

**DAWLISH WARREN
BIRD REPORT
2022**



DWRG



DAWLISH WARREN RECORDING GROUP

Many thanks to all observers who submitted records to the Recording Group, Teignbridge District Council and Devon Birds, this report would not be possible without their co-operation. The hide remained closed all year and due to continuing erosion, there remains no public access to the surrounding viewing areas. Attempts to reopen the hide for managed access have unfortunately been thwarted by repeated break-ins. The Recording Group would like to thank the Warren Golf Club and Devon Wildlife Trust for allowing access enabling our long-standing monitoring efforts to continue.

A total of 188 species were recorded on site this year with 33 species confirmed breeding, including six pairs of Stonechat, five pairs of Cirl Bunting, two pairs of Little Grebe and one pair of Reed Bunting. However both Bullfinch, with the first blank year since 2007, and Great Spotted Woodpecker were missing, the latter for the first time in since they first bred on site in 2008.



Two new species for the Warren were reported, a Ring-necked Duck in September and a Greenish Warbler in October, both await assessment by the Devon Birds Records Committee (DBRC). The annual total was the highest since 2016 and therefore above the average for the last five years. 2022 highlights included new site record counts of the critically endangered Balearic Shearwater (287 in Aug), Cattle Egret (75 in Sep), Marsh Harrier (three in Oct) and Cirl Bunting (16 in Nov, 20 in Dec). It was also a record year for Marsh Harrier and Caspian Gull with a record spring passage of Jay.

Other rarities reported included the 1st Continental Black-tailed Godwit and 2nd Penduline Tit, the 3rd Pink-footed Goose, 4th record of Glossy Ibis, 7th Bonaparte's Gull, 8-14th Caspian Gull, 12th Black Guillemot, 13-15th Cetti's Warbler and two White-tailed Eagle from the Isle of Wight reintroduction programme.

Omissions from the year list included Redstart, Goosander, Woodcock and Wood Sandpiper with the expected no shows from Black-throated Diver and Coot.

DARK-BELLIED BRENT GOOSE *Branta b. bernicla*

Status. Abundant autumn and early winter, uncommon in spring, rare in summer

Last and first. 14 May and 12 Sep.

First winter. Max 420 on 1 Jan. Last a single on 14 May.

Summer. A single bird remained on the Exe, favouring Mudbank, but was present here on 20 Jul - 6 Aug.

Second winter. Max 373 on 9 Nov (cf. 527 in Dec 2021). Six in the estuary on 12 Sep were the first returners, with the first 3-fig count on 6 Oct.

Juveniles. Numbers suggested a rare good breeding season, with 66 juveniles in 264 birds on 24 Oct, with lower numbers later as families moved to the north end. A leucistic juvenile was present occasionally.

DARK-BELLIED BRENT GOOSE – Monthly maxima

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	420	364	358	23	1	-	1	1	80	350	373	323
WeBS total	74	340	70	-	-	-	-	-	-	291	250	22

PALE-BELLIED BRENT GOOSE *B. b. hrota*

Status. Annual spring & autumn migrant, fewer in winter

Last and first. 15 May and 27 Sep.

First winter. One or two from 2021 with the Dark-bellied flocks between 24 Jan & 13 Feb.

Spring passage. Max. 177 on 10 Apr. Other records: Mar; one on 6th, 19th, 26-27th, three on 22-24th; Apr; four on 5th, two on 12th, four on 15th, 64 on 21st, seven on 23rd, 11 on 30th; May; six on 1-2nd, one on 14-15th.

Autumn passage. A poor year with just four records, the first on 27 Sep, with two on 1 & 11 Oct and a single on 24 Oct.

Second winter. Small numbers were occasionally present with a max of three on 19 Nov.

Ring recoveries. An Icelandic ringed bird on 22 Mar had previously been seen on passage at the Warren on 15 Mar 2020.

PALE-BELLIED BRENT GOOSE – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	1	2	3	177	6	-	-	-	1	2	3	-
Days	4	5	6	7	4	-	-	-	1	2	4	-

CANADA GOOSE *Branta canadensis*

Status. Common, often abundant, in autumn and early winter; regular breeder

Breeding. Two prs, only one of which fledged young.

Max counts. The largest counts came from roosting birds, with a typical late summer peak of 279 on 8 Sep and the max 288 on 24 Oct.

CANADA GOOSE – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	22	79	10	6	7	8	70	219	279	288	108	53
WeBS total	-	2	-	4	-	7	10	-	-	-	1	18

BARNACLE GOOSE *Branta leucopsis*

Status. *Rare wild migrant and winter visitor, infrequent feral/escapee*

2022 records. A single bird with Canada Geese on 27-28 Sep and perhaps the same with Brents on 4-6 Oct. Another lone bird was in the estuary on 26 Nov.



Barnacle Goose 4 Oct © Alan Keatley

BAR-HEADED GOOSE *Anser indicus*

Status. *Escapee; rare*

2022 record. One with Canada Geese on 9 Jan, 19 & 24 Oct.

SNOW GOOSE *Anser caerulescens*

Status. *Escapee; rare*

2022 record. The Exe resident was with Canada Geese in the estuary on 22 & 27-28 Sep. The 3rd site record, a returning bird from 2020-21.

SWAN GOOSE *Anser cygnoides*

Status. *Escapee; rare*

2022 record. One, the first site record, with Canada Geese on 14 May.

SWAN GOOSE x GREYLAG GOOSE *Anser cygnoides x A. anser*

Status. *Escapee; rare*

2022 record. One of this presumed domestic hybrid was with Canada Geese on several dates in late Apr.

GREYLAG GOOSE *Anser anser*

Status. *Rare wild and scarce feral/escapee visitor*

2022 record. One with Canada Geese on 26 Dec.

PINK-FOOTED GOOSE *Anser brachyrhynchus*

Status. *Vagrant. Two previous site records*

2022 record. A first winter was in Shutterton Creek briefly on the evening high tide on 25 Sep (LC, KRy). The 3rd Warren record and the first since 18 Sep 2010. Record subject to acceptance by DBRC.



Pink-footed Goose 25 Sep © Lee Collins

MUTE SWAN *Cygnus olor*

Status. *Resident in small numbers, common in autumn, scarce early year, occasional breeder*

Breeding. A pr bred at the Main Pond, hatching seven cygnets. These had to walk to the estuary as water levels dropped.

Max count. The autumn gathering saw with 44 on 20 Aug.

Ring recoveries. The breeding male ringed at Abbotsbury was the same bird as in 2020-21 remaining resident throughout. Two other birds were seen, one from Abbotsbury in 2018 and one released at Cullompton in 2019.

MUTE SWAN – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	4	2	2	2	4	6	11	44	42	33	7	7
WeBS total	2	-	-	2	1	6	-	33	2	31	-	-

EGYPTIAN GOOSE *Alopochen aegyptiaca*

Status. *Rare feral visitor/escapee*

2022 records. Following a record year in 2021, just two records, four in the estuary on 15 Jan and one on 9 Nov.

SHELDUCK *Tadorna tadorna*

Status. *Common in winter, uncommon to June, scarce late summer, has bred.*

Breeding. As usual prs were present through the summer, but there were no signs of success.

First winter. Max 99 on 13 Jan.

Second winter. Max on 102 on 18 Dec.

Ring recoveries. A Belgian bird was present for its second winter in Jan with five Seaton, Devon birds during the year, one in both winters, three only in the first winter and a recently ringed bird in the second winter.

SHELDUCK – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	99	53	27	24	32	15	2	9	14	37	78	102
WeBS total	50	47	16	24	15	12	1	-	-	29	10	102

GARGANEY *Spatula querquedula*

Status. *Rare spring migrant and autumn vagrant*

2022 records. Two reports both on 24 Mar, a pair flew into the estuary early morning (IL) and a drake was offshore in the afternoon (Ake *et al.*). The first records since Sep 2019.

SHOVELER *Spatula clypeata*

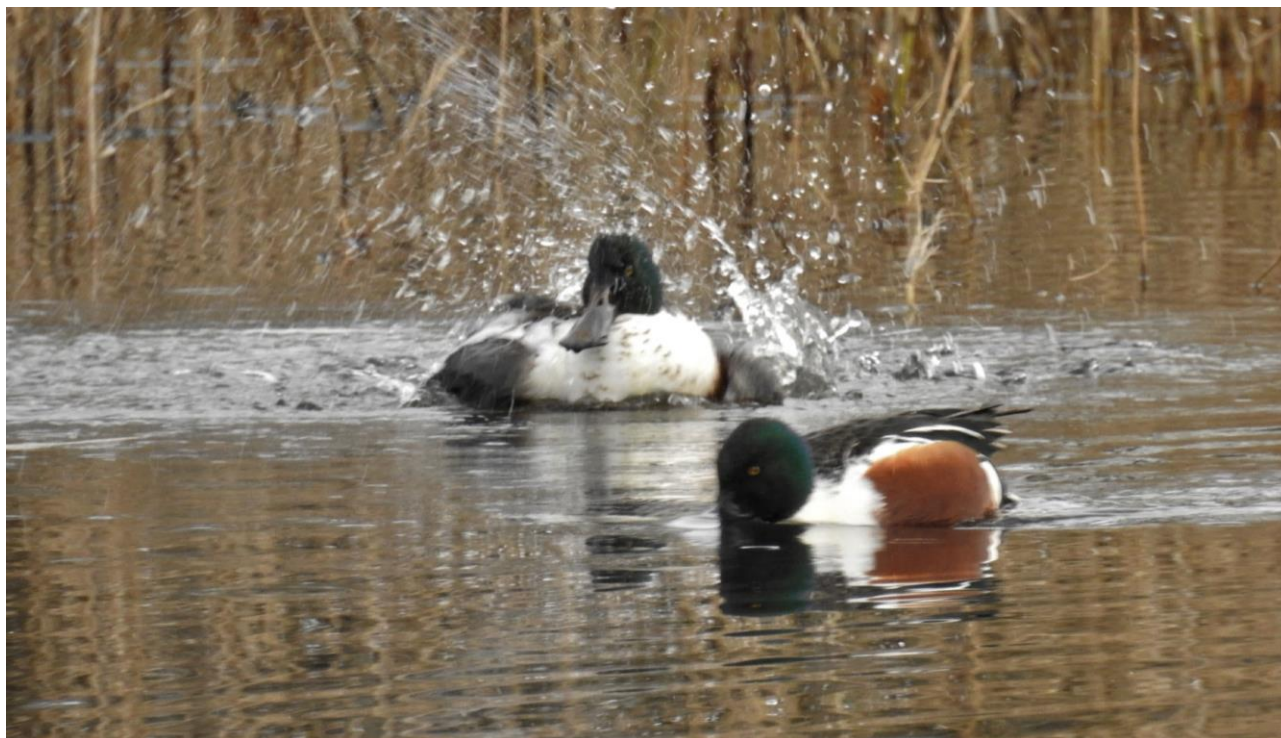
Status. *Annual autumn migrant and winter resident, rare in summer*

First winter. All records came from the Main Pond aside from two drakes on Finger Point on 15th Apr. An ongoing decline, after regular wintering started in winter 2005-6.

Second winter. Two eclipse drake on Finger Point on 25 Aug were the first returners, with one on 25 Sep in the estuary. Then three (mff) in the estuary on 12 Nov with the first, a male, back on the Main Pond on 30 Nov with a max of five there until the year end. Away from the pond, a pr in the estuary on 2 Dec with six on 19 Dec.

SHOVELER – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	8	6	5	4	-	-	-	2	1	-	3	7



Shoveler 9 Jan © Dave Jewell

GADWALL *Mareca strepera***Status.** Annual spring & autumn migrant, scarce in winter**2022 records.** One reported in the estuary on 2 May was the only early year record of this increasingly scarce duck. In autumn a pair offshore before relocating to the estuary on 6 Oct. During the December cold snap three were in the estuary on 17 Dec with a pr on 19th.**WIGEON** *Mareca penelope***Status.** Very abundant late autumn and early winter, scarce late winter & spring**Last and first.** Six on 17 Mar and 14 Aug.**First winter.** Max of 216 on 1 Jan.**Second winter.** Max of 2,110 on 1 Nov (cf. 1,543 in Oct 21). Three on 14 Aug were the first returners, with the next two on 27 Aug. The first 3-fig count was early on 7 Sep.**WIGEON – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	216	29	8	-	-	-	-	25	970	1636	2110	439
WeBS total	11	26	8	-	-	-	-	-	94	1200	650	71

MALLARD *Anas platyrhynchos***Status.** Common late autumn and winter visitor, resident breeder**Breeding.** At least four prs, but as always limited breeding success. Largest numbers roost on the Main Pond, spending the day on Dawlish Water with a max of 43 on 27 Nov.**MALLARD – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	9	7	12	12	7	4	9	5	7	6	43	12

Domestic Mallard

One from Dawlish Water occasionally came to roost on the Main Pond with other Mallard. Two drakes from 2021 present throughout mostly on the Golf Course are likely birds released for shooting. The latter are likely included in some of the counts above.

