

North-East Wales Bird Report

2010

Clwyd Bird Recording Group

www.cbrg.org.uk

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Clwyd Bird Recording Group

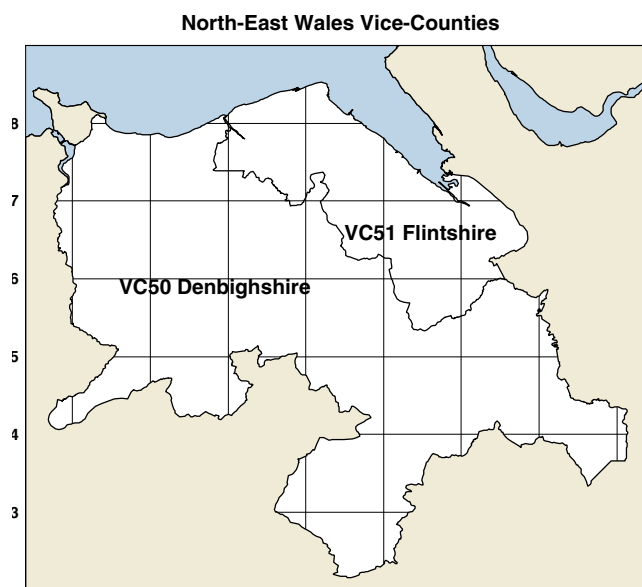
The group was founded in 1989 with the main aims to collect bird records for what was then Clwyd, but is now the area of the Vice Counties of Denbighshire and Flintshire, and to publish an annual bird report. The group, at the time of publication, comprises:

Chairman, Treasurer and County Recorder: Ian M Spence
 (also representing the Welsh Ornithological Society)
 Honorary Secretary: Julie Rogers

Anne Brenchley (BTO East Clwyd representative and N Wales Atlas organiser)
 Andrew Dale
 Ian Evans (Welsh Rare Breeding Bird and Raptor Study Group – North-East Wales)
 Adrian O Hibbert
 Neil Hughes (Wrexham Birdwatchers)
 Adrian Lloyd Jones (North Wales Wildlife Trust)
 Hilary Nash
 Rhian Pierce (RSPB)
 Andrew Wallbank (Deeside Naturalists' Society)

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The recording area for this report is shown in the map below.



Introduction

Editorial

The purpose of the bird report

- ✓ To present a detailed list of species seen and counted during the year, and for this to be as complete as possible, particularly to assist the conservation of bird populations within the area.
- ✓ To present the data from the records in a way that, hopefully, is readable for the general public and especially for birders who provide the data.
- ✓ To present the data in a way that is useful to anyone, from any agency, who may wish to check on the local status of any species.

Sources of records

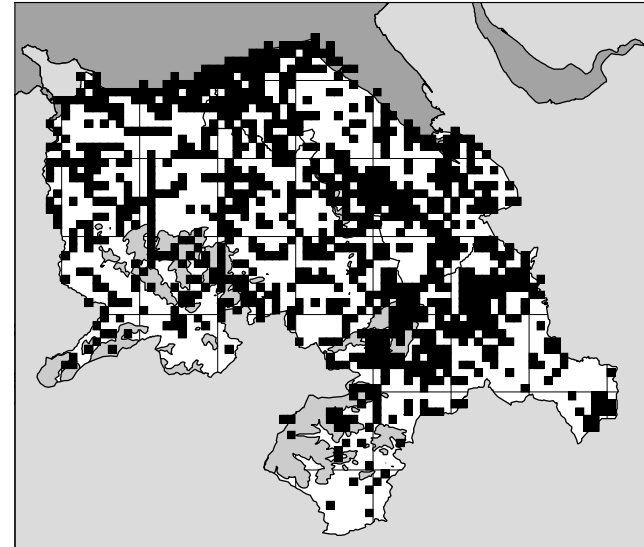
For the year 2010 the Clwyd Bird Recording Group received records from the following sources, from many locations in North-East Wales, as shown in the map opposite. The sources were:

- ✓ Volunteer observers
- ✓ RSPB Conwy and Inner Marsh Farm
- ✓ BHP Billiton (per Julie Rogers)
- ✓ All Garden BirdWatch data for the year
- ✓ Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) data
- ✓ Birdtrack records (only those with sites defined at 1 km square level)
- ✓ Deeside Naturalists' Society (per Andrew Wallbank)
- ✓ Dee Estuary website (per Richard Smith)
- ✓ Birdguides (sadly with many records still omitted as they were of rarities, with no descriptions and by anonymous observers)
- ✓ Cofnod
- ✓ Records of ringed birds
- ✓ Nest record summaries.

The SurveyMonkey questionnaire of November 2010

The Clwyd Bird Recording Group is in an unusual position in that the Group does not have members (as of a usual bird group or society) and I have, as yet, been unable to negotiate with such a society for this report to become the main written benefit for members. Therefore, we have no guaranteed 'sales' or income. Sales of the bird reports have not been as good as the CBRG would like, so we conducted a survey by sending an electronic questionnaire to all contributors who use email and for whom we had email addresses. I sent an email explaining what we were doing and that another email with a link to the survey would follow. I am very grateful to the 70 people who responded and to a few others who sent me emails, one of which was lengthy and addressed several issues. The raw report of the returns was posted on the

All 1001 one kilometre squares with at least one record in 2010



CBRG website towards the end of November 2010 but I am not aware of anyone contacting me after reading what it said.

It is important that after a survey, we either do something that was suggested or we explain why the Group has decided not to follow a particular course of action. Here, I wish to clarify the decisions we made:

The CBRG will continue to prepare a hardcopy, printed report and attempt to sell all the copies that are printed each year. This may require some extra assistance with marketing and distribution to make the report as widely available as we can manage. If you might be interested in helping to do this, please contact me.

There was an issue of availability – with readers, or potential readers, not knowing when or where the report was available.

We have now produced four reports (this one is the fifth), consecutively, that have been published about the beginning of November of the year following that being reported. The four main outlets of reports for sale are:

- directly from me, either by calling or orders by mail;
- from the shop at Conwy RSPB;
- from the sales outlet at Inner Marsh Farm RSPB; and
- from Subbuteo Natural History Books Ltd.

In future I will email all contributors with email addresses to inform them that the report is available and repeat the outlets from which it may be purchased.

Several people raised the issue of the relationship of the CBRG and Cofnod, and indeed, whether the CBRG is even needed. On reflection, there is still a real need for the CBRG and for the role of Bird Recorder. Cofnod is a local records centre and it will accept records of any type of animal or plant and does accept records of birds. I receive email notices from Cofnod to inform me that there are records to be validated by me, as Recorder, and I then do so. As we now have a Data Exchange Agreement with Cofnod we do exchange data for the year being reported – I receive records that have been submitted to Cofnod and have not come to me directly, and I send to Cofnod some of the records that I receive directly (but not from organisations such as the RSPB, as they deal with Cofnod themselves).

For now, we have decided that we will not move to publishing the report on the website alone. There are some technical issues that are beyond my set of webmastering skills and we know that some existing readers still wish to have a book to be able to hold and look at without using a computer. However, we have decided that we will make available on the website the text of the reports that are more than three years old. If they become available and can be transferred, I shall make older reports available as pdf files.

I am very grateful to those respondents who said that they were pleased with the content and format of the report. It takes many hours of work to produce a report, so it is good to know that some readers appreciate the effort that is put into its production.

Numbers of records

For 2010 I received just over 63,000 records, the majority of which have been imported to Recorder 6. The only records that are not imported are those of some feral or escaped species. The sources of the data are listed, above.

Species names

We have continued to use the English vernacular names as last year

The order of species

We have continued to use the order in the British Ornithologists' Union's 2009 checklist. It is likely that there will be further changes over the next few years.

Information about species

Under the species names we provide a short description of the status of the species in North-East Wales, with information about whether it is on the Red or Amber List of conservation concern (Johnstone, I, Young, A and Thorpe, RI, 2010. *The revised population status of birds in Wales*. Birds in Wales 7(1) 39-91), whether it is a Welsh Biodiversity Action Plan species and new this year, an indication of the interest in the species by the Rare Breeding Bird Panel.

In the past few years we have provided distribution maps of the records obtained for Red List species. This year I have enhanced those maps by showing the records for the current year and the records for all years for which we hold data on our Recorder 6 database. This shows that for all such species, the records in 2010 were not from all locations where the species have been seen since 2004. An interesting question then arises - have the birds been lost from

the locations where they were seen in previous years, or were those locations not visited at the right time of year to identify the species? That may lead to a challenge for one or more individuals - to check which possibility is the more likely.

The North Wales Breeding Bird Atlas project

Both the National and the North Wales Atlas projects have concluded with the end of the breeding season in 2011. Anne Brenchley has written about the last year of fieldwork towards the end of this report, so I shall not repeat what she says, here.

With the end of Atlas fieldwork and the enormous effort that has been put in by volunteers there may be a kind of emptiness during the next breeding season. I hope this will not be the case, though. Atlas fieldwork was very enjoyable and encouraged trips to parts of the country we may not otherwise have visited. Observers will be encouraged to engage in other surveys to enable them to continue to use and develop field skills that the Atlas depended on. A crucial survey that I hope many will take up is the annual Breeding Bird Survey, the results of which are used in the national indicator of the health of the countryside.

We have become used to using the BTO Atlas codes and they may continue to be useful. The CBRG would welcome observers to record breeding evidence using these codes, especially for the scarcer species, most of which are also of interest to the Rare Breeding Birds Panel to whom I forward information each year.

An issue raised by Anne Brenchley, which I will repeat, is the plea for sponsorship support for the North Wales Breeding Bird Atlas. The Atlas Steering Group (on which I act in the capacity as Data Manager and de facto Treasurer) would welcome people to sponsor species to help us pay our part of the publication costs. Currently, we are seeking to raise at least £16,000 and though we are making good progress, there are still many species that do not have a friend, ie a sponsor! It costs just £25 so if you are willing to help, please choose a species by checking the sponsorship page on www.northwalesbirdatlas.co.uk

CBRG Website

The website continues to serve a basic service providing information about the CBRG and the latest copies of files to download, eg the records submission spreadsheets. Just recently I was contacted because one of the links to download files did not work. I was emailed and sorted the problem immediately. I try to make sure that these problems do not arise, but if I have missed something and you find a problem with the website, please let me know.

Computerisation of records

I continue to use Recorder 6 as the database for holding the records from all the different sources within separate 'surveys' which means that I may search for records supplied by any one or more of the sources listed at the start of the Editorial. There are still some issues with duplicate records. However, Mike Weideli, a Recorder expert, has devised a duplicate report that searches through the database and informs me of the records that are duplicates and in which surveys I can find them. This development has made the task of dealing with duplicates

much easier and I am very grateful to him.

I am also very grateful to Mike Weideli for his assistance with transferring Recorder 6 to a new computer using Windows 7, that had presented some unexpected challenges.

Using Pivot tables in Excel enables me to find the number of records and the maximum count for each species easily but I found this year, that even Excel is not foolproof. Some of the totals given in the Pivot tables were not correct and I am not yet sure why. Nonetheless, this method does assist the species account authors to prepare their contributions.

Submission of records

For volunteer observers (and others if they wish) the data recording spreadsheet has the names of every 1 km square in the Vice-counties of Denbighshire and Flintshire and some of Meirionnydd (particularly the area of the Berwyn Mountains that was in Clwyd). So, for data entry the species name is entered by using the BTO two-letter code (in the systematic list, the table with the number of records has each species' code in the top-left corner) and the place by the 1 km grid reference (NB in the format SJ2466, with no spaces or other characters). The grid reference also pulls in the correct VC number. The other details cannot be known in advance, so they must be entered by the observer: date, observer name(s), sex/stage, breeding code, abundance and comments.

The standard record form is available on the CBRG website or from me (in Excel or Open Office formats). It would be most helpful if these forms were used and submitted to me, as Recorder, by email. The records do not have to be in any particular order – it is probably easiest (though not necessary) to use the forms chronologically, just entering the latest observations that you have recorded. The crucial aspects of each record are:

Species code (this will show the species name used in Recorder 6);

- Date of the observation;
- The 1 km square grid reference (this is crucial and will show the location name and the VC number);
- The age and/or sex of the bird;
- The breeding activity code, where relevant (see the BTO Atlas codes)
- The number of birds seen (please do not enter pairs as one record – please enter the number of males then on the next line, the number of females);
- In the comments column please enter any other aspects of the observation that are pertinent.

All of these details are stored. As the records are handled electronically, it does not matter how frequently you record the observations. **However, please enter each record on a separate row.** Please keep records of common species as well as rarities, but of particular concern now are those species that are:

- either Amber or Red listed,
- species on the Welsh Biodiversity Action Plan (WBAP) list or
- of interest to the Rare Breeding Birds Panel.

Included in this report are maps showing the distribution of the records we have received for some species of high conservation concern and of some other species that may be of interest.

Records of bird sightings may be submitted by:

- using a spreadsheet available from the CBRG website (www.cbrg.org.uk);
- by using Birdtrack (www.birdtrack.net);
- by using the Cofnod record submission facility (www.cofnod.org.uk);
- by using the Birdguides record submission facility (www.birdguides.com) but please give your name and address – see the rarity section, below); and
- by using the website run by Richard Smith (www.deeestuary.co.uk) emailing your records to him.

Please submit your records regularly, preferably no less frequently than every quarter. **For your records to be considered for a bird report, please submit the records before the end of March of the following year.** After that date they may be too late to include.

I look forward to receiving records from existing and new observers.

Rarity records

If you see a bird that is considered to be a rarity you need to complete a rarity form. The rarity form that should be completed is available from the Downloads page of the website. If you take any digital photos, please label them with date, species, place and your name.

Please submit records of rarities to me as soon after the observation as is possible.

Again, many records of rarities came from the Birdguides website, but were anonymous, so I was unable to follow them up with enquiries about descriptions or photographs. Therefore they have not been used as they could not go through any verification process. If you see a rarity and use the Birdguides, or other, website, please give contact details as well as details of the

Brent Goose – dark-bellied	Spoonbill	Little Auk
Garganey	Honey Buzzard	Puffin
Eider	Avocet	Ring-necked Parakeet
Long-tailed Duck	Purple Sandpiper	Long-eared Owl
Velvet Scoter	Wood Sandpiper	Hoopoe
Smew	Pomarine Skua	Wryneck
Quail	Long-tailed Skua	Richard's Pipit
Lady Amhersts' Pheasant	Great Skua	Yellow Wagtail – blue-headed
Great Northern Diver	Little Gull	Black Redstart
Black-throated Diver	Sabine's Gull	Cetti's Warbler
Red-necked Grebe	Ring-billed Gull	Dartford Warbler
Slavonian Grebe	Yellow-legged Gull	Yellow-browed Warbler
Black-necked Grebe	Iceland Gull	Firecrest
Sooty Shearwater	Glaucous Gull	Chough
Balearic Shearwater	Black Tern	Hooded Crow
Storm Petrel	Roseate Tern	Hawfinch
Shag	Black Guillemot	Lapland Bunting
Bittern	Razorbill	

observation.

Welsh rarities that have been submitted to the Welsh Records Panel (jonrg@tiscali.co.uk), have been accepted so they have been included in this report as have four records that have been assessed by the BBRC.

The local rarities list has been reviewed and amended. The criteria for being on the list are:

Five or fewer records annually over the five most recent consecutive years

This enables us to maintain an annual check of the species that should be on the list. As some species become more common (as has the Little Egret in recent years) so it will be removed from the list. If a species is not seen regularly enough to be in the list, it will require a rarity form to be submitted.

Rarity species lists

The list of local rarities that will apply from 1 January 2011 is as shown in the table on the preceding page.

For the list of Welsh rarities see: [www.birdsinwales.org.uk/downloads/WRP scarce species.pdf](http://www.birdsinwales.org.uk/downloads/WRP_scarce_species.pdf)

For the list of UK rarities see: www.bbrc.org.uk/currentrarespecies.htm

Acknowledgements

I am very grateful to those members of the CBRG who contributed by writing a suite of species accounts. The contributors who helped me with this report were: Anne Brenchley, Andrew Dale, Adrian Hibbert, Neil Hughes, Hilary Nash, Rhian Pierce and Andrew Wallbank.

I thank Ian Evans, Julian Hughes and Marc Hughes – the panel who helped me make decisions about local rarities – for their assistance.

I give my thanks to the authors who contributed articles that have added interest to this report.

The maps have been produced using DMAP by Dr Alan J Morton, whom I also thank for advice and guidance during the year.

Andrew Wallbank has prepared the records from Connah’s Quay Nature Reserve. I thank him for his help.

Jim Hulse has continued to be my ‘Assistant Recorder’ and has typed up other people’s records and is submitting his own. I am very grateful to him for great amount of help he gives.

Len Walls has been very helpful in providing weather data from his Moel y Crio weather station at Halkyn, Flintshire.

I am very grateful to Ashley Cohen, Bryan Formstone, John Hawkins, Dilwyn Lloyd, Tommy Milner, Lynwen Payne, John Power, Les Starling and Keith Williams for their photographs and Dermot Smith for his drawings that add significantly to the attractiveness of the report.

I am very grateful to the members of the CBRG for their ongoing support and assistance with all that is needed to coordinate a report such as this. I also thank Trevor Payne for his proof-reading of the draft text, Andrew Dale for checking the typeset report and Amanda Bunnell for some technical assistance.

I thank the British Trust for Ornithology for its support and assistance in making available bird records submitted to: Birdtrack, the Breeding Bird Survey and Garden BirdWatch.

I thank Jonathan Rothwell, CCW, for his help in preparing the 400m contour data which are themselves © NextPerspectives.

I remain most grateful to all the observers and organisations (listed at the start of the Editorial) who submitted records for the report – the list of individual contributors is at the back of the report.

I trust that the observers and organisations think that we have made good use of the data they have provided.

Ian M Spence, Recorder
ianspence.cr@btinternet.com

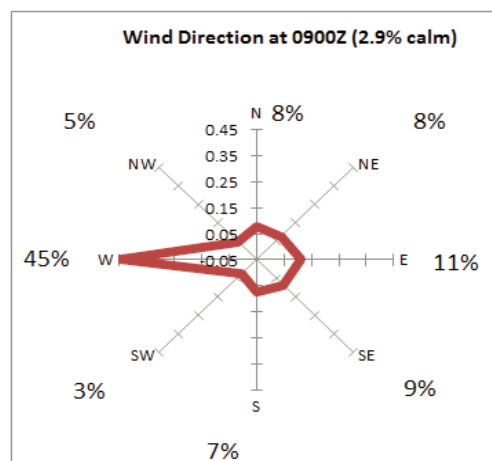
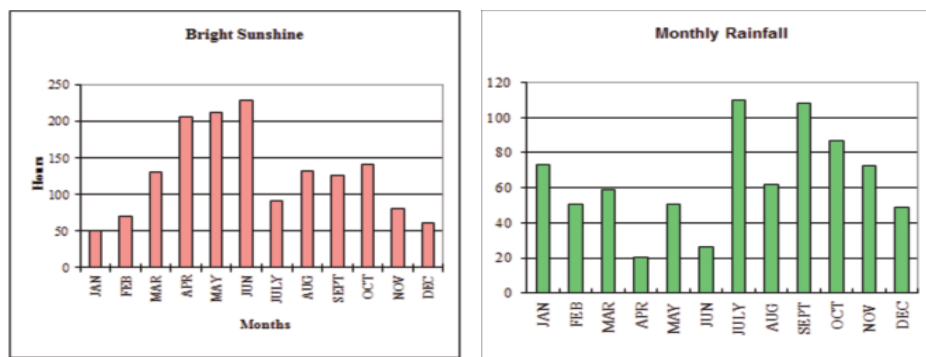
43 Blackbrook
Sychdyn
Mold
Flintshire
CH7 6LT 01352-750118

Weather summary 2010. Data kindly supplied by Len Walls

2010 will be remembered as a year with two severe winter periods. January started with a very cold spell through to 16/01 with 8/01 being the coldest at -7.4°C. The rest of the month was cool with the average mean temperature at just 0.8°C (2.6°C lower than the long term average and the third coldest Jan on record). There were 40cm of snow lying on 15/01. February also

2010	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Max temp °C / date	8.8 / 18	7.7 / 25	13.6 / 18	19.2 / 27	25.4 / 24	24.9 / 26	23.9 / 10	22.1 / 20	22.1 / 2	18.0 / 10	14.1 / 4	8.3 / 29
Mean temp °C	0.8	1.8	5.3	8.3	9.9	14.1	15.3	13.6	13.0	9.5	4.4	0.1
Min temp °C / date	-7.4 / 8	-4.3 / 22	-4.7 / 7	-1.5 / 22	0.7 / 4	4.4 / 15	7.3 / 17	6.1 / 30	3.8 / 25	-1.2 / 25	-8.1 / 29	-7.0 / 20
Rain mm	93.6	51.1	54.0	22.4	33.1	28.4	111.3	60.3	94.0	82.5	77.4	44.4
Sun hours	50.5	70.5	130.2	206.9	208.8	228.3	91.6	131.7	126.3	140.5	80.8	61.6

started cold with snow lying for 15 days. It was cold until 24/02 and the lowest air temperature was -4.3°C on 22/02 (when the grass temperature was -13.8°C). There was much frost during the month and both precipitation and sunshine hours were average. March was an average month, though there was a ground frost of -8.4°C on 8/03. Rainfall was below average but sunshine was well above average and there were only five days with no sunshine. April was a warm month and its average temperature was 0.9°C above average. There was much sunshine. May was fine and sunny with below average rainfall. June was warm and very sunny (157% of the long term average sunshine hours) with no other significant weather. July was a varied month with more than average rainfall and 40.7mm fell on the wettest day, 20/07. Sunshine hours were only 59% of average and there was a maximum gust of wind at 98 kph on 15/07. August was a dull month and the coldest since 1993. Rainfall was only 81% of average and sunshine was only 88% of average. The average temperature in September was slightly higher than the long term average with 109% of average rainfall and near average sunshine. October was warm and dry - rainfall was 84% of average and the wettest day was 2/10 with 17.4mm. November was very cold with 116 hours of air frost in six days and the coldest was -8.1°C on 29/11. There was 126% of average sunshine but there were eight days with none at all. There were five days with lying snow. December was also very cold - the coldest since 1981 and the average mean temperature was



4.2°C less than usual. The minimum air temperature was -7.0°C on 20/12 (with a ground temperature of -16.2°C). Rainfall was well below average (48%) and it was the driest December on record. There were 21 days of lying snow - the most since 1981 and a maximum depth of 11 cm on 1/12.

Birding Highlights 2010

This paper briefly summarises the main birding highlights and events for 2010. The paper is based on all records received by the County Recorder and subsequently verified by the local, Welsh and British Birds Rarities Committee. Unfortunately it is still the case that not all records reach the County Recorder and, therefore, discrepancies between this report and records highlighted in other reports and monthly magazines still occur. Also other records noted in magazines and bulletins, which subsequently cannot be verified by description are either not submitted or do not stand close scrutiny, are not included in this report. Omissions also occasionally occur and for this we offer our apologies.

2010

The big freeze at the beginning of the year curtailed some birding activities and most records came from coastal sites where a variety of waders, ducks, birds of prey and geese were seen. **Surf**, **Velvet** and **Common Scoters** and **Long-tailed Duck** were in evidence at Pensarn. Two **Slavonian Grebes** at Flint Castle on 1 January were notable as were 14 **Mediterranean Gulls** at Conwy RSPB reserve, where a few days later two **Woodlark** were recorded. On 2 January a **Bittern** was seen at Inner Marsh Farm RSPB reserve. Inland, the cold weather brought unusual numbers of thrushes including **Redwings** and **Fieldfares** and **Brambling** to gardens. The snowy conditions in February caused more problems for foraging **Barn Owls** and the inevitable mortality undoubtedly led to fewer birds attempting to breed later in the year. At the coast, 10,000 **Common Scoter** recorded off Colwyn Bay on 6 February was quite a sight and the **Shorelark**, first seen in January was still at Point of Ayr in the middle of the month. By March the warmer brighter weather meant that many resident species were becoming territorial but winter visitors such as the **Great Grey Shrike** at Clocaenog still hung on. An exceedingly early **Hobby** was seen near Sutton Green on 14 March and other more usual early migrants were recorded. In the middle of March a **Black Redstart** was photographed in a garden at Flint, a notable flock of 200 **Crossbills** were seen in Clocaenog Forest and a **Cattle Egret** was sighted near Rhyl. April began with the confirmation of a sighting of a **Black Duck** at Conwy RSPB reserve, along with a **Wood Sandpiper** early in the month, and two **White Storks** were in a field near Llyn Bran on 11 April. The only **Dotterel** of the year was recorded from Penycloddiau on 22 April. Flocks of 150 **Brambling** at both Llyn Brenig and Clocaenog Forest were a nice surprise. May was a relatively quiet month. A maximum of 500 **Common Terns** was counted at the Shotton colony on 19 May but sadly the colony deserted for the second year. June was an interesting month for breeding birds as the **Bearded Tits** at Conwy RSPB reserve successfully fledged young, **Little Ringed Plover** bred at several locations and **Quail** and **Turtle Dove** were thought to probably breed. The annual **Spoonbill** turned up at Conwy RSPB reserve on 13 July and the return wader passage began in earnest. The August highlight was a **Long-billed Dowitcher** at Connah's Quay Nature Reserve on the 28 August, which was seen on and off until mid-October. At the coast two **Great Skuas** were seen off Point of Ayr at the end of August.

The warm autumnal weather was good for birding and sea-watching sessions brought many interesting records in September but sadly few of these reached the County Recorder and only the record of 15 **Leach's Petrel** off Pensarn was confirmed. However, a **Garganey** and **Grey Phalarope** were seen at Conwy RSPB reserve and even more fascinating was the freshly dead **Corncrake** picked up in Northop, near Mold on 15 September, having been killed by a car. October saw the peak number of 5000 **Black-tailed Godwit** at Mostyn Bank on 4 October and a **Rough-legged Buzzard** at Penycloddiau on 24 October. The extreme cold weather in November and December brought in many winter visitors. Although a few **Waxwing** first appeared in October, the maximum of 150 was recorded from Rhuthun on 24 November. A **Smew** was at Nant-y-Ffrith reservoir on 14 November and geese and swans were arriving in numbers. December saw another **Bittern**, this time at Conwy RSPB reserve on 14 December and the year ended with an amazing sight of 3000 **Skylark** at White Sands on 19 December and 109 **Bewick's Swans** at Shotwick Fields on 27 December.

Anne Brenchley



Little Owl, Dilwyn P Lloyd

The Systematic List for 2010

The names of species and their order come from Anon (2009), The British List: The official list of bird species recorded in Great Britain, published on the BOU website. The Welsh names have been taken from previous reports and where necessary, from the website www.avionary.info (though it is not currently available).

We have continued to use conventions from previous reports – dates are presented as day/month (in digits) and we have stated where birds are on the Red or Amber List (from Johnstone, IG, Thorpe, RI and Noble, DG (2010), *The state of birds in Wales 6*: RSPB Cymru, Cardiff and Johnstone, I, Young, A and Thorpe, RI, 2010. *The revised population status of birds in Wales*. Birds in Wales 7(1) 39-91.

Abbreviations that appear in the report include, in tables, the BTO two letter code for the species to which the table refers and:

BBS	Breeding Bird Survey organised by the British Trust for Ornithology
GBW	Garden Bird Watch organised by the British Trust for Ornithology
TTV	Timed Tetrad Visit (during national Atlas fieldwork)
NR	Nature Reserve
LRP	Local Rarities Panel (see www.cbrg.org.uk)
WRP	Welsh Records Panel (see www.birdsinwales.org.uk)
BBRC	British Birds Rarities Committee (see www.bbrc.org.uk)
WBAP	Welsh Biodiversity Action Plan species
WRBBSRG	Welsh Rare Breeding Bird and Raptor Study Group (a subgroup of the Welsh Ornithological Society)
RBBP	Breeding records of this species are of interest to the Rare Breeding Bird Panel (see www.rbbp.org.uk)

We have abbreviated the names of months to just three letters (eg Jan, Feb, etc).

We have included maps to show the distribution of the records received for some species where we considered that maps would assist the summarising of those records. If you are aware of areas of either county where those species are present, but there are no symbols to show their presence, please send in records to the Recorder. Please also use the maps to spur you into action if you know that a species breeds near you but is not shown.

Each account has a table showing the number of records received during the year and the maximum number of birds counted. Some species have a table of breeding success data – these are the results from those nests that have been found and recorded and are not, necessarily, the actual number of nests that occurred in the area.

As in previous reports, it is apparent that we receive very few records of proven breeding by species that are not subject to specialist study. We would welcome knowing where any of these species are found to breed, using the codes for evidence that are generally used for bird atlas purposes (we expect that many of you are now well-acquainted with these codes that have been used both for the BTO Atlas and the North Wales Breeding Bird Atlas project – they are listed on the Atlas page of the CBRG website).

At the end of this section Anne Brenchley has written about the first and last dates for migrants. Please continue to send records of the first dates you see migrant species arrive and keep

records so that you know when you last saw them when they have migrated away. We are very keen to know these last dates as well as when they arrive.

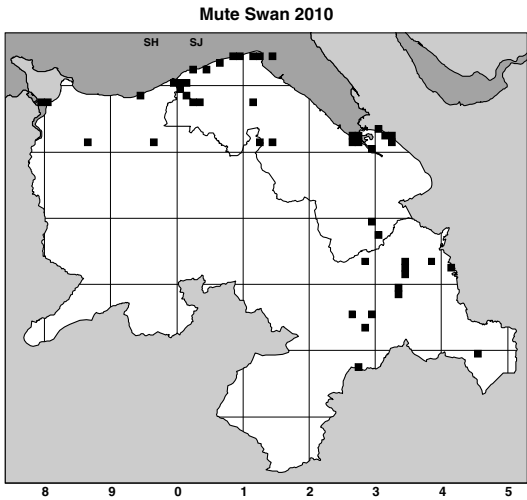
Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*)

Breeding resident. Amber List.

Denbs. Records from every month and from seventeen sites with the highest count coming from Hanmer with 35+ including young on 19/06 (SD). Young also recorded at Erddig and Conwy RSPB with the highest coastal count coming from Kinmel Bay with 34 on 11/05 (DCR).

Flints. Swans recorded from over twenty sites with most areas along Clwyd or Dee estuaries. Largest counts coming in winter with maximum of 90 at Shotwick Fields on 19/12 (CW). Up to 54 birds were recorded near River Clwyd Rhuddlan/Rhyl area in the early part of the year (SH). Nesting recorded at Gronant with a pair there on 27/04 (DCR).

ALARCH DÔF		
(MS)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	107	35+
Flints.	180	30



Bewick's Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*)

Annual, but uncommon winter visitor. Amber list. WBAP

Flints. The Dee Estuary is a site of national importance for this species. All records were from this site, with the vast majority from Shotwick Fields, which appears to be the favoured site for this species. There were also single records from Connah's Quay NR and White Sands. The first record of the year was 3 at Connah's Quay NR on 12/01 (GR). All other spring records were also from Shotwick where birds were present from the turn of the year until 3/03, when the last 8 birds of the spring were recorded (RS, ANB); the maximum spring count was 56 on 31/01(KS). The first winter birds were 25 at Shotwick on 27/11 (WAO), with numbers building towards the turn of the year, when 109 were at the same site on 27/12 (KDu).

ALARCH BEWICK		
(BS)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	0	
Flints.	30	109

Whooper Swan (*Cygnus cygnus*)

Annual, but irregular winter visitor in small numbers. RBBP.

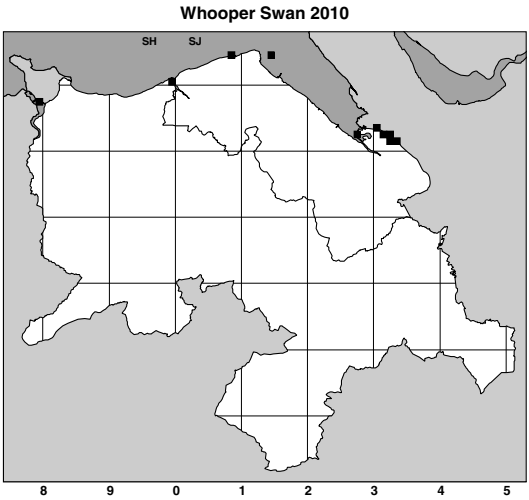
Records were primarily concentrated around the Dee Estuary, where this species is found with other swans at

ALARCH Y GOGLEDD		
(WS)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	4	5
Flints.	37	80

Shotwick Fields and boating lake, Inner Marsh Farm RSPB and other sites in the upper estuary. Smaller numbers recorded less frequently from inland and coastal sites further west.

Denbs. A single bird at Kinmel Bay, Rhyl Harbour on 7/01 (RMB); and 5 at Conwy RSPB on 6/03 (DzD) were the only spring records. Later in the year there were 3 at Conwy RSPB on 24/12, and 2 on 29/12 (pJHg).

Flints. Virtually all records were from Shotwick Fields, with a few scattered records from other sites on the Dee Estuary. Birds were recorded from the turn of the year until 3/03, when 46 at Deeside Industrial Park N were the last of the spring (RS). The maximum spring count was 66+ at Shotwick on 21/02 (NW). The only record of significant numbers away from Shotwick was 60 on the mudflats at Point of Ayr on 24/02 (GR). The first record of returning birds in the autumn was 28 birds at Shotwick on 20/10, with birds then present until the turn of the year. The maximum autumn count was 80 at Shotwick on 19/12 (CW). Unusually there were no records this year from either Rhuddlan or the lower Dee Valley.



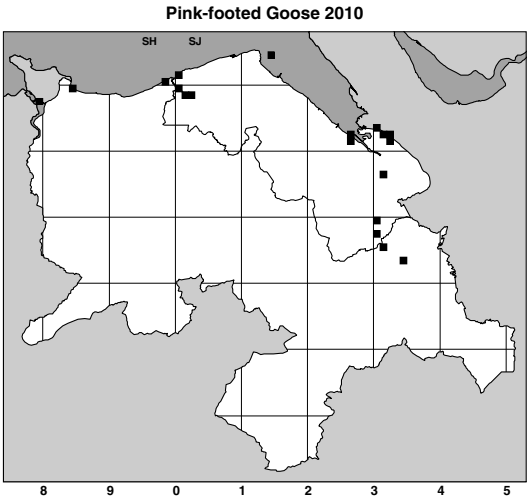
Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*)

Passage migrant, and winter visitor in small numbers.

Denbs. 25 flew north over Rhos-on-Sea on 9/01 (RS), and 15 were at Kinmel Bay on 12/02 (ANB). Singles were recorded from Wrexham Flash on 6/02 (JN), Llay Pool on 2/04 (KS), and Conwy RSPB on 23/06, and 27/12 (JoWa, pJHg).

Flints. Considerably greater numbers than last year were recorded during the year from sites around the Dee Estuary, the Rhyl/Rhuddlan area and Caergwrlle. The year maximum of 1,000 was recorded at Hawarden on 18/01 (CoJ), and 220+ at Rhyl S on 31/01 (DCR). On the Dee 500+ were regularly recorded at Shotwick Fields from 9/02-6/03 with a spring maximum of 630 on 27/02 (CW). The last of the spring were 5 at Oakenholt Marsh on 14/03 (StaS), and a single at Hope on 10/04 (KS). The first returning autumn birds were 450 at Point of Ayr on 10/10 (GR); 65 were at Caergwrlle on 1/11

GWYDD DROED-BINC		
(PG)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	6	25
Flints.	30	1000



(JWNA), and there were relatively small numbers at various sites throughout November. Two large flocks were recorded at Shotwick Fields in mid-Dec with 720 on 19/12 (GR), and 600 on 22/12 (CW), but these may have been on passage as counts from the site later in the month were between 56 and 70+ (GR, KDu, DG).

Lesser White-fronted Goose (<i>Anser erythropus</i>)		GWYDD DALCEN-WEN LEIAF	
Vagrant, or feral escape.		(LC)	No of records
Denbs. A single was recorded Jun to Sep and in the Jul WeBS count at Conwy RSPB (JHg), probably of feral origin.		Denbs.	6
		Flints.	1
			Max count
			1+
			3

Flints. A record of 3 birds of this species at Connah's Quay NR on 15/08 can only relate to birds of feral origin (ALo).

Greylag Goose (<i>Anser anser</i>)		GWYDD WYLLT	
Winter visitor and uncommon breeding resident.		(GJ)	No of records
This species comprises a small resident feral breeding population which is relatively widespread on suitable inland water bodies. The majority of records during the spring and summer months are of small numbers on inland sites, probably indicating resident territorial breeding pairs, though records of actual breeding are uncommon. These birds concentrate into post-breeding moulting flocks on a number of sites including the Dee Estuary and Gresford Flash. These flocks are supplemented by numbers of passage, and overwintering birds during the winter.		Denbs.	58
		Flints.	79
			Max count
			500
			509+

Denbs. Recorded from coastal and inland sites including Gresford Flash, Conwy RSPB, Llyn Brenig, and Kinmel Bay, Rhyl Harbour. The only records of substantial numbers early in the year were from Kinmel Bay, Rhyl Harbour where 500 were present on 7/01 (RMB); and 230+ at Gresford Flash on 6/02 (JN). Small numbers were recorded throughout the year from a variety of inland sites. The only breeding records were of a pair with 2 nestlings at Penycae, Tainant on 11/05 (JLR), and 18 juveniles with 10 adults at Llyn Brenig on 28/06 (IMS). As usual a number of post-moult flocks were recorded during late Sep/early Oct with 300 at Gresford Flash on 20/09 (KS), and 425 at Dyserth on 6/10 (SH). Numbers at Gresford Flash, Wrexham increased during Oct with a maximum of 153 on 12/10 (HL). The only substantial winter count was 300+ at Kinmel Bay on 14/12 (DCR).

Flints. As usual, the lower Clwyd valley in the Rhyl S/Rhuddlan area held substantial numbers throughout much of the year. The first record of the year was 380 at Rhyl S on 13/01 (DCR) representing a significant increase in numbers over last year. Breeding was recorded at

Greylag Goose 2010

Rhuddlan and Nannerch with juveniles seen at both sites during May/Jun. Post-breeding flocks began to build in the Rhyl/Rhuddlan area from late Jul with 50 at Rhuddlan on 31/07 (SH); the autumn maximum being 427 on 6/10 (SH), and a year maximum of 509+ at Rhyl S on 29/12 (DCR). Numbers on the Dee Estuary appear to have been generally lower this year; 30 at Connah's Quay NR on 16/01 (pAW) being the largest reported count, though 327 were recorded at Whitford on 17/09 (LJ).

Maximum counts from selected locations:												
(GJ)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Gresford Flash		230	1				10		300	190	2	
Kinmel Bay	500	5										300
Near Rhuddlan	200	34	4	3	6	7	50	38	400	425	200	350

Snow Goose (<i>Anser caerulescens</i>)		GWYDD YR EIRA	
Feral species		(SJ)	No of records
Denbs. A record of 1+ was recorded at Conwy RSPB on 5/06 (JHg).		Denbs.	1
		Flints.	2
			Max count
			1+
			1

Flints. A single was recorded near Rhuddlan on 10/12 and 11/12 (SH) and a single was at Whitford on 17/09 (LJ).

Canada Goose (<i>Branta canadensis</i>)		GWYDD CANADA	
Breeding resident.		(CG)	No of records
An ubiquitous species found breeding on most lakes, ponds and other water bodies. The Mersey Estuary is an important area for moulting congregations, and post-moulting peaks occur in late Sep/Oct on a number of sites including the Dee Estuary, Gresford Flash and Conwy RSPB, many birds remaining to winter.		Denbs.	126
		Flints.	177
			Max count
			200+
			2000

Denbs. Recorded from various sites in relatively small numbers. Conwy RSPB was the only site where more substantial numbers were regularly recorded this year. WeBS counts for Conwy RSPB are shown in the table below. More substantial counts from the rest of the county included 50+ at Hanmer on 19/02, 65+ at Fenn's Bank and 50+ at Hanmer on 19/06 (SD); and 70+ at Kinmel Bay, Rhyl Harbour on 14/12 (DCR). Gresford Flash,

Canada Goose 2010

(CG)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	46	5	163	66	39	320	19	1	0	3	2	4

Wrexham hosted good numbers on a number of occasions with 58 on 2/02 (JN) and 50 on 20/07, 20/09, and 26/10 (KS).

Flints. Present throughout the year on Dee Estuary reserves. The maximum recorded monthly counts at main locations are shown in the table below.

(CG)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Connah's Quay NR	2000	35	3		16		132	500	200	1050		200
Oakenholt Marsh	315	73	14	14	50	8	14	500	120	100		
White Sands	137	5						160	60	350	204	1500
Talacre	43	100	40					25	70		16	14
Warren Fm	3	143	19						184	7		500

The maximum recorded count was 2,000 at Connah's Quay NR on 21/01 (BH,KLJ). Away from the Dee the only substantial numbers were in the Rhyl/Rhuddlan area where counts included 130 on 21/02 at Rhuddlan NW, and 100 at the same site on 31/07 (SH). Breeding was reported from a number of sites where juveniles were observed including Cilcain, Eryrys, Ewloe, Oakenholt Marsh, Nannerch, Nercwys, Pontblyddyn, and Rhuddlan.

Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*)

Rare vagrant, or birds of escaped/feral origin. Amber List.

Denbs. A single was at Gresford Flash, Wrexham on 20/09 and 26/10 (KS) and 2 were at Conwy RSPB on 6/05 (pJHg).

Flints. A single was noted flying N with a flock of Pink-footed geese on 1/11 (JWNA).

Brent Goose (*Branta bernicla*)

Regular winter visitor in small numbers. Amber List. WBAP (Bb bernicla)

Recorded particularly in the Dee Estuary.

The majority of records are likely to be birds of the pale-bellied "hrota" race and records can be assumed to relate to this form unless otherwise specified.

Denbs. The only record was 2 birds of the dark-bellied "bernicla" race at Kinmel Bay, Rhyl Harbour on 14/02 (KS).

Flints: Flints. Six "hrota" birds were at Point of Ayr on 17/01 (GR); 2 "bernicla" at Gronant on 21/01 (AnCu); 15 at Connah's Quay NR on 21/01 (BH, KLJ); and 97 at Talacre on 2/02 (DHa).

Egyptian Goose (*Alopochen aegyptica*)

Rare vagrant. Likely to be of feral origin.

Flints. A single was seen at Oakenholt on 15/06 (JHo).

Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*)

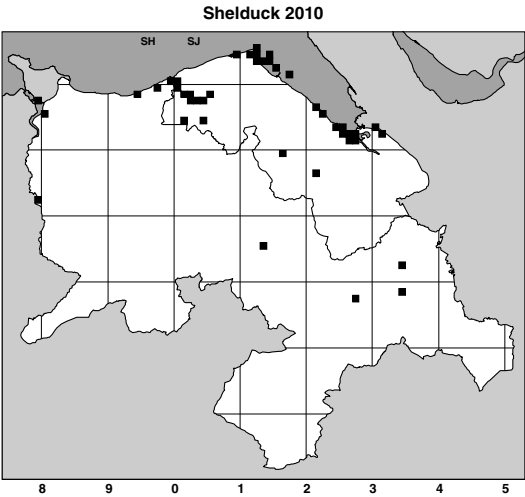
Occasional breeding resident and very common estuarine winter visitor. Amber List.

The Dee Estuary is a site of international importance for this species.

(SU)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	67	102
Flints.	248	1200

Denbs. Recorded throughout the year from a number of coastal sites including Kinmel Bay, Rhyl Harbour, Conwy RSPB, which again appear to be the most consistently used locations. The maximum count at Conwy RSPB was 104 from the Mar 7 WeBS (pJHg), while Kinmel Bay, Rhyl Harbour held 40+ on 14/12 (DCR). Monthly WeBS counts for Conwy RSPB are given in the table below.

Flints. The vast majority of records are from the Dee Estuary, where the upper estuary reserves at Oakenholt Marsh and Connah's Quay NR, with White Sands, and Point of Ayr are favoured in the early part of the year. As the year progresses numbers increase at Point of Ayr and Mostyn between Sep and Dec. Maximum monthly records for Conwy RSPB and the key Dee Estuary compartments are



(SU)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	4	64	104	98	75	57	4	3	11	0	10	25
Connah's Quay NR	170	60	90	30	44	226	300	500	870	430	173	6
Oakenholt Marsh		18	46	56	44	226	120				1	
Point of Ayr	135	115	224	100	195	205	150	85	1200	100	162	350
White Sands	56	76	33	25	51	110	80	20	3	8	72	155

given in the table below.

Numbers on the Dee appear to have continued to decline with a peak count of 1,200 on Point of Ayr mudflats on 12/09 (GR) as against peak counts of 1,400 in 2009, 1,600 in 2008, and 2,000 in 2007. Away from the Dee birds were recorded at Rhyl, where a maximum of 120 were recorded on 21/03 (SHu); and Rhuddlan where 40+ were recorded on 3/05 (DCR).

Mandarin Duck (*Aix galericulata*)

Scarce breeding resident

Denbs. Recorded from a small number of sites, to which it shows significant loyalty. Numbers recorded were generally lower than in recent years. A pair were at Erddig Pool on 3/04 (NHu); a pair at the Britannia Inn, Llangollen on 10/04, and 2 males at Hendy, Llangollen on 2/05 (JLR); 2 males and 2 females at Marford on 8/08 (ID) and a female recorded at Gresford lake on 24 and 29/12 (NHu, KS).

Flints. Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog held 2 on 22/02 (SD), and 1 pair on 27/05 (ALJ); 1 female at Rhuddlan on 4/06 (SH); and distant, single, flying birds were observed from Caergwrle on 26/04 and 26/10 (JWNA).

Wigeon (*Anas penelope*)

Common winter visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

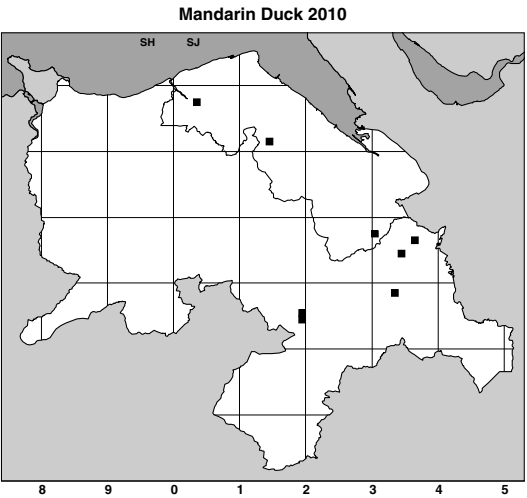
The Dee Estuary is a site of national importance in the UK for this species.

Denbs. Reports from fewer sites than last year. The last spring count was 4 on 19/04 (JHg) and first of autumn was a single on 27/08 (pJHg) both at Conwy RSPB. Highest count of 300+ at Kinnel Bay on 14/12 (DCR) and the maximum count at Conwy RSPB was 150 on 5/10 (JHg). Inland maximum counts were at Hanmer with 45+ on 19/02 (SD); also 45 reported at Ridleywood during River Dee flooding on 11/11 (NFr). Other records came from Fenn's Moss with 10+ on 17/03 (JoAr) and a count of 3 at Gresford Flash on 7/02 (KS).

The table below shows maximum counts at selected sites

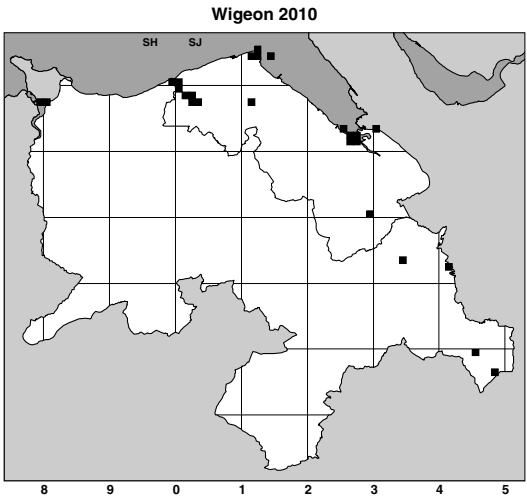
HWYADEN FANDARIN

(MN)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	7	2
Flints.	5	2



CHWIIWELL

(WN)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	41	300+
Flints.	161	3000



(WN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Connah's Quay NR	3000	2000	1000	2			4		2	60	100	300
Point of Ayr	350	350		3					10	30	60	50
Talacre	300	400	18						1	40	400	550

Flints. From Rhuddlan to Rhyl on the Clwyd estuary had a maximum count of 500 near Rhuddlan on 26/12 (SH). The maximum count for the River Dee estuary area was 3000 at Connah's Quay NR on 4/01 (PDS). Maximum counts for selected sites are shown in the table. Inland records were from Fagl Lane Quarry, Hope with 3 birds on 1/01 (GNR) and 6 at Llyn Helyg on 22/02 (SD).

