

RECENT REPORTS August 2016

31 August: A sea-watch from the Oban to Barra ferry and return included 300+ **Fulmars**, 16 **Sooty Shearwaters**, *ca* 700 **Manx Shearwaters**, 140+ **Storm Petrels**, 1 **Leach's Petrel**, 17 **Great Skuas**, 4 **Arctic Skuas**, 1 **Puffin**, 1 **Arctic Tern**, 2 'commic' terns, 300+ **Kittiwakes** (Jim Dickson, David Jardine *et al.*).



Sooty Shearwater - Oban-Barra 31 Aug (Jim Dickson).



Fulmar - Oban-Barra 31 Aug (Jim Dickson).



Great Skua & 2 Storm Petrels - Oban-Barra 31 Aug (Jim Dickson).

A sea-watch this morning at Frenchman's Rocks, Islay 07:40 to 10:00 am, (4 x 30 min watches) in south westerly winds 17 to 20 mph, sunny intervals & showers found: 2 **Tufted Ducks**, 193 **Fulmars**, 35 **Sooty Shearwaters**, 3,023 **Manx Shearwaters**, 363 **Northern Gannets** (and ca 500 feeding around the rocks), 31 **Shags**, 8 **Red Knots**, 8 **Turnstones**, 2 **Great Skuas**, 8 **Common Guillemots** and 23 **Kittiwakes** - all flying SW (Mike Peacock/Peter Roberts). The adult **Pacific Golden Plover** showed well again at Middleton, Tiree first thing, retreated to Loch a' Phuill when flushed and then returned later; 3 **Ruffs** were also there and a **Goldcrest** was at Carnan Mor (John Bowler). A juvenile **Mediterranean Gull** was feeding on the sea off Aird, Tiree (Keith Gillon).

30 August: A late sea-watch off Hynish, Tiree in SSW6 18:30-20:00 produced: 17 **Sooty Shearwaters** heading SW in 90 mins. Also heading SW, in 1 hr (18:40-19:40): 52 **Fulmars**, 960 **Manx Shearwaters**, 1 **Storm Petrel**, 130 **Northern Gannets**, 315 **large auks**, 16 **Kittiwakes**, 6 **Black-tailed Godwits** and an **Arctic Tern** - also a Basking Shark. And 43 juvenile **Black-tailed Godwits** were on the beach there (Keith Gillon/John Bowler). An early Redwing photographed at Barrapol, Tiree (John Bowler).

On Tiree; the adult **Pacific Golden Plover** was seen again at Middleton this afternoon and juvenile **Curlew Sandpipers** at Gott Bay and Balephetrish Bay (Keith Gillon). Elsewhere on Tiree, single **Balearic Shearwaters** were off West Hynish and Hynish early this morning and 2 **Sooty Shearwaters** were detected off Hynish among a steady W movement of ca 1,000 **Manx Shearwaters** per hour; a juvenile **Curlew Sandpiper** was at Traigh Ghrianal and 77 juvenile **Black-tailed Godwits** and 4 juvenile **Ruffs** were seen around West Tiree in scattered groups during the goose count (John Bowler).

29 August: On Tiree today: An adult **Pacific Golden Plover** and 8 juvenile **Ruffs** at Middleton / Sandaig this afternoon. Also a **Balearic Shearwater** flying west past Hynish (Keith Gillon). 8 juvenile **Black-tailed Godwits** and 1 **Ruff** at Caoles; 2 juvenile **Black-tailed Godwits** at Ruaig (John Bowler).



Pacific Golden Plover - Middleton/Sandaig, Tiree 29 Aug (John Bowler).

Today at the Add Estuary, Mid-Argyll there were 49 **Teal**, 8 **Goosanders**, an **Osprey** and 2 juvenile **Whinchats** (Jim Dickson).

28 August: At midday today, a juvenile **Hobby** at Barrapol, Tiree flew south towards Balephuill: a **Merlin** was also there (John Bowler).

27 August: The **Kingfisher** was seen again at Kennacraig, Kintyre today and a group of about 100 **Manx Shearwaters** seen from the ferry off Islay (David Jardine).

On Tiree today: a juvenile **Curlew Sandpiper**, 2 juvenile **Black-tailed Godwits** and 3 juvenile **Red Knot** at Clachan (John Bowler); a juvenile **Curlew Sandpiper** at Vaul (Keith Gillon).