EURASIAN WIGEON x MALLARD *Mareca penelope x Anas platyrhynchos***Status.** Escapee, rare**2022 record.** One presumably from the Dawlish collection frequented the Main Pond intermittently through the year.**PINTAIL** *Anas acuta***Status.** Uncommon in autumn & winter, rare in spring**Last and first.** 6 Mar and 14 Sep.**First winter.** Jan; one on 1st, five on 5th, two on 16th, four on the 26th; Feb: one on 12th; Mar: one on 6th.**Second winter.** Sep; nine, the year's max, on 14th, five the next day, one on 24th, two on 25th; Oct; eight on 11th, singles on 13th, 23-24th & 31st, four on 28th, three on 25th and two on 18th; Nov; singles on 17th, 19th & 30th, the latter offshore with Great Crested Grebe; Dec; four on 2nd.

PINTAIL – Number of Birds and days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	5	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	9	8	1	4
Days	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	8	3	1



Pintail 17 Nov © Lee Collins

NORTHERN PINTAIL x EURASIAN WIGEON *Anas acuta x Mareca penelope*

Status. *Vagrant*

2022 record. A drake of this rare wild hybrid was present with the Wigeon on 8-9 & 27 Sep. The first Warren record, although this bird spent winters 2020-21 & 2021-22 on the Exe estuary.

TEAL *Anas crecca*

Status. *Very abundant late autumn & winter, scarce spring, rare in summer*

Last and first. 28 Apr and 13 Jul.

First winter. Max 358 on 9 Jan. Last pr on the Main Pond on 28 Apr.

Summer. One offshore on 19 Jun.

Second winter. Max 700 on 4 Oct. First return two on 13 Jul, with the next seven on 10 Aug, first 3-fig count early on 7 Sep.

TEAL – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	358	144	29	14	-	1	2	22	597	700	186	588
WeBS total	235	37	29	2	-	-	-	-	69	276	108	29

RING-NECKED DUCK *Aythya collaris*

Status. *Vagrant from North America. First site record.*

2022 record. An immature drake was in Shutterton Creek with Wigeon early morning on 28 Sep, but departed north after a few minutes (LC, KRy). The 305th bird species for the Recording Area.



Ring-necked Duck 28 Sep © Martin Elcoate

It was relocated soon after at Topsham, where this image was taken, but the stay there was almost as brief. It eventually settled for a week around ponds on the East Devon Pebblebeds.

TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fuligula*

Status. *Annual in autumn & winter, rare at other times*

2022 records. Just two records continuing the recent decline. Three eclipse drake circled the estuary and flew back out to sea on 14 Jul, and a female flew east offshore on 7 Aug.

TUFTED DUCK – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-

SCAUP *Aythya marila*

Status. *Near-annual winter visitor and rare autumn migrant*

2022 record. An immature was briefly in the estuary early morning on 24 Sep (DLAF, IL). The earliest ever, and only the second September record, after one offshore on 28 Sep 2007.

EIDER *Somateria mollissima*

Status. *Varying annual numbers, can be absent to common throughout the year*

2022 records. One was reported offshore on 14 Apr and a pr was offshore on 24-25th Apr. In autumn a fem/imm was offshore on 18-23 Oct. The same bird returned with a second fem/imm 17-19 Nov, with one of them flying S on 24 Nov, and a drake in the estuary on 30 Nov. December saw at least five different birds on 2nd-3rd, with three (ad & two imm male) still present on 10th, an immature male until the 28th, joined by a female and another immature male on 29th.

**VELVET SCOTER** *Melanitta fusca*

COMMON SCOTER *Melanitta nigra*

Max counts. 83 on 15 May, 60 on 19 Oct, 56 on 7 Aug. The winter peak was just 31 on 19 Nov.

COMMON SCOTER – Monthly maxima:												
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	8	25	34	32	83	6	17	56	31	60	31	15

LONG-TAILED DUCK *Clangula hyemalis*

2022 record. One circled the bay with 32 Common Scoter before heading east on 14 Apr (LC). The first record since Nov 2020.

GOLDENEYE *Bucephala clangula*

Last and first. Three on 2 Feb and 26 Dec.

First winter. Records limited to a pr on 1 Jan, one on 7 Jan, two on 8-9 Jan, one on 31 Jan and the last three on 2 Feb.

Second winter. The first return was very late, a pair on 26 Dec (*cf.* 5 Nov 2021), with one the next day.

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RED-BREASTED MERGANSER *Mergus serrator*

Status. *Previously common in winter, now scarce; occasional in summer, has bred*

Last and first. 15 Apr and 10 Oct.

First winter. Max 18 on 9 Jan barely 10% of the numbers recorded only a few years ago and the site maximum of 204 in Dec 2000. Last a male on 15 Apr.

Second winter. First return one on 10 Oct. Max of 10 on 19 Dec (*cf.* 26 in Dec 21).

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	18	14	12	4	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	10
WeBS total	8	14	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1

PHEASANT *Phasianus colchicus*

Status. *Most/all records derive from releases, occasional breeding*

2022 summary. One to three birds present all year including a pr late spring, with four on 8 Oct, but no confirmed breeding.

NIGHTJAR *Caprimulgus europaeus*

Status. *Rare in spring and autumn*

2022 record. One hawked along the railway line and flew over the Golf Course on 14 Aug (KRy *et al.*). The 20th site record and earliest ever in autumn.

SWIFT *Apus apus*

Status. *Common in late spring & summer, rare at other times*

First and last. 24 Apr and 28 Aug.

Spring. Max 180 on 12 Jun (*cf.* 182 on 12 Jun 2021). One on 24 Apr was a typical first date, no double-fig counts in Apr-May. In Jun, in addition to the max count, six double-fig records, max 70 on 18th.

Autumn. Max 138 on 26 Jul, along 'hundreds' were reported through on 7 Jul. There were only two double-fig count, 20 on 30 Jul and 40 next day. There were only three Aug records, with the last one on 28th.

SWIFT – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	-	1	6	180	138	4	-	-	-	-

CUCKOO *Cuculus canorus*

Status. *Uncommon in spring, rare in autumn, has bred*

2022 records. Just three records, the first on 2 May, a brief and mobile singing male, and birds presumably already heading south, on 26 May and 18-19 Jun, both feeding on Brown-tail moth caterpillars on Warren Point.

FERAL PIGEON *Columba livia*

Status. Resident around Langstone Rock, birds overhead likely racing pigeons
2022 summary. Up to six birds all year around Langstone Rock where breeding was again attempted, with peaks of 11 on 26 Nov and 18 on 27 Dec. The increase is probably down to the loss of roosting sites at the renovated Dawlish Railway Station. Several Exmouth birds were consumed by Peregrine in the Bight during the year.

STOCK DOVE *Columba oenas*

Status. Regular in spring & summer in small numbers, rarely common in late autumn

2022 summary. The majority of records come from the Railway Saltmarsh and adjacent mudflats. The first of the year was one on 6 Feb with singles on 25 Feb, 2 Apr and 30 Jun, with five overhead on 5 Mar, a single flock of 49 the next day, four over on 9 Mar and two on 18 Jun. In autumn one on 30 Jul with four Aug records including six on 28th. In Sep four records of six birds and two singles in Oct.

Visible migration. In Nov, 12 on 4th, eight on 10th and, the last of the year, 23 on 13th.

STOCK DOVE – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	1	49	1	-	2	1	6	3	1	23	-

WOODPIGEON *Columba palumbus*

Status. Common breeding resident, can be a very abundant in late autumn

Breeding. Several territories, with birds present throughout the year.

Visible migration. The first notable flocks were 450 on 3 Nov, then 34,500 on 4th, 6,370 on 9th, 4,360 on 13th, 1,800 on 17th, and finally 380 on 19th.

COLLARED DOVE *Streptopelia decaocto*

Status. Previously a infrequent visitor through the year, now regular breeder

2022 summary. Regular throughout the year with two breeding pairs. Max count of seven on 24 Aug.

TURTLE DOVE *Streptopelia turtur*

Status. Previously an annual migrant, once common now rare

2022 record. One was along the Back Path early morning of 12 May (J Marshall), the first spring record since 2014.

WATER RAIL *Rallus aquaticus*

Status. Uncommon, rarely common in winter, rare in summer, has bred

Last and first. 21 Apr and 18 Sep.

2022 summary. Present in small numbers around the ponds and saltmarsh during the autumn and winter, max 11 on 13 Dec, seven on 9 Jan and six on 13 & 19 Nov and 11 Dec.

MOORHEN *Gallinula chloropus*

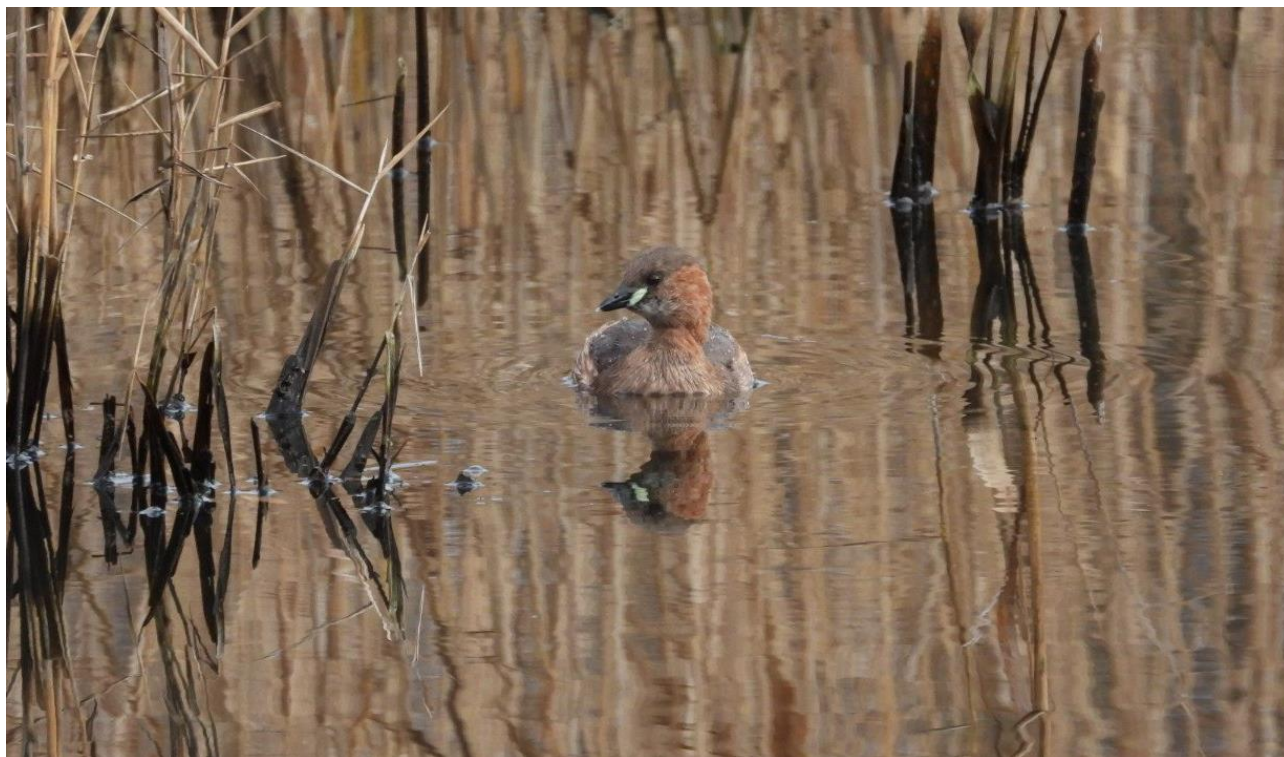
Status. Common breeding resident

Breeding. Five prs, three at the Main Pond and singles at the First and Golf Course Ponds.

LITTLE GREBE *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Status. Regular breeder and virtually resident on Main Pond, scarce on estuary in winter

2022 summary. Two prs on the Main Pond, both had two broods, with nest building noted in mid Jan. Absent 16 Jul – 21 Oct. One in the estuary in Jan-Feb & Oct-Dec.



Little Grebe – Dean Hall

RED-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps grisegena*

Status. Near-annual winter visitor and autumn migrant, vagrant Apr to Sept

2022 records. One was offshore on 19 Mar (DLAF), the first since Feb 2020. A similarly brief bird was offshore on 3 Dec (IL).

