# Rare birds in Guernsey

# 2015

La Société Guernesiaise Ornithological Section

Manulor 16



The following records have been submitted to, assessed by and accepted by the Bailiwick of Guernsey Rarities Committee (BGRC) which is organised through the Ornithological Section of La Société Guernesiaise. The members of the committee for 2015 (M.P.Lawlor, W.R.Turner, K.Childs, J.P.Down, J.Hooper) would like to thank all the observers and photographers who sent in details of their rarity observations.



The systematic list is based on the BOU British List. Although the BGRC's area covers the whole of the Bailiwick, this report focuses on the rare bird sightings from Guernsey. However, the accepted records from Alderney and Sark are also included for completeness and interest. For each record, the following information is given where available; number of birds, age and sex if known, date and location of first sighting, further locations, whether it was trapped or photographed, the names of the finder(s), and whether it was seen by anyone else (et al.). For each species, it states how many previous records there have been (if known) and there is a comment on the birds natural range and migrations. There are also the editor's comments and analysis of sightings in Guernsey.

Cover drawing : Little Swift Apus affinis, by Mark Lawlor

# Guernsey

#### Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus)

Two, adults, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> April, Colin Best N.R., L'Eree, photo (*A. Marquis, et. al.*) - 8<sup>th</sup> Guernsey record.

## One, adult, 29<sup>th</sup> November into 2016, St. Saviours Reservoir, photo (*J. P. Down, M. C. Simmons, et. al.*) - 9<sup>th</sup> Guernsey record.

Only very rarely do Whooper Swans reach Guernsey as the island is south of their regular wintering range. The evenrarer Bewick's Swan actually winters in small numbers further south than Guernsey, so one may have predicted this smaller species to be the more common. However, the Channel Islands are in a direct line with the Whooper Swans' autumn migration route and, as most recent records are in late autumn (like the Reservoir bird below), this indicates they are mostly overshooting their wintering grounds when they appear here.

The pair of birds present in April were the first island records since the autumn influx of 2002, and were unusual in being the first ever spring records of the species. It is difficult to imagine where they originated from, but wherever it was, these birds were definitely going in the wrong direction.

A swan seen flying over St. Martins on 24th November - just 5 days before the Reservoir sighting - was most probably this bird but the identification could not be clinched on the brief views (M. A. Guppy). This bird found the Reservoir to its liking and spent the whole winter period there, only the third time one has wintered in the island.

(A common breeding species throughout the far north of Europe, wintering in large flocks in north-western Europe)



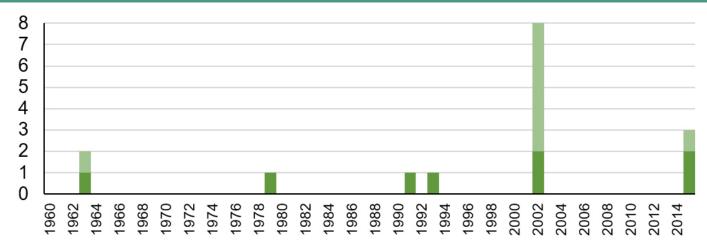


Figure 1 : Whooper Swans in Guernsey by year (records in dark, individuals in pale).



#### Canada Goose (Branta canadensis)

One, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> June, Grande Mare, photo (A. J. Bisson, et. al.) - 4<sup>th</sup> Guernsey record.

Although this species is widespread and common throughout Britain, this is a rare wanderer to Guernsey. Any Canada Goose that makes it here, has to cross the Channel and this seems to be a barrier for the British population. A lot of Canada Geese do move distances within the UK to moult, but this is generally northwards. All records so far have been between February and June.

(Introduced American species, breeding throughout northern Europe)

#### Report on rare birds in the Bailiwick of Guernsey in 2015



#### Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis)

#### One, adult, 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> April, Pleinmont area, photo - 9<sup>th</sup> Guernsey record.

This individual was in full breeding-plumage with orange crown and plumes, and moved between cow fields in the Pleinmont area for a couple of days. After the appearance of this species in 2004 (there is one old previous record in the 60's) and six more birds found in the four years between 2007 and 2010, many predicted that this species would go the way of Little Egret and become a regular visitor. However, this bird is the first since then, and Cattle Egret seems to have halted its progress north.

(Breeds in colonies throughout southern Europe. Wanders widely in the non-breeding season.)

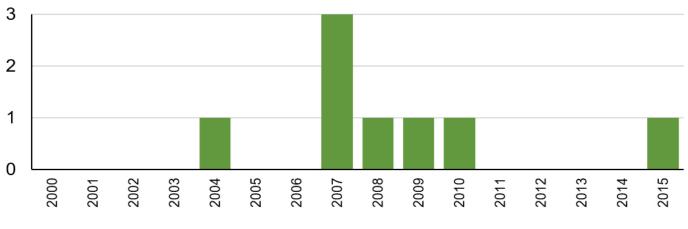


Figure 2 : Cattle Egrets in Guernsey since 2000 by year.