Red Knot - Clachan, Tiree 27 Aug (John Bowler).

26 August: On Tiree today: 1 juvenile **Curlew Sandpiper** with 115 **Ringed Plovers**, 144 **Sanderlings** and 30 **Dunlin** at Sorobaidh Bay; 7 juvenile **Ruff** on cut silage at Heylipol; 3 juvenile **Black-tailed Godwits** at Loch an Eilein; 6 juvenile **Black-tailed Godwits** at Loch a' Phuill; 1 **Goldcrest** still at Balephuill (John Bowler). Also 2 juvenile **Curlew Sandpipers** still at The Green and a **Balearic Shearwater** flew west off The Green (Dante Shepherd).

25 August: A noisy **Whimbrel** flying around the Add Estuary, Mid-Argyll this morning and a **Blackcap** was in the garden at Cairnbaan (Jim Dickson). Two **Ruffs** and 10 **Black-tailed Godwits** on Luing, Mid-Argyll today (David Jardine).

24 August: The **Green Sandpiper** reappeared briefly Machrihanish Seabird Observatory, Kintyre today (Eddie Maguire/ Miriam Lord). Also there, a **Greenshank** and a total of 10 **Curlew Sandpipers** flying S with groups of **Dunlins** (80) throughout the day and 4 were photographed on the shore. The first-winter **Mediterranean Gull** is still present.



Dunlins & Curlew Sandpipers – MSBO, Kintyre 24 Aug (Eddie Maguire).



Curlew Sandpiper – MSBO, Kintyre 24 Aug (Eddie Maguire).

On Tiree today: a **Pied Flycatcher** at Carnan Mor and a **Goldcrest** at Balephuill; 1 juvenile **Curlew Sandpiper** at Miodar; 1 juvenile **Curlew Sandpiper** at The Green; 411 **Sanderlings** on the 4 main beaches including 3 leg-flagged birds; 1 **Greenshank** at Loch a' Phuill; 3 **Wigeon** at Loch Bhasapol; 6 juvenile **Black-tailed Godwits** at Ruaig (John Bowler).

NB see also updates for Tiree sightings 19 – 23 Aug just added.



Pied Flycatcher - Carnan Mor, Tiree 24 Aug (John Bowler).

A **Kingfisher** was at Kennacraig, Kintyre today (Alasdair Paterson).
A late single **Common Swift** was seen flying high among the martins over Kilmichael Glassary, Mid-Argyll this afternoon (Malcolm Chattwood).

23 August: Bill was surprised to see this **Nuthatch** on his bird feeder at Bellanoch, Mid-Argyll this evening - a first there in 20 years (Bill Alexander).



Nuthatch - Bellanoch, Mid-Argyll 23 Aug (Bill Alexander).



Nuthatch - Bellanoch, Mid-Argyll 23 Aug (Bill Alexander).

On Tiree today: a roost of 260 **Pied Wagtails** at Balephuill (John Bowler); 2 **Curlew Sandpipers** at The Green; 2 **Ruffs** and 2 **Curlew Sandpipers** at Caoles (Dante Shepherd). Also, 1 **Balearic Shearwater**, and 3,500 **Manx Shearwaters** as well as 30 Common Dolphins, 14 Porpoises and 6 Basking Sharks between Coll and Tiree and, at the E end of the Sound of Mull, 1 **Arctic Skua**, 1,250 **Kittiwakes** and 13 Porpoises (John Bowler).

A **Nuthatch** has been regularly visiting a bird feeder at Strone (Holy Loch), Cowal - latest sighting 10:00 today (John Black).

At Machrihanish Seabird Observatory, Kintyre today: a **Great Northern Diver** (immature) flying S, 17 **Curlew Sandpipers** flying S (+ 4 on the shore) along with a **Black-tailed Godwit**, 7 **Ruddy Turnstones**, 10 **Red Knot**, 10 **Sanderlings**, 51 **Dunlins** and 17 **Common Redshanks**. Also a very vocal **Green Sandpiper** came in off the sea (Eddie Maguire).



Curlew Sandpiper – MSBO, Kintyre 23 Aug (Eddie Maguire).



Curlew Sandpiper & Dunlins – MSBO, Kintyre 23 Aug (Eddie Maguire).



Knot & Turnstone – MSBO, Kintyre 23 Aug (Eddie Maguire).