GREAT CRESTED GREBE *Podiceps cristatus*

Status. Common in winter, scarce in spring and autumn

First winter. Max 68 on 9 Jan (cf. 86 in Jan 2021).

Summer. Singles on 3-5th & 18 Jun.

Second winter. Max 30 on 10 Dec (cf. 66 in Dec 2021).

GREAT CRESTED GREBE – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	68	18	6	8	2	1	2	5	1	5	12	30

SLAVONIAN GREBE *Podiceps auritus*

Status. Once common in winter and spring, now rare

2022 record. With the loss of Herbert, one offshore on 22 Jan – 10 Feb (AKe *et al.*), only the second new bird since Mar 2017, was unexpected, but welcome.

BLACK-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps nigricollis*

Status. *Near-annual winter visitor and scarce migrant*

2022 records. Two from 2021 remained in the lower estuary, recorded occasionally in the Recording Area until 4 Feb. A single bird was also in the estuary on 17 Feb. Two December reports, offshore on 9th and in the estuary on 26th.

OYSTERCATCHER *Haematopus ostralegus*

Status. *Very abundant in autumn and winter, common in summer, has bred*

First winter. Low numbers with max of c1100 in Jan/Feb, except for the Jan WeBS count.

Summer. A peak count of 200 birds summering on the Exe.

Second winter. Max of 1773 on 20 Nov.

Ring recoveries. A total of 347 different Exe ringed birds were recorded during the year, 63 of which were ringed in 2021. Eight of these were ringed in 2000 or before, with the oldest, ringed in 1990, at least 34 years old. Please submit any sightings to exeoystercatchers@gmail.com. Birds ringed away from the Warren were recorded from Ireland, Scotland (2), Wales (2) and the West Midlands (2).

OYSTERCATCHER – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	1778	1110	267	250	228	200	528	867	987	1573	1773	1000
WeBS total	1778	1204	119	239	186	151	224	855	924	1573	1773	643

AVOCET *Recurvirostra avosetta*

Status. *Scarce in autumn & winter, rare in spring*

2022 records. On 26 Aug, a flock of 17 that had arrived on the Exe earlier in the morning, circled the lower estuary on the evening high tide, before being seen at Bowling Green, nine offshore later were assumed to be part of this flock. Five present over high tide on 17 Sep were also likely new arrivals. Late winter three were in the saltmarsh on 3-4 Dec, with singles on five dates, three again on 19th, one the next day and two on 21st.



Avocet 26 Aug © Lee Collins

LAPWING *Vanellus vanellus*

Status. Increasingly scarce in winter, abundant in cold weather, rare at other times, has bred

First winter. One in the estuary on 9 Jan.

Second winter. Two in the estuary on 19 Oct, five flew over on 4 Nov, one in the estuary on 19 Nov and during the cold snap in Dec, singles on 14th & 17th, 12 W on 15th and three on 20th.

GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis apricaria*

Status. Infrequent in autumn & winter, rare in spring & summer

2022 records. One in the estuary on 22-28 Jan. In autumn, Oct singles on 8-9th, 16th & 19th; Nov one on 4th, & three on 13th. In Dec, two on the 15th, three on 17th and two on the Golf Course on 19th.

GREY PLOVER *Pluvialis squatarola*

Status. Abundant in winter, scarce but regular at other times

First winter. Max 202 on 13 Feb.

Second winter. First 3-fig count on 23 Oct, but next not until 26 Nov. Max 140 on 30 Nov.

Ring recoveries. Five Exe ringed birds were present in the first winter with three returning in the second winter.

GREY PLOVER – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	190	202	110	15	2	5	1	2	20	50	140	135
WeBS total	180	202	48	-	-	-	-	-	3	10	55	19

RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula*

Status. Abundant in autumn, common in winter, decreasing; has bred

First winter. Max 39 on 30 Jan.

Spring. A small passage noticeable with a max of 59 on 3 May.

Autumn. Max 245 on 3 Sep. First 3-fig count on 13 Aug.

Second winter. Max 61 on 3 Nov.

Ring recoveries. A German ringed bird was present in Jan-Feb and returned to winter in Aug. Aug/Sep saw three Norwegian, one Polish and one Welsh bird with one of the Norwegian birds still present in Oct. A fourth bird from Norway was seen in Nov.

RINGED PLOVER – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	39	35	16	18	59	28	55	169	245	74	61	39
WeBS total	23	29	5	1	9	1	-	2	84	62	22	-

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius dubius*

Status. Rare in spring and scarce in autumn

First and last. 16 Mar and 9 Aug.

Spring. The first were two in the Bight on 16 Mar, the earliest ever record. A series of records in late May started with two on 14th with singles on 17-18 & 21 May. On 26 May a pair were present, with the male even displaying. Presumed birds displaced from the top of the Exe where there was poor breeding success.

Autumn. Perhaps reflecting wider breeding failures, only one record, a juv on 9 Aug.

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-



Little Ringed Plover 16 Mar © Lee Collins

WHIMBREL *Numenius phaeopus*

Status. Common in spring & autumn

First and last. 9 Apr and 22 Oct.

Spring. Max 146 on 24 Apr & 110 on 3 May (cf. 104 on 6 May 2021). The first one flew in off the sea on 9 Apr.

Autumn. Max 59 on 30 Jul, mirroring last year's high autumn numbers. Last two S on 22 Oct.

Ring recoveries. The only sighting was a regular individual on spring passage, a Welsh bird 'Yellow D63', being recorded for the sixth time in seven years on spring migration.

WHIMBREL – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	-	63	110	13	59	55	4	2	-	-
WeBS total	-	-	-	146	16	1	1	13	-	-	-	-

CURLEW *Numenius arquata*

Status. Abundant in late summer, autumn & winter, scarce in spring

2022 summary. Max 454 on 17 Sep. Present throughout the year, a count of 98 on 17 Jun (cf. 58 on 17 Jun 2021) was the first sign of return passage, rapidly climbing to 184 by 30 Jun.

Ring recoveries. A 2020 bird from Suffolk remained all year, with a head-started bird released in Norfolk present until at least Sep. A juvenile from Sussex was present in early Aug and a bird ringed in Holland on 2 Jun 2021 was present in Oct.

CURLEW – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	144	118	155	146	41	184	277	421	454	376	225	282
WeBS total	12	28	41	23	13	21	238	388	402	143	7	5

BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa lapponica*

Status. Abundant in winter, common in spring & autumn

First winter. Max of 195 on 23 Jan.

Spring. Max 140 on 3 May following 127 the previous day.

Autumn. No clear passage peaks this year.

Second winter. First 3-fig count, 120 on 26 Nov. Max 180 on 27 Dec.

Ring recoveries. Two Dutch and a French bird were recorded on successive days in May, showing a passage of different birds and one staying longer to refuel. The first on the 2nd only was ringed at Vinkenbaan Castricum on 7 May 2014. On 3-6th one ringed at Terschelling, Holland on 6 May 2019, returning there in May 2020, this was the first sighting away from Terschelling. On 5th only, a bird ringed at Moeze, France on 16 May 2018, this bird summered at the Warren in 2018 and was also here in Aug 2020 & May 2021. It is likely the Dutch birds were pushed west off their usual migration route to the Exe.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	195	172	140	57	140	4	6	18	39	53	135	180
WeBS count	81	148	61	35	1	1	1	13	38	15	75	122



Bar-tailed Godwit 5 May © Lee Collins

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa limosa islandica***Status.** Common, occasionally abundant, in autumn & winter**Last and first.** 2 Feb and 25 Jun.**First winter.** Scarce this year with singles on 1 & 9 Jan and 2 Feb.**Autumn.** First returning bird on 25 Jun. After the June record, the first returning birds were two on 14 Jul with passage max of 24 on 9 Sep.**Second winter.** Max 520 on 24 Oct. Once again increased numbers in late Oct & Nov, with 100+ on several dates up to 12 Nov. Just four Dec records.**Ring recoveries.** The influx of birds in late Oct included two birds previously seen here in Nov 2020, one ringed in Iceland in Jun 2017 and one ringed on the Humber in Dec 2018.**BLACK-TAILED GODWIT – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	1	1	-	-	-	1	7	20	24	520	205	2
WeBS total	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	2	72	-	-

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa l. limosa***Status.** Potential vagrant**2022 record.** A flyover on 29 May (DLAF, IL). If accepted by DBRC would be the first Devon record of this, the continental, subspecies.**TURNSTONE** *Arenaria interpres***Status.** Common on passage, sometimes abundant in winter**First winter.** Max 136 on 27 Feb and 117 on 1 Jan, with three other counts >50.**Second winter.** Max 107 on 9 Nov, with one other count >100 and seven >50.**TURNSTONE – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	117	136	38	60	36	17	5	7	20	82	107	52
WeBS total	11	22	22	4	2	-	-	-	-	39	17	3

KNOT *Calidris canutus*

Status. Common in autumn & winter, scarce in spring

First winter. Max 190 on 13 Feb WeBS, no other count over 145.

Autumn. The first return was a summer-plumaged adult on 21 Jul, with the first juvenile on 25 Jul. Max 20 on 1 Oct.

Second winter. Max 92 on 19 Dec.

KNOT – Monthly maxima and WeBS totals:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	145	190	61	8	1	-	2	2	17	20	56	92
WeBS total	142	190	61	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	40	15



Knot © Lee Collins

RUFF *Calidris pugnax*

Status. Annual in autumn, rare in spring & winter

2022 records. No spring records. In autumn there were late passage birds on 10 & 29 Sep. The only other record was a bird that spent most of its time with Black-tailed Godwit at the north end of the estuary, arriving with them on 24-30 Oct.

RUFF – Number of Birds and days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
Days	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	-	-

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea*

Status. *Uncommon, rarely common in autumn, scarce in spring, rare in winter*

2022 records. The first was a juvenile on 26 Aug with three the next day, one remaining until 28th. The next was a single on 4 Sep, with 12 on the 6th (five ads), two on the 7th and one the next day. The next arrivals were three on 15 Sep, with 10 birds on five dates until 26th. In Oct, a juvenile on the 19th & 26th and two on 31st. The late run continued with three on 1 Nov, two on 3rd and one on 9th.

Ring recovery. A Swedish bird was present in early Sep but a full read was not possible.

CURLEW SANDPIPER – Monthly maxima and WeBS totals:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	12	2	3	-

SANDERLING *Calidris alba*

Status. *Common in winter, occasionally very common in spring & autumn*

First winter. Max 30 on 23 Jan.

Spring. Max 101 on 28 May (*cf.* 162 on 22 May 2021).

Autumn. Max 79 on 31 Jul.

Second winter. Max 23 on 21 Dec.

‘Sanderbling’. A Belgian ringed bird returned for a second winter, being seen in Jan. No birds were reported in spring, but a bird ringed in Spain on 30 Apr 2022 was present in late Jul.

SANDERLING – Monthly maxima and WeBS totals:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	30	27	26	13	101	53	79	54	47	33	22	23
WeBS total	8	21	2	1	24	-	-	16	9	33	15	7



Sanderling 21 Apr – Dave Jewell

DUNLIN *Calidris alpina*

Status. *Very abundant in winter, common in spring & autumn*

First winter. Max c2000 on 19 Jan (cf. 1800 in Jan 2021).

Spring. Max 218 on 2 May (cf. 580 in May 2021), with just two other counts >100.

Autumn. Max 171 on 24 Sep.

Second winter. Max 2,810 on 10 Nov.

Ring recoveries. Three Polish ringed birds were present in the first winter, with one returning for a fourth winter and two new birds in the second winter. Three Swedish, a Norwegian, a Finnish, a German and a Welsh ringed bird were also present in the first winter with only the Welsh bird in the second winter. It was also however the only colour-ringed one of the seven birds. A total of 33 birds ringed on the Exe by the Devon & Cornwall Wader Ringing Group were resighted, 23 of them in both winter periods, nine just in the first winter and one only in Nov.

DUNLIN – Monthly maxima and WeBS totals:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	2000	1460	1000	67	218	73	36	136	171	748	2810	1200
WeBS total	1810	1400	893	3	2	7	3	-	29	231	2810	348

PURPLE SANDPIPER *Calidris maritima*

Status. *Rare in late autumn & winter, very rare at other times*

2022 record. An adult was on Finger Point on 24 Oct (LC *et al.*).

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta*

Status. *Scarce in autumn, very rare at other times*

2022 records. An adult on 14 May, was the only spring record. In autumn, an adult on 15 Aug, with singles on eight dates between 7-28 Sep, likely four different birds. A very late bird on 31 Oct.