#### Great White Egret (Ardea alba)

One, 2<sup>nd</sup> August, over Rue des Bergers NR, photo - 5<sup>th</sup> Guernsey record.

One, 27<sup>th</sup> September, over Pleinmont, photo (W. R. Turner, M. A. Guppy, J. M. Medland, A. J. Bisson, D. Spicer, A. Loaring) - 6<sup>th</sup> Guernsey record.

2015 was the first year that more than one record was accepted. Even though the island now has six accepted records - plus a few others reported but not submitted - none of these birds has stayed long enough for the local birdwatchers to enjoy properly. However, now the species breeds regularly in the UK, and is increasing in northern France, we should see the species occurring almost annually.

(Breeds in colonies in wetlands throughout Europe, increasing in NW Europe. Partial migrant, with many birds moving further south)



Great White Egret - Pleinmont - W.R.Turner



#### Glossy Ibis (Plegadis falcinellus)

### **One, 28<sup>th</sup> October, Vale Pond, photo** (*D. Tulie*) - 1<sup>st</sup> Guernsey record.

Finally, one of the most oft-predicted species to be added to the Guernsey List was seen in 2015. Unfortunately the sighting was very brief and the bird was only seen by a single observer, who managed to grab an all-important photo. It was first seen attempting to make a landing at Vale Pond, but decided against it and flew off towards The Bridge. Luckily it came back for another fly-past, when the photo below was taken. We were expecting Glossy Ibis to occur on the island sooner or later as there are now plenty of records throughout the UK of wandering birds, and even sizeable flocks, and the species appears to be getting more regular. Hopefully there will be a second Guernsey record soon so that more birdwatchers will get a chance to see one.

(Breeds in colonies throughout southern Europe. Wanders widely in the non-breeding season.)

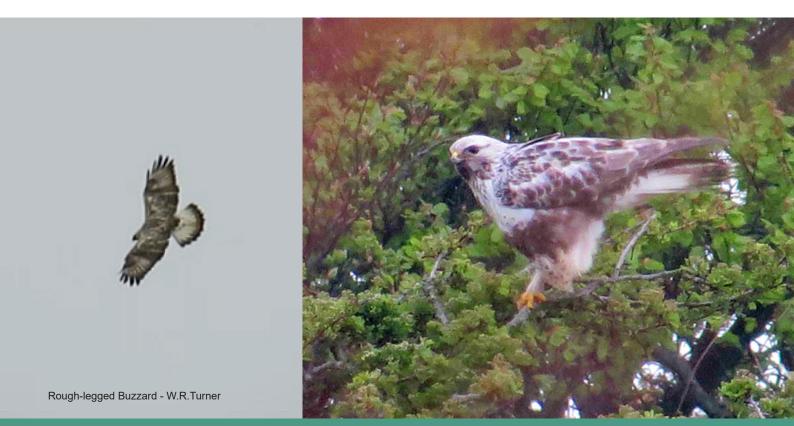


#### Rough-legged Buzzard (Buteo lagopus)

**One, second-year, 11<sup>th</sup> May, Rue des Hougues, photo** (*W. R. Turner, et. al.*) - returning 4<sup>th</sup> Guernsey record.

Nobody would have predicted that a Rough-legged Buzzard would be seen for the second spring running at the fields at Rue des Hougues. The most remarkable thing about the sighting was that close studies of photographs revealed it to be the same bird as in 2014. It is not surprising that a bird may use the same breeding or wintering sites from year to year, but one does not usually consider that rare passage individuals may use the same locations from one year to the next. Clearly the site had ingrained on the birds brain during the first visit and it remembered it this year. Unlike in 2014, this time the bird did not stay for more than a single date.

(Breeds in the mountains and tundra of the far north of Europe. Winters in northern and eastern Europe)



#### Temminck's Stint (Calidris temminckii)

#### One, 29th & 30th May, Claire Mare, photo - 8th Guernsey record.

A breeding-plumaged Temminck's Stint stopped on the island for a couple of days on its way north to its breeding grounds. This was the first island record for thirteen years and so was very welcome. Half of the eight island records were in a short five year period in the mid-90's. Many rare waders tend to follow this pattern of bursts of records, then long gaps. Perhaps it is related to population booms and busts.

(Breeds in wetlands in the far north of Europe, migrating to winter in Africa)

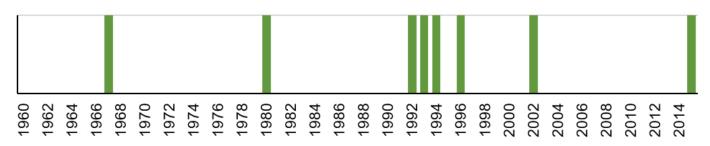


Figure 3 : Temminck's Stint records in Guernsey by year.



