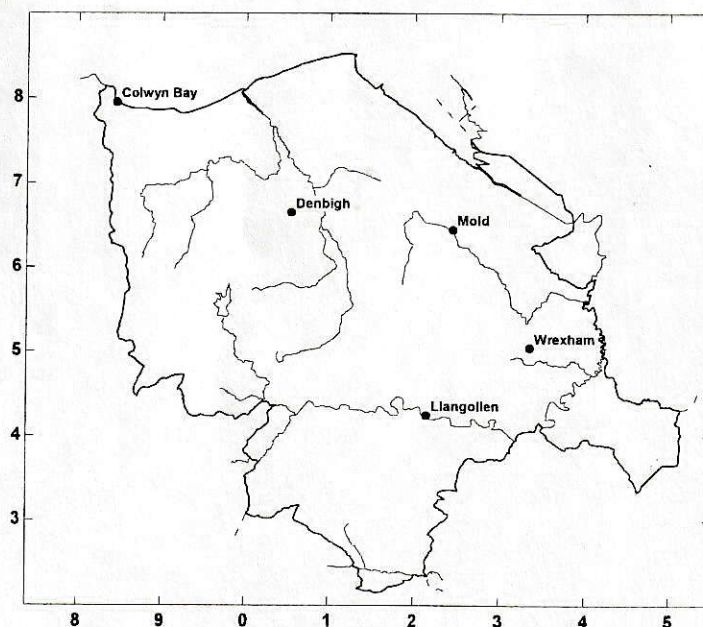


# **CLWYD BIRD REPORT**

**1993 TO 1995**

**EDITED BY**

**GEOFF NEAL  
AND  
ANDREW GOULDSTONE**



**CLWYD BIRD RECORDING GROUP**

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## **1993 TO 1995**

**EDITED BY GEOFF NEAL  
AND  
ANDREW GOULDSTONE**

for

**CLWYD BIRD RECORDING GROUP**

**CHAIRMAN (COUNTY RECORDER):**

Geoff Neal, 36 The Ridgeway, Hawarden, Deeside, Flintshire, CH5 3ER

**HONORARY SECRETARY:**

Andrew Gouldstone, Plas yn Rhos Farmhouse, Rhosesmor, CH7 6PJ  
(Also representing the RSPB)

**HONORARY TREASURER:**

Paul Triggs, 4 Coed Terfyn, Penymynydd, CH4 0XB

Andrew Dale (Representing the Countryside Council for Wales)

John Hickerton (Representing Clwyd Ornithological Society)

Cedric Lynch

Ron Plummer (Representing Deeside Naturalists' Society)

Peter Rathbone

Barry Rogers (Representing Wrexham Birdwatchers)

**It should be noted that since 1999 the CLWYD COUNTY RECORDER is:  
Norman Hallas, 63 Park Avenue, Wrexham, LL12 7AW**

## INTRODUCTION

A number of changes have occurred in the membership of the Clwyd Bird Recording Group since the publication of the last report including the resignation of Ian Spence as Honorary Secretary, his place being taken by Andrew Gouldstone. Iolo Lloyd, Glenn Morris, Mel abOwain and John Stokes have also resigned and Cedric Lynch has also recently tendered his resignation. I would like to thank all of them for the time and effort which they have devoted to the work of the group during their period of membership. I would also like to welcome Barry Rogers on to the group, representing Wrexham Birdwatchers.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Records were received from the following people: James Andrews, Mike Armitage, Roger & Megan Bagguley, J.W. Bateman on behalf of the Lancaster & District Birdwatching Society, Gareth Bloomfield, Felicity Branigan, Tony Broome, Steve Buckley, The Clwyd Ornithological Society, the Deeside Naturalists' Society, Denise Deegan, Roger Delves-Broughton, P. Douglas, Neil Friswell, Len Gibbons, Andrew Gouldstone, S. Hughes, Clive Hurford, Ron Job, Elvet and Louise Jones, Hazel Jones, Rosalind Jones, Iolo W. Lloyd on behalf of Forest Enterprise, C.E. Lynch, Edward Lyons, Lynne Mayers, W.Geoff Morgan, G.E. Morris, Paul Morris, J.P. Moulton, Geoff Neal, J. Newton, Edward C. O'Grady, Don Otter, Nicholas Pearson Associates Ltd, Ron Plummer, Howard Prince, D.F. Richardson, Dafydd Rhys Roberts, J.L. Roberts, Geoff Robinson, Chester Rowley, Ian M. Spence, Greg Thurnham, Paul Triggs, Peter Wellington, Colin Wells, David R. Willett, Wrexham Birdwatchers and Niall Young.

Apologies if, due to the passage of time, some recorders' names have been omitted.

Thanks are given to Len Walls for weather data and Helen Franklin, volunteer with the RSPB Central England Office who did some typing for this report.



## NOTES ON THE SUBMISSION OF RECORDS

Standard recording forms are still available and it would be most useful if these could be used for the submission of all records. In the past we have requested that all records be submitted in Vouss order and it would still be helpful if records are submitted in either Vouss species order or date order. It would also be a big help if records could be submitted on either a monthly or quarterly basis.

In submitting records please ensure that you include the following information:-

- a) Date
- b) Location (with either O.S. Map reference or nearest town, village or landmark named on an O.S. map)
- c) Species (with details of sex and age where possible)
- d) Number of birds seen
- e) Any other relevant information, particularly with reference to breeding status

The local significance of some records may not be immediately apparent to the observer, particularly with reference to common or garden birds. Please submit reports of any unusual numbers, behaviour or occurrence outside normal habitat, as well as any interesting anecdotes which may be of use in preparing a readable report.

Please submit all records to the County Recorder promptly at the end of each year, preferably by the end of March. As mentioned above monthly or quarterly submissions would be most acceptable.

## SUBMISSION OF RARITY RECORDS

Due to the lateness of this report it has not always been possible to ascertain whether rarities included in this report have been submitted to or accepted by any appropriate body. Therefore, unless published elsewhere, please note that any rarities mentioned in this report have been accepted without verification. Under normal circumstances, however, the following procedure should be followed:

There are three categories of rarity, National, Welsh and County rarities. All of these require supporting evidence from the observer before they can be accepted for publication. For all National and Welsh rarities a full description must be submitted, together with an account of the relevant circumstances of the observation. A form for such submission is available from the County Recorder (SAE appreciated) or the basic format may be copied from the transcript below. This form may also be used for the submission of County rarities.

All rarity descriptions should be submitted via the County Recorder who will forward them to the appropriate body for ratification.

### National rarities

Records of National rarities are considered by the British Birds Rarities Committee (BBRC) and a list of those accepted is published periodically in British Birds journal.

### Welsh Rarities

Records of Welsh Rarities are considered by the Welsh Records Panel. The following list now constitutes the species considered as Welsh rarities. This list will be reviewed annually:

Cory's Shearwater, Great Shearwater, Purple Heron, White Stork, Bean Goose, Ring-necked Duck, Ferruginous Duck, Surf Scoter, Montagu's Harrier, Rough-legged Buzzard, Golden Eagle, Spotted Crane, Crane, Stone Curlew, Kentish Plover, Temminck's Stint, Pectoral Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Red-necked Phalarope, Bee-eater, Short-toed Lark, Woodlark, Shore Lark, Richard's Pipit, Tawny Pipit, Bluethroat, Savi's Warbler, Aquatic Warbler, Marsh Warbler, Icterine Warbler, Melodious Warbler, Dartford Warbler, Barred Warbler, Pallas's Warbler, Red-breasted Flycatcher, Woodchat Shrike, Serin, Common Rosefinch, Cirl Bunting, Ortolan Bunting, Little Bunting.



### County Rarities

With the increase in occurrence of certain species, the county rarity list has again been reviewed and a number of the "less rare" species have been removed. In future, in order to try and ensure complete accuracy in the report, records of these species will not be published without supporting evidence. The only possible exceptions to this rule (at the discretion of the Group) are long-staying birds seen by a number of observers.

With apologies to the less experienced observers, it is recognised that a record from an experienced observer, having previous experience of the species concerned, may require less detail than a record from an observer unfamiliar with the species, but a basic description of at least the principal identification features should be supplied by even the most experienced of observers.

The following list constitutes the species considered as Flintshire and Denbighshire rarities from 1996 onwards. This list will also be reviewed annually:

Red-necked Grebe, Black-necked Grebe, Sooty Shearwater, Storm Petrel, Bittern, Spoonbill, Barnacle Goose, Garganey, Red-crested Pochard, Honey Buzzard, Red Kite, Corncrake, Dotterel, Wood Sandpiper, Grey Phalarope, Pomarine Skua, Long-tailed Skua, Sabine's Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Iceland Gull, Roseate Tern, Black Guillemot, Hoopoe, Wryneck, Woodlark, Water Pipit, Nightingale, Cetti's Warbler, Marsh Warbler, Yellow-browed Warbler, Firecrest, Bearded Reedling, Golden Oriole, Red-backed Shrike.

In addition the Group may request supporting descriptions for otherwise common species outside their normal habitat range, e.g. inland records of seabirds; outside the normal season, e.g. summer migrants in winter or vice versa; and for records of distinctive subspecies, e.g. Grey-headed Wagtail.

### Format for submission of rarity descriptions

#### SPECIES

Number of birds

Sex

Age

#### PLACE

County (New)  
(Old)

DATE(S) of your observations

Times

Total Duration

Earlier/later dates by others if known

First & last dates if known

#### OBSERVER (BLOCK CAPITALS)

Address

Telephone

#### OTHER OBSERVERS (BLOCK CAPITALS)

Who found it?

Who first identified it?

Who else is reporting it, if known?

Was it trapped for ringing?

Date, if known

Ringer, if known

Where?

If dead, is it preserved?

Was it photographed?

Photographer and address, if known

Optical aids used

Distance from bird

Previous experience of species

Experience of similar species

Weather conditions

Details of trapped bird to be completed by ringer

Date trapped

Ring number

**DESCRIPTION:** Include an account of the relevant circumstances of the observation and a detailed description of the bird(s), preferably based on notes taken at the time of the observation before reference to books. Attach original field notes where available. Attach extra sheets if necessary.

And finally, is this record 100% certain?

Any who disagree?

**The following extra guidelines may be of assistance**

Do not be too brief in your description of the bird, the fullest possible detail is required, plus a sketch if possible. Do not worry if you are no great artist, a simple drawing with salient features noted at the time will suffice. Insufficient detail usually guarantees rejection, but please do not put in details of features which you think should have been there if you did not see them. Notes should be written at the time of the sighting and not after you have returned home and consulted the literature. Take a notebook with you wherever you go.

If you discover a British or a Welsh rarity always try to get at least one other independent observer to see the bird and submit a description also. Please feel free to contact the County Recorder or other member of the CBRG if you wish, they may not always be able to get to see the bird themselves but should be able to arrange for someone to do so.

Some rarities seen by many observers are not always submitted, everyone leaves it to everyone else. Please submit the record even if you were only one of several observers to see the bird, the more supporting evidence received the better, and yours may be the only record received.

**Weather reports.**

**1993** - The total rainfall for the year was 955mm, which was just above average at 108% of the normal. Generally the winter months were drier than normal, whilst the summer was very wet, with 133% of the normal expected for the time of year. The spring was fairly typical, whilst the autumn was drier than would be expected. In total, rain fell on 202 days and the driest month was March.

Snow covered half the ground or more on ten days, whilst snow or sleet fell on 30 days, a little less than average. Thunder storms were well down, with the cooler summer. Gales occurred on 20 days. Southerly winds predominated in the winter to spring, whilst the summer was dominated by westerlies, bringing in the cold and wet weather.

January to June temperatures were generally above average - April especially so. June was also a very sunny month. The second half of the year saw temperatures below average. October and November were particularly cold with polar air predominating, though both months were sunny. The coldest spell was from 18th to 25th November, when average temperatures were -0.2°C.

**1994** - The weather during this year proved to be about average, although November was the warmest since records began in 1649. January, June, August, October and November were all relatively dry months, whilst the remainder were above average. December was the wettest of the year, with Boxing Day being the wettest day. June was the driest month, and it was the driest June since 1979. Snow fell on 30 days, but was only lying for 10, eg last week in February.

The months of February, May, August and September were all below average for temperature, the remainder were slightly above. These months were also below average in terms of sunshine - February was a particularly dull month. Other months were generally above average for sunshine, with July and December doing particularly well. The hottest day of the year was recorded on June 28th.

Gales occurred on 14 days, mostly in January and March.

**1995** - The year started as it ended, with a blast of Arctic air, giving some snowfalls. In between times, it proved to be the warmest year on record - February, April, July, August and October were all significantly warmer than average. The warmest day of the year was August 11th at 29°C. The coldest was December 27th at -7.8°C. The year also exceeded all previous records in terms of hours of sunshine, although the winter months were dull.

Despite all the warm and sunny weather, rainfall was a little above average, at 936 mm for the year, falling on 182 days. The winter months were very wet indeed, whilst the summer was very dry. Snow lay on the ground

on 38 days, twelve more than average.

Winds were lighter this year, with gales on only 4 days. Southerly winds occurred more than normal. Thunder was noted on 19 days, slightly fewer than normal.

*Many thanks to Len Walls, Moel y Crio, for supplying these summaries of the weather.*



## SYSTEMATIC LIST

The following abbreviations are used in the text:

CQR Connah's Quay Reserve (Deeside Naturalists' Society)\*  
IMF Inner Marsh Farm RSPB Reserve\*\*  
OMR Oakenholt Marsh RSPB Reserve\*  
POA Point of Air, including the RSPB Reserve

\* These two reserves are adjacent to each other and are often combined in the report as CQR/OMR  
\*\* Inner Marsh Farm Reserve straddles the border between Clwyd and Cheshire and records from this site are only included where they are considered to have relevance to Clwyd. Where counts of commoner species are included for this site the numbers refer to the whole reserve and not just to the Clwyd section.

**Note:** Unless otherwise stated records from the R. Clwyd refer to the tidal section between Rhyl and Rhuddlan.

Sequence and nomenclature (including Welsh names) are as used in "Birds in Wales" by Lovegrove, Williams & Williams (1994, published by T & A.D. Poyser Ltd).

### **RED-THROATED DIVER** *Gavia stellata*

TROCHYDD GYDDFGOCH

*Passage migrant and winter visitor*

**1993:** Present until 18/4 and from 3/9, a count of 49 between POA and Rhos Point on 7/3, 1 flew north over Gronant from inland on 13/3, maximum 73 at POA on 4/12, (58 west and 15 on the sea).

**1994:** Recorded until 25/4 and from 11/9, 1 on the Clwyd estuary on 2/3, 32 at POA on 17/9 and a maximum of 69 there on 15/11.

**1995:** Present to 15/4, 19 at Llanddulas on 19/3, 1 inland on Llyn Helyg from 28/1 to 11/2, an early returning bird at POA on 23/7 with 1 there on 27/8 and a maximum of 32 there on 24/9.

### **BLACK-THROATED DIVER** *Gavia arctica*

TROCHYDD GYDDFDDU

*Passage migrant and winter visitor*

**1993:** Singles at Pensarn on 8/3, Llanddulas on 5/4, 24/4 and 24/11, POA on 17/11.

**1994:** All records from POA on 16/1, 17/9, 20/9, 23/10, 5/11, 15/11 (2) and 21/11.

**1995:** 2 at Llanddulas on 12/3 was the only record.

### **GREAT NORTHERN DIVER** *Gavia immer*

TROCHYDD MAWR

*Occasional winter visitor*

**1993:** 3 close inshore at Gronant on 7/3, 1 at Pensarn on 8/3, 1 at Llanddulas from 22 to 24/4 and 1 at POA on 4/12.

**1994:** 1 at POA on 1, 5 & 15/11, 1 on a small reservoir near Rhosllanerchrugog on 18/11, 1 at Gronant on 6/12.

**1995:** Singles at POA on 19/11 and 29/12.

### **LITTLE GREBE** *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

GWYACH FACH

*Breeding resident and winter visitor*

Breeding reported from Deeside Pools, Erddig, Greenfield Valley, Gresford Flash, Llandegla, Prestatyn Golf Course, Ruabon, Wynnstay Lake and Ysceifiog. Maximum winter numbers were recorded from the R. Clwyd and occasional records from POA with 1-2 during December 1993, on 14 & 15/1 and 5 to 8/11/94 and 29/1 to 3/2/95.

An early returning bird was on the R. Clwyd on 8/7/95.

### **GREAT CRESTED GREBE** *Podiceps cristatus*

GWYACH FAWR GOPOG

*Breeding resident and winter visitor*

Breeding reported from Acton Park, Gresford Flash, Llyn Gweryd and Llyn Helyg.

**1993:** On 7/3 74 were counted between POA and Rhos Point, 51 were on the R. Dee at Greenfield on 25/8, building up to 97 on 26/10 and 87 were counted off POA on 9/12.

1994: Only small numbers reported, maximum 30 at OMR on 7/11.

1995: 37 off Greenfield on 30/8 with 69 on 17/10 and 109 on 3/11; 40 were off Pensarn on 10/11.

**RED-NECKED GREBE** *Podiceps grisegena*

GWYACH YDDFGOCH

*Scarce winter visitor*

The only substantiated record was of 1 at Pensarn from 7-9/3/93.

**SLAVONIAN GREBE** *Podiceps auritus*

GWYACH GORNIOG

*Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant*

1993: A summer plumage bird on Llyn Brenig from 21/3 to 14/4.

1994: 1 off Rhos Point on 2/1, 1 on Llyn Brenig on 26 & 27/3.

1995: 1 at Pensarn on 25/1, 1 at Llanddulas on 12/3, 1 in summer plumage on Llyn Brenig on 9/4 and 1 at Shotwick from 27 to 31/12.

**BLACK-NECKED GREBE** *Podiceps nigricollis*

GWYACH YDDFDDU

*Rare winter visitor and passage migrant*

The only supported records come from Gresford Flash from where there were 2 reported on 5/5/93 with 1 there on 11 & 12/5 and 2 on 22/5, then 2 there again on 2/5/94.

**FULMAR** *Fulmarus glacialis*

ADERYN-DRYCIN Y GRAIG

*Breeding resident, summer visitor and passage migrant*

Breeding was reported from Cefn-yr-Ogof, Craig-y-Forwen and Prestatyn Quarry.

Inland records include 1 in Dyserth quarry on 3/6/93, 1 over Rhuddlan on 11/6/93, 30/6/94 and 25/4/95, perching on the roof of a house for five minutes on the latter date, and 1 flying south-east over Oakenholt about three-quarters of a mile from the estuary on 1/8/93, before returning north-west.

**SOOTY SHEARWATER** *Puffinus griseus*

ADERYN-DRYCIN DU

*Rare passage migrant*

Singles off POA on 28/7/93 and Rhyl on 20/9/94.

**MANX SHEARWATER** *Puffinus puffinus*

ADERYN-DRYCIN MANAW

*Regular offshore during summer and autumn*

The highest numbers were recorded off POA in June and July, the majority of birds moving west, with 360 on 31/7/93, 153 on 9/6/94, 610 on 22/6/94, 255 on 4/6/95 and 760 on 4/7/95. An unusual record was 3 off Rhyl on 24/1/93.

**STORM PETREL** *Hydrobates pelagicus*

PEDRYN DRYCIN

*Scarce passage migrant*

1993: 9 off POA on 26/7, with 1 there on 27th & 28th and 1 off Gronant on 27th.

1994: 1 POA 3/6.

1995: 2 off Kinnel Bay 9/9.

**LEACH'S PETREL** *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*

PEDRYN GYNFFON-FFORCHOG

*Regular autumn passage migrant in varying numbers*

1993: 3 off POA on 14/9.

1994: 7 off POA on 10/9 with 18 on 11/9, 4 off Pensarn on 15/9 and 3 POA on 1/11.

1995: 5 off POA on 29/8, 8 off POA on 24/9 with 29 there on 25th and a single up river at CQR/OMR on 24/9.

**GANNET** *Sula bassana*

HUGAN

*Common passage migrant*

Yearly maxima recorded were 150 on 31/7/93, 368 on 22/6/94 and 570 on 16/2/95.

**CORMORANT** *Phalacrocorax carbo*

MULFRAN

*Common non-breeding visitor*

Maximum numbers reported were 321 on R. Clwyd on 14/9/93, 302 there on 11/8/94 and 278 at Rhos-on-Sea on 5/11/95. Inland records came from Berwyn, Corwen, Llangollen, Llyn Brenig, Pentrefelin and Wynnstay Lake. Birds perching on the power cables at Deeside Pools is noted as a regular occurrence.

**SHAG** *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*

MULFRAN WERDD

*Scarce visitor*

Small numbers regularly seen at Rhos Point, maximum 8 on 7/3/93. The only other records received were singles at POA on 23/4 and 15/8/93, and 1 at Rhyl on 30/10/94.

**BITTERN** *Botaurus stellaris*

ADERYN Y BWN

*Rare visitor*

One was at Gronant on 27/3/93 and 1 reported from Clocaenog on 20/3/94.

**NIGHT HERON** *Nycticorax nycticorax*

CRËYR Y NOS

*Rare vagrant*

One (probably a first summer bird) flew over Ddôl Uchaf towards Ysceifiog at dusk on 18/6/93 (accepted by BBRC).

**LITTLE EGRET** *Egretta garzetta*

CRËYR BACH

*Scarce visitor, increasing in frequency*

**1993:** 1 on R. Clwyd on 21/6, then a series of records probably referring to the same bird: 1 at Flint/Oakenholt from 31/8 to 5/9, IMF from 10 to 12/9, Shotton from 16 to 19/9 and IMF on 21, 27 & 28/9 and from 7 to 17/10.

**1994:** Singles at IMF on 25/4, 7/11 & 14/11 and R. Clwyd on 31/5 & 30/8.

**1995:** 1 at IMF on 17 & 21/5, 1 at POA on 2/6 and 6/8, 1 on R. Clwyd on 25/7, then 3 at Flint on 10/8, reappearing on 23/8, then these 3 seen regularly at CQR/OMR during the last week of August.