Little Stint (& Dunlin) 14 May © Lee Collins

JACK SNIPE *Lymnocyptes minimus*

Status. Scarce in winter, rare in spring & autumn

2022 records. One on 29 Jan and two on 6 Mar, both in the saltmarsh. In the second winter singles in Greenland Lake on 9 & 26 Nov, with two on 3 Dec, and finally one on the Golf Course on 13 Dec.

SNIPE *Gallinago gallinago*

Status. Common, rarely abundant in winter, uncommon in autumn

Last and first. 27 Apr and 14 Jul.

First winter. Max 185 on 13 Feb. A very late departure for many birds. Last was one over the Buffer Zone on 27 Apr.

Second winter. Max 200+ on 27 Dec. First return on 14 Jul with the next not until 27 Aug.

SNIPE – Monthly maxima and WeBS totals:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	128	185	82	6	-	-	1	2	3	19	173	200
WeBS total	128	185	43	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	25	2



Snipe Feb © Alan Keatley

GREY PHALAROPE *Phalaropus fulicarius*

Status. Very scarce in autumn, rare in winter

2022 records. Singles past the seawall on 8 Sep (DLAF) and 24 Nov (KRy), with a phalarope sp. south on 5 Oct.

COMMON SANDPIPER *Actitis hypoleucos*

Status. *Uncommon in autumn, scarce in spring, rare in winter*

First and last. 18 Apr and 14 Sep.

Spring. After just one in 2021, a much better spring with the majority of records from the seawall or beach. **Apr:** two on 18th, one on 30th; **May:** singles on 1st, 3rd & 5th, with four on 2nd and two on 12th.

Autumn. The first returning birds were three in the Bight on 30 Jun. Peaks of seven on 5 Jul & 14 Aug. Most records from the estuary but also seen along the beach and at Langstone Rock.

COMMON SANDPIPER – Number of Birds and days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	-	-	3	9	3	22	11	5	-	-	-
Days	-	-	-	2	5	1	9	5	6	-	-	-



Common Sandpiper 2 May © Dave Jewell

REDSHANK *Tringa totanus*

Status. *Abundant in autumn & winter, uncommon in spring*

Last and first. 18 Apr and 12 Jun.

First winter. Max 140 on 9 Jan. Last seven on 18 Apr (*cf.* two on 18 Apr 2021).

Autumn. Max 355 on 8 Sep. First returning bird on 12 Jun with first 3-fig count on 19 Jul.

Second winter. Max 282 on 1 Nov.

REDSHANK – Monthly maxima and WeBS totals:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	140	93	60	17	-	21	117	312	355	330	282	194
WeBS total	45	21	14	-	-	3	60	307	257	68	147	26

GREEN SANDPIPER *Tringa ochropus*

Status. *Scarce passage migrant and rare winter visitor.*

2022 record. A site record count of four were in the saltmarsh early morning on 14 Sep (KRy *et al.*), before flying off, matching the number recorded on 27 Aug 1983. Found in a familiar location, although the majority of previous records are singles, including the last here in Aug 2020.

SPOTTED REDSHANK *Tringa erythropus***Status.** *Rare in autumn & winter***2022 record.** Following the first records since 2014, recorded for the second year in succession. In autumn a juvenile was present in the estuary on 26 Aug -10 Sep (LC *et al.*), reappearing on 25 Sep, then occasionally 23 Oct - 27 Nov.**GREENSHANK** *Tringa nebularia***Status.** *Uncommon in autumn & winter, scarce in spring***Last and first.** 18 May and 18 Jun.**First winter.** Max 13 on 20 Jan with the last on 18 May.**Autumn.** The first returning bird was on 18 Jun with a passage max of 10 on 24 Jul.**Second winter.** Max 21 on 23 Oct.**GREENSHANK – Monthly maxima and WeBS totals**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	13	8	5	5	1	2	10	8	15	21	16	18
WeBS total	-	2	5	-	-	-	5	8	8	21	10	2

KITTIWAKE *Rissa tridactyla***Status.** *Regular in summer, autumn & winter, especially after storms***2022 summary.** Good numbers present in mid-late Feb with peaks of 211 on 13th, 196 on 26th and 102 on 20th. Mirroring last year a substantial passage in early Oct with 2000+ S on 5th, just shy of the site record. Three other counts >100, 228 on 8 Nov, 120 on 24 Nov and 629 on 26 Nov.**KITTIWAKE – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	38	211	25	11	40	nc	35	49	153	2000	629	23

BONAPARTE'S GULL *Chroicocephalus philadelphia***Status.** *Vagrant from North America***2022 record.** A first summer off Exmouth on 17 May (MKn *et al.*), crossed into the Recording Area briefly the next day (IL). The seventh site record, but the first since the regular returning adult was last seen in Feb 2018. Record subject to acceptance by BBRC.**BLACK-HEADED GULL** *Chroicocephalus ridibundus***Status.** *Abundant in autumn & winter; uncommon in spring & summer***First winter.** Max 380 on 1 Jan.**Spring.** Most fed offsite in the estuary with a low site max of 20 in May.**Autumn.** Max 950 on 9 Sep.**Second winter.** Max 178 on 26 Nov.**Ring recoveries.** The first autumn bird on 4 Jul was from a Berkshire colony for its 3rd year in a row, but the next on 14 Jul was from Lithuania, showing the mixing of populations on the Exe. A German bird recorded in five years since 2015, and a Polish bird, for its fifth consecutive year, arrived in July remaining until at least November. Two others, from Essex, previously seen in 2019, and Poland were also seen in July.**BLACK-HEADED GULL – monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	380	nc	nc	20	15	121	316	910	950	775	178	120

LITTLE GULL *Hydrocoloeus minutus*

Status. Scarce in autumn & winter, scarce in spring

2022 records. In the first winter period, two, an adult and a first winter, fed offshore on 13 Mar. The first autumn record was a brief juvenile in the Bight on 28 Aug, with another juvenile on Finger Point on 10 Sep. In November, five adults were offshore on 24th with another on 26th.

MEDITERRANEAN GULL *Ichthyaeetus melanocephalus*

Status. Uncommon but increasing in autumn & winter, scarce in spring

First winter. Max count of three ads on 3 Jan, but no Feb records.

Spring. First two on 20 Mar. Max seven on 15 Apr.

Autumn. Max 102 on 16 Jul. First juv on 2 Jul. Numbers declined into Sep with a second late peak of 23 on 24 Oct.

Second winter. Max three on 26 Nov.

Ring recovery. During Jul-Aug, 15 birds were recorded including returning birds from Belgium (2), Holland, Poland and UK. Other birds included three each from Belgium and Holland, two from Germany and one from France.

MEDITERRANEAN GULL – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	3	-	2	7	3	15	102	21	5	23	3	2



Mediterranean Gull 23 Aug © Alan Keatley

COMMON GULL *Larus canus*

Status. Common in autumn & winter, scarce in summer

First winter. Max 122 on 1 Jan with 107 on 15 Jan.

Spring. Max 139 on 26 Feb.

Autumn. First juvenile on 17 Jul.

Second winter. Max 91 on 3 Dec.

Ring recoveries. A metal ringed bird in Jul, turned out to be a Dutch bird that had lost its darvic ring. It had previously been seen here in 2011, 2013 & 2015. In Oct a new bird, ringed in Germany in Jul 2021.

COMMON GULL – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	122	139	45	3	4	3	7	6	5	44	70	91

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus marinus*

Status. *Common non-breeding resident, occasionally abundant in autumn*

2022 summary. Max of 150+ on 19 Oct, the highest count since 2018, with an early year max of 122 on 13 Feb. There were 12 counts >50 in Sep-Dec.

This species has undergone a 46% decline globally and this decline is even more advanced at the Warren with the regular three-fig counts in years past. The site record of 855 in Aug 2006 shows just how rapidly this species is being lost.

Ring recoveries. Surprisingly only one first winter records, White P:87B' a chick from Portland Harbour, Dorset in Jul 2015 which was present until Mar, returning in Aug for an eighth winter. A first year from Normandy was recorded in Mar and stayed until the end of the year, whereas an adult from Looe, Cornwall was only here on 28 Apr. A Norwegian ringed bird returned for its 10th winter in Sep, with another present in Nov. There were four other birds from both Normandy and Portland with three from Looe.

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	45	122	27	19	25	12	19	42	69	150	62	65

ICELAND GULL *Larus g. glaucoideus*

Status. *Rare passage and winter visitor*

2022 record. An unseasonal adult was in the estuary on 26 Sep (LC *et al.*). The first since 2018 and only the second September record.

HERRING GULL *Larus. a. argenteus*

Status. *Abundant, rarely very abundant, non-breeding resident, has bred*

2022 summary. Max 1,220 on 29 Apr (*cf.* 2,770 in Mar 2021). Recorded on every visit regardless of weather, but counts or estimates rarely made.

HERRING GULL - Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	900	nc	nc	1200	680	126	750	300	650	nc	nc	1025

CASPIAN GULL *Larus cachinnans*

Status. *Very rare migrant, mostly winter. Seven previous records*

2022 records. A record year with seven records. A second winter was on Finger Point on 16 Mar, the 8th site record. This was closely followed by a first winter on 19 Mar and another first winter on 5-6 Apr. The latter bird was the first to stay over an hour. In autumn a juvenile on 3 Sep, and two first winters on 15 Oct, the first multiple record. The final sighting was a first winter on 24 Nov. All records subject to acceptance by DBRC.



Caspian Gull 19 Mar © Lee Collins

YELLOW-LEGGED GULL *Larus michahellis*

Status. *Uncommon but increasing in autumn, scarce in winter*

2022 records. A second winter on 8 Apr was the only early year record. In autumn the first juvenile arrived on 13 Jul, with two on 17th and one on 19th Jul, a fourth year bird was present on 24th. Just the one Aug record, a first winter on 22nd. In Sep, single first winters on 6th & 8th, with two on 9 Sep and an adult next day. In Oct a second winter on 19 & 24th with an adult also on the last date. The last of the year were two on 11 Nov, an ad & a second winter.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus fuscus graellsii*

Status. *Uncommon throughout the year, can be common in spring & autumn*

2022 summary. Typically low numbers during the winter, with passage noted during March with a max of 81 on 20 Mar and an autumn peak of 24 on 19 Oct.

Ring recoveries. An Alderney ringed bird was present in Sep, with a Guernsey bird in Nov.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	5	6	81	5	5	9	6	15	7	24	12	4

‘SCANDINAVIAN’ LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus fuscus intermedius*

Status. *Rare spring & autumn migrant*

2022 summary. Birds considered to be this subspecies were present on 19 & 21 Oct, with two on the first date and also on 19 Nov.

Ring recoveries. A Swedish ringed bird was present on 6-7 Sep.

SANDWICH TERN *Thalasseus sandvicensis*

Status. Common in spring & summer, abundant in autumn, rare in winter, declining

First and last. 30 Mar and 23 Oct.

Winter. One offshore on 25 Jan. A long-stayer on several dates 3-30 Dec.

Spring. Despite the January record, a late return and once again numbers were lower than average, with a peak of just 53 on 10-12 Apr (cf. 108 in Apr 2021).

Autumn. Max 201 on 17 Jul. The first juvenile arrived 5 Jul, despite the impact of Avian Flu, there were increased numbers compared to last year. **The late peak in Sep/Oct included juveniles from second nesting attempts after the adults had relocated following Avian Flu outbreaks.** The last were three on 23 Oct.

Ring recoveries. A total of 28 different birds were identified (cf. 38 in 2021), including several returning and long-staying birds. Birds came from Belgium (2), Holland (5), Ireland (2), Scotland, Wales (11) and Cumbria (3), Dorset and Hampshire (2). The other bird had been ringed in South Africa in Dec 2007, with subsequent sightings in the breeding colony on Brownsea Island, Dorset. These fit the well-established pattern of bird from the English Channel, Irish and North Sea coasts all using Dawlish Warren as a key staging post on migration.

SANDWICH TERN – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	1	-	9	53	27	25	201	98	160	44	-	1



Sandwich Tern KZA Ringed in Wales in Sep 2020, at the Warren in Jul 21 & Jun - Aug 22 © Lee Collins

LITTLE TERN *Sternula albifrons*

Status. Uncommon in spring & autumn

First and last. 24 Apr and 13 Sep.

Spring. Once again just three records, singles on 24 Apr and 2 May, with two on 4 Jun.

Autumn. None in Jul, again no Aug records. Sep; one on 2nd, two on 4th, one on 5th, three on 6-7th, two on 8th and the last on Finger Point on 13 Sep.

