



CORK BIRD REPORT
1979

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CORK BIRD REPORT

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(from whom copies are available.)

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Cover: Dowitcher.S.p. by Jim Wilson.

INTRODUCTION

This report, the fourth in the series which began in 1976 is published in the hope of giving a detailed picture of Cork's avifauna in 1979. This report differs than those of previous years in that it only possesses a systematic list, this is as a result of previous sales and lack of interest by Cork Ornithologists to write papers for their own report, however the standard of the report's detail is up to recent years. With even greater emphasis on the detail and numbers of commoner species than ever before. This characteristic which national reports tend to ignore is unique to Cork as is it's annual publication of a bird report. This report also includes all the Cape Clear records for 1979 as is outlined in it's annual report.

It was quite an eventful year in Cork for birdwatching, despite the fact that it was marred by the fact that none of the records which were recorded at Sollycotton Bird Observatory were submitted, however due to the experience of many observers, some of the records were submitted independently and therefore were included in this report. The year started well with a Kildeer opening the year for one of the most outstanding, for American vagrants, this was followed by a Broad-billed Sandpiper, a Little-ringed Plover, a Irish Sandpiper, two Lesser Golden Plover and an additional Still Sandpiper was also recorded, which is the second Irish record of this species. In addition many Pomarine Skuas were recorded, also two pairs of Redstart bred at Sollycotton, with only four pairs of Common/Arctic Terns breeding but no Little Terns bred there for the third year in succession.

Five successful counts of the waterfowl of Cork Harbour were carried out, a short survey of Herons was also carried out. (details in the systematic list.)

Records for 1980 should be submitted before the end of January and comments on the status of species would also be welcome. Papers or short notes on any aspect of Cork Ornithology will also be accepted for publication. Rarity descriptions outstanding for early 1980 should be sent promptly to the Secretary of the Irish Records Panel to assist early publication of next years report.

The Editor would like to sincerely thank Mr P. Smiddy and Mr. K. Preston, for their help in producing this report and without whose help it may not have been published.

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SYSTEMATIC LIST

This list follows the nomenclature and sequence of 'A Species List Of British and Irish Birds, B.T.O. Guide 13, 1971.

All records of species coming under the consideration of the Irish Records Panel (see I.B.R. 20: 32-34 and 22:23) have been examined and accepted by the panel. Initials supporting records are confined to those observers who submitted substantiating data.

Black-throated Diver: Gavia arctica

Five records of single birds all recorded in February and March :-
Mantry Bay 3rd February, (K.F.) Mullymead, one found dead, 17th February.
(P.S.), Courtasesherry Bay, 14th March, (K.F.), Roaringwaterbay, 19th March, (K.F.)

Great-Northern Diver: Gavia immer

Thinly scattered along the coast all winter. Recorded up to the 25th of May and from 10th of September up to 13 were recorded together.

Red-throated Diver: Gavia stellata

Very thinly distributed along the coast in winter, recorded up to the 25th May and again from the 12th of September, never more than six together.

Great-Crested Grebe: Podiceps cristatus

Two pairs bred at Lough Allua. (K.P.) Two large juveniles were seen at the Goragh on 27th of September. (D.Mc.M.). The highest count in Cork Harbour was 90 on 21st January. Two at Ballycotton on 26th-27th of May and one on the Lee Reservoir on 11th of November.

Fulmar: Fulmarus glacialis

Several pairs were prospecting over houses at Yousoel in Spring but did not breed. (P.S.) Three were prospecting at Cosh in April and May (J.W.)
At Cape Clear: Spring passage peaked at 344 west per hour on the 10th of May and the Autumn passage peaked at about 700 West per hour in July-August.
'A Blue Fulmar' was seen at Cape Clear on 14th of August (J.W., S.J.W. et al)

Cory's Shearwater: Calonectris diomedea

Two off Mizen head on the 2nd of December (T.D.)

Manx Shearwater: Puffinus puffinus

Cape Clear: Spring peak on 13th May with 1,671 going West per hour, Autumn peak in late July and early August with up to 10,000 west per hour.

Birds of the Balearic race *P.p. balearicus* were recorded (singly unless stated otherwise) as follows:-

Cape Clear:- 8th August, (A.F., C.D.O'P,) 11th August, (A.F., et al) 12th August, (A.F.) 3 on 14th August. (E.A., C.D.O'P, W.J.L., P.J.W.) 3 on 20th August, (G.S., B.M.) 2 on 26th August (P.S., E.A.Mac.L.) 26th August (C.T.B.) 29th August, (W.J.L.) 3 on 30th August, (E.A.Mac.L., B.C.S.) 31st August (B.C.H., J.P.M.) 2nd September (R.S.) 4th September (D.L., D.S.) 5th September (D.M., D.S.)

Dursey Island: 30th September (D.A.S.)

Great Shearwater: Puffinus gravis

All records are from Cape Clear: two on 5th August, two on the 7th one on 26th. One on 17th September and four on 8th October. 'Large shearwater' a total of 16 recorded at Cape Clear from 13th August to 16th September these species were either Great Shearwater or Cory's Shearwater.

'Small Shearwater'

A single bird recorded off Dursey Island on 26th September (D.A.S.) was probably a Little Shearwater.

Sooty Shearwater: Puffinus griseus.

