Tiree	1	John Bowler
	19/04/2010	NL9839	Hynish, Tiree	1	John Bowler
	21/04/2010	NR2866	RSPB Gruinart Floods, Islay	10	per Ian Brooke
	27/04/2010	NN3044	Loch Tulla (NE), North Argyll	2	Roger Broad
	03/05/2010	NM3548	Treshnish, Mull	1	Anand Prasad
<b>Common Redstart</b>	14/04/2010	NR7384	Taynish NNR , Mid-Argyll	1	John Halliday
	17/04/2010	NM8300	Carnasserie Castle, Mid-Argyll	1	Smith, Adam & Christine
	27/04/2010	NS0276	Creag Bhreac, Cowal	1	Graham & Danielle Clark
	30/04/2010	NR7462	High Carse, Knapdale, Mid-Argyll	1	Mark Williamson
	30/04/2010	NR8164	Torinturk, Mid-Argyll	1	Mark Williamson
	17/05/2010	NN0915	Ladyfield, Glen Aray, Mid-Argyll	5	Paul Daw
<b>Whinchat</b>	25/04/2010	NM5038	Loch na Keal, Mull	1	Alan Spellman
	26/04/2010	NR2772	Loch Gruinart RSPB Reserve, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	26/04/2010	NR9482	Barr Lagan, Cowal	1	Tom Callan
	01/05/2010	NM3448	Haunn, Mull	1	Anand Prasad
<b>Northern Wheatear</b>	20/03/2010	NM3548	Treshnish, Mull	1	Anand Prasad
	20/03/2010	NM5038	Loch na Keal , Mull	1	Alan Spellman
	20/03/2010	NR2873	Ardnave, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	20/03/2010	NR6980	Loch na Cille, Loch Sween, Mid-Argyll	2	Bill Allan
	21/03/2010	NR3040	The Oa , Islay	2	per Ian Brooke
	21/03/2010	NR6220	Machrihanish SBO, Kintyre	1	Eddie Maguire
	25/03/2010	NR6849	Rhunahaorine Point, Kintyre	1	Bill Allan
	26/03/2010	NM2262	A' Chroic, Coll	1	Simon Wellock
	26/03/2010	NR2772	Loch Gruinart RSPB Reserve, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	27/03/2010	NL9839	Hynish, Tiree	1	John Bowler
	27/03/2010	NR3040	The Oa, Islay	10	Andy Schofield
	27/03/2010	NR6946	Tayinloan Jetty & Bay, Kintyre	1	Tom Callan
	28/03/2010	NM0448	Vaul, Tiree	3	John Bowler
	28/03/2010	NR2267	Ballinaby, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	28/03/2010	NR7065	Port Ban Caravan Park, Mid-Argyll	1	Mark Williamson
	30/03/2010	NR2558	Port Charlotte, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	31/03/2010	NR2963	Uiskentuie, Islay	3	per Ian Brooke
	31/03/2010	NR4465	Glas Eilean (N), Mucraidh, Jura	1	Roger Broad
	01/04/2010	NR9384	Killail, Cowal	1	Tom Callan
	03/04/2010	NR2873	Ardnave, Islay	6	per Ian Brooke
	13/04/2010	NR6945	Tayinloan Village, Kintyre	1	Katie Pendreigh
	14/04/2010	NM7615	Ballachuan Loch, Seil, Mid-Argyll	1	Richard Wesley
<b>Greenland' Wheatear</b>	08/04/2010	NR6945	Tayinloan Village, Kintyre	1	Katie Pendreigh
	10/04/2010	NM0344	Scarinish moor, Tiree	1	David Warden
	18/04/2010	NR6945	Tayinloan Village, Kintyre	3	Katie Pendreigh
<b>Ring Ouzel</b>	23/04/2010	NR6946	Tayinloan Jetty & Bay, Kintyre	1	Katie Pendreigh
	02/05/2010	NR6107	Borgadale Glen, Kintyre	1	Andrew Stevenson