#### Spotted Redshank (Tringa erythropus)

#### One, adult, 4th & 5th October, Bordeaux Harbour, photo (C. Carré, et. al.)

Due to the dearth of recent records, Spotted Redshank was added to the official rarities list only last year. As the chart below shows, the species used to be a regular migrant into the late 80's, but records started to tail-off during the 90's. In the seven years since 2008, there had only been a single sighting, hence the change in official status. Spotted Redshank mirrors the decline of many species of wader on the island.

(Breeds in the taiga and tundra of northern Europe, migrating to winter in Africa and south Asia)

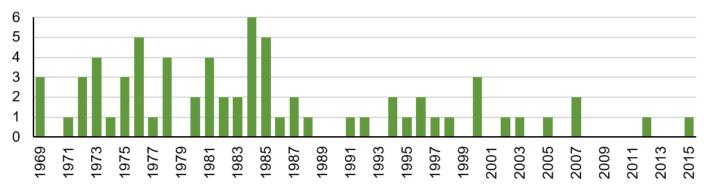


Figure 4 : Spotted Redshank records in Guernsey by year.



#### Little Swift (Apus affinis)

# One, 30<sup>th</sup> December, Fort le Crocq & Richmond, Vazon, photo (*J. Brown, et. al.*) - 2<sup>nd</sup> Guernsey record.

The weather at the end of the year was very warm, with storm "Frank" causing an unusual southerly airflow and winds originating in Africa. Of course, during exceptional conditions one must look out for exceptional birds, and we had a real cracker! This Little Swift was discovered around midday feeding over the Richmond end of Vazon Bay, before moving round the corner to Fort Le Crocq. Luckily, it had found a sheltered spot where insects were on the wing and it fed there for a couple of hours before moving on, which meant that many of the local birders were able to see it. The species is very distinctive, being smaller than a Common Swift and with a large white rump patch and square tail. This is the first ever December record for the British Isles, although one was recorded in Scotland the next day. The only previous record is one bird at the Claire Mare in April 2000.

(Breeds in north-west Africa and the Middle East, in some parts of its range, migrates south in winter.)





#### Bee-eater (Merops apiaster)

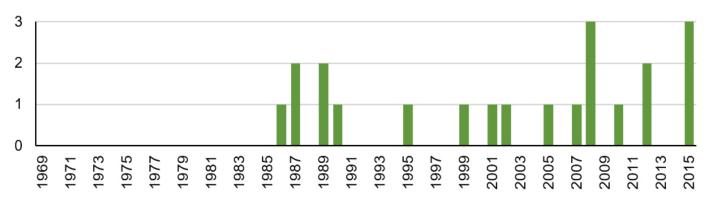
One, 12<sup>th</sup> April, Bordeaux, photo (C. Carré) - 20<sup>th</sup> Guernsey record.

#### About ten, 3<sup>rd</sup> June, Trinity, Pleinmont, (J. Hooper) - 21<sup>st</sup> Guernsey record.

#### Two, 19<sup>th</sup> June, Courtil de Bas, photo (V. Froome, J. Froome) - 22<sup>nd</sup> Guernsey record.

There is the impression that Bee-eater is becoming a more regular species on Guernsey, especially with climate change warming the continent, but the official stats do not especially back this up. The graph below shows the number of accepted sightings year on year, and there have been more blank years than years with records recently. However, there has been more regular 'influx years' in recent times. Also, the picture is complicated because Bee-eater is a species that suffers from a low submission rate. There were quite a few more sightings that were reported by bird-watchers during 2015 than the three which were formally submitted and accepted. One of the reasons this may be the case is that Bee-eater is often a briefly-seen, flyover species, and as it has a distinctive call, so some reports are of heard-only birds. Very brief observations are very difficult to prove in writing and there will be a reluctance to submit.

(Breeds in the southern half of Europe, as far as northern France, wintering in Africa)



*Figure 5* : Accepted Bee-eater records in Guernsey by year (not totals of individual birds).



#### Red-backed Shrike (Lanius collurio)

One, juvenile, 26<sup>th</sup> September, Pleinmont, photo (W. R. Turner, et. al.) - 28<sup>th</sup> Guernsey record.

This bird showed very well for observers in the scrub on the top of Pleinmont headland. This species is currently being recorded every couple of years or so, and late September is right in the middle of its autumn migration period. Redbacked Shrike does not stay very long when it arrives on the island and this is the seventh "one-dayer" in a row.

(Breeds in continental Europe, wintering in Africa)



#### Short-toed Lark (Calandrella brachydactyla)

#### One, 18th to 20th April, Vazon beach, photo (M. C. Simmons, et. al.) - 9th Guernsey record.

This Short-toed Lark found the sandy beach of Vazon Bay was an excellent replacement for the arid plains of southern Europe and it showed well for a three-day stay. The Vazon area, between Fort Le Crocq and Fort Hommet, has now attracted five out of the last six records of this species. It was a particularly orangey-rufous bird which is typical of the western European population of this variable species.

