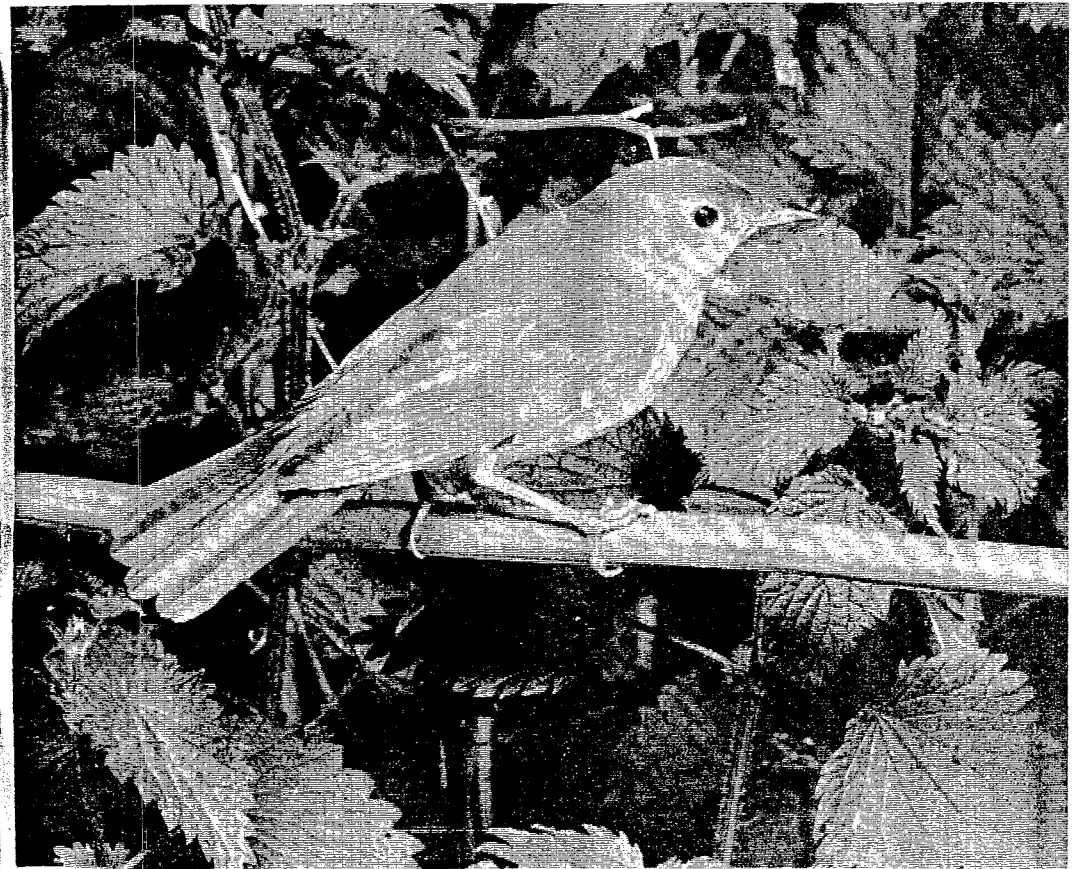


IL-MERILL

BULLETIN OF THE MALTA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

No. 11 August 1973

10c to non-Members



BIRD RINGING GROUP REPORT FOR 1972

IL - MERILL

The title of the Society's Bulletin, **IL-MERILL**, is the Maltese name for the Blue Rock Thrush, *Monticola Solitarius*, which is one of the few resident species of the Islands. It was chosen as the National Bird of Malta by the local National Section of the International Council for Bird Preservation and has been the emblem of the Malta Ornithological Society since the latter's inception.

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Editor's Note:

This issue of 'Il-Merill' contains a comprehensive report on various aspects of ornithological studies carried out during 1972 by the Bird Ringing Group of the Malta Ornithological Society.

One need to emphasise that the Group is made up of a very few extremely active and enthusiastic individuals. But even a cursory glance through the various reports is sufficient and eloquent proof of the high standard the Group has set itself and has never ceased to strive for less. That will occasion no surprise in ornithological circles who have only high praise and esteem for the Group. But in our tiny country where the spirit of scientific investigation for its own sake is a luxury nearly never afforded, the Group deserves appreciation and adequate recognition. The Group needs a site which it can run as an observatory, as a centre for its activity, as a nature reserve and as a model of a natural habitat thus enabling the younger generation to develop their sensibility for nature and its creatures. Ghadira is certainly such a site; when one recalls that this nation has found it easier to let things be, to waste the possibilities and squander the golden potential of such an ideal site one is then forced to consider such behaviour as an act of irresponsibility and colossal stupidity.

The members of the MOS have not accommodated their conscience but have shouldered the burden of their convictions. They have not shirked off the labour the endeavour, the daily struggle, discomfort and effort that their convictions entail. Unappreciated in their own country, among their own people, not infrequently decried, they have quietly done their work. That now our own country can offer the result of their work as Malta's own contribution to the scientific investigation of the subject is their own achievement and the following reports are tangible proof.

IL-MERILL

No. 11 August 1973

BIRD RINGING GROUP REPORT FOR 1972

INTRODUCTION

This issue carries the 4th Report of the MOS Ringing Group. The report includes the species systematic list compiled from the daily log kept by the group.

Sightings.

Though the number of local recorders is still very small, there were few days (mostly in summer) when there was no coverage. As in past years observations were mostly carried out at Ghadira, Buskett, Hal Far and Mtaħleb in Malta; Ramla, Lunzjata Valleys in Gozo. Salina, Marsaxlokk and Ta' Qali were also covered to a certain extent. As usual, the numbers of certain species recorded varied considerably. Thus species like the Little Bittern, Squacco Heron and Coot, usually frequently seen, were scarce, while there were no records of Red-footed Falcons. On the other hand, Grey Herons and Hoopoes were recorded in larger quantities, as were such scarce birds as the Cream-coloured Coursers, Lesser Whitethroats, Bonelli's Warblers and Red-breasted Flycatchers.

Two new species were added to the Malta List: a Greater Sand Plover caught at Delimara in August and a Penduline Tit ringed and noted present for several days at Lunzjata in December. Several other vagrants were recorded, the most interesting being Red-crested Pochard, Little Bustard, Arctic and Long-tailed Skuas, Palm Dove, Hoopoe Lark, Wall Creeper, Grasshopper, Marsh and Ruppell's Warblers and Bullfinch. A small irruption of Crossbills took place in July-September, while for the second year running there was a small influx of Cream-coloured Coursers in spring.