Species	First Date	GridRef	Location	No.	Observer
<b>Grasshopper Warbler</b>	10/04/2010	NR6721	Aros Moss, Kintyre	1	Neil Brown
	10/04/2010	NR8390	Cairnbaan, Mid-Argyll	1	Dickson, Jim
	11/04/2010	NR8797	Fearnoch, Kilmichael Glen, Mid-Argyll	1	John Halliday
	14/04/2010	NR8589	Crinan Canal, Badden, Mid-Argyll	1	Paul Daw
	16/04/2010	NN0132	Balure, Loch Etive, Mid-Argyll	1	David Jardine
	24/04/2010	NM8540	Achnacroish, Lismore, North Argyll	2	David Jardine
	25/04/2010	NM9242	Rhugarbh Croft, Appin, North Argyll	1	Gregory, Mary
	26/04/2010	NN0901	Strachur House, Cowal	2	David Warden
	26/04/2010	NR2772	Loch Gruinart RSPB Reserve, Islay	3	per Ian Brooke
	26/04/2010	NR9483	Strone Road End, Cowal	1	Tom Callan
	27/04/2010	NR7065	Port Ban Caravan Park, Mid-Argyll	1	Mark Williamson
	29/04/2010	NS1776	Dunoon inc. E. & W. Bays, Cowal	1	Newall, George
	30/04/2010	NL9540	Balephuill, Tiree	1	John Bowler
	01/05/2010	NL9540	Balephuill, Tiree	1	John Bowler
	02/05/2010	NR8587	Brackley, Crinan Canal, Mid-Argyll	1	Broad, Roger
	04/05/2010	NM3347	Port Haunn, Mull	1	Anand Prasad
	05/05/2010	NN2843	Black Mount (N), North Argyll	2	Roger Broad
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	19/04/2010	NR1652	Portnahaven, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	24/04/2010	NM8540	Achnacroish, Lismore, North Argyll	1	David Jardine
	26/04/2010	NR8798	Loch Leathan, Mid-Argyll	1	John Halliday
	29/04/2010	NL9540	Balephuill, Tiree	1	John Bowler
	29/04/2010	NL9540	Balephuill, Tiree	1	John Bowler
	29/04/2010	NR7065	Port Ban Caravan Park, Mid-Argyll	4	Mark Williamson
	30/04/2010	NR7252	Ballochroy, Kintyre	1	Tom Callan
	01/05/2010	NM3448	Haunn, Mull	1	Anand Prasad
	02/05/2010	NR8684	Duncuan Island (S), Loch Gilp, Mid-Argyll	1	Broad, Roger
<b>Blackcap</b>	10/04/2010	NM9134	Connel, Mid-Argyll	1	Mike Harrison
	12/04/2010	NR7384	Taynish NNR, Mid-Argyll	1	John Halliday
	12/04/2010	NR8985	The Barr, Silvercraigs, Mid-Argyll	2	Paul Daw
	16/04/2010	NM9043	Eriska (N), North Argyll	1	David Jardine
	17/04/2010	NM9642	Sutherland's Grove, North Argyll	1	Richard Wesley
	24/04/2010	NL9643	Heylipol Church, Tiree	1	John Bowler
	24/04/2010	NM8540	Achnacroish, Lismore, North Argyll	1	David Jardine
	03/05/2010	NM3548	Treshnish, Mull	2	Anand Prasad
<b>Garden Warbler</b>	26/04/2010	NR9378	Kilfinan, Cowal	1	David Warden
	02/05/2010	NR8585	Ardrihaig, Mid-Argyll	1	Broad, Roger
	03/05/2010	NR7384	Taynish NNR , Mid-Argyll	1	John Halliday
<b>Lesser Whitethroat</b>	02/05/2010	NR6707	Keil Point, Southend, Kintyre	1	Andrew Stevenson
<b>Common Whitethroat</b>	29/04/2010	NM3548	Treshnish, Mull	1	Anand Prasad
	01/05/2010	NR8162	Kennacraig Ferry Terminal, Kintyre	1	John Halliday
	02/05/2010	NR8784	Creaglan, Mid-Argyll	1	Broad, Roger