Gadwall (*Anas strepera*)

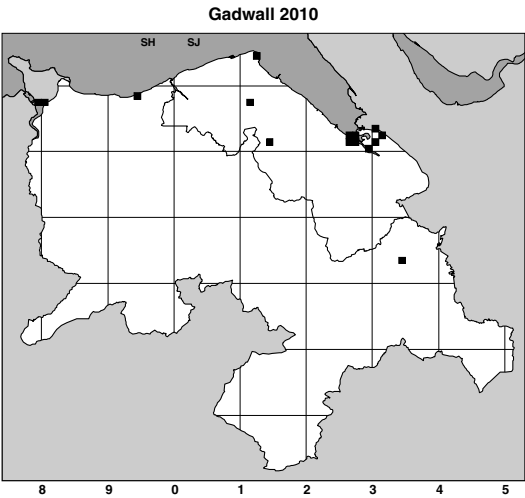
Uncommon winter visitor and scarce breeding resident. Amber List. RBBP.

Denbs. Present at Conwy RSPB in small numbers throughout the year, a maximum of 6 was counted on 31/03 (NKM). Also recorded from Pensarn, where a male was present on 17/02 (MHu, RS), 20/01 (DCR), and 12/02 (SD); and at Gresford Flash, Wrexham where another male was recorded on 25/01 (JN).

Flints. Recorded from the Dee Estuary reserves throughout the year. Connah's Quay NR, Oakenholt Marsh, and the Shotton area appear to be favoured locations with notable counts of 10 at Connah's Quay NR on 16/01 (PD); and 18 at Shotton Paper mill on 22/04 (IMS). Breeding was also recorded at Shotton with 1 female and up to 7 juveniles at Shotton Steelworks on 18/07 (PT). Other notable counts were 17 at White Sands on 7/12 (GR); and away from the Dee, 15 at Llyn Helyg on 22/02 (SD).

HWYADEN LWYD

(GA)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	42	6
Flints.	47	18



Teal (*Anas crecca*)

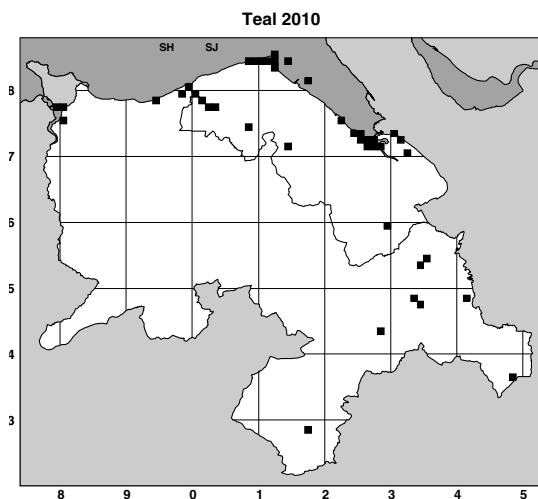
Widespread and locally abundant winter visitor and rare breeder. Amber List.

The Dee Estuary is a site of international importance for this species.

Denbs. Recorded throughout the year. The majority of records were from Conwy RSPB, for which monthly WeBS counts for 2010 are shown in the table below.

(T.)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	25	26	24	18	1	3	14	58	111	249	442	146

(T.)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	83	442
Flints.	294	2500



Notable counts for this reserve are 423 on 30/09, and the annual maximum of 442 on 11/11 (JHg). These represent a significant recovery after the low numbers of last year, probably due to this year's hard winter weather.

Flints. Inland: Records confined to Moel Maenefa, 13 on 16/01 (KS); Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog, 9 on 22/02 (SD); and Fagl Lane Quarry, Hope, 5 on 11/12 (SD). Coastal: Dee Estuary numbers lower than last year, and few coastal records away from the Dee. Maximum count was 2,500 at Connah's Quay NR on 4/01 (PDS). See table below for monthly maximum counts for main Dee

(T.)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Connah's Quay NR	2500	500	13	20			50	100	550	600	209	600
Inner Marsh Farm		150	7	7				10	400			
Oakenholt Marsh	157	240	4	2		1	1	20	100	500	357	3
Point of Ayr	500	240	82	84				25	210	150	2	250
White Sands	61	23	6	36						2	68	250

Estuary locations.

Other notable counts from the Dee Estuary included 450 on the estuary at Flint on 12/01 (GR); 700 at Point of Ayr RSPB on 14/01 (pJR); 315 on Flint salt marsh on 17/01, and 106 on 14/02 (GR); 115 at Talacre gas terminal on 10/10 (GR); and 135 at Warren Farm, Talacre on 22/10 (pJR). Away from the Dee, the Clwyd Estuary was the only coastal site where significant numbers were reported, with a maximum of 70 at Rhuddlan NW on 28/11 (SH).

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*)

Common breeding resident. Amber list.

Denbs. Recorded from inland and coastal water bodies throughout the vice-county except in the W. Numbers appear to have been lower than average, with very few counts of substantial numbers. The monthly WeBS counts for Conwy RSPB are shown in the table below.

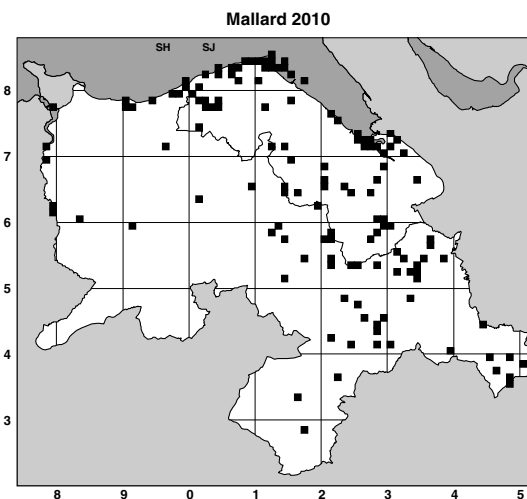
(MA)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	43	21	10	8	23	109	122	38	50	105	43	0

Monthly counts from the main Dee Estuary locations:

(MA)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Connah's Quay NR	38	80	60	20	45	196	32	300	25	72	60	61
Oakenholt Marsh	18	51	4	8	19	18	247	100	10	10	8	0
Point of Ayr	60	40	17	32	25	105		170	150	80	20	30
White Sands	5	7	8	25	24	150	22	3	14	6	2	35

Away from Conwy RSPB the maximum count was from Acton Park, Wrexham where 75 were recorded on 24/12 (NH).

Flints. Widely recorded throughout the vice-county, the majority of records are from various locations in the Dee Estuary. Numbers remain somewhat lower than the long term average, with a maximum count of 300 from Connah's Quay NR on 2/08 (GR). Maximum monthly counts from main Dee Estuary locations are given in the table at the bottom of p24. Other notable records on the estuary included 130 at Flint on 12/01 (GR); and 40+ at Talacre gas terminal pools on 18/07 (DCR). Away from the Dee good numbers were regularly recorded on the Clwyd estuary with a maximum of 74 at Rhuddlan S on 6/09 (SH); and inland 125 were at Fagl Lane Quarry, Hope on 1/01 (GMR); and Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog had 50+ on 22/02 (SD), and 64 on 6/10 (MD).



Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*)

Rare vagrant.

Denbs. An immature male was on the Conwy estuary 7/04 to 9/04 (AlaD, MHu). Accepted by BBRC.

HWYADEN DDU

()	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	1	1
Flints.	0	

Pintail (*Anas acuta*)

Winter visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

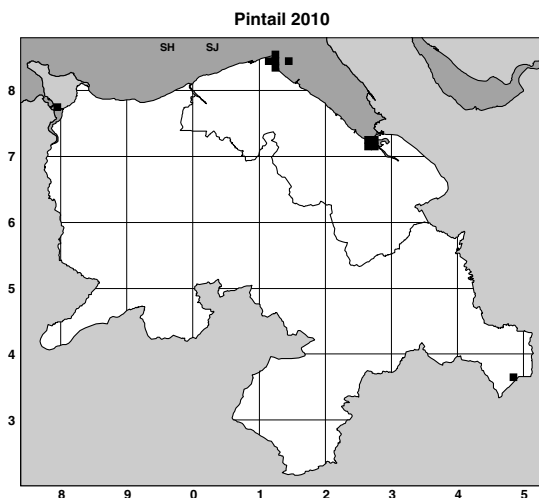
The Dee Estuary is a site of international importance for this winter visitor. Most records are from site on or close to the estuary; though significant numbers are also recorded on the middle Dee floodplain when winter flooding provides suitable conditions. As with many other migratory waterfowl species numbers appear to be considerably lower than normal this year, continuing a trend of declining numbers.

Denbs. Individuals were present at Conwy RSPB on various dates throughout the year, including one or more females recorded on 7/02, 9/10, and 17/12, and birds of unspecified sex on 3/04 and 4/09 (PM, JHg, SaM). The maximum count for the year was 10 at Fenn's Moss on 17/03 (JoAr).

Flints. Coastal: As usual all records were from the Dee Estuary, Connah's Quay NR and Point of Ayr being the most favoured locations this year. Numbers were particularly low this year. The maximum spring count was 250 at Connah's Quay NR on 1/02 (GR), the last significant numbers of spring were 53 at Connah's Quay NR on 3/03 and the last individual was on 18/04

HWYADEN LOSTFAIN

(PT)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	8	10
Flints.	41	400



at Point of Ayr (GR). The first bird of autumn was a single at Connah's Quay NR on 9/07, followed by 150 at Connah's Quay NR on 9/09 (GR). The winter maximum was 400 at Point of Ayr on 5/12 (GR). See table below for maximum monthly counts from main Dee Estuary locations.

(PT)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Connah's Quay NR	1	250	53						150	150		
Point of Ayr	240	170		1					45	120	120	400
Talacre	74	125								1	5	2

Garganey (*Anas querquedula*)

Uncommon summer visitor and passage migrant. Amber List. RBBP.

Denbs. The only record was a single bird at Conwy RSPB on 25/09 (CJ). Accepted by LRP.

(GY)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	1	1
Flints.	0	

Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*)

Winter visitor in small numbers. Amber List. RBBP.

The Dee Estuary is a site of national importance for this species.

Records were distributed in much the same way as in 2009.

Denbs. The highest count was of 32 at Gresford Flash on 25/01 (HL). The largest count from Conwy RPSB was of 3 on 6/09 (RS). Most records were of between 1-5 birds, although counts at Gresford Flash were 19-30 in four months.

Flints. Only a single record was received from an inland location, with 7 seen at Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog on 22/02 (SD). Talacre was the primary site with forty eight records. Other sites with multiple records were Connah's Quay NR, Oakenholt and Rhuddlan. The largest count was 50 seen at Shotwick Fields on 2/01 (KS) with 32 at Shotton Steelworks on 14/09 (RyE).

HWYADEN ADDRAIN

HWYADEN LYDANBIG

(SV)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	67	32
Flints.	73	50

Pochard (*Aythya ferina*)

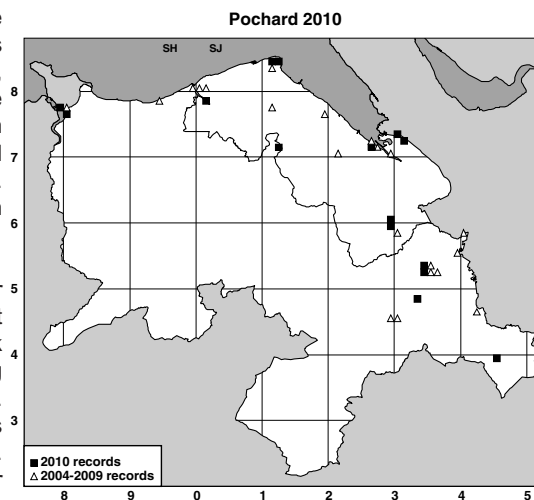
Winter visitor. Red List. RBBP.

Denbs. Birds were recorded in every month except Apr so there were no clear migration periods and the majority of records were from Conwy RSPB with the peak count in the first part of the year being 13 on 1/01 (RS). Two males were recorded at Gresford Flash, Wrexham on 31/01 (KS) and there were 8 males at Conwy RSPB on 22/02 (JHg). Single birds remained throughout the year at Conwy RSPB. The last bird of the year was seen on 11/12 at Conwy (JHg).

Flints. Recorded only in Jan to Mar then Sep to Dec. Peak count in the first part of the year was 20 at Shotwick lake on the 2/01 (KS). The last spring record was at Talacre on 2/03 (pJR). The first returning bird of autumn was 1 at Oakenholt Marsh on 20/09 (DNS). Peak count in the latter part of the year was 6 at Fagl Lane Quarry, Hope on 11/12 (SD).

HWYADEN BENGGOCH

(PO)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	40	13
Flints.	16	20



Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*)

Resident breeder in small numbers and locally common winter visitor. Amber List.

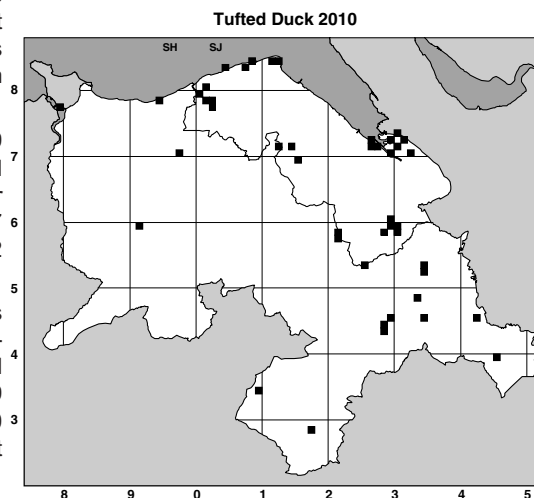
The records were distributed in a similar way to 2009 and were from every month in both counties but there were more Denbs records at the start of the year and more in Flints at the end of the year - see histogram on p28.

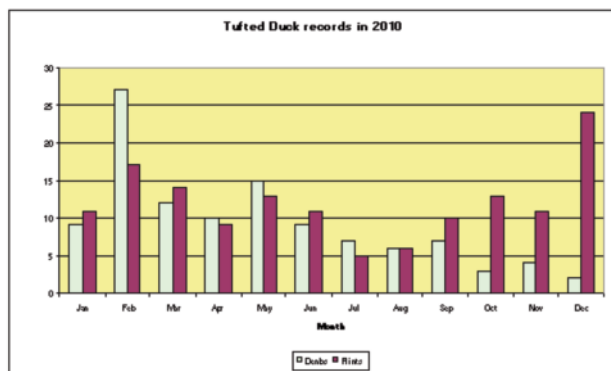
Denbs. Most of the records were 1-9 birds with eleven records of 10-27 and the largest counts were: 30 near Afonwen on 6/10, 32 there on 11/07 (MD) and 42 at Gresford Flash on 6/02 (JN).

Flints. Again, the majority of records were of 1-9 with fourteen records of 10-29. The largest counts were: 30 at Fagl Lane Quarry, Hope on 1/01 (GNR), 39 at Ddol reservoir, Ysceifiog on 6/10, 40 there on 22/02 (MD) and 50 at Shotwick lake on 2/01 (KS).

HWYADEN GOPOG

(TU)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	111	42
Flints.	144	50

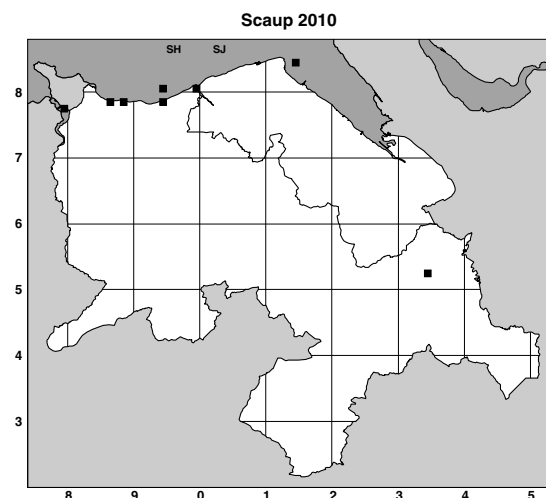




Scaup (*Aythya marila*)

Regular winter visitor in small numbers. Amber List. WBAP

HWYADEN BENDDU



(SP)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	15	4
Flints.	2	1

Denbs. Two were recorded offshore in the Pensarn/Belgrano area, and off Old Colwyn on various dates from 9/01 – 17/03 (RS, ANB), 4 were reported in the same area on 30/01 (RS, ANB) and 1-2 were again off Colwyn Bay Cliffs 11-15/11. Away from the coast a female was at Conwy RSPB on 21/11 (PM); and a male at Acton Park Lake, Wrexham from 8-11/02 (JN).

Flints. A single bird was at Point of Ayr mudflats on 12/09 (GR); and a first winter male on Rhyl Marine Lake on 3/12 (SM).

Long-tailed Duck (*Clangula hyemalis*)

Scarce winter visitor. Amber List.

Denbs. Two were seen off Pensarn on 4/01 (RS). Accepted by LRP.

HWYADEN GYNFFON-HIR

(LN)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	1	2
Flints.	0	

Common Scoter (*Melanitta nigra*)

Winter visitor. Amber list. WBAP. RBBP.

MOR HWYADEN DDU

(CX)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	30	10000
Flints.	7	400

The distribution of records was much the same as in 2009.

Denbs. Recorded Jan to Mar and Sep to Dec with large numbers seen regularly offshore along the coast. The peak early year count was 10,000 on 6/02 at Colwyn Bay (HC). The last spring record was 200 at Pensarn on 16/03 (ANB) and the first of autumn was a record of 1,000+ E of Pensarn on 27/09 (HC). The peak autumn count was much lower than in the early months - just 1,000+ on several dates (HC) until 14/11, then much smaller numbers during and after the cold weather, eg 40+ at Llanddulas on 7/12 (NHu).

Flints. There were fewer records and fewer birds here than last year, recorded only in Jan, Feb, Apr and Jun with a peak of 400 occurring early in the year at Talacre on 13/02 (DHa). The last spring record was 20 at Point of Ayr on 18/04 (GR). Peak numbers in summer were 48 at Gronant on 23/06 (RSm) and there were no records later in the year.

Surf Scoter (*Melanitta perspicillata*)

Rare vagrant

MOR-HWYADEN YR EWYN

(FS)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	1	3
Flints.	0	

Denbs. There were 3 males near Old Colwyn on 7/02, though 2 had first been seen near Pensarn on 29/01. The birds were last seen on 8/02 (MHu). Accepted by WRP.

Velvet Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*)

Regular winter visitor in small numbers. Amber List.

MOR HWYADEN Y GOGLEDD

(VS)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	6	30
Flints.	0	

Denbs. The records were all off Pensarn: 9 on 26/01, 22 on 30/01, 18 on 10/02 and 30 on 17/02 (RS). There were 10 seen there by KS on 31/01 and 3 on 21/02. Accepted by LRP.

Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*)

Winter visitor, mainly on coast and in estuaries. RBBP.

HWYADEN LYGAD AUR

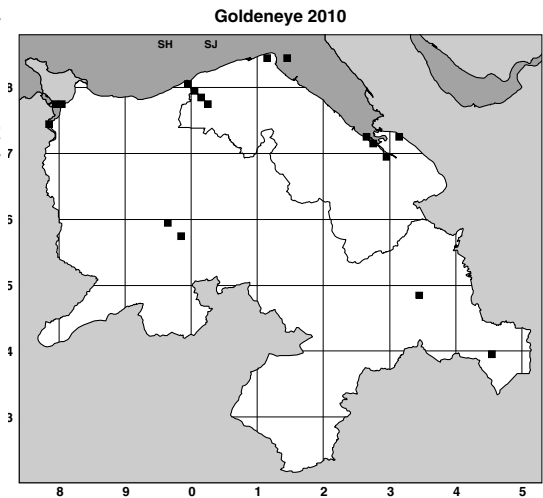
(GN)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	52	12
Flints.	55	12

Denbs. The peak winter count in the early part of the year was 12 at Kinmel Bay on 17/01 (MHu, RS). Six were then seen at Hanmer Mere on 19/02 (SD). Singles were seen at Conwy RSPB throughout the year with a maximum of 6 on 16/03 (RS). The peak count in the latter part of the year was 5 at Kinmel Bay on 3/12 (SM).

Monthly maxima in each county:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.	12	6	6	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	5
Flints.	10	11	5	1			3			6	7	12

Flints. The peak winter counts in the early part of the year were 11 near Rhyl and near Rhuddlan, both on the Afon Clwyd, on 21/02 (SH). Single birds were seen off Point of Ayr on 16/04 and 18/04 (GR). The first returning bird in autumn was near Rhuddlan on 25/10 peaking at 12 on 26/12 (SH).



Smew (*Mergellus albellus*)
Scarce winter visitor. Amber List.

Denbs. A female or immature was at Nant-y-Ffrith reservoir on 14/11 (SD). Accepted by LRP.

LLEIAN WEN		
(SY)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	1	1
Flints.	0	

Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*)
Winter visitor. Amber List.

The records were from similar locations to those of 2009 - all coastal or from the Clwyd Estuary. Recorded in every month in Denbs but not Jul, Sep or Nov in Flints.

HWYADEN FRONGOCH		
(RM)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	54	19
Flints.	32	10

Denbs. Recorded mainly from the coast between Llanddulas and Kinnel Bay or at Conwy RSPB where there was the peak count for the early part of the year, 19 on 14/03 (SaM). Most records were of 1-14 and in the latter part of the year the peak count was 25+ off Kinnel Bay on 3/12 (SM).

Monthly maxima in each county:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs	6	6	19	1+	1+	3	1+	1+	1+	1+	14	25+
Flints	4	2	5	3	1	5		10		1		1

Flints. Recorded mainly near Rhyl, Rhuddlan and at Point of Ayr. The peak spring count was 5 at Point of Ayr on 14/03 (GR) while 4 were at Rhyl Marine Lake on 3/01 (DCR). Most records were of 1-3 and the peak count was in the latter part of the year with 10 at Connah's Quay NR on 8/08 (GeWs).

Goosander (*Mergus merganser*)
Breeding resident and winter visitor.

The distribution of records was very similar to 2009 and there were records from all months in both counties, except May in Denbs.

Denbs. Most records were from Kinnel Bay and most were of 1-7 birds. The peak count at the start of the year was 19 at Kinnel Bay on 14/02 (KS). Two other large counts were 14 at Hanmer on 19/02 (SD) and 15 near Holt on 12/04 (ANB). Breeding was proven at Llangollen with 6 ducklings seen with 1 female on 13/06 (HN). Later in the year the peak count was 7 males at Horton's Nose on 14/12 (DCR).

Monthly maxima in each county:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs	2	19	2	15		5	1	1	2	1+	1	7
Flints	11	8	12	7	5	8	9	4	4	4	6	15

Flints. The majority of records were from the Rhuddlan area with a spring peak count of 12 on 20/03 (SH) and peak winter counts, also there, of 12 on 4/12 and 15 on 10/12 (SH). Most records were of 1-11 birds and breeding was confirmed near Rhuddlan on 15/05 (SH).

Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*)
Uncommon breeding resident.

Denbs. All the records were singles from Conwy RSPB: a juvenile or female on 9/07 (JHg) and 10/07 (RS) and a juvenile on 9/08 (SaM).

Flints. All the records were from Shotton Paper Mill. One female and 2 males were there on 22/04 and 3 males, a female and a juvenile on 16/06 (IMS).

Red Grouse (*Lagopus lagopus*)
Declining breeding resident on heather moors. Red List. WBAP

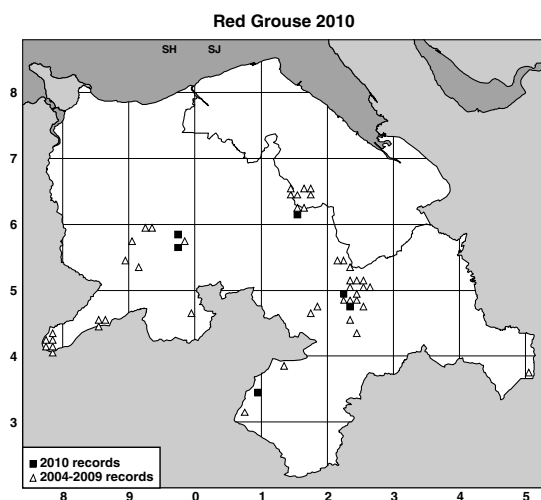
Considerably fewer records from fewer locations than in 2009. Are we about to lose this species from our area? All records are most welcome. See distribution map on p32.

Denbs. Recorded each month Feb to Jul from the main upland areas except our little bit of the Migneint. The records were of 1 - 2 birds apart from a count of 10+, including juveniles, near Blaen-cwm-llawenog in the Berwyns on 5/07 (KR).

HWYADEN DDANHEDDOG		
(GD)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	48	19
Flints.	72	15

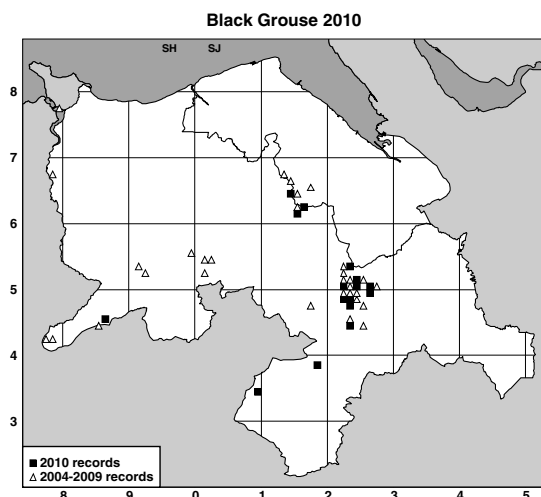
HWYADEN GOCH		
(RY)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	3	1
Flints.	6	5

(RG)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	8	10+
Flints.	0	



Black Grouse (*Tetrao tetrix*)

Scare breeding resident. Red List. WBAP



Red-legged Partridge (*Alectoris rufa*)

Common residents, breeding in small numbers, the wild populations being supplemented by annual releases by shooting interests.

Denbs. There were far fewer records this year, maybe because the 2009/2010 winter kept numbers down. Many of the records came from the one place, a GBW site at Rhosllanerchrugog while the largest count was 8 near Moel Famau on 3/01 (EdW).

GRUGIAR DDU

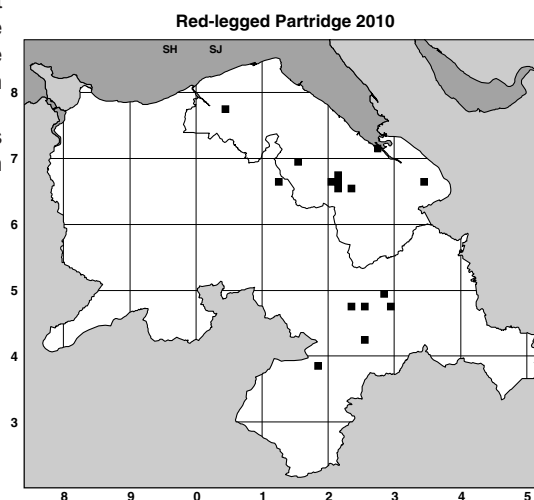
(BK)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	24	23
Flints.	0	

Denbs. Slightly fewer records than in 2009 but from similar locations. Seen in all months except Jan, Jul, Aug and Oct. All the larger counts were from the Ruabon Moors area and the largest count of 23 was at a lekking site on 7/11 (JLR).

(RL)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	40	8
Flints.	26	4

Flints. Similar number of records as last year but eight reports coming from one Rhydymwyn GBW site with the maximum of 4 on four dates in Jan (DMH).

Four were also recorded at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft during a BBS walk on 22/04 (IMS).



Black Grouse, Dermot Smith

Grey Partridge (*Perdix perdix*)

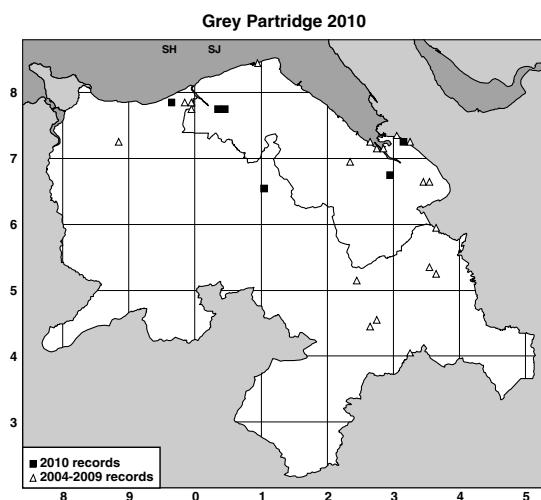
Scarce localised breeding resident. Red List. WBAP

The records were from just a few locations and not all that the species had been recorded at in the last seven years.

Denbs. Very few records were received, with 8 seen at Towyn on 30/12 (AnCu), and singles seen at Dyserth on 3/06 and 15/06 (SH), and at Llandrhyonog on 4/06 (JoH). The birds recorded

PETRISEN

(P.)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	4	8
Flints.	3	2



at Dyserth were noted to be in suitable breeding habitat.

Flints. There was no evidence of breeding activity despite a couple of past breeding locations in the county. Two were seen at Wepre Woods, Connah's Quay on 23/01 (RFR), 2 were at Shotwick fields on 2/02 (RhPi) and a single was seen at Rhuddlan on 3/06 (SH).

Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*)

FFESANT

Common residents, breeding in small numbers, the wild populations being supplemented by annual releases by shooting interests.

Denbs. Recorded mainly from areas of mixed farm and woodland but with 27.9% of records from GBW sites. The highest counts were 19 at Marial Gwyn, Clocaenog Forest on 12/11 (GU) and 30+ at Hafodty, S of Tal-y-cafn on 2/04 and 24/04 (HC). There were no confirmed breeding records but pairs were seen in suitable habit, and 4 males were observed in courtship displays at Llandegla on 9/03 (JVHu).

Flints. Most records were from Rhydymwyn (51.2% by JVHu) and Sychdyn, although birds were recorded across the area with 19.7% from GBW sites. There were higher counts than in Denbs, with 36 seen at Mold on 20/04 during a BBS walk (IMS), 27 at Penbedw-uchaf on 21/09 (MD) and 25 at Mold on 16/06, again during a BBS walk (IMS). Breeding was recorded at Rhydymwyn with recently fledged young seen on 26/05 and 27/05 (JVHu) and near Rhuddlan on 11/07 (SH). Other breeding records were of birds in suitable habit and adults entering suitable habitat at Rhydymwyn on 3/04 (MD).

Red-throated Diver (*Gavia stellata*)

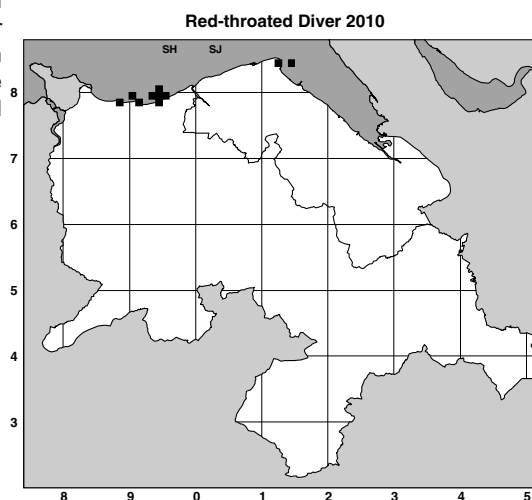
Passage migrant and winter visitor to offshore waters. Amber List. RBBP.

Denbs. Most records were from the coast at Pensarn and Colwyn Bay. The peak early year count was 20 at Pensarn on 27/02 (MtG). The last of the early year birds were 2 seen at Colwyn Bay on 10/03 (SRA) and the first returning birds were 5 recorded on 27/09 off the beach at Pensarn (HC). The peak count towards the end of the year was 35 on 19/11 far offshore at Pensarn (RS).

TROCHYDD GYDDFGOCH

(RH)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	16	35
Flints.	4	3

Flints. A maximum of 3 was recorded at both Talacre and Point of Ayr mudflats on 30/01 (AnTh, CW) which were probably the same birds. In the latter part of the year 2 were recorded on 5/12 at Point of Ayr mudflats.



Fulmar (*Fulmarus glacialis*)

ADERYN DRYCIN Y GRAIG

Breeding resident, summer visitor and passage migrant.

Denbs. The two records came from cliffs near Colwyn Bay, 5 recorded on 6/02 and 10 on 14/11 (HC).

(F.)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	2	10
Flints.	1	1

Flints. One was at Rhuddlan, surprisingly far inland, on 3/07 (SH).

Manx Shearwater (*Puffinus puffinus*)

ADERYN DRYCIN MANAW

Regular offshore during summer and autumn. Amber List.

Flints. Both records were from the mouth of the Dee Estuary, with 3 at Gronant on 23/06 (RSm) and 12 at Point of Ayr on 11/08 (GR).

(MX)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	0	
Flints.	2	12

Leach's Petrel (*Oceanodroma leucorhoa*)

PEDRYN GYNFFON FFORCHOG

Autumn passage migrant. Amber List. RBBP.

Denbs. All records were from the same day, 17/09 and reported from Birdguides. A single and a group of 15 were seen at Pensarn and 15 birds were at Llanddulas (possibly the same group).

(TL)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	3	15
Flints.	6	60

Flints. Records were received over a three day period, with 60 and 2 past Point of Ayr on 15/09 (ANB), a single was seen flying out towards the mouth of the Dee Estuary at Connah's Quay on 16/09 (AN) and three records were received from Point of Ayr for 17/09, with 50 (GR), 2 and 50 (both ANB) birds reported.

Gannet (*Morus bassana*)

HUGAN

Regular long distance visitor to coastal waters in small numbers. Amber List.

(GX)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	4	60+
Flints.	3	6

Flints. Six birds were seen from Gronant on 2/06 and another 5 on 23/06 (RSm). The last record was 2 from Point of Ayr on 11/08 (GR).

Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*)

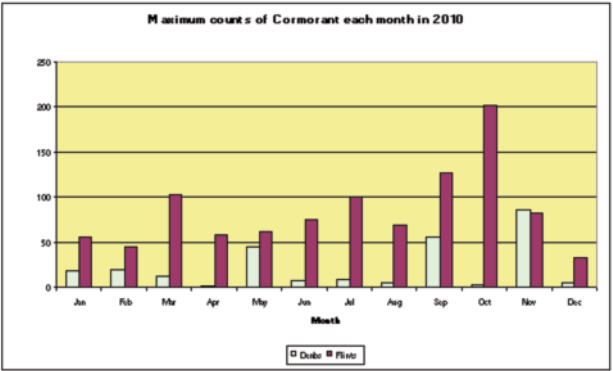
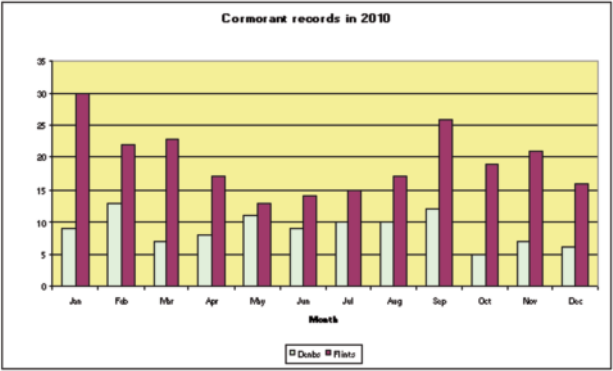
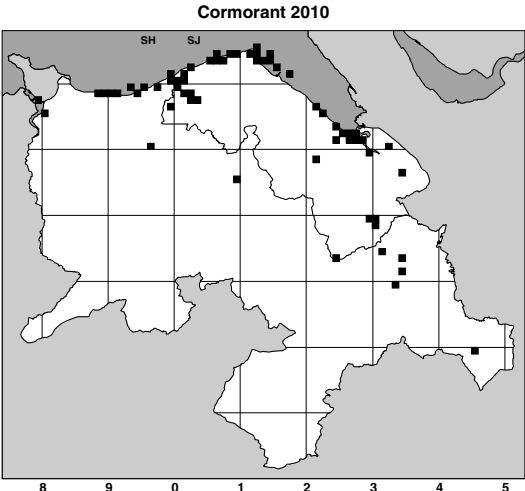
MULFRAN

Common resident throughout the year, with no known breeding sites. Amber List.

(CA)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	107	86
Flints.	233	202

Denbs. Most of the counts were of 1-20 and the largest counts were: 40 at Kinnel Bay on 21/11 (SD), 45+ at Horton's Nose on 11/05 and 56 there on 26/09 (DCR) and 86 to W of Llanddulas on 7/11 (RS). On 19/07 JHg observed 8 shoal-diving together in a lagoon at Conwy RSPB; behaviour that is not usually seen there.

Flints. Most records were of 1-82 and the largest counts (apart from those in the table, below) were: 100 at Connah's Quay NR on 8/10 (AW, JHo), 103 near Rhyl on 31/03 (SH) and 202 at Rhuddlan on 29/10 (SH). The maximum counts near Rhuddlan by SH were lower than the five-year mean in the first half of the year and higher from Aug to Oct. Presumably the very cold weather had an influence on the low maximum for Dec.



Monthly maxima near Rhuddlan (SH):

(CA)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2010	23	33	42	58	22			70	127	202		23
5 yr Mean	46.4	27.0	57.0	70.2	51.8	26.3	25.0	44.6	102.8	149.8	112.5	82.8

Shag (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis*)

MULFRAN WERDD

Scarce non-breeding visitor.

(SA)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	4	1
Flints.	0	

Bittern (*Botaurus stellaris*)

ADERYN Y BWN

Rare winter visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

Denbs. A single was at Conwy RSPB on 14/12 and 15/12 (SaM). Accepted by LRP.

(BI)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	1	1
Flints.	1	1

Flints. A single was seen near Border Pool, Inner Marsh Farm RSPB on 2/01 (RhPi). Accepted by LRP.

Cattle Egret (*Bubuculus ibis*)

CREYR Y GWARTHEG

Rare vagrant. RBBP.

Flints. A single was seen near Rhyl in mid-Mar (SJ Mavin). Accepted by WRP.

(EC)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	0	
Flints.	1	1

Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*) CREYR BACH
Increasingly common resident with breeding on the periphery of our area. Amber List. RBBP.

Denbs. The trend over previous years appears to be continuing, with Little Egrets establishing a strong foothold in the region. Breeding now takes place on the edge of the recording area, with recently fledged birds recorded at Conwy RSPB on 22/06 with 5 and 5/07 when 7 were recorded (RS). A group of 13, which contained 9 fledglings, was recorded from the same site on 17/07. A ringed bird was seen at Conwy RSPB on 15/07 (JHg). Only two inland records were received, with a single bird seen at Burton on 16/01 (KS) and 5 at the same location on 8/12 (SD). The majority of records were from Conwy RPSB with other records coming from along the coast in a similar pattern to the distribution in 2009. There were some fairly large counts from Conwy RSPB in the late summer, with 29 on 3/09 (RS), 36 on 2/08 (pJHg), 54 on 27/08 (HC) and the largest count of 61 on 26/07 (pJHg). These large numbers are probably the result of breeding birds and young birds gathering before dispersing to wintering grounds.

Monthly maxima at selected locations:

(ET)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Connah's Quay NR	1	2	8	7	13	7	45	16	12	5	5	1
White Sands	1			5	1	2	23	11	11	4	6	2
Point of Ayr	1	1		3		4	3	11	10	11	8	

Flints. There were substantially more records than from Denbs, and although Connah's Quay NR is the main site, there was a greater spread of records with birds seen all along the Dee Estuary from Connah's Quay to Talacre and along the coast to Rhyl. There were a total of seven inland records, with birds seen in Mold, Pontblyddyn, Caergwle, Llanasa and Halkyn. There was no evidence of breeding but there were also high counts with 24 at Connah's Quay NR on 9/07 (MkR), 30 at Bagillt on 11/07 (GR) and 45 at Connah's Quay NR on 9/07 (DNS).

Grey Heron (*Ardea cinerea*) GREYR GLAS
Widespread resident. The Dee Estuary is a site of national importance in the UK. Despite this being a common species, few heronries are known and counted regularly.

The distribution of records was similar to that in 2009.

Denbs. Although this is a regularly encountered species no evidence of breeding was recorded. Conwy RSPB continues to be the main site for records, although a number of records were received from inland locations. A single was recorded regularly at Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd (JRob) through the winter periods, suggesting a regular wintering spot, and birds were seen regularly at Erddig pool throughout the year. The highest count was of 9 at Conwy RPSB on 6/03 (DzD), with other high counts of 5 at St Asaph Business Park on 9/12 (SH), 5 at Moel Truan on 21/06 (SST) and 5 at Dyserth on 7/09 (SH).

Flints. This species is primarily encountered along the coast, with Connah's Quay NR, Rhuddlan, Bagillt, Mostyn and Talacre being the main locations for records. Inland records were far fewer than for Denbs with birds being seen in Buckley, Rhydymwyn, Bodfari, Hope,

and a number of areas around Mold. As with Denbs there was no evidence of breeding in the county. High counts were of 21 at White Sands on the Dee Estuary on 12/07 (GR) and 11 at Bagillt Marsh on 10/10 (GR). There were a total of forty six records of 3 or more birds, all from coastal locations and almost all from the second half of the year suggesting a build up of birds after the breeding season.

White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*) CICONIA GWYN
Rare vagrant.,

Denbs. Two had been seen on Ynys Môn earlier in the day then seen flying over Penmaenmawr and this record was of two in a field N of Llyn Bran, photographed (see the back cover of this report) on 11/04 (Delyth MacRae). Accepted by LRP.

Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*) LLWYBIG
Scarce winter visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

Denbs. One was seen and photographed at Conwy RSPB on 13/07 (DaWi). Accepted by LRP.

Little Grebe (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*) GWYFACH FACH
Breeding resident in small numbers.

The distribution of records was very similar to that in 2009. Recorded in every month in both counties.

Denbs. Coastal records were mainly from Conwy RSPB, whilst inland records were fairly common from Erddig pool, Wrexham. All but one record were of 1-4 birds and the peak count was 6 at Afonwen on 27/08 (MD).

Monthly maxima for each county:

(LG)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs	1	2	3	2	2	2	1	6	4	1	2	2
Flints	16	14+	5	3	5	1	6	2	4	6	5	7

Flints. Most records were of 1-7 birds from along the Dee and Clwyd Estuaries where the maximum count was 14+ near Rhyl on 8/01 (SH). Inland records included 14+ at Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog on 22/02 (SD). The peak count within the Dee Estuary was just 6 at Oakenholt Marsh on 29/07 (BH, KLJ). Breeding was confirmed at Penbedw on 31/05 (MD).

Great Crested Grebe (*Podiceps cristatus*)

Breeding resident in small numbers

The distribution of records across the area is similar to that in 2009.

Denbs. Recorded in all months except Dec. Birds were mainly at the coast during the winter months or at Gresford Flash in most months. Other inland sites were mainly used during the summer months (mainly Apr to Jul). The spring peak was 15+ at Pensarn on 5/02 (DCR) and 10 were there on 6/03 (NHu). The autumn peak was 17 E of Pensarn on 27/09 (HC) and a maximum of 6 was recorded at Gresford Flash on 14/11 (KS).

Monthly maxima from each county:

(GG)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.	14	15+	3	4	2	10	4	1	17	5	6	
Flints.		1		2	1	2		1		3	6	4

Flints. The majority of records were from locations along the Dee Estuary but sightings were not regular through the year (see table, above). The peak counts in the early part of the year were just 2 - at Rhyl brickworks on 11/04 (SaB) and at Fagl Lane Quarry, Hope on 24/04 (SD, JWNA). The peak count in the latter part of the year was 6 at Connah's Quay NR on 24/11 (GR).

Slavonian Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*)

Locally rare winter visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

Flints. There were 2 on the Dee Estuary at Bagillt on 1/01 (ACoh) - see the cover photograph. Accepted by LRP.

Red Kite (*Milvus milvus*)

Occasional visitor, has bred. Amber List. RBBP.

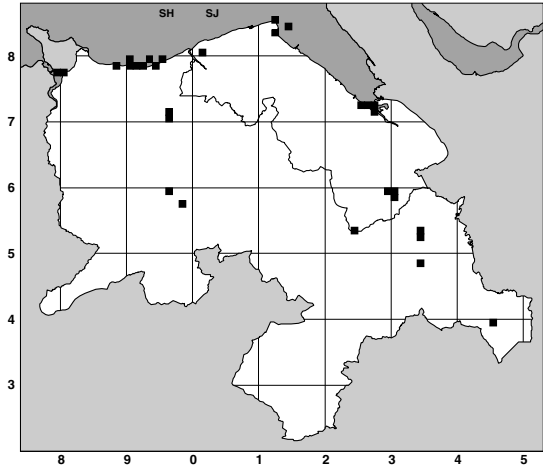
The number of records continues to grow, even in Flints. and birds are seen throughout the year (except Nov) . They have been seen at more locations spread across NE Wales.

Denbs. Most records were of singles with three records of 2 birds. The other records were: 3

GWYFACH FAWR GOPOG

(GG)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	81	17
Flints.	28	6

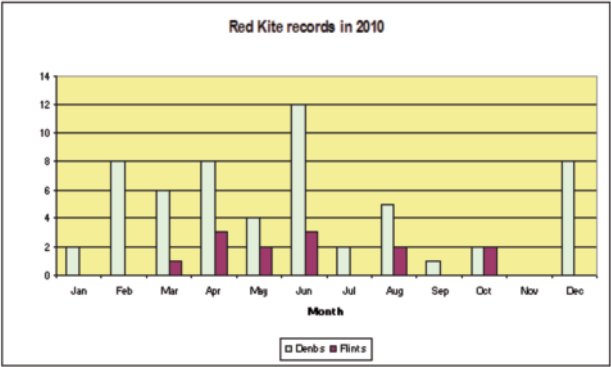
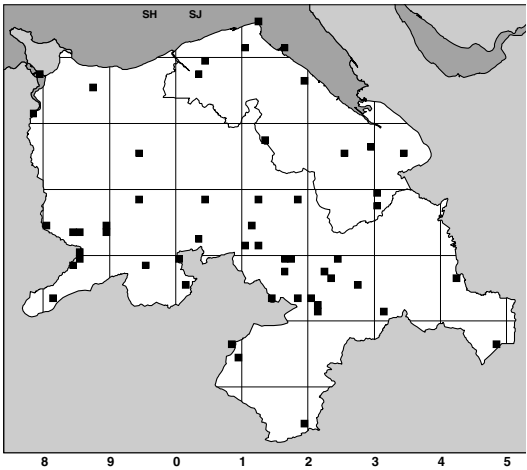
Great Crested Grebe 2010



at Rhoslydan on 5/06 (JoWi) one of which had a yellow wing-tag (but the symbol was not identified so I was unable to get the ringing details for the bird), 3 at Conwy RSPB on 2/12 (pJHg) and 4 near Blaen-cwm-llawenog in the Berwyns on 2/06 (KR).

Flints. All but one record was of singles. Two birds were seen over Penycloddiau on 20/06 (EdW).

Red Kite 2010



Marsh Harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*)

Very scarce passage migrant. Amber List.

Flints. A juvenile was seen at Border Pool, Inner Marsh Farm RSPB on 18/09 (KS). Accepted by LRP.

WAOD Y GWERNI

(MR)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	0	
Flints.	1	1

Hen Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*)

WAOD TINWEN

Scarce breeding species and winter visitor. Red List. WBAP. RBBP.

Records were distributed across the area in a similar way to 2009 but with some records near Point of Ayr. Most of the records over the years have been from upland areas. The histogram shows that most of the records were from the early months of the year.