Species which were formerly recorded as accidental or very rare continue to be recorded annually in appreciable numbers. These include Eleonora's Falcon, Red-backed Shrike, Wren, and Cetti's, Moustached and Bonelli's Warblers.

Spotted Flycatchers bred at Buskett for the second successive year and two newly fledged young were seen there in early July. A pair of Kestrels probably bred at Dwejra, Gozo, where three juveniles accompanied by a pair of wary adults were seen in July. Tree sparrows continue to be recorded breeding in several new localities though their numbers are still limited. The usual pair of Peregrines bred at Ta' Cenc. Possible breeders at Buskett were Red-backed and Woodchat Shrikes and Chaffinch (see systematic list).

Contributors who submitted monthly records were J. Azzopardi, N. Bonavia, S. Borg, J. Buttigieg, L. Ellul Mercer, C. Gauci, C. Galea, J. Grech, J. Sultana, C. Theuma and F. Vassallo. Other contributors were G. Davies, T. Gauci, M. Grima, B.K. German, P. Micallef, J. Muscat, C.A. Pomeroy, M. Shwarthoff, M. Thake, J. Theuma, and RAF Luqa O.S.

Ringling.

During 1972 the number of ringers remained the same as in the previous year, ie. seven. This number may be augmented in the near future as a few more members now hold trainee permits. Training new ringers is still a problem with us as we have no permanent ringing sites. As in past years ringing was made possible through the supply of British Trust for Ornithology rings to whom we are most grateful for their continued support.

The number of birds ringed during 1972 amounted to 6,526. Though this figure is a thousand short of the previous year's total, it still reflects the hard work put in by the ringers. The total number of birds ringed between September 1965 and December 1972 now stands at 30,132. Three new species were added to the ringing list — Penduline Tit, Grasshopper Warbler and Black-eared Wheatear. A record number of Storm Petrels — 1,794 — was ringed. These were trapped in two forty-foot nets during two nights on Filfla. The totals of a good number of other species also went up.

Ten recoveries were reported from abroad during the year. As usual, though this number was small, most of the recoveries were very interesting. A Wryneck ringed at Ghadira in April was recovered in Crete the following September, taking a much more easterly route on its way south. Two Swallows were found in France. A recovery of a Swallow in France was not unexpected as two French Swallows (both ringed as pulli) had already been recovered here in spring. Number JE58621, however, is of special interest as it is very far to the SW France. Two recoveries of House Martins proved a pleasant surprise as House Martins have the lowest recovery rate of the three common hirundines; one was well to the east of Rostov (USSR) while the other was recovered to the NW of Malta, in Germany. Three recoveries of Robins in Tunisia were not unexpected, as most of the Robins passing through Malta in October-November winter in North Africa. Of interest are JC91690 and JC91694 ringed at Buskett on the same day in February 1971 and both recovered at Gabes the following autumn and winter respectively.

Twenty-seven foreign ringed birds recovered locally are listed in the report. These represent 23 species from 10 countries. Some of these were recovered in earlier years but only came to our notice during 1972. The highlights were two Great Skuas ringed as pulli in the Shetlands (Scotland) and recovered offshore in winter. Until recently, Skuas were regarded as accidentals but now a few are recorded annually. This is no doubt due to the relatively new habit of some local fishermen, who carry their shotguns with them while out fishing. Another British ringed bird was a Sand Martin (the 2nd to be recovered here from the British Isles) controlled in January, it being the first local winter record of this species. The year 1972 also saw the first Norwegian ringed birds ever to be recovered here. They were a House Martin and a Willow Warbler. Only last year a Willow Warbler ringed here in spring was recovered in Spain the following autumn.

J. Sultana
Ringing Officer

C. Gauci
Ringing Secretary

SYSTEMATIC LIST FOR 1972

LITTLE GREBE *Podiceps ruficollis* BLONGUN ZGHIR
1 at Sliema Creek on 21st January and singles at Salina on 26th February, 25th October and 10th November.

BLACK-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps nigricollis* BLONGUN SEKOND
1 on 21st January. Party of 10 on 29th August and 1 on 4th September, then singles on 7 dates from 27th October to 9th December.

GREAT CRESTED GREBE *Podiceps cristatus* BLONGUN PRIM
Singles at Salina on 24th November and at M'Xlokk on 29th December.

CORY'S SHEARWATER *Calonectris diomedea* CIEFA
First seen offshore on 10th March. Last record on 29th October. Many eggs were found cracked on Filfla.

MANX SHEARWATER *Puffinus puffinus* GARNIJA
As usual seldom seen offshore.

STORM PETREL *Hydrobates pelagicus* KANGU TA' FILFLA
As usual large numbers bred on Filfla, but not seen near the coast during the day. Remains of a long dead bird found in a cave at Ta' Ċenċ, Gozo in July. A Filfla ringed bird was caught at Delimara in January.

GANNET *Sula bassana* SULA
2 on 21st January, 1 on 21st October, 1 on 6th November, 3 on 10th and 1 on 18th December, offshore.

CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax carbo* MARGUN
In October, 2 on 19th and 1 on 20th at St. Paul's Bay and singles at Comino on 26th, at Marsalforn on 28th and at Mgarr on 29th. Singles over Floriana and Ghar Lapsi on 13th November.

BITTERN *Botaurus stellaris* KAPPUN
Single birds on 15th, 17th and 30th March and 4th April, 1 on 21st October; 1 on 20th and 3 on 26th November; 5 on 27th December.

LITTLE BITTERN *Ixobrychus minutus* RUSSETT TAS-SIGAR
An unusually poor year with only nine records: singles on 26th March, 30th April; 1st, 8th and 26th May; 1st June; 15th and 16th September; and 11th October.

NIGHT HERON *Nycticorax nycticorax* KWAKKA
On 9 days in March from 3rd and 7 days in April to 20th. Best days were 6th and 18th April with 86 and 33 birds respectively, otherwise singles or parties of up to 14. Late record of 9 on 26th May. In larger numbers in autumn; on 19 dates from 19th August to 2nd October with double figures on 10 days, highest 56 on 2nd and 52 on 3rd September. 2 on 15th and 1 on 22nd October.

SQUACCO HERON *Ardeola ralloides* AGRETT ISFAR
Unusually poor year. Only records were of 1 on 7th and 2 on 19th April and singles on 2nd and 3rd September.

GREAT WHITE EGRET *Egretta alba* RUSSETT ABJAD
1 at Hal Far on 30th September.