**GREAT WHITE EGRET** *Egretta alba*

CRËYR MAWR GWYN

*Rare vagrant*

One on the Clwyd side of the border at IMF on 25/7/95, this bird being present on the Dee estuary until 25/8, frequenting Parkgate/Burton marshes.

**GREY HERON** *Ardea cinerea*

CRËYR GLAS

*Breeding resident*

Away from the area around the main Vale of Clwyd colony the maximum numbers were reported from CQR/OMR with 25 on 3/10/93 and 15 on 9/10/94 and 12/11/95. A record number of 34 occupied nests was counted in the above colony on 1/4/95. An unusual record was of one on a roadside salt pile at Eglwyseg Crag on 1/9/93.

**SPOONBILL** *Platalea leucorodia*

LLWYBIG

*Rare vagrant*

One at IMF on 10/8/93.

**MUTE SWAN** *Cygnus olor*

ALARCH DÔF

*Breeding resident, increasing*

Successful breeding was reported from Deeside Pools, Flint, Glan-y-Wern, Greenfield Valley, Gresford Flash, Llyn Helyg, Padeswood, Pentre Mawr Park, Rhuddlan, Ruabon, St. Asaph and Shotton. Maximum winter numbers were 68 on Rhyl Marine Lake on 4/12/93, 64 at IMF on 29/12/94 and 86 on Burton Marsh on 5/2/95. In late 1995 numbers built up steadily at Shotwick, with 5 on 21/11, 21 on 4/12, 33 on 18/12, 65 on 28/12 and 80 on 31/12. A non-breeding flock was present on the R. Clwyd in both 1994 and 1995, with up to 34 present in June 1994, 36 on 8/5/95, and up to 40 present in July.

**BEWICK'S SWAN** *Cygnus columbianus*

ALARCH BEWICK

*Winter visitor*

**1993:** The only report was of 5 at CQR/OMR on three dates between 12/11 and 14/12.

**1994:** 5 at CQR/OMR on 11/1, 9 there on 13/2, 10 on 14/2 & 27/2, 9 on 2/3; 2 at POA and Gronant on 19/12 and 4 at OMR on 22/12.

**1995:** 5 on Burton Marsh on 5/2 and 13 at CQR/OMR on 7/2, then in the latter part of the year a flock frequented Shotwick fields and roosted at IMF, 5 on 16/11, gradually building up to 29 on 7/12, 45 on 9/12 and a maximum of 60 on 30/12. One bird present in this flock from 7/12 till the end of the year was wearing a neck collar (no. 400P) and had been ringed on the Petchora Delta, Russia on 11/9/92.



**WHOOPER SWAN** *Cygnus cygnus*

ALARCH Y GOGLEDD

*Uncommon winter visitor*

**1993:** 1 on R. Clwyd on 18/10, 2 there on Rhyl Marine Lake from 26/10 to 9/11, with 5 on 10/11 and 6 on 3 & 4/12; 1 at POA on 2/11.

**1994:** 3 at IMF on Burton Marsh from 1/1 to 24/3, 5 on Buckley Common on 21/1, again 2 at IMF on Burton Marsh from 24/10 to 31/12, with 3 on 30/12 and 3-4 on Talacre fields from 28/12 to 5/1/95. One young bird was seen at Shotton paper on 12/11.

**1995:** 2 on Buckley Common on 12/2, 2 Burton Marsh from 23/10 to 31/12, 2 at Gronant on 11/11 and 2 at Shotwick from 28 to 31/12.

**PINK-FOOTED GOOSE** *Anser brachyrhynchus*

GWYDD DROED-BINC

*Winter visitor and passage migrant*

**1993:** A flock of c.115 flew north over Penymynydd on 9/1, 1 was on R. Clwyd on 18/3 and 5 at POA from 15 to 20/10.

**1994:** 90 flew north-west over IMF on 15/1 and 12 flew west over the sea at POA on 23/4.

**1995:** 1 on Burton Marsh on 5/2 and 1 at Shotwick throughout April, 1 on R. Clwyd on 10/10, 14 flew west at Gronant on 12/12, 10 flew west over Llanasa on 28/12 and 26 north over IMF on 29/12.

**WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE** *Anser albifrons*

GWYDD DALCEN-WEN

*Uncommon winter visitor*

**1993:** 7 on R. Clwyd on 7/12 and 17 there on 9/12.

**1994:** 26 (24 adults) flew in to POA for c.20 minutes on 12/1 before flying off west.

**1995:** 1 at POA on 19/3.

**LESSER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE** *Anser erythropus*

GWYDD DALCEN-WEN LEIAF

*Rare vagrant*

A bird from the Swedish reintroduction scheme became semi-resident from mid 1993 at Fenn's Bank Mere. The bird was reared by Barnacle Geese in Stockholm Zoo and released in Lapland in July 1991.

**GREYLAG GOOSE** *Anser anser*

GWYDD WYLLT

*Breeding resident and winter visitor*

A feral flock is well established in the Glan-y-Wern area, with maxima of 141 on 14/3/93, 100 on 27/7/94 and 149 on 5/8/95. A count of 142 there on 21/5/95 included 100 juveniles. The only other records received away from the main area were of 1 at Shotton on 21/8 & 11/9/94 and 2 at Shotwick on 31/12/95, presumably under-recorded.

**SNOW GOOSE** *Anser caerulescens*

GWYDD YR EIRA

*Probable escape*

Several records in 1995, possibly referring to the same wandering individual: 1 at Llandegla Fisheries on 17/3, on R. Clwyd from 17 to 22/3, on Burton Marsh/Shotwick fields from 23/3 to 30/4, at Rhuddlan on 3/5 and at Gresford Flash on 10/9.

**CANADA GOOSE** *Branta canadensis*

GWYDD CANADA

*Breeding resident and winter visitor*

Breeding confirmed at Colwyn Bay, Flint, Gresford Flash, Gwysaney, Llandegla, Llyn Gweryd, Llyn Helyg, Nannerch, Northop, Rhyl and Ruabon. The maximum winter numbers were at CQR/OMR, with 262 on 20/11/93, 330 on 28/12/94 and 665 on 19/11/95, and IMF (see below). Unusual records were of 1 on the sea at POA on 23/2/93 and 10 on the beach at Gronant on 24/6/94.

IMF	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
1993	245	158	62	56	31	57	119	470	550	380	225	247
1994	253	82	24	11	40	10	103	330	420	363	325	340
1995	263	227	77	17	17	7	67	415	531	575	550	575

**BARNACLE GOOSE** *Branta leucopsis*

GWYDD WYRAN

*Rare visitor, some feral birds occur*

Feral birds at Glan-y-Wern on 27/2/94 and Lindisfarne College Lake on 19/3/95.

**RUDDY SHELDUCK** *Tadorna ferruginea*

HWYADEN GOCH YR EITHIN

*Rare vagrant***1994:** A party of 8 birds were present at Gronant and POA on 24-25/7. They were seen again at the POA on 18/9.**SHELDUCK** *Tadorna tadorna*

HWYADEN YR EITHIN

*Breeding resident and common winter visitor***1993:** Peak count involved 590 on 4/11 at POA. In late June/early July several counts of >70 juveniles were made on the R. Clwyd. Peak count from this site was of 185 on 3/5. Other records came from Gresford Flash, Penarlag, Gronant and Llyn Helyg.**1994:** Peak counts at POA was of 900 on 9/10 and on the R. Clwyd 178 on 15/6. Other records came from Oakenholt, Pont Dafydd, Pentre Mawr Park and Flint.**1995:** Counts of 126 on 3/5 on R. Clwyd and 807 at POA on 24/10. Other records came from Deeside Pools, Shotton, Northrop and Bagillt, where there was a count of 600 on 22/7.**WOOD DUCK** *Aix sponsa*

HWYADEN Y COED

*Occasional feral birds occur*

Two reported at Dyserth on 21/5/94.

**WIGEON** *Anas penelope*

CHWIWELL

*Winter visitor***1993:** Peak count was from OMR with 410 on 25/11. On the R. Clwyd the peak was 270 on 3/12, at POA there were 15 on 6/11. Elsewhere, birds were recorded at Hanmer Mere (94 on 5/12), Rhyl Brickworks, Rhyl Marine Lake, Shotton Paper (1 on 13/12 being the first record for the lagoon) and Kinmel Bay.**1994:** Peak counts at IMF there were 1780 on 14/12, 360+ at River Clwyd on 30/12 and 240 at Kinmel Bay on 20/2.**1995:** Peak counts 1650 at OMR on 17/11, 350 at River Clwyd on 18/1, 890 at IMF on 5/2 and 35 at Hanmer on 11/2.

Other records were from Gresford Flash, Ruabon and Pentre Llanrhaedr.

**GADWALL** *Anas strepera*

HWYADEN LWYD

*Uncommon winter visitor***1993:** Records of 1-4 birds from freshwater sites such as Pentre Mawr Park, Rhyl Brickworks, Llyn Helyg and also from tidal sites at POA and R. Clwyd.**1994:** 1-4 birds from a variety of sites including Rhyl Brickworks, Llyn Helyg, Ysceifiog and Shotton Paper. Notable count of 18 on 29/3 at IMF.**1995:** 1-5 birds recorded from Acton Park, Wrexham, Cop Hole, Shotton Paper, Llyn Helyg, POA and IMF. Notable counts of 25 on 15/12 and 39 on 28/12 from Shotwick Lake.**TEAL** *Anas crecca*

CORHWYADEN

*Widespread winter visitor***1993:** Peak counts involved 196 on R. Clwyd on 17/12. Other sites included POA, Llyn Helyg, Padeswood, Dolwen Reservoir, Geraint's Pond, Ruabon Moor, Gronant and OMR.**1994:** Significant counts were 1,500 at IMF on 6/11, 1,000 at Flint on 10/11, 500 at OMR on 7/11 and 150 on the R. Clwyd on 6/12. Other records came from Greenfield Valley, Deeside Pools, Tremeirchion, POA, Llangollen, Llyn Helyg and Pentre Llanrhaedr.**1995:** High counts of 1,000 at OMR on 7/11, 120 at POA on 9/12 and 40 on R. Clwyd on 3/1. Smaller records at Deeside Pools, Gresford Flash and Llyn Helyg.**MALLARD** *Anas platyrhynchos*

HWYADEN WYLLT

*Common breeding resident and winter visitor***1993:** Largest counts by far from POA with 595 on 30/11 and counts of 200+ not uncommon. Many others sites recorded more than 20 birds e.g. Pentre Mawr Park (50), Foryd (72), Llyn Helyg (24), Llangollen (170), Ruabon (178), Kinmel Bay (80) and River Clwyd near Lleweni Hall (130).

**1994:** High counts of 1,000 and POA on 11/9, 690 at OMR on 31/8, 518 on R. Clwyd on 29/9 and 400+ at Shotton Paper in late September. Smaller records at Tremeirchion (40), Pont Dafydd (35), Rhyl Brickworks (24), Horton's Nose (120), Llyn Brenig (22), Llanasa (83) and Rhyl Splash Point (110).

**1995:** 800 birds recorded at OMR on 3/9, 473 and POA on 28/8, 298 in January at Shotton Paper and again 277 in December, 250 on R. Clwyd on 10/9, 150 at Acton Park on 1/10 and 100 on 3/11 at Llewenni Hall. Other good records during the year were 47 at Greenfield Valley, 29 at Llyn Brenig, 71 at Bodrhyddan Hall and 59 on the Deeside Pools.

**PINTAIL** *Anas acuta*

**HWYADEN LOSTFAIN**

*Winter visitor in internationally important numbers*

**1993:** There were 2,500 birds at OMR on 8/1, 2,000 at Bettisfield on 21/11, 1,300 at Bagillt on 10/12 and 383 at POA on 30/11. Away from the Dee there were only 3 records of 1-4 birds.

**1994:** 5,000 birds were recorded at OMR on 5/12 and 250 at POA on 21/11 and 19/12. Away from the Dee between 1 and four birds were recorded at sites such as R. Clwyd, Kimberley Clark and the Greenfield Valley.

**1995:** At OMR there were 7,500 birds on 24/11, there were 4,100 birds at Bagillt on 2/11, 486 at POA on 4/1 and 12 and Hanmer Mere on 30/1. 2 other sites recorded one or two birds during the year.

**GARGANEY** *Anas querquedula*

**HWYADEN ADDFAIN**

*Rare visitor*

Three records of this bird were received all from POA, 2 on 5/6/93, 1 on 22/8/95 and 1 on 5/9/95.

**SHOVELER** *Anas clypeata*

**HWYADEN LYDANBIG**

*Winter visitor*

**1993:** Records of 50 on 7/1 and 30 on 24/1 at Gresford Flash and 12 on 2/11 at POA. Between 1-8 recorded from other sites e.g. Rhyl Brickworks, Llangollen, OMR and Hanmer Mere.

**1994:** 114 birds were seen at IMF on 23/10, 154 at Shotton Paper Co. on 9/11 and 20 at Gresford Flash on 29/12. Rhyl Brickworks, Marine Lake, R. Clwyd and CQR also produced records of between 1 and 9 during the year.

**1995:** 90 birds were recorded in mid February at Shotton Paper, 53 birds at Gresford Flash on 22/1 and 67 on 7/2. Shotwick Fields had 30 birds on 28/12 and between 1-18 birds were recorded at Hanmer, Deeside Pools, POA and IMF.

**POCHARD** *Aythya ferina*

**HWYADEN BENGOGH**

*Winter visitor*

**1993:** Maximum counts came from Rhyl Brickworks with 40 on 24/11, Llyn Helyg with 25 on 29/1, Hanmer with 24 on 5/12 and CQR with 13 on 18/4. Records also came from Greenfield Valley, Padeswood Pool, Llanddulas and Pentre Mawr Park.

**1994:** 85 birds were seen at Shotton Paper in early January, 65 birds were seen at IMF on 12/1, 30 at Rhyl Brickworks on 28/12, 12 at Gresford Flash on 2/3 and 15 at Kimberley Clark on 6/11. Other birds were seen at Llyn Helyg, Llandegla, Buckley Higher Common, Deeside Pools and Dol Coed Coch.

**1995:** Large numbers of birds at Deeside Pools – 168 on 28/12, Shotwick Fields – 112 on 10/12, 91 at Shotton Paper in January, 76 at Brickworks on 6/1, Dolwen Reservoir 47 on 22/1 and 50 at Gresford Flash on 19/2. Other records came from Buckley Higher Common, Greenfield Valley, Llyn Helyg, POA and Wynnstay Lake.

**TUFTED DUCK** *Aythya fuligula*

**HWYADEN GOPOG**

*Breeding resident and winter visitor*

**1993:** Records from Deeside Pools with 40 on 13/8, 38 at Llyn Helyg on 13/2, 24 from Shotton on 24/4, 21 from Gresford Flash on 31/1 and 22 from Hanmer on 5/12. Smaller counts from Rhyl Brickworks, Padeswood, Dolwen and Ruabon.

**1994:** 78 birds were seen at Shotton Paper at the end of October, 61 birds were seen at Deeside Pools on 17/1, 30 at Rhyl Brickworks on 28/12, 22 at Kimberley Clark on 9/10, 23 at Llyn Helyg on 29/11 and 17 at Llyn Bran on 11/9. Other records from Wynnstay Lake, Shotton and Greenfield.

**1995:** On 28/12 120 birds were seen at Shotwick Lake, 72 were seen at Deeside Pools on 13/8, 64 were seen at Shotton Paper in early November and 35 were seen at Gresford Flash on 14/2. Other sightings were at Erddig Pond, Cop Hole, Ysceifiog, Hanmer and Rhyl Brickworks.



**COMMON SCOTER** *Melanitta nigra*

MÔR-HWYADEN DDU

*Abundant winter visitor*

1993: In what was generally a poor year, peak counts came from 430 off POA on 19/12 and 200 off Llanddulas on 30/11.

1994: 1,000 birds were seen of Splash Point, Rhyl on 13/4 and 200 at Llanddulas on 18/9. An inland record came from Llyn Helyg where a single bird was present on 7, 14 and 15/5.

1995: Good counts of 5,000 on 30/1 and 10,000 on 12/3 at Llanddulas.

Other records came from most sites between POA and Llanddulas in all three years.

**GOLDENEYE** *Bucephala clangula*

HWYADEN LYGAD-AUR

*Winter visitor*

1993: More than 20 birds were seen at Abergele on 28/12. Elsewhere between 1-9 birds seen at Rhyl Marine Lake (9 records), Hanmer (6 records), Rhyl Brickworks (2 records), one record from Gresford Flash and six from the R. Clwyd.

1994: 18 birds recorded at Belgrano on 7/1, 14 at IMF on 28/12 and 11 on Marine Lake on 6/12. Between 1-10 seen elsewhere at POA, Clwyd Estuary, Llyn Brenig (6 records) Llyn Bran (8 records) and OMR.

1995: The best record was of 14 on Marine Lake on 14/1 – 1-10 birds seen at POA, Dolwen, Llyn Bran and Llyn Brenig, Hanmer, Gresford Flash, Rhos-on-Sea and Llanddulas.

**RED-BREASTED MERGANSER** *Mergus serrator*

HWYADEN FRONGOCH

*Rare breeding resident and common winter visitor*

1993: Winter visitors included 136 at POA on 9/12, 69 at Llanddulas on 7/3, 20 at Rhos-on-Sea on 7/3 and 13 on Rhyl Marine Lake on 10/1. 1-10 birds were also recorded at Oakenholt Marsh and Llanddulas. The record at Marine Lake was the only 'inland' record.

1994: Peak count of 75 off Colwyn Bay on 11/1 and 40 off Llanddulas on 8/1. There were many counts from the Marine Lake with a peak of 37 from 4-6/12. There were 20 birds at Mostyn on 24/11 and 15 on the Clwyd Estuary on 10/8. Other coastal records came from POA, Gronant, OMR and Pensarn.

1995: 132 at Rhos-on-Sea on 1/1, 44 at POA on 30/10. 17 at Greenfield on 12/1, 19 at Bettisfield on 2/11 and 10 on the Marine Lake on 8/1. Other coastal sightings were at Splash Point, Llanddulas and Pensarn.

**GOOSANDER** *Mergus merganser*

HWYADEN DDANHEDDOG

*Breeding resident and winter visitor in small numbers*

1993: 32 birds were seen at Hanmer on 15/2, 12 at Wynnstay Lake on 26/12 and 12 at Llewenni Hall, R. Clwyd on 2/5. 1-7 birds recorded elsewhere included R. Clwyd Estuary, Rhuddlan, Pont Eyrarth, Llyn Helyg, Llyn Brenig and Glyndyfrdwy.

1994: 21 birds seen on the R. Clwyd/R. Elwy, south of Rhuddlan on 9/7, 15 on the Clwyd Estuary on 10/8 and a record of 11 at POA on 23/10. Other records came from Gresford Flash, Llyn Helyg, Corwen, Llyn Brenig, Pentrefelin and Ruthin.

1995: On 8/3 13 birds were seen at Llyn Helyg; on the 27/5 there were 12 at Rhuddlan and on 11/6 – 12 on the Clwyd Estuary. Smaller numbers were seen at Denbigh, Berwyn, Llanddulas, Gresford Flash, Dolwen and Shotwick Lake.

**RUDDY DUCK** *Oxyura jamaicensis*

HWYADEN GOCH

*Uncommon breeding resident and winter visitor*

1993: There were 10 records from 4 sites, the best being 26 birds at Hanmer on 31/1. Elsewhere between 1 and 4 records from Llyn Helyg, Shotwick and Gresford Flash.

1994: Kimberley Clark held the best total of 10 birds on 21/8. Between 1-7 birds were recorded at Llyn Helyg, Hanmer, Gresford Flash, Shotton Paper and OMR. There were a total of 33 records from 6 sites.

1995: A total of 15 birds were seen at Hanmer on 1/4 and 11 at Kimberley Clark on 13/8. Elsewhere 1-8 birds were at Erddig Pond, Llyn Helyg, Gresford Flash, Shotton and Rhyl Brickworks. In total 9 sites produced 16 records during the year.

**BLACK KITE** *Milvus migrans*

BARCUD DU

*Very rare visitor*

One bird was recorded on 24/4/94 at Gronant.

**RED KITE** *Milvus milvus*

BARCUD

*Rare visitor***1993:** One seen flying over Clocaenog Forest heading north-east on 30/4.**SPARROWHAWK** *Accipiter nisus*

GWALCH GLAS

*Common breeding resident***1993:** 57 records – many of them coastal and mostly single birds, a few were of pairs and one group of three was sighted at Gwysaney.**1994:** 40 records received including a group of 3 at Clwyd Estuary.**1995:** A total of 24 records.**COMMON BUZZARD** *Buteo buteo*

BWNCATH

*Common breeding resident in upland areas, increasingly recorded in lowland areas.***1993:** 87 records were received for the year. Largest counts were 6 at Twt Hill, Rhuddlan on 14/2 and 8 at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 30/6.**1994:** 64 sightings recorded in total including 6 on 4/4 at Llanfair Talhaiarn, 8 on 9/5 at Bryn Rhyd yr Arian, 6 at Rhyl on 18/8 and 7 at Rhuddlan Marsh on 9/10.**1995:** 7 birds were seen at the Horseshoe Pass on 6/3, 8 birds at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 6/4 and 7 at Cilcain on 17/6. There were a total of 59 records.**KESTREL** *Falco tinnunculus*

CUDYLL COCH

*Locally common breeding resident***1993:** 45 records received of either 1 or 2 birds and 4 birds at Llanasa on 13/3, 6 birds at Llangollen on 14/4 and 4 records from the Clwyd Estuary on 19/7.**1994:** There were 50 records during the year, all of 1-2 birds.**1995:** 4 records were received of between 1 and 3 birds.**MERLIN** *Falco columbarius*

CUDYLL BACH

*Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor***1993:** There were 22 records in the year – all of single birds. Winter coastal records from OMR, POA, Splash Point, Rhyl Old Tip and R.Clwyd Estuary.**1994:** 26 records received for the year, single records from Gronant, R.Clwyd Estuary, Gresford Flash, Flint foreshore, Rhuddlan and OMR. One record of 3 birds from PAO.**1995:** 9 records, all of one or two birds from Flint, IMF, Bagillt and Rhyl.**PEREGRINE** *Falco peregrinus*

HEBOG TRAMOR

*Breeding resident***1993:** 60 records, mostly single birds, but a few 2-3. Winter coastal sites include POA and particularly on River Clwyd.**1994:** 62 records all of 1-2 birds. Coastal records at POA, Clwyd Estuary, OMR, Flint, Gronant and Prestatyn.**1995:** Total of 17 records.**RED GROUSE** *Lagopus lagopus*

GRUGIAR

*Breeding resident***1993:** 10 records from Ruabon, 8 from World's End and between 1 and 8 from Horseshoe Pass, Esclusham Mountain and Moel Famau.**1994:** 4 records, 1-5 birds at Ruabon, Minera, Esclusham Mountain and the Horseshoe Pass**1995:** 6 records of 1-4 birds at Ruabon, Llandegla, World's End, Horseshoe Pass and Esclusham Mountain.**BLACK GROUSE** *Tetrao tetrix*

GRUGIAR DDU

*Breeding resident, apparently declining***1993:** 17 records of 1-8 birds, mostly from the Clocaenog Forest, but also from 4 other sites.**1994:** 30 records of 1-10 birds, mostly from the Clocaenog Forest, but also from 4 other sites.**1995:** 11 records on 1-4 birds from 5 sites.