Ballycotton: Five on 1st September, four on 2nd and one on 15th (W.S.P.A.)

Old Head of Kinsale: Two on 23rd of September and 54 29th all going West (W.S.P.A.)

Cape Clear: Recorded from early July to 1st November. Peak count was 1,487 on 25th August and over 200 were counted on 11 other dates.

Dursey Island: Up to 50 seen on many dates in September and up to 14th October. Peak counts were 749 on 2nd October, 61 on 3rd and 467 on 12th. One on 26th October (D.A.S.). Most birds were going South.

Witch Head: Five on 24th September, 393 on 25th and 263 on 26th all going west (W.S.P.A.)

Storm Petrel Hydrobatas pelagicus

Cape Clear: Recorded from early August to early October with the peak passage on 17th September with 1,000 West per hour.

Witch Head: 31 on 24th September, 274 on 25th and 10 on 26th, all going west.

Dursey Island: 26 on 30th September and 47 on 2nd October all going South.

Gannet. Sula gannet

At Cape Clear the Spring passage peaked on 8th May with 224 west per hour and the Autumn passage peaked on 20th August with 2,287 West per hour. 20-30 in inner harbour in July (J.W.)

Common Loon. Phalacrocorax urbs

110 nesting near the Martello tower by Pota Island on 5th September (J.W.)

Grey Heron. Ardea cinerea

A survey of nests revealed the following. Brookfields, Cork City, 15 nests, Oystermouth, 11 nests, Shanagarry, 5 nests, Douglas 4 nests, Curabinnay 1 nest, Innishannon at least one nest, Anglers Rest, near Carrigrohane 2 nests (W.S.) Four nests at Rushbrooke (J.W.) One nest at Ballyannon wood Midleton. (T.S.)

Little Egret Ardea ciconia

Singles at Pota Island on 9th June and at Ballycotton on 2nd July. (W.S. W.O.S.)

Little Bittern. Ixobrychus exilis

A male on 15th and 16th May (J.R.H. W.O. W.R.S.) was recorded at Cape

Clear.

Mallard: Anas platyrhynchos.

815 at Killoolman on 3rd September the highest count since the refuge was set up in 1969 (M.R.)

The peak count at Cork Harbour was recorded on February 24th with a total of 594 birds recorded .

Tomb: Anas crecca

1,398 at the Lee Reservoir and 280 at the Geragh on 1st January. 972 in Cork Harbour on 21st January and 1,326 there on 24th November. 1,000 plus at Killoolman in late December.

A male of the North American race was seen at Carrigeadrogha on 11th November (K.F.)

Garganey. Anas querquedula

A male and either an imm male or an adult male at Ballycotton on 19th August (K.G.A.M.F.M.) a male there on 14th October (A.S.) and the same or another male there on 24th (S.A.S.)

Gadwall: Anas strepera.

47 at Loughderry lake, 10 at Ballyronack Lake and 10 at Rostellan on 21st January. One at Killoolman on 27th January. 56 at Ballycotton on 8th April. One at Reenycronegan Lake from the 11th September to 27th October, 18 at Ballyronack Lake on 29th November. 25 at Ballycotton on 8th of December. Two at Ballynecode on 9th December and five on 29th.

Wigeon. Anas penelope.

2,220 at the Lee Reservoir and none on the Geragh on 1st January. 550 at Reenycronegan lake on 3rd January. 1,600 at Ballynecode on 7th January. 2,309 in Cork Harbour on 21st of January. 1,548 at the Lee Reservoir on 27th December. 750-800 at Killoolman in late December.

Pintail Anas acuta

One at Ballycotton on 21st January. one 23rd September, two on the 6th October and five on the 23rd December. 12 at Ballynecode on 13th October. 9 at Killoolman on 14th of November. 15 at Rostellan on 23rd December.

Shoveler. Anas clypeata

A female with seven downy young was seen at Loughderry lake on 14th July (K.P.) 90 at Ballycotton on 5th of December and 67 at Killoolman on 31 December.

Scup Aythya marila

Two at Ballycotton on 6th of January, one remaining until the 8th of April. One there from 24th August to 4th November. At Cork harbour 91 were recorded on 3rd February and 74 there on 28th December. One or two at Ballydehob in both winters.

Tufted Duck. Aythya Fuligula

268 on the Lee Reservoirs on 1st January and 144 there on 27th December.

Ring-necked Duck. Aythya collaris

Kilkerren Lake: a male on 29th October, a male and an immature there on 2nd November, two males and an imm there on 4th of November and one male and a female present into 1900.

Pookarna: Aythya ferina.

Two pairs bred at Ballycotton, one female with seven young and one female with five young were seen on 16th July (F.S.)

Soldieneye: Sucephala cinquale

Eight at Ballycotton on the 6th of January and Seven on 27th December, 20 in Cork Harbour on 21st of January and 33 on 28th December, 14 on the Lee Reservoir on 14th December. Singles were reported in winter from several other locations.

Long-tailed Duck: Clongula lyonsalis

Five birds involving six birds as follows:- two at Ballydonogga, West Cork. 1st January (D.A.S.) Kilkerren Lake, 21st October (F.S.) Ballymacoda 20th October to 18th November (F.S.) Ballycotton: 8th December (F.B.J.K.L. Agada, 23rd December (D.O'S.)