LITTLE EGRET *Egretta garzetta* AGRETT ABJAD
Singles or very small parties on 12 days from 23rd March to 21st April, highest 8 on 4th, 1 on 14th and 22nd May. Slightly larger numbers in autumn; on 16 days from 6th August to 1st October. Flock of ca. 60 at Ghadira on 26th September, otherwise never more than 16.

GREY HERON *Ardea cinerea* RUSSETT GRIZ
Frequent in spring: on 20 dates from 3rd March to 11th May, highest 14 on 26th March, otherwise low single figures. Singles on 12th, 15th and 18th August, then on 24 dates from 26th August to 19th October, with most from 1st to 20th September. Very heavy passage on 13th — 783 counted; next highest 100+ on 20th, 55 on 1st and 35 on 2nd, all dates in September. 1 on 4th December.

PURPLE HERON *Ardea purpurea* RUSSETT AHMAR
Early bird on 28th February then on 19 dates from 17th March to 8th May. 58 on 1st April and 15 on 25th March, otherwise single figures. 1 on 28th June. In autumn on 14 dates from 20th August to 23rd September with double figures on 3 days: 25 on 3rd, 60+ on 13th and 11 on 17th. 1 on 3rd, 3 on 19th and 1 on 21st October.

BLACK STORK *Ciconia nigra* CIKONJA SEWDA
1 at Siggiewi on 9th October.

SPOONBILL *Platalea leucorodia* PALETTA
2 heading north over Qamzieh on 30th August, 7 over St. Julian's on 13th and 1 at Salina on 24th September.

GLOSSY IBIS *Plegadis falcinellus* VELLERAN
2 on 26th March; 2 on 1st, 20+ on 6th and 1 on 8th April; 1 on 16th May. Flocks of 6 on 19th and 20th September and 1 on 9th October.

GREATER FLAMINGO *Phoenicopterus ruber* FJAMINGU
1 juvenile at Qawra on 2nd and at M'Scala on 3rd December — probably same individual.

GREY LAG GOOSE *Anser anser* WIZZA GRIZA
2, one of which was shot, at L-Ahrax in mid-September.

'GREY GEESE' *Anser sp.* WIZZA
3 over Grand Harbour on 18th October.

SHELDUCK *Tadorna tadorna* KULUVERT TAS-SALIB
1 on 24th January and 2 on 2nd February. Singles on 23rd September, 17th and 24th October, and 3rd November.

MALLARD *Anas platyrhynchos* KULUVERT
4 on 20th February and 4 on 26th March. Influx at the end of October with 3 on 29th, 64 (60 in one flock) on 30th and 1 on 31st, 1 on 31st December.

TEAL *Anas crecca* SARSELLA
1 on 1st and 31st January. Small passage in spring with 4 on 3rd, 1 on 4th, 3 on 5th and 1 on 7th March and 1 on 7th April. In autumn, early birds on 5th and 16th August, then 1 on 30th October; 1 on 6th, 2 on 8th and 1 on 18th November and 1 on 7th December.

GADWALL *Anas strepera* KULUVERT GRIZ
1 at Luqa on 28th January.

WIGEON *Anas penelope* SILFJUN EWROPEW
1 on 29th January. 1 on 21st, 2 on 22nd and 2 on 24th March. 1 on 28th, 2 on 29th and 7 on 30th October; 2 on 18th, 7 on 21st, 1 on 22nd, 1 on 23rd, 5 on 24th and 2 on 26th November. All records from Salina and Qawra.

PINTAIL *Anas acuta* SILFJUN
Small influx in March with singles on 2nd, 3rd, 23rd, 25th, 26th and 27th. 2 on 31st August; 1 on 26th and 2 on 29th September; 1 on 1st, 1 on 21st, 'flock' on 22nd, 1 on 29th, 3 on 30th and 1 on 31st October; singles on 8th, 12th and 18th November and 30th December.

GARGANEY *Anas querquedula* SARSELLA HAMRA
1 on 11th and 24th, 50 on 25th, 7 on 26th and 4 on 27th March; 1 on 1st, 3 on 2nd, 1 on 5th and 1 on 11th April. In autumn on 19 dates from 11th August to 26th September; highest 82 on 13th and 17 on 22nd September at Salina, otherwise never more than 5. 1 on 17th and 2 on 25th November.

SHOVELER *Anas clypeata* PALETTUNA
2 on 3rd and 1 on 4th January and 4 on 2nd March. 1 on 21st and 4 on 22nd September; 3 on 14th, 1 on 28th and 2 on 29th October; and 1 on 26th November.

RED-CRESTED POCHARD *Netta rufina* BRAJMLA TAT-TOPPU AHMAR
Single females shot at Delimara on 19th and 21st February.

POCHARD *Aythya ferina* BRAJMLA
2 on 2nd and 1 on 27th January. Early birds on 24th and 27th August then 1 on 16th, 1 on 28th and 5 on 30th October, and singles on 17th and 24th November. Most records from Salina.

FERRUGINOUS DUCK *Aythya nyroca* BRAJMLA T'GHAJNHA BAJDA
Singles at Salina on 3rd and 27th March, 10th June, 4th August and 21st November.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER *Mergus serrator* SERRA
1 shot at Salina at the end of November.

OSPREY *Pandion haliaetus* ARPA
1 on 11th and 18th March; 1 on 10th, 1 on 11th, 2 on 12th and 1 on 30th April. In autumn 1 on 21st, 2 on 22nd, 1 on 25th, 4 on 26th and singles on 27th, 29th and 30th September and 7th October.

HONEY BUZZARD *Pernis apivorus* KUCCARDA
1-5 on 7 dates from 18th March to 30th April. In May recorded on 3rd-5th, 12th-

13th, 16th, 18th-19th, 24th-25th and 29th; highest 48 on 4th, 35 on 16th, 22 on 13th and 14 on 25th; single figures on other days. 2 on 11th and 1 on 12th June. In autumn 1 on 22nd, then on most days from 25th August to 30th September. Peak days were: August 30th (27) and September 14th (67), 19th (125), and 26th (88). In October 1 on 1st, 7 on 3rd, 1 on 4th, 4 on 8th and singles on 13th, 19th and 25th.

BLACK KITE *Milvus migrans* **ASTUN ISWED**
1 at Ta' Qali on 1st and 1 at Gharb on 11th April. 2 at Buskett on 14th, 4 there on 25th and 1 at Mgarr on 26th September.

SPARROW HAWK *Accipiter nisus* **SPARVIER**
Female at Ta' Giorni on 10th April. Singles at Tas-Salib, Buskett and Salina on 8th October. 2 in mid-October.