Species	First Date	GridRef	Location	No.	Observer
<b>Common Whitethroat</b>	03/05/2010	NM7616	Balvicar, Seil, Mid-Argyll	1	Richard Wesley
	03/05/2010	NR7384	Taynish NNR, Mid-Argyll	1	John Halliday
	10/05/2010	NS1776	Dunoon inc. E. & W. Bays, Cowal	1	Newall, George
	11/05/2010	NR9486	Largiemore, Cowal	1	Tom Callan
<b>Wood Warbler</b>	19/04/2010	NR7384	Taynish NNR , Mid-Argyll	1	John Halliday
	26/04/2010	NR9791	Creag na Croiche, Cowal	2	David Warden
	30/04/2010	NN0826	Tervine, Mid-Argyll	2	Roger Broad
	30/04/2010	NN0909	Inveraray Castle, Mid-Argyll	1	Paul Daw
	02/05/2010	NR8587	Brackley, Crinan Canal, Mid-Argyll	1	Broad, Roger
	07/05/2010	NR7991	Loch Barnluasgan, Mid-Argyll	1	Tom Callan
<b>Common Chiffchaff</b>	27/03/2010	NM2257	Arinagour, Coll	1	Simon Wellock
	28/03/2010	NR8585	Ardrishaig, Mid-Argyll	1	Andrew Stevenson
	01/04/2010	NR7777	Achahoish School, Knapdale, Mid-Argyll	1	Mark Williamson
	03/04/2010	NR9383	Corra Farm, Cowal	1	Tom Callan
	03/04/2010	NR9873	Tighnabruaich (N), Cowal	1	Tom Callan
	04/04/2010	NM9242	Rhugarbh Croft, Appin, North Argyll	1	Gregory, Mary
	04/04/2010	NR7561	Sean Ghleann, Knapdale, Mid-Argyll	1	Barbara McMillan
	06/04/2010	NL9540	Balephuill, Tiree	1	John Bowler
	07/04/2010	NR8686	Kilmory Industrial Estate, Mid-Argyll	1	Malcolm Chattwood
	08/04/2010	NM8419	Glen Euchar, Mid-Argyll	1	Newall, George
	10/04/2010	NM2824	Baile Mor, Iona, Mull	1	Roger Broad
	10/04/2010	NM8833	Dunstaffnage Bay (intertidal), Mid-Argyll	1	Mike Harrison
	10/04/2010	NM9346	Appin, North Argyll	1	David Jardine
	12/04/2010	NM9642	Sutherland's Grove, North Argyll	1	Richard Wesley
	12/04/2010	NR3796	Colonsay	1	Davis, Alan
	14/04/2010	NR8589	Crinan Canal, Badden, Mid-Argyll	1	Paul Daw
	26/04/2010	NR3462	Bridgend Woods, Islay	3	per Ian Brooke
<b>Willow Warbler</b>	07/04/2010	NR7384	Taynish NNR, Mid-Argyll	1	John Halliday
	09/04/2010	NR2661	Bruichladdich, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	09/04/2010	NR2772	Loch Gruinart RSPB Reserve, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	10/04/2010	NM2824	Baile Mor, Iona, Mull	1	Roger Broad
	10/04/2010	NM7616	Balvicar, Seil, Mid-Argyll	1	Richard Wesley
	10/04/2010	NM9346	Appin, North Argyll	1	David Jardine
	10/04/2010	NR1858	An Gleann, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
	10/04/2010	NR3796	Colonsay	1	Davis, Alan
	10/04/2010	NR6721	Aros Moss, Kintyre	5	Neil Brown
	10/04/2010	NR7065	Port Ban Caravan Park, Mid-Argyll	2	Mark Williamson
	10/04/2010	NR7163	Keppoch, Knapdale, Mid-Argyll	1	Barbara McMillan
	11/04/2010	NM3548	Treshnish, Mull	3	Anand Prasad
	11/04/2010	NM8419	Glen Euchar, Mid-Argyll	1	Newall, George
	11/04/2010	NM8833	Dunstaffnage Bay (intertidal), Mid-Argyll	1	Mike Harrison
	11/04/2010	NR8390	Cairnbaan, Mid-Argyll	1	Dickson, Jim
	11/04/2010	NR9491	Ardcastle Wood (E), Mid-Argyll	7	Malcolm Chattwood
	12/04/2010	NR8985	The Barr, Silvercraigs, Mid-Argyll	17	Paul Daw
	12/04/2010	NR9383	Corra Farm, Cowal	3	Tom Callan
	13/04/2010	NL9839	Hynish, Tiree	1	David Warden
	14/04/2010	NL9540	Balephuill, Tiree	1	John Bowler