22 August: On Tiree today: the juvenile **Spotted Sandpiper** still at Balephetrish Bay (also on 19 Aug); 3 juvenile **Curlew Sandpipers** at the Green; 2 juvenile **Curlew Sandpipers** and 1 **Ruff** at Caoles (Dante Shepherd). Another record breaking day at Machrihanish Seabird Observatory, Kintyre, with a total of ca 70+ **Curlew Sandpipers** flying south + 8 on the shore: other waders included 30 **Ringed Plover**, 65 **Red Knot**, 90 **Sanderling**, 10 **Ruddy Turnstones**, 33 **Common Redshanks** and 40 **Dunlin** (Eddie Maguire).



Curlew Sandpipers etc.– MSBO, Kintyre 22 Aug (Eddie Maguire).

21 August: A red letter day for passage waders at Machrihanish Seabird Observatory, Kintyre, with a total of 39 **Curlew Sandpipers** flying S + 16 birds off-passage (**total 55**) - the most Curlew Sandpipers so far recorded in Argyll in a single day. Other waders moving south were: 28 **Ringed Plovers**, 12 **Ruddy Turnstones**, 33 **Red Knots**, 170 **Sanderlings**, 400+ **Dunlins** and 60 **Common Redshanks** (Eddie Maguire).



Curlew Sandpiper – MSBO, Kintyre 21 Aug (Eddie Maguire).

A short visit to Gigha, Kintyre this afternoon produced; at Ardmish Bay – 71 **Ringed Plovers**, 1 Whimbrel, 1 **Red Knot**, 9 **Common Redshanks**, 31 **Sandwich Terns**, 8 **Common Terns**, 2 **Arctic Terns**, 40 **Kittiwakes**; at Caolas Gigha – 3 **Common Sandpipers**, 14 **Common Redshanks**, 17 **Sandwich Terns** and at Drumyeonmore – a fledged brood of **Bullfinches**. Later off Rhunahaorine Point: 50+ **Common Scoter**, 1 **Black-throated Diver**, 6 **Slavonian Grebes** (David Jardine). An **Osprey** was at Bun an Uilt, Loch Gruinart, Islay (Mike Peacock).

20 August: Two juvenile **Curlew Sandpipers** at Sorobaidh Bay, Tiree today (Dante Shepherd).

A single **Common Swift** was with a group of 30 or more passage Barn Swallows and House Martins over Tullochgorm (Minard), Mid-Argyll at 08:00 this morning (Paul Daw).

Three **Greenshanks** at north end of Caol Scotnish (Loch Sween), Mid-Argyll this afternoon (Dougie Menzies).

At the Add Estuary, Mid-Argyll this afternoon: 6 **Wigeon**, 8 **Ringed Plovers**, 52 **Black-tailed Godwits**, 4 **Red Knot**, 1 **Ruff (reeve)**, 44 **Dunlins**, 24 **Common Redshanks**, 4 **Whinchats**, 16 **Stonechats**, 4 **Northern Wheatears** and 1 **White Wagtail** (Jim Dickson).

Highlights of a WeBS Count at Loch Gilp: 2 **Wigeon**, 3 **Red Knot**, 1 **Little Stint**, 4 **Greenshanks** and at Loch a' Chroisg, Ford, Mid-Argyll – 2 **Mandarin Duck** (female & 1 immature) (David Jardine).

In a strong easterly wind / continuous rain at Machrihanish Seabird Observatory, Kintyre today, waders in off the sea all morning included: 50 **Ringed Plovers**, 4 **Black-tailed Godwits**, a **Whimbrel**, 22 **Dunlins**, at least 18 **Curlew Sandpipers**, 31 **Red Knot**, 40 **Ruddy Turnstones**, 290 **Common Redshanks**, Also, a juvenile **Mediterranean Gull** for its second day, 2 adult **Sandwich Terns** and a juvenile **Arctic Tern** (Eddie Maguire).



Curlew Sandpipers – MSBO, Kintyre 20 Aug (Eddie Maguire).



Curlew Sandpipers – MSBO, Kintyre 20 Aug (Eddie Maguire).



Curlew Sandpiper – MSBO, Kintyre 20 Aug (Eddie Maguire).



Black-tailed Godwit – MSBO, Kintyre 20 Aug (Eddie Maguire).



Mediterranean Gull – MSBO, Kintyre 20 Aug (Eddie Maguire).