BUZZARD *Buteo buteo* **KUCCARDA PRIMA**
1 at Buskett on 20th September and 1 taken at St. Julian's in mid-November.

SHORT-TEOD EAGLE *Circus gallicus* **AJKLA BAJDA**
2 at Dabrani, Gozo on 29th September, 1 at Ta' Qali on 10th and 3 over Rabat on 16th October.

HEN HARRIER *Circus cyaneus* **BUGHADAM ABJAD PRIM**
1 at Hal Far on 26th March and 1 at Salina on 11th April.

PALLID HARRIER *Circus macrourus* **BUGHADAM ABJAD**
1 on 25th March. 2 on 1st, 3 on 3rd and singles on 12th, 13th and 20th April. 1 on 22nd October.

MONTAGU'S HARRIER *Circus pygargus* **BUGHADAM GRIZ**
3 on 11th and singles on 16th, 19th, 20th, 23rd and 24th April; 2 on 2nd May. In autumn 1 on 16th and 20th September.

MARSH HARRIER *Circus aeruginosus* **BUGHADAM AHMAR**
1 on 28th February, 2 on 1st and 4 on 4th March; then on 20 days from 12th March to 14th April. Heavy passage on 18th March (59 logged), otherwise single figures and occasionally up to 10. Singles on 19th and 28th April, 3rd and 5th May. In autumn 2 on 13th, 1 on 14th-16th, 2 on 19th, 1 on 23rd, 3 on 25th and 4 on 30th September and 4 on 3rd October.

'HARRIER SP.' *Circus sp.* **BUGHADAM**
2 on 23rd and 1 on 25th March; 10 on 1st, 5 on 2nd, 4 on 3rd and singles on 6th, 8th, 11th, 15th, 24th and 29th April. Singles on 2nd (white) and 26th September and 20th October.

PEREGRINE *Falco peregrinus* **BIES**
Usual pair resident along south western coast of Gozo. Also singles over Ghadira on 16th January, over Lunzjata on 20th February, at Mtableb on 18th March (female), at Hal Far on 4th May, at Munxar (Malta) on 16th August (immature), at Hal Far on 27th-29th October and at Dingli on 28th November.

HOBBY *Falco subbuteo* **SEQER TAL-HANNIEQA**
7 on 5th, then 1-2 on 14 dates from 10th April to 24th May. Singles on 8th and

12th June, 26th and 29th July. Autumn passage from 26th August to 19th October, with 52 on 14th, 28 on 23rd, 76 on 26th and 33 on 30th September, and 20 on 8th October; otherwise low single figures on 17 days.

ELEONORA'S FALCON *Falco eleonora* **BIES TAR-REGINA**
Singles on 4th and 27th May; 6th and 7th July; 2 on 3rd and 1 on 6th August. Singles on 2nd, 5th, 19th, 21st, 25th, 26th and 30th September and 1st October.

MERLIN *Falco columbarius* **SEQER TA' DENBU**
1 at Buskett on 16th September and 1 taken at Fawwara in November.

LESSER KESTREL *Falco naumanni* **SPANJULETT SEKOND**
Very low single figures on 12 days from 4th March to 11th April with 5 on 1st April highest. Singles on 10th May and 12th June. In autumn 2 on 14th, 6 on 20th, 1 on 21st, 5 on 24th, 2 on 25th-26th and 4 on 30th September; 1 on 3rd and 8 on 8th October.

KESTREL *Falco tinnunculus* **SPANJULETT**
1 on 2nd January, 3 on 13th and 1 on 14th February. Almost daily from 3rd March to 15th May, with heavy passages on 18th March (77 counted) and 1st April (90). Other good days were 2nd and 11th April with 35 and 32 respectively, otherwise single or very low double figures. 1 on 3rd June. A pair with three juveniles at Dwejra, Gozo and 1 at Mosta on 23rd July. 1 on 16th and 2 on 27th August. In autumn occasional from 2nd, then almost daily from 13th September to 5th November. Best day was 8th October with 81 logged, otherwise much in same numbers as in spring. Singles on 3rd, 8th and 23rd December.

QUAIL *Coturnix coturnix* **SUMMIENA**
Single figures (maximum 6 on 3 days) on most days from 26th February to 13th May. 1 on 14th and 31st July. Autumn passage inconspicuous with 1 on 6th and 10+ on 22nd-23rd September; 2 on 1st and singles on 15th, 20th, 21st, 22nd and 24th October. 1 on 18th and 19th November.

CRANE *Grus grus* **GRAWWA**
4 moving N.W. over Mgarr on 23rd January. 1 on 5th September, 6 on 2nd, 3 on 15th, 2 on 16th, 1 on 21st and 4 on 29th October. 1 seen at 3 different points on 1st November could have been the same individual.

WATER RAIL *Rallus aquaticus* **GALLOZZ TAX-XITWA**
1 at Lunzjata throughout January and till 6th February. 1 on 19th March. 1-2 on 6 dates from 21st October to 19th November, then 1 again at Lunzjata throughout December.

SPOTTED CRAKE *Porzana porzana* **GALLOZZ TAT-TIKKI**
1-2 on 1st, 5th, 21st, 22nd and 26th March; 15th April; 5th and 12th May. In autumn 1 on 14th August, 1 on 8th September, 1 on 11th and 3 on 18th October, all at Salina.

LITTLE CRAKE *Porzana porzana* **GALLOZZ ZGHIR**
1 at Siggiewi on 27th February.

CORN CRAKE *Crex crex* **GALLOZZ AHMAR**
1 at Ramla Valley on 7th May.

MOORHEN *Gallinula chloropus* **GALLOZZ ISWED**
 Singles on 6 dates from 7th to 29th March and on 16th and 29th April, then on most days from 11th to 26th May, highest 7 at Salina on 17th. In autumn 1 on 7th and 17th, then on 15 dates from 25th August to 13th November; singles on most days but 3 on 2nd and 5 on 21st October. 1 on 30th November and 1st December.

COOT *Fulica atra* **TIGIEGA TAL-BAHAR**
 1 at Salina on 21st November and 1 at M'Xlokk on 29th December.

LITTLE BUSTARD *Otis tetrax* **PITARRA**
 1 shot at M'Scala on 4th December.

OYSTERCATCHER *Haematopus ostralegus* **GALLINA TAL-BAHAR**
 1 at Seimun on 6th April.

RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula* **MONAKELLA PRIMA**
 1 on 16th and 3 on 26th March were early birds. 1-3 on most days at Ghadira from 21st April to 11th May. 1 on 8th July and 1 on 12th August, then 3 on 11th, 2 on 13th and 1 on 14th and 24th September.