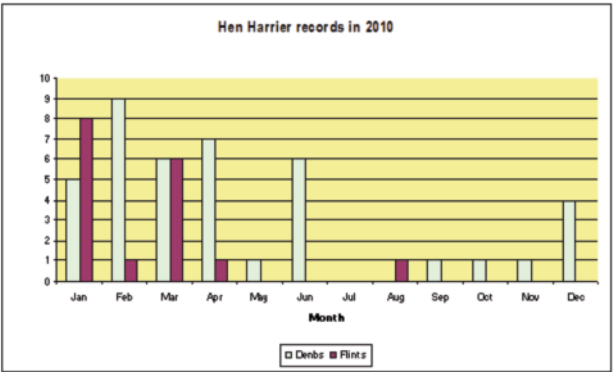
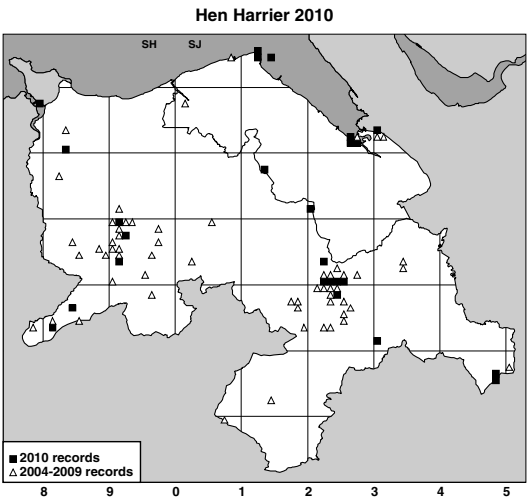
Denbs. Recorded in every month except Jul and Aug. The records for which there was information about presumed sex of the birds are shown in the table below. Given the months of sighting, all the ringtails were probably females. Most sightings were of singles apart from: 2 at Fenn's Moss on 4/04 (ANB), 2 females and 2 males at Mwdwl Eithin on 13/04 (WAO), 2 near Llyn Aled Isaf on 22/05 (KS) and 2 at Esclusham Mountain on 16/06 (KS). On Mynydd Hiraethog there was a very promising start to the breeding season with possibly ten separate pairs, but as a result of predation and likely human interference only 8 young fledged. Overall Hen Harrier productivity has been much worse than in 2009 (WRBBSG).

Flints. Recorded only in Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr and Aug. All records were of singles.

The table shows the numbers of males and ringtails during the year.

(HH)		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs	Male	1	2		3		3						1
	Ringtail			1	2		1						1
	No detail	4	7	5	5	2	3			1	1	1	2
Flints	Ringtail	2											
	No detail	6	1	6	1			1					

(HH)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	41	2
Flints.	17	1



Hen Harrier,
Dermot Smith

Breeding (WRBBSG):

(HH)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	15	67	36	22	1.47

Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*)

GWALCH MARTH

Rare breeding resident, probably under-recorded in our area. RBBP.

Very few records were submitted this year. All records are welcome.

(GI)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	3	2
Flints.	0	

Denbs. A male was seen near Cyffylliog on 9/03 (KS), another male was seen in a different part of the county on 28/04, one was seen in Clocaenog Forest on 21/06 (RCa) and 2 nestlings were ringed there on 9/06 (IMS).

Breeding (WRBBSG):

(GI)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	1	2	2	2	2.00

Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter nisus*)

Common and widespread breeding resident

Recorded in all months in both counties and the distribution of records is similar to that of 2009. The same areas of the W and S are without records but these are the areas of most highland (moors or sheep grazing) that are not suitable habitat for this species.

Denbs. The large majority of records were of singles and 61.8% were from GBW sites which, again, is lower than the proportion in 2008. If this means that more were being seen and recorded in the wider countryside, then the lower GBW proportion is not necessarily a problem. The largest counts were 2 at Rhuthun on 26/04 (AW), 2 at Llangollen on 24/10 and 14/11 (HN) and 3 at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest on 8/08 (IMS), one of which escaped from a mist net.

Flints. Again, the majority of records were of singles with 44.5% coming from GBW sites (still considerably lower than the 66.0% in 2008). Atlas fieldwork may have contributed extra records from around the county. The largest counts were 2 at Sychdyn in the week beginning 19/12 (AB, IMS), 2 at Mostyn Bank on 4/10 (JoNi), 2 at Oakenholt Marsh on 27/11 (AISa) and 3 near Cilcain on 20/04 and 30/04 (GEM).

Breeding (WRBBSRG):

(SH)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	2	5	4	4	2.00

Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*)

Common and widespread breeding resident.

Recorded in every month in both counties and the records were more evenly distributed across the area than in 2009

Denbs. The sight of a single Buzzard, soaring, is for us a common experience but we are also lucky to see several at once. This year, the large groups were not all in the air - the largest counts were: 10 at Brynhyfryd, Clocaenog Forest on 16/03 (KS), 12 at Rhewl on 11/03 AW), then feeding for worms on the ground were 12 near Rhosymedre on 29/10 (GWA) and 13 near Borrass Quarry about 10.05 (JLR). The breeding results are all from Denbs and productivity was very close to that in 2009 and slightly better.

Flints. As in Denbs, most sightings were of 1-3 birds and the largest counts were 7 at Rhydymwyn on 14/04 (JVHu), 7 near Rhuddlan on 1/10 and 8 there on 11/04 (SH).

Maximum counts each month at a single location.

(BZ)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs	2	6	12	8	13	6	6	2	3	12	3	2
Flints	3	5	5	8	5	5	4	5	6	7	4	3

Breeding (WRBBSRG):

(BZ)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	42	94	71	64	1.52

GWALCH GLAS

(SH)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	272	3
Flints.	218	3

Rough-legged Buzzard (*Buteo lagopus*)

Rare winter visitor.

Flints. One was seen over Penycloddiau on 24/10 (EdW). Accepted by LRP.

BOD BACSIOG

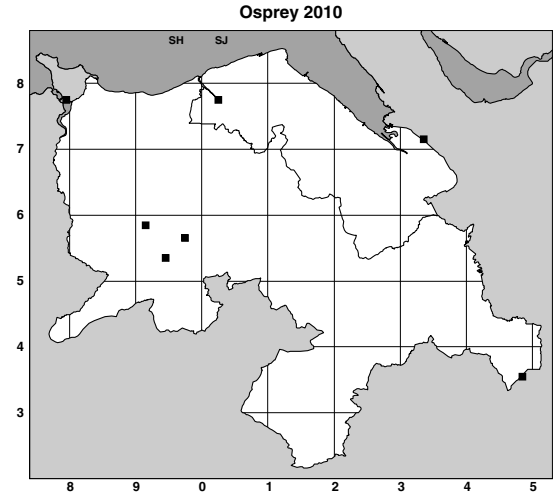
(RF)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	0	
Flints.	1	1

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)

Rare spring and autumn migrant. Amber List. RBBP.

GWALCH Y PYSGOD

(OP)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	8	1
Flints.	2	1



All birds were seen in the period Mar to Jul with a totally different distribution of records from 2009.

Denbs. There were records of singles at Conwy RSPB on three days early in the year: 11/03 (RoH), 27/03 (SaM) and 11/04 (pJHg). The last record was 1 hunting at Llyn Aled Isaf on 6/07 (MaO).

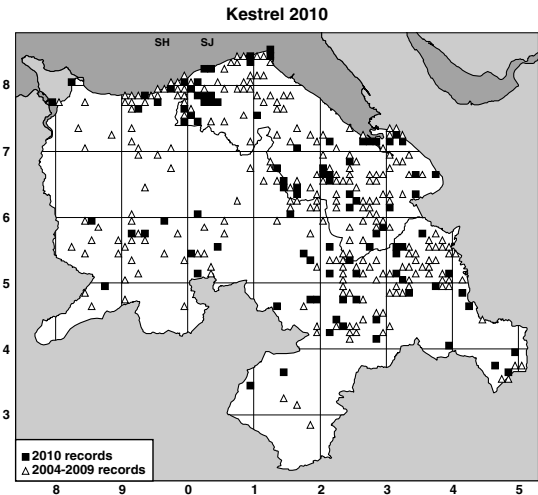
Flints. One was seen near Rhuddlan on 11/04 (SH) and 1 at Deeside Industrial Park on 21/07 (DSm).

Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*)

Common breeding resident. Red List. WBAP

CUDYLL COCH

(K.)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	86	7
Flints.	104	5



Considerably fewer records than in 2009 but recorded in every month in both counties. The distribution of records across the area is less biased towards the E than in 2009, possibly because of more widespread recording as part of the Atlas fieldwork. We would welcome more records of Kestrel as it is unclear if it is not doing well or if it is just not being recorded. The breeding results are slightly poorer than last year.

Denbs. Most of the records were of singles and there were nine records

of 2. The largest counts were of 3 at Fenn's Moss on 17/03 (JoAr), 5 nestlings ringed near Llyn Brenig on 28/06 (IMS) and 7, mostly juveniles, hunting over rough grass at Creigiau Eglwyseg, Llangollen on 29/07 (JLR).

Flints. Again, most of the records were of singles with seven records of 2 or 2+. The largest count was 5 nestlings ringed at Shotton Paper Mill on 28/06 (IMS).

Breeding (WRBBSRG, AmB):

(K.)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	13	47	37	35	2.69

Merlin (*Falco columbarius*)

Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

The distribution of records is broadly the same as in 2009. The small number of known nesting attempts continues to cause concern.

Denbs. The few records were from each end of the year with none recorded as observed in breeding areas, though this may now be partly because of the very small numbers of breeding pairs in the area. All records were of singles, one of a male and eight of females. A female at Conwy RSPB on 18/10 was chasing Starlings (JoWa, JHg). An unsexed bird was seen, bravely, mobbing Peregrines near Blaen Llynor in the Berwyns on 1/09 (pCd).

Flints. The larger number of records were, again, from the months either side of the breeding season. None have been known to breed in Flints for many years. Most of the records were of singles with 2 near Rhyl on 17/01 (MHu, RS), 2 at Connah's Quay NR on 5/12 (AW) and probably the same two at Oakenholt Marsh also on 5/12 (DNS) and 2 near Rhyl on 10/12 (SH). Most of the birds were unsexed but three records were of males and nine of females.

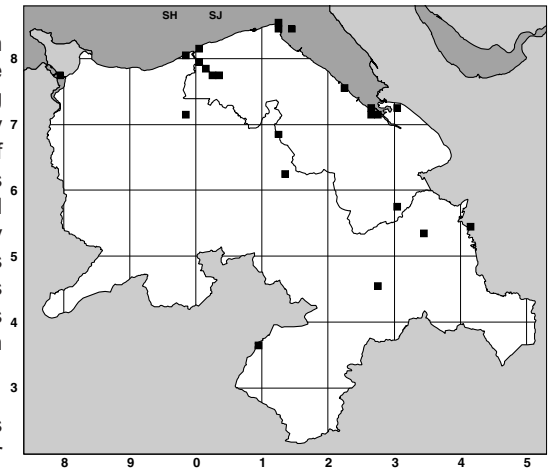
Breeding (WRBBSRG):

(ML)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	2	8	4	4	2.00

CUDYLL BACH

(ML)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	15	1
Flints.	48	2

Merlin 2010



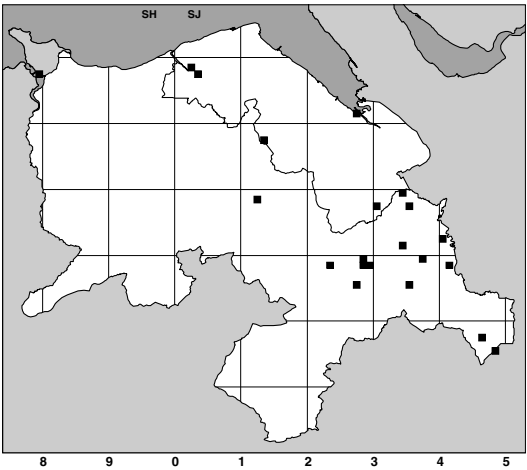
Hobby (*Falco subbuteo*)

Uncommon passage migrant and scarce breeding species. Amber List. RBBP.

HEBOG YR EHDYDD

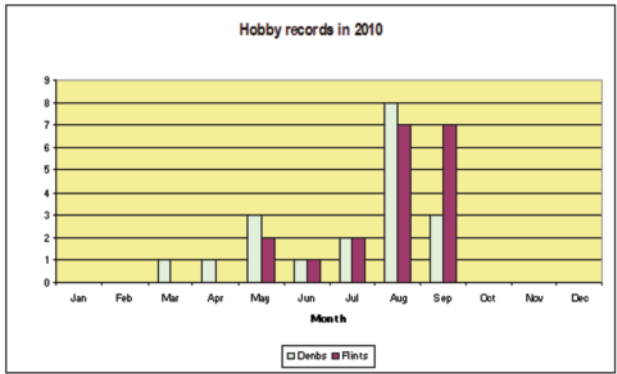
(HY)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	19	4
Flints.	19	1

Hobby 2010



The distribution of records is similar to that in 2009 and, as might be expected with such a late breeding bird, most records were from Aug and Sep. If some of these birds were juveniles it is possible that Hobby are breeding successfully away from Fenn's Moss at places as yet undiscovered?

Denbs. The first record was very early - on 14/03 near Sutton Green - but NHu reported that he had a good view of the bird. Most records were of singles and 2 were seen near Fenn's Moss on 30/04 (ANB), 2 near World's End on 21/07 (JLR), 2 there again on 8/08 (WF) and 4 were near Fenn's Moss on 18/08 (ANB), but there was no confirmed breeding either at the moss or elsewhere. The last seen was on 26/09 between Wrexham and Coedpoeth (CJ).



Flints. The first record was

a single at Caergwrlle on 16/05 (JWNA) and all other records were also of singles. A juvenile was seen near Rhuddlan on 12/08 (SH) which headed off NE and the last seen was at Connah's Quay NR on 22/09 (DNS).

Peregrine (*Falco peregrinus*)

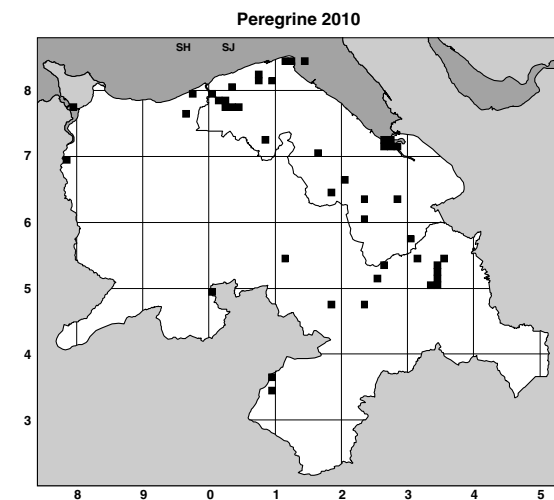
Breeding resident. RBBP.

HEBOG TREMOR

(PE)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	39	2
Flints.	91	2

In Denbs there were records from all months except Nov and in Flints from all months. The distribution of records was slightly different to 2009 and breeding productivity was slightly better.

Denbs. Most of the records were of singles, one of which flew off with a Coot from Gresford Flash on 2/02 (JN). There were 2 over Acton Park on 1/03 (NH), 2 over the centre of Wrexham chasing Starlings on 6/03 (NHu), 2 near Blaen-cwm-llawenog in the Berwyns on 5/07 (KR), 2



near Wrexham on 27/07 (NH) and 2 circling together over Blaen Llynor in the Berwyns on 1/09 (pCd).

Flints. Most of the records were of singles with the others being: 2 at Talacre on 14/01 (GNR), 2 at Oakenholt Marsh on 6/03 (DNS), 2 at Connah's Quay NR on 28/03 (AW) - these two sightings may have been of the pair that bred at Connah's Quay Power Station, where 2 nestlings were ringed on 26/05 (IMS) - 2 near Nannerch on 29/06 (MD), 2 at Caergwrle on 12/09 (JWNA), 2 near Talacre on 16/09 (JuR) and 2 at Gwaenysgor on 23/10 (LJ).

Breeding (WRBBSRG):

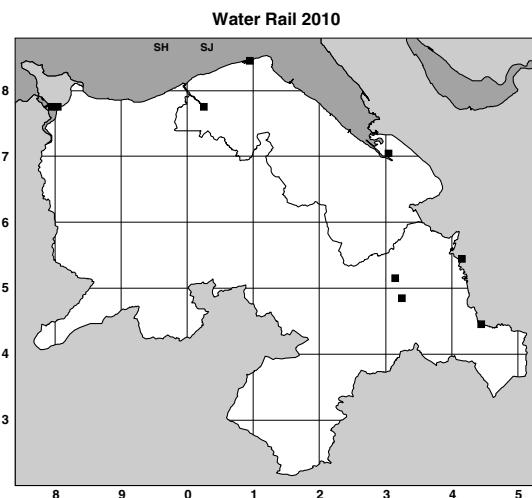
(PE)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	12	37	28	26	2.17

Water Rail (*Rallus aquaticus*)

Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

Denbs. A slight increase in the number of locations for observations than 2009. The highest count was 4 seen at Holt on 29/12 (KeW). There were three records of 3 from Conwy RSPB, on 1/01 (RS), 22/01 (RS) and 31/10 (JHg). All other records were of singles.

Flints. A modest increase in records from 2009. Gronant dunes held 2 on 15/02 (HC) with a single ringed at Shotton Steelworks on 21/11 (pBH) and another seen at Rhuddlan on 24/12 (SH).



RHEGEN Y DWR

(WA)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	23	4
Flints.	3	2

Corncrake (*Crex crex*)

Rare migrant. Red List. RBBP.

Flints. A freshly dead corpse was delivered to CA on 15/09 having been killed by a car in Northop. Photographs were taken by IMS and the corpse was subsequently presented to Liverpool Museum. Accepted by WRP.

RHRGEN YR YD

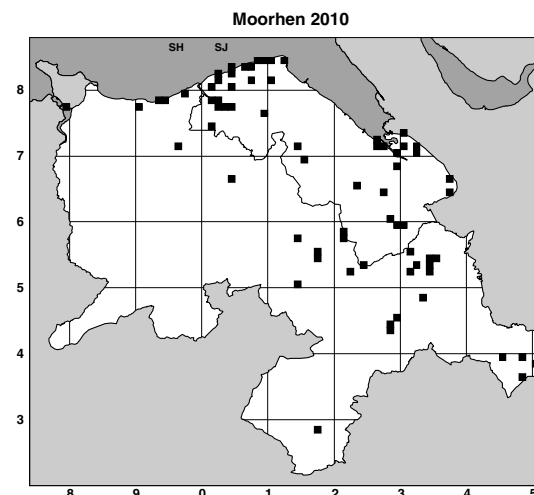
(CE)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	0	
Flints.	1	1

Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*)

Locally common breeding resident.

IAR DWR

(MH)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	113	15+
Flints.	147	20



Denbs. Recorded from across the area and in every month of the year. There were only two double figure counts: 15+ at Pensarn on 20/01 (DCR) and 15 at Acton Park, Wrexham on 24/12 (NH). Juvenile birds recorded at Bronington, Dyserth, Llandegla, Pensarn and Sydalit.

Flints. Reports up again this year, from every month and many could be classed as coastal, with the maximum record of 20 at Llawndy Farm, Talacre on 21/01 (pJR). Other large counts from Rhuddlan, 16 on 17/01 (SH), 10 at Gronant on 20/01 (DCR) and 10 at Oakenholt Marsh on 21/11 (IG). Records of juveniles were from Nannerch, Prestatyn, Talacre and Rhuddlan area.

Coot (*Fulica atra*)

Locally common breeding resident and winter visitor. Found on many inland lakes and other still waters.

CWTIAR

(CO)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	137	70
Flints.	161	83

Denbs. The number of records for Coot appears to be fairly steady with 138 in 2010 being only a slight increase over the previous 3 years. Breeding was recorded across the recording area, with birds observed in suitable habitat from Mar onwards. The first indication of breeding was recorded at Moss Valley, Wrexham on 20/04 with adult birds entering a nest site. The first record of recently fledged young was on 3/06 at Bwlchgwyn (SD), with similar records from Hanmer, Ffrith, Brymbo and Afonwen throughout Jul. The high count for the year was 70 on 24/12 at Gresford Flash (NHu). There were two counts of 40 or more birds, with 40 seen at Hanmer on 19/02 (SD) and 47 at Afonwen on 27/08 (MD). There were records from every month of the year with the higher counts during the winter months, and counts of single birds or small groups during the summer. Records from the winter months also tended to be from larger bodies of water.

Monthly maxima from each county:

(CO)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs	30	40	17	14	6	16	18	47	1	36	10	70

Flints. The number of records and the highest counts were similar to the previous 5 years, suggesting no obvious change for this species. Records were received from every month, with the two winter periods (Jan- Mar and Oct-Dec) providing over two thirds of all records. There appears to be no significant difference in numbers between the winter and summer periods, with similar high counts being recorded in both periods, with 83 seen at Ysceifiog on 6/10 (MD) and 62 at Hope on 2/06 (NH). The first fledglings were recorded on 12/05 at Ewloe (MD) with the last fledglings seen on 16/07 at Rhuddlan (SH). The majority of records were from the Dee Estuary, with Talacre, Connah's Quay NR and Oakenholt Marsh being main sites, although records were received from across the recording area.

Crane (*Grus grus*)

Rare migrant

2009

Denbs. Two were seen flying over Fenn's Moss on 30/05 (SD). Accepted by WRP.

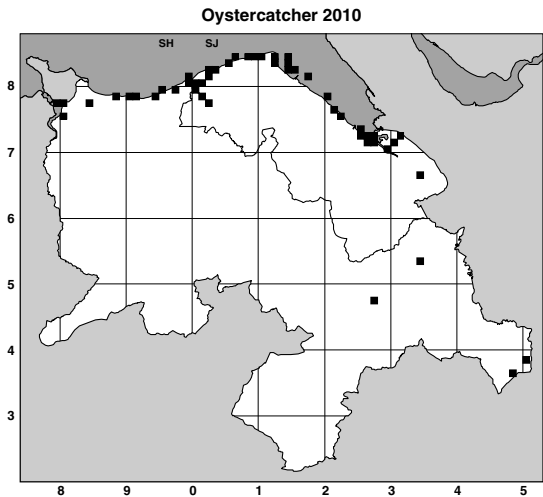
GARAN		
(AN)	No of records	Max count
Denbs (2009)	1	2
Flints.	0	

Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*)

Abundant winter visitor around coast but scarce breeding resident. Amber List.

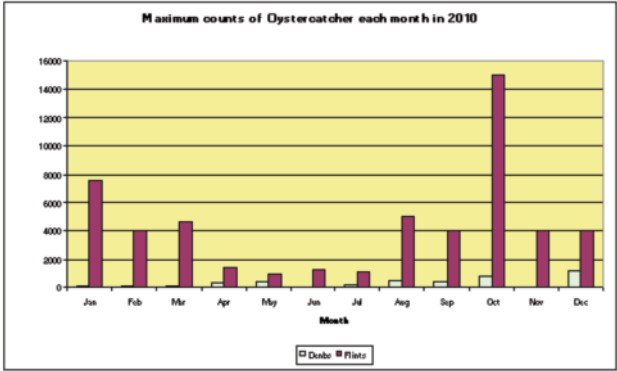
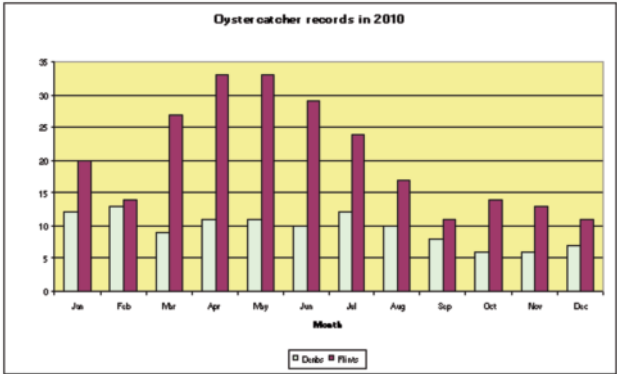
The distribution of records across the area is broadly similar to that in 2009 with more records along the coast of Denbs. All the large counts were from sites in Flints. There were records throughout the year with no shortage during the breeding season, though the numbers of birds present at that time is greatly reduced. The maximum count of 15,000 at Mostyn Bank is the largest total since 16,000 at Point of Ayr in 1995 and 20,800 at Point of Ayr in 1993 (from published records). From the numbers of birds counted there was a general lack of birds from Apr to Jul when most would have been breeding - some locally, but most elsewhere.

Denbs. There were just a few records each month with the largest counts in the last few months of the year. 450+ at Llanddulas on 28/08 (JVHu) all of which moved W within about 40 minutes, 750 at Conwy RSPB on 29/10 (SaM) and 1,200+ at Horton's Nose on



14/12 (DCR). The only record of breeding was an occupied nest at Fenn's Moss on 17/04 (JoAr).

Flints. There were more records and much larger counts here. Some forty nine records were of counts of 1,000+ and the largest of these were: 5,000 on mudflats near Greenfield on 28/08 (JoNi), 5,000 at Mostyn on 10/10 (GR), 5,000 at Mostyn Bank on 14/10 (JoNi), 7570 at Mostyn on 17/01 (GR), 10,000 at Mostyn Bank on 4/10 and 15,000 there on 9/10 (JoNi). Breeding was recorded at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft during a BBS walk on 18/06 (IMS), and other breeding activity was noted at Shotton Steelworks on 4/07 (RyE), near Rhuddlan on 19/05 and 22/05 (SH) and there was an occupied nest at the Marine Lake, Rhyl on 11/05 (DCR).



Monthly maxima at selected sites:

(OC)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	1	20	32	285	400	4	230	2	387	750	1	1
Point of Ayr	4000	4000	850	150	23	20	45	2000	4000	4000	4000	4000
Mostyn										15000		
Oakenholt Marsh*	4000	1200	350	300	500	220	40	1000	3000	4000	4000	2000

*Represents maxima for Oakenholt Marsh and Connah's Quay NR

Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*)
Scarce visitor. Amber list. RBBP.



Avocet, Dermot Smith

Little Ringed Plover (*Charadrius dubius*)

Rare summer visitor and passage migrant. Scarce breeder. RBBP.

The records were from similar places to 2009, just a couple of locations less. There were no records of breeding submitted.

Denbs. Recorded in Apr, May and Aug. The first record was of 2 at Llay Pool, Sydalft on 2/04 (KS) and the last was a juvenile at Conwy RSPB (where all the other birds, mainly singles, were seen) on 17/08 (RS). The largest count was 3 on 23/04 (JuW).

Flints. Recorded in Apr to Jun. The first record was 2 at White Sands, in the Dee Estuary, on 18/04 (PDS) and the last was a single by the Afon Clwyd, NW of Rhuddlan on 19/06 (NHu). The other records were of 1-2 birds.

Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*)

Breeding resident in small numbers, passage migrant. Amber List. WBAP

The records were from similar locations as in 2009 and they

CMBIG		
(AV)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	1	1
Flints.	0	

Denbs. Just one record of a single at Conwy RSPB on 9/11 (SaM). Accepted by LRP.

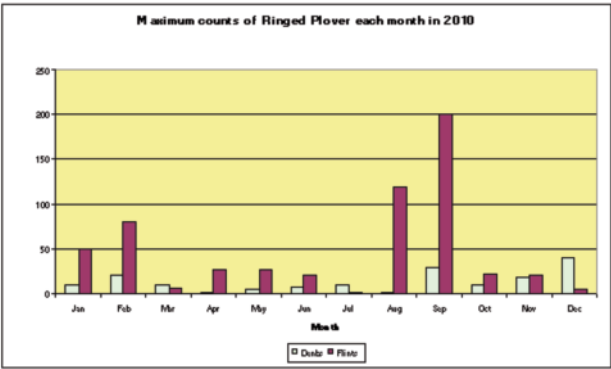
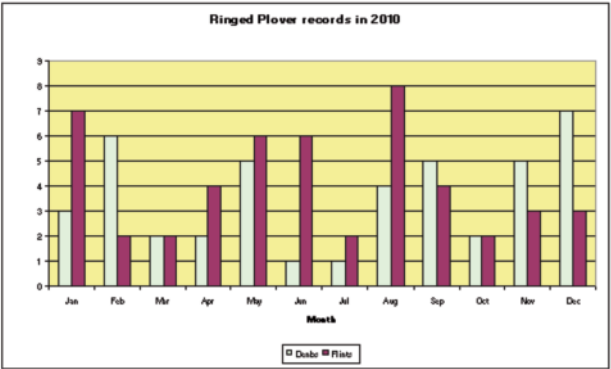
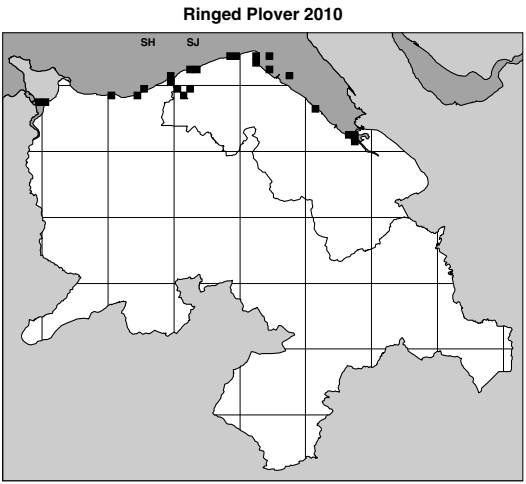
(LP)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	10	3
Flints.	8	2

(RP)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	43	40
Flints.	49	200

do not appear to show any clear indication of a relationship with possible migration periods. However, the histogram of the numbers of birds counted does seem to show a peak in the autumn, which was probably a passage of mainly young birds.

Denbs. More than half of the records were counts in single figures. Of the thirteen counts of 10+ the largest were 30+ E of Pensarn on 27/09 (HC), 30+ at Conwy RSPB on 21/12 (SaM) and 40 there on 22/12 (RBM). There were no records of confirmed breeding.

Flints. All but four records were of 1-80 birds and the largest counts were all at Point of Ayr mudflats by GR: 100 on 11/08, 120 on 15/08, 200 on 11/09 and 12/09. Breeding was confirmed at Gronant, where 1 nestling was ringed on 30/06 and 2 on 5/07 (pBH).



Monthly maxima at Connah's Quay NR and Point of Ayr:

(RP)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Connah's Quay NR	9	13	9	1	5			2	6	9	19	40
Point of Ayr	50		6	11	10	11		120	200	1		

Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*)

Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor. Red List. WBAP

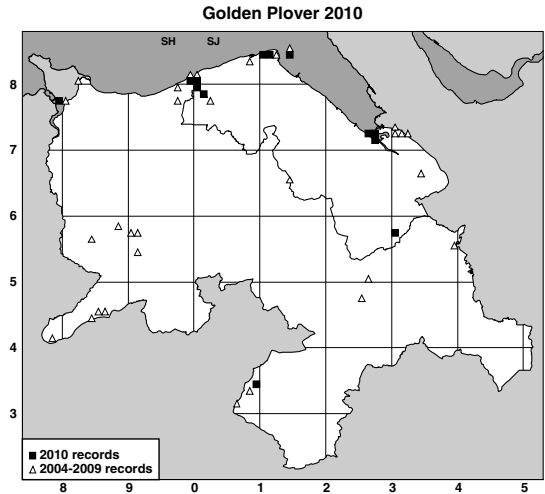
CWTIAD AUR

(GP)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	4	1
Flints.	20	20

Most of the records were from the usual places but with one record from a possible breeding location in S Denbs.

Denbs. The first record was 10+ at Kinmel Bay on 3/01 (DCR), then a single at Blaen-cwm-llawenog in the Berwyns on 2/06 (KR) and the last two records were singles at Conwy RSPB on 18/09 (JHg) and 11/10 (pJHg).

Flints. The records were in Jan to Mar then Sep to Dec. The earliest record was 17 near Rhyl on 3/01 (DCR) and the last spring record was 10 at the Point of Ayr on 14/03 (GR). The first autumn record was 8 flying N over Caergwrle on 16/09 (JWNA) and the last was of 3 at Talacre dunes on 16/12 (pJR). The largest count, a modest one, was 20 at White Sands on 8/11 (JuR).



autumn record was 8 flying N over Caergwrle on 16/09 (JWNA) and the last was of 3 at Talacre dunes on 16/12 (pJR). The largest count, a modest one, was 20 at White Sands on 8/11 (JuR).

Grey Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*)

Winter visitor and passage migrant. Red List.

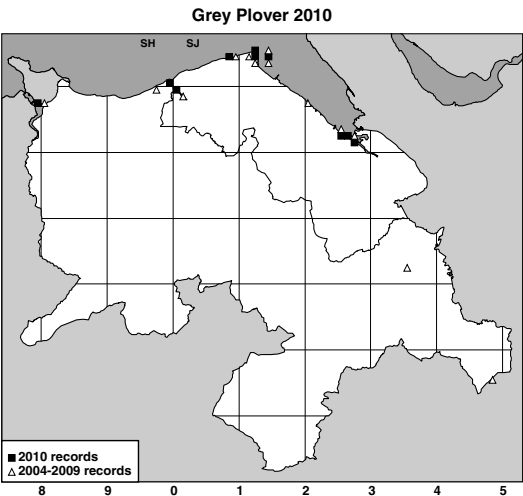
CWTIAD LLWYD

(GV)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	8	3
Flints.	27	40

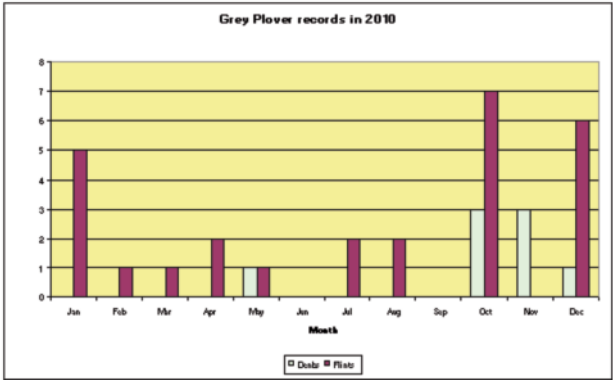
The temporal pattern of records does not seem to show any particular peaks of migration and the map shows that the birds were seen mainly in the same places as in 2009.

Denbs. Most of the records were of 1-2 birds and seven were at Conwy RSPB. The first record was of 2 on 14/05 (JoWa, JHg) and the last was the largest count - 3 at Kinmel Bay on 24/12 (RMB).

Flints. From the records a few birds clearly winter on the coast. The first record was 2 at Point of Ayr on 14/01 (GR) and the last was a single on the Afon Clwyd, S of Rhyl on 28/12 (SH). Most of the other records were of 1-3 birds and the largest counts were 15 at Point of Ayr on 4/02 (GR), 15 near Talacre on 8/10 (GNR). The others were at Point of Ayr: 30 on 5/12 (GR),



40 on 10/10 (GR) and 40 on 31/10 (KS).



Monthly maxima at Point of Ayr:

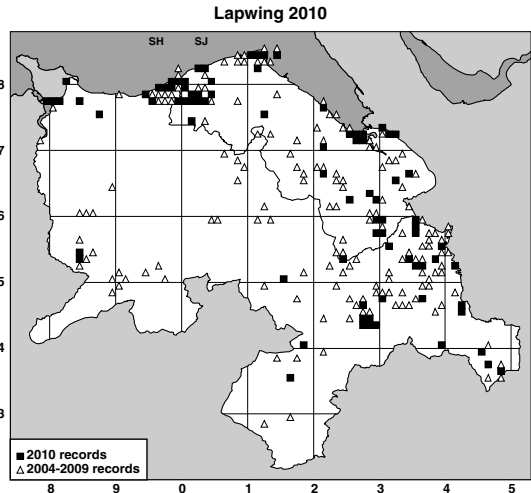
(GV)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Point of Ayr	3	15	2	1	2			1		40		30

Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*)

Breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Red List. WBAP

CORNCHWIGLEN

(L.)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	146	1100
Flints.	289	2000



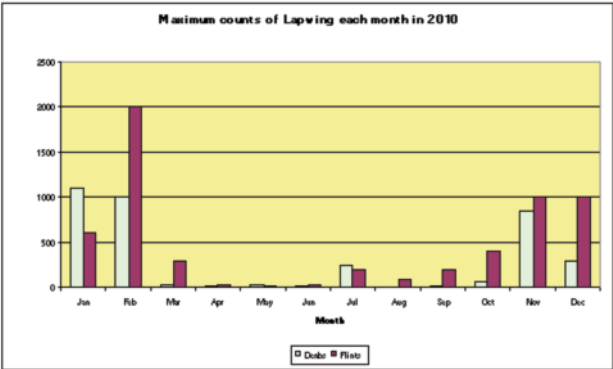
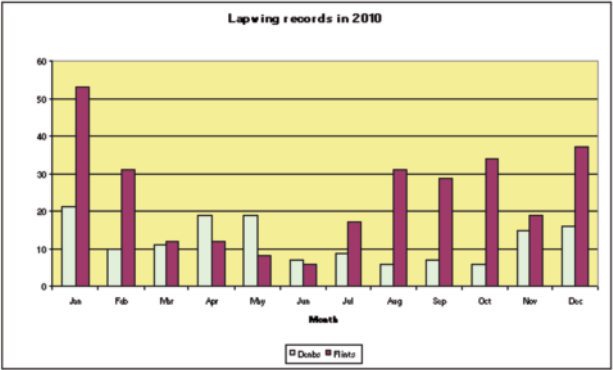
Records came from similar locations to those in 2009 but from only a small sample of sites used in the previous seven years. The temporal pattern of records is similar to last year and the maximum counts are fairly similar, though this year the highest count was early in the year, but after the period of snow and freezing from Jan into Feb.

Denbs. The majority of the records were from Conwy RSPB where there was a large count but not the largest. Most records were of 1-100 with eight others of 110-300. The largest counts were: 650 at Conwy RSPB on 1/01

(MDu), 730 near Ridleywood in the Dee floodplain on 11/11, 850 at Worthenbury on the same day (NFr), 1,000+ near Borrass Quarry, Wrexham on 5/02 (JN) and 1,100 near Ridleywood on 25/01 (NFr). Breeding was confirmed at three sites: near Tregeiriog, at Conwy RSPB and at Syddallt.

Flints. The table, below, shows where many of the large counts were made. Many records were of 1-100 but there were fifty four records of 116-750. The largest flocks were: 800+ at Shotwick Fields on 15/02 (HC), 1,000 at Connah's Quay NR on 24/11 (GR), 1,000+ near Rhuddlan on 31/12 (JVHu), 1,200 at Talacre dunes on 4/02 (pJR) and 2,000 at Shotwick Fields

on 27/02 (CW). There were no records of confirmed breeding.



Maxima from selected locations:

(L.)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	650	10	18	1	4	1	1	1	10	1	1	300
Rhyl*	200	100					50					250
Point of Ayr	276	567						1				150
Oakenholt Marsh	150	200	7			10	11	23		2	1	1
Connah's Quay NR	200	600	7	4		3	200	100	200	400	1000	200
White Sands	5						50			360	600	100

*Rhyl: includes maxima recorded at River Clwyd Rhyl, RML and S of Rhyl

Knot (*Calidris canutus*)

Passage migrant and winter visitor. Amber List.

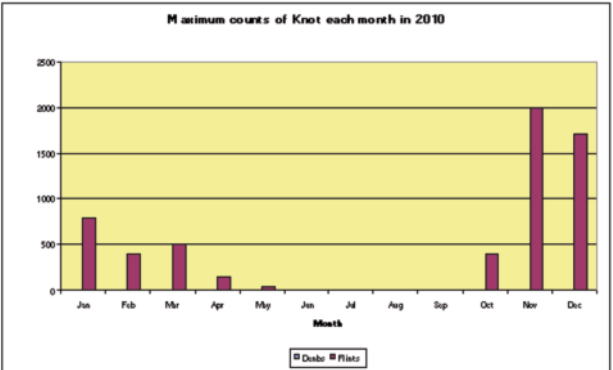
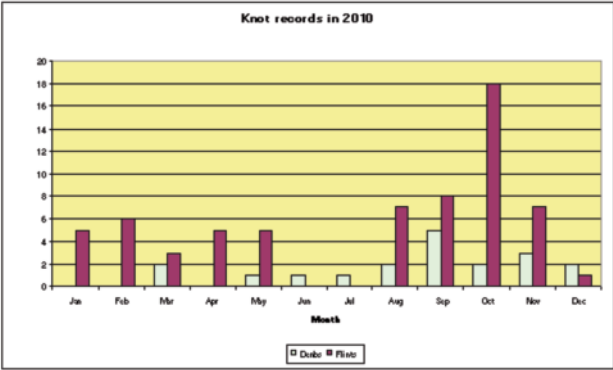
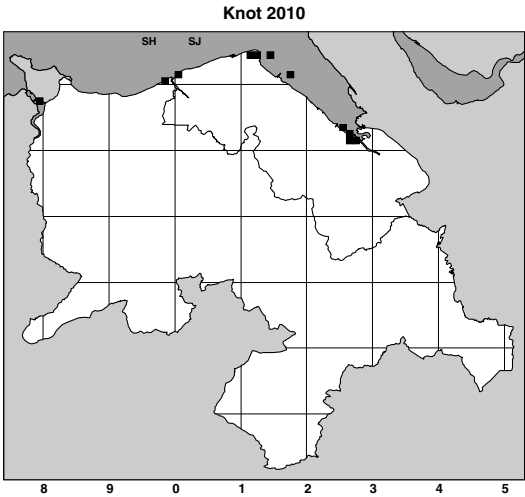
The records came from virtually the same set of locations as in 2009 but the spread of records through the year was different. There were few records during the very cold weather of Jan and Feb but a marked peak in Oct. The number of records again decreased in the cold months of Nov and Dec. Despite the small numbers of records (observers avoiding the cold?) at each end of the year three of the four largest counts were during those months. The relative absence of Knot during

PIBYDD YR ABER		
(KN)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	19	7
Flints.	65	2000

the breeding season is clear (though there were small numbers, particularly at Conwy RSPB, through the summer).

Denbs. There were few records of even fewer birds than in 2009 and all but one record was from Conwy RSPB. The pattern of records does not indicate any particular period of migration. Most of the records were of singles, though there were 4 at Conwy RSPB on 11/11 (SaM), 6 at Kinmel Bay on 5/09 (ANB) and 7 at Conwy RSPB on 11/10 (pJHg).

Flints. There were many more birds on the Flints shores. Twenty seven records were of 1-6, the others being of 20+. The largest counts were: 500 on the RSPB reserve at Point of Ayr on 14/01 (JuR), 500 at Connah's Quay NR on 3/03 (GR), 800 at Point of Ayr mudflats on 14/01, 1,700 there on 5/12 and 2,000 there on 7/11 (GR).



Monthly maxima at two locations:

(KN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Point of Ayr	800	100		1				1	6	200	2000	1700
Connah's Quay NR	50	400	500	150	50			5	5	400	200	

Sanderling (*Calidris alba*)

Passage migrant and winter visitor. Amber List.

Birds were seen at almost exactly the same locations as in 2009.

Denbs. There were records in Jan to Apr, then Sep, Nov and Dec. The last spring record was a single at Conwy RSPB on 24/04 (AF) and the first of autumn was 30 at Kinmel Bay on 5/09 (ANB). The largest count early in the year was 27 at Kinmel Bay on 14/02 (KS) and in autumn was 30+ at Horton's Nose on 28/12 (DCR).

Flints. There were records in Jan, Feb, Aug and Oct to Dec. In the early part of the year most sightings were of 4-35 and the largest count was 60 near Gronant on 16/01 (KS). The last record of that part of the year was 14 near Rhyl on 24/02 (RMB). The first bird of autumn was a single at Point of Ayr on 15/08 (GR) and subsequent records were of 1-12 with three larger counts: 40 near Rhyl on 2/11 (RMB), 40 at Point of Ayr on 5/12 and 74 there on 10/10 (GR).

Little Stint (*Calidris minuta*)

Very scarce passage migrant, usually found on autumn passage.

Denbs. All the records were from Conwy RSPB in Sep, with the first being 2 on 5/09 (GNR). The records were of 1-3 with the largest count (3) only on 24/09 (RBM) and the last record was a single on 25/09 (RS).

Monthly maxima in each county:

(LX)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.									3			
Flints.					1			1	1	5		

Flints. Recorded in May, Aug, Sep and Oct. There were two spring records of a single at two locations near Gronant on 15/05 (ANB, DHa) which may have been the same bird. There were three records at Connah's Quay NR on the latest date, 9/10 of 4 or 5 birds (DSm, DNS, ANB) which was probably the same group of birds.

Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*)

Scarce autumn passage migrant. WBAP

Denbs. All the records were in Aug and Sep and all but one were from Conwy RSPB. The first sighting was 2 there on 31/08 (RS) and the last, also there, was of 2 on 20/09 (JHg). The sighting at another place was 1 at Kinmel Bay on 5/09 (ANB). The largest counts were all at Conwy RSPB: 10 on 6/09 (RS) and 12 also on 6/09 (WM).

Flints. Only one record was in Aug, 1+ at Connah's Quay NR on 26/08, with others in Sep and Oct, the last being 1 also at Connah's Quay NR on 8/10 (AW, JHo). All but one of the records were of just 1-2 birds, the largest count was 6 at White Sands on 26/09 (JoNi).

PIBYDD Y TYWOD

(SS)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	11	30+
Flints.	20	74

Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*)

Passage migrant and common winter visitor. Red List.

The spatial distribution of records is very similar to that in 2009 and birds were counted in every month in both counties; though the numbers of records from each county and their temporal distribution are very different from last year. The records from Flints. were at their lowest only in May, Jun and Jul while in Denbs they were lowest in Mar and Jun. The chart of maximum counts shows that there were many more birds at sites in Flints. early in the year than in 2009 and this was even more marked in autumn with the Nov total being nearly seven times greater than last year. Might this have been a response to increasing cold and a move from estuaries in the E of the UK?

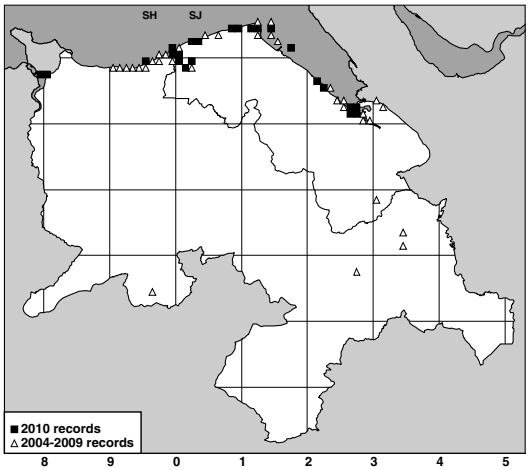
Denbs. Most of the records were of up to 100 and the largest counts were 200 at Kinmel Bay on 14/02 (KS), 200 there on 3/12 (RMB), 200 there again on 24/12 (RMB) and 200+ at Horton's Nose on 28/12 (DCR). The peaks of migration appear to have been in Apr and May then in Jul to Sep.

Flints. Most records were of flocks up to 1,000 and the largest counts were 1,500 at Connah's Quay NR on 23/12 (GR), 3,000 there on 5/12 (AW), 4,000 there on 1.02 (GR) and 10,000 there on 24/11 (GR). The last is the biggest count at Connah's Quay NR since Dec 2004. The peaks of migration are harder to make out but seem to have been in Apr then in Aug to Oct.

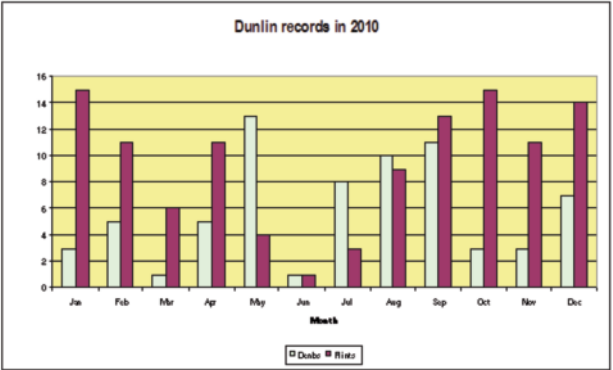
PIBYDD Y MAWN

(DN)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	70	200+
Flints.	113	10000

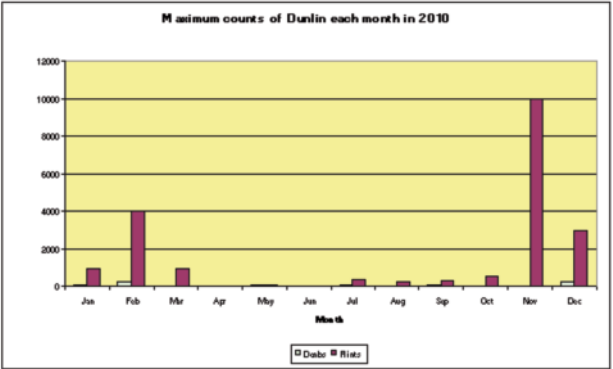
Dunlin 2010



Dunlin records in 2010



Maximum counts of Dunlin each month in 2010



Maxima at selected locations:

(DN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	80	2	2	15	50	46		19	41	20	10	100
Point of Ayr	400	100		20	60	13		200	300	100	150	500
Connah's Quay NR	1000	4000	1000	1	2		400	3	40	500	10000	3000

Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*)

Scarce passage migrant. Amber List. RBBP.