19 August: On Tiree today: a juvenile **Mediterranean Gull** at The Green – also 24 **Curlew Sandpipers** there; a flock of 23 that flew east and 1 juvenile on the shore (Dante Shepherd) Five **European Storm Petrels** seen between Tiree and Coll – (John Bowler/ Jim Dickson).



juvenile Mediterranean Gull – The Green, Tiree 19 Aug (Dante Shepherd).



Curlew Sandpipers – The Green, Tiree 19 Aug (Dante Shepherd).

This **Greenshank** was one of two birds present at Machrihanish Seabird Observatory, Kintyre today. Also there, a single **Whimbrel** flying S (Eddie Maguire).



Greenshank – MSBO, Kintyre 19 Aug (Eddie Maguire).

18 August: The Tiree juvenile **Spotted Sandpiper** was seen at Ard Mor from mid-day today (Jim Dickson).



Spotted Sandpiper – Ard Mor, Tiree 18 Aug (Jim Dickson).



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Spotted Sandpiper – Ard Mor, Tiree 18 Aug (Jim Dickson).



Spotted Sandpiper – Ard Mor, Tiree 18 Aug (Jim Dickson).

The juvenile **Spotted Sandpiper** showing again nicely this evening at Ard Mor, Tiree - also a juvenile **Common Cuckoo** at Balephuill (John Bowler). Eight juvenile **Red Knot** in East Tiree today (Dante Shepherd).



Spotted Sandpiper – Ard Mor, Tiree 17 Aug (John Bowler).



Spotted Sandpiper – Ard Mor, Tiree 17 Aug (John Bowler).

17 August: An adult **Green Sandpiper** was at Teddy's Pond, Balvicar, Seil , Mid-Argyll at 16:00 today (John Sedgwick).

The juvenile **Spotted Sandpiper** was found again, west of Ard Mor, Tiree this morning (John Bowler/Dante Shepherd): it was seen back at Balephetrish Bay this evening (Dante Shepherd).

Also **Grey Plover**, **Black-tailed Godwit** and juvenile **Red Knot** singles at Balephetrish Bay this morning (John Bowler).



Spotted Sandpiper – Ard Mor, Tiree 17 Aug (Dante Shepherd).



Spotted Sandpiper – Ard Mor, Tiree 17 Aug (Dante Shepherd).

16 August: Four **Common Swifts** over Kilmartin, Mid-Argyll today - flying around the church tower (Jim Dickson).

15 August: Hirundine and swift passage noted high in the sky over Cairnbaan, Mid-Argyll from 18:00 (although may have been going on all day??). At least 100+ **Barn Swallows**, 10+ **House Martins** and 14+ **Common Swifts** in 1 hour (Jim Dickson).

On Tiree today: 8 **Common Terns** including 2 juveniles at Gott Bay; a juvenile **Red Knot** and a **Greenshank** at Balephetrish Bay; 2 **Greenshanks** at Loch an Eilein, a **White Wagtail** at Vaul, a juvenile **Common Cuckoo**, a **Robin** and a **Common Redpoll** at Balephuill; an adult **Moorhen** at Kilkenneth. But sadly no sign of yesterday's Spotted Sandpiper (John Bowler).



Juvenile **Common Cuckoo** – Balephuill, Tiree 15 Aug (John Bowler).

14 August: A juvenile **Spotted Sandpiper** was found at Balephetrish Bay, Tiree this evening (Dante Shepherd per John Bowler). Only two previous Argyll records and this is possibly the earliest ever juvenile in the UK? Thanks to Dante Shepherd for the photographs.



Spotted Sandpiper - Balephetrish Bay, Tiree 14 Aug (Dante Shepherd).



Spotted Sandpiper - Balephetrish Bay, Tiree 14 Aug (Dante Shepherd).

Also also Tiree today: 41 juvenile **Black-tailed Godwits**, 1 **Green Sandpiper**, 7 juvenile **Ruff** and at Loch a' Phuill (John Bowler).

At Loch Gilp, Mid-Argyll today: 177 **Oystercatchers**, 1 **Ringed Plover**, 1 **Whimbrel**, 10 **Red Knot** (including a red adult), 1 **Dunlin**, 3 **Greenshanks** and 41 **Common Redshanks**. At the Add Estuary, Mid-Argyll: 3 **Wigeon**, 4 **Goosanders**, 14 **Ringed Plovers**, 4 **Black-tailed Godwits**, 12 **Dunlins**, 5 **Common Sandpipers**, 2 **Greenshanks**, 2 **Carrion Crows** and at Crinan Ferry, a **Spotted Flycatcher** (Jim Dickson).