**RED-LEGGED PARTRIDGE** *Alectoris rufa*

PETRISEN GOESGOCH

*Status uncertain due to releases***1993:** 10 records of 1-5 birds from Nantglyn, Gwaenysgor, Llangollen and Talacre Warren.**1994:** 2 records both from Clocaenog Forest.**1995:** 3 records of 1-3 birds from Rhosesmor, Gwysaney and Minera.**GREY PARTRIDGE** *Perdix perdix*

PETRISEN

*Scarce breeding resident***1993:** There were 14 records received of between 1 and 13 birds, mainly from Sandycroft and Ysceifiog. One pair at Shotton Paper raised 11 young.**1994:** 9 records of 1-7 birds from Shotton Paper, Buckley and Penymyndd.**1995:** 11 records of 1-4 birds from Deeside Pools.**LADY AMHERST'S PHEASANT** *Chrysolophus amherstiae*

FFESANT AMHERST

*Introduced breeding resident***1993:** One pair present all year at Gwysaney.**1994:** One pair present all year at Gwysaney and one at Halkyn churchyard on 23/1.**MOORHEN** *Gallinula chloropus*

IÂR DDWR

*Common breeding resident***1993:** 20 birds recorded on 14/11 at Shotton Paper.**1994:** 51 birds recorded on 6/11 at Kimberley Clark.**1995:** 27 bird records received from Wynnstay Lake on 24/12.**COOT** *Fulica atra*

CWTIAR

*Breeding resident and winter visitor***1993:** High counts of 151 on 10/1 at Deeside Pools and 123 on 31/10 at Llyn Helyg.**1994:** A record of 153 birds at Deeside Pools on 9/10 and 112 at Kimberley Clark on 4/12.**1995:** Kimberley Clark had 137 birds on 22/1; Deeside produced a record of 155 birds on 9/12 and Shotwick Lake a count of 150 on 28/12.**CRANE** *Grus grus*

GARAN

*Very rare visitor***1995:** Single birds at Lleweni Hall, R. Clwyd on 6/7, Llyn Brenig on 14/7 and Rhos on Sea on 28/9.**OYSTERCATCHER** *Haematopus ostralegus*

PIODEN Y MÔR

*Abundant passage migrant and winter visitor, scarce breeding resident***1993:** Highest counts were at POA, 20,800 on 17/9, 3,500 at OMR on 20/8 and 200 on 2/9 on the R. Clwyd Estuary. The only inland record was for 2 birds on 14/4 at Gresford Flash.**1994:** 10,000 recorded at POA on 11/9 and 9/10, 2,000 at OMR on 9/9, 1,000 at R. Clwyd Estuary on 4/8, 400 at Llanddulas on 13/9 and 100 on 11/12 at Pentre Mawr Park. One or two birds were present at Gresford Flash throughout April.**1995:** Counts of 16,000 on 11/9 at POA, 3,500 at OMR on 13/8, 1,110 at Llanddulas on 12/2 and 275 on the Clwyd Estuary on 29/1.**STONE-CURLEW** *Burhinus oedicnemus*

RHEDWR Y MOELYDD

*Rare vagrant***1993:** One record on fields at Tyn y Morfa on 23/7.**LITTLE RINGED PLOVER** *Charadrius dubius*

CWTIAD TORCHOG BACH

*Scarce summer visitor and passage migrant, breeds intermittently***1993:** First record of the summer at POA on 8/4, then further records at Gresford Flash, CQR and Gronant. Thought to have bred successfully at Shotton Paper.**1994:** First summer visitor recorded on 27/3 at IMF, then also seen at Llangollen, Gresford Flash, Shotton and Gronant.**1995:** First record at Ruabon on 7/5, also seen later at Gronant, Gresford Flash, Shotton Paper and Sealand.



**RINGED PLOVER** *Charadrius hiaticula*

## CWTIAD TORCHOG

*Resident, breeding in small numbers, and passage migrant*

**1993:** High counts of 420 at POA on 15/8, 250 at Gronant on 20/8 and 100 at Kinmel Bay on 28/12. Other records came from Pensarn, Clwyd Estuary and Rhyl.

**1994:** Counts of 330 at POA on 11/8, 118 at Clwyd Estuary on 11/8, 100 at OMR on 8/8 and 50 at Gronant on 6/12 and 12/2. Smaller records were received from Kinmel and Pensarn.

**1995:** Good counts at POA on 10/8 (201), Bagillt on 31/8 (50), Gronant on 4/1 (40) and Flint Point on 11/2 (35). Other records came from R. Clwyd Estuary, Pensarn and Llangollen.

**GOLDEN PLOVER** *Pluvialis apricaria*

## CWTIAD AUR

*Scarce breeding resident, winter visitor*

**1993:** 19 birds were seen at Rhuddlan Marsh on 6-7/1. Elsewhere between 1-6 birds were recorded at Pen y Cae Reservoir, Towyn, POA, Nercwys Mountain and Splash Point.

**1994:** Flocks of 300 at IMF on 12/1, 250 at Shotwick Fields on 3/1, 48 at Gronant on 22/11, 35 at POA on 22/11 and 34 at OMR on 5/12. Also records of 1-2 birds on the R. Clwyd Estuary.

**1995:** There were very few records received for the year, but 50 were seen at Trelogan on 16/12, 25 at Sealand rifle range on 17/11 and 16 on Flint Marsh on 20/10. Smaller groups of 3-7 birds were recorded on the Clwyd Estuary and Bagillt.

**GREY PLOVER** *Pluvialis squatarola*

## CWTIAD LLWYD

*Passage migrant and winter visitor*

**1993:** The majority of the records were from POA where 100 were recorded on 12/3. Other records of note were 91 at Gronant on 17/10 and 15 on the Clwyd Estuary on 14/9.

**1994:** High counts were 103 on 6/11 and 100 on 6/12 at Gronant, 100 on 14/2 and 6/11 at POA, 20 birds at OMR on 22/12 and up to 7 birds at other times on the Clwyd Estuary.

**1995:** Only 5 records were received in the year all from Gronant or POA, the highest being 112 at POA on 23/12 and 13 at Gronant on 15/1.

**LAPWING** *Vanellus vanellus*

## CORNCHWIGLEN

*Breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor*

**1993:** Good flocks of winter birds included 1,850 at Rhuddlan Marsh on 7/1, 1,000 at Towyn on 5/1 and 800 on the R. Clwyd Estuary on 28/1. Other flocks >200 were seen at POA, Pen y Cae Reservoir, Rhyl Marine Lake and Ruabon.

**1994:** Records of winter flocks came from Shotwick on 6/2 (1,200), R. Clwyd Estuary on 25/11 (1,200), OMR on 5/12 (800), Deeside Pools on 25/2 (500) and Rhyl Marine Lake on 28/12 (500). Flocks of more than 200 were also seen at Ruabon and POA. Eight pairs nested at Shotton Paper laying 32 eggs and hatching 24 young.

**1995:** 2,500 birds were recorded at R. Clwyd Estuary on 18/1, 1,000 at Sealand Rifle Range on 17/11, 800 on Flint Marsh on 20/12, 950 at IMF on 5/2, 310 at POA on 25/11 and 920 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 14/1. Trelogan, OMR and Bagillt also held flocks of >200 birds during the winter.

**KNOT** *Calidris canutus*

## PIBYDD YR ABER

*Passage migrant and winter visitor*

**1993:** 4,000 birds seen at OMR on 30/12 and 3,000 at POA on 15/10 and 17/11. There were also small numbers at Kinmel Bay, Clwyd Estuary and Pentre Mawr Park.

**1994:** Large flocks included 5,800 at POA on 10/11, 2,000 at OMR on 20/10 and 500 on the Flint Marsh on 8/11. Birds were also recorded at Gronant, Rhos-on-Sea and Clwyd Estuary.

**1995:** Very few records were received for the year a notable one being for 5,350 birds at POA on 4/1.

**SANDERLING** *Calidris alba*

## PIBYDD Y TYWOD

*Passage migrant and winter visitor*

**1993:** Records came from Gronant – 486 on 14/11, Kinmel Bay – 81 on 10/1, Towyn – 58 on 13/11 and 18 at POA on 26/7.

**1994:** Gronant produced records of 1,163 birds on the 6/11 and 1,100 on the 4/12. 200 were seen at Rhyl on 16/11, 20 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 16/1 and 40 at POA on 6/12.

**1995:** 324 birds were recorded at Gronant on 23/3, 165 at POA on 4/1, 33 at Rhyl on 8/11 and 30 at Kinmel Bay on 23/11.

**LITTLE STINT** *Calidris minuta*

PIBYDD BACH

*Uncommon passage migrant*

**1993:** Thirteen records from POA, Clwyd Estuary, Gronant and OMR. All records between 2/8 and 4/10, highest count 9 birds at Gronant on 17/9.

**1994:** Fourteen records from Gronant, IMF, POA and the Clwyd Estuary, including several May records, e.g. 4 at IMF on 20/5, last record involved 4 birds at Gronant on 19/9.

**1995:** Four records from Gronant and OMR, highest count at Gronant of 4 on 17/9.

**CURLEW SANDPIPER** *Calidris ferruginea*

PIBYDD CAMBIG

*Uncommon passage migrant*

**1993:** A total of 16 records for the period 15/8 to 17/10 – all of between 1-5 birds, e.g. POA 5 birds on 8/9. Other sites were Clwyd Estuary and Gronant.

**1994:** Thirteen records between 18/7 and 25/11 of up to 8 birds, e.g. 8 on 21/8 at POA, the earliest record at IMF and three more records at the Clwyd Estuary.

**1995:** Only three records from between 3 – 28 September of 1-2 birds all at POA.

**PURPLE SANDPIPER** *Calidris maritima*

PIBYDD DU

*Winter visitor in small numbers*

**1993:** 7 records from Rhos-on-Sea, peak of 11 on 11/2. Single bird at Rhyl on 30/10.

**1994:** 7 records from Rhos-on-Sea with a peak of 19 on 18/1. Unusual record of a single bird at IMF on 12/11.

**1995:** 2 records from Rhos-on-Sea with 10 on 27/11.

**DUNLIN** *Calidris alpina*

PIBYDD Y MAWN

*Common passage migrant and winter visitor*

**1993:** Flocks of 6,000 at POA and 2,000 at OMR on 31/12, 133 on R.Clwyd Estuary on 7/1 and 150 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 4/1. Other records came from Gronant, Kinmel Bay and Rhos-on-Sea.

**1994:** Good flocks of 5,300 at POA and 2,000 at OMR on 5/12, 1,000 at Gronant on 6/12, 300 at Flint Marsh on 14/11, 300 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 25/11 and 250 on the R.Clwyd Estuary on 24/8.

**1995:** 6,200 birds were counted at POA on 1/2, 1,500 at Gronant on 4/1, 1,000 at OMR on 16/2, 500 at Bagillt on 31/8, 400 at Walwen on the Dee Estuary on 18/1, 450 on the R.Clwyd Estuary on 3/3, 350 at IMF on 5/2 and 5 at Gresford Flash on 8/5.

**BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER** *Tryngites subruficollis*

PIBYDD BRONLLWYD

*Rare passage migrant*

**1994:** Single bird seen at POA on 9/9.

**RUFF** *Philomachus pugnax*

PIBYDD TORCHOG

*Uncommon passage migrant and occasional winter visitor*

**1993:** On the R.Clwyd Estuary there were 21 birds on 21/9, there were 8 at POA on 30/9, 8 at Gronant on 1/9 and 3 at OMR on 8/10 and 31/12.

**1994:** 22 birds were seen on Clwyd Estuary on 24/8 and 5 at POA on 5/9. There was a good run of records for the R.Clwyd Estuary from mid-July to the end of November, with up to 6 recorded regularly with 22 being the peak.

**1995:** Only six records this year, all either at IMF (with a peak of 65 on 4/5) or the R.Clwyd Estuary with never more than 2 birds.

**JACK SNIFE** *Lymnocyptes minimus*

GIACH FACH

*Scarce winter visitor*

**1993:** 12 records of between 1-4 birds from Ruabon Moors, Gronant, Geraint's Pond and Clocaenog Forest.

**1994:** 15 records of between 1-4 birds from Flint, IMF, Gronant, Ruabon Moors, POA, Shotton Paper, Towyn and R.Clwyd Estuary.

**1995:** Only 5 records, 4 of them from Gronant with a high of 7 on 5/2 and a single record from Pentre Llanrhaeadr.

**SNIPE** *Gallinago gallinago*

GIACH GYFFREDIN

*Passage migrant and winter visitor, scarce breeder*

**1993:** Records came from Gronant, POA, Geraint's Pond and the Clwyd Estuary. The peak count (54) came



from the WeBS data at Gronant on 12/12.

**1994:** Recorded from Clwyd Estuary, Gronant, Llyn Helyg, POA, Flint, Ruabon Moors, Gwysaney and Pentre Llyn Cymmer. Peaks of 177 on 16/12 at POA, 56 on 12/11 at Gronant and 70 on 4/12 at IMF.

**1995:** Birds recorded at Walwen on the Dee Estuary, POA, Clwyd Estuary, Gronant, Kimberley Clark, Deeside Pools, Llyn Brenig and Minera. Best records came from Gronant on 5/2 – 144, POA on 14/3 – 48 and 25 birds at Pentre Llanrhaedr on 28/12.

**WOODCOCK** *Scolopax rusticola*

CYFFYLOG

*Uncommon breeding resident and winter visitor*

**1993:** 15+ birds were seen at Llyn Helyg on 19/6. Other records came from Llangollen, Gwysaney, Nercwys Mountain, Ruabon and Clocaenog.

**1994:** Between 1-8 birds were recorded at Ruabon Moors, Bont Newydd, Padeswood Pool, Nercwys Mountain, Clocaenog and Gronant.

**1995:** 12 birds were recorded at Hawarden on 2/6 and smaller numbers were seen at Clocaenog, Llyn Helyg, Leeswood, Glyndyfrdwy and Llandegla.

**BLACK-TAILED GODWIT** *Limosa limosa*

RHOSTOG GYNFFONDDU

*Passage migrant and winter visitor*

**1993:** Peak counts included 2,250 and 1,500 from OMR on 17/10 and 10/1, 1,800 at Flint on 3/10. Up to 8 noted on the R.Clwyd Estuary and 5 at POA.

**1994:** Peak numbers were 1,500 at OMR on 7/11, 1,100 at Flint on 8/11 and 543 at IMF on 8/12. There was a summering flock of 343 observed at IMF on 24/7 and up to 20 on the R.Clwyd Estuary and 6 at POA.

**1995:** Peak counts included 880 at IMF on 5/2 and 1,200 at Bagillt on 31/10. Summering birds included 320 off Flint Point on 10/8, 50 on R.Clwyd Estuary on 29/1 and up to 14 at POA.

**BAR-TAILED GODWIT** *Limosa lapponica*

RHOSTOG GYNFFONFRITH

*Passage migrant and winter visitor*

**1993:** All records were from POA except for a single bird seen at Gronant. Record highs of 400 birds on 10/1 and 13 on 12/9.

**1994:** 100 birds were recorded at POA on 4/12 and 85 at OMR on 13/2. Up to 4 were seen on the R.Clwyd Estuary and 1-2 birds at Gronant at IMF.

**1995:** Only 4 records were received, one of 59 birds at POA on 11/9, 3 at R.Clwyd Estuary and 7 at Flint Point.

**WHIMBREL** *Numenius phaeopus*

COEGLFINIR

*Passage migrant*

**1993:** First record from Flint on 23/4 and last on 12/9. 37 birds were seen at Clwyd Estuary on 2/5, 7 at Llyn Helyg on 28/4 and 21 at POA on 6/5. Other records were from Splash Point, Walwen on the Dee Estuary and Gronant.

**1994:** Earliest record on 20/4 at Flint and last on 5/10. 34 birds were seen at POA on 27/7, 30 at Rhyl Old Tip on 8/5 and 25 on the Clwyd Estuary on 25/4. Other records were from Shotton, Bagillt, Walwen on the Dee Estuary, Llannerch-y-Mor and Llyn Helyg. A winter record of a single bird on 20/2 at POA.

**1995:** First record on 21/4 and last on 8/11. Up to 8 birds recorded at POA, Shotton, Bagillt, Llannerch-y-Mor and the R.Clwyd Estuary.

**CURLEW** *Numenius arquata*

GYLFINIR

*Breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor*

**1993:** 1,600 at POA on 15/9, 480 at R.Clwyd Estuary on 11/3, 150 at Gronant on 10/2, 116 at Llanddulas on 6/12 and 70 at Ruabon on 19/3. Other records from Rhos-on-Sea, Llanarmon yn Ial, Llandegla, Sealand, Rhydtalog and Bryneglwys.

**1994:** c.2,000 at POA on 11/9 and 1,456 at the same place on 5/9, 496 at R.Clwyd Estuary on 1/1, 84 at Hen Wrych on 6/3, 51 at Llanddulas on 21/1 and 40 on 2/4 at Llyn Helyg. Also seen at Sandycroft.

**1995:** 1,460 at POA on 9/10, 1,200 at Clwyd Estuary seen at Llandegla, Penymynydd on 16/1, 1,250 at Flint Point on 31/8 and 880 at Bagillt on 22/7. Also seen at Llanasa, Rhos-on-Sea, Llanddulas and Llandegla.

**SPOTTED REDSHANK** *Tringa erythropus*

PIBYDD COESGOCH MANNOG

*Passage migrant and scarce winter visitor*

**1993:** 20 at OMR on 17/10 – single birds at POA, Bagillt and Clwyd Estuary.



**1994:** 25 birds at OMR on 5/10. Records of between 1-20 birds regularly at CQR/OMR between 13/2 and 22/12. Also 1-2 birds seen at IMF, POA and R.Clwyd Estuary  
**1995:** Only 4 records, of single birds at POA, OMR and R.Clwyd Estuary.

**REDSHANK** *Tringa totanus*

**PIBYDD COESGOCH**

*Scarce breeding resident, common passage migrant and winter visitor*

**1993:** Records of 1,000 from POA on 15/10, 156 from R.Clwyd Estuary on 26/10, 180 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 17/11, 101 at Llanddulas on 21/11 and 90 on 24/12 at Pentre Mawr Park. Also records from Pendinas, Nant y Ffrith reservoir and Prestatyn.

**1994:** 1,450 birds records at POA on 14/8, 2,000 recorded at OMR on 8/8, 1,000 at Flint Marsh on 8/11, 250 at IMF on 29/3 and 150 on the R.Clwyd Estuary on 24/8. Also seen at Rhyl Marine Lake, Rhos, Gronant and Pentre Mawr Park.

**1995:** At Flint Marsh there were 870 birds on 4/9, 850 were at POA on 24/10, 550 at OMR on 13/8, 250 at R.Clwyd Estuary on 29/1, 200 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 16/1 and 110 at Pentre Mawr Park on 28/1.

**MARSH SANDPIPER** *Tringa stagnatilis*

**PIBYDD Y GORS**

*Rare passage migrant*

**1994:** Single bird seen on River Clwyd at Rhuddlan on 9-27/8.

**GREENSHANK** *Tringa nebularia*

**PIBYDD COESWERDD**

*Passage migrant and occasional winter visitor*

**1993:** Thirty records for the year with most from POA (peak of 8 on 12/9) and the R.Clwyd Estuary (peak of 5 on 25/8 and 14/9), single records of individual birds from both Bagillt and Bettisfield. The only site with double figures was OMR with 27 on 10/9 and 14 on 27/8.

**1994:** A total of 63 records were received for the year, most coming from R.Clwyd Estuary and POA. Notable counts included 53 birds at IMF on 1/9, 25 at OMR on 27/8, 13 on the R.Clwyd Estuary on 22/8 and 12 at POA on 23/8.

**1995:** 11 at POA on 10/9 and the same number on the R.Clwyd Estuary on 18/8. Other records included those from OMR, Shotton Paper, and an inland record of 5 at Llyn Helyg on 27/8.

**GREEN SANDPIPER** *Tringa ochropus*

**PIBYDD GWYRDD**

*Passage migrant and occasional winter visitor*

**1993:** Up to 5 birds at 5 sites including Sealand rifle range, Penarlâg, R.Clwyd Estuary, POA and Shotton Paper, the latter with 5 on 14/11.

**1994:** Only 5 records from 4 sites, R.Clwyd Estuary, IMF, 5 at Shotton Paper on lagoon 2B between 5/5 and 12/5 and 5 at OMR on 17/7.

**1995:** Peak of 7 at Cop Hole, Shotton Paper on 18/7. Also seen at Gronant, R.Clwyd Estuary, Pentre Llanrhaedr, Llyn Helyg, Gresford Flash and Shotwick – 19 records.