Denbs. There were two records from part of Fenn's Moss in spring (Apr and May), the first record being 1+ on 17/04 (ANB). All the autumn records were from Conwy RSPB in Aug and Sep, with the last record of 2 on 27/09 (RBM). The largest count of 3 was at Fenn's Moss on 9/05 (ANB).

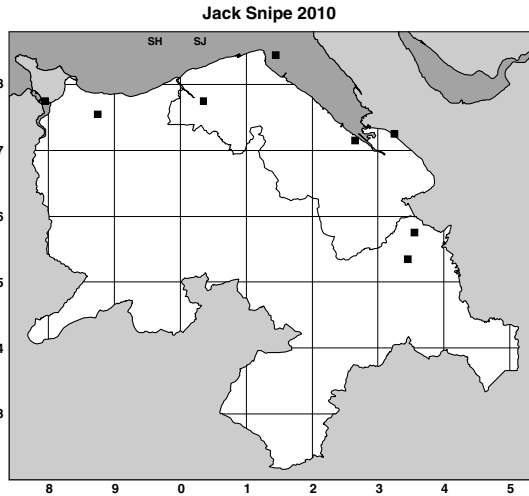
Monthly maxima in each county:

(RU)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.				1+	3			1+	2			
Flints.	2		2					1	2			

Flints. The first record was a single at Connah's Quay NR on 12/01 (PDS) and the last in spring was 2 at Shotwick Fields on 14/03 (CW). The first autumn record was a single at Connah's Quay NR on 29/08 (TGP) and the last was 1+ there on 9/10 (ANB). Two other records of 2 were at Connah's Quay NR on 17/01 (AW) and 28/09 (JeB).

Jack Snipe (*Lymnocyrtus minimus*)

Scarce migrant and winter visitor. Probably under-recorded. Amber List.



PIBYDD TORCHOG

(RU)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	11	3
Flints.	13	2

Monthly maxima in each county:

(JS)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.	3	1								1+	1	
Flints.	1	1								6	5	1

Flints. The records were in Jan, Feb, Oct, Nov and Dec. The last record before spring was a single at Oakenholt Marsh on 22/02 (JHo) and the first of autumn was 1 at Point of Ayr on 10/10 (GR). All but three records were of singles and the others were 3 near Rhuddlan on 20/11 and 21/11 and 5 there on 19/11 (SH).

Snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*)

GŪACH GYFFREDIN

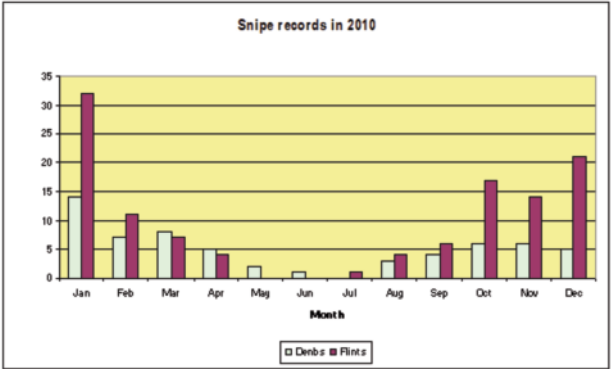
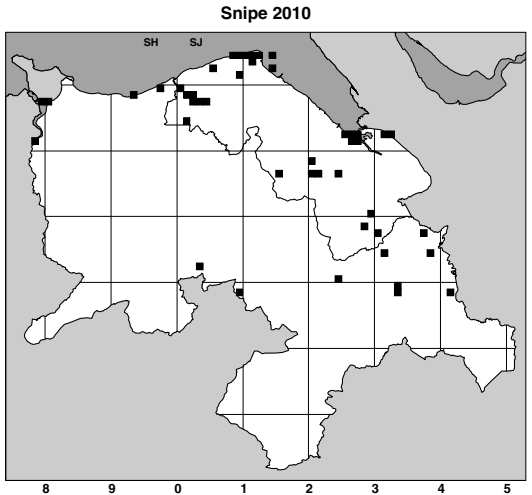
Rare breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor in moderate numbers. Amber List.

There were records from each month of the year, but not in any one county. There were fewest records during the breeding season and the distribution of records across NE Wales was fairly similar to that in 2009. There were no records of confirmed breeding.

(SN)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	61	60+
Flints.	114	50

Denbs. Almost all the records were of singles (or 1+) and the four largest counts were all at Conwy RSPB: 20+ on 23/01 (DCR), 60 on 1/03 (JHg), 60+ on 3/01 (MDu) and 60+ on 22/01 (RS).

Flints. Most records were of 1-26 birds, the highest counts being: 32 near Rhuddlan on 23/01 (SH), 35 near Talacre on 8/01 (pJR), 35 at Shotwick Fields on 8/10 (GR) and 50 there on 20/10 (CW).



Monthly maxima at selected sites:

(SN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	60+	1	60	1	1			3	1	1	1	1
Shotwick										50		
Nr Rhuddlan	32							2	2	4	13	8
Talacre dunes	35	8	3						1	3	12	7

Long-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*)

Rare vagrant.

2009

Flints. One bird was described from observations at Connah's Quay NR on 21/10 (KS), though 2 had been seen at other times and 2 had been at the English part of Inner Marsh Farm RSPB about three weeks previously. Accepted by BBRC.

2010

Flints. One, presumed adult in summer plumage, was at Connah's Quay NR on 28/08, 3/09 when the description was taken, 8/10, 9/10 and 11/10 (StaS, AW). Accepted by BBRC.

Woodcock (*Scolopax rusticola*)

Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List.

Denbs. All records received were from the two winter periods, with birds seen from 6/01 to 22/02 and then from 14/11 to 26/12. Over half of the records were from Conwy RSPB with a high count of 4 seen on 19/01 (RS). Records away from Conwy were received from Llanddulas, Penycae, Llangollen and Wrexham. During the harsh weather of Dec 2 were found dead, 1 from Llanddulas on 18/12 (SKT) and 1 from Llandrillo-yn-Rhos on 24/12 (SKT).

Flints. No records were received from the traditional site of Nercwys. There were also no summer records. A high count of 4 was seen at Point of Ayr on 14/01 (ANB). A single was seen at Tremeirchion on 23/12 (PKi). All other records were of singles near Rhuddlan (SH).

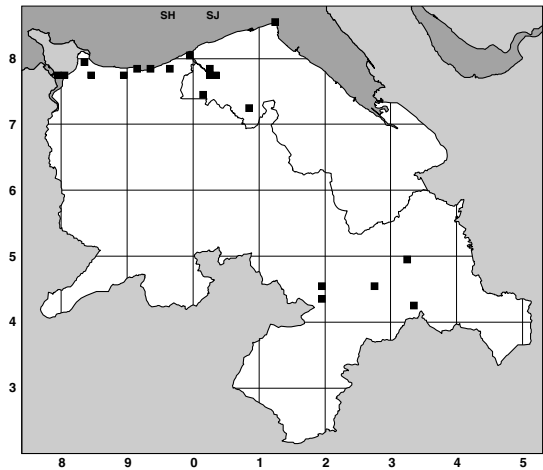
GIACH GYLFIN-HIR

(LD)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	0	
Flints (2009)	1	1
Flints (2010)	1	1

CYFFYLOG

(WK)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	36	4
Flints.	13	4

Woodcock 2010



Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa*)

RHOSTOG GYNFFONDDU

Passage migrant. Principally a winter visitor but increasingly found throughout the year. Amber List. RBPP.

(BW)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	82	35
Flints.	243	5000

Birds were seen from most of the sites that have been used over the last seven years, mainly along the coast and Dee

Estuary. The histogram of maximum counts shows that Flints is the important county and the relative lack of birds in Jun and Jul. The Dee Estuary is an internationally important area for this species. The principal site is Oakenholt where a substantial wintering population roosts on the salt marsh at high tide. There is also a small population in summer that appears to alternate between Oakenholt/Connah's Quay NR and Inner Marsh Farm RSPB.

Denbs. Nearly all records were from Conwy RSPB where the peak count was 35 on 14/08 (RS). Other counts included 12 at Llanddulas on 26/07 (JBM) and 3 at Fenn's Moss on 13/05.

Flints. The majority of records were from the Dee with the remainder along the North Wales coast. The peak early year count was 1,250 at Connah's Quay NR on 3/03 (GR). The autumn peak was 5,000 at Mostyn Bank on 4/10 (JoNi). Away from the Dee Estuary, the only records were from Rhyl on 1/01, where 12 birds were seen (RMB), 3 on 3/07 and 4 on 21/08.

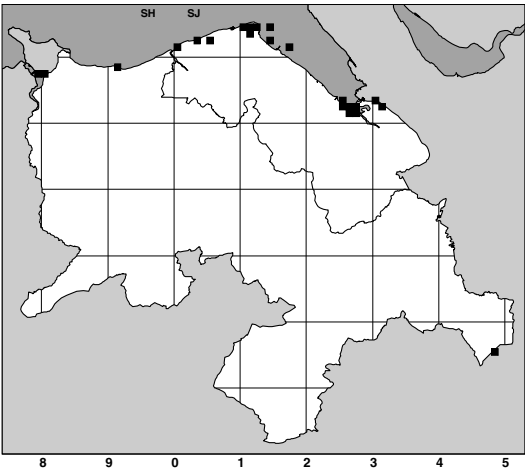
Conwy RSPB monthly maxima:

(BW)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
	27	15	12	25	1		21	34	21	1	1	1

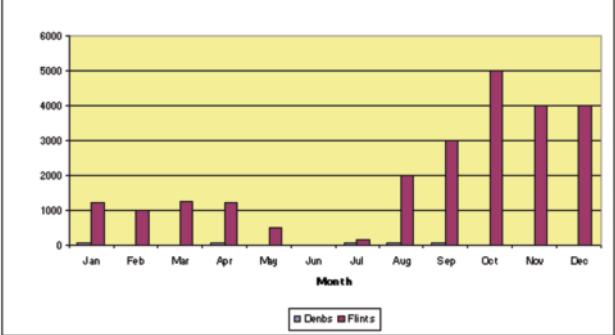
Dee Estuary monthly maxima:

(BW)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Connah's Quay NR	239	1000	1250	1200	500	6	150	2000	3000	3000	1000	1000
Point of Ayr	1200	15	16	13			11	10	4	2500	4000	4000

Black-tailed Godwit 2010



Maximum counts of Black-tailed Godwit in 2010



Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*)

Passage migrant and winter visitor. Red List. WBAP

Denbs. The increase in records for this species continued, with 24 records, up from 13 in 2009. Again, all records were from Conwy RPSB. First record for the year was a single seen on 21/03 (JHg). There were a total of four records received for spring. All were of singles. During the autumn, 20 records were received, the first of a single on 17/07 (JHg). The maximum count was of 13 on 5/10 (JHg). There were two counts of 10, on 18/09 and 6/10 (JHg, SaM). The last record of the year was a single seen on 12/12 (pJHg).

Flints. As with Denbs, there was an increase in records between 2009 and 2010, 58 records being over twice as many as 2009. The distribution of this species appears to be the same however, with all but three records being from the Dee Estuary. The three records from outside of the Dee Estuary were from Rhyl, with a single seen on 1/01, which was also the first record of the year (DCR), 4 on 31/05 (SH) and a single on 11/09 (ANB). Records within the Dee Estuary were from Point of Ayr and Connah's Quay NR. The highest count of the year was 120 seen at Point of Ayr on 7/11 (GR) with a further 100 seen on 5/12 (GR). The highest count for Connah's Quay NR was of 20, recorded on three occasions: 31/03 (SS), 12/09 and 10/10 (AW). Records were received in every month of the year, but the majority of records (27) were from Sep and Oct.

Monthly maxima at selected sites:

(BA)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB			1	1			1+	1	10	13	2	1
Connah's Quay NR	20	13	10		1				20	20	5	
Point of Ayr	5			6		6	3	2	41	30	120	100

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*)

Passage migrant and localised summer visitor in small numbers. Amber List. RBBP.

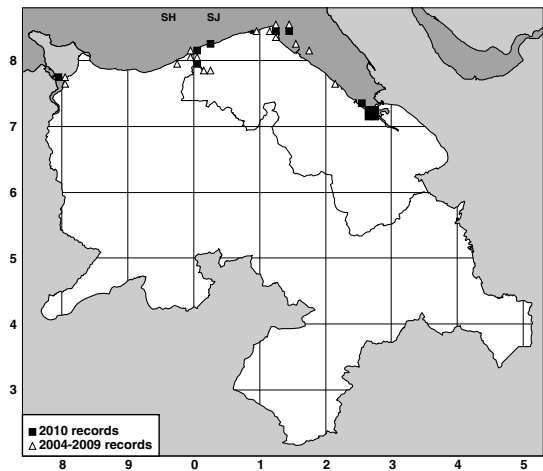
The distribution of records was very similar to that in 2009.

Denbs. Just three records were not from Conwy RSPB. The first bird of the year was heard calling over fields near Gresford Flash on 15/03 (JN). Kinnel Bay had 12 on 25/04 (ANB) and 12 were seen flying over Llandrillo-yn-Rhos on 11/08 (SKT). Records were received from Mar to Oct, with Jun being the only month without a sighting. The highest count for Conwy RSPB was of 67, recorded on the evening of 25/04 (pJHg). The first

RHOSTOG GYNFFRONFRITH

(BA)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	23	13
Flints.	57	120

Bar-tailed Godwit 2010



birds of the year for the reserve were 2 seen on 19/03 (pJHg) from the coffee shop, with the last bird being seen on 10/10 (SaM).

Flints. There were a similar number of records to 2009. All records were from coastal areas, from Connah's Quay NR, along the Dee Estuary out to Rhyl and up the Clwyd Estuary to Rhuddlan. An unusually early bird was a single seen at Rhyl on 10/01 (RMB). The first spring record was a single at Connah's Quay NR on 5/03 (NH) with records then received for every month up to Oct, where a single was last recorded on 11/10 at Connah's Quay NR (PJon). The highest count for the year was 17 seen at Talacre on 22/08 (LC).

Curlew (*Numenius arquata*)

Breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Red List. WBAP

The Dee Estuary is an internationally important site.

Denbs. Probable breeding was recorded at a number of upland locations, with singing males and birds seen at or near active or suitable nest sites.

Inland records were received from the Berwyns, Mynydd Hiraethog and Ruabon Moor upland areas, and Fenn's Moss. Very few records were received from the coast from late spring through to Jul, when sightings increased, indicating a movement of birds away from their breeding grounds. On the coast the highest count was 480 at Conwy RSPB on 2/08 (SaM), with all other significant counts also coming from this reserve. The highest count away from Conwy RSPB was of 60 on Pensarn beach on 25/01 (SM). Towyn had 25+ on 19/03 and 15/12 (SM) and Kinnel Bay had 18+ on 26/09 and 21+ on 3/01 (DCR).

Flints. A single possible breeding record was received of a pair in suitable nesting habit near Treuddyn. Two records of over-flying birds were received from Caergwrle on 9/12 and 19/12 (JWNA). All other records were of birds from coastal locations. There were six records of 1,000 or more birds from Point of Ayr, with 1,000 birds seen on the mudflats on 11/09, 10/10, 7/11, and 1,100 seen on 11/08, 15/08 and 12/09 (all GR). All but one count of over 100 were from the Point of Ayr/Talacre area, with 180 seen at Rhyl on 3/01 (DCR). Birds can be seen all along the Dee Estuary as far as Connah's Quay NR, although the larger numbers are towards the mouth of the Estuary, with only small counts further into the Estuary.

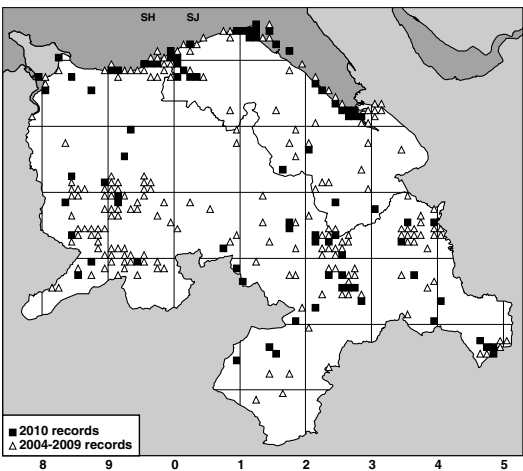
Monthly maxima at selected sites:

(CU)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Connah's Quay NR	20	40	3	30	30		60	41	70	52	67	2
Point of Ayr	500	750	600	600	100	120		1100	1100	1000	1000	500
White Sands	15	86	43	21	10	2		20	20	40	14	30

GYLFINIR

(CU)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	157	480
Flints.	266	1100

Curlew 2010



Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*)

Double passage migrant and breeding visitor. Amber List.

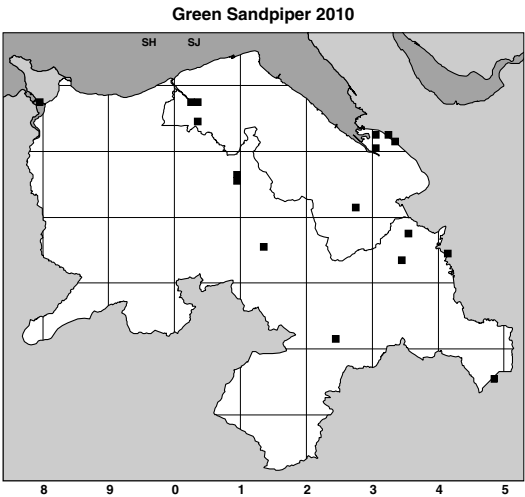
Most records were from the coast but some were seen on rivers inland.

Denbs. Recorded in Jan, Feb and Apr to Sep, with none later in the autumn. A single spent the early months at Tal-y-Cafn and was recorded on 1/01 (HC) through to 21/02 (KS). After a break in the records during Mar a single was recorded at Conwy RSPB on 6/04 (JHg) - was this a migrant of the bird from Tal-y-Cafn, just down the river? The peak count was 12 at the Horseshoe Falls, Llangollen on 22/06 (JLR). The last bird in summer was seen at Conwy RSPB on 17/06 (CD).

Flints. Recorded Feb to Sep with a peak of sightings in Apr - probably all migrants. A bird that possibly overwintered was seen at Connah's Quay NR on 21/02 (JHo). During the rush in Apr the highest count was 9 at Rhuddlan on 18/04 (ANB). The maximum count was 14 at Fagl Lane Quarry, Hope on 5/07 (GNR). The last 3 in autumn were seen at Connah's Quay NR on 12/09 (DNS).

Green Sandpiper (*Tringa ochropus*)

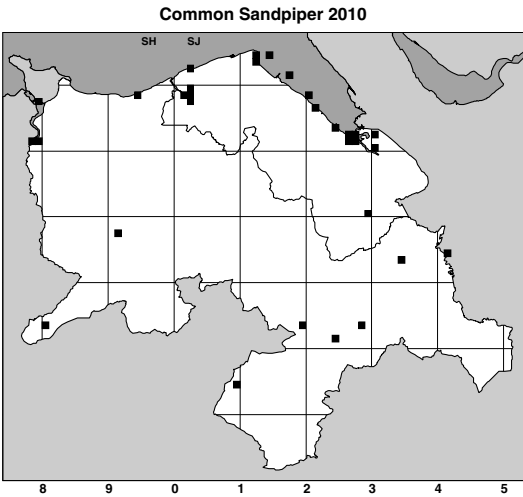
Passage migrant and winter visitor in small numbers. RBBP.



Denbs. Twenty records were received from 8 locations. The main areas for records are from around Wrexham and Conwy RSPB. A single record of 2 was received from Conwy RSPB on 26/06 (SaM), where both birds were seen from the Foel Fras viewing screen. All other sightings were of singles with four records from Burton on 6/01, 16/01, 26/04 and 6/11 (HL, KS) and two records from Llandyrnog on 2/03 and 27/10 (JoH, AnCo). All other sites had only singles.

Flints. Fewer records were received for Flints than Denbs, with only 14,

PIBYDD Y DORLAN		
(CS)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	49	12
Flints.	48	14



PIBYDD GWYRDD		
(GE)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	20	2
Flints.	14	6

from two main locations, the River Elwy/Clwyd between St Asaph and Rhuddlan and the area around Shotton Steelworks. However higher numbers of birds were counted. Records of 2 were received from St Asaph on 6/02 (ANB) and from Shotton Steelworks on 26/09 (JoNi). Shotton Steelworks had 3 on 23/08 (JoNi) and 6 were seen at Shotwick on 18/07 (JoNi).

Monthly maxima in each county:

(GE)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.	1	1	1	1+		2	1	1		1+	1	
Flints.	1	2	1	1			6	3	2	1	1	

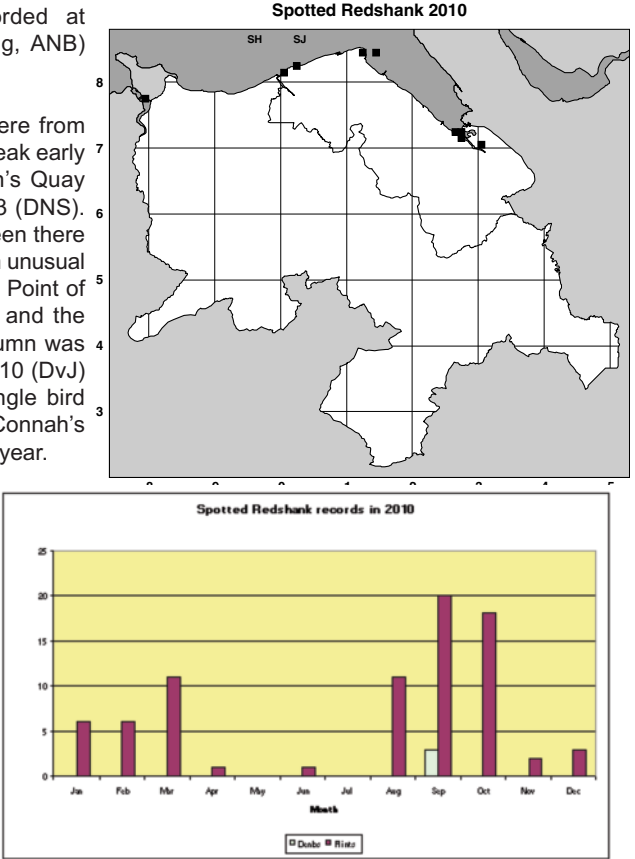
Spotted Redshank (*Tringa erythropus*)

Passage migrant and scarce over-wintering visitor. Amber List.

The map shows the limited distribution of this species. The histogram shows the near absence of birds during the breeding season.

Denbs. Singles were recorded at Conwy RSPB on 20/09 (JHg, ANB) and 27/09 (RBM).

Flints. All but two records were from the Dee Estuary, where the peak early year count was 3 at Connah's Quay NR on 14/02 (AW) and 18/03 (DNS). The last bird of spring was seen there on 28/04 (PDS). There was an unusual summer record of a single at Point of Ayr mudflats on 13/06 (GR) and the first returning bird of the autumn was at Connah's Quay NR on 17/10 (DvJ) and then 24/10 (DNS). A single bird wintered at Point of Ayr and Connah's Quay NR at both ends of the year.



Monthly maxima in each county:

(DR)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.									1			
Connah's Quay NR	1	3	3	1		2		5	10	15	5	1

Dee Estuary monthly maxima

(DR)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
	1+	3	3	1		1		5	10	15	5	1

Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*)

Passage migrant. RBBP.

PIBYDD COESWERDD

(GK)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	18	3
Flints.	157	29

Denbs. All records were from Conwy RPSB. The first bird was seen on 27/03 (JHg) and another record of a single bird on 17/04 (JuW) being the only two for the spring period. A record of 2 on 10/06 (pJHg) was the first for the second half of the year, with the last being on 6/11 when a single was seen (JHg). Records of 2 were received for five occasions and three 3 were seen on 7/09 (pJHg). All other records were of singles.

Monthly maxima in each county:

(GK)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.			1+	1		2	2	2	3	1+	1+	
Connah's Quay NR	3	3	4	7	4		14	23	29	10	1	

Flints. The number of records was down slightly on the previous recording period, for the second successive year. However the high count of 29 was higher than 2009. Connah's Quay NR was again the best site to see this species with 141 records, with birds seen in every month of the year apart from Jun and Dec. The high count of 29 birds was on 9/09 (WG, GR), with counts of 20 or more recorded on seven occasions. There were more counts of multiple birds than of singles. Away from Connah's Quay NR a single was seen at Talacre on 22/11 and then 2 on 25/11 (pJR); 5 were seen on the mud flats at Point of Ayr on 11/09 (GR) with singles at the same site on 15/08 and 7/11 (GR); and singles were also seen at Rhyl on 21/08 and 11/09 (ANB).

Connah's Quay NR monthly maxima:

(GK)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Connah's Quay NR	3	3	4	7	5		14	23	29	10	1	

Wood Sandpiper (*Tringa glareola*)

Scarce passage migrant. RBBP.

PIBYDD Y GRAEAN

(OD)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	2	1
Flints.	0	

Denbs. A single was seen and photographed during its stay from 5/08 to 7/08 at Conwy RSPB (WM, RS). Accepted by LRP.



Wood Sandpiper, Dermot Smith

Redshank (*Tringa totanus*)

PIBYDD COESGOCH

Possible breeding resident and common winter visitor. Amber List.

The Dee Estuary is of international importance for this species.

(RK)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	84	377
Flints.	380	2000

Denbs. This year saw an increase in records over 2009, and also saw a significant increase in the number of birds recorded, with high counts of 116 (23/09), 210 (27/09 and 377 (10/10) birds at Conwy RSPB (SaM, RS, RBM). There were only four records from inland sites, with birds seen at Tal-y-Cafn over the first winter period: 5 were seen on 15/01 (HC), 2 on 18/02 (NT) and 3 on 21/02 (KS). A single fly-over bird was seen at Fenn's Moss on 17/03 (JoAr). Records were received all along the coast from Llandrillo-yn-Rhos to Kinmel Bay, although the majority of records were received from Conwy RSPB. Birds were recorded at Conwy RSPB in every month of the year apart from May, with the peak records being in late spring and autumn; presumably as birds move to and from their breeding grounds to wintering locations on the coast.

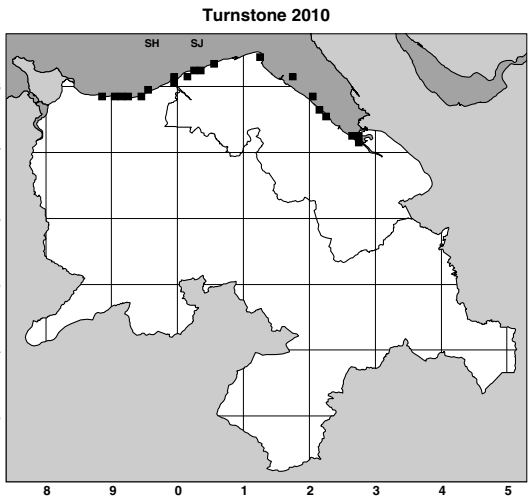
Flints. No inland records were received for 2010. As the Dee Estuary is a site of international importance for this species, the majority of records were from within the estuary itself, with Connah's Quay NR being the primary site, with both the highest counts and the most records. The highest counts were of birds on the reserve's bunded pools from late Aug through to Oct as migrating birds were pushed up from the low tide mud flats by the rising tides, with counts of 1,000 on 31/08, 12/09 and 10/10 (DC, AW) and 200 on 30/08 and 15/09 (RP, WG). Other significant sites for this species are Point of Ayr, Mostyn and Bagillt, where there are large expanses of mudflats at low tide, with 1,000 seen at Point of Ayr on 21/10 (GR) and 784 at Mostyn on 14/03 (GR). Away from the Dee Estuary birds can be seen around the River Clwyd with the area between Rhuddlan and Rhyl being the best place to see them. High counts here were 100 on 31/12 (SH) and 60 on 18/12 (SH).

Point of Ayr and Connah's Quay NR monthly maxima:

(RK)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Point of Ayr	200	100	400	350			2000	350	1500	600	300	70
Connah's Quay NR	250	250	100	40		4	1	200	250	1000	500	200

Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*)

Winter visitor and passage migrant. Amber List.



CWTIAD Y TRAETH

(TT)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	28	150+
Flints.	29	100+

Denbs. There were no reports from Apr to Jul, the last early year record being 2 at Kinmel Bay on 6/03 (NHu) and the first autumn record was 20 at Llanddulas on 13/08 (RMB). The highest count was in the second part of year being a maximum of 150+ at Horton's Nose, Kinmel Bay on 28/12 (DCR).

Flints. There were no reports from May, Jun and Jul. The last spring record was a single at Mostyn on 18/04 (MaBr)

and the first autumn record was 10 at Bagillt on 15/08 (GR). The highest count of 100+ was on 26/12 from Rhyl Golf Course (DCR).

Grey Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*)

Scarce passage migrant.

LLYDANDROED LLWYD

(PL)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	1	1
Flints.	0	

Denbs. A single was seen and photographed at Conwy RSPB on 24/09 to 29/09 (RS). Accepted by LRP.

Arctic Skua (*Stercorarius parasiticus*)

Passage migrant in small numbers. Amber List. WBAP. RBBP.

SGIWEN Y GOGLEDD

(AC)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	0	
Flints.	2	1+

Flints. Both records were in Aug, at Point of Ayr on 7/08 and 29/08 (ANB).

Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*)

Passage migrant. Amber List.

GWYLAN GOES DDU

(KI)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	2	40+
Flints.	2	2

Denbs. A high count of 40+ was recorded at Colwyn Bay on 14/11 (HC). Three were seen on Pensarn beach on 1/11 (HC).

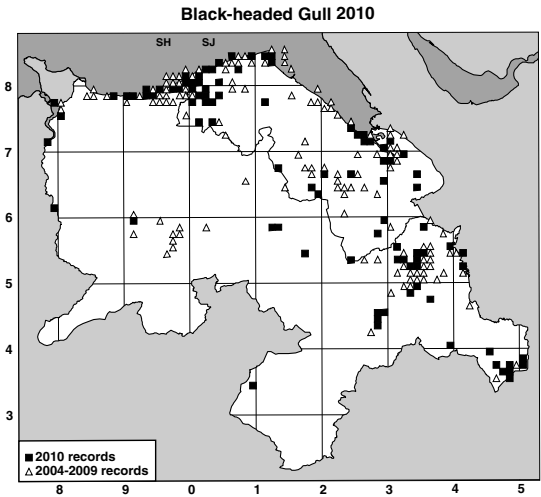
Flints. Two were at Talacre on 24/09 (GNR) and a single was at Point of Ayr on 15/09 (GR).

Black-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*)

Common resident and winter visitor. Red List. WBAP

GWYLAN BENDDU

(BH)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	208	265
Flints.	291	2368



The distribution of records is similar to the last two years and from many of the locations used in the last seven years. Records were from every month in both counties.

Denbs. Most records were of counts of 1-100, with others of 101-300. The largest counts were: 610+ at Gresford Flash on 17/03 (JN), 500+ at Towyn on 21/08 (SM) 300+ at Llanddulas on 24/12 (JVHu).

Flints. The maximum count of 2368

was recorded at Bagillt on 11/07, with a smaller number of 800 seen on 15/08 (GR). Other notable high counts were: 500 at Rhuddlan on 31/03 (SH), 500 both at Oakenholt Marsh and at Connah's Quay NR on 15/08 (AW) and 600+ at Rhuddlan on 14/12.

Monthly maxima from selected locations:

(BH)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bagillt, salt marsh		35	136		21		2368	800	254	123	115	
Connah's Quay NR	58	254	7	34	10	300	300	500	6	20	150	5
Near Rhuddlan	150	350	500	50	20		50	100		150	200	100

Mediterranean Gull (*Larus melanocephalus*)

Scarce but increasing visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

Denbs. Records received for every month except May, Jun and Aug, mainly in small numbers at coastal locations. Gresford Flash was the exception as the only inland location on 22/02 (JN). The first and maximum count of 14 was seen at Conwy RSPB on 1/01 (RS).

Flints. Birds recorded in months Jan to Mar, Jun, Jul, Oct and Dec at mainly coastal locations. There was a single seen inland near Rhuddlan on 28/12 (SH).

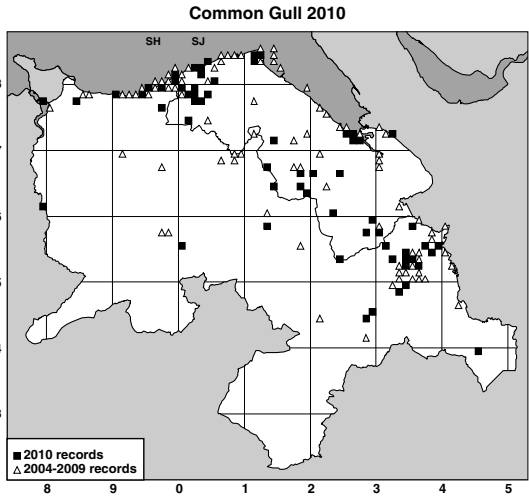
Common Gull (*Larus canus*)

Passage migrant and winter visitor. Red List.

Records were distributed much as in 2009 but not from all the locations where the species has been recorded since 2004.

Denbs. Recorded Jan to Apr and Jul to Dec with the exception of Oct. The largest counts were both at Gresford Flash with 350+ on 24/03 and 300+ on 11/02 (JN). The last spring record was 1+ on 10/04 at Conwy RSPB (JHg). The first record of autumn birds was 2 seen on 13/08 at Llanddulas (RMB).

Flints. Records from each month except Jul. The max count was 500 at Rhuddlan on 31/03 (SH) and another high count was 350+ at Penycloddiau on 24/10 (EdW).



Monthly maxima from near Rhuddlan:

(CM)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Near Rhuddlan	75	200	500	50							150	

Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*)

GWYLAN GEFNDDU LEIAF

Uncommon breeding resident and passage migrant. Amber List.

Distribution of records is similar to 2009 but from fewer locations. Recorded in every month of the year in both counties, with no known breeding locations.

(LB)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	85	1050
Flints.	93	79

Denbs. Most records had counts of 1-20 with three locations having larger counts. Peak counts at these locations were: 350 at Borrass Head on 5/02 (JN), 150 at Trevalyn Meadows on 11/11 (NFr) and 1050 at Gresford Flash on 12/11 (HL). Peak counts were smaller and on fewer occasions than in 2009.

Flints. Most records were of counts of 1-20. Peak counts were: 79 at Connah's Quay NR on 17/01 (AW) and 75 near Rhuddlan on 21/05 (SH).

Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*)

GWYLAN Y PENWAIG

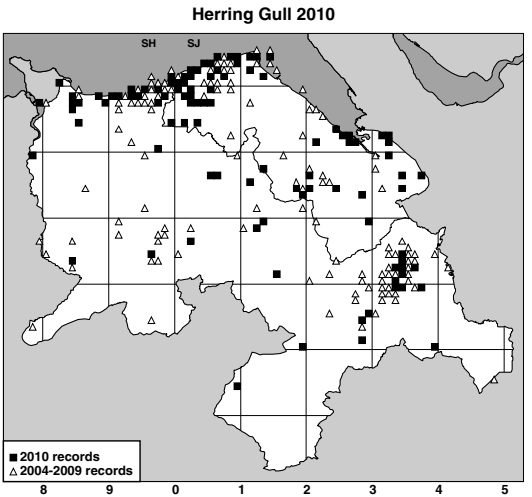
Common resident, breeding on the coast, mainly on roofs. Red List. WBAP

The records were distributed in a similar way to 2009 and birds were recorded every month from both counties.

(HG)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	322	600
Flints.	170	600

Denbs. Most records had counts of 1-100. The largest counts were: 500 at Kinmel Bay on 7/01 (RMB) and 600 at Gresford Flash on 24/11 (KS). Breeding was confirmed at Towyn (SM).

Flints. Most records had counts of 1-100. The largest counts were: 400 at Point of Ayr on 14/08 (GR) and 600 at Rhyl on 30/08 (RMB). Breeding was confirmed at Rhuddlan, with one fledgling on 20/06 (SH).



Yellow-legged Gull (*Larus michahellis*)

Regular but scarce vagrant. RBBP.

Denbs. A single adult was at Gresford Flash, Wrexham on 3/01 (KS). A second-year bird was seen at Conwy RSPB and photographed on 13/09 (WM) and 2 adults were at Gresford Flash on 14/11 (KS). Accepted by LRP.

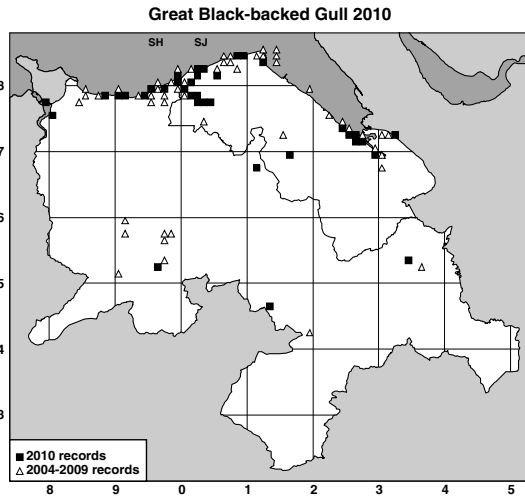
Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*)

Non-breeding resident and winter visitor. Red List.

Recorded in every month of the year. Records have a similar distribution to 2009 mainly along the coast but with a few records at inland locations.

Denbs. Most records were counts of 1-4. The largest count of 5 was seen at Colwyn Bay cliffs on 6/02 (HC). The inland records were: 2 from Pentrellyncymmer on 8/04 (JVHu), a single at Bryneglwys on 9/03 (JVHu), 2 at Llangwyfan on 15/05 (MD) and 2 at Gresford Flash on 21/11 (KS).

Flints. Most records were counts of 1-25. The largest counts were at Connah's Quay NR, with a peak count of 80 on 7/11 (AW).



Little Tern (*Sternula albifrons*)

Passage migrant and regular summer breeding visitor. Red List. RBBP.

Flints. Most records were from the breeding colony at Gronant, with the first record being 8 there on 27/04 (DCR). The maximum count of 200 was at Gronant on 2/06 (RSm). A total of 37 nestlings were ringed on 30/06 and 22 on 5/07, both at Gronant (pBH). The last record was a single at Talacre on 15/09 (DCR).

(AF)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	0	
Flints.	17	200

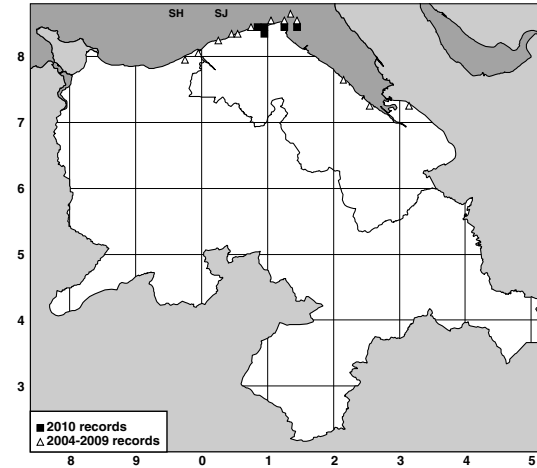
GWYLAN GOES FELEN

(YG)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	3	2
Flints.	0	

GWYLAN GEFNDDU FWYAF

(GB)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	64	5
Flints.	64	80

Little Tern 2010



Whiskered Tern (*Chlidonias hybrida*)

Rare migrant

Flints. This juvenile was present at Inner Marsh Farm RSPB for several days but was seen over Border Pool on 18/09 (KS). Accepted by BBRC.

CORSWENNOL FARFOG

(WD)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	0	
Flints.	1	1

White-winged Black Tern (*Chlidonias leucopterus*)

Rare migrant.

Flints. The juvenile that had been watched in Cheshire was seen over Border Pool at Inner Marsh Farm RSPB on 16/10 (KS). Accepted by WRP.

CORSWENNOL ADEINWEN

(WJ)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	0	
Flints.	1	1

Sandwich Tern (*Sterna sandvicensis*)

Summer migrant. Amber List.

The Dee Estuary is a site of national importance in Great Britain for summer/autumn passage. Adults bring newly fledged chicks to feed in the mouth of the estuary.

Denbs. Recorded Apr to Sep except Jun. The first record of the spring was a single on 24/04 at Conwy RSPB (JHg). The last record of the year was also the maximum count of 14 at Pensarn on 27/09 (HC).

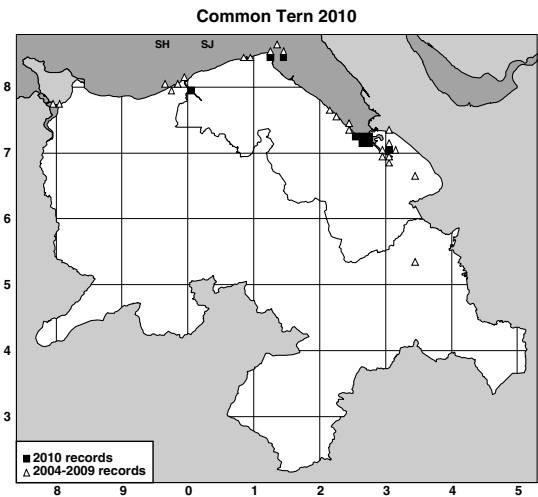
Flints. Recorded Apr to Sep with the first record of spring being 3 at Gronant on 16/04 (GR). The peak count was 1,000 at Point of Ayr on 11/08 (GR). The last record of the year was a

MORWENNOL BIGDDU

(TE)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	17	14
Flints.	37	1000

single at Talacre on 24/09 (GNR).

Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*)
Passage migrant and breeding summer visitor. Red List.

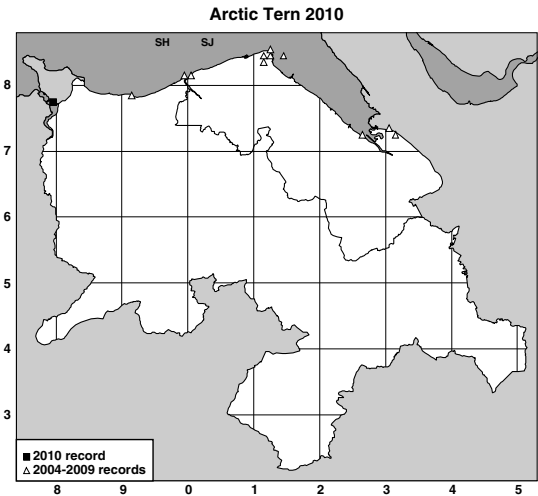


MÔRWENNOL GYFFREDIN

(CN)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	0	
Flints.	17	500

Flints. Recorded in each month Apr to Sep except Jun. The first record was a single at White Sands on 7/04 (LJ). There was no recorded breeding at Shotton Steelworks, as in 2009, though the peak count of 500 was there on 19/05 (JoNi). Other high counts were 60 at White Sands on 12/07 (GR) and 200+ at Talacre on 11/08 (CMo).

Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*)
Passage migrant. Red List.



MÔRWENNOL Y GOGLEDD

(AE)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	1	1
Flints.	0	

Denbs. A single was seen at Conwy RSPB on 26/07 (AlaD).

Guillemot (*Uria aalge*)
Regular visitor in small numbers to coastal waters. Amber List.

Denbs. Recorded from just two sites this year. One at Colwyn Bay cliffs on 6/02 and 14/11 (HC). A juvenile bird reported on the estuary at Conwy RSPB on 8/08 (SaM). More than one bird recorded at Conwy RSPB on 17/09 (CD) and 18/09 (JHg), plus a bird reported to have been picked up by the Carneddau hide and released on the West Shore (pJHg).

Flints. Three records all in Sep: one seen at Point of Ayr on 12/09 (GR), then two records from River Dee estuary probably the same pair on 16/09, 2 recorded at Connah's Quay NR (LC) and 2 in Garden City area (ANB) both of which are further inland that would be expected.

Razorbill (*Alca torda*)
Small numbers occasionally recorded offshore

LLURS

(RA)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	2	2
Flints.	0	

Denbs. The first was a single on the Afon Conwy on 10/10 (SaM) and 2 were off Pensarn on 19/11 (RS). Accepted by LRP.

Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon (*Columba livia*)
Common feral species, especially in towns

Recorded in every month in both counties.

Denbs. There were more records this year and 37.2% came from one GBW site, a garden in Llangollen with a maximum count, there, of 12 in several weeks (HN). The largest count, 170+, was from the regular railway bridge roost E of Kinnel Bay on 26/09 (DCR).

Flints. There were more records here, too, and 40.8% of them were from several GBW sites. The highest counts, 50+, were near Rhyl on 3/01 (DCR) and at Greenfield Valley on 30/03 (MD).

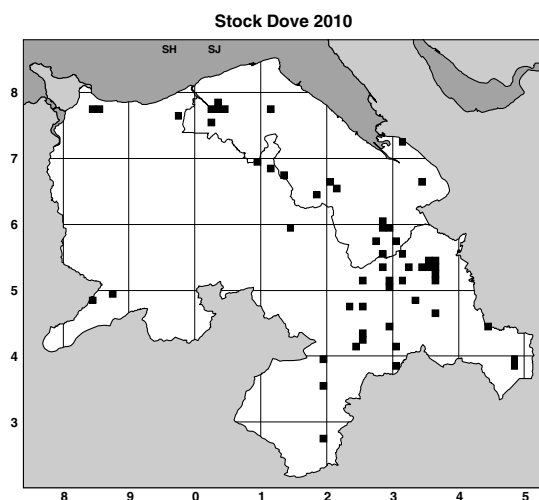
Stock Dove (*Columba oenas*)
Breeding resident. Amber list

COLOMEN WYLLT

(SD)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	102	31
Flints.	58	18

The records are mainly from the eastern side of our area. Breeding was much less successful this year - fewer nests producing fewer young per nest.

Denbs. Reports came from a wide area this year including seventeen from one GBW site at Sarn, Tallarn Green (MA). The highest count at this garden was only 2 and the region maximum was from Borrass Head with 31 on 7/02 (JN). Confirmed breeding was reported from Nant-y-Glyn, near Colwyn Bay on 29/05 (HC) and 2 nestlings which were ringed at Pandy, Glyn Ceiriog



on 31/05 (pBH).

Flints. There were more records and sites again this year, with twenty one records from one Rhydymwyn GBW site (DMH). Highest counts came from Beeches Farm, Sandycroft with a maximum count of 18 on 24/04 during a BBS walk and a total of 5 nestlings ringed there (IMS). One other nesting record came from NW of St. Asaph on 13/08 (RCa).

Breeding (IMS, JLR):

(SD)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	19	42	16	16	0.84

Woodpigeon (*Columba palumbus*)

YSGUTHAN

Abundant breeding resident, often culled by local agricultural interests.

Denbs. The records came from a wide area with again over 60% of reports coming from GBW sites. Most garden records are of 1-2 with the largest count of 8 at Llangollen on 10/10 (HN). Highest and only three figure counts reported at Gresford with 430+ on 20/02 (JN) and 110+ at Nant-y-Glyn, near Colwyn Bay on 22/11 (HC). Breeding evidence was recorded at several places, mainly due to records going in for Atlas work but there were only four records of confirmed breeding.

Flints. Similar record profile to Denbs with just under 60% of records coming from GBW sites, with a highest count of 12 coming from Rhydymwyn on 10/10 (DMH). A number of three figure counts were mostly from the Rhuddlan area, with a maximum count of 750 on 28/12 (SH). Other high counts come from Llawndy, Gwespyr with 300 on 14/01 (MD) and 200+ at Higher Kinnerton on 11/05 (MD). There were over seventy records of breeding evidence with just five records of confirmed breeding.

Collared Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*)

TURTUR DORCHOG

Common and widespread breeding resident, chiefly of suburban areas.

Denbs. Records were received from similar locations to 2009, although primarily from more urban areas, with most records from Wrexham and the surrounding area and 80.94% of records were from GBW sites, indicating how much this species is associated with

(CD)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	897	20+
Flints.	1055	24

human developments. Other areas with high numbers of records were Abergele, Bodfari, Bryneglwys, Llanarmon-yn-Ial and Towyn. Possible breeding was recorded at a number of sites, with the first young seen on 9/04 at Towyn (SM). Significant counts were of 5 at Abergele on thirty eight occasions (GEHB), 20+ at Acton Park, Wrexham on 31/08 and 8 or more birds seen on fifteen occasions (PAR), 12 at Dyserth on 9/05 (SH) and 9 at Bwlchgwyn on 3/01 (JC).