Common Scoter melanitta nigra

Spring passage at Cape Clear took place in May with up to 13 in a day and autumn passage there was from 3rd August to mid October with up to 29 on 27th and 26th of August.

Two at Ballycotton on 9th July (F.S.) At Dursay Island eight were seen on 5th of September, three on 12th October, 2 on 13th and one on 14th (D.A.S.) One in Adrigole Harbour on 11th September (D.A.S.)

Eider: somateria mollissima

Two records of single females at Ballycotton 24th February to 5th March (F.B.J.K.L.M.W.J.S.) 14th October (F.B.D.O'S.)

Red-breasted Merganser: Mergus serrator.

201 in Cork Harbour on 21st January.

Shelduck. Tadorna tadorna

2,023 in Cork Harbour on 21st January. Inland One at Killeolman on 13th March and two on 15th April. (M.W.)

Greylag Goose. Anser anser

One at Ballycotton on 2nd September and three at Carrigline on 25th November (C.D.A.)

White-fronted Goose. Anser albifrons

One at Ballycotton from 7th January to 8th of April. One at Rathboursay on 21st of January.

At Kilkcolman, 5 were present from January to April and 10-12 were there in early December. The latter were identified as belonging to the Icelandic race (W.S.)

Whooper Swan. Cygnus cygnus

27 at the Lee reservoir and 173 at the Garagh on 1st January. 24 at Ballycotton on 6th of January and 42 near Cloyne on 18th February. Birds are known to move between the last two mentioned areas. 30 flew South-east over Ballycotton on 7th of January. 16 at Ballinacally - Ovons on 20th of January. 52 at Kilkcolman on 18th March. 104 at the Garagh on 30th December. Also four near Dunsodway on 3rd January, five at FORTWELL Lake on 14th January and five at Rostellan on 21st of January, there were also many reports of small parties of this species in several west Cork localities.

Bewick Swan: Cygnus bewickii

One at Kilkerran Lake on 4th January, 57 at Kilkcolman on 21st January also on the same date 19 at Rostellan and 9 at Carrigrohaid. 30 plus near Cloyne on 18th February and 33 at Ballycotton on 29th. As with Whooper Swan there is movement between the last two mentioned areas. 25 flew over Ballycotton on 26th February.

A bird of the Arctic race the Whistling Swan was seen at Ballycotton on 24th February (F.S. D.D.S.) This is the second Irish record of this race.

Marsh Harrier: Circus cyaneus.

A male at Ballycotton on 15th August (F.B. ~~et al.~~) and a female there on 19th August (K.G.R.A.F.S.)

Hobby. Falco peregrinus

An immature at Ballycotton on 13th October (F.B.)

Corn-crake. Crex crex.

One on the North side of Cork City on 29th March (A.T.M.) one at Mayfield Cork City on 25th May (W.S.) Two at waterfall, West Cork one one near Castletown Beachhaven in May (J.S.) One on Cape Clear in 1896 May and early June.

Oystercatcher: Haematopus ostralegus

2,016 at Cork Harbour on 18th February.

Little Ringed Plover: Charadrius hiemalis

One at Ballycotton on 5th and 6th May. (F.B.S.P.S.P. ~~et al.~~ et al.) This is the third Irish record.

Killdeer: Charadrius vociferus

A single bird was present at Ballycotton from the 7th to the 31st March, this is the ninth Irish record of this species. (D.O'S. B.O'S. et al.)

Grey Plover: Pluvialis squatarola
256 at Ballycotton on 11th March (F.S.)

Lesser Golden Plover: Pluvialis dominica

One at Ballycotton on 20th October joined by a second on 29th and both remaining to the 6th November with one staying to the 6th (F.S.C.D.H., F.T.O'D.K.P. S.O'M. et al.)

Dowitcher S.p. Limnodromus S.P.

One at Ballycotton on 7th of October, joined by a second on 24th of November, both staying on into 1980, (S.O'M. C.D.H. J.W. et al)

Spill Sandpiper: Micropepla himantopus

One at Ballycotton from 14th to 17th July. (J.F.D. J.B.P.S.K.C. S.O'M.M., J.O'D.O.O.S.) This is the second Irish record of this species.

Jack Snipe: Lymnecryptes minimus

Two at Duneary Island on 1st January and on the 13th of October, one at Cobb on the 5th of January and one 10th of November. One at Ballycotton from the 6th to the 3rd of February, one on the 24th October, two on the 27th and one on the 28th. Singly on three dates in October at Cape Clear.

Sandpiper: Amenius phaeopus

Spring passage: over Cork Harbour was up to the previous years but due to less observation time (19 hours as against 60 plus hours in previous years) the overall totals are lower, 635 between 22nd April and 1st May (F.S.C.D.H.) Elsewhere, spring passage was fairly light and autumn passage was typically light.

Probably 3 or 4 wintered in Cork Harbour and one was reported from SENTRY Bay on 13th January.

Black-tailed Godwit. Limosa limosa

A total of 890 at Glonskilly/Inchydoney and 200 at Courtracosherry Bay on 23rd of September. 3,747 in Cork Harbour on the 24th of November. 669 at Ballycotton on 26th of December.

Green Sandpiper: Tringa ochropus.