Whimbrel – Loch Gilp, Mid-Argyll 14 Aug (Jim Dickson).



Whimbrel – Loch Gilp, Mid-Argyll 14 Aug (Jim Dickson).

13 August: On Coll today: a short evening sea-watch at Arinagour pier 18:30-19:00 hrs found 1,000 **Manx Shearwaters** and a single **European Storm Petrel**. Also single **Whimbrel** on the Golf Course, 6 **Sand Martins** at machair near Breachacha, 3 **Goldfinches** at Ballyhaugh and proof of breeding for **Wood Pigeon** at the Lodge, Arinagour (David Jardine).

On Tiree today: a **Hen Harrier** and a **Common Cuckoo** at Balinoe; a **Whimbrel** at Sandaig: 2 **Whimbrel**, 3 **Bar-tailed Godwits**, 61 **Turnstones**, 1 juvenile **Red Knot**, 42 **Dunlin**, and 2 **Arctic Terns** at Clachan / Balephetrish Bay; 1 **Sparrowhawk** and a **Robin** at Balephuill (John Bowler).

At the Add Estuary, Mid-Argyll today: a second calendar year **Hen Harrier**, 11 **Ringed Plovers**, 4 juvenile **Black-tailed Godwits**, 1 **Red Knot**, 1 **Sanderling**, 17 **Dunlins**, 2 **Greenshanks**, 3 **Common Swifts**, 48 **Barn**

Swallows, 2 **House Martins**, 1 **Blackcap** and 2 **Common Whitethroats**. At Loch Gilp, Mid-Argyll: **15 Ringed Plovers**, 1 **Whimbrel**, 5 **Bar-tailed Godwits**, 1 **Greenshank**, and 1 **Grey Wagtail**. And at Cairnbaan, Mid-Argyll: 1 **Blackcap** (Jim Dickson).

Later at Loch Gilp: 7 **Red Knot** and 3 **Greenshanks**, and at the Add Estuary: 3 **Common Sandpipers** (John Halliday).

A **Jay** in a garden at Bullwood Road, Dunoon today was the first they'd seen there (Cherry Cook).

Today a flock of at least 70 **Goldfinches** flew west over Strone Farm, Otter Ferry, Cowal (Tom Callan).

A single **Greenshank** was at the Holy Loch, Dunoon this morning (George Newall).



Greenshank – Loch Gilp, Mid-Argyll 13 Aug (Jim Dickson).



Common Whitethroat – Crinan Ferry, Mid-Argyll 13 Aug (Jim Dickson).

12 August: A sea-watch at Machrihanish Seabird Observatory, Kintyre, 07:30-14:30 hrs., with poor visibility / WSW, f4. **Northern Gannets** were again inshore on a narrow-front, on passage south. A **total of 2,208** had passed south by 10:30hrs (largest loose flock was 48). Also a juvenile **Little Gull** dip-feeding offshore and 3 adult **Sandwich Terns** and 22 adult **Black Guillemots** flew south (best passage of the latter there for many years) (Eddie Maguire).

At the Add Estuary/Loch Crinan, Mid-Argyll: 1 **Little Grebe**, 6 **Golden Plover**,

6 Ringed Plovers, 1 Whimbrel, 7 Red Knot, 21 Dunlins, 1 Greenshank, 12 Common Snipe, and 1 Osprey. At Loch Gilp, Mid-Argyll: **5 Turnstones, 6 Red Knot, 1 Greenshank, 65 Common Redshanks,** and 8 juvenile **Common Terns** (Jim Dickson). A single **Common Cuckoo** was at Balephuill, Tiree today (John Bowler).

11 August: Today 1,800 **Northern Gannets** were noted passing the Machrihanish Seabird Observatory, Kintyre in 3 hrs (one very early juvenile seen) (Eddie Maguire). At Loch Gilp, Mid-Argyll this morning: **3 Whimbrels, 5 Bar-tailed Godwits, 6 Turnstones, 2 Red Knot, 1 Sanderling** and 185 **Oystercatchers.** At the Add Estuary, Mid-Argyll: **3 Goosanders, 2 Ringed Plovers, 3 Red Knot, 1 Sanderling, 4 Dunlins,** and 4 **Common Sandpipers** (Jim Dickson). A juvenile **Ruff** was along the Arileod Straight, Coll today (Neil Cowie).