Flints. Rhydymwyn is the primary site for records with 362 records (34.31%), although as with Denbs, most other records were from more urban areas, with Buckley, Broughton, Caergwrle, Prestatyn, Rhuddlan, St Asaph and Saltney providing the majority of records and 59.05% coming from GBW sites. So, the total percentage of records from gardens is 93.36% - the highest of any species in this report. Breeding was recorded at Rhydymwyn with 3 juveniles seen on 6/06 and a single seen on 10/09 (JVHu), and at Rhuddlan with 8, including fledglings, seen on 12/05 (SH).

Turtle Dove (*Streptopelia turtur*)

TURTUR

Very scarce summer visitor, possibly breeds. Red List. WBAP

Denbs. Two records were of a single in a Llangollen garden on 25/06 (HN). A pair was seen showing probable breeding behaviour in an area used before, but no breeding was confirmed.

(TD)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	3	2
Flints.	0	

Ring-necked Parakeet (*Psittacula krameri*)

PARACÏT TORCHOG

Rare, feral species

Denbs. A record from near Bontuchel on 31/10: a female or juvenile fed on bird feeders for about ten minutes during the early afternoon before being scared away by other birds (LS). Accepted by LRP.

(RI)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	1	1
Flints.		2

Flints. A pair was seen briefly in a garden to the E of Rhydymwyn on 23/05 (MD). Accepted by LRP.



Ring-necked Parakeet, Les Starling

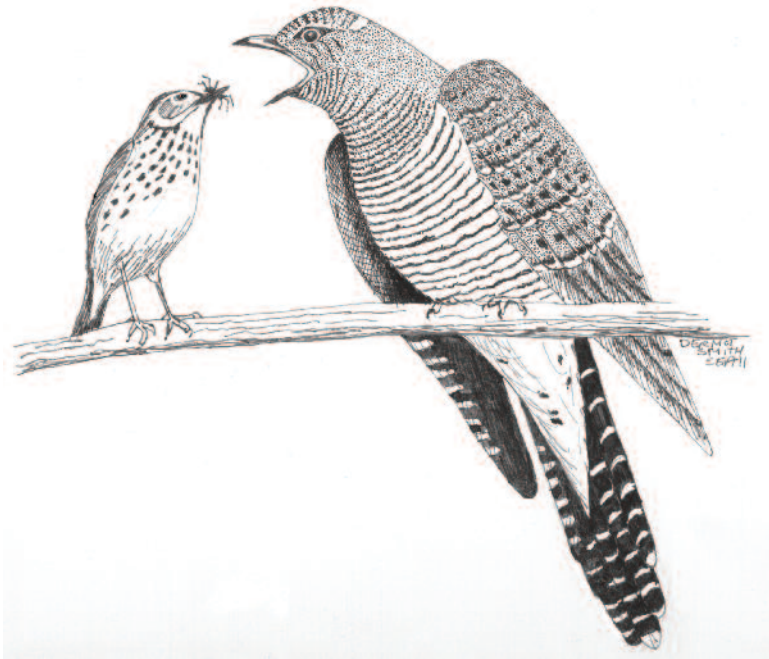
Cuckoo (*Cuculus canorus*)

Increasingly uncommon breeding summer visitor. Red List. WBAP

Seen in many of the locations where it has been seen during the last seven years.

Denbs. There was a substantial increase in the number of records this year, the first of which was a male near World's End on 10/04 (JLR), which is a week earlier than the first of 2009. Most records were during Apr to Jun with just one in Jul - the last record was a juvenile near Trevor Rocks on 13/07 (JLR). Most records were of singles but 2 were seen near Garth on 13/05 (HN), at Denbigh Crossroads, Clocaenog Forest on 26/05 (RCa), near Bettisfield on 31/05 (JoAr) and at Blaen-cwm-llawenog in the Berwyns on 1/06 (KR).

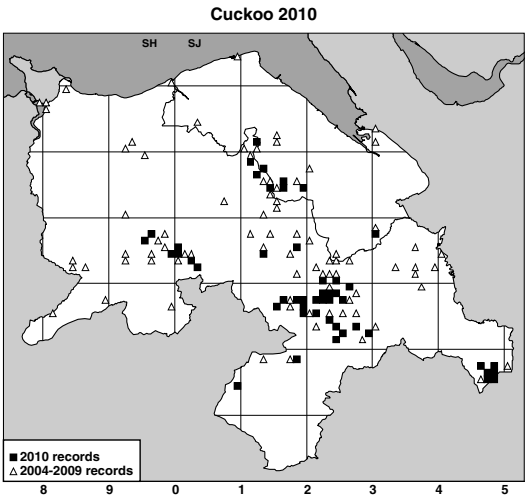
Flints. First records later this year with two on 25/05, one seen flying at Caergwle (JWNA) plus a singing bird at Pantymwyn (MD). Two were recorded at Penycloddiau on 1/05 and 16/05 (EdW) and two at Cae Newydd, Cilcain on 2/06 (JVHu). The last record was a single at Penycloddiau on 9/06 (EdW).



Cuckoo, Dermot Smith

COG

(CK)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	57	2
Flints.	8	2



Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*)

Scarce breeding resident. Amber List.

This is a very large increase in the number of records for Denbs with at least one record in each month except May. Most of these records were from Wrexham Unitary Authority area. In the map breeding locations have been displaced by at least 1 km in a random direction. Breeding was slightly more successful this year.

Denbs. Most records were of 1-2 and the large counts were of nestlings ringed near Cerrigydrudion: 6 on 6/06 and 5 on 9/07, all of which fledged (IMS). After three successive severe winters (Feb 2009, Jan-Feb 2010 and Nov-Dec 2010) with lying snow in the uplands, the Barn Owls in these areas have suffered badly. At one site near Cerrigydrudion, which has been in regular use since a box was installed in 2004, both regular adults disappeared (either died or moved away, probably the former) after the 2009 breeding season but new adults found the box and raised 5 young - clearly there is something good about this particular site (where the main prey, from analysis of pellets, is field voles).

Flints. Only singles were seen, at least one of which was dicing with death as it was perched on a sign in the centre of the A55 late at night on 18/01, E of Bodelwyddan (RS). Three broods of 4 were ringed (and fledged) near Sandycroft, on 23/06 and 23/08 and a brood near Rhydtalog on 23/06 (IMS).

Breeding (WRBBSRG):

(BO)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	25	77	69	66	2.64

Little Owl (*Athene noctua*)

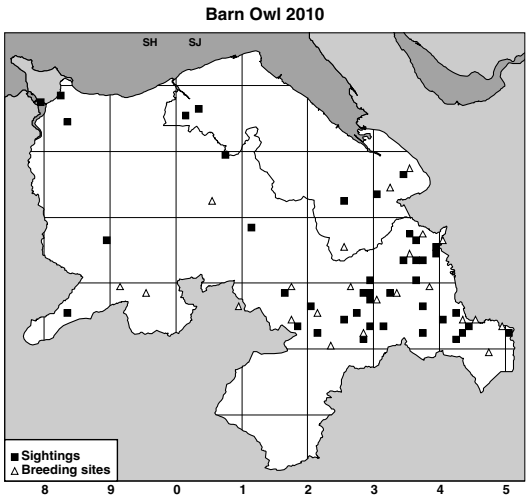
Uncommon breeding resident.

This is a big reduction on even the small number of records in 2009. The distribution of records is similar to last year, but this level of recording in a year when there has been Atlas fieldwork is of concern. Please send in all records of this species over the next few years - assuming there will be some birds to record!

Denbs. Recorded only in Jan, Feb, Apr and Dec. Four records of singles with 2 (possibly a breeding pair?) between Wrexham and Coedpoeth on 13/04 (KS).

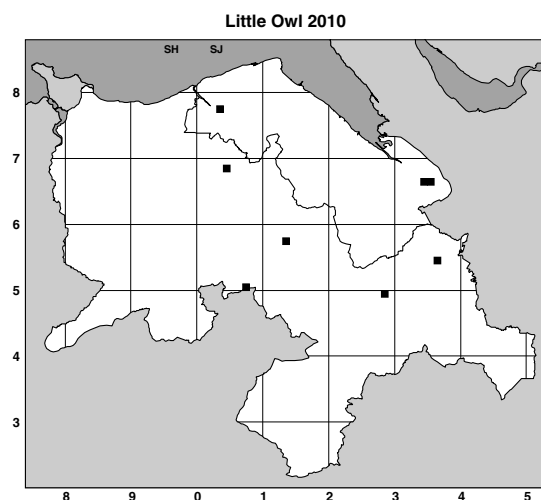
TYLLUAN WEN

(BO)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	50	6
Flints.	9	4



TYLLUAN FACH

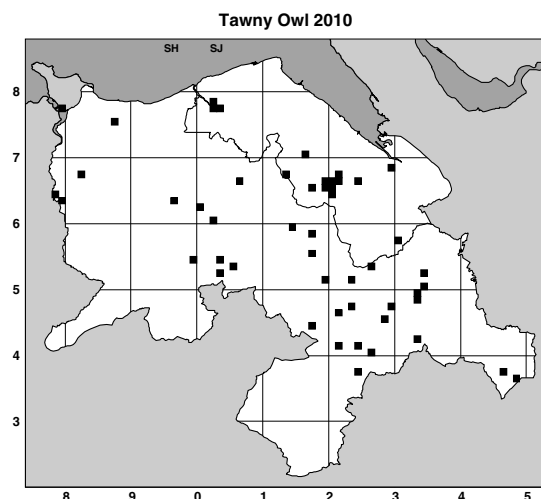
(LO)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	5	2
Flints.	6	1



Flints. Recorded in Jun, Nov and Dec, all as singles but from just two locations.

Tawny Owl (*Strix aluco*)

Widespread breeding resident.



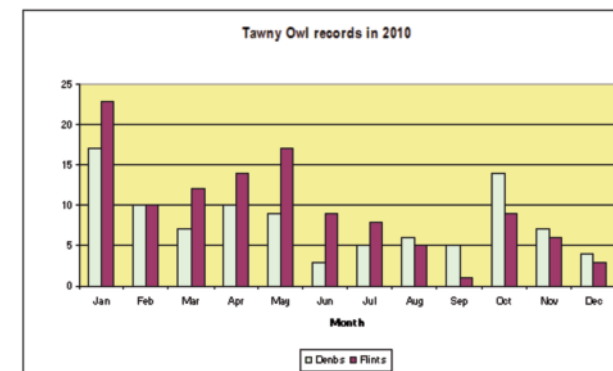
Recorded in every month in both counties with most records in the early months of the year. The distribution of records is similar to that of 2009 - leaving many wooded areas with no records. Breeding was more successful from the small sample of nests.

Denbs. The majority of records were from GBW sites (61.9%) though this is less than last year. Most records were of singles with eight records of 2. The highest count was 4 at Bryn Pen-y-lan, near Ruabon on 10/01 (SiB).

Flints. Just 29.9% of records were from GBW sites (fewer than 2009) with nearly 40 records from Rhydymwyn by JVHu, mainly of birds heard calling in the evenings. Most records were of singles and there were thirteen records of 2 or 2+. There were two records of 3, both at Rhydymwyn on 19/02 and 8/03 (JVHu).

Breeding (WRBBRSG, AmB):

(TO)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	4	8	7	7	1.75



Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*)

Rare breeding resident. Amber List.

TYLLUAN GORNOG

(LE)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	3	4
Flints.	0	

Denbs. It seems that two nests were found in adjacent kilometre squares near World's End, when regularly no nests are found at all. On 30/05 KS saw an adult feeding 3 young birds and on 2/06 an adult was seen nearby with 2 chicks (HN). On 19/11 one was picked up as a road casualty on the A55 near Abergele (RS). It was taken into care but had to be put down three days later.

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*)

Scarce winter visitor, passage migrant and occasional breeder. Red List.

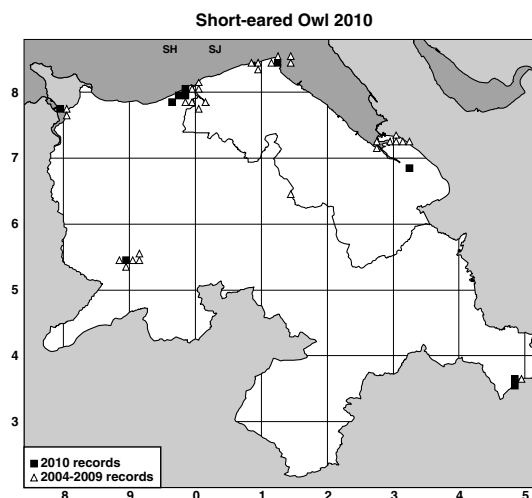
TYLLUAN GLYSTIOG

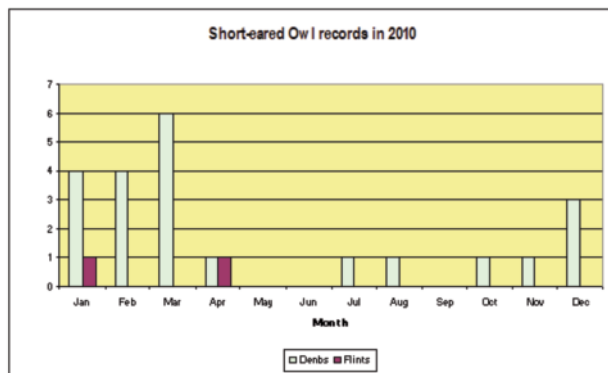
(SE)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	22	2
Flints.	2	1

There were a similar total number of records as in 2009 but with a bias towards Denbs this year. Most records were early in the year from Conwy RSPB, Kinmel Bay or Fenn's Moss.

Denbs. Most records were of singles. There were 2 at Conwy RSPB on 2/01 (KeWe), 2 at Fenn's Moss on 7/03 (KS), 2 there on 11/03 (ANB) and 2 there on 21/04 (ANB).

Flints. The two records were of singles.





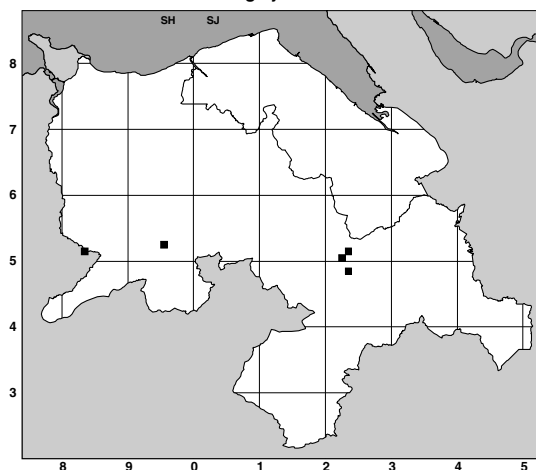
Nightjar (*Caprimulgus europaeus*)

Scarce breeding summer visitor. Amber List. WBAP.

TROELLWR MAWR

(NJ)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	7	3
Flints.	0	

Nightjar 2010



Denbs. The distribution of records is similar to that in 2009 and within the usual areas for our records. All records were during Jun to Aug with most in Jun. They were of singles apart from 2 males at Llandegla Forest near Pendinas Reservoir on 1/06 (the first record for the year) and 16/06 (KS) and 3 at the S end of Llandegla Forest on 16/06 (NHu). The last record was a single at Padog on 9/08 (PKi).

Swift (*Apus apus*)

Fairly common and widespread summer visitor. Amber List.

GWENNOL DDU

(SI)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	120	50
Flints.	137	45

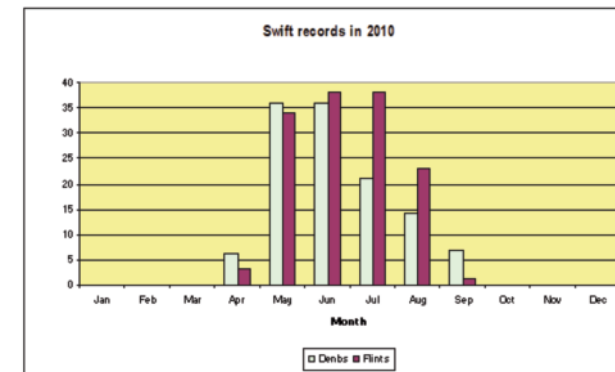
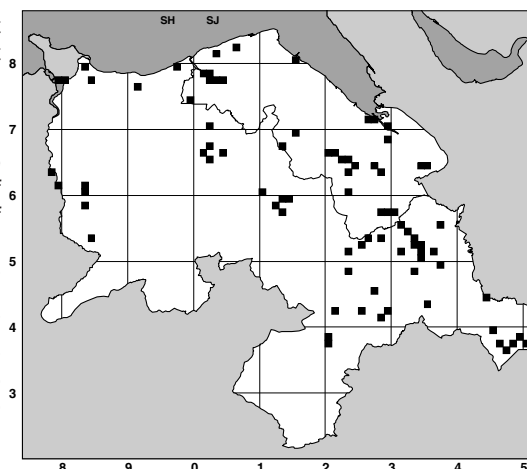
There were a few more records than in 2009 and though the large cluster of records from Wrexham is not apparent this year there were more from wider Denbs with mini-clusters near Rhuthun and Denbigh. The histogram shows there were more records in Apr - is this another indication of global warming?

Denbs. Although there were more records the maximum count was much lower this year. The first was a single at Conwy RSPB on 23/04 (JoWa). The majority of records were of 1-20+. The largest counts were: 22 at Trefriw on 10/07 flying on the E side of the Afon Conwy (RS),

28 during a BBS count near Cefn Mawr on 12/06(GWo), 30+ at Towyn on 19/07 (SM) and 50 in the NE part of Wrexham on 26/07 (NH). The last record was of 5 at Acton Park on 14/09 (PAR).

Flints. The maximum count was also lower than in 2009 and the majority of records were of 1-20. The first was of 2 near Rhuddlan on 28/04 (SH) and there were 12+ at Caergwrlle on 29/04 (JWNA). The largest counts were: 22 during a BBS count near Mold on 3/07 (GEM), 24 near Rhuddlan on 30/04 (SH), 30 at Mostyn on 6/08 (AW), 35 near Rhuddlan on 15/06 and 45 there on 6/08 (SH). The last record was a single at Caergwrlle on 11/09 (JWNA).

Swift 2010



Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*)

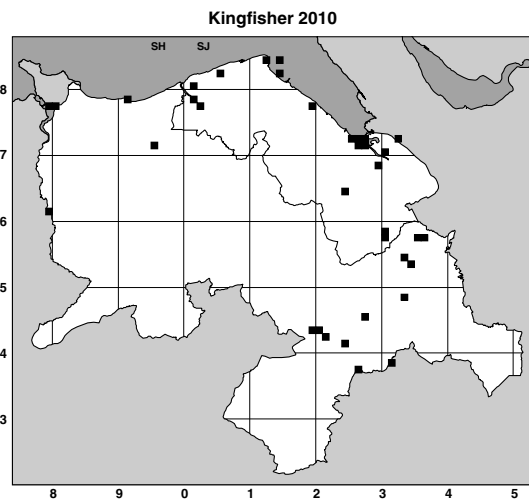
Local breeding resident. Amber List.

GLAS Y DORLAN

(KF)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	43	2
Flints.	74	4

Denbs. Recorded from more sites than 2009, there were also more records received, suggesting either a possible increase in the number of birds in the area or just a bad year in 2009. Conwy RPSB was again the main site for this species, with twenty four records, although the majority of these were of singles, with 2 seen on 5/09 (SaM). Away from Conwy RSPB 2 were seen at Burton, near Llay on 16/01 (KS), Llanrwst on 4/09 (HC) and Penycae on 14/12 (JAJ). Other records were of singles, with birds seen in suitable habitat, but no other evidence of breeding recorded.

Flints. Fewer records were received than in 2009 from fewer sites. There were records received from every month apart from Feb with records for the two winter periods from coastal sites, with spring and early summer records from inland sites. Birds appear to move back to costal sites during Jul. A single at Rhuddlan escaped the clutches of a female Sparrowhawk



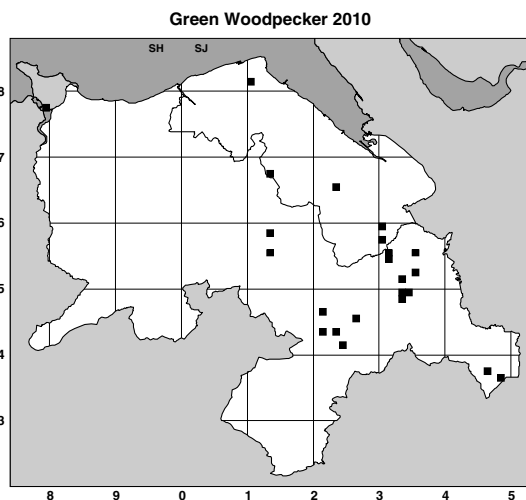
by diving into the river on at least eight occasions (19/12, SH). Three birds were seen at Rhuddlan on 7/11 (SH) and 4 were recorded at Connah's Quay NR on 14/11 (DNS). There were no records of young, although birds were seen in suitable habitat.

Green Woodpecker (*Picus viridis*)

Breeding resident. Amber List.

Denbs. As with previous years, Wrexham and the surrounding area appears to be the best place to see this species. Breeding was recorded with juveniles seen at Penycae (JAJ) and 2 seen at Dinbren Hall, Llangollen (JLR); unusually both records were from the same day, 11/08. Other sightings of 2 were from Erddig pool on 28/01 (NH), Fenn's Moss on 17/03 and 3/04 (JoAr). A possible, but unlikely record submitted, was of a single outside the coffee shop at Conwy RPSB on 24/12 (pJHg).

Flints. This is a difficult species to see in Flints, as indicated by the small number of records of this fairly large bird. They were seen around Caergwrle/ Hope with eight records, and Penycloddiau with nine records, spread throughout the year. Single records were received from Mold (during a BBS walk on 20/04) and Llanasa. Only records of singles were received, and no evidence of breeding was recorded, although birds were seen in suitable habitat.



CNOCELL WERDD

(G.)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	23	2
Flints.	19	1

Great Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos major*)

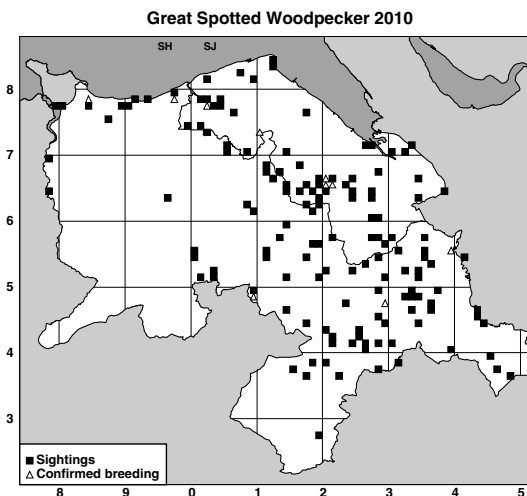
Widespread breeding resident

CNOCELL FRAITH FWYAF

(GS)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	609	4
Flints.	495	4

The spread of records across NE Wales appears to be fairly similar to that in 2009. Recorded in every month in both counties.

Denbs. Most of the records were of 1-3 birds and 70.6% of records were from GBW sites (slightly more than in 2009). The largest counts were all of 4: males heard drumming near Erddig pool, Wrexham on 27/02 (NHu), near Llysfas on 19/06 during a BBS walk (AOH), at Hafodty, S of Tal-y-Cafn bridge on 2/04 (HC), near Rhosllanerchrugog at GBW site in weeks beginning 27/06 and 4/07 (GAM). These last two records almost certainly included juveniles (a detail not captured in GBW data) and there were seven other records of confirmed breeding but only involving five different breeding sites.



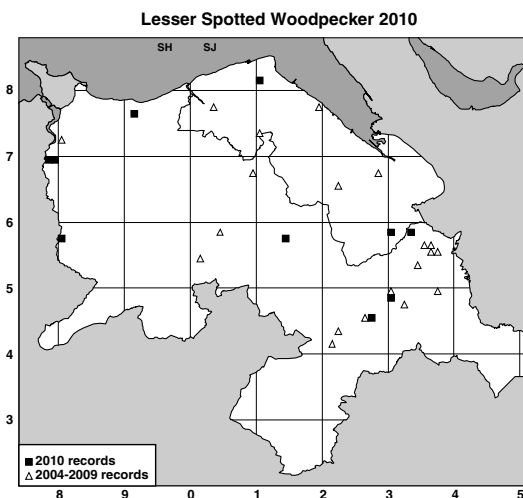
Flints. Again, most records were of 1-3 birds and 52.9% were from GBW sites with another 34.5% from Rhydymwyn by JVHu. The largest counts were of 4: near Cilcain on 11/06 and on 15/08 (GEM) and drumming at Golden Grove near Prestatyn on 8/01 (LJ). Confirmed breeding records came from five locations.

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos minor*)

Scarce breeding resident. Red List. WBAP. RBBP.

CNOCELL FRAITH LEIAF

(LS)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	10	4
Flints.	2	1



The map is interesting - the records for 2010 were not in the same places as in 2009, nor in places where they were recorded in 2004-2009. It may be that this species is generally overlooked or is hard to find. It would be of great interest to know if this species still occurred in all these squares that have been used during the last seven years. All records will be welcome.

Denbs. Recorded during Feb to Jul and Sep only, either as 1 or 2 birds though 3 juveniles were seen near Rhosyllen with an adult near some Alders on

25/07 (JAJ).

Flints. The records were singles at Llanasa on 9/03 (LJ) and in Alders by the Afon Alyn near Hope on 24/04 (JWNA).

Great Grey Shrike (*Lanius excubitor*)

Scarce winter visitor.

Denbs. A single was at Fenn's Moss on 3/01, and on various dates until 7/04 (ANB); this or another bird then returned to the Moss later in the year being on 25/10 (ANB, JnH). A single bird was also present at the regular site at Waen Uchaf/ Craig Bronbannog in Clocaenog Forest from 5/02 to 26/03 (ANB, KS) and 1 was seen during a snowy TTV on 22/02 at Bronbannog (TP, IMS) and again from 23 to 24/10 (ANB).

Chough (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*)

Rare breeding resident. Amber List. WBAP. RBBP.

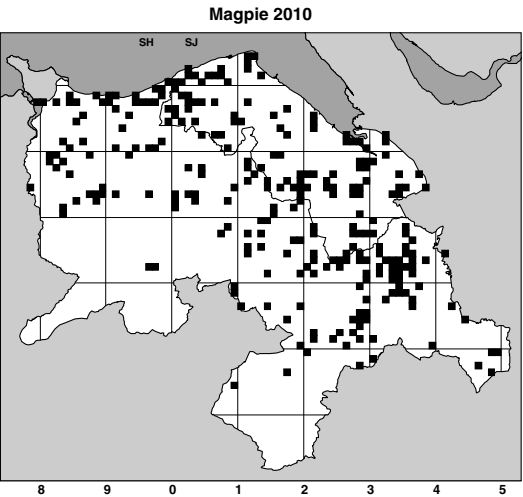
Denbs. Two were seen flying over Conwy RSPB on 4/10 (JHg), reported on 17/10 (pJHg) and then on 16/11 (WM). Accepted by LRP.

Breeding (WRBBRSG):

(CF)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	1	5	2	2	2.00

Magpie (*Pica pica*)

A common and widespread breeding resident.



PIODEN

(MG)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	970	15
Flints.	989	32

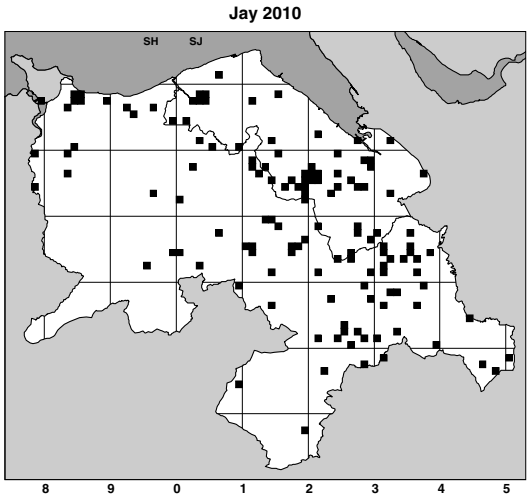
Denbs. Most reports are of 1-2 birds from GBW records. Only six counts are in double figures and are from a wide range of areas. Maximum count of 15 in the centre of Wrexham on 24/02 (JN).

Flints. As with Denbs most reports are of 1-2 birds in gardens with a maximum count of six in a Buckley garden on 21/02 (DaSh). Double figure counts come in at nearly thirty records and most from the Rhuddlan area with a maximum count there of two records of

20 in Feb (SH). Highest count of year was at Rhydymwyn with 32 on 14/04 (JVHu). Five juvenile birds were also recorded at Rhuddlan on 4/06 (SH).

Jay (*Garrulus glandarius*)

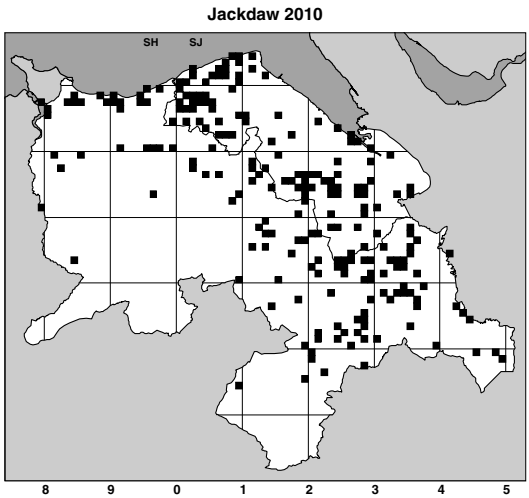
Fairly common breeding resident.



records were of 1-2 birds; the largest count being of 9 at Pantymwyn on 13/10 (GEM).

Jackdaw (*Corvus monedula*)

Common breeding resident.



YSGRECH Y COED

(J.)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	241	4
Flints.	229	9

Denbs. Recorded throughout the year from suitable habitat across the vice-county; 50.6% of records were from GBW sites. Only 13 records (5.4%) were of more than 1-2 birds; the maximum counts being 4 at Holt on 7/01 (BCP), Nant-y-Glyn on 11/04 (HC), Llangwyfan on 31/05 (MD), St Asaph Business Park on 24/11 (SH), and Mynydd Marian, Llanddulas on 30/12 (JnG).

Flints. Recorded throughout the year from suitable habitat across the vice-county; 41.5% of observations were from GBW sites. Again 90.2% of

JAC Y DO

(JD)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	702	200
Flints.	794	200

Recorded in all months with individuals and small flocks, rarely exceeding 40 birds, seen from over 220 localities. Larger flocks exceeding 40 birds were relatively common in the non-breeding season. Fewer records than in previous years. Birds were seen in 17/23 BBS squares.

Denbs. Here, 62.8% of records were from GBW sites and records were mainly of 1-35 with seven records of 40-120. The maximum was 200 seen at Dyserth on 25/10 (SH).

Flints. Flocks, exceeding 40 birds were seen at ten localities. Just 40.1% of records were from GBW sites and most records were of 1-35 but there were about fifty records of 36-170. Flocks were regularly reported from Rhydymwyn and Rhuddlan, where the maximum recorded was 200 on 25/10 (SH).

Rook (*Corvus frugilegus*)
Common and widespread colonial breeding resident.

(RO)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	237	300
Flints.	212	200+

Atlas survey activity boosted the reporting rate for this very common species and many rookeries were noted this year. Birds were seen in 12/23 BBS squares and outside the breeding season in all other months.

Denbs. Rooks were noted from 115 locations this year and in forty four of these, active rookeries were recorded. Flocks between 30 and 100 were seen on twenty seven occasions throughout the year and the largest congregation (300) was seen at Gresford Flash, Wrexham on 26/01(JN).

Flints. Records came from sixty locations and active rookeries were recorded at twenty of these sites. Flocks between 30 and 200+ were seen on twenty four occasions with the largest flock seen near Mold on 14/07 (MD).

Carrion Crow (*Corvus corone corone*)
Common breeding resident.

(C.)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	681	30
Flints.	590	40

This extremely widespread species was reported across the recording area in all months of the year, usually in small numbers indicating pairs or small family parties. Few flocks exceeded 20 in number. Birds were observed in the breeding season in 22/23 BBS squares.

Denbs. Six hundred and eight one records from 222 sites with 43.0% from GBW sites. The largest single flock was of 27 birds at Conwy RSPB in front of the Benarth hide on 22/04 (SaM). Counts of up to 30 birds were recorded on several BBS squares and on Timed Tetrad Visits as part of the national Atlas.

Flints. Five hundred and ninety records from 104 sites with 38.0% from GBW sites. Flocks of between 20 and 40 birds were seen at three coastal locations (Gronant, Rhyl and Connah's Quay NR) on six occasions outside the breeding season. An unusual number of 25 birds was seen during the breeding season at Cilcain on 25/04 (GEM). The maximum count of 40 on 15/08 was at Rhyl (RMB).

Raven (*Corvus corax*)
Fairly common and widespread breeding resident.

(RN)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	130	30
Flints.	137	6

A similar number of records and locations to 2009. Birds were seen in all months of the year from a wider variety of inland locations and fewer coastal sightings than in previous years. Birds were reported from

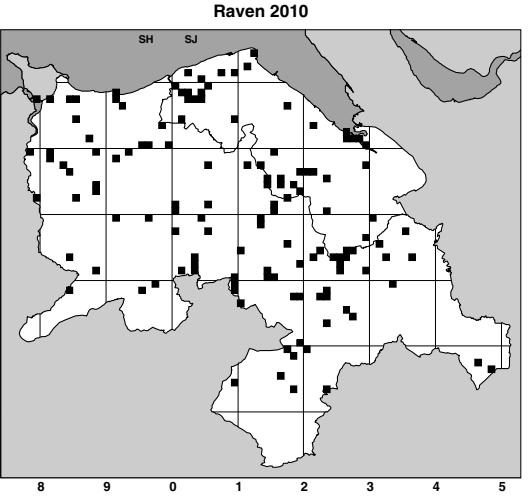
6/23 BBS squares. There were fewer nests monitored but there were more fledged young per nest than last year.

Denbs. Sightings came from 95 locations. The largest flock (30) was noted at Moel Truan (between Gwyddelwern and Bryneglwys) on 30/06 (JLR) and 25 birds were noted feeding on a sheep carcass at Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd on 4/08 (KS).

Flints. Small numbers, never exceeding 6, were seen in all months scattered across the county from 36 locations. Two flocks of 6 birds (Bwlchgwyn on 3/05 by SD and Connah's Quay NR on 23/12 by GR) were recorded.

Breeding (WRBBRSG):

(RN)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	24	113	68	60	2.50



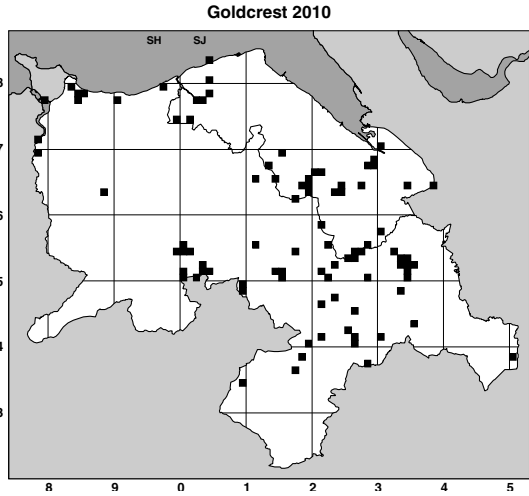
Goldcrest (*Regulus regulus*)
Common and widespread breeding resident. Amber List.

(GC)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	104	32
Flints.	81	10

The distribution of records shows this species to be fairly widespread though there were large areas of Denbs with no records. Recorded in every month in both counties.

Denbs. The majority of records were of 1-7 and the 7.7% of records from GBW sites had counts in that range. All of the larger counts were of birds ringed at Bronbannog: 19 on 13/10, 21 on 12/09, 24 on 31/08 and 32 on 22/09 (IMS). All of the birds ringed in autumn were juveniles, so after the cold start to the year there seems to have been a fairly productive breeding season. How many of these birds will have survived into 2011?

Flints. Here, most of the records were of 1-4 and 38.3% of records were from GBW sites with counts of 1-2. The



larger counts were 9 at Wepre Park, Connah's Quay during the BioBlitz on 31/07 (JuR) and 10 on Penycloddiau on 10/10 and 24/10 (EdW).

Blue Tit (*Cyanistes caeruleus*)

Common breeding resident.

Recorded in every month in both counties and the records were slightly more distributed to the W than in 2009. Although there was variation between sites and loss of about a quarter from eggs to young fledged, the overall productivity was better this year than in 2009.

Denbs. Most of the records were from GBW sites (61.9%), though a smaller proportion than in 2009. This may have been because some records were gathered as a result of Atlas fieldwork in areas not normally visited. The majority of records were of up to 20 birds and the biggest counts were from ringing: 49 nestlings at Glyn Arthur on 31/05, 43 full grown near Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd on 8/08 (pBH), 48 full grown at Garth on 9/08 (pBH), 48 full grown at Garth on 9/08 and 65 full grown birds there on 20/11 (LB).

Flints. Most of the records (59.2%) were from GBW sites and many others from Rhydymwyn by JVHu. Most of the records were of up to 20 birds and the large counts were 40 seen near Cilcain on 7/08 (GEM), 50 seen near Rhuddlan on 31/12 (SH). The other large counts were the results of ringing: 58 nestlings at Rhydymwyn on 27/05 (AmB) and 70 nestlings at Coed y Felin, Hendre on 31/05 (IMS).

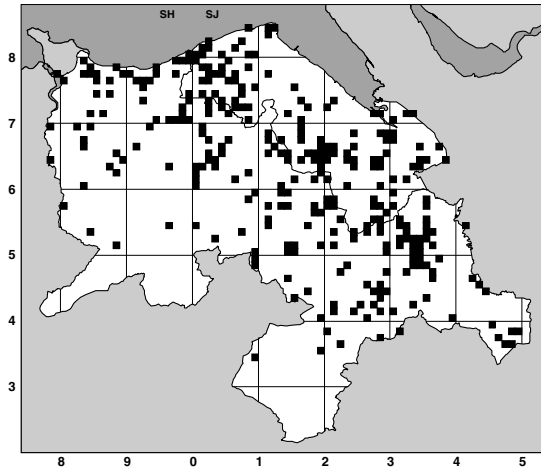
Breeding (IMS, MRG, AmB):

(BT)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Glyn Arthur	13	105	95	93	7.15
Pandy	14	130	98	84	6.00
Prion	32	317	273	238	7.44
Coed y Felin	14	137	123	113	8.07
Rhydymwyn	35	272	194	164	4.69
Others	11	94	72	63	5.73
TOTALS	119	1055	855	755	6.34

TITW TOMOS LAS

(BT)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	1590	65
Flints.	1324	70

Blue Tit 2010



Great Tit (*Parus major*)

Common and widespread breeding resident.

Recorded in every month in both counties with the records from a slightly wider scattering of places than in 2009. More nests were monitored this year and there were more young fledged per nest than in 2009, despite the considerable losses from eggs to young fledged.

Denbs. The majority of records were from GBW sites (73.3%) and this is slightly lower than last year's proportion. Most of the records were of up to 20 birds and the largest counts were: 28 seen during a BBS walk at Garth on 15/06 (StMa), 38 full grown birds ringed at Garth on 10/07 (LB), 39 nestlings ringed at Glyn Arthur on 31/05 (pBH) and 69 nestlings ringed at Pandy on 21/05 (pBH).

Flints. The proportion of records from GBW sites was slightly higher than last year, at 60.2%, with many other records from Rhydymwyn by JVHu. Again, most records were of 1-20 with the largest counts being 25 seen near Rhuddlan on 31/12 (SH) and all the others being nestlings ringed: 22 at Coed y Felin and 24 near Rhydymwyn on 24/05 (IMS), 26 near Cilcain on 10/05 (pBH), 26 at Rhydymwyn on 15/05 (AmB), 30 at Coed y Felin on 31/05 (IMS), 33 near Pantymwyn on 25/05 (pBH) and 44 at Rhydymwyn on 22/05 (AmB).

Breeding (IMS, MRG, AmB):

(GT)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Glyn Arthur	12	97	90	69	5.75
Pandy	30	212	171	159	5.30
Prion	20	162	120	110	5.50
Coed y Felin	9	62	58	48	5.33
Rhydymwyn	29	180	147	115	3.97
Others	10	65	45	32	3.20
TOTALS	110	778	631	533	4.85

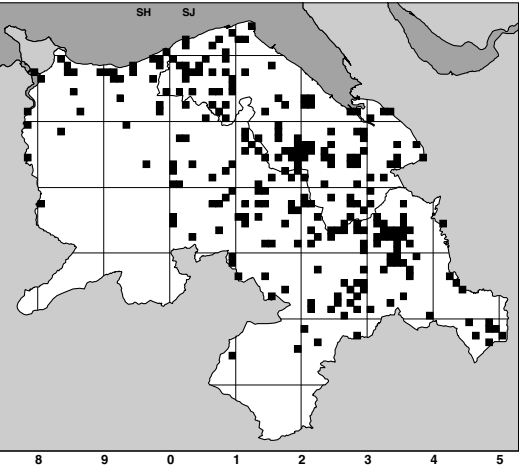
Coal Tit (*Periparus ater*)

Widespread breeding resident, found in woodland and gardens. Amber List.

Recorded in every month in both counties with the geographical distribution slightly more scattered across the area than in 2009.

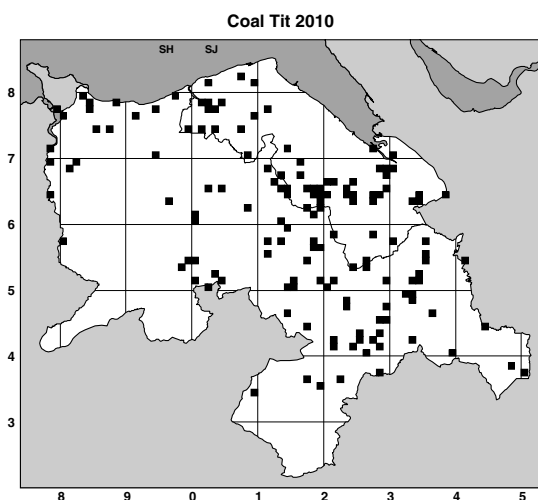
TITW MAWR		
(GT)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	1329	69
Flints.	1247	44

Great Tit 2010



TITW PENDDU

(CT)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	1003	20
Flints.	800	8



Denbs. The majority of records (79.2%) were from GBW sites and almost all of them were of up to 4 birds with a few records of counts up to 8. The largest counts were 20 seen at Llandegla Forest on 1/04 (BBu) and 20 nestlings ringed at Glyn Arthur on 22/05 (pBH). Coal Tits do not normally nest at high density (in the way that Blue Tits do) so it is notable that three broods were ringed at Glyn Arthur.

Flints. Again, most of the records were from GBW sites (65.1%) and most were of small numbers up to 4. The largest counts were: 8 counted during a BioBlitz at Wepre Park, Connah's Quay on 31/07 (JuR), 8 seen near Cilcain on 21/08 (GEM) and a brood of 8 nestlings

ringed near Nannerch on 24/05 (pBH).

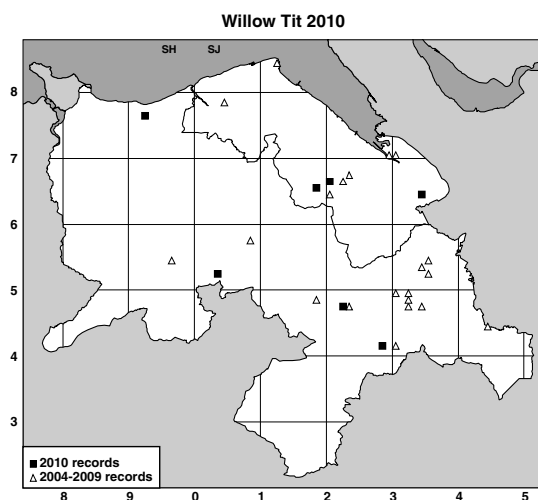
Breeding (MRG):

(CT)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Glyn Arthur	3	32	32	31	10.33
Pandy	2	7	7	7	3.50
TOTALS	5	39	39	38	7.60

Willow Tit (*Poecile montana*)

Scarce breeding resident in recently wooded areas. Red List. WBAP. RBBP.

TITW'R HELYG



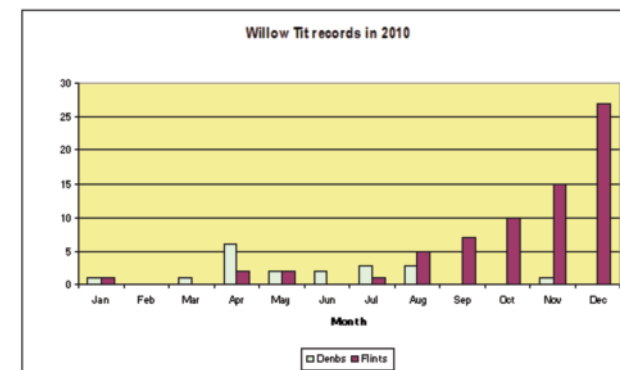
(WT)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	19	4
Flints.	70	5

Although there were more records this year they were from fewer locations. The pattern of records through the year can be seen in the histogram.

Denbs. Most records were of 1-2 birds. Nine of the records were of birds ringed at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest which provided the larger numbers: 3 on 31/08 and 4 on 25/06 (IMS).

Flints. Without the contribution by JVHu there would have been just three

records this year. So, 95.7% of the records were from a feeder at Rhydymwyn with 1-2 birds coming to feed. The largest count was of 5 nestlings ringed near Cilcain on 10/05 (pBH).



Willow Tit, Robin Sandham

Marsh Tit (*Poecile palustris*)

Uncommon breeding resident frequenting well wooded habitats. Red List. WBAP

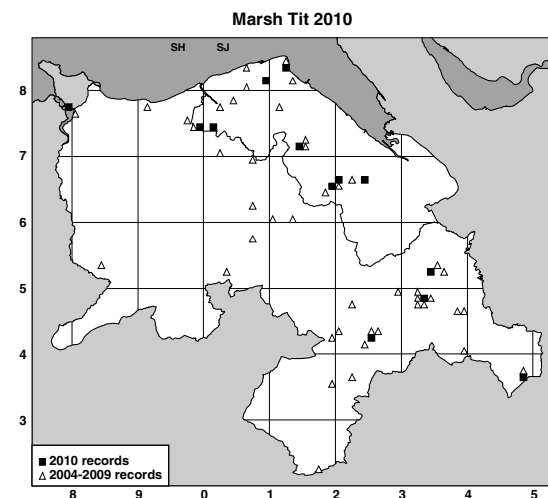
TITW'R WERN

The distribution of records is nearly the same as in 2009. All records are welcome.

(MT)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	12	2
Flints.	17	2

Denbs. Recorded in all months except Jan, May and Oct to Dec. Most records were of singles with 2 at Bodelwyddan Castle on 15/02 (HC) and 11/03 (RaTe).

Flints. Twelve of the records were from GBW sites (70.6%) at Sychdyn, Rhydymwyn and near Pantymwyn. Most records were of singles and 2 were near Pantymwyn on 3/10 (MB) and 4+ were seen coming to food by a hide in the DEFRA site at Rhydymwyn (where they have bred previously) on 19/11 (JVHu).



Bearded Tit (*Panurus biarmicus*)

Rare and irruptive species. Red List. RBBP.

MAP

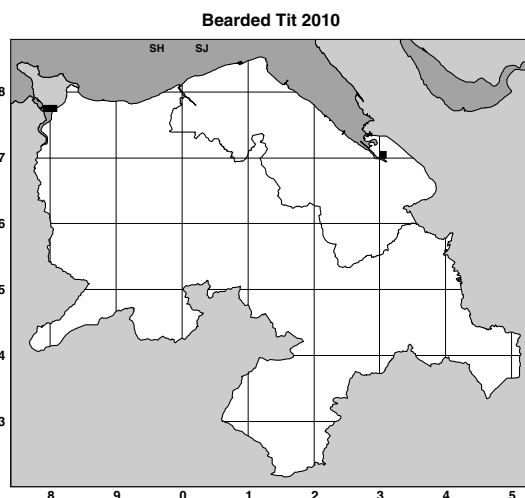
Denbs. This was an interesting, potential but unexpected addition to the list of species that have bred in the area and a first for the Conwy RSPB reserve.