LITTLE TERN – Number of Birds and days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	-	-	1	1	2			4	-	-	-
Days	-	-	-	1	1	1			7	-	-	-

ROSEATE TERN *Sterna dougallii*

Status. *Rare in spring, uncommon in late summer*

2022 records. A spring bird on 15th May (MKn *et al.*) was a welcome return after last year's blank. However a very poor autumn, with the only record a single on 5 Sep (LC).

COMMON TERN *Sterna hirundo*

Status. *Usually common in summer, rarely abundant in autumn, has bred*

First and last. 12 Apr and 15 Sep.

Spring. Another very poor spring for this species. Singles on 12 Apr and 15 May with two on 23 Apr and 2 May were the only records. One on 2 Jun may still have been heading north.

Autumn. The first were early with four on 16 Jun, three still on 19 Jun and singles on 24-25 Jun. Then present until 15 Sep, mostly in single figures with peaks of 55 on 21 Aug, 30 on 29-30 Jul and 21 on 4 Sep.

COMMON TERN – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	-	2	2	4	30	55	21	-	-	-

ARCTIC TERN *Sterna paradisaea*

Status. *Scarce in spring and late summer, rare in autumn*

First and last. 12 Apr and 21 Oct.

Spring. The only record was two offshore with a Common Tern on 12 Apr.

Autumn. The first bird was in the Bight on 17 Jul, with just four further records, a juvenile on 11 Aug, singles on 2 & 4 Sep and a late juvenile on 18 & 21 Oct.

ARCTIC TERN – Number of Birds and days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-
Days	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	2	2	-	-

BLACK TERN *Chlidonias niger*

Status. *Rare in spring and scarce in autumn*

2022 records. A juvenile in the estuary on 24 Aug (MKn) and another south on 5 Sep (LC) were the only records of the year.

Unidentified and mixed TERNS *Sterna* sp.

In spring single probable Arctic Terns were offshore on 18 and 20 Apr.

GREAT SKUA *Stercorarius skua*

Status. *Uncommon in autumn, scarce in spring & winter*

2022 records. A very poor year with just five sightings, reflecting the disaster of Avian Flu. Singles offshore on 17 & 23 Apr and 1 May in spring and on 8 Sep and 26 Oct in autumn.

GREAT SKUA – Number of Birds and days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Days	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-

POMARINE SKUA *Stercorarius pomarinus*

Status. Scarce in spring & autumn, very scarce in winter

Spring. A spooned dark phase adult flew S on 15 May and two flew distantly east on 2 Jun.

Autumn. Two were offshore on 21 Aug, with singles on 8 Sep, 6 & 9 Oct, the latter fully spooned.

Winter. One on 11 Nov.

POMARINE SKUA – Number of Birds and days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Total	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	2	1	2	1	-
Days	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	2	1	-

ARCTIC SKUA *Stercorarius parasiticus*

Status. Uncommon in spring & autumn, very rare in winter

First and last. 14 Apr & 26 Nov.

Spring. The first flew S on 14 Apr, with two the next day. Then singles on 23 Apr, 11th, 15th, and 17 May, with two on 14 May.

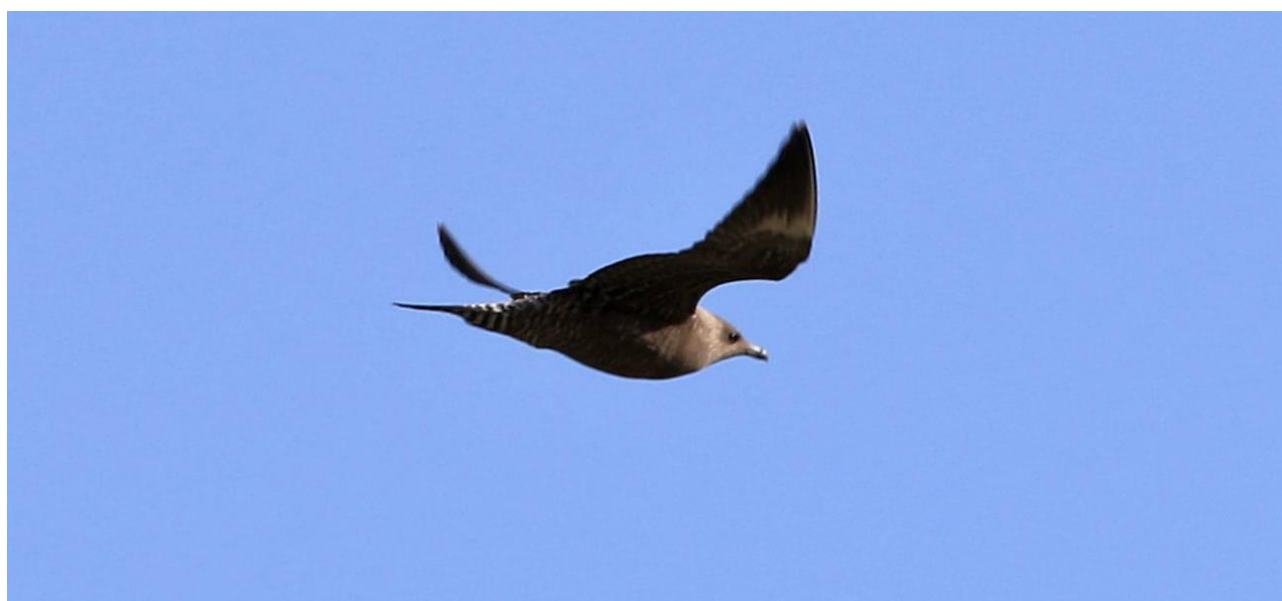
Autumn. The first was one S on 30 Jul, with two S next day, then singles on 22 & 26 Aug.

Several birds lured in by feeding terns, others passing straight through with five on 4 Sep, six on 4 & 20 Oct, the latter heading south out of the estuary, and 26 on 5 Oct, the year's peak. The highest count since Sep 2019.

Winter. Four late records in November, two on 9th and singles on 1st, 24th & 26th.

ARCTIC SKUA – Number of Birds and days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	-	-	4	5	-	3	2	13	50	5	-
Days	-	-	-	3	4	-	2	1	5	10	4	-



Arctic Skua 20 Oct © Luke Harman

Unidentified Skua sp. *Stercorarius* species

Pomarine/Arctic: Single on 22 Apr, 7 Sep, 15 Oct, two on 15 May and 14 on 5 Oct.

GUILLEMOT *Uria aalge*

Status. Regular through the year but rarely common

2022 summary. Max on 170 on 15 Oct & 158 on 13 Feb, with only other counts ≥ 25 ; 41 on 15 May, 38 on 14 Apr and 25 on 15 Jan.

Guillemot – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	25	158	3	38	41	10	-	-	2	170	-	1

RAZORBILL *Alca torda*

Status. Regular through the year, occasionally very common in winter

2022 summary. Max 2,900 S on 15 Oct, otherwise very low numbers with max 81 on 13 Feb.

RAZORBILL – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	28	81	4	28	17	3			1	2900	4	11

BLACK GUILLEMOT *Cepphus grylle*

Status. Vagrant

2022 record. An immature flew across the bay before pitching distantly offshore on 5 May (LC). The first since May 2018 and only the 12th site record, although the fourth for the month. Record subject to acceptance by DBRC.

PUFFIN *Fratercula arctica*

Status. Rare in spring, very rare at other times

2022 records. A good year with two E on 17 Apr and singles S on 15 and 17 May.

Auk sp.

Large numbers in early Oct most likely Razorbill with peaks of 1000+ on 4 Oct and 995 on 9 Oct. In Nov, 285 on 6th and 250 on 26th. Otherwise low numbers with 60 on 19 Mar and 20 on 15 Jan.

RED-THROATED DIVER *Gavia stellata*

Status. Common in winter & spring, rare in summer

Last and first. 14 May and 17 Sep.

First winter. Max 15 on 29 Jan, otherwise again low numbers.

Second winter. Max 12 on 10 Dec. First on 17 Sep, then a summer plumaged bird on 27-28 Sep, with two on 1 Oct, with birds remaining until the end of the year.

RED-THROATED DIVER – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	15	9	8	8	2	-	-	-	1	3	8	12

GREAT NORTHERN DIVER *Gavia immer***Status.** Uncommon in winter and spring, scarce at other times**Last and first.** 26 Jun and 17 Sep.**First winter.** Max 11 on 9 Jan.**Spring.** Max 14 on 14 May (cf. 15 on 20 May 2021), with no other count above five.**Summer.** One on 4-5 & 26 Jun.**Second winter.** Max 12 on 10 Dec & six on 20 Dec (cf. 47 in Dec 2021). The first return was on 17 Sep, with singles on 1 & 31 Oct, then regular until the year's end.**GREAT NORTHERN DIVER – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	11	3	2	4	14	1	-	-	1	1	5	12

Diver sp. *Gavia* species

Two on 15 Jan and three on 18 Apr.

STORM PETREL *Hydrobates pelagicus***Status.** Scarce/uncommon passage migrant.**2022 records.** Continuing the recent series of poor years with just four sightings; three S on 20 Aug and one S on 18 Oct. Then two on 24 Nov with one next day, just the 3-4th records for the month.**LEACH'S PETREL** *Hydrobates leucorhous***Status.** Rare autumn/winter passage migrant.**2022 record.** One offshore on 24 Nov (LC), the first since Oct 2017. Record subject to acceptance by DBRC.**FULMAR** *Fulmarus glacialis***Status.** Regular in spring and autumn, rarely common, scarce at other times**2022 summary.** Max 12 on 13 Feb and 24 Apr were the only double figure counts. The only late year record was two on 17 Dec.**FULMAR – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	2	12	4	12	4	8	2	2	4	-	-	2

SOOTY SHEARWATER *Ardenna grisea***Status.** Rare in autumn**2022 records.** A good year with seven birds, the first on 4 Sep, then two on 5 & 18 Oct with singles on 9 & 23 Oct.

MANX SHEARWATER *Puffinus puffinus***Status.** Common in spring & summer, rare in autumn & winter**First and last.** 7 Apr and 26 Nov.**Winter.** An unseasonal record, one S on 13 Feb.**Spring.** Max 630 on 17 Apr, an isolated passage, with no other three-fig count. The first were three on 12 Apr, with almost daily sightings until early Jun.**Autumn.** Max 68 on 31 Jul. Continuing low numbers with just two other double figure counts, 12 on 4 Sep & 11 on 2 Jul. A late record on 5 Oct, with four even later on 26 Nov.**MANX SHEARWATER – monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	1	-	630	56	68	68	9	12	1	4	-

BALEARIC SHEARWATER *Puffinus mauretanicus***Status.** Critically Endangered. Uncommon in summer & autumn, rare in spring & winter**First and last.** 15 May and 26 Nov.**Spring.** Two feeding offshore with Manx Shearwater on 15 May were the only early year record.**Autumn.** The first autumn bird was offshore on 23 Jul. The first double-fig count was 86 E on 20 Aug, followed by a new site record of 287 E in just over an hour on 29 Aug. These birds, between 1-2% of the global population, were part of the internationally important numbers that gather to feed in Lyme Bay, highlighting its importance for the survival of this Critically Endangered species.**Sep-Oct.** Birds were still on a feeding circuit in Lyme Bay in early Sep with a max of 230 on 7th. Passage picked up again in early Oct with 272 on 4th and 205 the next day; the last a single on 26 Nov.**BALEARIC SHEARWATER – Number of Birds and days:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	403	440	626	1	-
Days	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	7	10	12	1	-

Shearwater sp.**Aug:** two on 14th likely to be to Balearic.**Large Shearwater sp.**

One south on 6 Sep was considered likely to be Cory's Shearwater.

WHITE STORK *Ciconia ciconia***Status.** Vagrant/escapee**2022 record.** One high overhead on 31 Aug had escaped from a Staffordshire zoo. The 4th site record, the last two escapees.

GANNET *Morus bassanus*

Status. Present throughout the year, often common, occasionally abundant during storms

2022 summary. The early year max was 159 on 13 Feb, with no other counts over >100. The next three-figure count was 150 on 20 Aug, with large numbers also present in early Sep, max 690 on 8th and early Oct with max 1150 S on 5th. There were 12 other counts >100, in Sep-Nov, more than in the whole of 2021.

Despite this positive showing, the evidence of Avian Flu on this species was more evident than most with over 20 strandline corpses in just a few days in Sep and sick birds and unusual behaviour seen regularly. The latter included several birds fishing in the estuary and other circling high and heading inland, neither previously witnessed here.

GANNET – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	44	159	20	21	37	30	92	150	690	1150	182	37



Gannet 6 Sep © Alan Keatley

CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax c. carbo*

Status. Common non-breeding resident

2022 summary. Max 47 on 12 Nov. Regular through the year.