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius dubius* **MONAKELLA**
 On most days at Ghadira and Salina from 11th March to 30th April, highest 11-13 on 1st-3rd April otherwise single figures. Singles on 7th, 8th and 15th May. 1 on 25th June and 22nd July, 1-2 on 4 days from 29th July to 7th August, then 1-5 on 14 days from 1st September to 5th November.

KENTISH PLOVER *Charadrius alexandrinus* **MONAKELLA SAQAJHA SUWED**
 1 at M'Xlokk on 12th August.

GREATER SAND PLOVER *Charadrius leschenaultii* **BIRWINA TAD-DEZERT**
 1 shot at Delimara on 5th August. (1st record for Malta).

DOTTEREL *Eudromias morinellus* **BIRWINA**
 1 on 6th January. 1 on 20th August and flock of 30 on 2nd September; then single or very low double figures on 15 days from 25th September to 5th November, highest 15 on 15th and 16 on 20th October. 1 on 2nd and 3rd December.

GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis apricaria* **PLUVIERA**
 Passages on 14th-16th January with ca. 25 on each day. 2 at Hal Far on 24th-26th March. 1-3 on 4 days from 30th September to 18th October, then on 7 days in November and 8 days in December. Double figures on 7 days, highest 40+ on 21st November.

GREY PLOVER *Pluvialis squatarola* **PLUVIERA PASTARDA**
 Singles at Bahar ic-Caghaq on 16th and at Delimara on 20th August, and at M'Xlokk on 30th December.

LAPWING *Vanellus vanellus* **VENEWWA**
 Singles on 2nd January and 16th March. Single figures on 6 days from 23rd October to 5th November; then double figures on 8 days from 11th November, highest 36 on 24th December.

TURNSTONE *Arenaria interpres* **MONAKELLA IMPERJALI**
 1 at Delimara on 22nd May, 1 at Bahar ic-Caghaq on 31st July, 2 at M'Scala on 28th August and 1 at M'Xlokk on 5th September.

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta* **TERTUXA**
 1 on 25th March then on most days at Ghadira and Salina from 8th April to 21st May, highest 30 on 11th May. In autumn on 12 days from 25th July to 26th September, highest 20 on first date. 1 at Ghadira on 13th-22nd October.

TEMMINCK'S STINT *Calidris temminckii* **TERTUXA GRIZA**
 Single birds on 5th, 6th, 8th and 10th May; 2nd and 27th September.

DUNLIN *Calidris alpina* **BEGGAZZINA TAT-TIZZ**
 1 on 13th and 2 on 17th April. Singles on 28th July; 11th, 18th, 19th, 20th and 26th August; 13th, 21st and 26th September; and 30th October.

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea* **BEGGAZZINA HAMRA**
 Early bird on 31st March. 2-4 on most days at Ghadira/Salina from 8th to 17th May. 2 on 7th June, 1 on 28th August, 3 on 10th September and 1 on 13th October.

KNOT *Calidris canutus* **GIRWIEL TA' SAQAJH QOSRA**
 1 at Salina on 17th September.

SANDERLING *Calidris alba* **PISPISSELLA BAJDA**
 4 taken at M'Scala in May. 1 at Ghadira on 11th October.

RUFF *Philomachus pugnax* **GIRWIEL**
 Single figures (highest 9) on 17 days from 6th March to 5th May; most between 15th and 26th March, 8th and 16th April, 1st and 5th May. In autumn on 13 days from 16th August to 2nd October. Highest 25 on 3rd and 10 on 5th September, otherwise low single figures.

SPOTTED REDSHANK *Tringa erythropus* **CUVETT**
 Single birds at Salina on 7th April, 1st June, 8th and 17th September.

REDSHANK *Tringa totanus* **PLUVEROTT**
 1-3 on 21st and 24th March; 2nd, 6th and 17th April; 1st and 2nd May. 1 on 19th June; 1 on 5th, 2 on 8th, 4 on 16th and 12 on 22nd July. 1 on 6th, 11th and 12th and 2 on 25th August. Singles on 8th, 10th and 15th October.

MARSH SANDPIPER *Tringa stagnatilis* **CEWCEWWA ZGHIRA**
 Recorded in spring only: on 12th and 25th March; 1st, 6th, 16th, 19th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd April. 3 on 19th April, otherwise singles. All records from Salina and Ghadira.

GREENSHANK *Tringa nebularia* **CEWCEWWA**
 2 on 25th and 1 on 26th March; 1 on 1st, 3rd and 18th and 2 on 23rd April. 1 on 1st, 2nd and 13th May. Singles on 8th, 16th and 30th July; 6th, 12th and 25th August; 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 15th September; and 15th October.

GREEN SANDPIPER *Tringa ochropus* **SWEJDA**
 On most days from 14th to 19th March and 27th March to 4th April. 9 on 15th.

otherwise 1-3. 1 on 13th and 2 on 23rd April. 2 on 25th June; 1 on 16th July; 3 on 12th and singles on 15th, 20th, 22nd, 25th and 26th August. 2nd and 10th September.

WOOD SANDPIPER *Tringa glareola* PESPUS TAL-BAHAR
Single figures on most days from 25th March to 13th May, highest 8 on 30th April. In autumn 1-4 on 3 days in July from 8th, 5 days in August and 4 days in September to 14th. 2 on 15th October.

COMMON SANDPIPER *Tringa hypoleucos* BEGGAZZINA TAR- ROKKA
2 on 5th February, 1 on 15th and 20th March, 6 on 1st and 1 on 11th May. Single figures (maximum 7) on most days from 8th July to 19th September. 1 on 9th and 21st October, and 2 on 5th November.

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa limosa* GIRWIEL PRIM
Singles at M'Scala on 21st and 28th January. 2 at Salina on 5th and 1 at Marsa on 14th February. 1 on 5th and 22nd March at Salina.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa lapponica* GIRWIEL TA' DENBU BL- ISTRIXXI
1 at M'Scala on 9th September.

CURLEW *Numenius arquata* GURLIN
1 at Mgarr on 11th April, 3 at Salina on 15th July. 2 at Qrejtien on 19th August and 1 at Hal Far on 17th October.

WHIMBREL *Numenius phaeopus* GURLIN ZGHIR
1 at Delimara on 13th April, 2 at Salina on 22nd July, 1 at M'Scala on 28th August and 1 at Qajjenza on 4th September.

WOODCOCK *Scolopax rusticola* GALLINA
1 on 1st and 3 on 9th January. Single figures on most days from 20th October to 10th November. highest 8 on first date.