Recorded singly unless otherwise stated: Garaga, 26th May, two, Ladysbridge 27th June, Rossigue, 28th August, Ballycotton, 8th to the 10th of September Cape Clear, 10th September, Slattery's Bridge, 13th of September Kildalman, 8th of October, Loughfield, Cork City, 8th of December, Glountane, 29th December In addition up to two or three birds were present constantly at Knock-gri-ffin, Middleton from 1978 to 23rd February and again from 5th of August into 1980.

Wood Sandpiper: Tringa glareola

Only three records of singles: Ballycotton, 27th May and again on 13th August, Kestallon on 2nd September.

Common Sandpiper: Tringa hypoleucos

Winter:- One at Crough Bay on 25th December and two in Cork Harbour on 28th of December.

Redshank: Tringa totanus

1,398 in Cork Harbour on 28th of December, was the highest count recorded.

Spotted Redshank: Tringa erythropus

Five in Cork Harbour on 21st of January and three more on the 19th of February. One at Cape Clear on 1st of September and six at Inchydoney on 23rd of September.

Monthly peak counts at Ballycotton as follows:-

Table 1

JAN	FEB	MAR	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DECEMBER
4	9	4	15	-	-	4	5	5	6	10	5

Greenshank: Tringa nebularia

47 at Kinsale Pool on 6th of October was a high number for that date.

Purple Sandpiper: Calidris maritima.

Two near Adrigole on 2nd of January and singles at Dursey Island on 1st of January and 14th of October.

Cape Clear:- Up to six birds were recorded in May and one or two on five dates in September.

Little Stint: Calidris minuta.

Ballycotton: One in January (R.O'M.), one on the 19th of March, (P.H.) One on the 15th and the 16th of August. Three on the 8th of October and thereafter present daily until the 4th of November with a maximum of 16 on the 13th of October.

One at Ballymacoda on the 15th of September and two on the 16th. Two at Kinsale Pool on the 6th of October and an additional one at Lisagrislin on the 27th of October.

Beira's Sandpiper: Calidris bairdii

One at Ballycotton from the 9th to the 19th of September. (A.B. et al)

Pectoral Sandpiper: Calidris melanotos.

This species was recorded as follows:- records are of all single birds. Courtmacsherry Bay on the 11th of September. (T.O.) Dursey Island, 19th of September. (D.A.S.), Lisagriffin Lake, 20th of September, (E.D.P.K.H., A.A.K.S., et al.), Cape Clear, 1st of October, (S.H.P., D.H.H., B.A.S.S.), Ballycotton on the 7th of October, (F.S., J.O'H., J.W. et al)

Dunlin: Calidris alpina

The highest count received was one of 16,929 at Cork Harbour on the 18th of February.

Curlew Sandpiper: Calidris ferruginea.

One at Slattery's Bridge on the 21st of January, (K.F.) and one at Balvelly on the 23rd of March, (S.P.)

Ballycotton:- One on the 22nd of August increasing to six on the 2nd of September. Up to three daily for the rest of the month. Present daily in October until the 28th, with a peak of five on the 7th.

Ballymorena:- One on the 1st of September and two on the 2nd. Two on the 16th of September and one on the 27th of October.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Tryngites subruficollis

One at Ballycotton on the 19th of September, (F.B., J.O'H., J.W.)

Broad-billed Sandpiper: Limicola faiciniellus

One at Ballycotton from the 10th to the 14th of July, (F.B., C.D.H., J.O'H., M.S.)

Ruff: Ibidorhynchus pumax

Five at Carrigtwill Pool, on the 14th of January, one at Rathcoursey on the 23rd of March, one at Cape Clear on the 30th of August, one at Kilcolman from the 2nd to the 7th of October, two at Killacloyne on the 24th of November, five at Ballintubrid on the 28th of December.

Table 1.

This table shows the peak monthly counts of this species at Ballycotton:-

JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
12	9	15	7	-	-	-	12	10	22	4	6

Grey Phalarope: Phalaropus fulicarius

One at Cape Clear on the 18th of September and one at Dursay Island on the 5th of October were the only identified birds of this species.

Seven Phalarope S.p. Phalaropus S.p. were seen off Dursay Island on the 7th of October and one on the 12th at the same location, these phalaropes were most likely to be of this species.

Wilson's Phalarope: Phalaropus lobatus

Two records of single birds as follows:- Ballycotton from the 1st to the 4th of August (C.D.H., J.O'H., K.F.), Inchydoney on the 21st to the 22nd of August. (S.D., J.D.)

Great Skua: Stercorarius skua.

Ballycotton:- One on the 24th of August, five on the 31st, five on the 1st of September and one on the 2nd.

Old Head Of Kinsale:- Seven on the 5th of September, two on the 23rd and two on the 25th.

Wilton Head:- Six on the 8th of September, 50 on the 25th and one on the 26th all flying West.

Dursay Island:- One to five flying South on twelve dates from the 8th of September to the 13th of October.

Cape Clear:- A total of 98 birds were recorded from April to the 28th of May, with up to ten a day. In autumn a total of 705 birds was recorded from the 3rd of August to the 18th of October with a maximum of 69 on the 31st of August.

Pomarine Skua: Stercorarius pomarinus.