**COMMON SANDPIPER** *Actitis hypoleucos*

**PIBYDD Y DORLAN**

*Passage migrant and breeding summer visitor*

**1993:** R.Clwyd Estuary had 24 birds on 16/7 and OMR had 11 on 11/7. Records also at Llyn Brenig, Gresford Flash, Greenfield, Llangollen, Sealand rifle range and POA. Winter records on the R.Clwyd Estuary of singles in January, February and December and at Shotton Paper in November.

**1994:** R.Clwyd Estuary had 63 birds on 13/7. There were no other records of >10. OMR had 8 birds on 10/7. Others also seen at Gresford Flash, Rhyl Brickworks, IMF, Llyn Helyg, Higher Common Buckley, Corwen and Pentrefelin.

**1995:** Best numbers at R.Clwyd Estuary – 35 on 8/7 and 10 at Shotwick on 23/4. Others included Llyn Gweryd, Borrás, Llangollen, Pendinas, Llyn Brenig and Walwen on the Dee Estuary.

**TURNSTONE** *Arenaria interpres*

**CWTIAD Y TRAETH**

*Winter visitor*

**1993:** 124 birds were recorded at Llanddulas on 7/3, 107 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 4/12, 60 on the R.Clwyd Estuary on 27/1 and 59 in Kinnel Bay on 17/11. Also seen at Mostyn Docks, Walwen on the Dee Estuary, Rhos-on-Sea, Rhyl and Prestatyn.

**1994:** Largest count at Rhos-on-Sea of 50 birds on 23/20, 45 at Rhyl on 11/1 and 30 at Llanddulas on 13/9. Also at Rhyl Marine Lake, POA, Mostyn and a single at IMF on 4/5.

**1995:** 132 recorded at Llanddulas on 12/2, 54 at Kinnel Bay on 23/11 and 44 at Towyn on 23/11 – also at

Walwen on the Dee Estuary, POA and Rhyl Marine Lake.

**RED-NECKED PHALAROPE** *Phalaropus lobatus*

LLYDANDROED GYDDFGOCH

*Rare vagrant*

Two birds were recorded at Rhos-on-Sea on 2/7/94 and one at Whixall Moss on 1-3/7/95.

**GREY PHALAROPE** *Phalaropus fulicarius*

LLYDANDROED LLWYD

*Rare vagrant*

One sighting at POA recorded on 10/9/94 and one at Gresford Flash on 7-8/10/95.

**POMARINE SKUA** *Stercorarius pomarinus*

SGIWEN FRECH

*Uncommon passage migrant*

1993: Two birds at POA on 3/9, 11/9 and 14/11.

1994: Between one and three birds at POA on 10, 11, 16 and 20/9.

1995: Between one and three birds at POA on 4/6, 25/8 and 9 and 24/9.

**ARCTIC SKUA** *Stercorarius parasiticus*

SGIWEN Y GOGLEDD

*Passage migrant*

1993: All records from POA, Gronant and Rhyl between 23/6 – 26/9. Largest numbers were 23 at POA on 31/9 and 17 at the same site on 11/9.

1994: All records from POA, Gronant and Rhyl between 3/6 – 14/11 except one bird at OMR on 3/10.. Largest numbers were 30 at POA on 17/8 and 32 at the same site on 11/9.

1995: Sighting only from POA and Rhyl between 20/5 – 15/10. High count of 27 at POA on 25/8.

**LONG-TAILED SKUA** *Stercorarius longicaudus*

SGIWEN LOSTFAIN

*Scarce passage migrant*

All records came from POA; 2 on 26/7 and 1 on 5/8 in 1993, 1 on 12/8, 10/9 and 16/9 in 1994 and 1 on 27/8 and 24/9 in 1995.

**GREAT SKUA** *Stercorarius skua*

SGIWEN FAWR

*Uncommon passage migrant*

1993: Single birds seen on two dates in January at POA and again on 20/7 and 20/8 and 4 birds on 3/9. One bird was also seen at Rhyl on 15/9.

1994: Single birds on 6/8 and 10/9 and three on 17/9 all at POA. One also seen at Pensarn on 15/9.

1995: 9 records of between 1-3 birds from POA, OMR and Rhyl Splash Point between 27/8 and 30/10.

**MEDITERRANEAN GULL** *Larus melanocephalus*

GWYLAN MÔR Y CANOLDIR

*Uncommon visitor, increasing in frequency*

1993: Ten records of single birds seen in January, February, June, August, September, October and November, at Gronant, POA, OMR and Pentre Mawr Park and 2 at POA on 24/6.

1994: 17 records, mostly from POA, but also from Gronant, Rhos-on-Sea, Rhuddlan and Llyn Helyg – usually 1-2 birds but up to 4 at POA e.g. 21/6.

1995: 20 records from POA, Gronant, Rhos-on-Sea and Clwyd Estuary. 5 birds at POA on 18/3 and 17/6.

**LITTLE GULL** *Larus minutus*

GWYLAN FECHAN

*Scarce visitor*

1993: 1-2 birds at IMF on 2/4, 5/4 and 30/5.

1994: Single birds at POA on 5/1, 9/9 and 15/10. 2 at Shotwick Lake on 21/4.

**SABINE'S GULL** *Larus sabini*

GWYLAN SABINE

*Rare visitor*

1993: Single birds at POA on 25/8 and 30-31/8.

1994: One bird at POA on 8/8.

1995: One bird at POA on 25/8.

**BONAPARTE'S GULL** *Larus philadelphia*

GWYLAN BONAPARTE

*Rare vagrant*

One bird was recorded at IMF from 1-16 June 1994.

**BLACK-HEADED GULL** *Larus ridibundus*

GWYLAN PENDDU

*Common breeding resident and winter visitor*

1993: Largest numbers were 1,000 at POA on 3/9, 800 at Prestatyn on 16/11, 500 at Gronant on 10/2, 450 on the Clwyd Estuary on 2/9 and 350 at Gresford Flash on 31/1.

1994: 1,000 birds at Gronant on 1/2, 2,045 at POA on 8/8 and 800 on Clwyd Estuary on 10/8.

1995: on 29/1 there were 2,800 birds on the Clwyd Estuary, Padeswood Pool held 2,500 on 1/1 and 800 were seen at Gronant on 9/1.

**RING-BILLED GULL** *Larus delawarensis*

GWYLAN FODRWYBIG

*Rare vagrant*

1993: There were 11 birds at Gronant on 16/1.

1994: Single birds reported at Rhyl Brickworks and one from Rhyl Marine Lake between 18/3 and 12/4.

1995: One bird reported at POA from 13-18/6.

**COMMON GULL** *Larus canus*

GWYLAN Y GWEUNYDD

*Passage migrant and winter visitor*

1993: A flock of 3,000 birds at POA on 25/1, 700 at Gronant on 13/2 and regularly at Llanarmon-yn-Ial with a peak of 350.

1994: 3,000 birds at Gronant on 6/2, 1,600 at Llanddulas on 21/1 and 2,900 at POA on 31/1.

1995: 10,000 at Gronant on 13/1, 3,500 at Bagillt on 6/2, 1,500 at Pentre Llanrhaedr on 14/3 and 1,300 at POA on 16/2.

**LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL** *Larus fuscus*

GWYLAN GEFNDDU LEIAF

*Breeding resident and passage migrant*

1993: Counts of 120 at Gresford Flash on 16/2 and 105 at OMR on 21/10.

1994: 230 birds present at Gresford Flash on 19/12 and 125 at OMR on 23/6.

1995: 13 birds at Gresford Flash on 11/2.

**YELLOW-LEGGED GULL** *Larus argentatus cachinnans*

GWYLAN GOES FELEN

*Rare visitor*

Single birds at POA on 13/6/94 and 8/8/94 and at Gronant on 16/7/94.

**HERRING GULL** *Larus argentatus*

GWYLAN Y PENWAIG

*Breeding resident, passage migrant and common winter visitor*

1993: c.2,000 at Llanddulas on 14/10 and 900 at Gronant on 13/2.

1994: 3,200 seen at POA on 31/1 and 500 at Gronant on 1/2.

1995: 2,600 recorded on the Clwyd Estuary on 29/1.

**ICELAND GULL** *Larus glaucooides*

GWYLAN YR ARCTIG

*Rare visitor*

1994: Seen at POA 27/3 and 25/4, then several dates early September and early October.

1995: Single bird early January at Pensarn and Gronant then later on 22/3.

**GLAUCOUS GULL** *Larus hyperboreus*

GWYLAN Y GOGLEDD

*Scarce visitor*

1993: 22 records were received in total all from POA, Gronant and the Clwyd Estuary. Single birds were seen most months between February and December.

1994: 16 records all from Gronant and the Clwyd Estuary, with 2 at Gronant on 5/11 and 18/12.

1995: 13 records, mostly from Gronant, POA and Clwyd Estuary, with 3 at Gronant on 8/1, 5/2, 4/3 and 1/10.

**GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL** *Larus marinus*

GWYLAN GEFNDDU FWYAF

*Passage migrant and winter visitor*

1993: 212 birds recorded at Gronant on 16/11.

1994: 145 at POA on 5/9 and 138 at OMR on 7/11.

1995: 64 birds recorded at Rhyl on 23/11.



**ROSS'S GULL** *Rhodostethia rosea*  
*Rare visitor*  
Single reported at OMR on 5/2/95.

GWYLAN ROSS

**KITTIWAKE** *Rissa tridactyla*  
*Passage migrant and non-breeding visitor*

GWYLAN GOESDDU

**1993:** 420 birds off Prestatyn on 31/5, 250 at POA on 11/9 and 159 at Gronant on 15/12.  
**1994:** 1,300 at POA on 1/11, 100 at Gronant on 5/8 and at IMF 1-2 birds were noted occasionally in March, May and June.  
**1995:** Only 3 records with a peak of 12 off Rhyl on 27/3.

**GULL BILLED TERN** *Gelochelidon nilotica*  
*Rare visitor*  
Single bird at POA on 5/6/93.

MORWENNOL YLFINBRAFF

**SANDWICH TERN** *Sterna sandvicencis*  
*Passage migrant*

MORWENNOL BIGDDU

**1993:** First records from POA on 6/4 and last at Llanddulas on 29/10. Maximum at POA – 1,400 on 23/7. Peak period between 10/7 and 4/9. Only at Gronant, Clwyd Estuary and POA were there more than 100 birds.  
**1994:** Earliest record for the year was at POA on 28/3 and latest at Rhos-on-Sea on 18/9. POA had 1,500 birds present on 17/8. Peak period was from 15/7 to 8/9. Only Gronant, Clwyd Estuary and POA >100.  
**1995:** Fewer records were received during the year, earliest on 10/4 at POA and latest 27/10 also at POA. Largest counts 650 at POA on 31/7 and 530 on 20/8 at Gronant.

**ROSEATE TERN** *Sterna dougallii*  
*Rare visitor*

MORWENNOL WRIDOG

**1994:** One bird at POA on 23/8.  
**1995:** One bird at Pensarn on 1/9.

**COMMON TERN** *Sterna hirundo*  
*Breeding summer visitor and passage migrant*

MORWENNOL GYFFREDIN

**1993:** Earliest record 24/4 from Shotton and latest 30/9 from POA. High count of 230 from POA on 2/8. At Shotton, 366 pulli were ringed but due to predation from rats and Black-headed gulls probably at best only 150 chicks fledged.  
**1994:** First seen at POA on 25/4 and last seen on 11/9 and POA. Best record was of 600 on 6/8. Inland birds were also seen at Hawarden, Higher Common Buckley and Llyn Helyg. At Shotton, 301 pairs fledged c300 young.  
**1995:** First arrival recorded on 24/4 at OMR and last to leave 9/10 at POA. Highest count 240 at POA on 31/7. The Shotton colony fledged 400+ young from 421 pairs.

**ARCTIC TERN** *Sterna paradisaea*  
*Uncommon passage migrant, has bred*

MORWENNOL Y GOGLEDD

**1993:** Single bird recorded on 15/8 and 3 on 19/8 both at POA.  
**1994:** 9 birds at IMF on 18/6. 1-4 birds on 3 dates between 17/7 and 13/8 at POA.  
**1995:** One record at POA on 10/7.

**FORSTER'S TERN** *Sterna forsteri*  
*Rare vagrant*  
Single bird at POA on 5/8/93.

MORWENNOL FORSTER

**LITTLE TERN** *Sterna albifrons*  
*Breeding summer visitor and passage migrant*

MORWENNOL FECHAN

**1993:** Recorded at Gronant between 8/5 and 10/8. The colony here numbered 45 pairs, with 45+ young raised.  
**1994:** Records between 1/5 at Gronant and 11/9 at POA. 300 birds at Gronant on 22/7, 200 at POA at 11/8 and a single at IMF in late May. The Gronant colony had an excellent year, fledging 120-140 young from 77 pairs.

1995: The colony at Gronant contained 65 pairs, which fledged an estimated 35-40 young.

**BLACK TERN** *Chlidonias niger*

CORSWENNOL DDU

*Uncommon passage migrant*

1993: All 6 records of between 1-4 birds at IMF between 29/4 and 28/5.

1994: 11 records in total. Only spring record on 23/5 at IMF, then summer records (between 6/8 and 23/9) mostly at POA, IMF and OMR. One record from POA of 6 birds on 10/9.

1995: Only two records, 1 at POA on 15/7 and 2 at Flint Point on 4/9.

**WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN** *Chlidonias leucopterus*

CORSWENNOL ADEINWEN

*Rare visitor*

One bird was present at IMF on 20-21/7/93.

**GUILLEMOT** *Uria aalge*

GWYLOG

*Regular non-breeding visitor*

1993: Several records of 1-5 birds from coastal sites between Llanddulas and POA.

1994: Notable counts of 50 off Rhyl on 30/10 and 560 off POA on 15/11.

1995: Few records, e.g. from Rhos-on-Sea and POA, with 110+ off Rhyl, Splash Point on 30/10.

**RAZORBILL** *Alca torda*

LLURS

*Uncommon non-breeding visitor*

1993: One or two birds from Llanddulas, Rhyl and OMR.

1994: Only recorded at Rhyl and POA, with 20 at Rhyl on 31/3 and 200 at POA on 15/11.

**BLACK GUILLEMOT** *Cephus grylle*

GWYLOG DDU

*Rare visitor*

Single birds at POA on 12/8/94 and Rhos-on-Sea on 17-18/12/94.

**LITTLE AUK** *Alle alle*

CARFIL BACH

*Rare winter visitor*

1993: Single record on 13/1 and 2 on 16/12 both at POA.

1994: Single birds on 16/1 and 2/5 at Llanddulas.

1995: Single birds at Rhos-on-Sea on 1/1 and at Llanddulas on 28/10.

**PUFFIN** *Fratercula arctica*

PÂL

*Rare visitor*

Single bird at POA on 22/6/94.

**STOCK DOVE** *Columba oenas*

COLOMEN WYLLT

*Breeding resident and probable winter visitor*

1993: Recorded at various sites including 110 at Shotwick Fields on 24/1, 35 at Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 23/3 and 14 at Hanmer Mere on 31/1.

1994: Various sites including 14 at both Shotwick and Tremeirchion, also at Loggerheads, Clocaenog Forest and Llyn Helyg

1995: 24 seen at Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 8/1, 22 at Shotton on 30/6 and 18 at Mynydd Glyn-Lws on 21/6.

**WOODPIGEON** *Columba palumbus*

YSGUTHAN

*Abundant breeding resident*

1993: Notable counts included 120 at Llandegla on 14/3 and 100 at Llyn Helyg on 29/3.

1994: Counts included 65 at Llanddulas on 10/2 and 100 at Llandegla on 20/2.

1995: Only notable record involved 48 at Llandegla on 17/3.

**COLLARED DOVE** *Streptopelia decaocto*

TURTUR DORCHOG

*Common breeding resident*

Recorded in all three years with several counts of 30+ from Twt Hill, Rhuddlan. Peak count of 62 from Sandycroft on 26/2/94.

**TURTLE DOVE** *Streptopelia turtur***TURTUR***Rare summer visitor***1993:** Singles at POA on 17/6 and 11/8. Three recorded at IMF on 12/9.**1994:** Only record involved a single bird at POA on 31/5.**1995:** Two were at Tyn-y-Morfa on 12/5, and three were present at POA on 20/5.**CUCKOO** *Cuculus canorus***COG***Breeding summer visitor***1993:** First noted on 10/4 at IMF, then a total of nineteen records from locations such as Gwysaney, Ysceifiog, Penarlâg, Nercwys and Prion. Two were noted at Fenns Moss.**1994:** The first was at POA on 23/4, then 17 records, eg Horseshoe Pass, Pantymwyn, Caerwys and Eglwyseg,**1995:** The first was on 20/4, then 13 records from sites such as Brynford, Ruabon, and Llyn Brenig.**BARN OWL** *Tyto alba***TYLLUAN WEN***Scarce breeding resident***1993:** Only five records, eg at Rhosllanerchrugog, Sealand and Llangollen.**1994:** Eleven records, eg at Clocaenog, Llangollen and Rhyl.**1995:** Nine records including ones from Clocaenog, Rhualt and POA.**LITTLE OWL** *Athene noctua***TYLLUAN FACH***Breeding resident***1993:** Twenty one records through the year, mostly singles, occasional records of two birds.**1994:** Sixteen records.**1995:** Fourteen records.**TAWNY OWL** *Strix aluco***TYLLUAN FRECH***Common breeding resident***1993:** Thirteen records, mostly of singles, but with 2 birds noted at Prion, Llanrhydd, Nercwys, Clocaenog, Summerhill and Pantymwyn.**1994:** Ten records.**1995:** Nine records.**LONG-EARED OWL** *Asio otus***TYLLUAN GORNIOG***Rare resident, possible winter visitor*

Birds reported from a site in the south of the county in all three years.

**SHORT-EARED OWL** *Asio flammea***TYLLUAN GLUSTIOG***Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor***1993:** A total of seventeen records, most of which were winter records from the Rhyl Old Tip and Clwyd Estuary area - 3 were present here on 20/1. Other records came from Ruabon, POA, and Pentre, on Deeside.**1994:** Again, most of this years thirteen records came from the Clwyd Estuary, and also POA. Others from Carrog, Ruabon, Clocaenog and IMF.**1995:** Ten records, mostly from the Clwyd Estuary, Rhuddlan and Towyn areas - 3 were present at Rhuddlan Marsh on 16/1. Two records came from Gronant, and others from Ruabon and Esclusham.**NIGHTJAR** *Caprimulgus europaeus***TROELLWR***Breeding summer visitor***1993:** Seven records from Nercwys, Clocaenog and Pentre Llyn Cymer. A bird was also noted in the Warren at the POA on 13/8.**1994:** Fourteen records from Nercwys, Clocaenog and Pentre Llyn Cymer. Also reported from the Ruabon area.**1995:** Five records, all from Nercwys, Clocaenog and Pentre Llyn Cymer.**SWIFT** *Apus apus***GWENNOL DDU***Common breeding summer visitor and passage migrant***1993:** First recorded at IMF on 21/4, with the last record of the year on 16/9 at Nercwys. Notable counts between these dates included 250 at IMF on 10/5, 120 over the Clwyd Estuary on 3/7, 260 at the POA on



20/7, and 540 at IMF on 8/8.

**1994:** First and last dates were 24/4 (IMF) and a late record of 11/11 (Hawarden). Notable counts between these dates included 1000 at IMF on 29/5, and 50 over Corwen on 1/5.

**1995:** First and last dates were 22/4 (IMF) and 9/9 (Twt Hill). The only noteworthy counts included 40 at Shotwick on 23/4, and 200 at Rhuddlan Marsh on 15/7.

**KINGFISHER** *Alcedo atthis*

GLAS Y DORLAN

*Breeding resident*

**1993:** One to two birds were regular on the Clwyd Estuary. Other records came from Pentrefelin, IMF, Glan y Wern, Loggerheads, POA, World's End, Oakenholt Marsh, Pen y Cae, Berwyn, Four Crosses, Greenfield Valley and Mostyn.

**1994:** One to two birds were regular on the Clwyd Estuary. Also noted at Llangollen, POA, Deeside, Greenfield Valley and the Rhyl Brickworks pools.

**1995:** Regular on the Clwyd Estuary. Also noted at Holt, Llewenni Hall, Gresford, POA, Oakenholt Marsh and Glan y Wern.

**BEE-EATER** sp. *Merops* sp.

GWYBEDOG Y GWENYN

*Rare vagrant*

A single bird was reported from Gronant on 8/6/93.

**HOOPOE** *Upupa epops*

COPOG

*Vagrant*

Two records, both in 1994, and both of single birds, in the Vale of Clwyd on 15/8, and at Tremerschion on 9/9.

**GREEN WOODPECKER** *Picus viridis*

CNOCELL WERDD

*Breeding resident*

**1993:** Thirty one records through the year, mostly of single birds. Four were present at Llangollen on 4/8. Other sites included Clocaenog, Dyserth, Moel Arthur, Rhyd y Foel and Fenn's Moss.

**1994:** Eleven records, mostly of singles. Three were at Llangollen on 11/5, with other records coming from Loggerheads, Rhyd y Foel and Bettws yn Rhos.

**1995:** Nineteen records, mostly of singles. Three were noted at Hawarden on 30/4. Other records came from Llanfair Talhaiarn, Llysfaen and the Dulas Valley.

**GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER** *Dendrocopos major*

CNOCELL FRAITH FWYAF

*Breeding resident*

**1993:** Forty records through the year of mostly single or two birds. Such records came from Cefn Meriadoc, Hendre, Cilcain, Llyn Helyg, Bont Newydd, Maeshafn and Nercwys Mountain.

**1994:** Twelve records through the year of mostly single or two birds. Three were present at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 22/5. Also recorded at Penbedw, Cyffyllog and alongside the River Elwy.

**1995:** Sixteen records. Three were noted at Twt Hill on 10/6. Other records through the year came from Bodrhyddan Hall, Greenfield Valley, Ysceifiog and Kelsterton College.