The first records were of a female and two males on 26/04 (JuW). Thanks to HC for the only description of a male and female on 29/05 accepted by LRP. The first record of juveniles was on 5/06 when JHg saw 3. The last record of juveniles was 2 on 11/08 (pJHg) so probably at least two broods were raised. The last record was a female on 31/10 (JHg) and none has been seen since the severe weather at the end of the year.

Flints. A single was ringed at Shotton Steelworks on 14/11 (pBH). Was this one of the birds from Conwy?

TITW BARFOG

(BR)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	86	5
Flints.	1	1



Bearded Tit, Dermot Smith



Woodlark (*Lullula arborea*)

Rare visitor. RBBP.

Denbs. A single was seen at Conwy RSPB on 8/01 and then 2 were there on 9/01 (JHg, MHu). Accepted by WRP.

EHEDYDD Y COED

(WL)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	2	2
Flints.	0	

Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*)

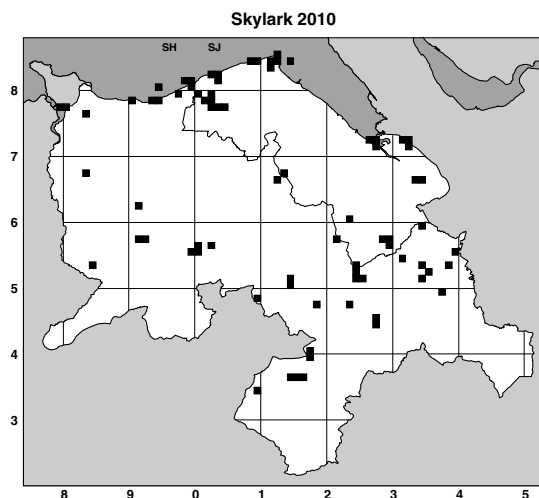
Widespread though localised breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List. WBAP.

The map shows that the records came from a subset of locations from which they have been seen in the last seven years. Recorded in every month in both counties.

(S.)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	90	160
Flints.	97	3000

Denbs. All but seven records were of 1-8 birds. The largest counts were: 14+ at Towyn on 24/10 (SM), 15 at Ochr-y-cefn, S of Llansannan on 3/06 (RMB), 15 moving W at Penycæ on 15/10 (JAJ) and 160 near Pensarn on 10/01 (RS).

Flints. There were considerably more large counts than in Denbs - thirty four records were of 10+ and the largest counts were: 100 at Connah's Quay NR on 19/12 (StaS), 120 at Point of Ayr on 14/01 (GR), 150 at Connah's Quay NR on 23/12 (GR), 200 at Shotwick Fields on 27/12



(KDu), 300 at Connah's Quay NR on 22/12 (StaS) and what must have been an amazing sight - 3,000 at White Sands on 19/12 (KDu).

Shore Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*)

Rare migrant.

2009

Flints. Two were seen at Point of Ayr on 19/11 (CMo). Accepted by WRP.

2010

Flints. One was seen on 16/01 at Gronant dunes (KS) and on 13/02 between Gronant and Point of Ayr (MHu). It is understood to have been first seen on 14/01. Accepted by WRP.

EHEDYDD Y TRAETH

(SX)	No of records	Max count
Flints (2009)	1	2
Denbs.	0	
Flints.	1	1

Sand Martin (*Riparia riparia*)

Summer breeding visitor and passage migrant. Amber List.

The records were from several different locations compared with 2009.

GWENNOL Y GLENNYDD

(SM)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	27	350
Flints.	45	100

Denbs. Recorded Mar to Jul with the first record of 2 at Gresford Flash, Wrexham on 18/03 (JN). The last record was 30 near Afonwen, including juveniles, on 11/07 (MD). The two other large counts were 50+ near Afonwen at a disused sand quarry breeding site on 9/05 (MD) and 350 at Conwy RSPB on 6/04 (RS). Breeding was confirmed near Afonwen, Llyn Aled Isaf on Mynydd Hiraethog and near Valle Crucis, Llangollen (a new colony).

Flints. Recorded Mar to Sep and the first record was 2 at Connah's Quay NR on 18/03 (KLJ). The last was at least one with Swallows and House Martins at Caergwile on 11/09 (JWNA). Most records were of 1-30 and the largest counts were 50 near Rhuddlan on 20/04 and 30/04 (SH), 100 there on 4/04 (SH) and 100 by the River Dee at Bagillt on 22/04 (ACoh). Breeding was confirmed near Flint, near Rhuddlan and at Burton.

Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)

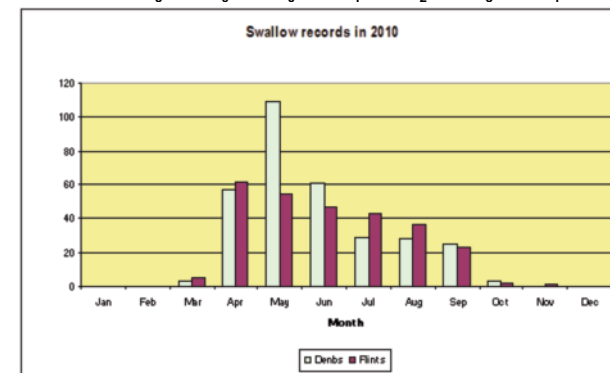
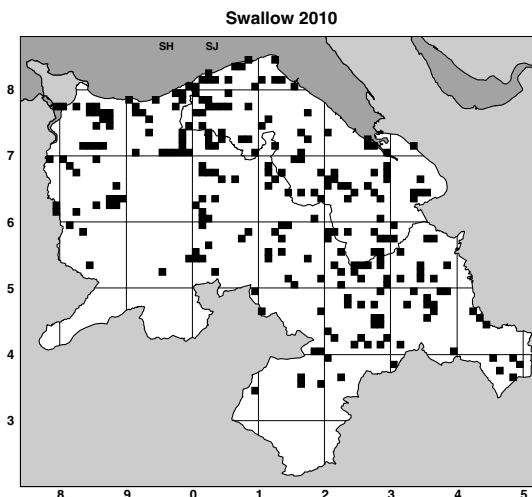
GWENNOL

Common and widespread summer breeding visitor and passage migrant. Amber List.

There were fewer records in Mar than in 2009 and with a similar temporal pattern with the exception of a late record in Nov. The records were more widespread across the area, especially in Denbs. There were fewer nests monitored this year and though each nest was more productive than in 2009 the overall output was fewer fledged young.

(SL)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	315	200
Flints.	275	50

Denbs. The first record was of 2 at Pensarn on 19/03 (JVHu) just one day earlier than the first of 2009. Just 8.6% of records were from GBW sites and the majority of records were of 1-25 birds. The large counts were: 30 at Penycae on 19/07 (JAJ), 30+ at Conwy RSPB on 6/04 (RS), 40 near Wrexham on 4/09 (NH), 60+ at Pont-yr-Alwen, Mynydd Hiraethog on 30/08 (JVHu), 70+ at Towyn on 31/08 (SM) and 200 near Penycae on 16/07 (JAJ). Nestlings were ringed on several days, the largest number being 14 at Pandy on 11/06 and 17/07 (pBH). The last record was a single at Towyn on 29/10 (SM), which was five days later than the last record of 2009.



Breeding (IMS, MRG, JLR, AmB):

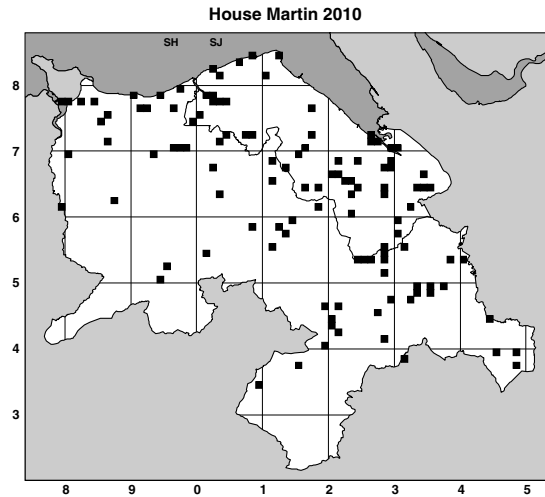
(SL)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Pandy	20	85	83	83	4.15
Beeches Farm	17	78	68	67	3.94
Others	34	127	152	152	4.47
TOTALS	42	188	172	171	4.07

Flints. The first record was a single at Llanasa on 26/03 (LJ). Some 13.5% of records were from GBW sites and most records were of 1-27 birds. The larger counts were: 30 during a BBS walk near Brynford on 5/06 (CMi), 30 near Rhuddlan on 20/04 and 13/07 (SH), 30+ at Hendre on 19/09 (MD), 35 near Rhuddlan on 30/04 (SH), 40 at Rhydymwyn on 5/09 and 50 there on

22/08 (DMH). Nestlings were ringed on several days at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft, the most being 12 on 30/07 (IMS). The last record was a single near Rhuddlan on the late date of 14/11 (SH).

House Martin (*Delichon urbicum*)

Common and widespread summer breeding visitor and passage migrant. Amber List.

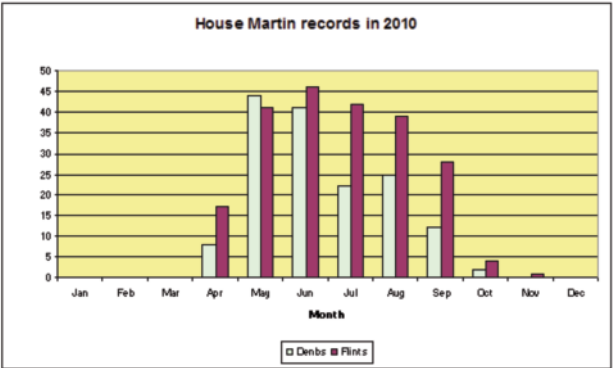


(HM)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	153	70+
Flints.	217	110

Recorded across the area and the pattern of records is very different from that of the Swallow with no clear peak in May.

Denbs. The first birds of spring were a week later than last year with 6 at Glanllyn, near Trefnant on 5/04 (AB, IMS). Confirmed breeding was recorded at Nant-y Glyn, near Llanfair Talhaïam, Pentredwr and Wrexham. The largest count was at Rhyd-y-foel with 70+ birds seen on 14/08 (DCR). The last record was 3 seen at Towyn on 4/10 (SM).

Flints. First record of spring was a few days earlier than last year with 3 at Y Graig NR, Tremeirchion on 4/04 (PKi). The largest count came early in season with 110 S of Rhuddlan on 5/05 (SH) and the largest count later in the season came from Cilcain with 52 on 21/08 (GEM). Breeding was confirmed at fourteen locations. The last record was three weeks later than last year - a single heading S at Caergwrle on 1/11 (JWNA).



Cetti's Warbler (*Cettia cetti*)

Scarce potential breeder. RBBP.

Flints. Both records were of singles ringed at Shotton Steelworks on 28/03 and 31/10 (pBH). It will be interesting to find out if any survived the severe winter period at the end

(CW)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	0	
Flints.	2	1

of the year.

Long-tailed Tit (*Aegithalos caudatus*)

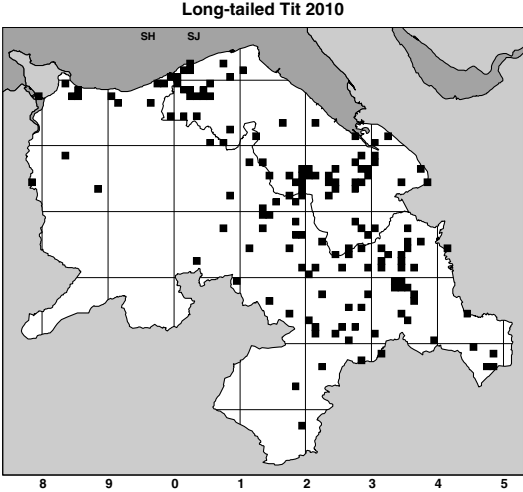
Common breeding resident. Amber List.

Recorded in every month in both counties and the distribution of records is similar to that of last year with some welcome extra records in the W and S.

Denbs. Most of the records (65.8%) were from GBW sites, slightly more than in 2009. Most records were of 1-15 and the largest counts were 20 near Rhuthun on 11/02 (OD), 20+ at Colwyn Bay on 27/11 (RS) and 35+ passed through a garden near Llandrillo-yn-Rhos on 2/09 (SKT).

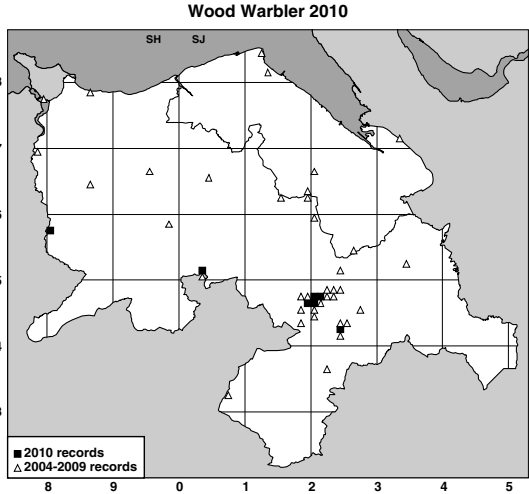
Flints. Although most records (55.7%) were from GBW sites this was a much lower percentage than last year (at 74.4%). As the number of records is higher this means that more birds were seen other than in gardens (or at least, GBW sites). Most records were of 1-17 and the largest counts were all at, or near, Rhuddlan by SH: 20 on 17/10, 20 on 29/10 and 28 nearby also on 29/10.

TITW GYNFFON HIR		
(LT)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	427	35+
Flints.	456	28



Wood Warbler (*Phylloscopus sibilatrix*)

Scarce, localised breeding summer visitor. Red List. WBAP



TELOR Y COED		
(WO)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	16	2
Flints.	0	

This year the records were from just a few of the locations where they have been recorded during the last seven years. Were birds missed elsewhere or do they no longer occur at the other sites? All records are welcome.

Denbs. Recorded in Apr to Jul and the first record was 2 at Brynhyfryd, Clocaenog Forest on 27/04 (KS). All the other records were of 1-2 birds and probable breeding was recorded at two locations near Eglwyseg (JLR) and confirmed breeding at Brynhyfryd (RCa). The last record was a bird still probably breeding near Eglwyseg on

Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus collybita*)

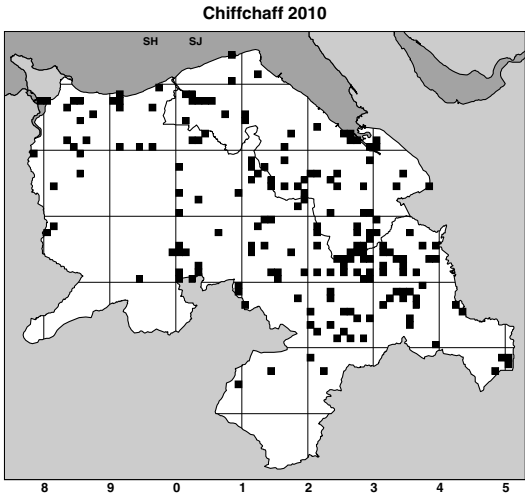
Common and widespread summer breeding visitor with some birds overwintering.

SIFF SAFF

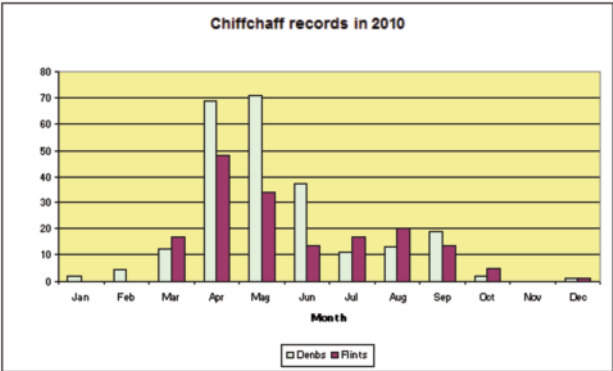
Recorded at more widespread locations than in 2009 and in most months of the year in both counties.

(CC)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	241	14
Flints.	170	13

Denbs. The first record was 2 at Bwlchgwyn in week beginning 10/01 at a GBW site (JC). Only 13.7% of records came from GBW sites and they were mainly of 1-2 birds but there were 3 at the Bwlchgwyn site in week beginning 30/05 (JC). Most of the other records were of 1-10 and the largest counts were 11 at Threapwood on 25/04 and 11 near Marchwiel on 16/06 (NHu), 13 near Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 18/04 (JsH) during a BBS walk and 14 at Nant-y-Glyn, near Colwyn Bay on 11/04 (HC). The first record of song was on 21/03 at Erddig pool, Wrexham and the last record of the year was there on 4/12 (NHu).



Flints. There were no records in Jan or Feb and the first was a single at Fagl Lane Quarry, Hope on 17/03 (GNR). Some 27.1% of records came from GBW sites, mainly of 1-3 with 4 at Rhydymwyn in week beginning 29/08 (DMH) and 4 at Caergwrle in week beginning 15/08 (JKee). Other records were mainly of 1-9 and the largest counts were 11 near Mold on 25/04 (GEM) during a BBS walk, 11 at Penbedw on 31/05 (MD) and 13 ringed at Shotton Steelworks on 5/09 (pBH). The first record of song was also on 21/03 near Rhuddlan and the last record of the year was there on 12/12 (SH).



Willow Warbler (*Phylloscopus trochilus*)

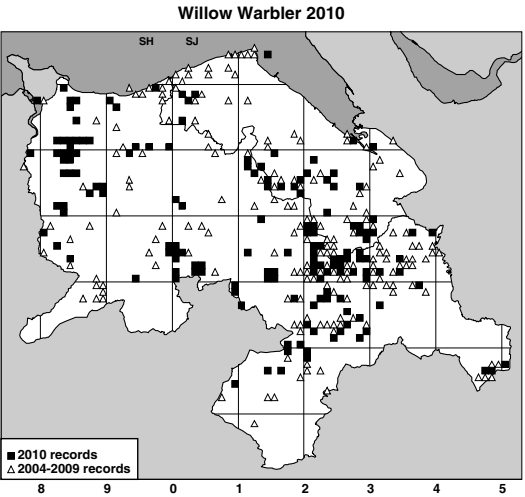
Common and widespread summer breeding visitor. Red List.

TELOR YR HELYG

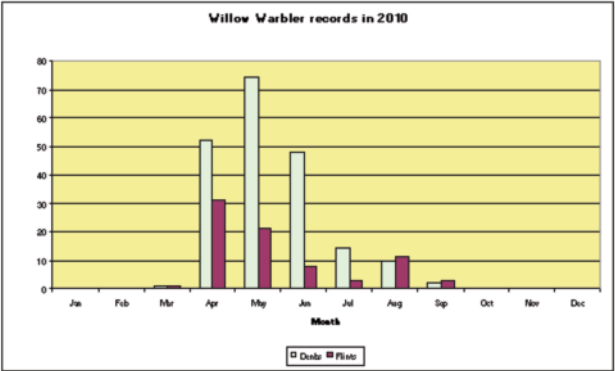
(WW)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	201	81
Flints.	78	40

The distribution of records is different from 2009 and there are many locations which had records in the last seven years with none this year. There were early records this year - one each in Mar in each county. Most records were from the time when males would be singing strongly - Apr, May and Jun.

Denbs. The first record was a single at Gresford Flash on 30/03 (JN). Just 1.99% of records were from GBW sites (all singles) and most records were of 1-20. The largest counts from sightings were 23 at Marial Gwyn, Clocaenog Forest on 27/04 and 29 also on 27/04 from Isgaer-wen, Clocaenog Forest (RCa). Large counts from ringing at Bronbannog were: 26 on 28/07, 55 on 9/07 and 81 on 20/07 (IMS). The last record was a single near Wrexham on 21/09 (NH).



Flints. The first record was a single near Rhuddlan on 30/03 (SH) and 14.1% of records came from GBW sites (all singles). Again, most records were of 1-20 and the largest counts were all at Penycloddiau: 25 on 25/04 and 1/05 and 40 on 17/04 (EdW). The last record was a single at a GBW site at Caergwrle in week beginning 5/09 (JKee).



Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*)

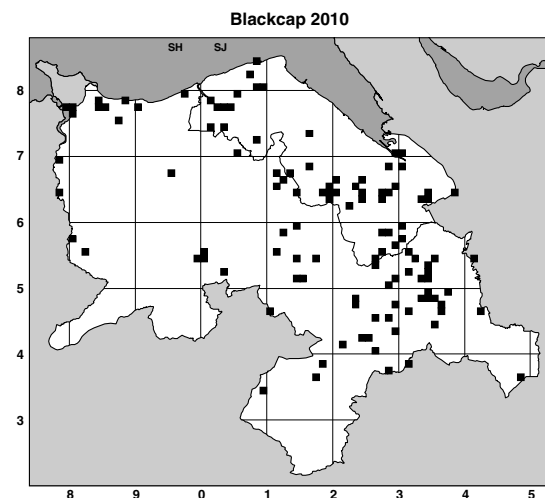
Common breeding summer visitor with small numbers wintering.

TELOR PENDDU

(BC)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	199	28
Flints.	182	5

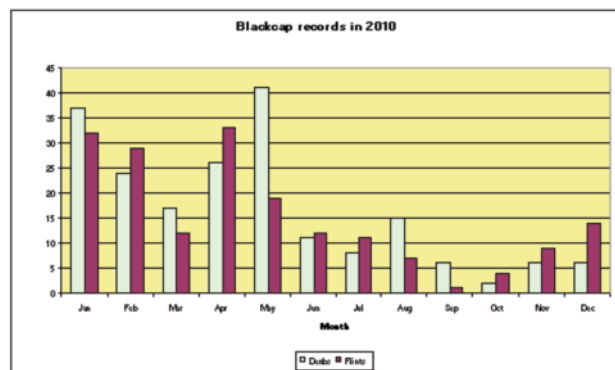
The distribution of records is similar to last year and again there were many records in Jan and Feb in both counties, a marked peak in Apr and May when singing birds would have been easy to detect.

Denbs. Most records were of 1-7 and 36.7% of records were from GBW sites with 1-2 birds



present. The largest count was 28 at Conwy RSPB on 21/08 (SaM), when many young birds must have been moving through the reserve. There were just two records of confirmed breeding at Marchwiel and Nant-y-Glyn.

Flints. Most records were of 1-4 and 56.3% of records came from GBW sites with 1-2 birds, but many more records of 2 in these gardens than in Denbs. The largest counts were lower than in Denbs: 5 males near Rhuddlan on 11/04 (SH) and 5 near Mold during a BBS survey on 16/06 (IMS).



Garden Warbler (*Sylvia borin*)

Breeding summer visitor mainly recorded in spring. Amber List.

The records were scattered across both counties in a similar pattern to in 2009 but with only six of forty-six in the second half of the year and of those, five were trapped. The species is difficult to find after it has stopped singing and is probably under-recorded.

Denbs The first spring arrivals were 2 on 30/04 in Wrexham (KS) and the last record was 1 on 12/09 at Conwy RSPB (pJHg). Maximum counts were 5 ringed on both 9/07 and 20/07 at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest (IMS).

Flints. The first record was 1 on 25/04 at Penycloddiau. This site also produced five of the nine records and 25 of the 30 birds reported with a max count of 7 (all EdW). The last was 1 ringed at Shotton Steelworks on 25/07 (pBH).

TELOR YR ARDD

(GW)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	37	5
Flints.	9	7

Barred Warbler (*Sylvia nisoria*)

Rare migrant.

Flints. One was seen at Shotwick Broken Bank on 20/10 (StaS). Accepted by WRP.

TELOR RHESOG

(RR)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	0	
Flints.	1	1

Lesser Whitethroat (*Sylvia curruca*)

Scarce breeding summer visitor.

This year both counties have twenty one records but this is half the 2009 Denbs total and almost twice those for Flints. It is suspected that the species is overlooked by those not familiar with it, as the majority of the records came from a handful of observers. All but six records were of single birds.

LLWYDFRON FACH

(LW)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	21	3
Flints.	21	2

Denbs. First recorded as a singleton on 17/04 at Conwy RSPB (RS) and was last seen on 11/09 in that location (pJHg). The maximum count was 3 at Dyserth on 18/07 (SH).

Flints. 85% of the records were submitted by SH in the Rhuddlan area, who first reported it on 22/04; he also had maximum counts of 2 on 30/04 and 18/07. The last record was for 2 on 20/08 at Connah's Quay NR (GEM).

Whitethroat (*Sylvia communis*)

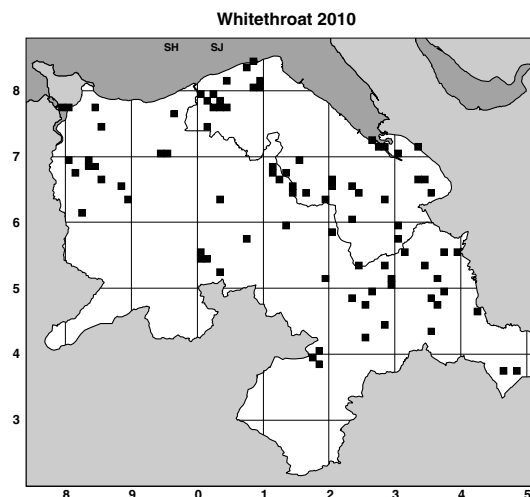
Common breeding summer visitor. Amber List.

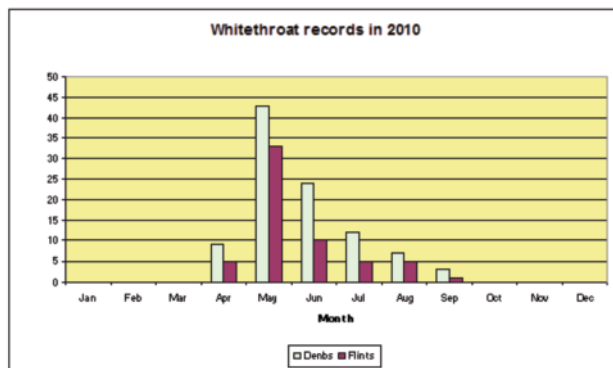
Records were more widely distributed than in 2009 - most marked in Denbs. Recorded Apr to Sep in both counties, with obvious peaks of records in May and Jun when males would have been singing.

LLWYDFRON

(WH)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	99	8
Flints.	49	11

Denbs. Most records were of 1-4 (and 11.1% of records were from GBW sites at Llandegla and Coedpoeth, all of which were singles). The larger counts were: 5 near Marchwiel on 24/04 during a TTV Atlas count (NHu), 5 at Marial Gwyn, Clocaenog Forest on 21/06 (RCa) during a survey, 5 ringed at Bronbannog on 20/07 (IMS), 6 at Conwy RSPB on 9/06 (RS) and 8 near Moel Famau on 9/05 (EdW). The first record was a single at Conwy RSPB on 19/04 (RS) and the last was a single there on 8/09 (pJHg). There were two records of confirmed breeding - near Dyserth and Marchwiel.





Flints. Again, most records were of 1-4 with none from GBW sites. The larger counts were: 5 on Penycloddiau on 16/05 and 20/06 (EdW), 5 nestlings ringed at Deeside Industrial Park on 31/05 (pBH), 6 singing at Connah's Quay NR on 7/04 (LJ) and 11 at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft on 18/06 during a BBS walk (IMS). The first record was a male singing near

Hope on 24/04 (SD) and the last was a single near Rhuddlan on 1/09 (SH). There was one record of confirmed breeding - at Connah's Quay NR.

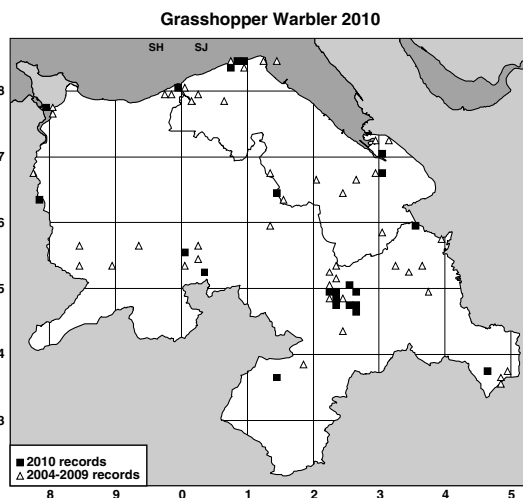
Grasshopper Warbler (*Locustella naevia*)

Localised summer breeding visitor. Red List. WBAP

Records came from just a few of the locations where they have been present during the last seven years. The figures in the table, above, are exactly the same as in 2009.

Denbs. Recorded in Apr to Aug and the first record was a male at World's End on 16/04 (JLR). All records were of just 1-3 with the largest count of 3 at World's End on 30/05 (KS). The last was 2 ringed at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest on 19/08 (IMS).

Flints. Records were from Apr to Jun, the first being a single ringed at Shotton Steelworks on 25/04 (pBH) and the last another single seen at Higher Shotton on 7/06 (RCa). There were records of 2 near Prestatyn on 27/04 (DCR) and 2 near Gronant on 1/05 (LC).



Sedge Warbler (*Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*)

Breeding summer visitor.

Denbs. There were double the number of reports this year. The first record was on 12/04 (RBH) and the last record was on 24/07 (JHg). The largest count of 4 was on 19/04 (ANB) and all come from Conwy RSPB.

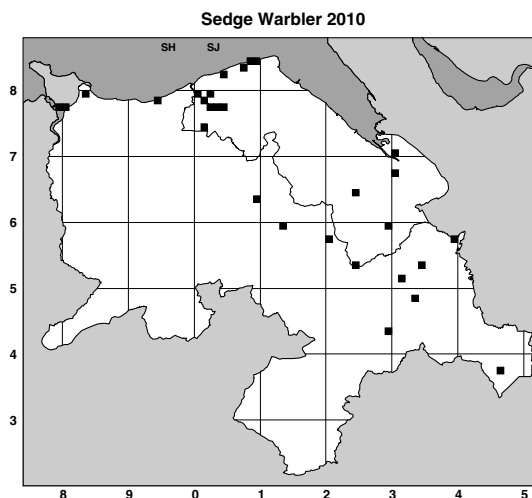
TROELLWR BACH

(GH)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	22	3
Flints.	5	2

TELOR YR HESG

(SW)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	40	4
Flints.	37	4

Flints. There were more records than last year with most coming from one location - Shotton Steelworks. All of these were ringing records, with the first on 11/04 and the last on 5/09 with the maximum 4 several times (pBH). There was only one confirmed breeding record at Higher Shotton on 7/06 (RCa).



Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*)

Localised breeding summer visitor.

Most records came from about the same locations as in 2009.

Denbs. Recorded during Apr to Sep with the first record of 4 at Conwy RSPB on 26/04 (RS) and the last a single ringed at Bronbannog on 22/09 (IMS). Most other records were of 1+ to 15 but RS saw 30+ at Conwy RSPB on 10/06.

Flints. Most of the records (77.8%) were of birds ringed at Shotton Steelworks between the first record of a single on 25/04 and the last, another single, on 26/09 (pBH). The largest total ringed was 14 on 25/07 (pBH). The other few records were sightings, including a record of confirmed breeding at Higher Shotton on 7/06 (RCa).

Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*)

Scarce and irregular winter visitor. RBBP.

A widespread occurrence across the area enabled many people to see more of these beautiful birds than in 2009 and they hung on into 2011.

Denbs. Just a single record in Feb with a single near Rhuthun on 13/02 (OD) and the others were during Oct to Dec. The highest counts were: in Oct, 15 at Llyn Brenig reserve on 24/10 flying towards the hide (MC), in Nov, 150 at Porth y Dre, Rhuthun on 24/11 (KS) and in Dec, 70+ at Felin Puleston, Wrexham on 1/12 (SD).

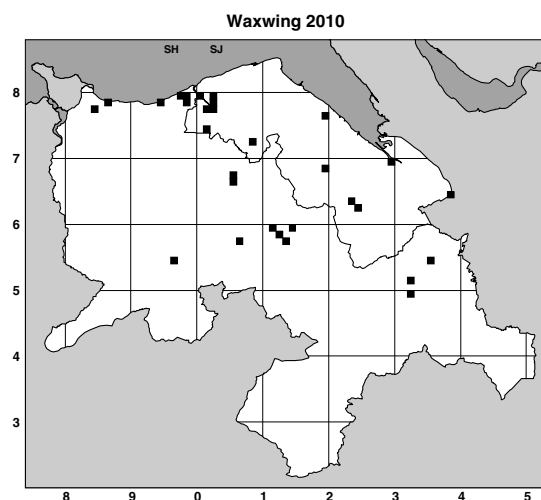
Flints. Recorded only in Nov and Dec with the highest counts: in Nov, 24 near Mold on 22/11 (JnB), and in Dec, 80 S of Rhyl on 11/12 (SH).

TELOR Y CYRS

(RW)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	13	30+
Flints.	27	14

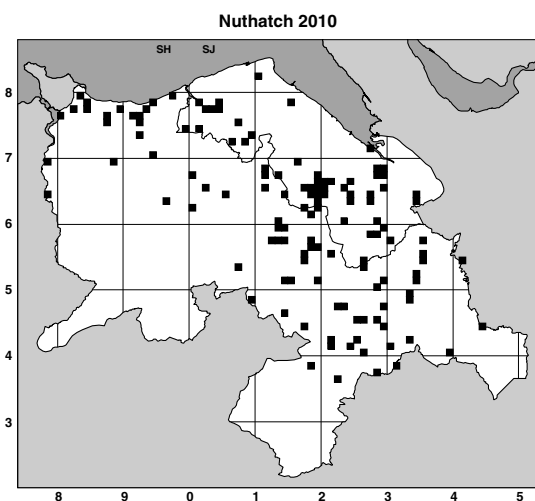
CYNFFON SEDAN

(WX)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	32	150
Flints.	15	80



Nuthatch (*Sitta europaea*)

Common and widespread breeding resident.



was 6 at Erddig Pool on 19/03 (NHu). The maximum count was 12 nestlings ringed (two broods) near Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 24/05 (IMS).

Flints. Recorded from forty five locations; only 3.3% of records were of more than 3 birds; the maximum counts were a brood of 6 nestlings ringed near Cilcain on 10/05 (pBH) and notable records of 5 birds near Cilcain and Pantymwyn on various dates, mostly in Oct/Nov (GEM).

Breeding (IMS, AmB):

(NH)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	5	31	28	27	5.40

DELOR Y CNAU

(NH)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	584	12
Flints.	387	6

Recorded throughout the year from suitable habitat across both vice-counties. A commonly recorded garden bird, 78.9% of Denbs records were either from GBW, or noted to be using feeders. In Flints the proportion was lower at 55.04%. These statistics are remarkably similar to 2009. A highly territorial species, very few records were of more than two birds. More nests were checked this year and more young fledged per nest than in 2009.

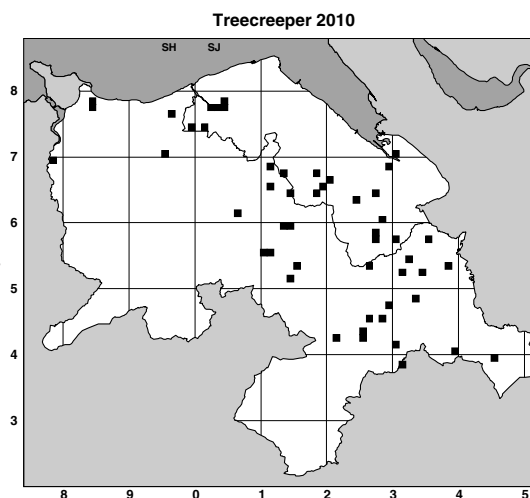
Denbs. Recorded in suitable habitat throughout the year at eighty four locations. The only substantial count

Treecreeper (*Certhia familiaris*)

Widespread breeding resident.

Denbs. Recorded throughout the year from suitable habitat in thirty five locations across the vice-county. This represents a 47% reduction in the number of locations recorded during 2009. Breeding was recorded from Castell (MD), Nant y Glyn (HC) and Parc Postyn, Prion (pBH). Only three records were of more than two individuals. The largest count was 5 at Hafody on 2/04 (HC).

Flints. Recorded from sixteen locations. Only one record was of more than two individuals, the largest count was 4+ at Rhydymwyn on 16/04 (JVHu).



DRINGWR BACH

(TC)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	53	5
Flints.	57	2

Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*)

A common breeding resident and winter visitor.

Reported widely from across the recording area, mainly as singles outside the breeding season, in all months of the year. Recorded on 20/23 BBS surveys and regularly from gardens.

Denbs. 56.8% of records were from GBW sites and all but eight records were of 1-10 birds, with the others being 11-18, all counted during BBS walks and the largest count was at Garth on 15/06 (StMa).

Flints. A similar proportion, 58.4% of records were from GBW sites and all but three records were of 1-9 birds. The others, again, were all during BBS surveys and the largest count was near Mold on 16/06 (IMS).

DRYW

(WR)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	585	18
Flints.	450	18

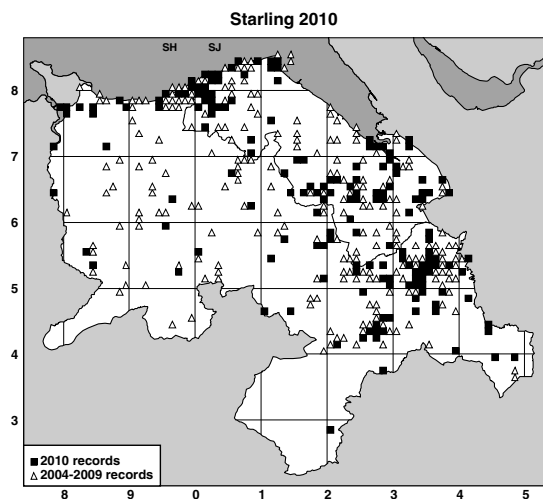
Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*)

Common and widespread breeding resident. Red List. WBAP

GBW (65.3% in Denbs and 40.2% in Flints) and Birdtrack records contributed the majority of sightings for this very common bird. Starlings were seen in all months at a range of locations. Winter flocks were usually confined to coastal sites and to the Wrexham area but birds were distributed more widely in the breeding season. Possible breeding was recorded in only 8/23 BBS squares, a drop from 2009.

DRUDWEN

(SG)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	671	45000
Flints.	744	3000



Denbs. Winter flocks of between 100 and 15,000 birds were noted from the following sites in Jan/Feb: Kinmel Bay, Lightwood Green, Conwy RSPB and Wrexham (Borras, Gresford Flash, Rhosddu Rd and the town centre). In early Mar, inland flocks of 100 were noted from Pentrellyncymmer, Clocaenog Forest and the Sportsman's Arms (Mynydd Hiraethog). Small numbers were more widespread during the breeding season. Late breeding was recorded on 2/07 when adults were seen feeding young in the nest at Tallarn Green (EB, JLR). Numbers built up again from mid Sep and records came mainly from Conwy RSPB, Nant-y-Glyn and Towyn. Inland flocks were recorded with 120 at Ruabon Moor on 7/11 (JLR), 450 at Clocaenog Forest on 12/11 (GU) and 150 at Mynydd Hiraethog on 12/12 (RS). Winter roost numbers at Conwy RSPB rose to an amazing 45,000 on 13/12 (JHg).

Flints. Winter flocks of between 100 and 3,000 birds were seen at Connah's Quay NR, Oakenholt Marsh, Rhuddlan, Rhyl and Talacre; far fewer sites than in previous years. Maximum numbers (3,000) were recorded in Dec from Rhuddlan (14/12 by DCR and 31/12 by SH) and Rhyl on 29/12 by DCR.

Breeding (AmB, IMS):

(SG)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	2	8	7	7	3.50

Dipper (*Cinclus cinclus*)

Widespread localised breeding resident. Amber List.

Found along many suitable streams and rivers from upland areas down to near sea level. Breeding was less productive this year - although two more nests were recorded, each produced, on average, fewer fledged young.

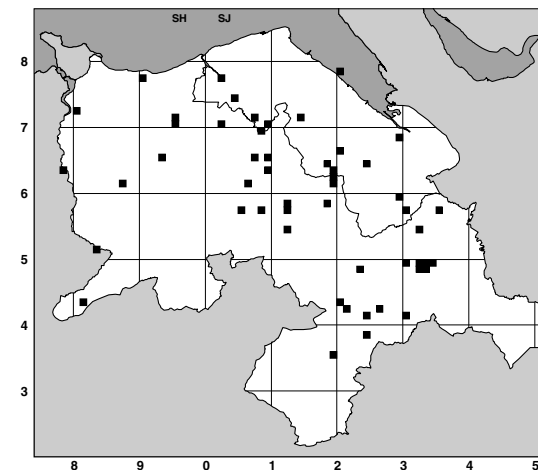
Denbs. An 80% increase in records shows a wider distribution than in 2009. Recorded in every month other than Jan and Sep. All records were of 1-2 birds except six; five of these recorded nestlings ringed: a brood of 5, three of 4 and one of 3 and 3 full grown birds were seen at Llangollen on 1/10 (HN).

Flints. Seen in nine months but not May, Jun and Sep. Records were of 1-2 birds with three nests located in Mar (RCa).

BRONWEN Y DWR

(DI)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	71	5
Flints.	18	2

Dipper 2010



Breeding (MRG):

(DI)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	9	40	32	29	3.22

Ring Ouzel (*Turdus torquatus*)

WYALCHEN Y MYNYDD

Breeding summer visitor in small numbers to upland areas. Red List. WBAP

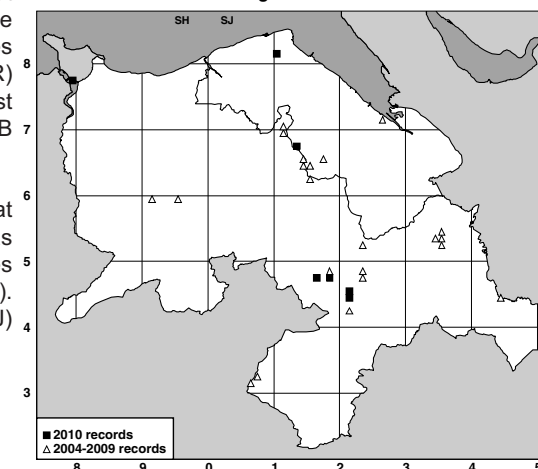
Seen at a few locations where they have been recorded in the previous seven years.

(RZ)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	5	4
Flints.	5	10

Denbs. All records were in Apr and none were thought to be breeding but migrants that passed through the area. There were 4 including 2 males on the Horseshoe Pass on 7/04 (JLR) which was the first record. The last record was a single at Conwy RSPB on 25/04 (JHg).

Flints. The first record was a male at Penycloddiau on 27/03 which was followed by 10 (2 females, 5 males and 3 unsexed) there on 4/04 (EdW). A single was at Llanasa on 28/04 (LJ).

Ring Ouzel 2010



Blackbird (*Turdus merula*)

Common and widespread breeding resident .

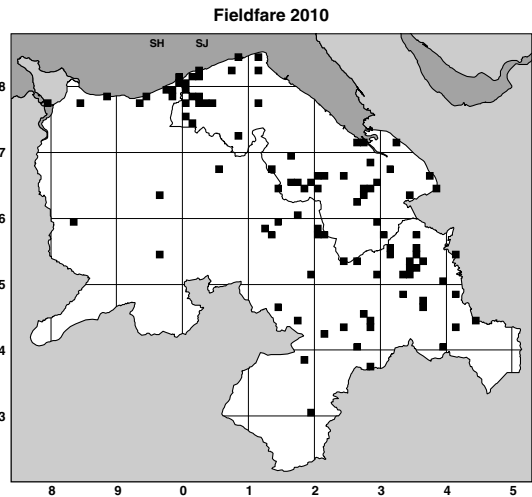
Recorded in every month in both counties.

Denbs. The majority of records were from GBW sites (64.9%) and most records were of 1-20 birds. Early winter peaks were 16 near Wrexham on 24/02 (JN) and 17 at Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd on 13/02 (NHu). Pairs were seen as early as 5/02 at Marchwiel (NH), whilst nest building was observed on 8/03 at Wrexham (NH). Peak numbers were 34 at Cefn Mawr on 12/06, 36 there on 2/05 (GWO), both counts made during BBS walks and 37 at Wrexham, Pentre Maelor on 11/07 (NH). The highest late winter count was 30+ at Nant-y-Glyn, near Colwyn Bay on 26/12 (HC).

Flints. Again, most records were from GBW sites (57.7%) with many records from Rhydymwyn by JVHu and most records were of 1-29 birds. Early winter peaks were 28 on 1/01 and 26 on 3/01 near Rhuddlan (SH). The first singing male was recorded at Rhydymwyn on 25/03 (JVHu). The peak counts were 43 at Buckley on 18/05 and 44 there on 14/04 during BBS counts (GNR) and 32 were at Penbedw on 31/05 (MD). High autumn / winter counts included 28 near Rhuddlan on 31/10 and 28 there on 11/12 (SH) and 29 at Buckley on 19/12 (DaSh).

Fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris*)

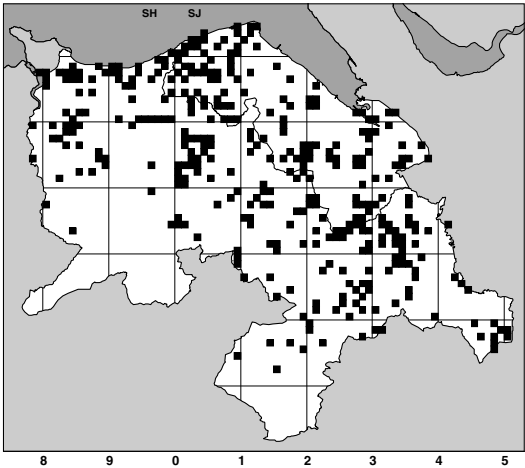
A very common passage and winter migrant. Amber List.



MWYALCHEN

(BB)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	1645	37
Flints.	1360	44

Blackbird 2010



SOCAN EIRA

(FF)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	123	550
Flints.	105	200+

The records were fairly widely distributed but not all from the same locations as in 2009. The temporal pattern of records was very similar to that of 2009.

Denbs. Recorded in Jan to Apr and Oct to Dec and the last spring record was 12 near Holly Bush on 23/04 (JHz). During the first part of the year most records were of 1-140 and the two largest counts were 200 at Penycæ on 27/02 and 300 there on

30/03 (JAJ). In the autumn most records were of 1-86+ and the largest counts were both at Penycæ: 460 on 27/10 and 550 on 28/10 (JAJ). Almost certainly because of the cold weather at both ends of the year some 36.1% of records came from GBW sites as birds came to feed in gardens.

Flints. Recorded in Jan to Apr and Oct to Dec. In the early part of the year most records were of 1-45 and the three larger counts were: 50 near Rhuddlan on 26/02 and 27/02 (SH) and 50+ in the centre of Rhyl on 10/01 (DCR). The last record in spring was 4 at Fagl Lane Quarry, Hope on 24/04 (JWNA). The first autumn record was 30+ near Cilcain on 18/10 (WAO) and there were some larger flocks towards the end of the year. Most records were of 1-100 and the largest counts were 150+ near Rhuddlan on 12/12 (DCR) , 180+ at Gwernaffield on 21/10 (MD) heading W, and 200+ heading W at Caergwrle on 22/10 (JWNA).

Song Thrush (*Turdus philomelos*)

Widespread breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List. WBAP

The distribution of records is similar to that in 2009. The temporal spread of records is also similar, recorded in all months in both counties, but with a bigger peak in Dec.

Denbs. Half (50.1%) of records were from GBW sites which had counts of 1-2 birds. All records were in the range 1-8 and the two largest counts were 7 at Nant-y-Glyn on 31/05, which included juveniles (HC) and 8 at Conwy RSPB on 22/01 (RS).

Flints. Just under half (46.7%) of records came from GBW sites where counts were of 1-4. All records were of 1-12 and the largest counts were: 10 or 10+ near Rhuddlan on 18/12 (SH, DCR) and 12 there on 12/01(SH).

Redwing (*Turdus iliacus*)

Common passage migrant and winter visitor throughout the area. Amber list. RBBP.

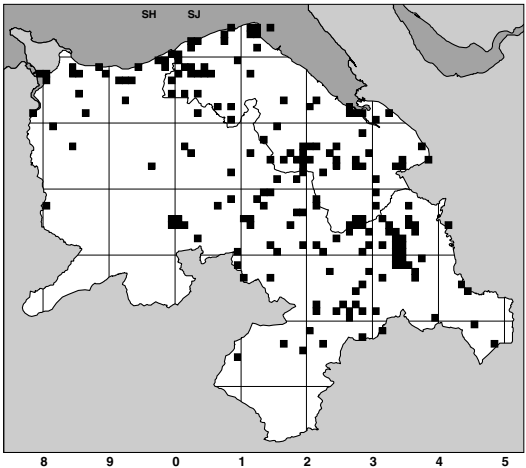
The records seem to be a little more clumped than in 2009, especially along the coast from Kinnel Bay to Prestatyn.