(Breeds in southern Europe, wintering in Africa)



#### Red-rumped Swallow (Cecropis daurica)

# One, 3<sup>rd</sup> May, Grande Mare/Rue des Bergers area (*M. P. Lawlor, M. A. Guppy, C. J. Mourant, W. R. Turner, et. al.*) - 6<sup>th</sup> Guernsey record.

This bird appeared around lunchtime with a large group of other hirundines taking advantage of a break in the weather to feed up on insects. It moved around the area very quickly and stayed for just a couple of hours before moving on to feed with the rest of the flock. It was also seen for a short time late afternoon in the same area. This year's individual frequented the same area of the island as the previous one, in spring 2012.

(Breeds in southern Europe, wintering in tropical Africa)

#### Aquatic Warbler (Acrocephalus paludicola)

#### One, juvenile, 9th August, Claire Mare, trapped, photo (P. W. Atkinson, C. J. Mourant).

The third year in a row that this species has been trapped at the Claire Mare, indicating perhaps a slight upturn in fortunes for this declining species.

(Breeds in eastern Europe, wintering in Africa)



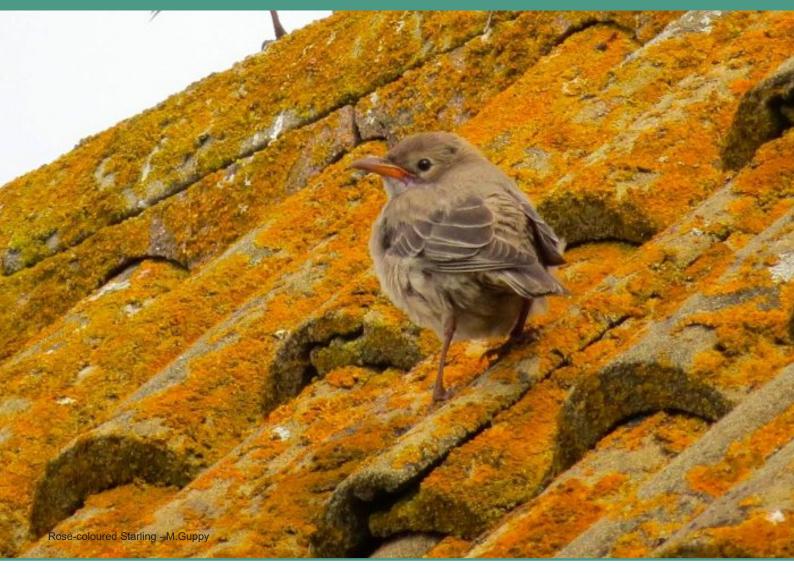
#### **Rose-coloured Starling** (Pastor roseus)

One, juvenile, 6<sup>th</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October, Vazon & Fort Hommet, photo (*J. Hooper, M. Hooper, et. al.*) - 40<sup>th</sup> Guernsey record.

**One, juvenile, 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> September, by Airport** (*J. Hooper, M. Hooper, et. al.*) - 41<sup>st</sup> Guernsey record.

The island hits 40 records of this species - probably the best place to find a Rosy Starling in western Europe.

(Breeds in south-eastern Europe and Asia, wintering in southern Asia. Small numbers move west in the Autumn.)



#### Nightingale (Luscinia megarhynchos)

#### One, 17th August, Pleinmont, (J. Hooper, A. Loaring, et. al.) - 26th Guernsey record.

Nightingale is a species that we know must occur more regularly than the records suggest. It is very common on the adjacent continent, and the British birds must pass over the island each spring and autumn. However, on migration the species is highly secretive and keeps to the very densest bushes, feeding low down and out of sight. Most records are of birds trapped in mist nets or spring males singing heartily, so this record of an autumn migrant watched in the field is especially notable and the finders should be commended.

(Common breeder throughout central and southern Europe, migrating to winter in Africa. Breeds uncommonly in UK)

#### **Tree Sparrow** (Passer montanus)

#### One, 14th June, Fort Doyle, (A. J. Bisson) - 13th Guernsey record.

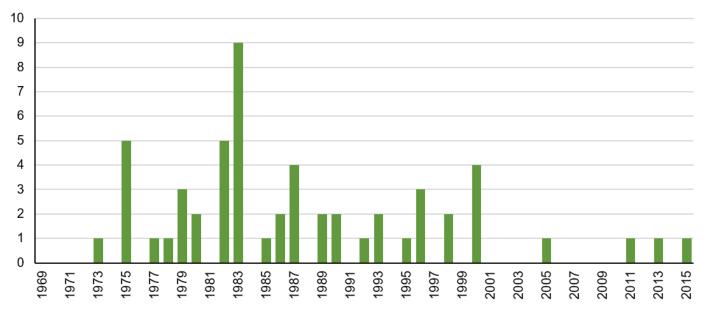
A frustratingly brief sighting of an exceptionally rare species for Guernsey. The bird was searched for after the initial sighting, which was with a flock of House Sparrows in the scrubland, but it was to no avail. The last reliable record for the island was of a group of 3 birds at Pleinmont on 7th May 1989, twenty-six years ago. Most of the sightings in the database are from the 1970's but many of these are poorly documented and it is difficult to be sure just how many records there have been. As this is another declining species, who knows when the next Guernsey Tree Sparrow will be?