**LESSER SPOTTED WOODPECKER** *Dendrocopos minor*

CNOCELL FRAITH LEIAF

*Local breeding resident*

**1993:** Of ten total records, repeat observations came from Acton Park in Wrexham, Llangollen and Twt Hill. All records involved single birds.

**1994:** Only five records in this year. Two birds were noted at Glan y Wern on 18/4, and Twt Hill on 14/7.

**1995:** Twelve records of single birds. Repeat observations came from Acton Park and Twt Hill.

**SKYLARK** *Alauda arvensis*

EHEDYDD

*Breeding resident and winter visitor, declining*

**1993:** Small numbers reported from a variety of sites across the county. Notable counts included 20+ at POA on 10/10, 60 at Gronant on 17/10, and 13 in the Warren on 22/11.

**1994:** Small numbers reported from a few sites across the county. Notable counts included 150 at Shotwick on 6/2, 15 on the Clwyd Estuary on 24/3, and 96 at the POA on 18/10.

**1995:** Only 5 records during the year eg 120 at Bagillt on 2/11, and 90 at POA on 7/11. Thirty were noted at Oakenholt Marsh on 19/11.

**SHORE LARK** *Eremophila alpestris*

EHEDYDD Y TRAETH

*Rare winter visitor***1993:** The only record involved a single at the POA on 30/11.**1994:** There were three records of a single at POA between 5-8/11. Then 1-2 birds noted on seven dates at Gronant between 26/11 and 26/12.**1995:** All records came from Gronant. Up to 7 birds noted on ten dates between 2/1 and 15/4 - eg peak of 7 on 15/1, 3 on several dates in early February and 4 on 1/4.**SAND MARTIN** *Riparia riparia*

GWENNOL Y GLENNYDD

*Breeding summer visitor and passage migrant***1993:** Recorded between 12/3 (POA) and 3/11 (POA). Notable counts included 30 Llewenni Hall on 2/5, and 60 at Nannerch on 22/5.**1994:** First and last dates were 26/3 at the Rhyl Brickworks pool, and 19/9 at IMF. Notable counts included 110 at POA on 23/4, 60 at Trevor Uchaf on 26/4, and 40 at Nannerch on 25/6 and 1/8.**1995:** Recorded between 22/3 (Rhyl Brickworks) and 17/9 (Twt Hill). Notable counts between these dates included 40 at Pentre Llanrhaedr on 5/4, 106 at Llyn Helyg on 10/4, 80 at Trevor Uchaf on 16/6 and 150 at Rhosesmor on 24/6.**SWALLOW** *Hirundo rustica*

GWENNOL

*Common breeding summer visitor and passage migrant***1993:** First noted on 20/3 over Talacre Warren, and last record for the year was 3/11, also at the POA. Counts between these dates included 150 at POA on 11/5, 30 on the Clwyd Estuary on 24/6, and 34 at POA on 17/9.**1994:** Recorded between 24/3 (Gronant) and 17/10 (IMF). Several very notable counts included 400 going through the POA on 23/4, and 1300 over Rhyl Old Tip on 4/8. Ninety-six were over Berwyn on 8/9.**1995:** Recorded between 22/3 (POA) and 4/10 (Twt Hill). The only notable count was of 15 on the Clwyd Estuary on 19/9.**HOUSE MARTIN** *Delichon urbica*

GWENNOL Y BONDO

*Common breeding summer visitor and passage migrant***1993:** First noted at Froncysyllte on 19/3, and finally at Twt Hill on 14/10. Notable counts between these dates included 250 IMF on 27/5, 45 Gwaenysgor on 4/6, 45 at Twt Hill on 27/7, 100 over Llanasa on 12/8, and 120 at IMF on 15/9.**1994:** Recorded between 29/3 (Tyn y Morfa) and 6/10 (Twt Hill). Several particularly sizable counts were 500 IMF on 8/8, 1000+ at Gwysaney on 10/9, and 150 over Llangollen on 21/9.**1995:** Recorded between 6/4 (Twt Hill) and 6/10 (also Twt Hill). Notable records included 30 at Rhualt on 24/4 and 100+ at Cilcain on 30/9.**RICHARD'S PIPIT** *Anthus novaeseelandiae*

CORHEDYDD RICHARD

*Rare visitor.*

Only record involved a single on the shore of the Dee Estuary at Ffynnongroyw, on 11-12/10/94.

**TREE PIPIT** *Anthus trivialis*

CORHEDYDD Y COED

*Breeding summer visitor and passage migrant***1993:** Most records were of passage birds at the POA, eg 18 on 21/4. Records also received from Ruabon Moors, Penarlâg, Fenn's Moss and Pendinas.**1994:** Only 4 records. Thirty were noted at the POA on 23/4, otherwise singles from Eglwyseg Crag, World's End and Nercwys Mountain.**1995:** Notable records included 6 at the POA on 21/4, 5 at Flint Marsh on 25/4 and 9 near Llangollen on 27/4.**MEADOW PIPIT** *Anthus pratensis*

CORHEDYDD Y WAUN

*Common breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor***1993:** Widely recorded, with notable counts including 500 at the POA on 28/3, 300 on Rhuddlan Marsh on 13/4, and 200 at the POA on 12/9.**1994:** Most records came from the Clwyd Estuary, eg 54 on 2/2, and POA eg 90 on 28/3 and 163 on 23/4.**1995:** No records.



**ROCK PIPIT** *Anthus petrosus*

CORHEDYDD Y GRAIG

*Winter visitor***1993:** Only 2 records, of 1-2 birds at the POA on 26/9 and 17/11.**1994:** All records came from POA, Oakenholt Marsh and Rhos on Sea. Highest count was of 7 at Oakenholt on 27/2.**1995:** Recorded at POA (6 on 29/1), Oakenholt Marsh, Rhos on Sea and Flint Marsh.**WATER PIPIT** *Anthus spinoletta*

CORHEDYDD Y DWR

*Rare winter visitor*

Single at Gronant on 15/1/95, and 2 at Flint Marsh on 27/3/95.

**YELLOW WAGTAIL** *Motacilla flava*

SIGLEN FELEN

*Rare breeding summer visitor and passage migrant***1993:** Recorded between 4/4 (IMF) and 19/9 (IMF again). Most records came from the Sandycroft, Sealand and IMF area, with a few POA to Prestatyn coastal records. Most were of single birds, but 10 were recorded at POA on 20/4, IMF on 27/4, and Sandycroft Fields on 11/8.**1994:** Recorded between 10/4 at IMF, and 22/9 at the POA. Records were quite scattered, though again largest counts from Shotwick (12 on 13/5) and IMF (12 on 19/4).**1995:** First noted on 21/4 at POA, and last at Horseshoe Pass on 15/9. Most records came from Shotwick Fields, eg 40 here on 23/4, and Deeside Pools, with 5 here on 28/5.**GREY WAGTAIL** *Motacilla cinerea*

SIGLEN LWYD

*Common breeding resident***1993:** Records were widely scattered, eg Greenfield Valley, Bont Newydd, Llanddulas, Loggerheads and Llangollen. Usually of 1-2 birds, occasionally 3, but 6 on the River Elwy on 3/7 was exceptional.**1994:** Records were widely scattered, eg Betws yn Rhos, World's End and CQR. Up to three birds usual, with 13 at Terrig on the River Alun on 30/4.**1995:** Again 1-3 at a number of locations eg Padeswood Pool, Dolwen reservoir, Kimmel Bay, Pwllglas and Rhed y Foel. Peak count was of 5 at Loggerheads on 14/5.**PIED WAGTAIL** *Motacilla alba*

SIGLEN FRAITH

*Common breeding resident and passage migrant***1993:** Widely reported, with notable counts including 84 at Shotton Paper on 8/8, 42 at St Asaph on 19/2, 85 on the R.Clwyd Estuary on 5/9 and 40 in Prestatyn on 17/9.**1994:** Notable counts included 50+ at Gresford Flash on 21/3, 30+ in Prestatyn on 7/9, and 25 in Acton Park on 27/9.**1995:** Notable counts included 23 on Oakenholt Marsh 11/2, 80+ on Pen y Cae reservoir on 7/9, 40 at Twt Hill on 7/10, and 250 at Bodelwyddan on 13/11.**WHITE WAGTAIL** *Motacilla a. alba*

SIGLEN FRAITH

*Regular passage migrant.***1993:** All records were coastal, between 9/3 (IMF) and 15/5 (Gronant). Twenty were at Gronant on 23/4, and 30 at POA the same day – it is not known whether these were the same birds or different ones..**1994:** Noted first at Cilcain on 19/3, and finally at POA on 29/4. Highest count was of 8 at IMF on 26/4.**1995:** Recorded between 27/3 (Flint Marsh) and 15/9 (Horseshoe Pass). On 23/4, 100 were present on the Shotwick Fields, and 15 were at Gronant on 2/5.**WAXWING** *Bombicilla garrulus*

CYNFFON SIDAN

*Rare winter visitor*

Only one record, of a single bird at Abergele on 23/11/93.

**DIPPER** *Cinclus cinclus*

BRONWEN-Y-DWR

*Widespread breeding resident***1993:** Recorded from 13 different sites, usually with 1-2 birds involved. Four were present at Lleweni Hall on 2/5, and 6 at Llangollen on 4/8 and Lleweni Hall on 27/11.**1994:** Recorded from 17 sites, usually with 1-2 birds involved. Six were at Terrig on the Alun on 30/4, and 4 were at Glan y Wern on 14/8.**1995:** Recorded from 12 sites, usually with 1-2 birds involved. Five were at Glan y Wern on 3/11.



**WREN** *Troglodytes troglodytes*  
*Common breeding resident*

DRYW

Notable counts included 7 at Llyn Helyg on 13/2/93, and 25 in the Warren at the POA on 22/11/93.

**DUNNOCK** *Prunella modularis*  
*Common breeding resident*

LLWYD Y GWRYCH

The only notable count included 15 in the Warren at the POA on 22/11/93.

**ROBIN** *Erithacus rubecula*  
*Common breeding resident and partial migrant*

ROBIN GOCH

Notable counts included 10 at Llyn Helyg on 13/2/93 and 29/3/93, and 10 in the Dulas Valley on 3/3/95.

**NIGHTINGALE** *Luscinia megarhynchos*  
*Scarce passage migrant.*

EOS

Only two records, one at the POA on 21/4/93, and one at St Asaph on 30/4/95.

**BLACK REDSTART** *Phoenicurus ochruros*  
*Rare winter visitor*

TINGOCH DU

**1993:** A single bird present at the POA on 8/4, and then the following day a bird was present at the Horseshoe Pass. A single bird was noted in Towyn on 24/11, and then two were present here on 26/11.

**1994:** Singles were present at Towyn on 6/1, Mostyn on 7/12 and 14/12 - a bird was also reported from Flint on 14/12.

**1995:** Two records of single birds from Mostyn, on 4/1 and 2/3.

**REDSTART** *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*  
*Fairly common breeding summer visitor and passage migrant*

TINGOCH

**1993:** Recorded between 11/4 (Llangollen) and 11/9 (Llanarmon yn Ial). Notable records involved 5 at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 30/5, and 6 at Glan y Gors on 29/8.

**1994:** First noted on 23/4 in Llangollen, with the last record received being on 22/6 at Cilcain. The most notable count was of 6+ at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 12/6.

**1995:** Noted between 10/4 at Eglwyseg Crag, and 4/8 in the Dulas Valley. Six were at Cilcain on 14/5, and 8 at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 10/6.

**WHINCHAT** *Saxicola rubetra*  
*Fairly common breeding summer visitor and passage migrant*

CREC YR EITHIN

**1993:** Recorded between 14/4 at Talacre Warren (passage) and 22/8 on the Clwyd Estuary. One to two birds noted at a variety of coastal passage sites, with inland breeding-ground records coming from Cyffylliog, Ruabon, Llandegla and Moel Famau.

**1994:** First recorded on the R.Clwyd Estuary on 23/4, and finally at IMF on 29/9. A notable count of 7 came from Clocaenog on 27/6, with other inland records coming from Horseshoe Pass, Bwlchau and Cilcain.

**1995:** The first record of the year came from Gronant on 25/4, and the last from the Shotwick Fields on 10/9. All records of 1-2 birds.

**STONECHAT** *Saxicola torquata*  
*Breeding resident*

CLOCHDAR Y CERRIG

**1993:** Recorded from sites such as Llyn Brenig, Pen y Cloddiau, Nercwys, Ruabon and Talacre Warren. There were 6 at the latter site on 1/4, and also 6 at Bettws yn Rhos on 1/8.

**1994:** Sites included Rhyl Old Tip, Ruabon, Cilcain, Horseshoe Pass, Llantysillio and Waun y Llyn Country Park. Ten were recorded at Horseshoe Pass on 1/4, and also at Ruabon on the same day. None were present in the Warren this year.

**1995:** Sites included Prestatyn golf course, Minera, Bwlch Pen Barras, Llanefydd and Glyndyfrdwy. Highest count was of 8 at Cilcain on 14/5.

**WHEATEAR** *Oenanthe oenanthe*  
*Common breeding summer visitor and passage migrant*

TINWEN Y GARN

**1993:** Recorded between 12/3 (Rhyl) and 29/10 (Llanddulas). Most records were of coastal passage birds, with few inland breeding records received. Notable counts included 12 at Oakenholt Marsh on 22/3, 96 at the

POA on 21/4 and 20 in Talacre Warren on 1/5.

**1994:** First seen at the Horseshoe Pass on 14/3, with the last record coming from Gronant on 22/10. Notable counts included 19 on the Clwyd Estuary on 27/3, and 49 at the POA on 23/4.

**1995:** Recorded between 11/3 (Prestatyn) and 11/10 (also Prestatyn). Ten were at Cilcain on 14/4, and 20+ at the POA on 29/4.

**RING OUZEL** *Turdus torquatus*

MWYALCHEN Y MYNYDD

*Breeding summer visitor in small numbers*

**1993:** Only two records, with a single at Glyndyfrdwy on 4/4, and 2 at the Horseshoe Pass on 14/4.

**1994:** Seven records, three of which came from the Horseshoe Pass, with 6 here on 18/4. Other sites included Glyndyfrdwy, Llantysillio (4 here on 21/4), Eglwyseg Crag and Prestatyn.

**1995:** Seven records, again three of which came from the Horseshoe Pass, all of single birds. Six plus were at Cilcain on 14/4, 2 at Eglwyseg Crag on 29/4, a single at World's End, and 3 at Esclusham on 16/6.

**BLACKBIRD** *Turdus merula*

MWYALCHEN

*Common breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor*

Only notable records involved 20 in Talacre Warren on 3/10/93, and 24 here on 22/11/93.

**FIELDFARE** *Turdus pilaris*

SOCAN EIRA

*Common winter visitor and passage migrant*

**1993:** Notable flocks included 100 at Llandegla on 6/4, 100 at Sealand on 13/4, 100 at Nercwys on 15/10, 200 at Twt Hill on 19/10, 500 on the Clwyd Estuary on 23/10, and 100 at Geraint's Pond on 27/10.

**1994:** Larger flocks included 94 at Llanfihangel-Glyn-Myfyr on 13/2, 150 at Shotton Paper on 13/2 and a later record of 100 at Llandegla on 5/4.

**1995:** Notable flocks of 850 at Llyn Helyg on 7/1, 150 at Pentre Llanrhaeadr on 14/3, and a later record of 70 at Cilcain on 14/4.

**SONG THRUSH** *Turdus philomelos*

BRONFRAITH

*Common breeding resident and winter visitor*

**1993:** Fourteen scattered records during 1993, with the only notable count being 5 at Nercwys Mountain on 14/10.

**1994:** Only three records of single birds.

**1995:** No records received.

**REDWING** *Turdus iliacus*

COCH DAN-ADEN

*Common winter visitor and passage migrant*

**1993:** Notable counts included 500 at Pen y Cae reservoir on 12/2, 98 at IMF on 10/10, 100+ at Nercwys Mountain on 15/10, 130 at Penarlâg on the same day, 200 at Twt Hill on 19/10 and 350 at the POA on 3/11.

**1994:** IMF recorded good numbers, with over 2300 on 16/10, and 1000 the following day. Fifty were noted at Summerhill on 26/12.

**1995:** Notable counts included 700 at Gwaenysgor on 21/10, 250 at IMF the same day, and also 700 at Twt Hill on the same day. On 20/11, 500 were present at IMF.

**MISTLE THRUSH** *Turdus viscivorus*

BRYCH Y COED

*Common breeding resident*

Notable counts included 19 at Prestatyn on 6/10/93, 14 in Abergele on 31/1/94, and the same number at Glan y Wern on 29/6/94 and POA on 5/11/94. During 1995, the only sizeable record received involved 5 birds at Twt Hill.

**GRASSHOPPER WARBLER** *Locustella naevia*

TROELLWR BACH

*Local breeding summer visitor in variable numbers*

**1993:** Seventeen records received from 6 sites. This included 8 in the Warren on 21/4, with other records coming from Padeswood Pool, POA, Rhyl Old Tip, Ruabon and Llyn Helyg.

**1994:** Twenty three records from 8 sites. Most records came from Rhyl Old Tip. Four birds were noted in the Warren on 23/4.

**1995:** Thirteen records from 8 sites. On 27/4, as many as 17 were noted around the POA, and on 2/5, Prestatyn golf course held 10+ birds.

**SEDGE WARBLER** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

TELOR YR HESG

*Common breeding summer visitor*

**1993:** First noted on the Clwyd Estuary on 22/4. In total 19 records received from 10 sites. At Shotton, 5 were present on 24/4, with other records coming from Gronant, POA, Pentre Mawr Park and Penarlag.

**1994:** Only eight records from 7 sites. The first was reported on 25/4 in Talacre Warren. Ten were present at Gronant on 30/4, and again on 9/5.

**1995:** First bird recorded was at POA on 29/4. In total, 14 records were received from 8 sites. In Prestatyn golf course on the 2/5, an estimated 35+ were present. Ten were noted at Deeside Pools on 19/5, and 11 at the Cop Hole on 20/6.

**REED WARBLER** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

TELOR Y CYRS

*Scarce breeding summer visitor*

**1993:** No records.

**1994:** Only two records, with a single in Pentre Mawr Park on 13/5, and three at Shotton on 29/5.

**1995:** Only 6 records, with 1-4 birds at Gresford Flash, Rhuddlan Marsh, Deeside Pools, Bagillt and Shotton. Seven were at the Cop Hole on 20/6.

Whilst certainly scarce in the county, these records must represent under-recording of this species.

**LESSER WHITETHROAT** *Sylvia curruca*

LLWYDFRON FACH

*Breeding summer visitor*

**1993:** Singles noted at sites such as Loggerheads, Flint, Penarlag, POA and Gresford. Six were present around the Sandycroft Fields area on 18/6.

**1994:** Only four records, from Hope, Twt Hill, Gwysaney and Nercwys Mountain.

**1995:** Singles were recorded at Flint, POA and Buckley. Three were at Twt Hill on 7/7.

**WHITETHROAT** *Sylvia communis*

LLWYDFRON

*Common breeding summer visitor*

**1993:** Notable records involved 19 at Talacre Warren on 4/5, and 5 around the Sandycroft fields on 18/5. Other records came from the R.Clwyd Estuary, Flint, Pwllglas, Llyn Helyg and Bwlch Pen Barras.

**1994:** Eight were in Talacre Warren on 30/4. Also recorded from Gwysaney, Cyffiliog and Ruabon.

**1995:** On 4/5, 21 were in Talacre Warren. Other records came from Gresford, Hawarden and Gronant.

**GARDEN WARBLER** *Sylvia borin*

TELOR YR ARDD

*Common breeding summer visitor*

**1993:** A total of 18 records, of 1-2 birds, eg Bontuchel, Pentre Llyn Cymer, Bwlch Pen Barras and Cynwyd. Four were present at Llyn Helyg on 30/4.

**1994:** Eleven records, all of 1-2 birds, eg Gwysaney, Maeshafn, Llanfair Talhaiarn and the upper Dulas Valley.

**1995:** Only 6 records, but three of these came from Twt Hill. The others were from Gwysaney, Loggerheads and the Dulas Valley. All records were of single birds.

**BLACKCAP** *Sylvia atricapilla*

TELOR PENDDU

*Common breeding summer visitor, scarce winter visitor*

**1993:** Records received throughout the year. Highest count was of 5 at Prion on 11/5. Other records came from Llanasa, Pentre, Acton Park, Penarlag, Nannerch and Llanddulas. A female was ringed in a garden in Pwllglas on 25/12.

**1994:** Again, recorded throughout the year, eg Pantymwyn, Llyn Helyg and Acton Park. Highest count came from POA on 16/10, when 4 were present. The bird ringed in Pwllglas on 25/12/93 remained in the area until 8/4.

**1995:** Recorded throughout the year, with the highest count being of 6 at Loggerheads on 14/5. Other records included Pentre, Llanasa and Llanddulas.

**YELLOW-BROWED WARBLER** *Phylloscopus inornatus*

TELOR AELFELYN

*Rare vagrant*

**1993:** No records.

**1994:** A single bird caught and ringed in Clocaenog Forest on 22/10 (First record for VC Denbighshire).

**1995:** Two records from the POA, both of single birds during December, on the 11th and 24th.



**WOOD WARBLER** *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*

TELOR Y COED

*Breeding summer visitor*

**1993:** Fourteen records received from ten sites, between 23/4 and 27/6. Passage birds noted at Shotton, POA and Talacre Warren. Birds in possible breeding locations included Loggerheads, Llangollen, Hendre and Cynwyd. Six were at Pantymwyn on 16/5.

**1994:** Twelve records from 9 sites, between 25/4 and 27/6. No coastal passage records this year, but others from Pentredwr, Eglwyseg Crag, Llanfair Talhaiarn and Corwen. Four were at Pantymwyn on 2/5.

**1995:** Recorded from 7 sites, with a total of 11 records between 29/4 and 21/6. Again, no coastal passage records. Six were at Pantymwyn and Loggerheads on 7/5 and 14/5 respectively. Also recorded from Coed Uchaf, Horseshoe Pass, Nannerch and Llanfair Talhaiarn.