One on the 22nd of April.(C.D.H). A total of 119 birds was recorded from the 8th to the 28th of May, with a maximum of 28 on the 14th.(J.C.H,S.P,R.S. A total of 23 birds was recorded from August to October: singly on the 10th and 2nd, six on the 5th, one on the 12th, 5, on the 25th, one on the 26th, and two on the 29th.(T.F.D,A.P,W.J.L,I.K.M,N.V.R,J.P.A,C.D.O'F,G.S.), and one on 1st of September, two on the 11th and one on the 25th,(R.S,I.D,A.H.JR.A.J.H, M.O'D.); singly on the 8th and 12th of October.(P.S,R.S,D.K.H, Ull)

Dursey Island:- two flew South on the 7th of October.(D.A.S.)
The total of 144 birds is the most recorded in any single year.

Arctic Skua: Stercorarius parasiticus

Ballycotton:- One on the 12th of May, one on the 26th of August, one on the 31st and three one on the 1st of September. Then singly on four dates to the 15th of September.

Lizen Head:- Two on the 8th of September, and 15 on the 25th.

Dursey Island:- One to three recorded on eight dates from the 12th of September to the 14th of October.

Cape Clear: A total of 52 birds was recorded from 22nd of April to the 28th of May, with up to nine in a day. In autumn a total of 130 birds was recorded from the 6th of August to the 15th of October, with a maximum of 18 on the 25th of August.

Also three birds were reported from the inner area of Cork harbour on the 15th of September.

Long-tailed Skua: Stercorarius longicaudus

An adult found piled at Brown Island in Cork Harbour on the 1st of June, was later 'put down' on the 5th of June when it was discovered that it was dying. (C.D.H,W.J.G'F,A.P.)

Lesser-black backed Gull: Larus fuscus

Winter:- Two at Ballycotton on the 21st of January and eleven at Ballycotton on the 27th of November.

Glaucous Gull: Larus hyperboreus.

Ballycotton:- An Adult from the 24th of February to the 13th of March. A first year bird on the 24th of February. A second year bird from the 19th of March to the 15th of May. An unaged bird from the 16th of January to the 12th of April may have been one of the three already mentioned. A sub-adult on the 14th of July to an unknown date in September. A first year bird from the 2nd of September to the 13th. An Adult from the 4th of November to the 26th of December. A sub adult bird on the 9th of December, that is a minimum of 7 birds involved.

A first winter bird at Castletown beachaven from the 2nd of January to the 9th of March on which date it was joined by a second first winter bird. A first winter bird at Dursey Island on the 9th of October, a second year bird at Roringwater Bay on the 29th of October. A first winter bird at

his Griffin Lake on the 25th of December,
therefore a minimum of 12 birds were recorded in the county in the year
under review.

Iceland Gull: Larus glaucoideus

Four records, all of single birds, recorded as follows:- Adult Bantry Bay
on the 15th of January, (F.S.), adult at Ballycotton on the 4th of February
(F.S.), immature, Whitegate, on the 23rd of March, (C.D.H.), immature at
Cape, on the 18th of November, (D.O'S)

Little Gull:- Larus minutus

Ballycotton: One immature on the 26th and 27th of May. Three immatures
from the 25th of August to the 2nd of September. One immature on the 23rd
of September was joined by a second immature on the 1st of October, and one
remaining to the 21st.

Bally Head: two immatures on the 28th of October.

Cape Clear: one on the 31st of August, two or three on the 7th of September
and one on the 8th.

This total of 12 birds is a substantial decline on the numbers recorded
in 1908, when a total of 55 birds were recorded.

Sabine's Gull: Larus sabini

Two adults at Ballycotton on the 2nd of September. (F.A, K.F. et al)

Two immatures at Cape Clear on the 17th of September. (D.B, A.H, J.H, M, O'D, S.H.T.)

One immature at Cape Clear on the 18th of September. (D.B, J.H, S.H, S.H.T.)

One immature at Bannoy Island on the 7th of October (D.A.S.) Three birds
at Cape Clear on the 8th of October, (A.H.C, J.F.D. et al)

Kittiwake: Rissa tridactyla

Spring passage: at Cape Clear peaked on the 13th of May with 266 West per
hour and autumn passage peaked on the 24th of August with 500 West per
hour.

Black Turn: Chlidonias niger;

Ballycotton: Recorded almost daily from 15th of August to the 9th of
September with a maximum of nine on the 25th of August.

Cape Clear: two on the 26th of August, one on the 30th and one on the 10th
and the 11th of September.

Roseate Tern: Sterna douallii

Two at Ballycotton on the 20th of August. (P.B.)

Little Tern: Sterna albilrons

Two at Ballycotton on the 15th of July and at Cape Clear, three on the 28th
of August and one on the 7th of September.

Little Auk: Alcaeus alle

One at Cape Clear on the 2nd of February, (C.H. et al.)

Turtle Dove: Straptopelia turtur

Ballymacoda: Three on the 19th of May, five on the 4th of June and three on the 10th, one on the 2nd of September.

Ballycotton: singles on the 20th of August and on the 30th of September.

Old Head Of Kinsale: One on the 29th and the 30th September and one on the 6th and 7th of October.

Cape Clear: Recorded from the 10th of May to mid June with up to 25 per day. One on the 5th of August and one or two on nine dates from 6th of September to the 14th of October.