CORMORANT – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	25	28	22	17	12	6	19	23	34	36	47	40

CONTINENTAL CORMORANT *P. c. sinensis*

Status. Scarce in autumn & winter, under-recorded

2022 records. Singles on 12 Apr, 2 May, 7, 14 & 22 Aug with two on 24 Oct.

SHAG *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*

Status. Common, sometimes very common non-breeding resident

2022 summary. Max 62 on 14 May. Another very poor year, with many peak counts in the estuary, but a welcome increase during May.

SHAG – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	11	nc	nc	15	62	20	53	12	26	14	28	16

GLOSSY IBIS *Plegadis falcinellus*

Status. Vagrant, three previous records

2022 record. Three flew W over the Main Pond at 11am on 14 Mar (P Chambers, S Edwards), before being found at Exminster Marshes 30 minutes later. The 4th site record and first multiple sighting. Record subject to acceptance by DBRC.

SPOONBILL *Platalea leucorodia*

Status. Rare in spring & autumn, very rare at other times

2022 records. The wintering juv roosted on Finger Point on 1, 14 and 19-20 Jan, with an adult north overhead also on 1 Jan. In autumn three immatures flew south on 26 Aug, a single in Shutterton Creek on 7 Sep, three, an adult and two immatures, on Finger Point on 13 Sep and an adult north over the seawall on 22 Sep. The only second winter record was a near adult south on 16 Dec and presumably the same bird in the estuary on 17-30 Dec.



Spoonbill 24 Dec © Alan Keatley

CATTLE EGRET *Bubulcus ibis***Status.** Formerly rare, now scarce in autumn & winter**2022 records.** The first were 14 birds in the Railway Saltmarsh on 11 Sep, the earliest autumn arrival. The site record was surpassed when 75 were there on 15 Sep, the entire Exe population at the time. Singles followed on 17 & 26 Sep and 6 Oct with 70 at Cockwood on 29 Oct and 35 there on 31 Oct. In Nov, 28 on the 4th, 21 on 10th, one on 19th, 21 again on 20th & 19 on 27th. In Dec, a single south on 13th and two on 15th.

These are presumed to include returning birds from last winter.

CATTLE EGRET – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	75	70	28	2

GREY HERON *Ardea cinerea***Status.** Uncommon non-breeding resident, sometimes common in autumn**2022 summary.** Max eight on 23 Oct. Regular through the year but scarce in the breeding season. Migrants included two high N on 28 Apr, a juv high S on 25 Aug, and five SW with a Great White Egret on 23 Oct.**GREY HERON – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	4	1	1	2	1	1	3	5	5	8	4	2

GREAT WHITE EGRET *Ardea alba***Status.** Previously a vagrant, now rare with 13 previous records of 18 birds**2022 records.** The increase slowly continues. The first of the year flew into the estuary on 23 May, viewed from Exmouth beach. The next was another bird in off the sea on 17 Sep. In Oct one was in the Railway Saltmarsh at low tide on 13th and one flew SW with five Grey Heron on 23rd.

Offsite, one flew south over the village on 15 Jan and one was watched flying across the estuary north of Powderham on 9 Nov.

LITTLE EGRET *Egretta garzetta***Status.** Uncommon non-breeding resident, most common in autumn**2022 summary.** Max 16 on 14 Aug. Regular through the year in the estuary, with one around the golf course ditches and Greenland Lake in Dec.**LITTLE EGRET – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	7	4	5	3	5	5	8	16	15	8	7	7

OSPREY *Pandion haliaetus*

Status. Scarce in spring and autumn

First and last. 22 Mar and 18 Oct.

2022 summary. An average spring with three records, all early; 22 & 30 Mar and 5 Apr. Autumn had more records than last year, thanks to a couple of lingering juveniles on the river. The first was present on 28 Aug -3 Sep with at least four other birds until the last on 18 Oct.

Ring recoveries. Two juveniles present in late Aug were seen to be ringed, both females and both from the Tweed/Kielder area, the first site recoveries for this species.

OSPREY – Number of Birds and days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	1	4	3	-	-
Days	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	3	16	4	-	-



A Tweed Osprey 29 Sep © Lee Collins

SPARROWHAWK *Accipiter nisus*

Status. Uncommon throughout the year, has bred

2022 summary. At least three different birds in the early year, with a migrant recorded coming in/off on 9 Apr. In autumn, three headed west in quick succession on 23 Oct, with at least two birds in winter. Prey included Dunlin, Great Spotted Woodpecker (unsuccessful), Starling and Woodpigeon.

MARSH HARRIER *Circus aeruginosus*

Status. Rare in spring & autumn

2022 records. A record year with nine birds. One low N early morning on 27 May was the only spring record. In autumn, juveniles over on 10 Sep, 6 & 28 Oct; three, a site record, on 20 Oct, and two first winter males on 4 Nov, both heading W.

RED KITE *Milvus milvus*

Status. *Uncommon in spring, rare at other times, min 102 previous records*

2022 records. One offshore on 25 Feb, with 25 others in the early year, with a max of 17 W on 23 May.

Red Kite – Number of Birds and days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	1	6	5	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Days	-	1	4	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

WHITE-TAILED EAGLE *Haliaeetus albicilla*

Status. *Introduction, vagrant*

2022 records. An immature female G466 from the Isle of Wight reintroduction project flew E on 22 Mar, a day later than her appearance of last year. A different bird, G542, a second year female, became the second to visit the Exe, being seen offsite heading W over the estuary on 27 Mar.

BUZZARD *Buteo buteo*

Status. *Infrequent overhead throughout the year, very rare actually on site*

2022 summary. The bird that took up residence in Oct 2021 remained until early March. Recorded in every month with seven drifting over from the mainland on 2 Apr, the max count. Singles overhead at various migration times but no signs of any significant passage.



Buzzard 4 Mar © Alan Keatley

SHORT-EARED OWL *Asio flammeus*

Status. *Scarce autumn migrant, rare in winter and spring*

2022 records. The first was early on 31 Aug, only the 3rd site record for the month. Three other records followed; one over the Bight on 14 Sep, one north on 28 Oct and singles on Warren Point on 5 Nov, 9 & 17 Dec.

TAWNY OWL *Strix aluco*

Status. *Occasional non-breeding resident*

2022 summary. One was found roosting in Dead Dolphin Wood on 1 Jan, with one recorded calling occasionally during the month. Calling was again heard during May, Oct & Dec.

KINGFISHER *Alcedo atthis*

Status. *Scarce in autumn & winter*

2022 summary. At least two birds present during the early winter, either in the estuary or at the Main Pond. The last record was on the Main Pond on 25 Feb. The first autumn bird was on the estuary on 24 Jul and then regular there or at the Main Pond until the end of the year. Two were seen on multiple occasions with three present on 10 & 28 Aug.



Kingfisher © Lee Collins

WRYNECK *Jynx torquilla*

Status. *Very scarce in autumn*

2022 records. The first was on Warren Point on 18 Sep, with one near the Visitor Centre on 20 Sep, and one in the Entrance Bushes on 28 Sep and 2 Oct. Always elusive and likely at least two different birds. A further probable was flushed on the late date of 24 Nov but flew to a fenced off area of the Dune Ridge and couldnot be relocated.



Wryneck 28 Sep © Dean Hall

GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER *Dendrocopos major*

Status. *Breeding resident and scarce migrant*

2022 summary. Although male and female birds were present in the early year there was no confirmed breeding with no June records. Juveniles were seen in autumn with three on 3 Dec otherwise there were never more than two birds recorded on site.

GREEN WOODPECKER *Picus viridis*

Status. *Uncommon non-breeding resident*

2022 summary. Regular through the year becoming scarcer from Oct onwards, but one present late Nov till the end of the year. Sucessfully bred on the mainland, with at least one juvenile regularly foraging onsite.



Green Woodpecker 9 Jan © Alan Keatley

KESTREL *Falco tinnunculus*

Status. *Uncommon non-breeding resident and autumn migrant*

2022 summary. The first summer male remained through the year, with additional presumed passage birds in Jun, Aug, with two on 7 Jun, 15 Sep, 13 & 26 Oct.

MERLIN *Falco columbarius*

Status. *Scarce in autumn & winter visitor, rare in spring*

2022 records. Another early record with the first reported on 3 Sep. In Oct, singles through on 6th, 20th, 26th & 31st. The last of the year was over the Main Pond on 12 Nov



Merlin 26 Oct – Luke Harman

HOBBY *Falco subbuteo*

Status. *Scarce in spring & autumn*

First and last. 19 Apr and 9 Sep.

2022 summary. Another good year with nine records (*cf.* 11 in 2021). The first flew through on 19 Apr, with singles on 20 Apr, 4 & 18 Jun, Two were present on 17 May, one over whilst one was sat on a fence on the dune ridge, a rare grounded record. In autumn singles on 7 Jul, 14 Aug and the last over the Entrance Bushes on 9 Sep.



Hobby 17 May © Lee Collins

PEREGRINE *Falco peregrinus*

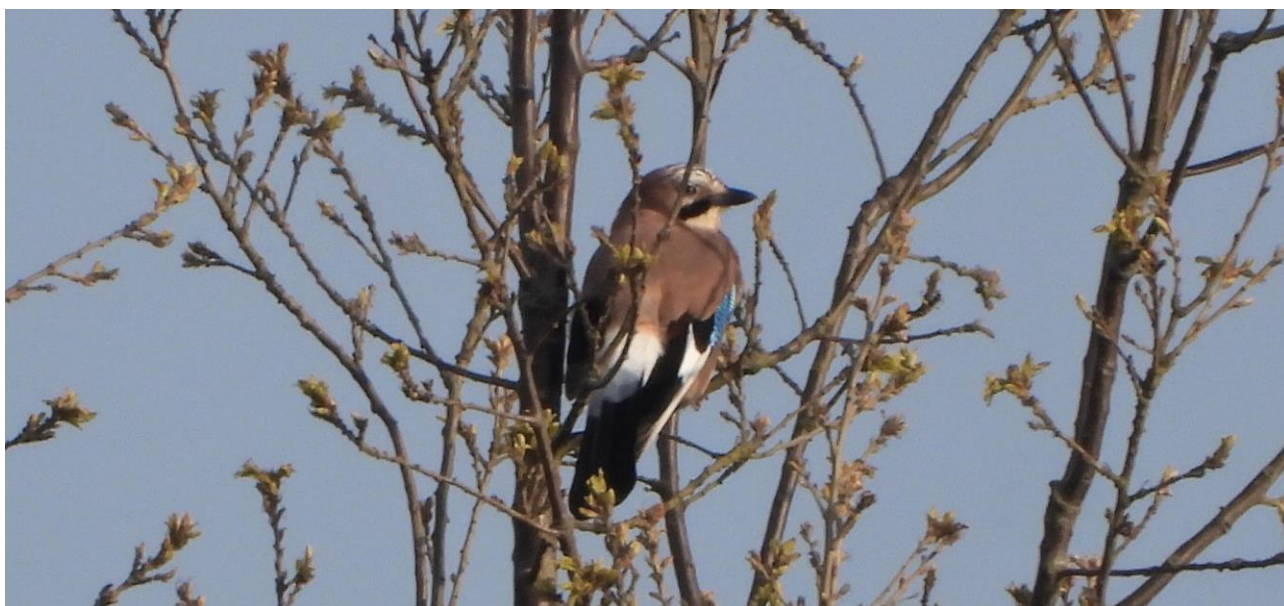
Status. *Regular non-breeding visitor, especially in autumn*

2022 summary. Birds present throughout the year, although largely absent May - mid Aug, with a max of three on 26 Mar, 28 Aug and 9 Sep. A juvenile lingered during October, but then scarce with only two Dec records.

JAY *Garrulus glandarius*

Status. *Scarce, very rarely common in autumn, rare in spring*

2022 summary. A record spring following the record 2021 autumn, mirroring the 1983/84 irruption. Singles were present on 1 Feb, 29 Mar and 7 Apr with three on 9 Apr and then 17 birds on five dates 10-25 Apr, with a max of seven on 12 Apr. Offsite a loose flock of 10 flew high E over the estuary on 18 Apr. A return to typical scarcity thereafter, with a lone bird on the Golf Course on 31 Oct the only other record for the year.



Jay © Lee Collins

MAGPIE *Pica pica*

Status. *Uncommon breeding resident, common in winter*

2022 summary. Breeding; at least six territories. Roost numbers peaked at 22 on 22 Jan /Feb and 14 in Dec. One was killed by a Carrion Crow on 21 May, attracting a parliament of 12.