**CHIFFCHAFF** *Phylloscopus collybita*

SIFF-SAFF

*Common breeding summer visitor, rare winter visitor*

**1993:** Recorded between 12/3 and 31/10, with most records involving 1-2 birds. Four were at Tremostyn on 17/4. Other records came from Flint, Penarlaga, Hendre, Y Graig, Geraint's Pond and Acton Park.

**1994:** Recorded between 12/3 and 24/10, and then a winter record at the POA on 6/12. Seven were noted at Llanddulas on 16/5. Also recorded from Llangollen, Clocaenog Forest, Twt Hill, Penbedw and Pantymwyn.

**1995:** Notably more winter records than spring and summer records this year. These included Twt Hill on 14/1 and POA on 5/2. Several records during November and December, including at Twt Hill, and 10 at POA on 8/11 and 5 here on 11/12.

**WILLOW WARBLER** *Phylloscopus trochilus*

TELOR YR HELYG

*Common breeding summer visitor*

**1993:** Noted between 29/3 (Acton Park) and 23/9 (Twt Hill). Records usually involved 1-3 birds, but on 21/4 an estimated 170 passed through the POA. Other records came from Gwysaney, Llandegla, Waun y Llyn, Shotton and Cilcain.

**1994:** First record came from Twt Hill on 9/4, and the last from POA on 14/8. Twenty birds noted in Talacre Warren on 25/4, with other records coming from Llangollen, Ruabon and Penbedw.

**1995:** First noted at Acton Park on 3/4, and finally at Twt Hill on 16/9. On 21/4, 100+ were estimated to be present around the POA. Records also came from Berwyn, Pentre Mawr Park.

**GOLDCREST** *Regulus regulus*

DRYW EURBEN

*Common breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor*

**1993:** Records of 1-3 birds received from sites such as Gwych Woods, Pen y Cloddiau and Hendre. A particularly high count involved 62 at Glan y Gors on 29/8, 10 were at the POA on 26/9, and 8 at Llyn Helyg on 29/12.

**1994:** Only two records, of singles at Llanddulas and Llanfair Talhaiarn.

**1995:** Only five records, of up to 8 birds, with the highest count coming from Bodrhyddan Hall on 9/2.

**FIRECREST** *Regulus ignicapillus*

DRYW PENFFLAMGOCH

*Rare visitor*

A single bird recorded at Llanarmon yn Ial on 14/3/95.

**SPOTTED FLYCATCHER** *Muscicapa striata*

GWYBEDOG MANNOG

*Fairly common breeding summer visitor*

**1993:** Recorded between 11/5 on Prestatyn golf course, and 16/9 at Twt Hill. Most records involved 1-2 birds, and came from sites such as Corwen, Rhuthun and Dyserth. Five were in Talacre Warren on 28/5.

**1994:** First noted on 6/5 at Corwen, with the last record coming from 9/9 in Acton Park. Records came from Llyn Helyg, Gwysaney, Mold, Nercwys Mountain, upper Dulas Valley, Cilcain and Llangollen.

**1995:** First recorded at Twt Hill on 13/5, and finally at Gresford Flash on 10/9. Records involved 1-3 birds, from sites such as Loggerheads, Llandegla, Llanasa and Brithdir Fawr.

**PIED FLYCATCHER** *Ficedula hypoleuca*

GWYBEDOG BRITH

*Common breeding summer visitor*

**1993:** Recorded between 9/4 (Pen y Cae reservoir) and 14/11 (Gwysaney). Other sites included Llangollen, Ysceifiog, Cefn Meiriadog and Prion. Notable counts included 12 at Hendre on 15/5, 88 at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 16/5 and 96 here on 30/5.

**1994:** First recorded at Llangollen on 14/4, with the last record received being from Acton Park on 14/7. At Penbedw on 14/5, 22 were present, and 80 were noted at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 22/5 and 1/6.

**1995:** Recorded between 9/4 (Garthewin) and the last record received being from Twt Hill on 14/7. Notable counts came again from Llanfair Talhaiarn, with 80 here on 21/5, and 102 on 1/6. At Nannerch, 14 were present on 27/5 and 1/6. Also recorded at Llanarmon, Loggerheads and Llandegla.

**LONG-TAILED TIT** *Aegithalos caudatus*

TITW GYNFFON-HIR

*Common breeding resident*

**1993:** Of the 37 records received, notable counts included 20 at Llanddulas on 19/5, 20+ at Twt Hill on 27/7, 18 at Cilcain on 3/10, and 20 at Bettws yn Rhos on 20/11.

**1994:** Notable counts included 16 at Loggerheads on 8/1, 25+ in Acton Park on 14/10, and 17 at Summerhill on 23/12.

**1995:** Notable counts included 20 at Twt Hill on 6/1, 20 in the Dulas Valley on 31/8 and 26/9, and 27 at Penarlaga on 15/10.

**MARSH TIT** *Parus palustris*

TITW'R WERN

*Fairly common breeding resident*

**1993:** Twenty records of 1-3 birds, eg Llanarmon yn Ial, Cefn Meiriadog, Bontuchel, Tremostyn, Pant Du and Coed y Fron-wyllt.

**1994:** Thirteen records of 1-2 birds, eg Llanddulas, Cyffylliog, Llyn Helyg and Penbedw.

**1995:** Nine records of 1-2 birds, eg Bodrhyddan Hall, Dulas Valley, Twt Hill and Llyn Helyg.

**WILLOW TIT** *Parus montanus*

TITW'R HELYG

*Uncommon breeding resident*

**1993:** Nine records in total, mostly of 1-2 birds, eg Plas Kinnel, Ysceifiog, Nercwys Mountain, Llyn Helyg, Coed y Fron-wyllt and Llangollen. Four were present at Glan y Gors on 29/8.

**1994:** Four records, of 1-2 birds, from Pantymwyn, Llangollen, Horseshoe Pass and Marford Quarry.

**1995:** Only one record, from Ruabon Moor on 8/7.

**COAL TIT** *Parus ater*

TITW PENDDU

*Common breeding resident*

**1993:** Most records typically of 2-4 birds. Others included 5 at Llyn Helyg on 13/2, 10 here on 29/3, and 14 at Glan y Gors on 29/8.

**1994:** Few records, only notable being 4 at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 4/4.

**1995:** Six records of 1-5 birds.

**BLUE TIT** *Parus caeruleus*

TITW TOMOS LAS

*Abundant breeding resident*

**1993:** Notable counts included 20 at Llyn Helyg on 29/3, 12 at Glan y Gors on 29/8, 35 at Coed y Fron-wyllt on 20/11, and 21 in Talacre Warren on 22/11.

**1994:** Eleven at Llanddulas on 1/2.

**1995:** Eighty-five at the POA on 8/10.

**GREAT TIT** *Parus major*

TITW MAWR

*Common breeding resident*

**1993:** Notable counts included 10 at Llyn Helyg on 29/3, and 23 at Coed y Fron-wyllt on 20/11.

**1994:** The only record (!) came from Llangollen.

**1995:** Notable counts included 15 at Bodrhyddan Hall on 5/1, and 10 at the POA on 8/10.

**NUTHATCH** *Sitta europaea*

DELOR Y CNAU

*Common breeding resident*

**1993:** Nineteen records of 1-2 birds, eg Cefn Meiriadog, Greenfield Valley, River Elwy and Bod Petruall. Four were at Hendre on 20/3, and 6 at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 6/6.

**1994:** Eight records of 1-2 birds eg Bodrhyddan Hall, Llanddulas, Penarlaga and Cyffylliog.

**1995:** Only three records. of 1-3 birds, from the Greenfield Valley, Garthewin and Llanfair Talhaiarn.



**TREECREEPER** *Certhia familiaris*

DRINGWR BACH

*Common breeding resident*

**1993:** All the nine records involved 1-2 birds, and came from sites such as Llandegla, Nannerch, Llyn Helyg, and Bod Petruall.

**1994:** The four records involved 1-2 birds - Bodrhyddan Hall, Halkyn and two records from Llanddulas.

**1995:** Several records from Bodrhyddan Hall involved 3-4 birds. Other records of 1-2 birds came from the Greenfield Valley and Penbedw.

**GOLDEN ORIOLE** *Oriolus oriolus*

EURYN

*Rare visitor*

A single bird reported from the POA on 13/5/94.

**RED-BACKED SHRIKE** *Lanius collurio*

CIGYDD CEFNGOCH

*Rare passage migrant*

A single bird reported on Moel Famau on 6/6/93.

**GREAT GREY SHRIKE** *Lanius excubitor*

CIGYDD MAWR

*Rare passage migrant and winter visitor*

**1993:** A single bird reported from Ffynnongroyw on 9/3. In Clocaenog Forest, a single was present on 2/11, 9/11 and 18/11.

**1994:** Seven records of a single bird from Clocaenog Forest, on 5/1, 17/1, 4/2, 4/11, 22/11, 1/12, 2/12 and 6/12

**1995:** Three records, two from Clocaenog on 2/2 and 3/2, and then a bird reported at the POA on 28/4. All records involved singles.

**JAY** *Garrulus glandarius*

YSGRECH Y COED

*Fairly common breeding resident*

**1993:** A total of 15 records of 1-3 birds, eg from Llyn Helyg, the Greenfield Valley, Glan y Gors and Llanarmon yn Ial. Highest count was of 6 at Northop Hall on 21/4.

**1994:** Only 4 records for the year, all of 1-2 birds, from Llanddulas, Betws yn Rhos and Llanfair Talhaiarn.

**1995:** Only two records, from Bodrhyddan Hall and the Greenfield Valley.

**MAGPIE** *Pica pica*

PIODEN

*Very common breeding resident*

**1993:** Peak count of 35 in Talacre Warren on 22/11.

**1994:** No records received.

**1995:** No records received.

**CHOUGH** *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*

BRÂN GOESGOCH

*Rare visitor, has bred*

**1993:** Up to 2 birds recorded on four occasions, at a site in the south of the county.

**1994:** No records received.

**1995:** No records received.

**JACKDAW** *Corvus monedula*

JAC-Y-DO

*Common breeding resident and partial migrant*

**1993:** Largest count was of 2000 birds at Gwysaney on 17/1.

**1994:** Notable counts included 550 at Shotwick on 6/2, 200 on the Sandycroft Fields on 26/2 and 350 at Twt Hill on 29/10.

**1995:** At Twt Hill on 15/11 and 28/11, 500 were present.

**ROOK** *Corvus frugilegus*

YDFRAN

*Common breeding resident*

**1993:** Largest count out of only 5 records involved 120 at Abergele on 20/11.

**1994:** At Shotwick on 6/2, 850 were present, and 160 were noted at Horseshoe Pass on 20/6.

**1995:** Highest count for the year involved 200 at Llantysilio on 17/6, and then 40 at Llanefydd on 26/9.



**CARRION CROW** *Corvus corone corone*

BRAN DYDDYN

*Common breeding resident***1993:** Few records, with high counts including 25 at the POA on 22/3, and 35 here on 10/10.**1994:** Only record for the year involved 94 at the POA on 1/6.**1995:** No records received.**HOODED CROW** *Corvus corone cornix*

BRAN LWYD

*Rare visitor*

Singles recorded at Llangollen on 1/9/94, and POA on 11/10/94.

**RAVEN** *Corvus corax*

CIGFRAN

*Fairly common breeding resident, spreading into lowland areas***1993:** Fifty-one records through the year, usually of 1-5 birds. Records came from places such as Oakenholt Marsh, Llanarmon yn Ial, Dolwen Reservoir, Ruabon Moors, Corwen, Pen y Cloddiau, Berwyn, Cilcain, Loggerheads, Nercwys Mountain, Rhyd y Foel, Cefn Meiriadog and Hendre.**1994:** A total of 36 records, usually of 1-2 birds, but with 5 reported from Worlds End, Cilcain and Llanarmon yn Ial. Thirty were noted in Clocaenog Forest on 4/11. Other records came from Moel y Parc, Llanddulas, POA, Bont Newydd and Shotton.**1995:** Twenty-five records through the year. The highest count was of 27 at Cilcain on 15/11. Typically records were of 1-2 birds, but Rhosesmor, Worlds End, Llanddulas and the Clwyd Estuary all recorded 4-5 birds. Other sites include Coed Uchaf, Garthewin, Penarlâg, Bwlch Pen Barras and Pentre Llanrhaeadr.**STARLING** *Sturnus vulgaris*

DRUDWEN

*Very common breeding resident and winter visitor***1993:** Notable counts included c600 at Plas Uchaf on 28/2, 2000 on the Clwyd Estuary on 11/3, and 2500 here 10/11, and 1300 on 24/12.**1994:** Pen y Cae reservoir held c2000 on 19/10.**1995:** Only two counts, with 2600 on the Clwyd Estuary on 29/1, and 1800 at the POA on the same day.**HOUSE SPARROW** *Passer domesticus*

ADERYN Y TÔ

*Common breeding resident***1993:** Twenty at Penymynydd on 1/4. Present all year; a maximum of 21 coming to feeders in a garden in Pwllglas.**1994:** Thirty on the Clwyd Estuary on 7/7.**1995:** No records received.**TREE SPARROW** *Passer montanus*

GOLFAN Y MYNYDD

*Local breeding resident and winter visitor***1993:** Twenty-seven records from 10 different sites. A flock of 24 regularly noted in Llanasa during November. Between 8 and 20 birds noted several times from Sandycroft Fields - peak count on 30/7. The only other site with double figures was 12 on the Clwyd Estuary on 3/7. Other sites were Llyn Helyg, Shotwick Fields, Sealand, Flint, Gwaenysgor, Twt Hill and POA.**1994:** Twenty-two records from 10 sites. A total of 72 birds noted at Llyn Helyg on 6/2, and 40+ were noted here on 31/3. The Clwyd Estuary/Rhuddlan Marsh/River Clwyd south of Rhuddlan area (counted as one site for the purposes of this summary) recorded between 1 and 40 birds on a number of dates, especially during the period October to December. Twenty were noted near Queensferry on 16/7, and 15+ at Borrass on 10/10. The other sites, with counts less than 10, were Llanasa, POA, Bryn Rhyd yr Arian, Gwysaney, Twt Hill and Rhos Isaf Bryn Common.**1995:** Sixteen records were received from 9 sites. Llyn Helyg held 50 on 2/2, as did Llanasa on 29/12. The only sizable count from the Clwyd Estuary/Rhuddlan Marsh/River Clwyd south of Rhuddlan area this year was 22 on 3/2. The Connahs Quay/Oakenholt Marsh area had 15 on 24/6, and POA had 12 on 8/10. The other sites were Llanarmon yn Ial, Hawarden, Twt Hill and Rhosesmor.**CHAFFINCH** *Fringilla coelebs*

JI-BINC

*Common breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor***1993:** Notable counts included 290 at POA on 30/10, 200 in Llanasa on 11/11 and 400 here on 19/11 and 26/11.**1994:** Notable counts included c250 at Llyn Helyg on 6/2, and 150 at Tremeirchion the following day. POA

held 200 on 24/12.

1995: POA held 150 on 3/1, and 100 were at Llyn Helyg on 2/2. IMF held 308 on 7/10.

**BRAMBLING** *Fringilla montifringilla*

PINC Y MYNYDD

*Winter visitor in varying numbers*

1993: Notable counts in what was a good first winter period included 280 in Pentre Mawr Park, Abergele, on 2/1, and 100 here the following day. On 8/1, 100 were in the Greenfield Valley, and 300 were here on 28/1. Clocaenog Forest held 70 on 7/2, and 80 were at Llanddulas on 8/3. Cilcain held 300 on 20/3, and Oakenholt Marsh had 30 on 28/3. The only notable counts in the second winter period were 30 at POA on 30/10 and 30 at Llanasa on 26/11.

1994: The first half of this year remained quiet, with notable counts including 40+ at Pen y Cae reservoir on 16/1, 100 here on 10/4, and 30+ on 17/4. The same site held 40+ on 29/11, and c50 were in Pentre Mawr Park on 9/12.

1995: Several days in the first week of January saw 30-60 birds at the POA. A flock of 50 was present at Llyn Helyg on 2/2. On 17/2, 30 were in Talacre Warren, and 100+ were noted in Prestatyn on 21/10.

**GREENFINCH** *Carduelis chloris*

LLINOS WERDD

*Common breeding resident*

1993: Notable counts included 500 on the Shotwick Fields on 24/1, and 500 on Ruabon on 24/7. A flock of 30 were regularly present around the POA during October and November.

1994: A flock of 80+ were present on Ruabon on 12/7, whilst c100 were in Talacre Warren on 10/12, and 215 were present around the POA on 20/12.

1995: No records received.

**GOLDFINCH** *Carduelis carduelis*

NICO

*Common breeding resident*

1993: Sites with more than 10 birds included Acton Park, Twt Hill, Padeswood Pool, Llangollen, POA, Penymynydd and the Clwyd Estuary. Peak count was of 40 birds at Twt Hill on 8/2.

1994: Several large counts reported, with sites with more than 10 birds including the Clwyd Estuary (50 on 4/1), Shotwick (90 on 6/2), POA (251 on 23/4), Shotton Paper (50+ on DATE?) Deeside Pools, Oakenholt Marsh, Talacre Warren and Summerhill.

1995: The largest count was of 100+ at Llyn Brenig on 29/9. Other sites with 10 or more birds included Twt Hill, Gronant, Penarlga (55 on 6/9), the Clwyd Estuary and Rhos on Sea.

**SISKIN** *Carduelis spinus*

PILA GWYRDD

*Common winter visitor, local breeding resident*

1993: Recorded in all months except August. Notable counts included 100 in Clocaenog Forest on 13/2 and 19/2, 300 at Gwysaney on 3/3, and 150 here on 7/3. Rhuddlan Marsh held 100 on 7/3, 10 were at Bont Newydd on 29/3, 100 were recorded at POA on 10/10 and 15/10, 45 were at Twt Hill on 11/10, 40 at Maeshafn on 16/10, and 70 at POA on 17/11.

1994: Recorded in all months except July, August and September. Notable counts included 40 at Gwysaney on 8/3, 22 at Glyndyfrdwy on 12/3, c60 at Berwyn on 20/10, 70 here on 7/11 and c100 at Glan y Wern on the River Clwyd on 21/12.

1995: Recorded January to June, then not again until December. Peak counts included 45 at Padeswood Pool on 1/1, 30 at Twt Hill on 1/2, 20 at Sodom on 12/2, and c70 at Pentre Llanrhaeadr on 28/12.

**LINNET** *Carduelis cannabina*

LLINOS

*Common breeding resident*

1993: Most notable counts came from POA, eg 100 on 25/1, and 22/2, 167 on 29/8, 100 on 15/9, 200 on 10/10 and 15/10, and 100 on 31/12. Other sites with notable counts included Shotwick fields with 600 on 24/1, 40 at Kinnel Bay on 20/9, 60 at Llanasa on 11/11, and 200 here on 10/12.

1994: Notable counts included 110 at POA on 29/1, 100 at Tremeirchion on 1/4, 44 at Nannerch on 2/4, 285 at POA on 5/9, 153 on the Clwyd Estuary on 24/9, 150 at the POA on 21/11, c200 at Llanasa on 2/12, and 300 at the POA on 19/12.

1995: Few records. Notable counts included 100 at POA on 22/1, 200 at Llanasa on 29/1, 100 at Rhyl Old Tip on 7/2, 300 at POA on 6/10, and 200 at Gronant on 12/11.

**TWITE** *Carduelis flavirostris*

LLINOS Y MYNYDD



*Uncommon winter visitor and rare breeder*

**1993:** Only 6 records. The only record for the first winter period involved Oakenholt Marsh, with 20 on 10/1. Rhyl Marine Lake and Towyn both then recorded single birds during November and December respectively. On 14-16/12, POA recorded 2-3 birds.

**1994:** Nineteen records, thirteen of which from the POA, where up to 5 recorded in the first winter period, and then up to 12 (on 3/12) in the second. Peak count was of 25 at Flint on 27/1, and during December, 17 were reported twice from Flint. Inland records involved 2 at Cilcain on 22/6, and 3 in Clocaenog Forest on 1/11.

**1995:** Eleven records, from 3 sites, with 7 of these records from Flint. Notable counts included 15 at POA on 2/1, 20+ at Flint on 4/1, 12 at Gronant on 12/11, and 80 at Flint on 8/12, and 40 here on 19/12.

**REDPOLL** *Carduelis flammea*

LLINOS BENGOC

*Breeding resident, summer visitor and passage migrant*

**1993:** Notable counts included 60 at Glyndyfrdwy on 6/3, 50 at Gwysaney on 23/3 and 35+ at Mynydd Du on 31/10. Other sites included Llyn Helyg, Clocaenog Forest, Moel Famau and Prion.

**1994:** The only counts in double figures were 14 at POA on 23/4 and then c20 at Llansannan Woods on 28/5. Other records came from Twt Hill, Llangollen, Llandegla and Penbedw.

**1995:** Forty were in Clocaenog Forest on 2/3, c40 at Llyn Helyg on 17/12, and c60 at Pen y Cae reservoir on 23/12. Other records were received from Padeswood Pool, Corwen and Flint Marsh.

**CROSSBILL** *Loxia curvirostra*

GYLFIN GROES

*Scarce breeding resident and irruptive winter visitor*

**1993:** Most records came from Clocaenog Forest, with 51 here on 22/2, 10 on 24/8, and 40 on 7/11 for example. Only two other sites recorded over ten birds, namely Carrog with 30 on 24/10, and Nercwys Mountain with 18 on 1/11. Other sites included World's End, Gwysaney, Bwlch Pen Barras and POA.

**1994:** Most records again came from Clocaenog Forest, though no counts over ten from here - the peak was of 6, on 6 and 13/2. Gwysaney held 10 on 26/12, and other records came from Pen y Cae reservoir, Horseshoe Pass, Ruabon Moors and POA.

**1995:** Only 5 records received, three of which came from the Ruabon Moors, with 1-2 birds. The highest count was of 9 at Llandegla on 13/11. The other record came from Llyn Brenig, with 2 here on 12/8.