Castletown-sheerhaven: Two on the 8th of May, one on the 19th of September and two on the 9th of October.

Dunsey Island: One on the 7th and 9th of October.

Also one at Clondrohid on the 19th of May, one near Bantry on the 19th of May, three at Lady's Bridge on the 28th of May and two at Roches Point on the 5th of June.

Short-eared Owl: Asio flammeus

One at Ballymacoda, on the 17th of February, one at Rossalogue, on the 28th of February, one at Ballincellig on the 9th of March, one dead, Ballymacoda on the 18th of March, one Garryvoe on the 28th of March, one at Ballycotton from the 21st to the 22nd of April, one at Ballymacoda on the 15th of May,

Cape Clear: single bird on the 1st of September, two there from the 19th to the 27th of October. One at Ballycotton on the 14th of October.

Swift: Apus apus

The earliest birds were recorded over the Lough, Cork City on the 8th of April. (R.F.A.)

Be-eater: Merops spileator

A single bird was present at Cape Clear from the 2nd to the 3rd of June, (J.B., D.O'S.)

Hoopoe: Upupa epops

One at Durrus on the 10th of July. (P.C.)

Wynneck: Jynx torquilla

One at Cape Clear on the 1st to the 6th of October, a which date second bird was seen, one staying to the 12th, (R.H.C., S.D., J.B.F., et al) One on Dunsey Island on the 3rd to the 7th of October. (D.S.S.)

Short-toed Lark: Calandrella cinerea.

One at Cape Clear on the 30th of September remained there until the 13th of October. (R.H.C., S.K.D., S.D., J.B.F. et al), one on Dunsey Island on the 3rd of October. (D.S.S.)

Swallow: Hirundo rustica

12 birds were seen from the B&I ferry 1½ hours out from Cork on the 28th of March, (P.B.)

Late Date: Three at Shanagarry on the 15th of November.

House Martin: Delichon urbica.

Date first: One at Ballycotton on the 18th of November.

Golden Oriole: Oriolus oriolus

An adult male, an immature male and two females on Cape Clear, from the 13th to the 19th of May. (J.G.H., A.O'R., K.S.) An immature male there on the 21st of May was possibly the bird mentioned above. (A.K.S.P.) At least four birds were involved.

Common/Hooded Crow: Corvus corone

Records of Common Crow were as follows:- Cape Clear, three on the 1st of August. (A.P.), one from the 16th of August to the 1st of September. (R.W.B.) two there on the 9th and 10th of September. (A.H.J.H.) Also two in Dursey Island on the 12th of October. (D.A.S.)

Ring Ouzel: Turdus torquatus

One on Cape Clear on the 13th of October and one on Dursey Island on the 21st of October.

Wheatear: Oenanthe oenanthe.

The earliest record received was of a single bird at Ballycotton on the 19th of March. The earliest at Cape Clear was on the 25th of March. Autumn passage took the usual pattern with up to 30 being seen along the coast in September with less in October, one was seen at Cobh on the 16th of November.

Whinchat: Saxicola rubetra

Ballycotton: singles on the 26th of August, one on the 2nd of September, 9th of October, 26th of October.

Old Head of Kinsale: one on the 30th of September and three on the 1st of October.

Cape Clear: 75 bird days from the 29th of August to the 26th of October, maximum of 10 birds on the 3rd of October.

Dursey Island: one to three daily from the 29th of September to the 13th of October, with six on the 30th of September and five on the 3rd of October.

Redstart: Phoenicurus phoenicurus

Old Head of Kinsale: Recorded almost daily from the 30th of September to the 7th of October with a maximum of four on the 1st of October.

Cape Clear:- recorded from the 5th of September to the 26th of October, with a total of 48 bird days, a maximum of seven birds were recorded on two dates.

Dursey Island: recorded almost daily from the 29th of September to the 26th of October with a maximum of five on the 3rd of October.

Also singles at Ballycotton on the 28th of September, Curabiddy on the 6th of October and at Cobh on the 17th of November.

Black Redstart: Phoenicurus ochurus

Two at Ballynacorney on the 25th of March, this was the only Spring record.

Cape Clear: recorded from the 5th of September to the 26th of October, with a total of 48 bird days. A maximum of seven birds were recorded on two dates.

Dursey Island: recorded almost daily from the 29th of September to the 26th of October, with a maximum of seven on the 23rd of October.

Also singles at Glengarriff on the 27th of October, Ballycotton on the 6th of January and at Weir Island on the 9th of December, one at Youghal on the 28th of December and one at Knockadon on the 30th of December.

Grasshopper Warbler: Locustella naevig

Migration: One at Cape Clear from the 1st to the 5th of September and one on the 16th, one at the Old Head on the 6th of October.

Great Reed Warbler: Acrocephalus arundinaceus

One at Cape Clear on the 18th of May. (J.G.R., R.S.), this is the third Irish record of this species.

Reed Warbler: Acrocephalus scirpaceus.