Species	First Date	GridRef	Location	No.	Observer
<b>Willow Warbler</b>	14/04/2010	NR8589	Crinan Canal, Badden, Mid-Argyll	15	Paul Daw
	19/04/2010	NR2772	Loch Gruinart RSPB Reserve, Islay	1	per Ian Brooke
<b>Spotted Flycatcher</b>	03/05/2010	NR7384	Taynish NNR , Mid-Argyll	1	John Halliday
	05/05/2010	NN1710	Ardkinglas House, Cowal	2	Roger Broad
	05/05/2010	NN2534	Arichastlich, Glen Orchy, North Argyll	2	Roger Broad
	17/05/2010	NN0915	Ladyfield, Glen Aray, Mid-Argyll	2	Paul Daw
<b>Pied Flycatcher</b>	06/05/2010	NR8390	Cairnbaan, Mid-Argyll	1	Mark Williamson
	22/05/2010	NL9740	Carnan Mor (E), Tiree	1	John Bowler

## Recent Reports continued.....

**Stop Press...** A drake **Blue-winged Teal** was reported on Loch na Keal, Mull late on 1 May (per Alan Spellman). It was seen by a visitor and video footage was obtained. If confirmed this would be a first for Mull and only the fourth for Argyll. A **Red-footed Falcon** was reported from near Port Charlotte. Islay on the evening of 2 May. It was seen well by a resident birder - Robert (Bob) Davison, near the water works in Gleann Mor before flying off SW towards Bolsay. A **Common Crane** was seen at Coul, Islay on 4 May with a **Marsh Harrier** nearby (per Ian Brooke).

The **Nuthatches** are coming! One has been seen on two or more occasions in a garden in Tighnabruaich during early May (Michaela Hunter/Daphne Campbell). Where next we wonder?

A male **Garganey** was seen near Tayinloan on 9 May – a very unusual record for mainland Argyll (Katie Pendreigh).

A selection of other February to April 2010 highlights follows :

**Wildfowl (and Gamebirds):** On 20 February a count from the Gigha ferry terminal (Tayinloan) north to Ronachan Point, found approx. 1,000 **Common Eiders**, approx. 180 **Common Scoters** and 17 **Long-tailed Ducks** (Andrew Stevenson). Counts of **Greenland White-fronted Geese** made during a visit to Lismore, North Argyll included 203 at Frackersaig (NM823402) (no neck collars – a sub-sample of 52 included 8 of last year's young), 27 at Kilcheran Loch (NM826395), 7 at Fiart farm (NM812374) and 6 at Loch Baile a' Ghobhainn (NM859429). Also on Lismore were 9 **Tufted Ducks** at Loch Kilcheran and 14 **Tufted Ducks** at Loch Fiart (David Jardine).

A female **Black Grouse** was a very unexpected visitor to a garden at Otter Ferry on 24 April! (Tom Callan).

Anecdotal reports seem to indicate that Black Grouse numbers may have been recovering to some extent recently in Argyll.

A drake **Ring-necked Duck** was found at Ardnave Loch, Islay on 13 April (per John Armitage/James How). A drake **Pintail** in Oban on a wee stream that flows out into Oban Bay was an unexpected find on 16 April (Jane Eccles). It is possible that this is the same bird later seen in Loch Etive at Connel and near Dunstaffnage during May.



Great Northern Diver ©M Williamson

**Seabirds – divers, grebes, shearwaters, herons etc (and other seawatch species):**

The **Eurasian Bittern** that was seen near Craobh Haven in December was found by the side of the A816, again near Craobh Haven on 9 February. Not surprisingly, given the hard weather since, it was in a bad way. So much so that the person who found it (Wendy Bramley), was able to pick it up and take it home. It was very emaciated but they did manage to get it to take some small pieces of chicken. Sadly despite their rescue attempt it only survived for two days. It didn't really have a chance, as it apparently only weighed 682 grams

(Wendy Bramley/John Anderson).

A count from the Gigha ferry terminal (Tayinloan) north to Ronachan Point, Kintyre on the morning of 20 February found 15 **Red-throated Divers**, 8 or more **Black-throated Divers**, 38 or more **Great Northern Divers** and a minimum of 42 **Slavonian Grebes** as well as 3 distant, quite large, unidentified grebes that were probably **Great Crested** but possibly **Red-necked** (Andrew Stevenson). A **Red-necked Grebe** in winter plumage was showing well but very distant in Loch Gilp, off Ardrishaig (opposite West Coast Motors) on 21 February (Jim Dickson/ Andrew Stevenson). It was seen there again during early March.