SNIPE *Gallinago gallinago* BEKKAČC
1 on 6th-10th February. 1-3 on 11 days from 5th March to 17th April. Singles on 2nd and 30th July, 12th August, 4th September and 9th October, then on 8 days from 25th October to 26th November, highest 7 on 1st.

GREAT SNIPE *Gallinago media* BEKKAČC TA' MEJJU
Singles at Ta' Qali on 22nd and at Wied li-Luq on 27th March and at Salina on 15th April.

JACK SNIPE *Limnocryptes minima* ČINKONJA
Singles on 26th and 30th March; 18th, 23rd, 26th and 29th October; 7th, 8th and 10th November. 2 on last date.

BLACK-WINGED STILT *Himantopus himantopus* FRAS-SERVJENT
Recorded only at Salina in spring: 1 on 11th March; 3 on 3rd, 1 on 5th and flock of 25 on 6th April; 1 on 4th and 15th May. 1 at Comino on 20th June; 1 at Salina on 4th, 1 at Luqa on 7th and 1 at Delimara on 23rd July. 8 at M'Scala on 28th August.

AVOCET *Recurvirostra avosetta* XIFA
Singles at M'Scala on 4th and at Salina on 5th May; at Salina on 11th and at Delimara on 12th August; and at Salina on 27th October.

STONE CURLEW *Burhinus oedicnemus* TELLERITA
1 on 20th February then 1-3 on 4th and 17th March; 2nd, 8th, 9th, 15th, 16th, 19th and 26th April; 3rd and 30th May. In autumn recorded on 23rd, 29th and 30th September; 21st, 26th and 27th October, and 5th November. 2 on 30th September, otherwise singles.

CREAM-COLOURED COURSER *Cursorius cursor* NANKINA
Small influx in early spring: 6 recorded on dates between 20th and 26th February, and singles at Qadi on 1st, at Żebbuġ (Gozo) on 3rd and at Mellieha on 5th March, and at l-Ahrax on 5th April.

PRATINCOLE *Glareola pratincola* PERNIČJOTTA
2 at Ta' Qali on 25th March, 1 at Hal Far on 20th April, 2 at Ta' Qali on 6th May and 1 at Tal-Handaq on 2nd September.

GREAT SKUA *Stercorarius skua* ČIEFA KBIRA
1 off Filfla on 26th March and 1 caught off Grand Harbour in November.

ARCTIC SKUA *Stercorarius parasiticus* ČIEFA TAL-ARTIKU
1 off M'Xlukk on 19th June.

LONG-TAILED SKUA *Stercorarius longicaudatus* ČIEFA TA' DENBHA TWIL
1 at sea off M'Xlukk on 30th September.

MEDITERRANEAN GULL *Larus melanocephalus* GAWWIJA RASHA SEWDA
Only occasionally seen in January. Up to 100 were present in Grand Harbour on 13th February and about 10 till the end of the month. 1 on 15th March. Not recorded in November and December, but coverage of harbours was very poor at this time.

LITTLE GULL *Larus minutus* GAWWIJA ZGHIRA
Singles at Delimara on 6th January, Ghadira on 12th February, M'Xlukk on 14th and Salina on 21st April and Msida on 18th November.

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ridibundus* GAWWIJA RASHA

KANNELLA
Double figures in January increasing to ca.400 from 21st. Large influx on 13th February with ca. 2500, then up to 600 till end of month. Low single figures in March to 18th. Up to 70 from 1st December, but hardly any on fine days.

SLENDER-BILLED GULL *Larus genei* GAWWIJA TA' GEDDUMHA RQIQ
1 at Salina on 20th October.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus fuscus* GAWWIJA DAHRHA ISWED
5 on 13th and 1 on 26th February in Grand Harbour. 1 at Sliema on 18th March and 1 at Ghadira on 11th October.

HERRING GULL *Larus argentatus* GAWWIJA PRIMA
Present and breeding in usual numbers.

BLACK TERN *Chlidonias niger* CIRLEWWA SEWDA
1 at Salina on 12th May, 2 on 25th July; 1 on 10th, 2 on 19th, 6 on 25th and 2 on 27th August; singles on 1st, 2nd and 5th September; most from Salina area. Late bird at Msida on 4th October.

WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN *Chlidonias leucopterus* CIRLEWWA TAL-GEWNAH
1 at Delimara on 11th May. ABJAD

WHISKERED TERN *Chlidonias hybrida* CIRLEWWA BIL-MUSTACCI
1 at M'Scala on 5th June, 2 at Salina on 2nd July and 1 at Delimara on 16th September.

GULL-BILLED TERN *Gelochelidon nilotica* CIRLEWWA GEDDUMHA OHXON
Singles at Salina on 9th April; at Delimara on 3rd and Qajzenza on 4th May. 3 at Salina on 15th May. 2 over Ghadira on 13th October.

CASPIAN TERN *Hydroprogne tschegrava* CIRLEWWA PRIMA
2 at Salina on 7th September.

SANDWICH TERN *Sterna sandvicensis* CIRLEWWA TAX-XITWA
2 at Delimara on 20th April, 2 at Bahar iè-Caghaq on 27th August and 10 at Salina on 29th October.

WOOD PIGEON *Columba palumbus* TUDUN
Singles on 3rd March, 21st April, 27th June and 28th September. Small influx in late October and early November with 2 on 21st, 1 on 25th, 1 on 26th, 2 on 27th, 1 on 28th and 1 on 29th October; 2 on 1st, 3 on 2nd and 1 on 5th November.

STOCK DOVE *Columba oenas* TUDUN TAS-SIGAR
Singles at Ramla Valley on 22nd and at Hal Far on 28th October.

ROCK DOVE *Columba livia* TUDUN TAL-GEBEL
Few still present along rocky sea cliffs.

PALM DOVE *Streptopelia senegalensis* GAMIEMA TAL-ILWIEN
1 shot at Mgarr in late September and 1 at M'Xlokk in the latter half of October. Singles at Victoria and San Lawrenz on 15th October.

TURTLE DOVE *Streptopelia turtur* GAMIEMA
Single figures on most days from 25th March, then daily from 14th April to 27th May with treble figures on 10 days, highest 750+ on 17th and 19th April. Except for a few days, only single figures after 11th May. Stragglers on several dates in June, July and August. Autumn passage from 26th August to 2nd October. Large passage on 2nd September with ca.2000 in 4 localities and high double figures on 7 other days. Late birds on 7th, 12th and 15th October.