#### (Widespread resident species throughout Europe)

#### Tawny Pipit (Anthus campestris)

#### One, 13th September, Pleinmont, (M. P. Lawlor).

A very flighty bird that visited various fields on Pleinmont headland before disappearing to the east. Tawny Pipit was added to the official list of rarities for the 2015 season, and was probably well overdue, as it has become much less regular in both Guernsey and the UK over the last decade or so. The chart below shows the records that we have on the database, this bird being only the fourth since the year 2000. In the 70's and 80's Tawny Pipit was an expected species in autumn and, less so, in spring. However, since then, the species has declined in its breeding range in France and the numbers of migrants have declined accordingly. The peak time for finding this species is in late August and September.



#### (Breeds throughout southern Europe, but only very sparsely in the north of its range, wintering in Africa)

Figure 6 : Database records of Tawny Pipits in Guernsey by year.

#### Hawfinch (Coccothraustes coccothraustes)

One, 16th April, Pleinmont, (J. Hooper) - 21st Guernsey record.

In an almost exact repeat of last year, but a few days earlier, another brief sighting of a spring migrant at Pleinmont.

(Resident breeder throughout Europe, with northern birds wandering further south in autumn and winter)

#### Black-headed Bunting (Emberiza melanocephala)

#### One, male, 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> May, Jerbourg, photo (L. Harborow, et. al.) - 5<sup>th</sup> Guernsey record.

The saying "lightning doesn't strike twice" is a misconception, since certain locations attract lightning more often than others. Nevertheless, it was quite a coincidence that a male Black-headed Bunting was discovered feeding in exactly the same garden as the previous record six years ago. Of course, a seed-eating rarity is very likely to end up in a garden that provides seeds, especially one located on the most south-eastern point of the island. This superbly-plumaged male gave excellent views as it fed on the lawn of the garden and brings the total number of records to five. All five of these records were of adult males, in late spring, on garden feeders - who says birds are unpredictable?

(Breeds in south-eastern Europe, wintering in India.)

#### Report on rare birds in the Bailiwick of Guernsey in 2015



# Alderney

Below is a list of the rare birds submitted to, and accepted by, the Bailiwick Rarities Committee from the island of Alderney in 2015. The most notable sighting being the North American Rosebreasted Grosbeak in November, which is just the third record for the Channel Islands and was probably the bird seen in a garden in Jersey later in the month. Also, the Long-tailed Skua appears to be the first documented sighting for Alderney. It is difficult to ascertain the exact number of rare birds of each species recorded on Alderney as, for many years, any sightings were not documented or submitted to any committee for ratification.

#### Great White Egret (Ardea alba)

One, 9<sup>th</sup> July, Longis Common, photo. One, 27th September to 13th October, various sites, photo

Black Stork (Ciconia nigra)

One, 25<sup>th</sup> June, over the Community Woodland, photo (*R. Manzano Rubio*).

[Great Bustard (Otis tarda)]

One, from 25<sup>th</sup> April, near the campsite, photo (from the UK reintroduction project).

Long-tailed Skua (Stercorarius longicaudus)

One, juvenile, 30<sup>th</sup> August, past Mannez Lighthouse (*P. K. Veron, C. Veron*).

#### Bee-eater (Merops apiaster)

One, 8<sup>th</sup> June, Longis Common, *(R. Manzano Rubio)*. One, 19<sup>th</sup> June, Longis Common, photo - perhaps same bird.

**Rose-coloured Starling** (Pastor roseus)

One, juvenile, 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> September, Longis Common, (*R. Manzano Rubio, et. al.*).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (Pheucticus Iudovicianus)

One, juvenile, 8th November, Mannez Lighthouse (P. K. Veron, C. Veron).

# Sark

Unfortunately, no rare bird records were accepted from Sark this year.

#### Scarce species in Guernsey

Below is a list of other rare sightings in Guernsey in 2015. The species below occur too regularly to be classified as official rarities, and are generally labelled "scarcities". Some years, a scarce species may occur in higher than usual numbers and will be missing from this section. Since these species are not official rarities, no formal report form has had to be completed, and no assessment has taken place by the Rarities Committee. So, since these records are 'unchecked' they are listed with the assumption of correct identification by the observer, and the proviso that an error may have been made on occasion. A few reports of birds are not included due to circumstances indicating a high likelihood of a mistake being made.