On 4 March, 17 **Red-throated Divers**, 9 **Great Northern Divers** and 4 **Slavonian Grebes** were counted near the mouth of West Loch Tarbert off Ardpatrik (Tom Callan). A **Little Egret** seen at Loch Gruinart RSPB Reserve on 23 March had apparently been around for some time (Morag & Norman Rea).

**Raptors, rails etc.:** A **Gyr Falcon** found dead at Uiskentuie Strand (Islay) on 14 February may have been the bird seen on the island in January. It was incredibly thin and the age was confusing as it had a pure white tail, which ought to be adult white phase, but was very heavily marked on the wings, which suggested an immature bird (Lindy and John MacLellan per Malcolm Ogilvie).

Two **Golden Eagles**, a **Peregrine Falcon** and 2 Common Ravens were observed near the head of Loch Riddon on 1 March (Graham & Danielle Clark). A **Red Kite** was seen flying slowly north at Saddell Abbey, Kintyre on 4 March (John McAvoy). An interesting sighting on 7 March at the top of Borgadale Glen near the Mull of Kintyre- a juvenile **Golden Eagle** (first or second winter bird) was swooping over the moorland. With the binoculars trained we could see that it was harassing two roe deer as they ran panic stricken alongside the burn. We watched till they all disappeared below the skyline (David Lord). Away from their usual locations **Corn Crakes** have been reported calling on Seil Island, Gigha and near Connel during early May, although some or all of these will be birds in transit (Richard Wesley/ Valerie Wells (Andy Robinson) . An adult **White-tailed Eagle** has been seen twice during late April/early May near the mouth of Loch Sween, Mid-Argyll (John Aitchison).

A 1<sup>st</sup> year sub-adult **Golden Eagle** was watched near Otter Ferry for over 30 minutes. At least half of this time was spent playing with melon sized object which it dropped frequently and attempted to catch before it reached the ground: mainly successfully. It approached to within 200mts (Tom Callan).



Whimbrel at MSBO ©Eddie Maguire

**Waders:** Numbers of **Purple Sandpipers** during February at Dunoon (near crazy golf) peaked at 38 on 19<sup>th</sup> (George Newall) and numbers of **European Golden Plovers** at Port Ban Caravan Park (Knapdale), Mid-Argyll had built up to 38 (Mark Williamson). By 2 March there were 41 **Purple Sandpipers** in Dunoon. A **Dotterel** was seen with **European Golden Plovers** at The Reef, Tiree on 19 March - a very early date for this species.

It's been a quite exceptional spring for migrating **Whimbrels** in Argyll. They have been reported in very large numbers and have turned up at places (such as Otter Ferry) where they would not normally be expected. On 24 April Katie Pendreigh noticed a large flock near her house at Tayinloan, Kintyre. Her count had reached 182 when it was interrupted and she is sure there were at least 200 altogether there. Then, down near the shore she found at least another 50. This would mean there were at least 250 birds in the area, which (according to *Birds of Scotland*) would make this the largest number ever seen in one place in Scotland! On 2 May Andrew Stevenson counted 107 at Tayinloan and other large counts included: 40+ at Machrihanish Seabird Observatory on 25 April, 21 in Loch Gilp on 5 May



Mediterranean Gull on Tiree ©John Bowler



**Doves, owls, woodpeckers etc.:** **European Bee-eaters** have only appeared in Argyll four or five times so to have two together was quite a surprise! They were found at Calgary, Mull on 25 April and were seen again on and off until at least the afternoon of 28 April. Behaving very much as a pair they were sadly not seen again after this – although there was an unconfirmed report of one on Iona on 30 April. **Hoopoes** appear slightly more frequently but two, or possibly three, were still unusual. The first was on Jura (no location given) on 13 April followed by one at Hough Bay, Tiree on 24 April and one (possibly the same) at Loch an Eilein, Tiree on 30 April.

**Common Kingfishers** have been conspicuous by their absence in recent month (no surprise really given the hard winter) so if anyone has seen one please let me know.