CUCKOO *Cuculus canorus* DAQUQUA KAHLA
Spring passage from 12th March to 25th May, with most in April. Good passages

on 14th and 16th April with 50 and 56 respectively, otherwise only single figures. 1 on 3rd June. In autumn 1 on 4th, 5th and 9th and 2 on 24th July; 1 on 2nd, 5th and 13th August; singles on 2nd, 3rd, 13th, 14th, 27th and 28th September, and 2 on 8th October.

GREAT SPOTTED CUCKOO *Clamator glandarius* SULTAN IL-GAMIEM TAT-
TOPPU
Singles at Naxxar and San Gwann on 17th April and at Faqqanija on 7th June.

BARN OWL *Tyto alba* BARBAGANN
Singles recorded from seven localities in all seasons.

LONG-EARED OWL *Asio otus* QATTUS
Unusual birds on 19th April and 2nd May. Only one in autumn; on 2nd October.

SHORT-EARED OWL *Asio flammeus* KOKKA TAX-XAGHRI
Singles on 28th February; 12th, 19th and 30th March; 3 on 7th and 1 on 9th and 12th April. In autumn 1 on 18th and 3 on 25th October and 1 on 5th November, at Hal Far.

SCOPS OWL *Otus scops* KOKKA
Spring passage very thin, with 1-2 recorded on 10 days from 8th March to 9th May. Autumn passage from 24th September to 26th October, with 6 on 2nd and 11 on 7th highest.

NIGHTJAR *Caprimulgus europaeus* BUQRAJQ
Spring passage from 23rd March to 28th May, with low single figures logged on 9 days. In autumn 1 on 8th, then on most days from 26th September to 1st November with most at the end of September, highest 20+ at Buskett on 29th.

PALLED SWIFT *Apus pallidus* RUNDUN KANNELLI
The only birds positively identified were 1 at Mgarr on 18th March, 2 at Xlendi on 22nd July and 2 at Dingli Cliffs on 19th August.

SWIFT *Apus apus* RUNDUN
Almost continuous passage from 17th March to 24th September with apparent break between 21st June and 2nd July. Double or low treble figures on most days, but ca.3130 counted on 26th August. Late birds on 8th (2) and 11th October.

ALPINE SWIFT *Apus melba* RUNDUN TA' ZAQQU BAJDA
1 on 17th, 27 on 25th, 2 on 26th and 8 on 31st March; 6 on 13th and 1 on 30th May. In autumn singles on 5 dates in September from 14th, 3 on 8th and 1 on 13th October.

KINGFISHER *Alcedo atthis* GHASFUR TA' SAN MARTIN
Main passage in August with 1-2 in several localities on most days from 6th to 23rd. Singles on 2nd, 4th and 10th September, 18th and 21st October.

BEE-EATER *Merops apiaster* QERD IN-NAHAL
Spring passage from 22nd April to 11th June, mainly end-April to mid-May. Highest 65 on 23rd April; 15 on 8th, 32 on 13th and 15 on 26th May, otherwise single figures. Small passage in September with 25 on 7th, 6 on 9th and 20 on 13th

ROLLER *Coracias garrulus* FARRUG
Single figures on most days from 17th April to 12th May, highest 5 on 22nd April, 1 on 3rd and 2 on 8th September.

HOOPOE *Upupa epops* DAQUQA TAT-TOPPU
Very good spring passage with birds recorded almost every day from 26th February to 17th April; double figures (maximum 35) on 18th-19th and 26th March; 9th and 16th April. Singles on 3rd-5th, 13th and 22nd May. Exceptionally late bird on 11th June. Autumn passage from 31st July to 26th September, mainly mid-August to mid-September. Only single figures. Late bird on 17th October.

WRYNECK *Lynx torquilla* BULEBBIET
Singles at Buskett and Mtaheb on 1st-3rd January. Single figures on most days from 18th March to 20th April. Autumn passage from 3rd September to 25th November with most in late September and October. Singles on 16th, 18th and 23rd December.

HOOPOE LARK *Alaemon alaudipes* ALWETTA BUMUNQAR
3 singles were seen shot: 1 at Maghtab at the end of April, 1 on 28th May, and 1 at Tal-Garda on 29th August.

SHORT-TOED LARK *Calandrella cinerea* BILBLA
First arrivals on 10th March, but most from 24th with passage all through April. As usual very common as a breeding bird in open country. Autumn passage from 15th August. Last seen on 20th September.

CALANDRA LARK *Melanocorypha calandra* KALANDRA
1 at Delimara on 5th and 6th March.

WOOD LARK *Lullula arborea* CUQLAJTA
3 on 30th January, 1 on 12th and 2 on 21st October; 2 on 7th and 1 on 24th November.

SKY LARK *Alauda arvensis* ALWETTA
Only occasionally recorded till mid-March, then small passage from 17th to 26th March, with 82 on 19th highest. Exceptionally late bird at Hal Far on 30th April. Autumn passage from 29th September with heavy influxes from 15th to 28th October (500-700) on most days. Only a few after mid-November.

SAND MARTIN *Riparia riparia* HAWWIEFA TAX-XTUT
1 on 27th January, 1 on 20th and 3 on 23rd, 26th and 27th February. 1 on 18th March, then not seen till 1st April, but most from 22nd April to 21st May. Maximum was only 155 on 19th May. 5 on 2nd and 10 on 6th June. Singles on 7th and 18th August, then on most days in September. Less regular in October to 28th. Much in same numbers as in spring with maximum of 100 on 28th September.

SWALLOW *Hirundo rustica* HUTTAF
1 on 8th and 3 on 27th February. Occasional from 4th, then on most days from 17th March to 21st May. Highest 1000+ on 13th-14th April; medium treble figures on many days. 20+ on 6th June and singles on 24th and 25th July. In autumn occasional from 20th August then almost daily from 2nd September to 29th October and less regular till 18th November. Maximum 2,100 on 6th October.

RED-RUMPED SWALLOW *Hirundo daurica* REGINA TAL-HUTTAF
1 at Ramla Valley on 3rd and 1 at Lunzjata on 5th April. 2 at Ramla Valley on 7th May. 1 there on 30th September.

HOUSE MARTIN *Delichon urbica* HAWWIEFA
Singles on 19th and 27th February, then from 3rd March to 21st May with most in mid-April and early May, highest 1000+ on 13th-14th April. Late small influx in June with a few on most days from 1st to 12th. Autumn passage, from 7th September to 11th November, was as usual much thinner with several days without any records. Maximum was 180 on 14th October. 2 were at Lunzjata on 30th-31st December.