#### Gadwall (Anas strepera)

(m), Grande Mare/Saumarez Park, 27<sup>th</sup> Jan.
Vale Pond, 6<sup>th</sup> Feb.
(m), Grande Mare & elsewhere, 24<sup>th</sup> Mar to 9<sup>th</sup> Apr.
(m+f), Claire Mare, 17<sup>th</sup> Apr.
Rue des Bergers, 20<sup>th</sup> Sep.

#### Pintail (Anas acuta)

2 (m+f), Colin Best NR, 13th to 18th Jan.

Garganey (Anas querquedula)

1 (m), Claire Mare,  $2^{nd}$  to  $12^{th}$  Apr

#### Pochard (Aythya ferina)

1 (f), Claire Mare/Reservoir, 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> Jun.

#### Red-breasted Merganser (Mergus serrator)

- 1 (m), Fort le Crocq, 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb. 1 (f), Cobo, 3<sup>rd</sup> Apr.
- 1 (f), Claire Mare/L'Eree, 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> Apr.
- 1, Portelet, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec.
- 1, Fort le Crocq, 29th Dec.
- 1 (m), Rousse, 30<sup>th</sup> Dec.

#### Spoonbill (Platalea leucorodia)

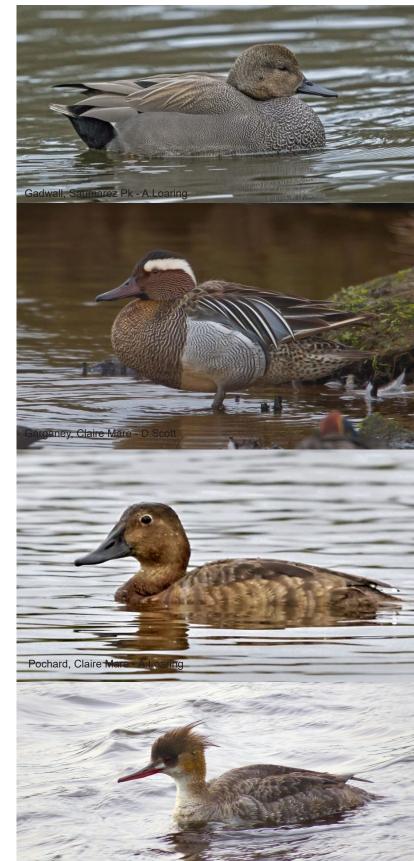
- 1, over L'Ancresse, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan.
- 1, Claire Mare, 16<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> Apr.
- 2, past Lihou Headland, 1<sup>st</sup> Jun.
- 1, Claire Mare, 24th Jul.
- 1, Claire Mare, 17th Aug.
- 1, Colin Best NR, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sep.
- 6, over Perelle, 28th Sep.

#### Black-necked Grebe (Podiceps nigricollis)

- 1, Grandes Havres, 4th to 11th Jan.
- 1, White Rock/Belle Greve Bay,  $7^{th}$  to  $29^{th}$  Jan.
- 1, Salerie/White Rock,  $29^{\text{th}}$  &  $30^{\text{th}}$  Mar.

#### Honey Buzzard (Pernis apivorus)

- 1, L'Eree, 8<sup>th</sup> May.
- 1, Les Grantez, 6<sup>th</sup> Sep.
- 1, Pleinmont/Mont Herault, 13th to 16th Sep.
- 1, Fauxquets Valley, 15<sup>th</sup> Sep.
- 1, Les Fauconnaires, 18th Sep.



Red-breasted Merganser, Claire Mare - M.Guppy

Spoonbill, Claire Mare, July - D.Scott

#### Hen Harrier (Circus cyaneus)

- 1 (f/i), Rue des Hougues, 9<sup>th</sup> Apr.
- 1 (f/i), Airport, 24<sup>th</sup> Apr.
- 1 (f/i), Pleinmont, 25<sup>th</sup> Sep.

#### **Osprey** (Pandion haliaetus)

Little Russell, 12<sup>th</sup> Mar.
Fairfield/Fauxquets, 5<sup>th</sup> Apr.
Herm, 7<sup>th</sup> Apr.
Rue de la Ronde Cheminee, 10<sup>th</sup> May.
Grandes Amfroques, Herm, 18<sup>th</sup> Aug.

1, Le Gouffre, 23rd Aug.

#### Little Ringed Plover (Charadrius dubius)

- 2, Colin Best NR, 4<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> Apr.
- 1, Claire Mare, 26<sup>th</sup> Apr.

1, Colin Best NR, 4th May.

- 1, Claire Mare, 24th Jun.
- 1, Claire Mare, 16<sup>th</sup> Jul.