10 August: Two **Grasshopper Warblers** reeling at Stronafian, near Colintrave, Cowal today and a **Tree Pipit** in Clachaig, nr. Dunoon. Also a juvenile **Little Gull** on Holy Loch (Neil Hammatt).

At the Add Estuary, Mid-Argyll today: 2 **Common Terns** and a **Kittiwake** - both very unusual there (Jim Dickson).

A juvenile **Ruff** was near Little Feall Bay, Coll today (Ben Jones/Neil Cowie). There are very few records of this species from Coll, although they've perhaps gone under-reported in the past (John Bowler).

08 August: Northern Gannet: overland passage in S Kintyre.

On 08 August, a large number of Northern Gannets were plunge-diving for fish immediately inshore of MSBO all day: suspiciously, single birds were occasionally noted flying from the east. Gannets are known to fly 9 km across The Laggan from Campbeltown Loch to Machrihanish to join any large foraging activity.

A coordinated watch was organised at MSBO (Eddie Maguire / Iomhar McMillan) and at Campbeltown Loch (Rab Morton).

At 13:52 hrs Eddie's mobile rang: Rab announced from his vantage point at Dalintober Pier (Campbeltown) that a high-flying adult was on its way over the peninsula and, that it had disappeared rapidly, to the west, over the town.

At 14:01 hrs 4 adults were seen flying west towards the Atlantic over the Ugadale Hotel in Machrihanish village and another adult arrived from the east via The Laggan at 14:10 hrs. 100% evidence indeed!

Overland passage in Scotland from Forth to Clyde has been assumed but never proven like this (Eddie Maguire). See Maguire, E. (2015): *Westerly overland passage of Northern Gannets in south Argyll 2007-2015*: The Eider, December 2015 (No. 114).

08 August: A hectic sea-watch this morning 05:45-07:45 hrs off Aird, Tiree in NW7 produced: a blizzard of 23,530 **Manx Shearwaters** (20,710 in the first hour!), 89 **Fulmars**, one **European Storm-petrel**, 272 **Northern Gannets**, 1 **Pomarine Skua**, 8 **Great Skuas**, 1 **Puffin**, 1 **Black Guillemot**, 12 large auks, 2 **Little Terns** and 22 **Kittiwakes**. Also, a juvenile **Ruff** with Lapwings at Hough, an adult **Moorhen** at Kilkenneth and the **Wood Pigeon** again at Balephuill (John Bowler).

A blustery 7 hr sea-watch (NW f5 bright n' breezy - no squalls) at Machrihanish Seabird Observatory, Kintyre 07:30-14:30 hrs today produced: 7 **European Storm-petrels** flying S (singles, all a.m.), a female **Sparrowhawk**,

140 **Oystercatchers** along with 44 **Dunlins** and 16 **Sanderlings** flying S; 165 of 414 **Black-legged Kittiwakes** flying S on narrow front inshore passage were juveniles (40%) and 4 **Sandwich Terns** were sheltering, including a juvenile (Eddie Maguire).



Female Sparrowhawk - MSBO, Kintyre 08 Aug (Eddie Maguire).



European Storm-petrel - MSBO, Kintyre 08 Aug (Eddie Maguire).

At the Add Estuary, Mid-Argyll this afternoon: 22 juvenile **Black-tailed Godwits** were newly arrived. Also there were 6 **Ringed Plovers**, 9 **Dunlins**, 4 **Common Sandpipers**, an **Osprey** and 3 juvenile **Whinchats**. An **Arctic Skua** was out in the Sound of Jura and a female/immature **Common Redstart** was near Dalvore (Moine Mhor), Mid-Argyll (Jim Dickson).



Juvenile Black-tailed Godwits – Add Estuary, Mid-Argyll 08 Aug (Jim Dickson).

07 August: A sea-watch from Crinan harbour, Mid-Argyll looking into the sound of Jura produced 66 **Manx Shearwaters** and 3,500+ **Kittiwakes** and in one hour this morning. By Slockavullin school, Mid-Argyll; a family of 6 **Spotted Flycatchers** with 2 **Northern Wheatears** and 18 **Pied Wagtails** nearby. At Loch Gilp, Mid-Argyll; 1 **Whimbrel**, 3 **Bar-tailed Godwits** and 2 **Greenshanks** (Jim Dickson).