**BULLFINCH** *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

COCH Y BERLLAN

*Fairly common breeding resident*

**1993:** Peak count was of 10 birds in Clocaenog Forest on 12/1. Ten other sites recorded 1-6 birds, eg Llandegla, Bont Newydd, Llyn Helyg, Penymynydd and Cefn Meiriadog.

**1994:** Only 6 records, of 1-7 birds from 6 different sites, eg Abergele, Nannerch and Summerhill.

**1995:** Up to 6 birds reported from 8 sites, eg Padeswood Pool, Sodom, Lllysfaen, POA and the Dulas Valley.

**HAWFINCH** *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

GYLFINBRAFF

*Scarce breeding resident*

No records received.

**LAPLAND BUNTING** *Calcarius lapponicus*

BRAS Y GOGLEDD

*Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor*

**1993:** A total of 13 records, with the peak of 19 coming from Gronant on 17/10. All records were between October and December, and came from POA, IMF, Clwyd Estuary and Kinmel Bay. Records involved mostly 1-2 birds, but with 4 at Gronant on 31/10.

**1994:** Five records. A single bird at POA on 21/3, then four records from Gronant in October and November, of 1-3 birds.

**1995:** Only three records, with 2 at Gronant on 10/10, and then singles at the POA on 15/10 and 27/10.

**SNOW BUNTING** *Plectrophenax nivalis*

BRAS YR EIRA

*Regular winter visitor in small numbers*

**1993:** Recorded in both winter periods, but only from Kinmel Bay in the first half of the year, with 1-7 birds reported here until 3/3. From 17/11 through to the end of December, 1-8 were regularly recorded at Gronant, Pensarn or POA (8 here on 9/12).

**1994:** Up to 6 recorded around the POA and Gronant in the first winter period, until 28/2. They reappeared at the POA on 19/11, and then from 20/11 to 2/12, 3-9 were present at Gronant.



**1995:** Up to 9 birds regularly at Gronant and Pensarn until 5/3, then they reappeared at Gronant on 5/11, when 1-5 were present here, POA and Towyn until the year's end.

**YELLOWHAMMER** *Emberiza citrinella*

MELYN YR EITHIN

*Breeding resident, decreasing in some areas*

**1993:** Notable counts included 22 at Llangollen on 1/1, 15 here on 11/4, 16 at Llanasa on 11/11, and 44 here on 26/11. Other sites with records of up to 5 birds included Padeswood Pool, Gwaenysgor, Pen y Cloddiau, Llanarmon yn Ial, Sandycroft Fields, Y Graig, Fenn's Moss, Cilcain, Twt Hill and POA.

**1994:** Only count in double figures was 12 at Llanasa on 2/12. Other records came from POA, Twt Hill, Tremostyn and Cyffylliog.

**1995:** Notable counts included 16 at Gresford Flash on 19/2, and 40 at Llanasa on 4/3, and 10 at the Shotwick Lake on 10/12. Other records came from Pontblyddyn, Hawarden, Dyserth and Twt Hill.

**REED BUNTING** *Emberiza schoeniclus*

BRAS Y CYRS

*Fairly common breeding resident*

**1993:** Ten records from ten different sites. Ten birds were at Gronant on 19/10, and 14 were in the Warren on 22/11. Other sites recording 1-5 birds included Rhyl Brickworks Pool, Deeside Pools, Kinnel Bay and Geraint's Pond.

**1994:** Seven records, from only 3 sites - namely Shotton, POA and Pentre Mawr Park. POA recorded 16 on 28/2 and 5/11. Six pairs bred at Shotton Paper.

**1995:** The two records received were 17 at Deeside Pools on 19/5, and 12 on the nearby Cop Hole on 20/6.

**CORN BUNTING** *Miliaria calandra*

BRAS YR YD

*Uncommon breeding resident, very localised*

**1993:** All records came from the IMF, Sealand, Sandycroft, Shotton and Deeside Pools area. A winter flock of 20 was noted at Sealand on 7/1. An RSPB corn bunting survey of this area during 1993 identified 22 singing males. This is thought to represent the entire Welsh population.

**1994:** Six records, all of only 1-2 birds, from the IMF, Shotton, Shotwick, Sandycroft and Queensferry area again.

**1995:** Six records, again from the same area, with a notable count of 17 on 3/4 at the Cop Hole, Shotton. One record from just outside this area included a single bird at Oakenholt Marsh on 16/5.

## RARE BIRDS – THE WORK OF THE BRITISH BIRDS RARITIES COMMITTEE

Sponsored by Carl Zeiss – Germany

Before the 1950s, and for most of the years in that decade, the responsibility for the vetting, acceptance or rejection and publication of rarity records in Britain rested with local bird recorders, and, for the extreme rarities, rather haphazardly with the editors of British Birds. The increase in knowledge and travel opportunities, both within Britain and overseas during the 1950s, created a nationwide upsurge in rarity observations. New textbooks emerged and identification expertise accelerated amongst a growing following. It was against this background that the Rarities Committee was formed in June 1959, under the patronage of the journal British Birds. It is thus known as the British Birds Rarities Committee or simply the BBRC. Its function is to collect, investigate and apply uniform adjudication standards to claimed records of rare birds in England, Scotland, Wales and 'at sea' within the British Fishery Limits (which now extend to 200 miles, 321 kms), and to publish annually in one document the essential details of the rarities seen in Britain in the previous year. The BBRC also assesses records from the Channel Islands, at the request of the ornithologist there.

The BBRC is sponsored by the optical company Carl Zeiss, and has been since 1983. This has resulted in more pages in British Birds for rare-bird topics, including the fully detailed annual report of the Rarities Committee, and more colour photographs of rarities. We are very appreciative of this continued support.

The BBRC is currently made up of ten voting members, nicknamed 'The Ten Rare Men' plus a Chairman, a Secretary, a Museum Consultant/Archivist and a Statistician. There is at least one vacancy each year, upon the retirement of the longest serving member. Qualifications for membership, which deliberately reflects a wide spread of regional representation, include a widely acknowledged expertise in identification, a proven reliability in the field, the ability to work well on paper and, very importantly, the capacity to handle the considerable workload, plus the willingness to do all this unpaid, on a voluntary basis. This workload, of course, is record assessment. All members see all records which, including recirculations, total over 1,300 each year.

Observers are encouraged to submit records as soon as possible after the observation. This is vital during the period September to December, so that these records from the end of the year complete their circulations before the report deadline. It is unlikely that records received later than March will be processed in time to be published in the annual report. Use of the carefully designed 'Unusual record form', or its format, greatly helps processing. Photographs and sketches, regardless of artistic merit, are of much assistance. Records should be submitted to the Secretary or, in the case of a trapped and ringed rarity, to the BTO Ringing Office, via the county or regional recorder. Many local societies appoint someone especially to liaise with the BBRC over records. Receipt of records is normally acknowledged only when accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope or postcard. Decisions are, however, always notified to the appropriate recorder, who passes this information on to the observer concerned.

For a record to be accepted, all ten members on first circulation, or at least nine on a subsequent circulation, must vote in its favour. Recirculations occur for several reasons: borderline cases (eight or nine accepts on first circulation), pended records, when requested by any member on first circulation, or if the Secretary feels it is warranted on a balance of comments, so that more detailed assessments or comparisons can be made. Occasionally, records are sent to acknowledged experts on a particular species; and the BBRC has its own Seabirds Advisory Panel to advise on that difficult group. A rejection is usually a case of 'non-proven' rather than one of clearly incorrect identification. It is fully appreciated by the BBRC that it is usually not an observer's fault that a poor view is obtained. Brevity of view, distance, bad light, a single angle or any combination of these may result in important characters not being noted. If what remains is considered in sufficient for identification to be fully established, a record has to be rejected.

A small but significant percentage of records takes longer than usual to be considered. Reasons for the delay in publication are various. They include late submissions, those contentious records which require extensive enquiries and two or more circulations, records of very difficult species which involve reference to experts,



and records of birds new to Britain which also have to be verified by the British Ornithologists' Union Records Committee. Records in the latter category are assessed in the normal way, but then passed to the BOURC, which considers formal admission to the British List. Publication is subject to acceptance by both committees. It is the BOURC which carries out the detailed investigations into escape likelihood and vagrancy potential.

All descriptions, comments sheets and correspondence are retained permanently on file. This central repository of rarity descriptions and opinion of difficult identification topics allows problem areas to be pinpointed. Subsequent additional research often results in identification notes and papers in British Birds.

The BBRC normally meets twice a year. Administration and policy are dealt with at an annual meeting held in early spring, and identification and related topics during a summer meeting.

The 'Report on rare birds in Great Britain', published annually in British Birds for the past 32 years, contains details of all accepted records, plus a list of those not accepted. Accepted Irish records are also included, giving a clear picture for the geographical unit of Britain and Ireland, and greatly facilitating analysis of rarity occurrences. Thanks for these are due to the Irish Rare Birds Committee and the Northern Ireland Birds Records Committee. Photographs, both in black and white, and in colour, and sketches of rarities are eye-catching features of the report. For each species, the report includes a general comment on trends, and a running total of individuals seen in Britain and Ireland. A second publication 'Rarities Committee news and announcements' appears annually in British Birds and covers general matters relating to the Committee's work.

The BBRC is very aware that its successful operation is entirely dependent upon the co-operation of observers, county and regional recorders, bird observatory wardens and reserve wardens and their committees. We thank them most sincerely one and all.

Peter Lansdown  
Chairman BBRC  
May 1991

## THE SHOTTON PHOENIX

Born from the ashes of land once owned by the late John Summer for his steel works, the phoenix of Shotton Paper Company plc has risen over the last decade to become the largest producer of UK newsprint in the country. Since my employment with S.P.C. began nearly five years ago, I have been keeping a close eye on the way local wildlife has been affected.

Shotton Paper Co. uses a system of three lagoons to cool treated paper effluent before the water is discharged into the River Dee at high tide. The residue is settled out, dried and used as fuel for Shotton Paper's boilers. Three years ago, it was my intention to create an island in the final lagoon and possibly entice away some of the Common Terns that annually return to breed at the colony on the British Steel reserve. This never happened although the island was created and we have the occasional tern paying us a visit. Instead the lagoon is becoming increasingly popular with ducks and regularly hosts over 100 Mallard, a number that swells to above 250 during winter. Shoveler are also present in regular groups of between 40 and 50 with Pochard peaking between 70 and 80. Small numbers of Tufted Duck along with Teal, Wigeon, Pintail and Goldeneye can be observed from time to time. Shelduck and one Gadwall make up quite an impressive list of wildfowl.

For the past two years a pair of Oystercatcher have nested and seven pairs of Lapwing all bred at various sites close to the lagoon edge. Coot and Moorhen are always to be seen, these too nest and raise young on the lagoon. In November 1993, I watched and recorded an antagonistic feeding habit among a group of seven Snipe that frequented one of the reedbeds. Since then the number of resident Snipe has risen to 14 with one record of a Jack Snipe early in 1994. Little Ringed Plover, Common and Green sandpiper are becoming more popular and six Bewick's Swans put in a rare but enjoyable appearance. Although there are no fish in any of the lagoons, Cormorants, Herons, Great Crested and Little Grebes have also paid surprise visits.



The surrounding sapling plantations, open grassland and reedbeds play host to smaller bird life with Whitethroat and Wheatear returning to breed each Spring. Grey and Yellow Wagtails pass through, Meadow Pipits, Reed Buntings, Skylarks, Linnets and Goldfinch are all counted in tens, while mixed flocks of Redwing and Fieldfare pass through on their return journey to northern Europe in March. Little, Tawny, Barn and Short-eared Owl have all been recorded and there are regular visits from Kestrel and Sparrowhawk with the rare appearance of a Peregrine. During 1994, two friends Peter and Angela Turner and I constructed a bird screen that now looks south west across lagoon No. 3. We have also been given permission to raise the ground level on a spit of land in front of the screen and introduce a reed bed to allow closer views of the roosting ducks and any smaller birds that could be attracted to the area.

The land belonging to Shotton Paper Company also plays host to three families of Grey Partridge while on the mammalian side there are rabbits, hares, foxes, stoats, weasels, pipistrelle and long-eared bats. Wild flowers include: wild mignonette, chicory, ribbed melilot, Aaron's rod, burnet saxifrage and mugwort along with a further 30 or so identified species.

Recently I have been asked to give details of the duck and wader counts on the site to the local RSPB ranger for inclusion in the area records. Although this land is private, part of the lagoon can be seen from the boundary road that passes the south west end of the mill and on to British Steel.

Obviously the introduction of large industry has had an effect on the environment but with some thought, and the continued 'green' outlook from the Shotton Paper Company management, industry and nature can continue to live in harmony.

Ron Plummer  
28 March 1994

#### **CONSERVATION ON THE DEE ESTUARY – a brief update**

With the launch of campaigns such as the RSPB's Save our Shorebirds, the need for successful conservation efforts on sites of supreme international importance such as the Dee Estuary is still clearly high up the agenda. Unfortunately developments which could put at risk parts of the estuary continue to be put forward.

Plans for the Flint by-pass are still not finalised. A coastal route, which would swallow up areas of important mudflats, is still a possibility, despite having already been rejected by Public Inquiry on the grounds of the damage it would cause to the estuary.

Proposals also exist for continued tipping of coal waste on to the mudflats and on land adjacent to the estuary. A proposed Welsh Development Agency industrial and business estate development threatens the last remaining area in Wales where Corn Bunting can still be found, along with significant numbers of Yellow Wagtail.

However, positive developments also exist. One of particular importance has been the establishment of the Dee Estuary Forum, by which Local Authorities, industry, conservation bodies and other interested parties meet to discuss the future of the area. An important feature of this process will be the production of a Dee Estuary Strategy Plan, a working document to allow careful use of the site whilst ensuring its immense value to wildlife is not damaged. This surely will be the way forward with co-operation from all parties.

The activities of indiscriminate cocklers on the mudflats has been a cause of concern in recent years. During the winter of 1992/93, up to 118 cocklers could be seen operating off the Point of Air alone. Numbers of this size clearly deny birds access to large areas of feeding grounds and may have a considerable effect on the cockle banks both as a future resource for legitimate cockling interest and for birds. The National Rivers Authority has recently begun procedures for implementing bye-laws to control certain aspects of the cockling industry. A monitoring programme will be in place to identify the benefits of these measures.

A recent management agreement between the RSPB and the NRA over 6500 acres of the Authority's land within the estuary means that the RSPB is well placed to have a voice over such issues as cockling. It is hoped that with this co-operation, the bye-laws and support from legitimate interests, the effect of the

cockling industry will be less damaging in the future.

Construction on the Hamilton's gas terminal at the Point of Air has started. The company have put a lot of thought in to measures to minimise the disturbance to birds on the estuary during the construction phase, and to providing alternatives and improved feeding and roosting opportunities for birds displaced from the construction area itself.

Getting back to what the estuary is all about, the Birds of Estuaries Enquiry counts for the Dee continue to show the huge importance of the site for wintering wildfowl and waders. The average wildfowl population (duck and wader) in the 5 year period to the winter of 1991/92 shows an increase of over 13,800 birds from that in the 5 year period to winter 1990/91; a staggering 131,685 birds. The number of species supported at internationally important levels nearly crept up to eleven, with Curlew falling short of the threshold figure but only 11 birds.....I'm sure that they were out there somewhere! Others to show increases of note were Oystercatcher, Knot, Dunlin, Teal and Pintail. The latter continues to be one of the estuary's star birds, with the Dee being the UK's premier site for this species, supporting 14% of the NW European population. The huge flocks of this extremely attractive duck can often be difficult to view well, but last winter, large numbers were often loafing at low water off Bagillt. Black-tailed Godwit continue to increase too, not only in the winter, but also in the summer when the UK's largest summering flock can be seen at Inner Marsh Farm numbering some 250 birds.

Such numbers are evidence as to the benefit of the efforts of all the conservation bodies involved on the Dee, but for these to be sustained, our continued vigilance is clearly necessary and surely justifiable.

Andrew Gouldstone  
RSPB Assistant Warden, Dee Estuary  
September 1993

#### **LITTLE TERNS AT GRONANT**

Over the years many people have been involved in looking over the beach near Prestatyn each year, during the months of May to August, helping with the wardening of what is now the last remaining colony for morwenol fechan, little terns in Wales. Many know the birds and their ways remarkably well, and for most, the presence of the terns provides for some memorable experiences. In recent years the colony has thrived, but it is still clearly a shame that this is now the only site for little terns in Wales.

Earlier on this century, little terns were distributed along much of the Welsh coast, especially from Cardiganshire to the Dee, and at two sites in Glamorgan. During the century there has been a massive contraction in range, with a decline in numbers of pairs also. Nesting on shingle and sand beaches means that disturbance from holidaymakers has been a major problem for little terns. One of the Glamorgan colonies suffered heavily from this problem back in 1911. Loss of habitat, either through shingle bars becoming vegetated, or disappearing as a result of human activity such as the construction of hard sea defences has also taken its toll. The effects of more natural problems such as predation and tidal inundation of nests are exacerbated when these artificial pressures are brought to bear. The Glamorgan colonies were deserted in 1936. Breeding last occurred successfully on Angelsey in 1978, and here too disturbance from holidaymakers, albeit unintentional, is thought to have played a large part in the decline of colonies. One site in Caernarfonshire was sporadically occupied until 1988, after which Gronant took on the dubious title of being the only little tern breeding colony left throughout Wales.

Over the years the colony on this stretch of coast has shifted between the Point of Air and the beach at Gronant, sometimes occupying both sites. Increasing numbers of holidaymakers at the Point of Air will have undoubtedly contributed to this site being vacated in favour of Gronant. Even here the colony has shifted as existing ridges have, through natural succession, become sand dune and new shingle bars have formed in front of them.

The colony here has enjoyed the benefits of a wardening scheme for some time, initially organised by the Clwyd Ornithological Society and the North Wales Wildlife Trust, and since 1975, with RSPB involvement. At this time the colony numbered 15 pairs. In 1994 it had risen to 77 pairs. Since 1974 the colony is thought to have produced more than 680 young. In 1994, the record number of pairs raised a record number



of young when an estimated 120 chicks fledged. Breeding success at Gronant is consistently higher than elsewhere. In 1994 the national average for little terns was 0.67 fledged chicks per pair, whilst at Gronant it was 1.68.

The wardening scheme currently employs two seasonal wardens for the period of the terns presence on the beach. Prior to 1991, only one warden was employed, making for a very arduous season. Then the wardening scheme was based around a fairly sizeable 'shed' which was carried out in pieces on to the beach. The warden would actually live in this, needing to have supplies of water carried out, and having just about enough room for a bed. I have heard many people recall memories of helping to carry this luxury residence out to the vantage point on the dunes, and the pain on their faces tells a story of its own about the difficulties of moving a large shed across unstable sand by hand. More recently, the wardens have been provided with caravans based at Presthaven Sands, courtesy of Haven Leisure. A small caravan was towed in to the dunes to provide cover from inclement weather, not an uncommon occurrence on this stretch of coast even in summer. More recently still, a small shed was constructed. This can be positioned on the front of the dunes allowing the wardens to continue monitoring the colony even when the weather is not good. It is only small – certainly no room for a bed – and is therefore less of a problem to carry out.

As well as the paid RSPB staff, the wardening of the colony also still deepends heavily on the willing assistance of many local volunteers, who turn out regularly to watch for either one or two hours or perhaps a whole shift of 8 hours. The colony is fenced off, warning and explanation signs are erected, and inside the perimeter fence there is an electric fence as a deterrent against foxes. During the night, wardens use powerful lamps to spot foxes and chase them off. Any hedgehogs found heading towards the colony are also encouraged to go and look elsewhere.

Over the years there have been very few incidents of attempted egg robbery. In 1994, there were two separate incidents. During the second, those involved mentioned they were heading for Angelsey the next day. Following a series of phone calls to warn different sites on the island, the same people were later arrested on Angelsey and found to be in the possession of ringed plover eggs!

Maintaining a watch over the colony to keep incidents such as these to a minimum, and to explain the presence and significance of the birds to holidaymakers and regulars alike, and keeping foxes off the colony at night is all part and parcel of the wardening effort at Gronant. Fortunately difficult people and awkward situations are few and far between. Monitoring the progress of the colony, counting nests and adults and then, hopefully, chicks, and doing chick feeding rate counts, are more regular and routine tasks for the wardens.

However, it is recognised that having all of our little tern eggs in one basket, at one colony, is not ideal. Suitable habitat does still exist elsewhere, and encouraging little terns to colonise some of these sites will be a target for future actions in the history of this species in Wales.

In the meantime, a big thank-you to all who have been involved and continue to be involved in the wardening of the Gronant colony. Long may the screeching of the little tern continue to ring in your mind at the end of a days wardening.

Andrew Gouldstone  
RSPB Assistant warden Dee Estuary  
Winter 1994

#### **THE SWALLOW (*Hirundo rustica* – GWENNOL) IN CLWYD - 1994**

The New Atlas of Breeding Birds in Britain and Ireland (Gibbons, Reid & Chapman, Poyser 1993) estimated the total number of Swallow territories at 570, 000 but no regional breakdown was available. Birds in Wales (Lovegrove, Williams & Williams, Poyser 1994) was also unable to provide population figures.

In the summer of 1994, a 5 km square in Clwyd was surveyed. The area stretched from Trefnant across to Bodfari up to Rhualt and across again to the corner of St Asaph. Efforts were made to visit every suitable nesting place for Swallows in the entire area, resulting in a total of 44 nests being found.



The Swallow is known to be a semi-colonial nester and this was certainly borne out in the study. One favourable farm had 8 nests in the barns, two of these being just a few metres apart. This sight was out done though by a rural garage (not in the survey area) which boasted four active nests all at the same time.

The following information was gathered as part of the British Trust for Ornithology's Nest Record Scheme. A Total of 214 visits were made to Swallow nests throughout the summer. The data showed that 171 eggs were laid resulting in 141 chicks, 121 of which were ringed, giving the opportunity in subsequent years to build up a picture of where the Vale of Clwyd birds travel and how long they live.