#### **Dotterel** (Charadrius morinellus)

2, Herm Common, 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Apr. 2, Airport, 25<sup>th</sup> Apr.

#### Knot (Calidris canutus)

c.15, Vazon, 14<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1, L'Eree, 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Sep.

#### Ruff (Philomachus pugnax)

- 1, Colin Best NR, 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> Mar.
- 1, Colin Best NR, 31<sup>st</sup> Aug to 6<sup>th</sup> Sep.

#### Curlew Sandpiper (Calidris ferruginea)

3, Vazon, 14th Aug.

#### **Purple Sandpiper** (Calidris maritima)

1, Grandes Rocques, 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> Mar. 1, Rousse, 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec.

#### Grey Phalarope (Phalaropus fulicarius)

1, Claire Mare, 14th Sep.

#### Jack Snipe (Lymnocryptes minimus)

- 1, Grande Mare, 22nd Jan.
- 1, Grand Pre, 9th Feb.
- 2, St. Sampsons Marais, 15th Feb to 7th Apr.
- 1, The Bowl, 15th Feb.
- 1, Pleinmont, 14th Oct.
- 1, St. Sampsons Marais, 1st Nov.
- 1, Grand Pre, 16th Nov & 31st Dec.
- 1, Rue des Bergers, 30th Nov.



Ruff, Colin Best NR, March - A.Loaring

#### Pomarine Skua (Stercorarius pomarinus)

2, off Jaonneuse, 8<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1, off Chouet, 21<sup>st</sup> Nov. 1, off Chouet, 28<sup>th</sup> Nov.

#### Little Tern (Sternula albifrons)

1, L'Eree, 12<sup>th</sup> Sep. 1, Pulias, 24<sup>th</sup> Sep.

#### Black Tern (Chlidonias niger)

off Chouet, 29<sup>th</sup> Jul.
off Jaonneuse, 14<sup>th</sup> Aug.
off Chouet, 31<sup>st</sup> Aug.
off Chouet, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sep.

#### Little Gull (Hydrocoloeus minutus)

1, Bordeaux, 4<sup>th</sup> Oct. 14, off Jaonneuse, 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov.

#### Turtle Dove (Streptopelia turtur)

- 1, Pleinmont, 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> May.
- 1, Herm, 8<sup>th</sup> May.
- 1, Petit Bot, 13<sup>th</sup> May.
- 1, Brock Rd, SPP, 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> May.
- 1, Pleinmont, 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> Jul.
- 1, Jaonneuse, 5<sup>th</sup> Sep.

#### Short-eared Owl (Asio flammeus)

Fort le Marchant, 7<sup>th</sup> Mar.
Chouet, 28<sup>th</sup> Apr.
Les Gravees, 11<sup>th</sup> May.
Pleinmont, 17<sup>th</sup> Oct.
up to 3, Pleinmont/Mont Herault, 27<sup>th</sup> Oct to 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov.
Chouet, 31<sup>st</sup> Oct.
Airport, 31<sup>st</sup> Oct.
Fort le Crocq, 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov.
Chouet, 4<sup>th</sup> Nov.
Chouet, 6<sup>th</sup> Dec.
Cobo, 18<sup>th</sup> Dec.

#### Hoopoe (Upupa epops)

Pont Vaillant, 11<sup>th</sup> Apr.
Jerbourg, 16<sup>th</sup> Apr.
Colin Best NR/Lihou Headland, 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> Apr.

#### Wryneck (Jynx torquilla)

- 1, Fort le Marchant, 17<sup>th</sup> Aug.
- 1, Rue des Bergers,  $31^{st}$  Aug to  $5^{th}$  Sep.
- 1, Pleinmont, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sep.
- 1, Lihou Island, 12th Sep.
- 1, Prevote, 20<sup>th</sup> Sep.
- 1, Chouet, 28<sup>th</sup> Sep.

#### Golden Oriole (Oriolus oriolus)

- 1 (f), trapped, Jerbourg, 10<sup>th</sup> May.
- 1, Val des Terres, 10th May.
- 1 (f), Fauxquets Valley, 15<sup>th</sup> May.
- 1 (f), Rue des Bergers, 17th to 19th May.
- 1, Fauxquets Valley, 21<sup>st</sup> May.
- 1, Rue de la Marette, SSv, 4<sup>th</sup> Jun.



#### Report on rare birds in the Bailiwick of Guernsey in 2015

#### Coal Tit (Periparus ater)

Bas Capelles, 1<sup>st</sup> Jan.
Grande Rue, SM, 17<sup>th</sup> Apr.
Pleinmont, 12<sup>th</sup> Sep.
Pleinmont, 20<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> Oct.
Le Guet, 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> Oct.
Rue des Bergers, 18<sup>th</sup> Dec.
Saumarez Park, 21<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> Dec.