**Passerines:** Two **Waxwings** seen in Connel on 11 February were being mobbed by Chaffinches and Blue Tits (Mike Harrison). A single **Waxwing** was at Salen, Mull on 2 March (Alan Spellman).

**Yellow Wagtails** are very scarce migrants in Argyll so it is good to have two records: one at Carskier Farm (near Southend) Kintyre on 2 May (Andrew Stevenson) and one photographed at Kintra, Mull on 3 May (per Alan Spellman). Good numbers of White Wagtails appeared this spring including: 24 at Peninver beach, Kintyre on 18 April (Andrew Stevenson), 80 or more at Machrihanish on 26 April (Eddie Maguire) and 49 at Barsloisnoch (near Poltalloch) on 27 April (Jim Dickson). A male **Ring Ouzel** was seen at Tayinloan, Kintyre on 23 April (Katie Pendreigh)

and another **Ring Ouzel** was seen along the road to Mull of Kintyre lighthouse on 2 May (Andrew Stevenson). For those of us who wake up in the middle of the night from time to time, some entertainment may be available.

**Grasshopper Warblers** are well known to reel at night – I heard one calling continuously at Tullochgorm at 3.00 a.m. recently and George Newall heard one in Dunoon at 4.00 a.m. A **Lesser Whitethroat** singing at Keil Point, Southend, Kintyre on 2 May was the only record so far this spring. A male **Golden Oriole** was seen briefly between Dunadd & Bridgend Mid-Argyll on 13 April (Anne-Lise Dickie). A **Magpie** seen calling at Otter Ferry on 29 March was a 'garden first' (Tom Callan). Another **Magpie** was seen in a garden near Stewarton, Kintyre on 7 April (Neil Brown).

A family party of **Common Crossbills**, including 3 young, were seen at Ardpatrik House, Knapdale on 15 April (Tom Callan/Daphne Campbell). There are only 14 or so recorded **Hawfinches** in Argyll so to have three reported in the space of a month or so is very unusual. The first was seen and photographed by Margaret Kiernen at Seaview on Colonsay 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> April 2010. Then one was at a bird feeder at Treshnish House, Mull on 30 April (Anand Prasad) and lastly Janice Hampson reported one in her garden at Blairmore, N of Dunoon on 11<sup>th</sup> May.

A male **Lapland Bunting** was heard in sub-song at Grishipoll Bay, Coll on 29 March (Simon Wellock).

#### Other sightings:

Exceptional numbers of **Orange-tip butterflies** have been seen in Argyll this spring including 11 counted in the space of 100m along the hill road near Auchindrain, Mid-Argyll on 12 May (Paul Daw).

### And just one more thing.....



**Argyll Bird Club** recently purchased 100+ woodcrete nestboxes to be sited for the benefit of Pied Flycatchers and Redstarts. Some of the boxes have been sited at Bonawe and Ardpatrik– but there are still a large number stockpiled in Bob Furness's garage. As can be seen from the photograph, the boxes are of simple design and require little manual effort or technical skill to install. It may not yet be too late to install these boxes, as much of the oak canopy has only just properly emerged– and some of the migrants seem a bit later than usual. If you would like some nestboxes then contact **Bob Furness** on 01301 702603 or email [r.furness@bio.gla.ac.uk](mailto:r.furness@bio.gla.ac.uk)



## Articles for the September issue of the *Eider* should with the Editor before the 24th August 2010

### Officials and Committee of the Argyll Bird Club (2009/2010)

**Chairman:** Nigel Scriven, 2 Allt na Blathaich, Loch Eck, Dunoon, Argyll PA23 8SG (*phone* 01369 840606 & 01505 843679)

**Vice Chairman:** Position vacant

**Secretary:** Katie Pendreigh, The Whins, Ferry Road, Tayinloan, Argyll PA29 6XQ (*phone* 01583 441359)

**Treasurer:** Bob Furness, The Cnoc, Tarbet, Arrochar, Dumbartonshire G83 7DG (*phone* 01301 702603)

**Membership Secretary:** Sue Furness, The Cnoc, Tarbet, Arrochar, Dumbartonshire. (*phone* 01301 702603)

**Committee:** Richard Allan (Oban), Tom Callan (Otter Ferry), Malcolm Chattwood (Lochgilthead), Danielle Clark-De Bisschop (Colintraive), Paul Daw (Minard), Mike Harrison (Connel), Andy Robinson (Partick), David War-den (Kilfinan) and Mark Williamson (Kilberry).