Denbs. Recorded during Jan to May and Oct to Dec with 25.4% of records from GBW sites which provided counts of 1-6. Most of the records during the early part of the year were of 1-75+ and the largest counts were: 100+ at Bodelwyddan Castle on 15/02 (HC), 150 at Penycæ

BRONFRAITH

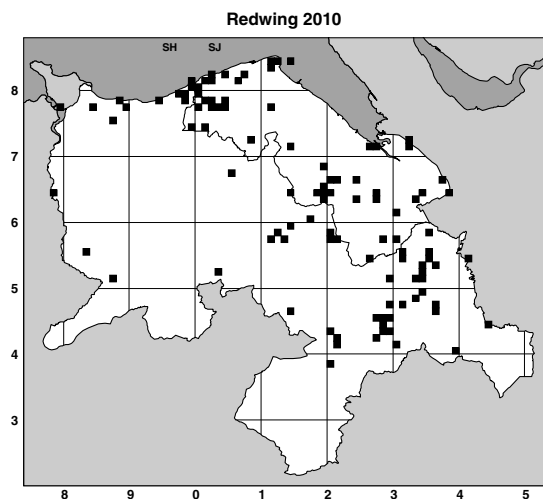
(ST)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	391	8
Flints.	411	12

Song Thrush 2010



COCH DAN ADEN

(RE)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	118	800+
Flints.	135	200+



on 30/03 and 800+ there, but moving N, on 15/03 (JAJ). The last sighting in spring was at a GBW site near Llangollen in week beginning 30/05(FAMB). In the latter part of the year, the first sighting was 6 at Penycae, moving W, on 7/10 (JAJ) and most records were of 1-92 with the largest counts, again from Penycae: 100 on 13/10 and 750 on 18/11, moving S in four flocks (JAJ).

Flints. Recorded during Jan to Apr and Oct to Dec, and 26.7% of records were from GBW sites where there were counts of 1-25. During the early months most counts were of 1-65 and the largest counts were 70 near Rhuddlan on 26/02 and 27/02 (SH).

The last record in spring was also there - a single on 5/04 (SH). In autumn, the first record was a single at Rhuddlan on 8/10 (SH). During the last months of the year most counts were of 1-80 and the largest counts were 132 near Cilcain on 13/11 (GEM) and 200+ near Rhuddlan on 12/12 (DCR).

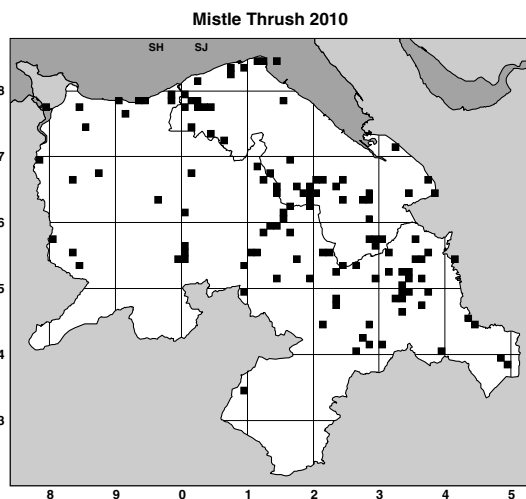
Mistle Thrush (*Turdus viscivorus*)

Fairly common breeding resident.

The distribution of records was much like that in 2009.

Denbs. Recorded during Jan to Jul and Oct to Dec with 86% of the records in the earlier months and 23.5% were from GBW sites with counts of 1-2. All records had counts in the range 1-7 birds and the larger counts were: 6 near Cefn Mawr during a BBS survey on 12/06 (GWO), 6 near Dyserth on 19/07 (SH) 6 at Pensarn on 30/10 (RS) and 7 at Pentre Maelor, Wrexham on 11/07 during a BBS walk (NH).

Flints. Recorded in every month with 72% of records submitted for the months Jan to Jul and 34.6% were from GBW sites with counts of 1-3. All records had counts of 1-8 and the larger counts were: 6 near Rhuddlan on 2/10, 14/11 and 14/12 (SH), 6 at Talacre on 9/12 (JuR) and 8 near Rhuddlan on 19/07 (SH).



BRYCH Y COED

(M.)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	170	7
Flints.	185	8

Spotted Flycatcher (*Muscicapa striata*)

Uncommon breeding summer visitor. Red List. WBAP.

A welcome doubling of records for 2010. The map shows a wider distribution, but still many fewer locations than have been used since 2004. It is probable the Atlas surveys encouraged wider coverage and produced more woodland records. There were very few reports from gardens. It was good to have a few more nests checked and they were more productive than the one last year.

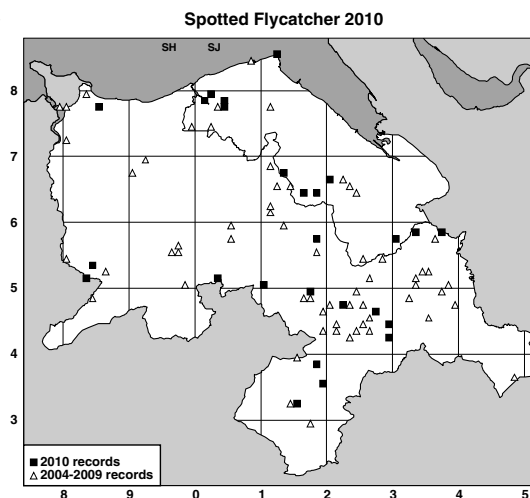
Denbs. Recorded from May to Aug with the bulk of the sightings in Jun and Jul, including a heartening number of breeding records. The first record was 1 on 12/05 at Capel Siloan (MaO) and the last was a single bird at Padog on 9/08 (PKi). The maximum count was 9 nestlings ringed at Pandy on 19/06 (pBH).

Flints. Here six of the fourteen records

were in Aug and Sep suggesting they were migrants. The first record was 1 on 29/04 at Point of Ayr and the last was 1 at Caergwrlle on 20/09 (JWNA). The maximum counts were 4 at Penycloddiau on 9/06 and 20/06 (EdW). The GBW records were from Rhydymwyn:- 1 on 29/08, 3 on 5/09 and 2 on 19/09 suggesting these were migrants (DMH).

GWYBEDOG MANNOG

(SF)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	27	9
Flints.	14	4



Breeding (MRG):

(SF)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Pandy	3	14	14	14	4.67
Other	1	4	4	3	3.00
TOTALS	4	18	18	17	4.25

Robin (*Erithacus rubecula*)

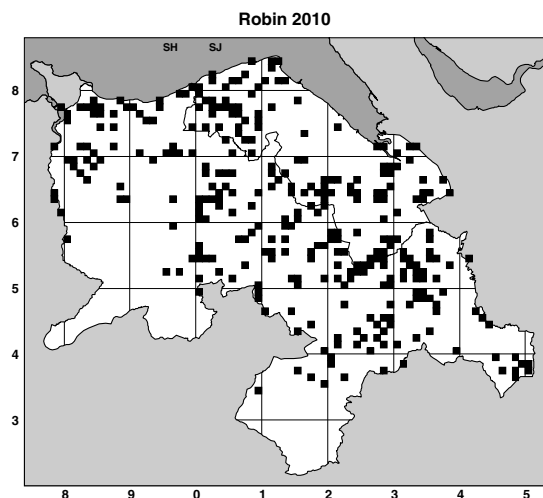
Common and widespread breeding resident.

The spread of records was subtly different from that in 2009, especially in Denbs with more records in the W, probably as a result of Atlas fieldwork. Recorded in every month in both counties.

ROBIN GOCH

(R.)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	1484	19
Flints.	1217	12

Denbs. Most records were of 1-10 birds and 68.1% of records were from GBW sites. Several of the largest counts were from BBS walks: 11 near Cefn Mawr on 2/05 (GWO), 11 near Llandyrnog on 2/06 (StMa), 11 at Isgaer-wen, Clocaenog Forest on 27/04 (RCa), 11 near Glyndyfrdwy on 16/03 (JVHu), 11 in the centre of Wrexham on 24/02 (JN), 14 at Rhyd-y-Foel



on 19/06 (GBH) and 19 at Garden Village, Wrexham on 27/02 (JN). This last count may include migrant birds overwintering in our area. There were seventeen records of confirmed breeding.

Flints. Again, most of the records were of 1-10 birds and 60.5% of records came from GBW sites. All the largest counts were made during BBS walks by IMS: 11 at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft on 22/04 and 12 near Mold on 20/04 and 16/06. There were six records of confirmed breeding.

Black Redstart (*Phoenicurus ochruros*)

Scarce migrant. Amber List. RBBP.

Denbs. A female or immature male was seen at Kinmel Bay on 14/02 and 21/02 (KS). Accepted by LRP.

Flints. A male was photographed in a back garden at Flint on 17/03 (AIBi). Accepted by LRP.

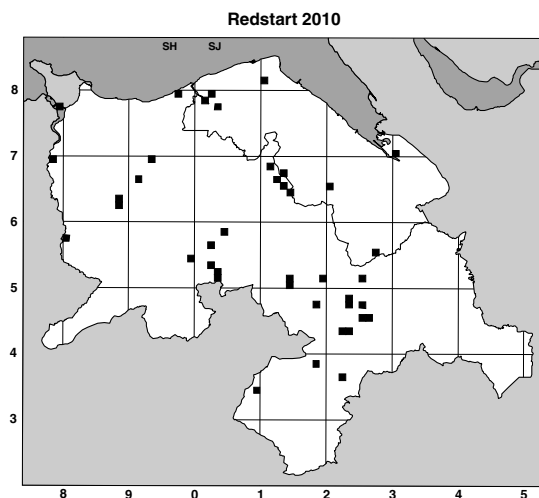
TINGOCH DU

(BX)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	2	1
Flints.	1	1

Redstart (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*)

Summer breeding visitor mainly in wooded upland areas. Amber List.

TINGOCH

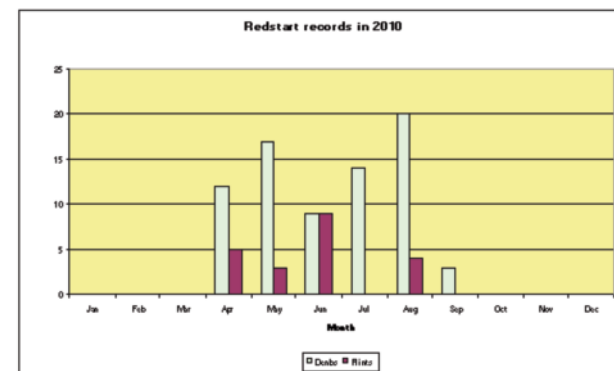


Most of the records are from areas of upland and the months in which they were recorded can be seen in the histogram. Breeding in the nests checked was more successful this year than last.

Denbs. The first bird of the year was a male near Castell Dinas Bran, Llangollen on 10/04 (JLR). Singing was first recorded at three places on the same date (24/04): Hafodty, S of Tal y Cafn bridge, near Llysfas and at Mynydd Cricor. The maximum counts were of nestlings ringed: 7 at

Bedwlwyn on 26/05 and 7 at Glyn Arthur on 5/06 (pBH). Breeding was confirmed at seven locations and the last bird of the year was a single at Conwy RSPB on 7/09 (JHg).

Flints. The first bird of the year was a single at Penycloddiau on 10/04, with 7 there on 16/05 (EdW). A number of records came from near Rhuddlan and 3 newly fledged juveniles were seen on 11/06 (SH). Breeding was confirmed at just three locations and the last bird was ringed at Shotton Steelworks on 22/08 (pBH).



Breeding (MRG):

(RT)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	3	19	19	19	6.33

Whinchat (*Saxicola rubetra*)

CREC YR EITHIN

Breeding summer visitor in small numbers, mainly in upland areas.

Denbs. Recorded Apr to Sep except Aug. The first spring record was 2 at World's End on 24/04 (KS). Possible breeding pairs were recorded at Tregeiriog and on Ruabon Mountain, both on 15/05 (NHu), but there were no records of confirmed breeding this year. There was a slight change in distribution to 2009, with gains in S along the Berwyns but fewer records in the Mynydd Hiraethog area. The highest count was of 20+ at Blaen-cwm-llawenog in the Berwyn Mountains on 5/07 (KR). The last sighting of the year was a single at Conwy RSPB on 6/09 (RS, RBM).

(WC)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	20	20+
Flints.	12	4

Flints. Recorded Apr to Sep except Jul, with the first record being 2 at Point of Ayr on 29/04 (ANB). The largest count was 4 near Rhuddlan on 14/05 (SH). The last record was at Talacre on 25/09 (NH). There were no confirmed breeding records this year.

Stonechat (*Saxicola torquata*)

CLOCHDAR Y CERRIG

Breeding resident in small numbers. Amber List.

Denbs. Recorded all months but Feb, Aug and Dec. Most records had counts of 1-3. The largest counts were: 4 at World's End on 2/06 (FCC) and 4 at Capel Siloam on 3/07 during a BBS walk (MaO). There were confirmed breeding records at both Vivod and Foel Frech.

(SC)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	46	4
Flints.	39	4

Flints. Recorded all months except Jul and Nov. Most winter records were near Rhuddlan with numbers of 1-2. Summer records mostly came from Penycloddiau: the first record of a single was on 23/05 and the last record of a single on 10/10 (WAO). A peak count of 4 was at Penycloddiau on 16/05 (EW). Three juveniles were recorded at Moel Arthur on 9/09 (WAO).

Wheatear (Oenanthe oenanthe)

Breeding summer visitor and passage migrant. Amber List.

Denbs. Recorded Mar to Oct mainly as 1–8 birds. The first record was a single at Conwy RSPB on 6/03 (RBM). The largest counts were: 10+ at Conwy RSPB on 24/04 (pJHg), 10 at Llyn Brenig on 25/04 (LJ) and 15 at Conwy RSPB on 29/04 (JoWa). Records of fledglings confirmed breeding at both Moel Maelogan on 19/06 (JVHu) and Blaen-cwm-llawenog on 5/07 (KR). A single juvenile was recorded at Conwy RSPB on 26/08 (pJHg).

Flints. Recorded Mar to Oct except Jul mainly as 1–6 birds. The first record was a single at Connah’s Quay NR on 18/03 (AsCo). The largest counts were: 10 at Penycloddiau on 17/04 (EdW) and 7 near Rhuddlan on both the 2/05 and 14/05 (SH).

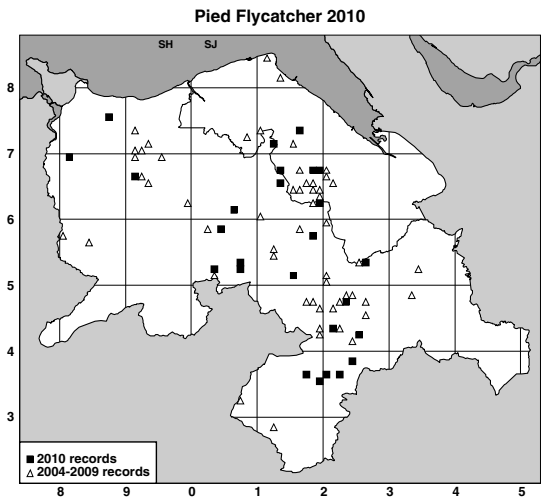
Greenland Wheatear (Oenanthe oenanthe leucorhoa)

Passage migrant.

Flints. There were six records from the Rhyll/Rhuddlan area: 1 on 23/04, 4 on 27/04, 2 on 2/05, 4 on 3/05, 4 on 14/05 and 2 on 16/05 (SH). There was one record of 3 from near Shotwick on 3/05 (DSm).

Pied Flycatcher (Ficedula hypoleuca)

Breeding summer visitor. Red List. WBAP



Once again, the vast majority of records were of birds ringed (83.7% in Denbs) but they are from more locations than in 2009. The histogram shows that after the birds leave their nests they are not easy to see - hence the small number of records in Jul. The mainly dry weather in May and Jun seems to have been helpful to breeding birds this year with, overall, more than 2 young extra fledged per nest than in 2009.

Denbs. The first record was of 2 near

TINWEN Y GARN

(W.)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	66	15
Flints.	70	10

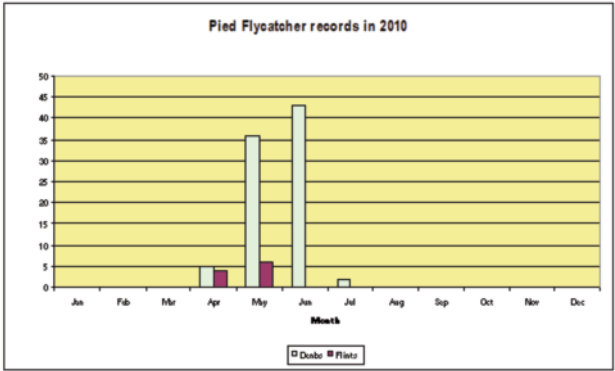
TINWEN Y GARN

(W.)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	0	
Flints.	7	4

GWYBEDOG BRITH

(PF)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	86	66
Flints.	10	25

Llangollen on 10/04 (JLR). There were many records of 1-26 adults or nestlings ringed and the largest counts were all of nestlings ringed: 29 at Prion on 31/05 and 6/06, 34 at Glyn Arthur on 5/06 and 36 there on 31/05 (all pBH), 46 at Coed Nantddu, Clocaenog on 3/06 (IMS) and 66 at Prion on 4/06 (pBH). An interesting record was of 4 juveniles near Llansannan on 18/07 (RS) and the last record was another juvenile ringed at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest on 20/07 (IMS).



Flints. The first record was a single at Penycloddiau on 10/04 (EdW) and most records were of 1-2 birds. The others were: 5 males at Coed y Felin on 6/05 (LJ) and 25 nestlings ringed there on 31/05 (IMS), which was also the last record for the year.

Breeding (MRG, IMS, JLR, AmB):

(PF)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Ddol-hir	5	32	32	32	6.40
Glyn Arthur	15	98	70	67	4.47
Llwynmawr	12	84	72	58	4.83
Pandy	18	132	121	96	5.33
Pontfadog	2	13	12	12	6.00
Prion	28	202	181	156	5.57
Coed Nantddu	6	47	46	46	7.67
Coed y Felin	6	40	32	32	5.33
Others	21	156	120	119	5.67
TOTALS	95	667	579	511	5.38

Dunnoek (Prunella modularis)

Common breeding resident and garden visitor. WBAP

The number of records remained high in 2010 mainly due to GBW data. This is still one of our widespread and commonly reported species in all months of the year. Records were received from 22/23 BBS squares. The distribution of records across the area was similar to that in 2008.

Denbs. Here, 77.1% of records were from GBW sites and all but two records were of 1-8 birds. The two largest counts were both 13 during BBS walks near Llandrinnog on 2/05 and 2/06 (StMa).

LLWYD Y GWRYCH

(D.)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	1276	13
Flints.	1170	10

Flints. Here, 60.0% of records were from GBW sites with many more from Rhydymwyn (JVHu) and, again, all but two records were of 1-8 birds. The two largest counts were also during BBS walks, both near Mold, with 9 on 20/04 (IMS) and 10 on 25/04 (GEM).

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)
Common breeding resident. Amber List. WBAP.

This widespread breeding species was reported across the recording area throughout the year with many records coming from GBW participants. Birds were recorded in 18/23 BBS squares, an increase from 2009.

Denbs. Only ten flocks exceeding 30 birds were recorded this year, all of which were from Towyn in the autumn and winter. 73.8% of records came from GBW sites. The maximum of 70+ was recorded on three occasions: 24/09, 31/10, and 1/12 (SM).

Flints. This species was widely reported from gardens and village locations across the area with numbers fairly stable throughout the year. 54.7% of records were from GBW sites. Flocks of 20-50 birds were seen in Rhydymwyn throughout the year (JVHu) but flocks exceeding 30 birds were rarely recorded elsewhere. The exception to this was 88 (14/04) and 101 (18/05) birds recorded on BBS surveys in Buckley (GMR) and flocks of 100 recorded at Rhuddlan on 7/08 (SH) and Rhyl on 26/08 (RMB).

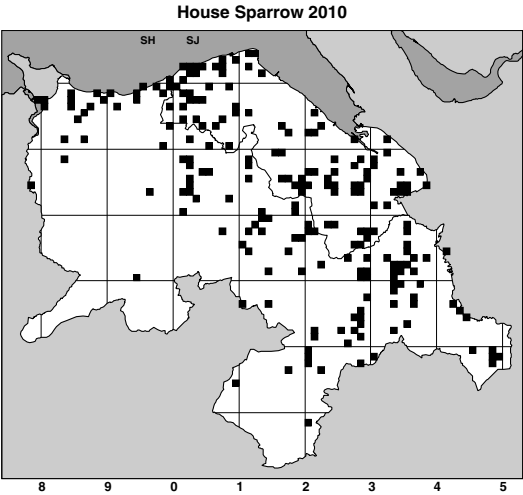
Breeding (IMS):

(HS)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	2	9	9	9	4.50

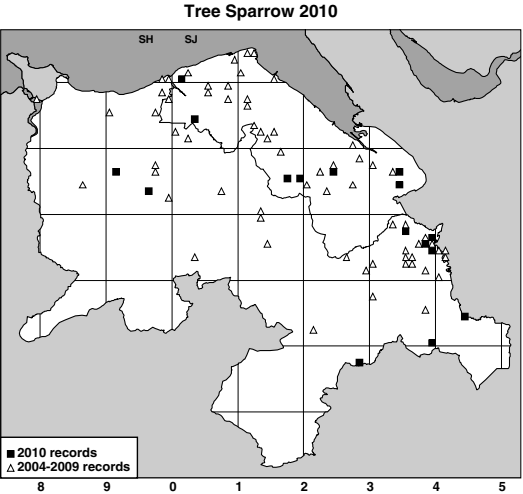
Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*)
A scarce localised breeding resident. Red List. WBAP.

Birds were seen in every month in both counties but the profile of records through the year is different in each. There is no clear evidence of a breeding colony in Denbs, while in Flints there are records from at least two colonies and the records for this year are from only a small sample of sites where they have been seen in recent years. Although slightly fewer nests were checked this year, overall, each was more productive but the total of young fledged was slightly lower than in 2009.

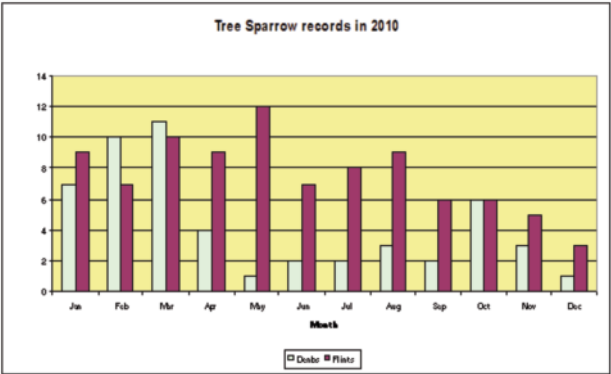
ADERYN Y TO		
(HS)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	1212	70+
Flints.	1094	101



Denbs. There was a large drop in the number of records and the majority of them were from just three sites: near Lightwood Green, near Overton during Jan to Apr (maximum of 14+) , near Moel Grugoer, Mynydd Hiraethog during Feb, Mar, Oct and Nov only, and at Tallarn Green in every month (maximum of 6). There were 51.9% of records from GBW sites and there was only one record of a definite single (there were several 1+ records which is a numerical equivalent of 'present' in a GBW paper submission). The largest counts of 10+ to 14+ were all from the GBW site near Lightwood Green with 14+ in weeks beginning 5/03, 28/03, 2/04 and 9/04 (MEIs).



Flints. There was an increase in the number of GBW records to 85.7% of the total with most of them from just two gardens - near Broughton in all months except Jul, Oct, Nov and Dec. (maximum of 25) and at Cilcain in every month (all records were 1+). The largest counts were all of nestlings ringed at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft: 75 on 28/05, 36 on 1/07 and 23 on 4/08 (IMS) the peaks of each of the three broods that become less synchronous as the season progresses. The breeding results show that this was a less successful season than in 2009.



Breeding (IMS):

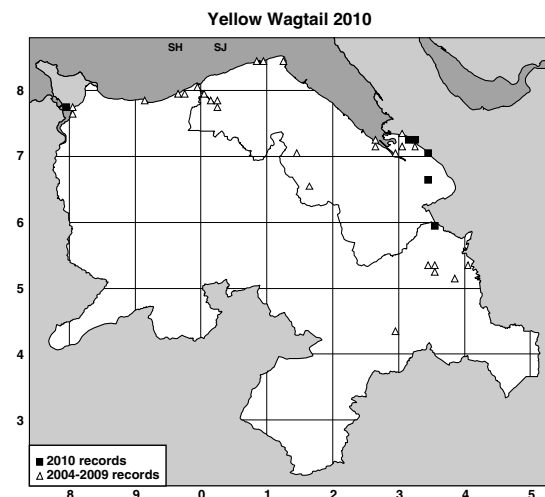
(TS)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	51	283	210	193	3.78

Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla flava*)
Passage migrant and localised breeder in small numbers. Red List. WBAP.

There was just half of the number of 2009 reports and only one that indicated any breeding attempt.

SIGLEN FELEN		
(YW)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	8	3+
Flints.	7	5

Denbs. Conwy RSPB Reserve provided seven of the eight records including the first 6/04 (pJHg), the last and only autumn record on 27/08 (HC), both these were of 1 bird and the max



count of 3+ was on 8/04 (RBM). The only other record came from Burton Meadows on 23/04 (HL).

Flints. Shotwick Fields provided the first record of a single bird on 8/04 - the last of three on 8/07 and the maximum count of 5 on 7/05 (all CW), while 4 were seen at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft on 18/06 during a BBS survey and one of the birds was carrying food, confirming breeding there. (IMS).

Grey Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*)

Fairly common breeding resident.

Denbs. Most reports were of single birds but five places had 4 recorded: E of Llanddulas on 21/07 (JBM), the Dulas Valley on 15/05 (DCR), Castell on 11/07 (MD), Conwy RSPB on 30/07 (JHg) and at Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog where 4 nestlings were ringed on 15/05 and 3 nestlings at Pandy on 19/06 (pBH). No GBW records this year but there was one report of a bird ringed in a garden S of Llandrillo-yn-Rhos on 14/12 (SKT).

Flints. Two locations - Rhydymwyn with twenty four reports and Rhuddlan with eighteen make up to nearly two thirds of the records. The maximum count was 3 juvenile birds at Rhydymwyn on 3/08 (JVHu).

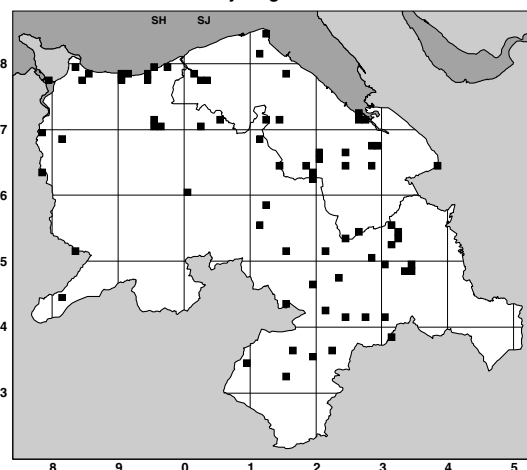
Breeding (MRG):

(GL)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
	2	8	8	7	3.50

SIGLEN LWYD

(GL)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	88	4
Flints.	68	3

Grey Wagtail 2010



White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba alba*)

Passage migrant. RBBP.

SIGLEN WEN

(WB)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	13	70
Flints.	21	22

Denbs. Most records came in Apr from Conwy RSPB with a maximum count of 70 on 19/04 (RS), 22/04 (JuW) and 23/04 (JHg), presumably all the same birds. The last spring record was 50, also at Conwy RSPB on 24/04 (JHg) and the first 'autumn' record was a single near Llansannan on 3/06 (RMB).

Flints. Most of the records were of 1-13 birds with the largest counts being 20 at Point of Ayr on 28/04 (GR) and 22 near Rhuddlan on 18/04 (SH) at two locations but they may have been the same birds. The last spring record was a male, also near Rhuddlan, on 7/05 (SH) and the first of autumn was a single near Rhyl on 26/08 (RMB).

Pied Wagtail (*Motacilla alba yarrellii*)

Common breeding resident.

SIGLEN FRAITH

(PW)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	278	200
Flints.	255	17

Denbs. Similar number of records as last year and 40% coming from GBW sites. The highest count again came from a winter roost of 200 reported at Wrexham on 20/01 (JAJ). Some high counts were recorded at Conwy RSPB in Apr but White Wagtails also recorded there on the same date with a maximum of 70+ recorded to E of area on 19/04 (RS). Confirmed breeding records came from Blaen-y-Wergloedd, Castell, Moel Garegog, Moel Maelogan and Mynydd y Gyrt with juveniles seen at Llanddulas and Towyn (JVHu, MD, SM).

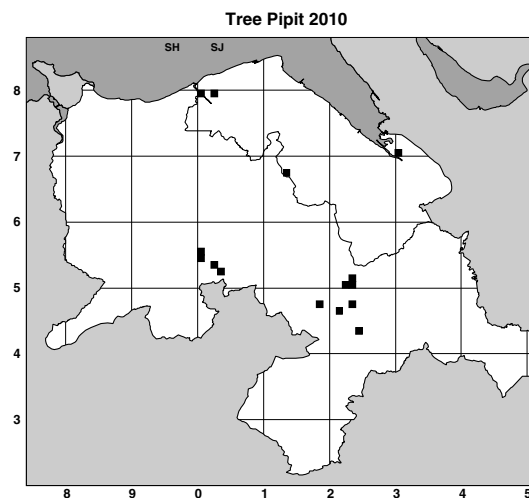
Flints. Similar number of records as last year but GBW percentage up and is now a third of count. The largest count from a garden was 2 and largest count for area was from Rhuddlan with 17 on 19/11 (SH). No large winter roosts recorded and only double figure counts coming from Rhuddlan. Confirmed breeding records from Nercwys, Northop, Treuddyn and a couple from the Rhuddlan area (MD, SH).

Tree Pipit (*Anthus trivialis*)

Scarce summer breeding visitor and passage migrant. Amber List. WBAP.

CORHEDDYD Y COED

(TP)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	18	5
Flints.	9	2



There is a cluster of records from Clocaenog Forest that was not present in 2009.

Denbs. Recorded during Apr to Jul and the first sighting was a single (not singing) near Eglwyseg on 22/04 (JLR). All records were of 1-5 and the largest count was at Pendinas reservoir on 26/06 (SD) when a bird was seen carrying food - hence confirmed breeding. The last record was a single, ringed at Bronbannog on 9/07 (IMS).

Flints. Recorded in Apr to Jun and Sep. The first record was a single at Penycloddiau on 17/04 (EdW) and the last was another single seen at Shotton Steelworks on 9/09 (JoNi). There were 2 seen at Penycloddiau on four dates: 1/05, 16/05, 9/06 (when a nest with young was found - presumably with more than 2 young in it?) and 20/06 (EdW).

Meadow Pipit (*Anthus pratensis*)

CORHEDYDD Y WAEN

Common breeding resident and both passage and winter visitor. Amber List.

Recorded in every month from both counties and the distribution of records was similar to that of 2009.

(MP)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	108	100+
Flints.	87	60

Denbs. Most records had counts of 1-30. The peak counts were during spring migration: 100+ seen at Nant-y-Glyn, Colwyn Bay on 22/03 (HC) and 50 at Cwm Pennaner on 27/03 (WAO). Confirmed breeding was recorded at World's End, Moel Maelogan and Esclusham Mountain.

Flints. Most records had counts of 1-30 with birds recorded in Rhuddlan area on thirty four occasions. Records of winter distribution were confined to the coast. The peak count was during spring migration: 60+ at Penycloddiau on 7/04 (MD).

Rock Pipit (*Anthus petrosus*)

CORHEDYDD Y GRAIG

Scarce, mainly winter, visitor on the coast.

Denbs. Most records were from Conwy RSPB of 1-2 birds and the peak count was 3 at Old Colwyn on 7/11 (RS).

(RC)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	11	3
Flints.	6	5

Flints. The peak count of 5 was at Connah's Quay NR on 15/02 (PDS). Other records of up to 2 came from Point of Ayr, Talacre and Mostyn Bank.

Chaffinch (*Fringilla coelebs*)

JI-BINC

Common and widespread breeding resident.

This is probably the most widespread and common species found in the recording area, reported from a wide variety of habitats and elevations. The majority of records came from GBW sites (67.7% in Denbs and 48.8% in Flints), where it was seen in all months of the year. Birds were observed in the breeding season in 22/23 BBS squares.

(CH)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	1532	200
Flints.	1408	650

Denbs. Most sightings were of individuals or small groups, until the winter months, when larger flocks were recorded. The maximum counts were of 200 at Pentrefoelas on 31/10 (RS) and 182 on 30/10 at Nant-y-Glyn, near Colwyn Bay, where flocks of 20-50 birds were regularly seen in the autumn and early winter months (HC). Towyn was another location where flocks of between 30 and 60 birds were seen in Oct (SM). Young birds were first observed on 20/06 near Wrexham (NH).

Flints. Flocks of between 50 and 200 birds were seen regularly at coastal sites (Talacre, Connah's Quay Nature Reserve and Rhuddlan) in Jan-Feb. Winter flocks started to build up

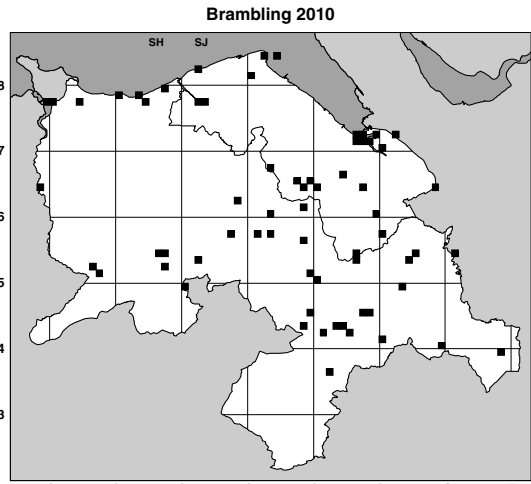
from late Oct and the maximum number of 650 was recorded on 19/12 at White Sands (Dee estuary, KDu). Fledged young were first reported from Bodrhyddan Hall near Dyserth on 16/06 (RCa).

Brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla*)

Localised winter visitor in variable numbers. RBBP.

PINC Y MYNYDD

(BL)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	106	150
Flints.	70	100



This was a good year for Brambling, with numerous sightings across the recording area, including several from gardens and particularly large flocks seen in spring. Autumn birds were seen from early Oct onwards but mainly in single numbers.

Denbs. One hundred and six records from 40 sites and 43.4% from GBW sites. Most sightings were of birds in single figures until mid Feb when 27 were seen at Llyn Brenig on 13/02 (RS) and 50 around the dam at Llyn Brenig on 14/03 (ANB). Numbers then built up to the maximum of 150, again at Llyn Brenig on 5/04 (KS) and in Clocaenog Forest on 7/04 (ANB). A surprisingly late individual was observed at close quarters on 11/05 in the NW Berwyns (TE). The first two autumn birds arrived on 8/10 at Conwy RSPB (RBM) and small numbers of birds continued to be seen until the end of the year.

Flints. Seventy records from 25 locations, 24.3% from GBW sites. A few individuals were recorded from gardens in late winter and early spring but small flocks were seen around the Dee Estuary in Jan and Feb and again in Dec. The most notable flock was of 100 on 14/01 at Connah's Quay NR (GR). Six birds were ringed at Shotton Steelworks between 21/02 and 28/03 (pBH).



Brambling, Dermot Smith

Greenfinch (*Carduelis chloris*)

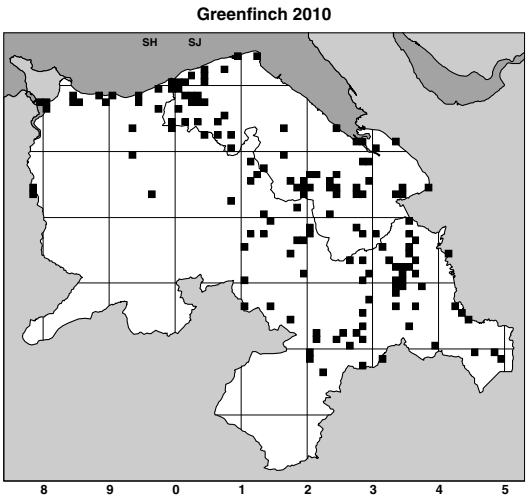
Common breeding resident.

Denbs. Nearly 80% of records came from GBW sites, with the highest count from a Coedpoeth garden with 18 on 29/08 (GWO). The largest area count came from Burton Meadows with 200 on 5/08 (HL). Other larger counts came from Kinmel Bay with 40+ on 23/01 (SD) and 50+ at Nant-y-Glyn, near Colwyn Bay on 28/02 (HC).

Flints. As last year the percentage of records from GBW sites was just over 50%. The highest garden count was from the same place as last year at Caergwrle with 12 on 29/08 (ECMH) and the highest area count was not much more with 19 at Rhydymwyn on 7/09 (MD). There were reports from Rhydymwyn of some sickly birds again this year (JVHu), maybe an indication in general that Greenfinches are still being affected.

LLINOS WERDD

(GR)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	842	200
Flints.	811	19



Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*)

Common breeding resident.

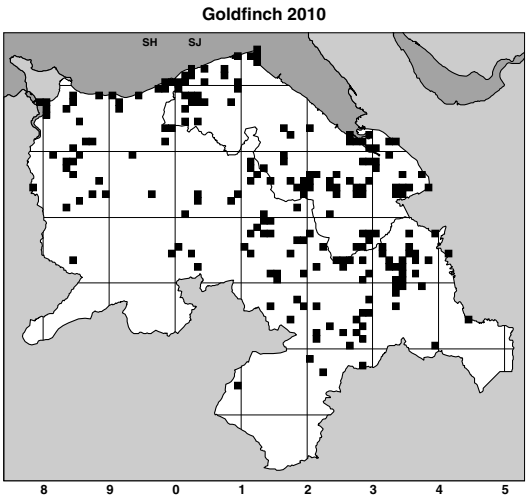
Recorded in every month of the year in both counties with more records for the first half of the year. The records were distributed in a similar way to in 2009.

Denbs. The large number of records submitted suggests that Goldfinch continues to be a very common, beautiful bird. Some 69.0% of records were from GBW sites and most records were of 1-20 birds. The largest counts were: 24 at Wrexham on 4/02 (NH), 28 ringed at Garth on 31/12 (LB), 30 at Gresford Flash on 23/01 (JN), 35 ringed at Garth on 18/12 (LB) and 60+ near Glyn Arthur on 17/10 (JVHu).

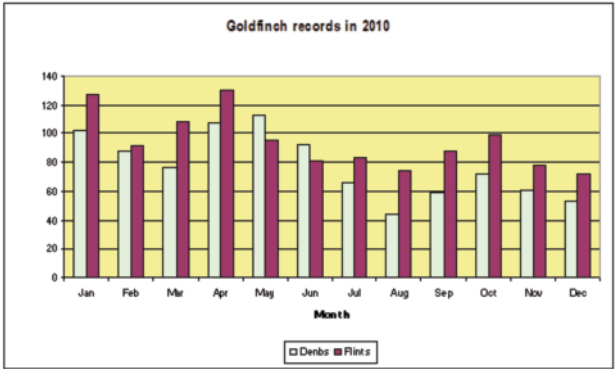
Flints. Here, 49.9% of records were from GBW sites and most records were of up to 35 birds. The largest counts were: 35+ at Rhydymwyn on

NICO

(GO)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	934	60+
Flints.	1128	200



4/02 and 29/03 with 150+ there on 5/09 (JVHu), 38 near Rhuddlan on 31/08 (SH), 60+ near Rhydymwyn on 19/09 (MD). There was a set of large counts from Connah's Quay NR: 43 on 19/09 (RP), 70 on 10/10 (DNS), 150 on 25/09 (NH) and 200 on 9/09 and 7/10 (GR).



Siskin (*Carduelis spinus*)

Breeding resident in forests.

Recorded in every month in both counties and the distribution of records is similar to 2009 though the number of records in Flints is considerably lower than last year.

Denbs. Only about 11% of records were of just 1 with many records of 1+ to 20 and 59.2% of all records were from GBW sites, which is much less than in 2009. The largest counts were: 21 ringed near Bedwlyn on 25/03 and 17/07 (pBH), 23 at Conwy RSPB on 22/01 (pJHg), 35 there on 23/10 (SaM) and 40 there on 29/12 (pJHg).

Flints. Here, only 8.3% of records were of singles, with most records of 1-20 and just 19.0% of records from GBW sites. Most records were from Rhydymwyn by JVHu with up to 5 present. The largest counts were: 25 near Rhuddlan on 24/10 (SH), 30 at Point of Ayr on 21/10 (GR), 30 near Rhuddlan on 20/11, 35 on 25/12 (SH), 40+ at Caergwrle on 26/10 (JWNA), 50 near Rhuddlan on 26/11 (SH) and 65 on Penycloddiau on 24/10 (EdW).

PILA GWYRDD

(SK)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	338	40
Flints.	253	65

Linnet (*Carduelis cannabina*)

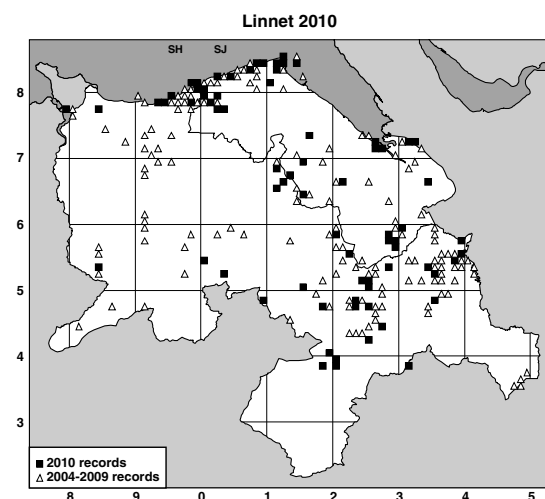
Widespread breeding resident. Red List. WBAP.

Slightly fewer records than in previous two years but this species was still fairly widespread, with a similar distribution to 2009. Birds were seen in the breeding season in 7/23 BBS squares but none were recorded at GBW sites.

Denbs. Records came from 40 locations, the majority of which were of singles or pairs from scattered sites in the breeding season. In the winter months, small flocks of between 10-38 birds were regularly seen at coastal sites (Kinmel Bay, Pensarn beach and Conwy RSPB). Inland, winter flocks, of 10-60+, were seen at Borrass, Wrexham, Gresford Flash and Holt. The largest end of year flocks of 700+, with other finches making flocks of 1,000+ in total, were at Trevalyn Meadows on 6/12 and near Gresford on 26/12 (BF). See photo on p160.

LLINOS

(LI)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	68	700+
Flints.	100	500+



Flints. Records came from 34 locations but outside the breeding season it was uncommon to find this species away from the coast. Flocks of between 10-80 birds were not unusual in the winter months, from sites such as Point of Ayr, Rhuddlan, Rhyl and Talacre with the maximum number (500+) recorded at Shotwick Fields on 21/12 (WAO). Inland it was unusual to find 35+ birds at Rhydymwyn on 12/07 (MD) and on 2/08 a single bird was observed sunbathing like a Blackbird in a garden in Llanasa (LJ). Also 1+ birds were seen on Penycloddiau on both 10/10 and 24/10 (EdW).

Twite (*Carduelis flavirostris*)

Winter visitor to coastal areas. Red List. WBAP.

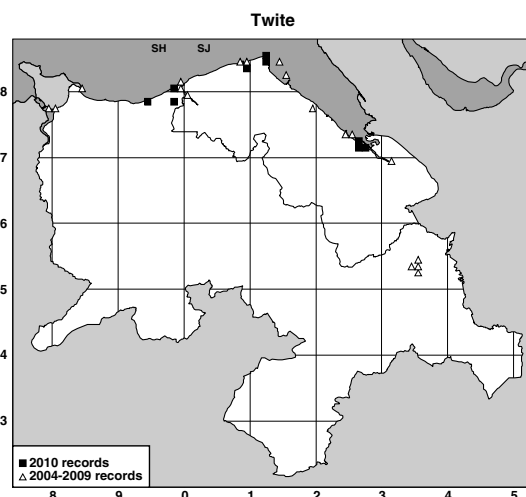
A significant increase in number of records from 2009.

Denbs. All records were from coastal sites in the winter months. Nine individuals were captured at Pensarn on 6/03. Eight were ringed, the ninth was a control bird from Loch Inver, Highland, Scotland. Of all the birds ringed at this site in Scotland, this was the furthest south any bird was known to have previously travelled (see Ringing section at back of report).

Flints. All records came from the coastal sites. The maximum count was of 40 birds seen on 17/02 at Connah's Quay NR and Oakenholt Marsh (pCW, ANB) and also on 19/03 at the same location (LJ). In each case, it was likely that the sighting involved the same birds.

Monthly maxima in each county:

(TW)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.	3	10	10									1
Flints.	2+	40	40	2								



LLINOS Y MYNYDD

(TW)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	15	10
Flints.	14	40

Lesser Redpoll (*Carduelis cabaret*)

Breeding resident. Red List. WBAP.

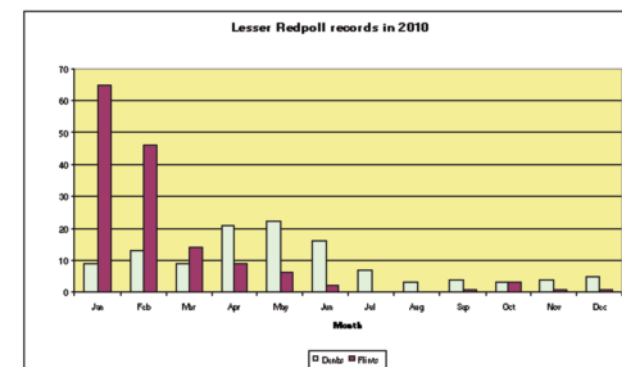
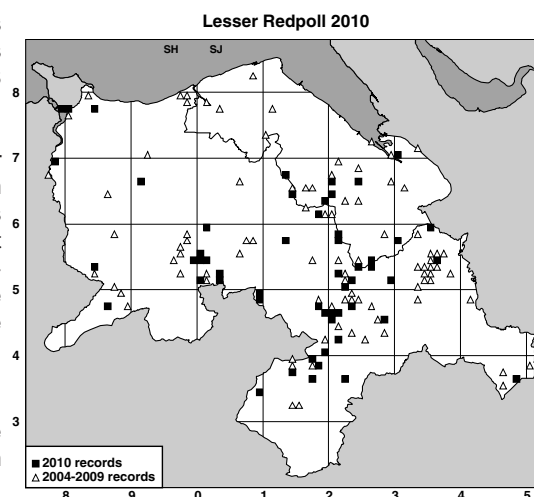
There was a significant increase in records for this species this year compared to previous years and in particular from Flintshire, especially early in the year. However, confirming breeding for this species proves to be very difficult. This species was recorded on two BBS surveys this year.

Denbs. Birds were seen from forty four locations, 31.0% of records were from GBW sites and just five flocks exceeded 10 in number. The largest flock was seen at Fenn's Moss on 3/04 by JoAr. However, despite the increase in sightings and possible breeding noted, no confirmed breeding was reported.

Flints. Between 1 and 8 birds were seen on almost a daily basis from garden bird feeders in Rhydymwyn from Jan to early Apr (JVHu) and just 2.0% of records were from a single GBW site at Sychdyn during cold weather at either end of the year. There were only three flocks of more than 10 birds and the largest was at Penycloddiau, with 40 on 10/04 (EdW). There were only six records after Jun and no breeding was confirmed.

LLINOS BENGGOCH LEIAF

(LR)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	116	50+
Flints.	148	40



Common (Mealy) Redpoll (*Carduelis flammea*)

Rare migrant.

2008

Denbs. One was photographed with many Lesser Redpolls in a garden at Bwlchwyn on 8/04 (JC). Accepted by WRP.

LLINOS BENGGOCH

(FR)	No of records	Max count
Denbs (2008)	1	1
Flints.	0	

Common Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*)

Scarce breeding resident.