#### Woodlark (Lullula arborea)

Pleinmont, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Apr.
Fort Doyle, 14<sup>th</sup> Apr.
Pleinmont, 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct.
up to 4, Pleinmont/Mont Herault, 17<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> Oct.
Prevote, 20<sup>th</sup> Oct.

#### Cetti's Warbler (Cettia cetti)

1 singing, Marais Nord, 26<sup>th</sup> Mar to 14<sup>th</sup> Jun. 1, Grand Pre, 26<sup>th</sup> Oct & 19<sup>th</sup> Dec.

#### Yellow-browed Warbler (Phylloscopus inornatus)

- 1 or 2, Pleinmont, 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> Oct.
- 1, Delancey Park, 4<sup>th</sup> Oct.
- 1, Pleinmont, 8<sup>th</sup> Oct.
- 1, Fort Hommet, 8<sup>th</sup> Oct.
- 1, Fort Hommet, 26<sup>th</sup> Oct.
- 1, Silbe, 28th Oct.
- 1, Pleinmont, 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> Nov.

#### Wood Warbler (Phylloscopus sibilatrix)

- 1, Rue des Clercs, 20<sup>th</sup> Apr.
- 1, St. Peters Church, 23rd Apr.
- 1, Rue de la Marette, 28th Apr.
- 1, Fauxquets Valley, 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> May.

#### Lesser Whitethroat (Sylvia curruca)

- 1, Colin Best NR, 26th Apr.
- 1, Pleinmont, 4<sup>th</sup> May.
- 1, Herm, 8<sup>th</sup> May.
- 1, Prevote, 10<sup>th</sup> May.
- 1, Pleinmont, 12th May.
- 1, Pleinmont, 28th Oct.

#### Dartford Warbler (Sylvia undata)

1, Herm, 19<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1, Fort Hommet, 20<sup>th</sup> Oct.

#### Grasshopper Warbler (Locustella naevia)

1, Claire Mare, 17<sup>th</sup> Apr. 1, Le Gouffre, 17<sup>th</sup> Apr.

#### Melodious Warbler (Hippolais polyglotta)

1, Pleinmont, 17<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> Aug 1, Pleinmont, 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> Aug (with first bird)



Woodlark, Pleinmont, Apr - A.Marquis





#### Blue-headed Wagtail (Motacilla flava flava)

1, Pleinmont, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sep.

1, Rue des Hougues,  $13^{th}$  Sep.

#### Richard's Pipit (Anthus richardi)

- 1, Pleinmont, 8<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> Mar.
- 1, Pleinmont, 27<sup>th</sup> Sep.
- 1, Pleinmont, 31<sup>st</sup> Oct.

#### Water Pipit (Anthus spinoletta)

- 1, Pulias/Pecqueries, 1<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> Jan.
- 1, St. Sampsons Marais, 13th Jan to 22nd Mar.
- 1, Fort le Crocq, 14<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> Dec.

#### Serin (Serinus serinus)

1, Bordeaux, 12<sup>th</sup> Apr.

1, Lihou Headland, 4<sup>th</sup> May.

#### Lesser Redpoll (Carduelis cabaret)

- 1, Pleinmont, 4<sup>th</sup> Oct.
- 1, Mont Herault, 8<sup>th</sup> Oct.
- 1, Pleinmont, 19<sup>th</sup> Oct.
- 1, Mont Herault, 25<sup>th</sup> Oct.
- 1, Delancey Park, 25<sup>th</sup> Oct.
- 1, Pleinmont, 1<sup>st</sup> Nov.

#### Common Crossbill (Loxia curvirostra)

2, Pleinmont, 26th Jun.

- 2, Pleinmont, 4th Oct.
- 2, Pleinmont, 10th Oct.
- 7, Pleinmont, 25th Oct.
- 2, Pleinmont, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

#### Snow Bunting (Plectrophenax nivalis)

- 1, Fort Saumarez, 7th Oct.
- 1, Vazon/Fort le Crocq,  $7^{th}$  to  $13^{th}$  Oct.
- 1, Rocque Poisson, 9th Oct.
- 1, Chouet, 12<sup>th</sup> Oct.
- 2, Vazon, 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct.
- 1, Havelet, 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct.
- 1, L'Ancresse, 30<sup>th</sup> Oct.

#### Lapland Bunting (Calcarius lapponicus)

- 4, Herm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct.
- 1, Mont Herault, 4<sup>th</sup> Oct.
- 1, Pleinmont, 19<sup>th</sup> Oct.
- 1, Mont Herault, 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> Oct.
- 1, Chouet,  $7^{\mbox{\tiny th}}$  to  $13^{\mbox{\tiny th}}$  Nov.

#### Ortolan Bunting (Emberiza hortulana)

2, Pleinmont, 13th Sep.

2, Pleinmont/Mont Herault, 26th to 27th Sep.