**Editor of the Argyll Bird Report:** Tom Callan, Corra, Otter Ferry, Tighnabruaich, Argyll PA21 2DH (*phone* 01700 821212)

**Editor of the Eider:** Mark Williamson, Port Ban, Kilberry, Argyll PA29 6YD (*phone* 07731640804)

**ABC Website:** <http://www.argyllbirdclub.org>

**Webmaster:** Danielle Clark

*phone* 01700 841284

*e-mail* [dany@condorjourneys-adventures.com](mailto:dany@condorjourneys-adventures.com)

### Argyll Bird Recorder

Paul Daw, Tigh-na-Tulloch, Tullochgorm, Minard, Argyll PA32 8YQ

*phone* 01546 886260

*e-mail* [monedula@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:monedula@globalnet.co.uk)

### BTO Regional Representatives in Argyll

**Argyll South, Bute & Gigha:** Richard Allan

*phone* 01852 300 359

*e-mail* [r.allan13@btinternet.com](mailto:r.allan13@btinternet.com)

**Argyll North—Mull, Coll, Tiree & Morvern:** Arthur Brown

*phone* 01688400415

*e-mail* [pamartbrown@btinternet.com](mailto:pamartbrown@btinternet.com)

Rod Little

*phone* 01688400315

*e-mail* [rlett6@aol.com](mailto:rlett6@aol.com)

**Islay, Jura & Colonsay:** John Armitage

*phone* 01496 860396

*e-mail* [jsa@ornquest.plus.com](mailto:jsa@ornquest.plus.com)



**T**he *Eider* is the quarterly newsletter of the **Argyll Bird Club**. The editor welcomes articles about birds, wildlife conservation and ecology in Argyll, including articles of a wider natural history interest, notices of forthcoming events, book reviews, press releases and letters. Whenever possible, contributions should be submitted to the editor as e-mail attachments in Microsoft Word or rtf format. But, this should not deter potential contributors, as hand-written scripts are also acceptable. If in doubt about whether an article is suitable, please contact the editor for advice.

Suitable illustrations greatly enhance the attractiveness of the *Eider*, and artists and photographers are encouraged to submit artwork and digital photographs (jpeg files preferred) of birds and their habitats to the editor. Digital photographs of Schedule 1 species taken at or near the nest will not be accepted for publication unless the photographer was covered by an appropriate SNH licence.

The *Eider* is published during the first week of March, June, September and December. Articles for each issue must be with the editor before the 24th day of the month prior to publication. However, it greatly helps if material can be submitted well before these deadline dates. Contributions are accepted in the order they are received, which may result in some late submissions being held over until the next issue.

Opinions expressed in articles are those of the author/s and not necessarily those of the **Argyll Bird Club**.

**Advertising rates:** £80 for a full page, £20 for a quarter page, 7p per word for smaller adverts. Payment must accompany adverts, with cheques made payable to the **Argyll Bird Club**. Contact the Editor for further information.

### More about the Argyll Bird Club

The club was established in 1985. Its main role is to encourage an interest in wild birds and their habitats in Argyll; an area of outstanding natural beauty and biological diversity.

The club endeavours to provide a friendly and sociable forum for members of all ages, to meet and enjoy their common interest. This in itself provides a challenge as the human population of Argyll is relatively small and widely dispersed. The club hosts two one-day meetings each year, in spring and autumn. The venue of the spring meeting is rotated between different towns, including Dunoon, Oban and Lochgilthead. The autumn meeting/AGM is held in a convenient central location, usually near Lochgilthead. The club organises field trips for members. It publishes the annual *Argyll Bird Report*. Additional or past copies can be purchased from the Treasurer. Your annual subscription entitles you to one copy of the *Argyll Bird Report*, four issues of the *Eider* and free admission to the two indoor meetings. New members are always welcome, whether you live in Argyll or not. Membership categories and rates are:

Ordinary	£10
Junior (under 17)	£3
Family	£15
Corporate	£25

Subscriptions are due on 1st January and can be paid by cheque or standing order. New members joining after 1st October are covered until the end of the following year. Further information can be obtained from the Membership Secretary (see the box opposite).

**Answer from page 1– Ruff**