Northern Wheatear – Slockavullin, Mid-Argyll 07 Aug (Jim Dickson).



Spotted Flycatcher – Slockavullin, Mid-Argyll 07 Aug (Jim Dickson).



Juvenile Spotted Flycatcher – Slockavullin, Mid-Argyll 07 Aug (Jim Dickson).

The pick of a 7hr sea-watch at Machrihanish Seabird Observatory, Kintyre, SW - W f5 (6 at times), was a pair of **Gadwall**, ca. 200 **Manx Shearwaters**, a Whimbrel, a pale adult **Arctic Skua**, the first juvenile **Black-legged Kittiwakes** of the year (2) and 3 **Sandwich Terns** including a squeaking juvenile (Eddie Maguire).



Whimbrel – MSBO, Kintyre 07 Aug (Eddie Maguire)



Whimbrel – MSBO, Kintyre 07 Aug (Eddie Maguire)

06 August: Two **Spotted Flycatchers** this morning near Duntrune gardens, Mid-Argyll Also, 3 **White Wagtails** accompanying ca 10 **Pied Wagtails** at the Add Estuary (Jim Dickson).

A rewarding sea-watch in SSE7, with the odd shower, off Hynish, Tiree at 16:30-17:30 hrs found: 2 **Sooty Shearwaters**, 2,750 **Manx Shearwaters**, 12 **European Storm-petrels**, 392 **Northern Gannets**, 1 **Arctic Skua**, 26 large **auks** (Common Guillemot/Razorbill), 2 **Black Guillemots**, 234 **Puffins** and 82 **Kittiwakes** (all birds heading SW). Also 1 **Wood Pigeon** at Balephuill – it probably summered here which is most unusual (John Bowler).

05 August: This afternoon there were 5 **Greenshanks** at the Add Estuary, Mid-Argyll and 2 at Loch Gilp (Jim Dickson).

On Tiree today: an **Osprey** briefly at Loch a' Phuill this morning was probably the same as one heading west past Milton last night. Also a **Greenshank** at Loch an Eilein, a **Grasshopper Warbler** still reeling at Balephuill and an immature **Moorhen** at Moss (John Bowler).

A single **Common Kingfisher** was seen at Garmony, Mull today, on a burn running into the Sound of Mull. Also a **Common Goldeneye** at Bunessan (Alan

Spellman).

This juvenile male **Great Spotted Woodpecker** was photographed at Poltalloch (nr Kilmartin), Mid-Argyll today (Fiorna Cairns Smith).



Juvenile Great Spotted Woodpecker - Poltalloch, Mid-Argyll 05 Aug (Fiorna Cairns Smith).

04 August: At the Add Estuary, Mid-Argyll this morning a notable increase in **Common Redshanks** with 71 birds (mostly juveniles), also 3 **Dunlins**, 4 **Common Sandpipers** and still 3 **Greenshanks**. Nearby 2 juvenile **Whinchats** and good numbers of **Meadow Pipits** and **Pied Wagtails** (Jim Dickson).

An **Osprey** was heading west past Milton, Tiree this evening –a **Great Northern Diver**, a **Common Sandpiper**, an **Arctic Skua** and a **Great Skua** were also there (John Bowler).

03 August: At Loch Gilp, Mid-Argyll this morning; 3 **Bar-tailed Godwits** (including 2 ‘reddish’ adults) and 24 **Common Redshanks**. At the Add Estuary, Mid-Argyll, an **Osprey**, 16 **Common Redshanks** and a **Greenshank** (Jim Dickson).

02 August: an adult female **Marsh Harrier** was put up by a male **Hen Harrier**, in the boggy field at Lochdon, Mull, just past the Grasspoint turnoff (per Alan Spellman).

At the Add Estuary, Mid-Argyll today were 2 **Hen Harriers** (a second calendar year male and ring-tail) and a single **Greenshank** was on the river (Jim Dickson).

Later at the Add Estuary, 3 **Greenshanks** and 3 **Ospreys** fishing and, at the head of Loch Sween, 2 **Northern Gannets** (John Halliday).

8 **Moorhens** (6 adults, 2 immature) and a **Water Rail** at Ardencaple, Seil Island, Mid-Argyll this evening (David Jardine).

01 August: A **Sooty Shearwater** and 3 **Great Skuas** off Gunna Sound at midday from the Tiree-Coll ferry: also 10 **Basking Sharks** and a **Minke Whale** there (John Bowler).