There was no definite record but a total of nine 'unstreaked Acrocephalus' were recorded as follows:- One at Ballycotton on the 16th of July, (T.R.). One at Cape Clear on the 9th of September, (D.A.S.), one at Dursey Island on the 30th of September (D.A.S.), one at Cape Clear, on the 6th of October (J.F.D., K.G., D.M.H.), three at Cape Clear as follows:- one on the 8th to the 9th of October, 8th to the 10th of October, 9th and 10th with one of these staying to the 13th of October. (J.F.D., J.L.P., K.G., C.D.H., K.L. et al) one at Dursey Island on the 7th of October, (D.A.S.) one at Cape Clear, on the 15th of October. (K.P.) one on Dursey Island on the 13th and 14th of October. (D.A.S.)

Sedge Warbler: Acrocephalus paludicola

The earliest bird recorded was at the Lough Curkilly on the 17th of April (K.L.S.)

Melodious Warbler: Hippolais polyglotta

One at Dursey Island on the 30th of September. (D.A.S.)

Icterine Warbler: Hippolais icterina

One at Cape Clear on the 28th of August. (P.B.B.A., M.C.L., R.S., S.S., K.S.) one at Cape Clear on the 9th of September was probably the same Hippolais seen there on the 6th and 7th of September. (S.S., T.D., R.S., D.A., T.S. et al) one at Cape Clear on the 8th and two on the 9th of September, (D.S., R.N., J.F., D.M., F.S.) one at Cape Clear on the 30th of September to the 1st of October. (S.K.D., M.A.D., F.K.H., A.A.R.L., L.O'M.) one at the Old Head of Kinsale on the 6th of October, (P.K.H., C.D.H., A.M.K.L. et al) one at Cape Clear on the 13th of October, (C.D.H., K.P. et al), two at Cape Clear Island on the 25th of October with one remaining to the 27th (J.L., R.P.)

Single 'Hippolais' warblers were recorded at Cape Clear on the 9th of September. (D.M.) and the 6th of October. (J.F.D., K.G., D.M.H.) all of these above birds were most likely Icterine warblers, Hippolais icterina.

Blackcap: Sylvia atricapilla

Winter records:- At least five records were reported but the likelihood of many more birds been present must not be neglected, particularly in recent years when blackcaps are becoming increasingly common. In Blackrock and Ballylough areas of Cork City birds were present from January to April. Some were again present in December. One at Castletown Beshaven on the 2nd of January. Two at Ballycotton from the 14th of January to mid-February. Two at Fota Island in mid-January. One at Knockgriffin, Milltown in January and December and one at Cuskenny on the 25th of February.

Migration:- Cape Clear: one on the 11th and 13th of May, 132 bird days from the 10th of September to the 1st of November with a maximum of 28 birds on the 19th.

Dunsey Island:- One on the 30th of September, singles daily from the 15th of October to the 26th of October with two on the 17th and six on the 21st. Also one at Cuskenny on the 20th of August, one at the Old Head of Kinsale on the 6th of October, two at Ballycotton on the 27th of October and one on the 29th.

Barred Warbler: Sylvia nisoria

One at Cape Clear on the 6th to the 12th of October. (R.H.C., S.K.D., J.F.R., J.H.P., K.G., J.D., D.H.H., K.H., A.A.K.L.) and an another there on the 14th of October (J.A.C.B.P.)

Green Warbler: Sylvia borin

Cape Clear:- one on the 13th and 16th of May, 91 bird days from the 28th of August to the 25th of October.

Dunsey Island:- singles recorded almost daily from the 18th of September to the 19th of October with two on the 12th and 14th of that month.

Ballycotton: One or two on the 30th of September.

Whitethroat: Sylvia communis

The earliest record received was of a single bird at Ballycotton on the 15th of April. (S.P.)

Lesser-whitethroat: Sylvia curruca

One at Cape Clear on the 9th of September. (D.B., A.H.J.H.) one at the Old Head of Kinsale on the 6th of October. (P.K.H., A.A.K.L.), one at Cape Clear from the 9th to the 11th of October. (J.P.S., J.E.S., K.G., D.H.H., A.A.K.L.)

Sub-Alpine Warbler:- Sylvia cantillans

A male was present from the 25th of September to the 1st of October (S.S.D., P.H., A.S.D., J.P.D. et al) at Cape Clear.

Chiffchaff: Phylloscopus collybita

Winter records:- one at Waterfall, West Cork on the 2nd of February one at Fota Island and one at Ballycotton on the 6th of January. One at Blackrock from the 19th to the 30th of January, one at Elvoli on the 21st of January, and 15 wintered at Cuskenny in 1978/79 and at least 7 there in 1979/80.

wood warbler: Phylloscopus sibilatrix

Singles on Cape Clear as follows:- 13th to the 17th of May. (J.G.H.K.S.)
29th of August (C.D.J.P. et al.) 13th of September. (D.S.A.H.J.F.B.N.T.)

Yellow-browed Warbler: Phylloscopus collybita.

Singles on Cape Clear as follows:- 13th of October, (C.J.H.K.P. et al.)
27th to the 29th of October. (F. G. H. B. K. L. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. et al.)

Firecrest: Regulus ignicapilla

Up to nine on Cape Clear from the 29th of September to the 13th of
October. (C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. et al.) one at the Old Head of
Kinsale on the 5th and 7th of October. (C.D.H. et al.) one at Ballycotton
on the 11th of October. (S.B.J.O'R. et al.)

Pied Flycatcher: Muscivora hypoleuca.

Ballycotton: one on the 9th and 30th of September, three on the 9th of
October.