JACKDAW *Coloeus monedula*

Status. *Rarely very common in autumn migrant, regular early summer, otherwise scarce*

2022 summary. The usual low numbers in the early year, excepting a notable spring passage, with 42 on 26 Feb, 15 next day and peaking at 82 on 5 Mar. Following the recently established pattern adults began foraging on site once eggs had hatched, this year in late Apr, before returning to nests on the mainland. It is not known why birds took so long to use the Warren for foraging; perhaps previously favoured sites are now under new housing? The December peak came when birds were disturbed from their Cofton roost.

Migration. Sep: three on 18th, two on 27th. Oct: eight dates, max 35 on 22nd & 32 on 24th. Nov: four dates, max 38 on 9th.

Jackdaw – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	2	42	82	6	9	nc	2	-	3	35	38	100

ROOK *Corvus frugilegus***Status.** Scarce though year, occasionally common in autumn**2022 summary.** Scarce through most of the year, but noticeable spring and especially autumn passage. Max six on 5 Mar and 15 on 24 Oct. Counts of 75 on 18 Nov and 70 on 16 Dec involved birds disturbed from their offsite roost, when 140 gathering on Bull Hill pre-roost on 30 Dec.**Rook – Monthly bird sightings (bird-days):**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	3	3	13	12	-	-	-	1	20	61	94	260
Days	3	2	5	4	-	-	-	1	9	14	5	5

CARRION CROW *Corvus corone***Status.** Common breeding resident, occasionally abundant in autumn**2022 summary.** Breeding; At least five territories. Max 134 on 3 Jan (cf. 133 in Sep 2021), feeding on the mudflats. Other large counts also came from gatherings at low tide.**Carrion Crow – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	134	10	30	12	15	10	12	10	20	41	38	81

RAVEN *Corvus corax***Status.** Regular through year in small numbers**2022 summary.** Birds now regular around site, with a local breeding pair, bringing fledged young onto site to feed. One bird was seen to pick up and discard a golf ball from the 9th fairway. Max count seven on 9 Apr.**Raven – Monthly maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	5	6	2	7	2	4	5	2	2	4	5	2



Raven 28 Oct © Alan Keatley

COAL TIT *Periparus ater britannicus***Status.** Rare through year, scarce in autumn**2022 summary.** With no wintering records, the first of the year was a typical post breeding record on 9 Jul with other singles on 6 & 14 Aug. In autumn, singles on 24-25 Sep, 11 & 16 Oct.**BLUE TIT** *Cyanistes caeruleus***Status.** Common breeding resident and occasional autumn migrant**2022 summary.** No breeding survey this year, but the hide was unoccupied for the frs time in several years. Max of 25 on 23 Jul, 12 on 15 Jan.**GREAT TIT** *Parus major***Status.** Uncommon breeding resident**2022 summary.** No breeding survey this year, with a max count of just six on several dates.**PENDULINE TIT** *Remiz pendulinus***Status.** Vagrant; one record. Not accepted by BBRC**2022 record.** One dropped into the Main Pond from the north on 6 Nov (DLAF, IL) but was not seen subsequently. Record subject to acceptance by DBRC.**SKYLARK** *Alauda arvensis***Status.** Uncommon breeding resident and common autumn migrant**2022 summary.** Breeding; at least six territories, all on Warren Point. Max counts; 106 on 8 Oct, 103 on 15 Oct, 80 on 16 Oct and 70 on 4 Nov with 11 other double-fig counts also overhead in autumn.

Skylark – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	9	5	12	6	5	6	nc	8	14	106	70	20

SAND MARTIN *Riparia riparia***Status.** Uncommon in spring & autumn**First and last.** 12 Mar and 1 Oct.**Spring.** The first was a single on 12 Mar, with two on 16th and one on 31 Mar. Only three April singles and a max of 10 on 1 May, last on 2 Jun.**Autumn.** First return one on 30 Jun, with just five records in both Jul & Aug, max eight on 21 Jul. Low numbers continued with just 11 birds in Sep and the last two on 1 Oct.**SWALLOW** *Hirundo rustica***Status.** Breeding summer resident, common, rarely abundant in spring & autumn**First and last.** 29 Mar and 25 Oct.**Spring.** First one over the Main Pond on 29 Mar. A poor and concentrated passage with a max 100 on 1 May, with only two other counts > 35; 54 on 2 May; and 52 on 29 Apr.**Breeding.** One pr bred successfully on the Golf Course,**Autumn.** Max 150 on 28 Aug, just four other counts > 40; regular until 9 Oct, then four on 15 Oct, singles on 18th & 24th Oct with the last the next day.

Swallow – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	1	52	100	12	78	150	70	11	-	-



Swallow 21 Aug Martin Overy

HOUSE MARTIN *Delichon urbicum*

Status. Common in spring & summer, occasionally abundant in autumn

First and last. 10 Apr and 15 Oct.

Spring. First two on 10 Apr, max just 26 on 2 May (*cf.* 200 in May 2021), with no other double-fig counts.

Autumn. Max 700 'pouring west' on 29 Sep, the third year in a row an influx has occurred at this time, but only five other counts >20. The last was the only record after the max count, a single on 15 Oct.

House Martin – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	-	4	26	-	1	55	700	1		-

Hirundine sp.

Two hirundines, thought likely to be Red-rumped Swallow, flew over Warren Point from Exmouth on 3 Nov.

CETTI'S WARBLER *Cettia cetti*

Status. Previously vagrant now rare in autumn/winter

2022 records. One singing by the Dune Pond on 17 Mar, was the first record for the month, and only the 13th site record. Recorded for the sixth successive autumn when one was at the Main Pond on 11 Oct, joined by a second from the 15th, with both remaining until at least 17 Dec, with one still on 30th.



Cetti's Warbler 2 Dec © Alan Keatley

LONG-TAILED TIT *Aegithalos caudatus*

Status. *Common breeding resident and occasional autumn migrant*

2022 summary. Breeding; Two prs bred successfully. The max of 31 on 22 May included a third family group from the mainland as 15 was the max on several other dates through the year, with four higher counts; 19 on 23 Jul, 25 on 4 Sep & 25 Oct and 26 on 11 Oct, until a regular roost of upto 21 was discovered in Nov, with the majority of birds leaving to feed on the mainland.

YELLOW-BROWED WARBLER *Phylloscopus inornatus*

Status. *Previously a vagrant, now very scare in autumn, rare in winter*

2022 record. An elusive, though sometimes vocal, bird was around the Main Pond on 3-7 Nov (KRy *et al.*), with a second bird in Dead Dolphin Wood on 12-13 Nov (AKe *et al.*). The 24-25th Warren records.

WILLOW WARBLER *Phylloscopus trochilus*

Status. *Common in spring & autumn, has bred*

First and last. 29 Mar and 21 Nov.

Spring. The first were two on 29 Mar, then recorded almost daily until 9 May, with a max of nine on 10 Apr.

Autumn. First returning birds two on 29 Jul, max just three on 27 Aug and 10 Sep. The last was one on 18 Sep, apart from two late birds on 3-5th and 21 Nov, the first ever records for the month.

CHIFFCHAFF *Phylloscopus c. collybita*

Status. *Uncommon breeder and in winter, common in spring & autumn*

First winter. Max four on 9 Jan.

Spring. Max 10 on 10 Apr.

Breeding. At least five territories.

Autumn. Max 13 on 29 Aug, 25 on 18 Sep and with 22 other double-fig counts, a good year.

Second winter. Max 10 on 10 Nov, with just one remaining into 2023.

SIBERIAN CHIFFCHAFF *P. c. tristis*

Status. Scarce in autumn, rare in winter

2022 records. Two wintering birds remained from 2021 until 10 Feb. In autumn, one on 6-13 Nov, with another on 27 Nov.



Siberian Chiffchaff 28 Jan © Dean Hall

GREENISH WARBLER *Phylloscopus trochiloides*

Status. Vagrant. Potential first record

2022 record. A very elusive individual was in the Entrance Bushes during the morning of 29 Oct (DLAF, IL). Record subject to acceptance by DBRC.

SEDGE WARBLER *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

Status. Scarce in spring and autumn, has bred

First and last. 18 Apr and 10 Sep.

Spring. The first was in song behind the Crocus Compound on 18 Apr, with singles on 30 Apr, 1, 5 & 13 May.

Autumn. The first returning bird was on 31 Jul, with singles on 10 dates in Aug, and the last, around the carpark on 10 Sep.

REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

Status. *Uncommon migrant breeder and autumn migrant*

First and last. 23 Apr and 22 Sep.

Spring. First at the Main Pond on 23 Apr, max six on 28 May.

Breeding. At least five territories, with fledged yg first noted on 25 Jun and throughout the bushes in Jul/Aug, making it difficult to identify migrants.

Autumn. In Sep, two on 18th and singles on 3rd, 6th and the last on 22nd.



Reed Warbler 3 May © Dean Hall

GRASSHOPPER WARBLER *Locustella naevia*

Status. *Scarce spring and rare autumn migrant*

2022 record. A brief reeling bird on 23 Apr, a typical date, was the only record.

BLACKCAP *Sylvia atricapilla*

Status. *Uncommon migrant breeder, rarely common in spring & autumn, rare in winter*

First and last: 25 Mar and 27 Nov

Spring. The first was in song on 25 Mar, max six on 21 & 30 Apr.

Breeding. Five territories, with family parties obvious in late Jul.

Autumn. Monthly max, 10 on 27 Aug, eight on 18 Sep and six on 2. 8 & 20 Oct, in a poor autumn of the species. Later records were all singles, on 16-17 & 27 Nov.

GARDEN WARBLER *Sylvia borin*

Status. Scarce spring & autumn migrant

First and last. 23 Jul and 21 Sep.

2022 records. No spring records. The first of the year was in Greenland Lake on 23-24 Jul, with two on 31 Jul and 7 Aug, singles on 20 & 25 Aug and the last on 21 Sep.

LESSER WHITETHROAT *Sylvia c. curruca*

Status. Scarce spring & autumn migrant, has bred

2022 record. No repeat of last year's breeding with just a single record on 21 Apr.

WHITETHROAT *Sylvia communis*

Status. Common breeding summer visitor and migrant

First and last. 11 Apr and 28 Sep.

Spring. The first was single on 11 Apr, with numbers slow to build to a low max of six on several dates.

Breeding. Seven territories (cf. 13 in 2021).

Autumn. The max count of 10 on 29 Jul was probably local birds. Little sign of passage with just six Sep records the last on 28th.



Whitethroat © Alan Keatley

DARTFORD WARBLER *Sylvia undata*

Status. *Previously scarce in autumn & winter, now rare*

2022 records. An imm was on the Golf Course on 12 Oct, still present on the 16 Oct when a second immature was on Warren Point, on the second and third records since Oct 2017. One or other remained, being seen or heard intermittently through Nov with a single still on 13 Dec. A third bird, an adult male was also on the Golf Course on 12 Nov.

FIRECREST *Regulus ignicapilla*

Status. *Scarce in autumn & winter, scarce in spring*

2022 records. After no records in the early winter and spring the first was an autumn migrant on 11 Oct, with others on 24-26 Oct, 3, 21 & 26-27 Nov, and 4 & 12 Dec.



Firecrest 26 Nov © Luke Harman

GOLDCREST *Regulus regulus*

Status. *Uncommon in winter & spring, occasionally common in autumn, has bred*

2022 summary. A max of three on 1 Jan, with the last a single until 14 Mar. Again no spring migrants, the first autumn bird was on 11 Sep, rising to three on 17 Sep then regular during the rest of the year, with max counts of eight on 25 & 31 Oct and 7 & 9 Nov.

WREN *Troglodytes troglodytes*

Status. *Common breeding resident*

2022 summary. No breeding census this year, with a max count of 26 on 4 Dec.

NUTHATCH *Sitta europaea*

Status. Scarce in autumn, rare at other times, increasing

2022 record. One in the Entrance Bushes on 12 Mar was the 1st site record for the month.

TREECREEPER *Certhia familiaris*

Status. Rare in autumn & winter, occasionally non breeding resident.

2022 record. One on 1 Jul by the Main Pond (DLAF *et al.*) was reported intermittently on site until the 31 Jul, a typical post-breeding movement.

STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris*

Status. Abundant in late summer & autumn, occasionally in winter, scarce breeder

First winter. Max 800 roosting at Main Pond during Jan.

Spring. A notable vismig movement of 767 E on 5 Mar.

Breeding. Six territories around the Amusements and Clubhouse. Postbreeding flocks peaked at just 80 on 10 Jul, indicating a very poor breeding season, perhaps linked to the dry weather.

Autumn. Max 300 on 4 Nov during vis mig.

Second winter. Max 1,050 roosting at the Main Pond on 13 Nov. The roost moved to the mainland soon after, with only the resident birds around the amusements remaining.