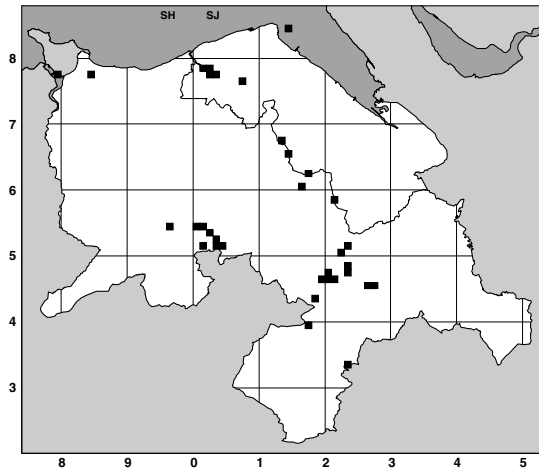
The records came from mainly upland, forested areas and none were recorded at GBW sites.

Denbs. Seen from 26 locations in smaller numbers than previous years but a significant flock of 200 birds was reported on 19/03 in Clocaenog Forest (ANB).

Flints. Few records this year from only 8 locations, mostly typical habitat but a couple of birds were seen at Point of Ayr on 24/02 by GR. The maximum count of 9 came from Rhuddlan on 9/07 (SH) and was probably a family party.

GYLFIN GROES		
(CR)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	62	200
Flints.	12	9

Crossbill 2010



Bullfinch (*Pyrrhula pyrrhula*)

Breeding resident. Red List. WBAP.

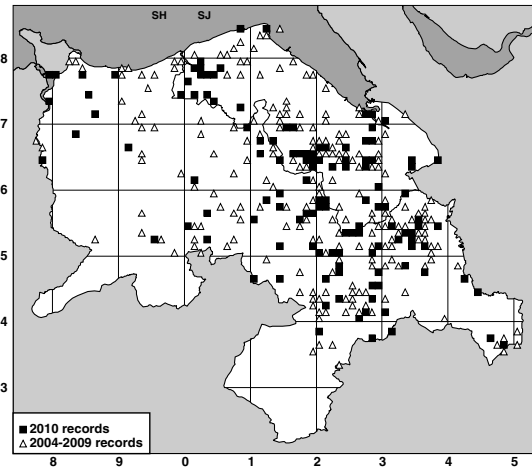
Mainly recorded in single figures throughout the year with a widespread distribution, but from only about half of the locations where it had been recorded over the last seven years. Birds were seen in the breeding season in 7/23 BBS squares.

Denbs. Recorded in all months, usually in singles or pairs, from 75 locations; and 56.6% of records were from GBW sites. Maximum count of 9 on Moel Famau on 3/01 (EdW).

Flints. Recorded in all months in small numbers from 48 sites and 62.8% of records came from GBW sites. The majority of records were of singles and pairs but 4-7 individuals were frequently recorded from gardens in Buckley, Caergwle and Rhydymwyn in the winter months. Maximum count of 12 was at Burton Lodge on 23/01 (HL).

COCH Y BERLLAN		
(BF)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	265	9
Flints.	401	12

Bullfinch 2010



Hawfinch (*Coccothraustes coccothraustes*)

Scarce breeding resident. Amber List. WBAP. RBBP.

Denbs. Just 1-3 were seen at Llanelidan on two dates in Jan (JoH) and 1 was seen at Penycycae on 30/10 (JAJ).

GYLFINBRAFF		
(HF)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	4	3
Flints.	0	

Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*)

Regular coastal winter visitor in small numbers. Amber List. RBBP.

The number of records increased significantly this year in Denbighshire but probably represented sightings of the same few birds.

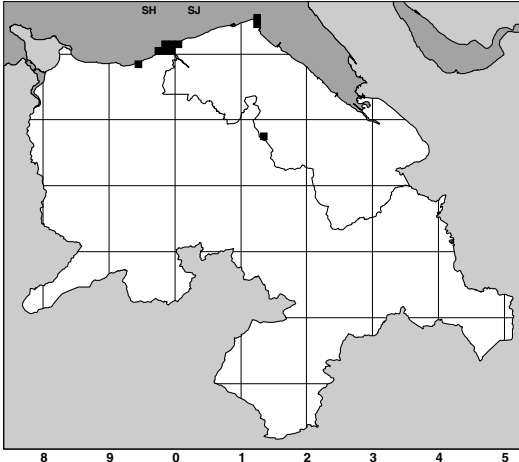
Denbs. Fifty records of this species were reported during the year, all except two of these were from Kinnel Bay and the majority of sightings were between Jan and Mar. One Feb record came from Towyn and an Oct record came from Pensarn. Maximum of 7 seen at Kinnel Bay on 27/02 (MtG). Thanks to KS for the only description of up to 4 E of Kinnel Bay on 14/02 and 21/02 - accepted by LRP.

Flints. Five records came from the coastal area, where the maximum of 4 were sighted at Point of Ayr and Talacre on the same day (2/02), which could have been the same birds (ANB, DaH). A single bird seen on Penycloddiau by EdW on 10/10 was notable.

BRAS YR EIRA

(SB)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	50	7
Flints.	5	4

Snow Bunting 2010



Yellowhammer (*Emberiza citronella*)

Formerly common breeding resident. Red List. WBAP.

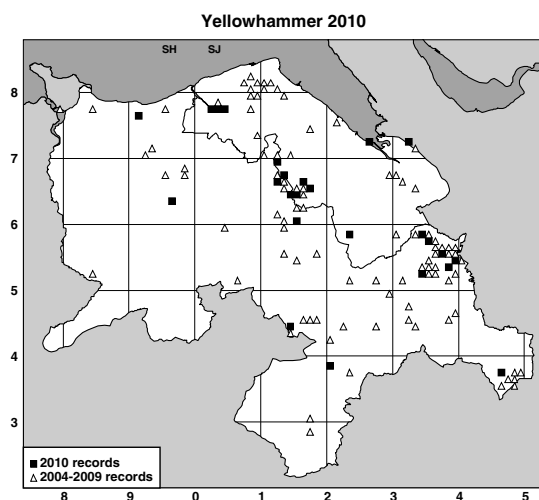
Fewer records came from Denbs in 2010 and records came from many fewer locations than have been used in the last seven years. In contrast to last year, the majority of records came from the breeding season, presumably as a result of Atlas activity. There was one record from a BBS survey.

Denbs. Twenty seven records from sixteen locations, usually in single figures. Confirmed breeding was reported at Dyserth on 13/06 (SH). The maximum numbers were only 6 on two occasions; at Llangwyfan on 31/05 (MD) and on a BBS survey at Rhyd-y-foel on 19/06 (GBH).

Flints. Fifty records, almost all in single figures, from ten locations. A single bird was again regularly seen in a garden at Cilcain from Jan through to early Jul (RWes). Two large flocks

MELYN YR EITHIN

(Y.)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	27	6
Flints.	50	47



were noted in winter, the first of 25 birds at Shotwick Fields on 21/12 (WAO) and 47 on 23/12 at Cilcain (MB).

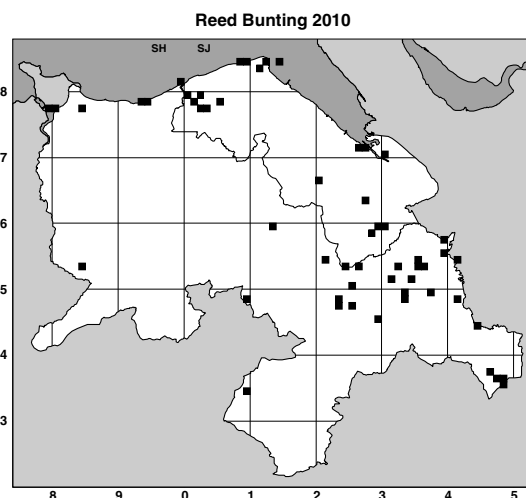
Reed Bunting (*Emberiza schoeniclus*)

Breeding resident. Amber List. WBAP.

The reporting rate for this species was fairly similar to 2009 and the distribution remained much the same. This species still remains under-recorded as a breeding species but was seen on 5/23 BBS squares and presumed to be breeding.

Denbs. Records came from thirty six sites. No large numbers were noted this year but 14+ birds were seen at Borrás, Wrexham on 20/02 (JN). Breeding was confirmed at Trevalyn Meadows on 31/05 and 28/06 (RCa) and at Conwy RSPB on 10/06 (RS).

Flints. Seen at nineteen sites. The maximum number of 8 was seen at Rhuddlan on 29/01 (SH) and 8 individuals were ringed at Shotton Steelworks on 12/12 (pBH).



BRAS Y CYRS

(RB)	No of records	Max count
Denbs.	77	14+
Flints.	83	8



Reed Bunting, Dermot Smith

Feral species and presumed escapes

Black Swan (*Cygnus atratus*)

ALARCH DU

Denbs. Twenty seven records of 1 or 1+ at Conwy RSPB between 18/04 and 20/11..

Bar-headed Goose (*Anser indicus*)

GŴYDD BENRHESOG

Flints. Twenty six records of a single that was seen between Rhyl and Rhuddlan throughout the year, but not every month.

Ross's Goose (*Anser rossii*)

GŴYDD ROSS

Flints. One record of an escape at Fagl Lane Quarry, Hope on 10/04.

Swan Goose (*Anser cygnoides*) ALARCHWYDD

Flints. Sixteen records of a single near Rhuddlan between 29/01 and 3/12.

Canada/Greylag Goose hybrid

Denbs. A single was seen at Gresford Flash on 20/07 and 27/11.

Indian Peafowl (*Pavo cristatus*) PAUN

Flints. Three records of 1-2 at Tremeirchion on 16/01, 9/07 and 21/12.

Purple Swamphen (*Porphyrio porphyrio*) CORSIAR

Flints. An escape of an Asian race frequented a ditch at Saltney causing a stir with twitchers and the press. There was one record of it, for 31/07.

Carrion/Hooded Crow hybrid

Flints. Two were seen at Warren Farm, Talacre dunes on 25/02.

Records submitted to the Welsh Rarities Panel too late for acceptance prior to this report:

Alpine Swift, 7 April 2010, Borrás Quarry, Wrexham

Montagu's Harrier, 28 April 2010, Gresford Flash, Wrexham

Common Redpoll, 9 May 2010, Cilcain

If accepted, these will be incorporated into the report for 2011.

First and last dates of selected migrants

	First dates		Last dates
	2010		2010
Hobby	14/03		26/09
Little Tern	27/04		15/09
Sandwich Tern	16/04		27/09
Common Tern	7/04		11/08
Cuckoo	10/04		9/06
Nightjar	1/06		9/08
Swift	23/04		14/09
Sand Martin	18/03		11/09
Swallow	19/03		14/11
House Martin	4/04		1/11
Tree Pipit	17/04		9/09
Yellow Wagtail	6/04		27/08
Redstart	10/04		7/09
Whinchat	24/04		25/09
Wheatear	6/03		26/08
Ring Ouzel	27/03		28/04
Fieldfare	18/10		24/04
Redwing	7/10		30/05
Grasshopper Warbler	16/04		19/08
Sedge Warbler	11/04		5/09
Reed Warbler	25/04		26/09
Garden Warbler	25/04		25/07
Lesser Whitethroat	17/04		20/08
Whitethroat	19/04		8/09
Wood Warbler	27/04		8/07
Willow Warbler	30/03		21/09
Spotted Flycatcher	29/04		20/09
Pied Flycatcher	10/04		20/07

This table shows the recorded first and last dates for most of the species regarded as migrants in North-East Wales.

2010 was a mixed year with a few records broken for both early and late arrivals and departures. An exceptionally early Hobby was seen in mid-March, a month earlier than usual but Sand Martins were not seen until mid-April when they are usually first spotted at the end of March. Early departures were Common Tern, which was last seen in early August. This may have been due to the fact that the Shotton breeding colony now seems to have been abandoned and birds were moving to other locations outside North-East Wales. Cuckoo, Wheatear and Lesser Whitethroat departed very early this year but Swallows and House Martins hung on into November, the latest for many years. Ring Ouzels were spotted on their

arrival at the usual locations but as they do not breed in our area maybe it is not too surprising that they are not seen on their return migration; they must choose a different route back to Africa. For our winter visitors, the late departure of Redwings (late May) was extremely unusual.

Anne Brenchley

We are as pleased to hear about the first Swallow as you are to see one.

Sending us your bird records helps us to monitor the changing fortunes of Britain's birds both now and in years to come.

Remembering us in your Will ensures that we'll continue to be at the heart of bird research and conservation in the future.





BTO
Looking out for birds

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RSPB Conwy nature reserve: 2010 review

The RSPB's Conwy nature reserve is 47 hectares of freshwater lagoon, reedbed, grassland and scrub tucked in the most north-western corner of Denbighshire. Created in the early 1990s, using 3 million cubic metres of mud from the estuary moved during the construction of the A55 road tunnel, it is now one of the most popular places for birdwatchers in North Wales.

Many will remember 2010 as the year when a wetland became a dry land. Rainfall during winter 2009-10 was well below average, and the spring was completely dry: between Easter Saturday (3 April) and 1 July, less than 5mm fell on the reserve. The lagoons are freshwater, not tidal as many visitors assume, and with rapid evaporation from the sun and wind, by early June the top end of our shallow lagoon was empty. While we have a pump and an abstraction licence to take water from the Afon Ganol, the small river running along the south edge of the reserve, by late spring that too had run dry, so we had no means to top up the rapidly diminishing lagoon (see photo, below).



Visitors who ventured no farther than the coffee shop may have believed the whole place was dry, but we were able to pump water from the larger deep lagoon and maintain feeding pools for waders, such as breeding Lapwing and passage Dunlins and sandpipers. To reduce the risk of a repeat, in September 2010, we lowered the top end of the shallow lagoon and created some new islands (see photo, next page).



As elsewhere in North Wales, 2010's weather was dominated by freezing conditions at both ends of the year, leading to a notable increase in Woodcock at Conwy, and records of both Short-eared Owl and Barn Owl. Two Woodlarks were part of a broader cold-weather movement and a new addition to the reserve list in January. They were to be followed by two more site 'ticks': an American Black Duck and Bearded Tits, both in April.

The Bearded Tits were a popular attraction through the summer, as they became the first to nest in North Wales since the late 1960s. Those of us in early on 3 June were fortunate to witness the maiden flight of the three chicks. Two fledged and the family remained on the reserve until October, but they either moved ahead of the freezing November weather or succumbed to it. Nonetheless, their appearance showed that Bearded Tits can make it to North Wales, even though the nearest breeding site is 90 miles from Conwy at RSPB Leighton Moss in north Lancashire.

The aforementioned Black Duck was undoubtedly the rarest bird of the year, accepted as only the third for Wales. A selection of other scarcities included a Black Redstart and Spoonbill on two dates each, a report of a White Stork on 5 June, a Grey Phalarope for a week in late September and a single avocet on 9 November. Other notable events of the summer included Common Sandpipers breeding for the second consecutive year, and a late summer roost of 61 Little Egrets.

The challenge of maintaining water levels is an ongoing one, but was compounded by the discovery late in 2009 of an invasive non-native weed, *Crassula helmsii*, in the lagoons. This spreads rapidly and if not tackled will eventually cover the mud and deny food to the hundreds of waders. Herbicide and covering the weed with plastic is only a short-term measure, so plans

are being made to inundate both lagoons with water from the Conwy estuary, as salt is known to kill the weed. There will be winners and losers from this, but as nature thrives on change, 2012 could be one of the most interesting in the reserve's short history.

More details about visiting the reserve, including events and latest sightings, at www.rspb.org.uk/conwy. Sightings are also posted regularly to <http://twitter.com/rspbconwy>.

Julian Hughes
Site Manager

North Wales Breeding Bird Atlas – We are almost there!



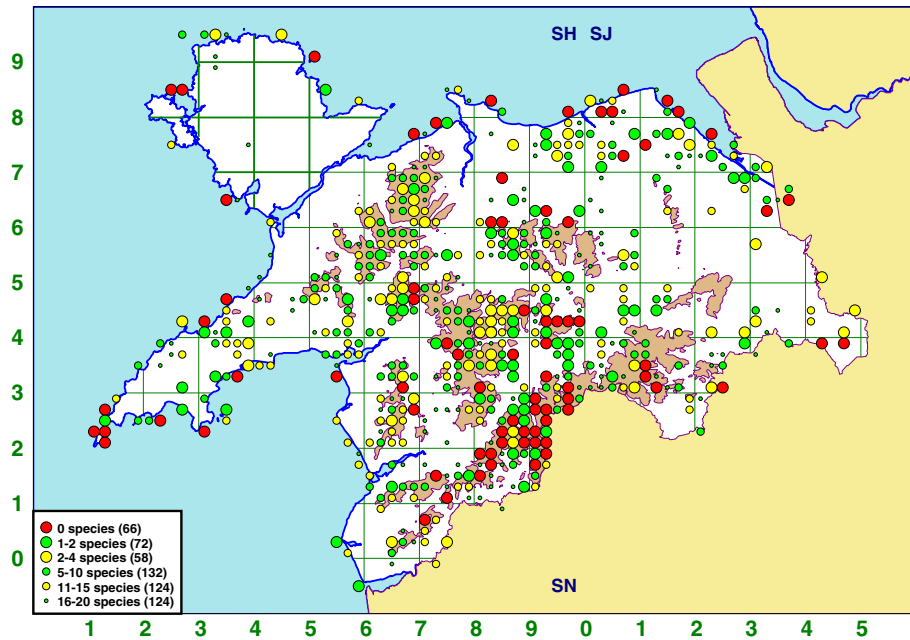
The final year of fieldwork is now over and the records have been coming in over the summer and autumn months. We cannot thank volunteers enough for all their efforts in filling in gaps in coverage and the results are looking to be truly amazing.

At the beginning of 2011 we still had 57 tetrads (32.1%) across North Wales where we had fewer than 20 species recorded and 66 tetrads with no records at all (3.7%). Many of these areas were in the more inaccessible parts of North Wales and so with the support of a grant from the Countryside Council for Wales (and additional support from the Welsh Ornithological Society and the RSPB), we were able to employ a fieldworker for several weeks. Chris Mellenchip visited 52 tetrads during this time and his dedicated effort is much appreciated. As a result of the effort over the summer of 2011 there are now just 246 tetrads (13.6%) with 20 or fewer records and the second map shows that they are either in areas of high altitude or small pieces of land around the coast. The number of tetrads with zero records has dropped to just 10 (0.6%) and these are all small areas of land around the coast (eg the breakwater at Holyhead). The two maps, below, show the situation for all of North Wales at the end of Year 3 (2010) and now at the end of Year 4 (2011). The shaded area is land over 400m in altitude.

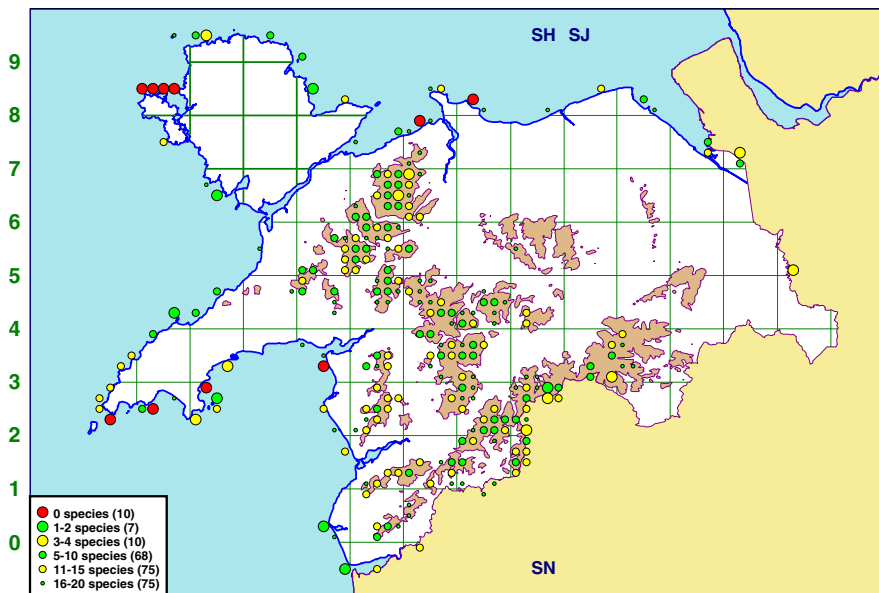
We have tried to make the information as comprehensive as possible but inevitably there will still be some gaps. If you have any outstanding breeding records from any of the years 2008-2011, we would still like to hear from you – it is not too late. Anyone who has new records to contribute should get in touch with Anne Brenchley in NE Wales (anne.brenchley@btinternet.com) and for Anglesey/Gwynedd/Snowdonia area contact Geoff Gibbs (01248-681936 geoffkate.gibbs@care4free.net).

We will be spending much of the winter analysing those data received so far and beginning to

Tetrads with few records 2008-2010



Tetrads with few records Yr4 Sep 2011 (Total 245)



write sections for the final publication, which should be completed in time for Christmas 2013. Much of the publication costs will be coming from species sponsorship and we still have some species in need of a friend, such as Coal Tit, Goldcrest, Great crested Grebe, Jackdaw, Long tailed Tit, Mute Swan, Pied Wagtail and Siskin. If you have a favourite species and would like to see your name in print as a species sponsor then do get in touch - the minimum cost is just £25.

Some preliminary maps will be on the website www.northwalesbirdatlas.co.uk in early 2012. Despite the additional effort undertaken in 2011, the situation still looks quite alarming for many previously quite common species. Results indicate that there are many species whose distribution has reduced significantly in the past 20 years and these include Curlew, Snipe, Cuckoo, Spotted Flycatcher, Wood Warbler, Marsh and Willow Tit, Yellowhammer etc. At least we provided the detailed evidence for current distribution of these species and we need to continue in our support for The North Wales Wildlife Trust, the RSPB and the conservation agencies in their push to ensure that conservation and land-use policies can be used to effect positive changes for these birds.

Anne Brenchley

Coed Cilygroeslwyd

Coed Cilygroeslwyd near Pwllglas in Denbighshire has been owned and managed by the North Wales Wildlife Trust since 1964. This ten acre reserve is mostly broadleaved and mixed woodland on carboniferous limestone but also contains a patch of limestone grassland within a small disused quarry. It was included within the Eyarth Woods and Rocks SSSI in 1972.

The woodland is thought to have been planted in the mid 19th century and is dominated by Ash and Sessile Oak with significant patches of Yew and Hazel. Although it is a relatively young woodland the reserve is probably on an ancient woodland site as it contains a diverse flora more typical of much older woods. Species include Bluebell, Wood Anemone, Sweet Woodruff and Sanicle. The woodland also supports some scarcer plants such as Stinking Hellibore, Greater Butterfly Orchid and occasionally Common Bird's-Nest Orchid. It is a great place to see native Wild Daffodil flowering in the spring.

Within the small grassland wildflowers thrive, including Long-stalked Cranesbill, Columbine and three species of St. John's Wort. This grassland area is also one of only three sites in Britain where Limestone Woundwort can be found. This short-lived perennial is an alpine relic species and in recent years the Wildlife Trust has worked with Ness Gardens and Chester Zoo to increase its population within the site. Annual monitoring is undertaken to keep a close check on its survival.

The limestone pavement present within the reserve is a nationally rare habitat which supports wild plants such as Salad Burnett, Wild Thyme and Bird's-foot Trefoil, while fern species grow within the damp grykes.

Management of the reserve includes the coppicing of Hazel and Ash to create temporary glades within the woodland where light can penetrate and encourage the growth of the wildflowers.

Most of the timber is then left on site to provide deadwood for invertebrates and fungi.

The reserve is also a good site for woodland birds species including Song Thrush, Marsh Tit and Bullfinch as well as Great Spotted Woodpecker, Mistle Thrush and Goldcrest. More common species within the reserve include Long-tailed Tit, Coal Tit, Jay and Blackcap. Until very recently the site has been a recurrent summer breeding site for Pied Flycatcher, but this species has declined on site in recent years due to the gradual closing of canopy. Tree thinning and glade creation is to occur over the next few years and this should help to improve the habitat for this species.

The reserve is approximately two miles south-west of Rhuthun (SJ124556). It can be reached via a footpath opposite Eyarth Bridge leading off the A494. Parking for two cars can be found just over the bridge at SJ127553 (please do not block the field gate nearby). For more information about the site please contact the North Wales Wildlife Trust on 01248 351541, nwwt@wildlifetrustwales.org.

Adrian Lloyd Jones
Conservation Officer
North Wales Wildlife Trust



Wood Sandpiper, Will Miles

Ringling report

The ringling totals were a considerable improvement on 2009 with the highest total of the last three years, but still well down on the total in 2004. Part of the increase was because I was able to undertake ringling at Bronbannog, where I started to do a Constant Effort Site and then other ringling using a sound lure after the CES season. The number of nestlings ringed was better than 2009 but still the second lowest total since 2002.

Year	Full grown	Pulli	Totals
2010	3908	2776	6684
2009	2385	2229	4614
2008	2127	3703	5830
2007	2740	4745	7485
2006	3179	4575	7754
2005	2967	4793	7760
2004	3769	4430	8199
2003	3202	3756	6958
2002	2202	3216	5418
2001	1313	2410	3723
2000	1130	1066	2196

I have used the ‘facility’ of the BTO website for the ringling totals and recoveries. The same two drawbacks as last year still applied: use of pre-1996 political boundaries and no list of contributors. This year I found another drawback - not all the ringling totals are correct. The ringers I understand that were active during the year were: Merseyside Ringling Group (per Bob Harris), John Lawton Roberts, the Spence and Brencley partnership (including Amanda Bunnell and Kelvin Jones), Stuart K Thomas and Lee Barber (to whom I apologise for not including in the list last year).

As before, most nestlings (pulli) will have been ringed by those who sent nest records to the BTO electronically using the program IPMR. These contributions, the raw results of which are seen in tables at the end of some species accounts in the systematic list, came from: Merseyside Ringling Group (per David Norman), Amanda Bunnell, Ian Spence and the new sub-group of the Welsh Ornithological Society, the Welsh Rare Breeding Bird and Raptor Study Group - North-East Wales. The title is long and an acronym is nearly as bad!

Last year I made special mention of the good productivity of Hen Harriers on Mynydd Hiraethog. How the situation changed in 2010! Following last year’s successes, when I heard that up to 10 pairs were found breeding I thought we would have an amazing year for young harriers. However, in the end only 8 nestlings were ringed and fledged - very disappointing. John Lawton Roberts continued his study of Buzzards and Barn Owls. The severe weather at both ends of the year did not help our Barn Owl project - a relatively mild 2011/12 winter would be most welcome.

Members of the Merseyside RG have been busy - the Little Tern ringling total is the highest since 2002, the Siskin total is just higher than last year’s and the highest since 2004 and the Goldfinch total is the best ever, by a long way. Goldfinches increasingly feed in gardens, especially if niger seed is provided, so are more likely to be caught at baited sites in almost any month of the year. The increased ringling effort brought three interesting controls - of birds ringed in the south of England during the winter months and caught up here in April and May.

The list of recoveries includes those that seemed to be the most interesting and all (three) foreign recoveries. The lack of Common Tern at Shotton is now showing in the lack of recoveries from Africa. I wish to bring attention to the Willow Warbler, 1Z5079, which now has national fame as the British longevity record. It is amazing to think of the thousands of kilometres flown by this 7g wonder. I ringed it as a 3J in body moult, so I think it was bred locally. The question then is in which year it moved to Scotland. I suspect that it has been going there each year since 2000 but it was only caught in 2010. I hope it will have been retrapped in 2011.

Just for a change a foreign ringed Blackcap was controlled at Shotton and not in Stuart Thomas's back garden. The other foreign ringed birds were the first Red-throated Diver to be found in North-East Wales and a Common Gull - both from Scandinavia. Another finch recovery is worthy of note. On 6 March I was with Kelvin Jones, Robin Sandham and Corinne Williams to try to whoosh-net Twite at Pensarn. People had put out seed on the ground in several places, including the car park, so we had to park over patches of seed to get the birds to go to the baited area on the beach. We had to ask people with dogs not to approach the area and eventually all 8 birds went into the catching area and were caught in one 'firing'. The control was fascinating, having come so far, and we have been informed that it was the most southerly recovery of any of Highland RG's Twite. I hope the other selected recoveries are of interest to you.

All of us ringers are dependent for much of the information about ringed birds on members of the public who find dead birds or sometimes read rings through telescopes. If you locate a ring please take the basic information: species (if you can identify it), ring number and address (to indentify the country of origin), the place of finding and the date. You may write to the address on the ring, or use a website to log the information – see www.ring.ac.uk If you do submit the information, you will eventually receive a sheet of paper telling you where and when the bird was ringed. I thank the members of the public who have sent in the details of ringed birds.

Ian M Spence

2010			
Species	FG	Pull.	Totals
Mallard (A)	4		4
Hen Harrier (R)		8	8
Goshawk		2	2
Buzzard		63	63
Kestrel (R)		24	24
Merlin (A)		4	4
Peregrine (A)		5	5
Water Rail	1		1
Ringed Plover (A)		3	3
Snipe (A)	1		1
Lesser Black-backed Gull (A)	1		1
Herring Gull	1	2	3

Species	FG	Pull.	Totals
Little Tern (R)		50	50
Stock Dove (A)	1	9	10
Woodpigeon	5		5
Collared Dove	2		2
Barn Owl (A)	13	57	70
Tawny Owl		7	7
Great Spotted Woodpecker	16		16
Jay	13		13
Jackdaw	17	19	36
Carion Crow	2		2
Raven		47	47
Goldcrest	113		113
Blue Tit	828	690	1518
Great Tit	329	560	889
Coal Tit	74	53	127
Willow Tit (R)	16	5	21
Marsh Tit (R)	1		1
Bearded Tit (A)	1		1
Swallow (A)	1	268	269
House Martin (A)	1		1
Cetti's Warbler	2		2
Long-tailed Tit	112		112
Chiffchaff	115	6	121
Willow Warbler (R)	243		243
Blackcap	67		67
Garden Warbler (A)	25		25
Lesser Whitethroat	1		1
Whitethroat (A)	27	5	32
Grasshopper Warbler (R)	3		3
Sedge Warbler	26		26
Reed Warbler	121		121
Nuthatch	13	42	55
Treecreeper	4	5	9
Wren	61	9	70
Starling (R)	13	7	20
Dipper (A)		28	28
Blackbird	234	21	255
Song Thrush (A)	13	4	17
Redwing (R)	25		25
Mistle Thrush (A)	3		3
Spotted Flycatcher (R)		21	21

Species	FG	Pull.	Totals
Robin	134	16	150
Redstart (A)	6	20	26
Pied Flycatcher (R)	72	531	603
Dunnock (A)	55	3	58
House Sparrow (A)	48	10	58
Tree Sparrow (R)	1	189	190
Grey Wagtail (A)	2	7	9
Tree Pipit (R)	1		1
Chaffinch	204	5	209
Brambling	16		16
Greenfinch	119		119
Goldfinch (A)	349		349
Siskin	254		254
Twite (R)	7		7
Lesser Redpoll (R)	45		45
Bullfinch (R)	25		25
Reed Bunting (A)	25		25
TOTALS	3912	2803	6714

In the table, above, R indicates the species is on the Red list of conservation concern and A indicates it is on the Amber list (see the reference to Johnstone, Thorpe and Noble, 2010 at the start of the systematic list). The ringing totals and the recoveries, below, are derived from Robinson, RA & Clark, JA (2011) The online Ringing Report: Bird ringing in Britain and Ireland in 2010. BTO: Thetford.

Codes used in the recoveries:

M	Male
F	Female
Pull.	Ringed as pullus (nestling)
2	Fully grown, year of hatching unknown
3	Hatched during the calendar year of ringing
3J	Hatched during the calendar year of ringing and in juvenile plumage
4	Hatched before the calendar year of ringing, but exact year unknown
5	Hatched during the calendar year prior to the year of ringing
6	Hatched before the previous calendar year, exact year unknown

2010 Selected recoveries

SVS 9151101 Red-throated Diver Pull.
31 07 1996 Botastugan, Malung, Dalameas, **SWEDEN**, 60°46'N 13°56'E
06 02 2010 Point of Ayr, Flintshire
1326 km 239° 4938 days Found freshly dead
This is the first recovery of a foreign ringed Red-throated Diver in our area.

EL16129 Sparrowhawk 4F
15 12 2006 Sewage Treatment Works, Swindon, Wiltshire
20 05 2010 Old Colwyn, Colwyn Bay, Conwy
230 km 325° 1252 days Freshly dead (cat)

GC74016 Buzzard Pull.
03 06 2008 Brynhyfryd, Dinbren Isaf, Denbighshire
06 06 2010 Point of Ayr, Flintshire
42 km 347° 733 days Found long dead

GC74028 Buzzard Pull.
04 06 2008 Ddol-Isaf, Denbighshire
01 01 2010 Willaston, Nantwich, Cheshire
43 km 77° 576 days Found dead

EB93047 Kestrel Pull.
03 07 2005 Ty'n Llyn, Llyn Alwen, Denbighshire
11 06 2010 near Blakeney, Norfolk
313 km 95° 1804 days Freshly dead (hit by car)

GC12702 Peregrine Pull.
25 05 2006 Site confidential near Ruabon, Denbighshire
29 04 2010 Collingham, near Leeds, West Yorkshire
150 km 45° 1435 days Long dead (on wire or netting)

GR05401 Coot 4
11 01 2010 Marine Lake, Southport, Lancashire
15 05 2010 Connah's Quay NR, Flintshire (47 km colour rings, seen alive)
13 09 2010 Old Roan, Aintree, Liverpool (21 km, seen alive)
02 10 2010 Old Roan, Aintree, Liverpool
21 km 167° 264 days Seen alive

EK56545 Black-headed Gull Pull.
05 07 1992 Shotton Paper Mill, Flintshire
16 04 2010 Brockholes Wetland Reserve, Lancashire
66 km 24° 6494 days Found freshly dead

NOS 5102491 Common Gull Pull.
25 06 2008 Havik, Karmoy, **NORWAY**, 59°18'N 05°18'E
17 01 2010 Pentre Mawr Park, Abergel, Denbighshire
864 km 223° 571 days Found freshly dead

SV62196 Common Tern Pull.
17 06 2001 Shotton Steelworks, Flintshire
21 07 2010 Seal Sands, Teesmouth, Cleveland
198 km 37° Y days Controlled

X938393 Swallow Pull.
02 06 2010 Marchwiel, Denbighshire
07 09 2010 Worsley, Greater Manchester
66 km 34° 97 days Controlled

BBH328 Wren 3
30 08 2007 Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Denbighshire
08 04 2010 Guilsfield, Powys
42 km 147° 952 days Found freshly dead

T651922 Sedge Warbler 4
25 04 2010 Shotton Steelworks, Flintshire
29 06 2010 Aultbea, Highland
538 km 343° 65 days Freshly dead (cat)

T651948 Reed Warbler 4
23 05 2010 Shotton Steelworks, Flintshire
25 07 2010 Pett Level, Sussex
362 km 133° 63 days Controlled

FRP 568219 Blackcap 3F
14 09 2008 Les Charmons, Marzy, Nièvre, **FRANCE**, 46°58'N 03°05'E
28 06 2009 Shotton Steelworks, Flintshire
821 km 330° 287 days Controlled

X144695 Garden Warbler 3
03 08 2009 Pett Level, Sussex
27 05 2010 Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Denbighshire
370 km 311° 297 days Controlled

1Z5079 Willow Warbler 3M
25 07 1999 Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Denbighshire
13 07 2010 Hilton of Fern, Fern, Tayside
412 km 5° 4006 days Controlled
This Willow Warbler is now the national longevity record (10y 11m 18d).

BBH890 Goldcrest 3F
13 10 2010 Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Denbighshire
10 11 2010 Turnditch, Derbyshire
126 km 90° 28 days Freshly dead (hit glass)

TL05965 Great Tit Pull.
30 05 2010 Pandy, near Glyn Ceiriog, Denbighshire
21 10 2010 Birchwood, Warrington, Cheshire
75 km 37° 144 days Controlled

X192909 Goldfinch 3M
08 02 2009 Sandwich Bay Estate, Kent
01 04 2010 Llwynmawr, Denbighshire
361 km 302° 417 days Controlled

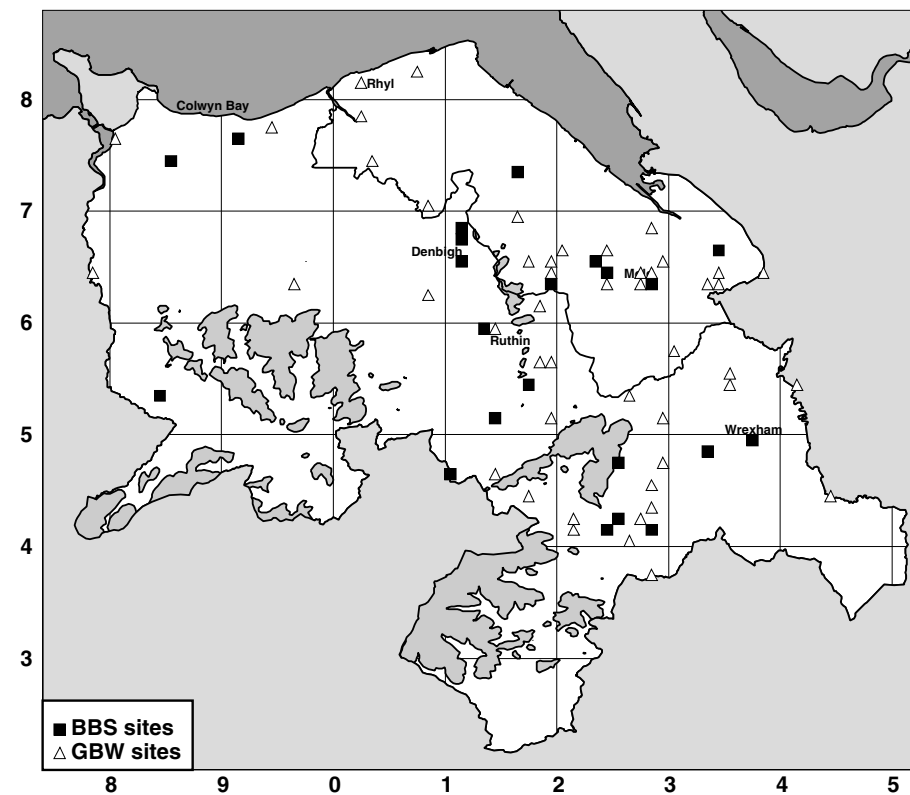
T877797 Goldfinch 4F
14 11 2005 East Grinstead, Sussex
31 05 2010 Colwyn Bay, Denbighshire
349 km 315° 1659 days Sick (disease)

X436287 Goldfinch 3M
28 10 2008 Queen Mary Reservoir, Surrey
03 04 2010 Llwynmawr, Denbighshire
248 km 313° 522 days Controlled

X617882 Twite 3F
29 09 2009 Clachtoll, Lochinver, Highland
06 03 2010 near Pensarn, Denbighshire
558 km 167° 158 days Controlled

X621263 Lesser Redpoll 3
05 10 2009 Williamthorpe, near Holmewood, Derbyshire
08 08 2010 Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Denbighshire
140 km 264° 307 days Controlled

BBS and GBW sites 2010



Contributors to the bird report for 2010

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FAM Brown	FAMB	Matthew Ellis	MaE
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Mike Clark	MC	Clemency Godfrey	CGo
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Steve Collins	StC	Walter Griffiths	WG
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PJ Guar	PJG	MA Jones	MAJo
David Haigh	DHa	Mike Jones	MSJ
Norman Hallas	NH	Pauline Jones	PJ
I Harris	IH	J Keegan	JKee
per Bob Harris MRG	pBH	Paul King	PKi
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D Holgate	DHg	K Lloyd-Jones	KLJ
R Holme	RHo	Keith Longshaw	KL
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Dave Howey	DHw	A Lovatt	ALo
B Hughes	BHu	Tony Lyne	AAL
D Hughes	DHu	Barry Lynes	BLy
ECM Hughes	ECMH	D Lynes	DL
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Neil Hughes	NHu	M Lyons	ML
per Julian Hughes	pJH	B March	BM
Simon Hughes	SH	HM Massey	HMM
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Colin Jones	CoJ	J Middlehurst	JMi
Daniel Jones	DJ	Christine Millward	CMi
David Jones	DvJ	Ben Milner	BeMi
Eryl Jones	EJ	PM Mitchell	PMM
Evelyn Jones	EvJ	GA Molloy	GAM
F Jones	FJ	Malcolm Monie	MM
Gareth Jones	GaJ	Clwyd Monitoring	CM
Geraint Jones	GeJo	PD Moore	PDM
GK Jones	GKJ	P Morley	PMo
Gordon Jones	GJ	Glenn E Morris	GEM
Graham Jones	GrJ	Susan Morris	SM
Hazel Jones	HJ	Sylvia Morrow	SyM
Janice Jones	JJ	Mark Murphy	MMu
Julie Jones	JuJ	Hilary Nash	HN
Keith Jones	KJ	Mike Nesbitt	MN
Louise Jones	LJ	Alan Nevitt	AN

Jason Newton	JN	Paul David Shenton	PDS
E Nixon	EN	Brian Sherwin	BrS
Innes Nixon	InN	D Shone	DSH
EM Nottage	EMN	Bob Shortis	RSh
Mark O'Sullivan	MOS	Fiona Shortis	FSh
Mel ab Owain	MaO	H Simpson	HS
Brenda Joyce Owen	BJO	Stan Skelton	StaS
EW Owen	EWO	Di Slater	DiSl
Bill Owens	WAO	Dermot Smith	DeS
Zara Paris	ZP	Kevin Smith	KS
D Parry	DPar	Richard Smith	RSm
Elsbeth Parry	EP	Ian M Spence	IMS
Geoff Parry	GP	Tony Stachnicki	ToS
T Parry	TPa	M Stachowski	MSt
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Elfyn Pugh	EIP	Nick Thomas	NRT
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David and Carol Richardson	DCR	Stuart K Thomas	SKT
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Brian Roberts	BrR	Greg Martin Thurnham	GMT
D Roberts	DRo	David Toyne	DaTo
Gareth Roberts	GRo	Paul Triggs	PT
Glyn Neville Roberts	GNR	Nigel Troup	NT
John Lawton Roberts	JLR	Declan J Tuer	DJT
John Roberts	JR	Peter Tyler	PTy
Megan Amy Roberts	MAR	Amy Vanstone	AV
Patricia Ann Roberts	PAR	D Vernon	DV
Pauline Roberts	PaRo	R Vernon	RVe
Peter Roberts	PeR	G Wallace	GWa
Raymond Roberts	RR	Andrew Wallbank	AW
Geoffrey Robinson	GR	Len Walls	LeW
J Robinson	JRo	Mike Ward	MW
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Julie Rogers per BHP	pJR	Bridie Watson	BW
S Rogers	SR	Nigel Watson	NiW
Alan Rowley	AR	J Watts	JWa
John Rushton	JoR	Julian Welldrick	JuW
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Eddie Williams	EdW	Alan Woods	AIW
Geoff Williams	GeWi	H Woodward	HW
Ian Williams	IW	Geoff Wookey	GWo
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Joseph Nicholas Williams	JNW	Fred Wright	FrW
K Williams	KWi	Neville Wright	NW
Peter Williams	PWi	Teresa Wright	TeW
Lawrence W Willis	LWW	Jane Wynne	JWy



Sand Martin, Ashley Cohen

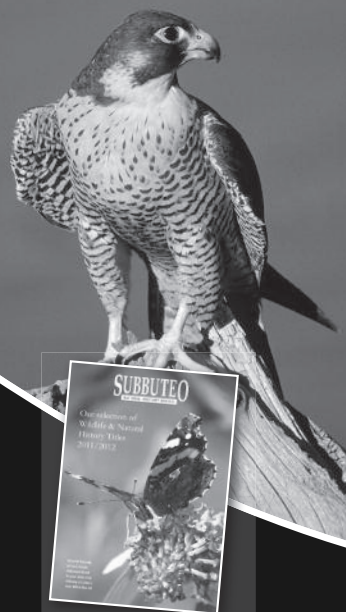
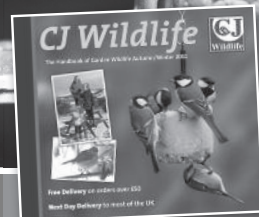


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Local groups

Clwyd Ornithological Society

Secretary: Jacquie Irving. Telephone: 01745-854132.

Deeside Naturalists' Society

The DNS is a local natural history society that was founded in 1973 to conserve flora and fauna on Deeside and in the surrounding area. The society has about 700 members and holds monthly meetings and slide shows through the winter months. The Nature Reserve at Connah's Quay, alongside the River Dee, has five hides and a Field Studies Centre. Access is by permit only, available to all members.

Membership Secretary: Walter Griffiths. Telephone: 01244-813287.

Wrexham Birdwatchers

Wrexham Birdwatchers meet on the first Friday each month and on Saturday or Sunday every other month. The winter indoor programme (on Fridays) runs from September to April and is a series of lectures and slide shows, currently held in the Memorial Hall, Gresford. The outdoor programme runs through the year. Social evenings and weekends are also held. An Annual Report is produced.

Honorary Secretary: Marian Williams. Telephone: 01978-854633.

The Welsh Rare Breeding Bird and Raptor Study Group – North-East Wales

The Welsh Rare Breeding Bird and Raptor Study Group – North-East Wales is a branch of a sub-group of the Welsh Ornithological Society. It is a small number of fieldworkers who are dedicated to protecting raptors, owls, Chough and Raven. Currently, in the Vice Counties of Denbighshire and Flintshire there are about ten people who contribute records to the Group. We are not able to record the nests of all the species we are interested in every year but most of the nests of Schedule 1 species are checked. Most of the fieldworkers are volunteers and do fieldwork in their spare time.

One of the key problems for the species we record is that of disturbance. Several of the species we check are protected by Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981, so their nests cannot be wilfully disturbed without a licence to do so. All of the fieldworkers in our Group have the appropriate licence each year from the Countryside Council for Wales, with which we have a close working relationship. Each fieldworker covers an area and this ensures that only one or two people visit each nest, but those visits are co-ordinated to prevent undue disturbance. We also have good working relations with the local Police Wildlife Liaison Officers.

The group aims to publish results of each year's work.

Ian M Spence, Coordinator

National groups

British Trust for Ornithology (BTO)

BTO Cymru - Development Officer, Kelvin Jones; Senior Ecologist, Rachel Taylor

BTO Cymru, Thoday Building, Deiniol Road, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 2UW

Tel: 01248-383285

BTO regional representatives:

Clwyd East: Anne Brenchley, Tŷ'r Fawnog, 43 Blackbrook, Sychdyn, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6LT. Telephone: 01352-750118. Email: anne.brenchley@btinternet.net

Clwyd West: Mel ab Owain, 31 Coed Bedw, Abergele, Conwy, LL22 7EU. Telephone: 01745-826528. Email: melabowain@btinternet.com

North Wales Wildlife Trust

Head Office: 376 High Street, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 1YE. Telephone: 01248-351541.

North East Office: Loggerheads Country Park, Mold, Denbighshire, CH7 5LH. Telephone: 01352-810469.

Contact: Adrian Lloyd Jones, Conservation Officer (East).

North Wales Wildlife Trust local groups:

Denbigh: Brian Burnett. Telephone: 01978-790442

Wrexham: John and Jill Smith. Telephone: 01978-854030

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)

North Wales Office: RSPB Cymru, Maes y Ffynnon, Penrhosgarnedd, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 2DW. Telephone: 01248-363800.

RSPB Members' groups:

Chester: Liz McClure. Telephone: 01244-409414.

North Wales: John Beagan. Telephone: 01492-530683

Welsh Ornithological Society (WOS)

Membership Secretary: Alan Williams, 30 Fairfield, Penperlleni, Pontypool, Gwent, NP4 0AQ. Email: mochdreboy@waitrose.com

www.birdsinwales.org.uk

Honorary Secretary: Ian M Spence



The Clwyd Bird Recording Group is affiliated to the Welsh Ornithological Society. Together we intend to work for the conservation of birds in Wales and we need your records to achieve this.

A benefit of this affiliation is that anyone who contributes bird records to the CBRG will be eligible to a discount of £2.00 on a subscription to the Welsh Ornithological Society.

Individual subscription (before discount):	£15.00
Family subscription (before discount):	£18.00

Send your cheque (made out to the 'Welsh Ornithological Society') to:

Alan Williams
30 Fairfield
Penperlleni
Pontypool
NP4 0AQ

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Linnet and Goldfinch - part of a finch flock at Trevalyn Meadows, Bryan Formstone