If the results are extrapolated to the whole of Clwyd, the Swallow population can be estimated to be in the region of 5744 breeding birds. If these all produce young at the same rate as the study birds then the total population for Clwyd in the autumn will be approximately 18, 152. However, the average annual mortality for adult birds ranges from 40-70% and that of first year birds may be as high as 80% so that only a small proportion of these birds will return to breed the following year.

In reality, the population for Clwyd is likely to be less than the extrapolated figure given above which was based on accurate figures for a good breeding area in Clwyd. It doesn't account for areas such as Llyn Brenig, Clocaenog, and the moors where the population will be considerably less. However, the disparity will not be so great as even though this survey may be the most comprehensive survey of Swallows in Clwyd, possibly in Wales, it is likely that some sites and nests will have been missed. Therefore, the figure of 5744 breeding birds in Clwyd is the best estimate so far.

Across the whole of Clwyd 102 nests were visited. The average height of the nests above ground was found to be three metres, but it ranged from one to six metres. The nest that was only one metre from the floor, needless to say was in a barn with little danger of predators gaining access.

The Swallow's affinity to buildings meant that most nests were built in close proximity to Man or livestock. Previous research by other writers has suggested that the parent Swallows do most of their hawking for insects within 250m of the nest but this can range up to 600m. This would explain why Swallows had dispersed from farms in the space of a year when the livestock had been sold off. I got the impression though that the parents were feeding much further away than 600m from the nest and I hope to examine this in more detail next year.

The choice of nest site seemed to be very diverse in the first instance according to what was available in the buildings but it soon became clear that nests were mostly built so that they were completely supported underneath. In other words, the majority were built on top of objects. Only one third were stuck to the side of walls or buildings and the remaining fraction provided some insight into the ingenuity of Swallows. The most interesting case was in a Bodfari dairy farm where a piece of rope had been tied loosely over a beam in a barn. The acrobatic Swallows had built their nest on the knot tied in the rope and fed the young like trapeze artists. Another pair near Trefnant sited their 'des.res' on an air freshner.

My thanks go out to all the people who kindly allowed access to their precious Swallows during the year. I found that the birds were true to form in being 'a welcome sight of spring' to the extent that some cars were banished from the garage site so that Swallows could nest. I even heard of a farmer refusing to oust the nests from his dairy saying 'the cows make enough mess the Swallows won't make any difference'.

Almost everyone commented on the demise in the population of the Gwennol recently. The Common Bird Census (1984) describes a marked recent decline, whereas the 'Birds of the Western Palearctic' says the population fluctuates but that there hasn't been a marked decrease in the last fifty years.

I hope that by continuing to monitor the survey area in subsequent years we will have precise information available in this respect.

Thank you for your support

Julian Moulton

## HOUSE MARTINS

When my husband and I moved to Llanasa village in the autumn of 1987 I was delighted to find 'old' house martins' nests under the eaves; I was even more delighted when the birds returned on 2 May 1988. That is my sole record for house martin in 1988..... I wonder how many others 'wish they had kept better records'.

1989 – 2 May. Again saw the arrival of the house martins to our village and on 21 May repairing and nest building commenced. By 13 August the birds were gathering on the power lines in bad weather ready for migration. 'Gatherings' were still taking place over a month later. Are we living in a flight path? Each year we have noticed large numbers of swallows and house martins feeding over our village pond and then landing to rest and warm up on our shallow pitched, tiled roof. All other buildings in Llanasa have slate roofs and a steeper pitch than our bungalow. Are the tiles warmer? Or is it the slope of the roof which is the attraction?

1990 – the birds arrived a day earlier, by 20 May the nests had been examined and soon afterwards renovations started. On 21 May, an old nest containing nestling house sparrows was demolished by magpies flying at it and bashing it till it fell, whereupon the magpies devoured the contents. House sparrows frequently occupy and break the old nests before the martins return. Two days later, the house martins started to rebuild this nest; exactly one week later they had created a small shelf – the foundation platform – on which the pair roosted each night, while completing the nest around it. By 2 July, the young had fledged from the other two occupied nests on the house. That year also saw an 'old' nest taken over by blue tits. They had been feeding young until 5 May when all went quiet. In the autumn I removed the nest, which was directly above the front door and found a brood of 7 dead young. Had the parents deserted or died? Or had the young died from overheating? There had been an exceptionally hot spell of weather at the beginning of May and the house walls act like a storage heater.

1991 – a very early martin year in Llanasa. Arrival date was 25 April but only one successful nest as the mud was not 'right' for building and the nests kept falling down. Was the mud too wet, too dry, or too soft? Or was the weather at fault? Should I put up artificial boxes?

1992 – again arrival date was 25 April – but better mud! Making up for last year's dismal failure we had a remarkable year. Three nests each with three broods and a fourth nest with two broods. Martins were still in the nest as late as 25 September but all had departed four days later.

1993 – this year's arrival date was even earlier; 12 April. However, the birds did not visit the nests until 17 May. All five nests produced two broods but for some reason the young kept falling out. I did not know from which nest they had fallen but replaced them in the first nest only to find them on the ground again. I tried another nest ..... and so it continued ..... two small dessicated bodies were retrieved from the back of the garage the following February. Why had they fallen from the nest? Or had they been pushed?

Later that year, in August, we had over 100 birds together (house martins and swallows) sunning themselves on our roof and others landing in excited 'clumps' of up to 14 birds on the vertical walls of the house. Why?

1994 – all five nests remaining from previous years were occupied by 9 May and two nests started by 29 May. In each of the first five nests two broods were raised, while one brood was raised in the sixth (new) nest. The seventh nest remained incomplete.

On 19 July, I heard a terrible screaming of swifts. We do not get many swifts around the village. On investigation I saw a swift flying away from the cluster of three nests built under the eaves at the roof apex on the east end of the house. I thought perhaps that the martins were attacking it, so piercing was the scream. As it was a pleasant, hot, windless day I decided to sit under the apple tree and watch proceedings. A swift returned and I watched it hover outside the furthest nest. The young martin chick put its head out and begged for food. I could not believe it and thought perhaps that the swift had taken over the martins nest as by this time all four nests at that end of the house had fledged their first broods – but to my knowledge swifts do not nest in old house martins' nests. I sat and waited. I saw two swifts swoop up under the eaves again and clearly saw the youngster begging and being fed by the swift! After four to five minutes circling round, the swifts left the area and a parent martin returned and entered the nest. What was going on here?



1995 – the colony continued to increase. A late start and a late finish. Five brand new nests plus six refurbished nests were all used this season. One of the new nests was destroyed at nestling stage (magpies being the prime suspect as the nest was in the same position as the one destroyed by magpies in 1990). This year swifts visited again. One mid-summer day I saw two swifts 'checking out' martin nests – they landed on the side walls of the house and on the barge boards and were chased off by the martins. There was actual physical contact between the two species – grappling of feet (like buzzard and raven) as well as plenty of scolding noises. The nest causing most interest was one of the brand new ones unfinished at the time and subsequently destroyed at nestling stage. In all 41 pairs of house martins nested in the village in 1995.

Louise Jones  
1996



## RINGING ACTIVITY – HIGHLIGHTS

A full ringing report is not available for these three years but some of the more interesting recoveries and controls from both the ringing team of Ian M Spence and the Merseyside Ringing Group have been included here.

FA49201      Hen Harrier F Pull. 5/5 (wing tag G)  
 17 07 92      Site confidential, Gwynedd  
 30 12 92      near Mynydd Hiraethog, Clwyd  
                  c 47 km c 38 deg 166 days      Dead (not fresh), bird found

ER63657      Kestrel Pull. 3/3  
 29 06 91      near Mwdwl-Eithin, Clwyd  
 15 01 93      Marjal de Xereja, Xereja, Valencia, **SPAIN**, 39°01'N 00°13'W  
                  1582 km 171 deg 566 days      Freshly dead, shot

### Common Tern

Many of the birds ringed at Shotton Steel Works have been seen subsequently at Seaforth, Liverpool, Merseyside and movement between these two sites appear to be a regular occurrence (17 in 1993, 1 in 1994 and 47 in 1995). Other more interesting long distance movement are noted below:

SX099981      Common Tern 1  
 21 06 92      Shotton Steel Works, Clwyd  
 21 10 93      Popenguine, **SENEGAL** 14°33'N 17° 07' W  
                  4474 km 196 deg      Freshly dead

SX38499      Common Tern 1  
 04 07 93      Shotton Steel Works, Clwyd  
 18 09 93      Grand Lahon, **IVORY COAST** 05°08' N 05°01' W  
                  5345 km 182 deg      Sighted, colour ring read in field

XS64051      Common Tern 1  
 24 06 84      Shotton Steel Works, Clwyd  
 11 06 94      Breydon Water, Norfolk  
                  322 km 102 deg      Found dead

XR78530      Common Tern 1  
 18 06 89      Shotton Steel Works, Clwyd  
 23 10 89      Ad Dakhla, **WESTERN SAHARA** 23°43'N 15°57'W  
                  3454 km 198 deg      Sighted, ring read in field

XS64021      Common Tern 1  
 24 06 84      Shotton Steel Works, Clwyd  
 23 09 94      Portbail, Manche, **FRANCE** 49°20'N 01°42'W  
                  439 km 168 deg      Recovered dead

SX38041      Common Tern 1  
 21 06 92      Shotton Steel Works, Clwyd  
 06 03 94      Off Guinea coast, **GUINEA** 09°39'N 13°52'W  
                  4939 km 191 deg      On ship

XS72056      Common Tern 1  
 23 06 85      Shotton Steel Works, Clwyd  
 01 07 95      Brownsea Island, Dorset  
                  289 km 165 deg      Nesting – colour rings read in field

XR88006      Common Tern 1  
 23 06 91      Shotton Steel Works, Clwyd  
 21 11 91      Near Grand-Lahou, **IVORY COAST**, 05°09'N 05°01'W  
 29 05 95      Seaforth, Liverpool, Merseyside  
                  5341 km 182 deg      Colour ring sighted in field

BV53219	Little Tern 1	
23 06 92	Nr Gronant, Clwyd	
04 01 93	Ilha Das Areias, <b>GUINEA BISSAU</b> 11°21'N 15°37'W	
	4756 km 193 deg	Caught and released by ringer
BV82322	Little Tern 1	
12 07 89	Nr Gronant, Clwyd	
04 03 93	Ilha Das Areias, <b>GUINEA BISSAU</b> 11°21'N 15°37'W	
	4756 km 193 deg	Caught and released by ringer
FV08882	Oystercatcher 6	
02 03 80	Point of Air, Clwyd	
15 05 93	Kaldbak, <b>FAEROES</b> 62°05' N 06°50' E	
	992 km 348 deg	Found long dead
FV08879	Oystercatcher 6M	
02 03 80	Point of Air, Clwyd	
11 04 93	Burric, South Ronaldsay, Orkney	
	598 km 2 deg	Freshly dead (shot)
FV08907	Oystercatcher 5	
02 03 80	Point of Air, Clwyd	
15 07 93	Stamsund, Vestvagoy, <b>NORWAY</b> 68°07'N 13°51'E	
	1878 km 29 deg	Found freshly dead
HIDDENSEE OA03614	This record was provided by Mr H. Birch of Chester	
	Dunlin 4	
18 09 92	Langenwerder, Wismar, Rostock, <b>GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC</b> , 54°02'N 11°30'E	
05 11 94	Flint Marsh, River Dee Estuary, Clwyd	
	967 km 265 deg 778 days	Dead, taken by predatory bird
J287221	Sand Martin 3J	
22 08 93	Nr Nannerch, Clwyd	
05 09 93	Icklesham, Sussex	
	372 km 134 deg	Caught and released by ringer
FRP3761568	Sand Martin 3	
25 08 91	St-Vigor-d'Ymonville, Seine-Maritime, <b>FRANCE</b> 49°30'N 00°22'E	
11 07 92	Penbedw, Nr Nannerch, Clwyd	
	480 km 328 deg	(Male) controlled by ringer
K078529	Sand Martin 3J	
13 07 95	Near Rhosesmor, Clwyd	
08 08 95	Farlington Marsh, Portsmouth, Hampshire	
	301 km 151 deg	Caught and released by ringer
H973463	Sand Martin 3	
07 08 93	Icklesham, Sussex	
13 07 95	Near Rhosesmor, Clwyd	
	367 km 314 deg	(Female) caught and released by ringer
J451853	Sand Martin 3J	
07 08 94	Chew Valley Lake, Avon	
05 07 95	Maes Mynan, Clwyd	
	218 km 347 deg	(Female) caught and released by ringer
J446309	Sand Martin 3	
19 08 94	Icklesham, Sussex	
13 08 95	Maes Mynan, Clwyd	
	377 km 314 deg	(Female) caught and released by ringer

J837303		Sand Martin 3	
	09 08 94	Bellshill, Strathclyde	
	13 08 95	Maes Mynan, Clwyd	
		289 km 171 deg	(Female) caught and released by ringer
RX53201		Dipper 1	
	02 05 93	Nr Llanferres, Clwyd	
	08 07 93	Flint, Clwyd	
		12 km 27 deg	Freshly dead (hit window)
J486788		Grey Wagtail Pull 4/4	
	17 06 95	Cilcain, Clwyd	
	17 12 95	Haslemere, Surrey	
		288 km 143 deg	Killed by cat
RH08246		Blackbird 4M	
	07 11 93	Shotton Steel Works, Clwyd	
	06 04 94	Oregrund, Uppsala, <b>SWEDEN</b> 60°20'N 18°26'E	
		1524 km 59 deg	Freshly dead (hit window)
STAVANGER			
EB21020		Redwing 3	
	28 09 92	Kleppeasen, Heroy, <b>NORWAY</b> 62°14'N 05°49'E	
	21 02 93	Gwysaney, near Northop, Clwyd	
		1134 km 208 deg	Controlled
RV94223		Redwing 4	
	22 10 92	Coed y Pentre, Cyffylliog, Rhuthun, Clwyd	
	03 01 93	Ribagnac, Dordogne, <b>FRANCE</b> , 44°46'N 00°30'E	
		969 km 163 deg 73 days	Dead, bird found
J394677		Robin 5 F	
	06 08 94	near Bron Bannog, Clocaenog Forest, Clwyd	
	22 10 94	Cross, Axbridge, Somerset	
		201 km 168 deg 77 days	Freshly dead, taken by cat
H292980		Sedge Warbler 3	
	31 08 93	near Penmaenpool, Gwynedd (tape lured)	
	04 09 93	Bodelwyddan, Clwyd	
		65 km 28 deg 4 days	Dead, road casualty
H904415		Sedge Warbler 3J	
	21 07 94	Shotton Steel Works, Clwyd	
	14 08 94	Icklesham, Sussex	
		361 km 135 deg	Caught and released by ringer
J014881		Sedge Warbler 3	
	16 08 93	Icklesham, Sussex	
	17 07 94	Shotton Steel works, Clwyd	
		361 km 135 deg	Caught and released by ringer
H904419		Sedge Warbler 4	
	21 07 94	Shotton Steel Works, Clwyd	
	08 08 94	Keysworth, Poole Harbour, Dorset	
		287 km 167 deg	Caught and released by ringer
H904448		Reed Warbler 3	
	21 07 94	Shotton Steel Works, Clwyd	
	30 07 94	Icklesham, Sussex	
		361 km 135 deg	Caught and released by ringer



H904460	Reed Warbler 3		
26 07 94	Shotton Steel Works, Clwyd		
21 08 94	Wellington, Telford, Shropshire		
	67 km 149 deg		Caught and released by ringer
H904590	Reed Warbler 3		
07 08 94	Shotton Steel Works, Clwyd		
30 08 94	St Seurin-d'Uzet, Mortagne, Charente-Maritime, FRANCE, 45°30'N 00°50'W		
	872 km 169 deg		Caught and released by ringer
2W7100	Chiffchaff 3J		
10 07 94	Coed y Fron Wyllt, near Bontuchel, Rhuthun, Clwyd		
25 09 95	Denford Mill, Hungerford, Berkshire		
	225 km 146 deg 442 days		Controlled
7V3139	Willow Warbler 3J		
28 07 91	Enclosures, Clocaenog Forest, Clwyd		
13 08 91	Icklesham, Sussex		
	367 km 130 deg 16 days		Controlled

Both Ian Spence and the Merseyside Ringing Group have regular Pied Flycatcher Nestbox schemes in north-east Clwyd at the following location: Coed Cilygroesllwyd, Coed Nant Ddu, Coed y Felin, Cilcain, Pantymwyn, Garthwin, Glyn Arthur, Llanarmon-Yn-Ial, Loggerheads, Penbedw, Prion and Rhewl. Movements between these locations are not unusual and have not been reported here. Only movements between Clwyd and other counties are included in this report.

H791492	Pied Flycatcher 1F		
14 06 93	Healeyfield, Durham		
23 05 94	Glyn Arthur, Nr Llangwyfan, Clwyd		
	205 km 207 deg		Caught and released by ringer
J129292	Pied Flycatcher 1F		
05 06 93	Penbedw, Nr Nannerch, Clwyd		
29 05 94	Hurst, Clun, Shropshire		
27 05 95	Hurst, Clun, Shropshire		
	88 km 170 deg		(Female) caught and released by ringer
E861450	Pied Flycatcher Pull. 4/4		
11 06 89	Cwmfaerdy, Abbeycwmhir, Powys (D. Budworth)		
31 05 95	Coed Cooper, Clocaenog, Clwyd		
	83 km 359 deg 2180 days		Controlled at nest box (= F)
F861081	Pied Flycatcher 4F		
27 05 90	Llandewi, Penybanc, Powys		
22 05 94	Nr Llanfair Talhaiarn, Clwyd		
	100 km 348 deg		Controlled at nest box
F432427	Pied Flycatcher Pull. 5/5		
15 06 89	Bod Petruall, Clocaenog Forest, Clwyd		
02 05 94	Kielder Village, Northumberland		
	250 km 13 deg 1782 days		Controlled (= M)
F865019	Pied Flycatcher 4 F		
30 05 91	Ratlinghope, Church Stretton, Shropshire (Langford & Austin)		
04 06 94	near Cyffylliog, Rhuthun, Clwyd		
	70 km 330 deg 1101 days		Controlled at nest box
F922379	Pied Flycatcher Pull. 7/7		
16 06 91	Newcastle, near Clun, Shropshire		
02 06 93	Clocaenog, Clwyd		
	71 km 350 deg 717 days		Controlled at nest box (= F)

H444676	Pied Flycatcher 4 F		
13 05 93	Dinbren Isaf, Clwyd (J.A.L. Roberts)		
01 06 94	Brynengan, Capel Curig, Gwynedd		
	51 km 285 deg 384 days	Controlled at nest box	
H845415	Pied Flycatcher Pull. 7/7		
14 06 92	Llether Woods, Llanwrthwl, Powys		
31 05 93	near Cyffylliog, Rhuthun, Clwyd		
	96 km 3 deg 351 days	Controlled at nest box (= F)	
H846023	Pied Flycatcher Pull. 7/7		
01 06 92	Stocks Reservoir, Bolton-by-Bowland, Lancashire		
14 06 93	Coed Nant-ddu, near Clocaenog, Clwyd		
	120 km 212 deg 378 days	Controlled at nest box (= F)	
J275038	Pied Flycatcher Pull. 7/7		
06 06 93	Duffryn, near Newcastle, Shropshire (Whittles & Cross)		
14 05 95	Coed Cilygroeslwyd, near Efenechtyd, Rhuthun, Clwyd		
	73 km 351 deg 707 days	Controlled at nest box (= F)	
J510216	Pied Flycatcher Pull. 7/7		
06 06 94	Coed-y-Fron Wylt, near Bontuchel, Rhuthun, Clwyd		
29 07 94	Sandy Down, near Lymington, Hampshire		
	284 km 154 deg 53 days	Freshly dead, hit glass	
J510621	Pied Flycatcher Pull. 7/7		
13 06 94	Bod Petruall, Clocaenog Forest, Clwyd		
10 06 95	Greenhaugh, Northumberland		
	250 km 17 deg 362 days	Controlled at nest box (= F)	
J029176	Pied Flycatcher pulli 5/5		
30 05 93	Purlogue, near Clun, Shropshire		
20 05 95	Pandy, near Glyn Ceiriog, Clwyd		
	58 km 350 deg	Breeding male seen at nest box	
F052199	Pied Flycatcher Pull 6/6		
12 06 89	Loggerheads, Mold, Clwyd		
01 05 94	Lodge Moor, near Sheffield, South Yorkshire		
	110 km 77 deg	(Male) ringed at nest	
J129098	Pied Flycatcher Pull 2/2		
12 06 94	Rhewl, Clwyd		
26 05 95	Dipton, Northumberland		
	218 km 23 deg	(Female) found breeding	
J486285	Pied Flycatcher Pull 9/9		
12 06 94	Llanfair Talhaiarn, Clwyd		
01 06 95	High Park, Loweswater, Cumbria		
	153 km 7 deg	(Female) found breeding	
H792264	Great Tit 3J M		
20 10 92	Bardsey Island, Gwynedd		
13 02 93	near Bontuchel, Rhuthun, Clwyd		
	104 km 68 deg 116 days	Controlled	
HT30170	Raven Pull. 2/2 (Yellow LH)		
23 04 93	near Diffwys, Gwynedd		
29 04 95	Cefnhirfawr, Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, Clwyd		
	47 km 85 deg 736 days	Dead, bird found	

VK63349		Greenfinch 4 F	
	18 01 93	Rhos on Sea, Clwyd	
	20 06 93	near Pant Einion Hall, near Friog, Gwynedd	
		73 km 196 deg 153 days	Controlled
F698779		Reed Bunting 3F	
	04 08 90	Icklesham, Sussex	
	12 01 92	Shotton Steel Works, Clwyd	
		361 km 315 deg	Caught and released by ringer
F598611		Reed Bunting 3F	
	29 12 89	Shotton Steel Works, Clwyd	
	07 08 95	Hollands, Caerlaverock, Dumfries and Galloway	
		199 km 351 deg	(Male) caught and released by ringer