Starling – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	800	700	767	35	29	20	80	42	50	120	1050	12

SONG THRUSH *Turdus philomelos*

Status. Uncommon resident breeder and in autumn & winter

2022 summary. Breeding: Three prs, with all having to forage in the Back Meadow during the dry spring. Max just five on 20 Oct and 27 Nov.



Song Thrush © Alan Keatley

MISTLE THRUSH *Turdus viscivorus*

Status. *Scarce in autumn, rare at other times, has bred*

2022 records. Singles overhead on 1 Feb and 30 Mar. An early autumn record on 23 Jul was followed by birds on more typical dates the first on 8 Oct, briefly in Dead Dolphin Wood. In Nov, one on 3rd, four on 4th, two on 9th, singles on 17th, 26 & 27th and in December singles linked to the cold spell on 13, 15 & 18th.

REDWING *Turdus iliacus*

Status. *Uncommon in autumn & winter, occ. abundant in hard weather, rare in spring*

Last and first. 11 Jan and 18 Oct.

First winter. Two on 11 Jan were the only record.

Autumn. The first was one in Dead Dolphin Wood on 18 Oct, with 235 over on 20 Oct, singles on 22nd & 24th, four on 25 Oct and nine on 29th. In Nov recorded on eight dates, max six on 12th.

Late winter. Regular on site during December with a peak of 24 on 15th.

BLACKBIRD *Turdus merula*

Status. *Common breeding resident and autumn migrant*

2022 summary. No breeding survey this year. Max count of 26 on 4 Dec.

FIELDFARE *Turdus pilaris*

Status. *Rare in autumn & winter, occ. abundant in hard weather, rare in spring*

2022 records. A single winter record on 22 Jan. Autumn migrants were limited to one on 4th, five on 9th, two on 10th & 13th, and two on 14 Nov. One on 16-17 Nov lingered around the Entrance Bushes. The last of the year were two over on 18 Dec.

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa striata*

Status. *Scarce spring & autumn migrant*

First and last. 12 May and 18 Sep.

Spring. The only record was one on 12 May.

Autumn. Singles on 13, 20 & 27 Aug and 6 Sep with the last on 18 Sep.

ROBIN *Erithacus rubecula*

Status. *Common breeding resident and autumn migrant*

2022 summary. No breeding survey. At least two birds around the Main Pond viewing platform became hand tame during the early winter. Max 35 on 4 Dec and 25 on 19 Nov.

BLACK REDSTART *Phoenicurus ochrurus*

Status. *Rare spring & scarce autumn migrant, occasionally winters*

2022 records. Spring. A good spring with three records, the first a smart male around the Visitor Centre on 23-24 Mar. This was followed by a female on the Golf Course on 30 Mar and an immature male on the seawall on 1-2 Apr.

Summer. One of the most unexpected sightings of the year was a female Black Redstart at the expected location of the Go-karts on 18 Jun, not surprisingly the 1st record for the month.

Autumn. The first, a fem/imm was again briefly at the Go-Karts on 23 Oct, with a male on the seawall on 28 Oct.



Black Redstart 23 Mar © Lee Collins

WHINCHAT *Saxicola rubetra*

Status. Scarce spring & autumn migrant

First and last. 30 Apr and 29 Sep.

Spring. The only record was a male in Greenland Lake on 30 Apr.

Autumn. The first was on 15 Aug, with two on 23 Aug and three on 25 Aug. Only one further record, on Warren Point on 29 Sep.

STONECHAT *Saxicola rubicola*

Status. Scarce breeding resident and common autumn migrant

2022 summary. Breeding: five prs. Aside from when all pairs were nest building/feeding young in late April, there were no double figure counts this year.

Stonechat – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	5	2	4	10	5	5	5	7	9	8	7	4

WHEATEAR *Oenanthe oenanthe*

Status. Common spring & autumn migrant

First and last. 10 Mar and 4 Nov.

Spring. The first was in the Bight on 10 Mar, max six on 10 & 18 Apr and 2 May. Last bird on 22 May.

Autumn. First on 7 Aug, in the Bight. Max 22 on 14 Sep, with nine on 15 Sep. In Oct singles on 3-4th and 18th. The last was a late bird on the beach on 4 Nov

Wheatear – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	-	-	4	6	6	-	-	5	22	1	1	-



Wheatear 28 Aug © Lee Collins

GREENLAND WHEATEAR *O.o.leucorhoa*

Status. Scarce spring & autumn migrant, under-recorded

2022 record. Just one noted in spring on 14 May.

HOUSE SPARROW *Passer domesticus*

Status. Common breeding resident

2022 summary. Breeding: c20 territories. Max 145 out of roost on 16 Oct and 70+ on 28 Jan in the Buffer Zone.

House Sparrow – Monthly maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	70	nc	40	nc	nc	nc	40	65	60	145	45	40

DUNNOCK *Prunella modularis*

Status. Common breeding resident

2022 summary. No breeding census this year. Max count 15 on 4 Dec.

YELLOW WAGTAIL *Motacilla flava flavissima*

Status. Rare spring and scarce autumn migrant

First and last. 22 Apr and 28 Sep.

Spring. The first flew over on 22 Apr with further singles on 2 May and 2 & 4 Jun.

Autumn. First was one over on 26 Aug, with eight on 28 Aug and a single on 29 Aug. In Sep singles on 2nd, 18th and 28th with three on 15th.

YELLOW WAGTAIL – Number of Birds and days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	10	6	-	-	-
Days	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	3	4	-	-	-

GREY WAGTAIL *Motacilla cinerea*

Status. *Common autumn migrant, scarce in winter, rare at other times*

2022 summary. After no early year records in 2021, the first of the year was overhead on 2 Feb with further singles over on 4 & 5 Mar.

The first autumn bird overhead on 13 Jul, with a family of five around Langstone Rock from 26 Aug. Some of these birds remained local, inflating numbers below. Max seven on 3 Sep. Occasional birds could be found around the seawall and the ponds until late Nov.

GREY WAGTAIL – Number of Birds & Days:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Birds	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	13	31	12	15	-
Days	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	4	10	10	12	-

PIED WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba yarrellii*

Status. *Uncommon breeding resident, common, rarely abundant in autumn & winter*

2022 summary. Breeding: One pair around the Boathouse. Max counts of autumn migrants 35 on 11 Oct, 32 on 15 Oct and 26 on 18 Oct.

PIED/WHITE WAGTAIL – Monthly Maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	4	7	4	5	3	2	5	15	15	35	6	16



Pied Wagtail© Dave Jewell

WHITE WAGTAIL *M. a. alba*

Status. *Rare spring and scarce autumn migrant*

Spring. One along the beach on 27 Mar.

Autumn. Singles on 31 Aug, 3 & 15 Sep, two on 14 & 18 Sep, three on 8 Sep and the last on 16 Oct.

MEADOW PIPIT *Anthus pratensis*

Status. *Common in spring, occasionally abundant in autumn, has bred*

Spring. Max 15 on 11 Jan but no noticeable spring passage. Last bird on 18 Apr.

Autumn. First return four over on 3 Sep. Max 68 on 11 Oct (*cf.* 117 in Oct 20210. No other counts >50 with just three counts >30; 35 on 2 & 15 Oct with 30+ next day.

Winter. A late passage max of 22 on 13 Nov, with 25 on 20 Dec.

MEADOW PIPIT – Monthly Maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	15	2	4	1	-	-	-	-	25	68	22	25

TREE PIPIT *Anthus trivialis*

Status. *Rare spring and scarce autumn migrant*

2022 records. Just two reports, both overhead in autumn, three on 3 Sep and one on 25 Sep.

WATER PIPIT *Anthus spinoletta*

Status. *Rare in winter and very rare in spring*

2022 records. Unusually only recorded in spring, with single birds in the saltmarsh on 5-6 Mar, 2 & 12-16 Apr.

ROCK PIPIT *Anthus petrosus*

Status. *Uncommon breeding resident*

First winter. Max five on 26 Feb.

Breeding. The usual pr at Langstone Rock.

Second winter. Max seven on 13 Nov.



Rock Pipit © Alan Keatley

SCANDINAVIAN ROCK PIPIT *A. p. littoralis*

Status. *This species can only be identified with certainty in breeding plumage or through ringing recoveries. Probably scarce in autumn and winter, rare in spring*

2022 summary. A summer plumaged bird was in the Bight on 17 May.

At least two unringed birds were also present early winter, but as is typical here all left before moulting into breeding plumage. Another autumn influx with at least four probable birds present in November.

CHAFFINCH *Fringilla coelebs*

Status. *Common, rarely abundant in spring and autumn, scarce in winter, has bred*

2022 summary. No breeding records with a winter max count of five on 23 Feb. Despite the lack of autumn passage in 2021, 1,234 birds flew E on 5 Mar, the second highest spring count. A very poor autumn passage with max counts of 20 over on 4 Nov and 18 over on 11 Oct.

BRAMBLING *Fringilla montifringilla*

Status. *Annual autumn migrant, vagrant in spring and winter*

2022 records. Two birds flew E with the Chaffinch movement on 5 Mar. No autumn reports.

BULLFINCH *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

Status. *Scarce breeding resident and autumn migrant*

2022 summary. Very scarce in the early year with the only records singles on 12-13 Jan, 3 Mar, 17 Apr and 23 May, with two on 24-28 Mar. The first autumn bird on 5 Aug with the next not until 15 Oct, then one or two either overhead on in the bushes intermittently until 27 Nov. During December four birds were roosting on site.

GREENFINCH *Chloris chloris*

Status. *Uncommon breeding resident and common autumn migrant*

2022 summary. Breeding: After a welcome recovery signs of a further decline with c10 territories (cf. 16 in 2021). In winter max 12 on 22 Jan with autumn migrants peaking at 80 on 24 Oct (cf. 90 in Nov 2021).

GREENFINCH – Monthly Maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	12	8	4	6	6	2	10	14	12	80	50	30

LINNET *Linaria cannabina*

Status. *Common breeding resident, often abundant late autumn & early winter*

2022 summary. No survey but the number of juveniles indicated a good breeding season. However lower numbers throughout the year with max of 110 on 24 Sep with just six other counts ≥ 75 (cf. seven counts >100 in 2021). Very scarce on site after the December cold spell.

LINNET – Monthly Maxima:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	62	30	25	57	30	16	35	90	110	90	75	40

LESSER REDPOLL *Acanthis cabaret***Status.** *Uncommon autumn migrant, scarce in winter and spring***Spring.** The first of the year was one feeding in the Entrance Bushes on 3 Mar, with one over during vismig on 5 Mar.**Autumn.** Max five over on 13 Oct. Two overhead on 16 & 18 Oct with one on 24 Oct, In Nov, four on 4th, singles on 6th & 13th, and two on 9th & 19th.**GOLDFINCH** *Carduelis carduelis***Status.** *Uncommon breeder; common, sometimes abundant in autumn & winter***2022 summary.** Breeding at least five territories. Max in the early winter 41 on 22 Jan with no sign of spring passage. In autumn max 120 on 11 Oct, with 110 on 20 Oct, 100 on 27 Oct & 100 on 28 Sep. Max 80 on 6 Dec in second winter.**GOLDFINCH – Monthly Maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	41	30	12	13	15	10	20	85	100	120	74	80

SISKIN *Spinus spinus***Status.** *Common in autumn & winter, rare in spring***First winter.** Only the one record, two over on 15 Jan.**Spring.** One over on 5 Mar with two in the Entrance Bushes 27-31 Mar.**Autumn.** Aside from one in the Entrance Bushes on the 21 Jun, the first was one overhead on 10 Sep, with singles on 18th and 25th. Max 33 on 18 Oct (*cf.* 11 in Oct 2021) with 78 on 10 other dates (*cf.* 27 on six dates in Oct 2021). In Nov, 25 on eight dates, max nine on 9th.**Siskin – Monthly Maxima:**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Max.	2	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	33	9	-

YELLOWHAMMER *Emberiza citrinella***Status.****2022 records.** Singles flew over on 9 Nov (KRy *et al.*) and 21 Dec (KRy).

CIRL BUNTING *Emberiza cirrus*

Status. *Previously rare, now an uncommon breeding resident*

2022 summary. Breeding; at least five territories, an increase from three in 2020, aided by winter feeding on the Golf Course. The first fledged birds were noted on 2 Jun. The max count of 16 on 16 Oct was a new site record, soon exceeded with 20 on 18 Dec.



Cirl Bunting (female) © Alan Keatley

REED BUNTING *Emberiza schoeniclus*

Status. *Scarce breeding resident and common autumn migrant*

2022 summary. One pair bred. Max autumn passage just four on 8 & 16 Oct and 4 Nov.