Old Head of Kinsale, two on the 30th of September and nine on the 1st of
October.

Cape Clear: recorded from the 16th of August to the 15th of October with
a maximum of 9 on the 1st of October.

Dursey Island: one on the 25th and two on the 30th of September, one on the
3rd and 7th of October, also one at Garretstown on the 9th of September,
three at Cappanaveen on the 4th of October, one near Castletownbearhaven,
on the 13th of October.

Red-breasted Flycatcher: Muscivora citreola

One at Cape Clear on the 11th of October. (P.A.C. G.D.H. A.A.K.L. K.F.)

Richard's Pipit: Anthus novaezeelandiae.

One at Dursey Island on the 21st of October. (D.A.S.)

Tree Pipit: Anthus trivialis

Recorded at Cape Clear as follows:- two on the 27th of August. (K.S.M. J.P.W.
D.S.F.) one 28th of August. (T.K.S.P.M.) one on the 29th of August. (S.A.M.C. et al.) two on the 30th August. (D.A.M.C.B.) one on the 15th of
September (A.A.F.) one on the 27th of September. (D.J.H.) four on the
6th of October. (J.P.D. K.G. G.D.K.H. et al.) one on the 13th of October.
(C.D.H.)

Red-troated Pipit: Anthus cervinus

One on Dursey Island on the 23rd of October. (D.A.S.)

Pied Wagtail/White Wagtail: Motacilla alba.

Pied wagtail were recorded as follows: a flock of about 100 were roosting
on the South Mall and Grand Parade, Cork City on the 21st of November. (J.W.)

Birds of the continental race 'White Wagtail' were recorded as follows:-

species = Cape Clear with only singles on Four dates, from the 3rd of August to the 23rd of September, eight on Burrey Island on the 12th of September and 35 there on the 15th, two at Ballymoola on the 30th of September.

Yellow/blue-headed Wagtail: Motacilla flava.

*Yellow Wagtail: Motacilla flava :- Ballycotton, singles recorded on the 5th of June, 16th of June and the 7th of October, Cape Clear: singly on six dates, 10th to the 17th of May, one on the 30th of August, up to three daily during September and up to four during October. Burrey Island, singles on the 20th of September and 2nd of October, two on the 7th and remaining until the 9th. Also one at Cork City on the 3rd of September. A 'blue-headed' Wagtail was recorded at Cape Clear from the 1st to the 16th of May, (J.G.S., R.S.)

Red-backed Shrike: Lanius collurio

Numbers of immatures were recorded as follows, all of single birds; Cape Clear as follows:- 2nd and 3rd of September, (T.R.M., N.C.M., P.J.M., R.S.) 27th to the 30th of September. (R.O., P.R.M., D.R.M., A.A.K.L., D.W., T.R., et al.)

Healindon: Coccothraustes coccothraustes.

One at Cape Clear on the 15th of May. (J.G.S.)

Siskin: Carduelis spinus.

Migration: Cape Clear: two on the 19th of September, up to 23 in a day from the 27th of September to the 14th of October.

Burrey Island: Two on the 14th and 23rd of October.

Scarlet Cuckoo: Carpodacus erythrinus.

One at Cape Clear on the 17th of October. (R.P.)

Brambling: Monticola montifringilla.

One at Ballycotton on the 6th of January. Singles were trapped and ringed at Burrey Island on the 20th of January and on the 25th of February. Singly at Cape Clear on the 8th and 28th of October and four on the 14th of October. Three on Burrey Island on the 23rd of October and one on the 26th.

Ortolan Bunting: Sylvia hortulana.

Singly as follows:- Cape Clear: adult on the 1st of September, (T.R.M., S.C.M., J.P.A., R.S.) immature on the 14th of September. (A.H., J.P.)

Burrey Island: adult on the 26th of September and an immature there on the 3rd of October. (D.A.S.)

Lapland Bunting: Calanus lapponicus.

One at Burrey Island on the 8th of September, (D.A.S.), two on Burrey Island on the 30th of September and one probably the same on the 3rd of October (D.A.S.) one Burrey Island on the 13th of October. (D.A.S.) two at Cape Clear on 14th of October, (A.A.K.L.).

Snow Bunting. Electrophenax nivalis

Cape Clear: one on the 27th of September.

Darsey Island: one on the 2nd of October, two on the 7th, singles on the 9th, 13th and 14th and two on the 23rd and 26th of October.

Wedge-breasted Grosbeak: Phaenicticus ludovicianus

An immature female on Cape Clear on the 11th and 12th of October. (K.H.C., P.J.C., J.A.D., J.E.F., X.G., R.M., A.J.K.L. et al.)

Tree Sparrow. Passer montanus

Two on Cape Clear on the 12th of May and one on the 13th of May.

APPENDIX

The Editor reserves the right at all times to request from contributors substantiating details of their sightings. These will be adjudicated by the committee and observers duly notified as to their decision. This applies to species other than those listed in Appendix 2, Irish Bird Report, 1972, records will be automatically be rejected if these requests aren't met with.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS IN 1980

Cape Clear Bird Report: K.Preston.

Irish Birds: C.D.Hutchinson.

The above can be purchased directly from the Editors or by contacting The Irish Wildbird Conservancy, C/O 19 Dawson St, Dublin, 2.