TAWNY PIPIT *Anthus campestris* BILBLUN
1 on 13th, then on most days from 24th March to 7th May, highest 35 on 3rd and 20+ on 14th April. Autumn passage from 28th August to 30th September and from 10th to 24th October, highest 14 on 13th September and 15 on 15th October.

TREE PIPIT *Anthus trivialis* DIZZ
Occasional from 11th, then on most days from 18th March to 30th April. Few singles till 12th May. Most from 25th March to 9th April, with 120 on 26th March highest. Autumn passage from 26th August to 25th October; double figures on 11 days, highest 48 on 3rd September.

MEADOW PIPIT *Anthus pratensis* PESFUS
Common January — early April with high double figures in suitable localities. Heavy return passage on 26th March with 600+ counted coming in at Hal Far. Last seen on 16th April. First in autumn on 13th October; then common from 17th till year end.

RED-THROATED PIPIT *Anthus cervinus* DIZZ AHMAR
Unusual bird on 3rd January. Spring passage from 1st to 16th April, highest 30+ at Hal Far on 8th. Up to 10 were at Marsa on 17th May. 6 on 19th September, then small numbers from 12th October to 11th November, highest 7 at Hal Far on 29th. 2 on 25th November.

ROCK PIPIT/WATER P.I.P.T *Anthus spinoletta* DIZZ TAL-ILMA
Singles at Hal Far on 25th October and at Salina on 18th December.

YELLOW WAGTAIL *Motacilla flava* ISFAR
On most days from 5th March to 28th May, with double figures regularly in suitable localities. Singles at Chadwick Lakes on 4th and 15th June. Few from 12th, then almost daily from 24th August to 22nd October. highest 200+ at Hal Far on 2nd September. 2 on 1st November.

GREY WAGTAIL *Motacilla cinerea* ZAKAK TAD-DELL
Single figures in most localities throughout January, February and March to 21st, but up to 10 at Lunzjata on several days in January. First in autumn on 14th September, then daily from 19th till year end. Double figures in October with 20 at Lunzjata on 14th highest.

WHITE WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba* ZAKAK ABJAD
During January-March only single figures in any one locality, but as usual all

birds wintering here roosted in Great Siege Square, Valletta. Last in spring on 6th April. Occasional from 30th September then in same numbers as before from 12th October onwards but double figures frequent from mid-October to mid-November.

RED-BACKED SHRIKE *Lanius collurio* **KACCAMENDULA HAMRA**
Single females near M'Xlokk on 20th and at Ghadira on 24th May. A pair was seen at Buskett in 10th June: the male was singing and was seen chasing the female twice; when the observers left cover the male also kept up a continuous alarm. This suggested breeding; however neither bird was seen on subsequent visits to the area. A juvenile was seen there on 17th July. In autumn recorded on 8th, 10th, 14th, 16th, 19th, 20th and 28th September; 7th (2), 19th, 21st and 22nd (2) October. All were birds of the year. 1 was at Lunzjata from 9th December onwards.

WOODCHAT SHRIKE *Lanius senator* **KACCAMENDULA**
Spring passage from 2nd April to 24th May with most from 22nd April to 13th May. Single figures, highest 6 on 2 days. Single adults at M'Xlokk on 4th and Buskett on 30th June, and juveniles at Buskett on 23rd and 30th July. 1-3 almost daily in August from 13th. Influx in early September with 9 at Mtahleb on 2nd and 7 at Buskett on 3rd, then 1-4 on 12 dates till 8th October.

LESSER GREY SHRIKE *Lanius minor* **KACCAMENDULA GRIZA**
Singles at Pieta' on 26th May, at Hal Far on 11th June and at Tal-Garda on 29th August.

PENDULINE TIT *Remiz pendulinus* **PENDULIN**
2 at Lunzjata on 4th November, then at least one there till 9th December. (First record for Malta).

WALL CREEPER *Tichodroma muraria* **DAQQUQA TAL-GEBEL**
1 at Sannat on 26th November. (2nd record for Malta).

WREN *Troglodytes troglodytes* **BUMISTUR**
1-2 at Buskett till 23rd January and at Girgenti till 10th February. 1 at Buskett on 11th and 25th November and 16th December; 2 at Mtahleb on 12th November and at least one till 18th; 2 at Wied Znuber on 17th December.

ALPINE ACCENTOR *Prunella collaris* **ZIEMEL TAL-ALPI**
1 at Mtahleb on 1st November.

DUNNOCK *Prunella modularis* **ZIEMEL**
Low double figures (up to 30 at Buskett) in most areas till 12th March. Very early bird on 30th September, then from 14th October reaching double figures at the end of the month.

CETTI'S WARBLER *Cettia cetti* **BAGHAL TAL-GHOLLIEQ**
Present in usual places all the year round. Single males at Mtahleb from 28th August onwards and at Chadwick Lakes from 29th August to 29th September.

GRASSHOPPER WARBLER *Locustella naevia* **BAGHAL TAL-GURATI**
1 trapped and ringed at Ramla Valley on 1st October. (2nd record for Malta)

MOUSTACHED WARBLER *Luscinola melanopogon* **BAGHAL QASTNI**
Singles at Salina on 25th and at Ghadira on 29th October. 1-3 at Lunzjata from 2nd November to 9th December (3 ringed and retrapped several times during this period). 1 at Salina on 18th December.

SEDGE WARBLER *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* **BAGHAL TAS-SIMAR**
Spring passage rather small: single figures from 27th March to 9th April, then only occasional till 13th May when passage was renewed till 27th. Highest were 5 on 1st April and 26th May. Noteworthy were 3 on Filfa on 27th May. Single late birds on 3rd, 4th, 7th and 10th June. In autumn single figures on 8 days in September from 8th to 29th, then 2 on 25th October, 1st and 2nd November.

MARSH WARBLER *Acrocephalus palustris* **BAGHAL TAL-GHADAJJAR**
An adult bird was trapped and ringed at Buskett on 30th August. (2nd record for Malta).

REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus scirpaceus* **BAGHAL TAL-QASAB**
As usual only a few records in spring: 1 at Buskett on 7th April; singles at Hal Far on 19th and 20th, and at Girgenti on 25th May. 1 on 30th July, then on most days from 10th August to 1st October with most from late August to late September. Highest 10 at Buskett/Mtahleb on 7th September. Singles on 17th and 21st October and 11th November.

GREAT REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* **BAGHAL PRIM**
1-5 on 4 days from 3rd to 9th April, then on most days from 21st April to 8th May. 1 on 21st May and 2 on 1st June. 1-2 on 17th, 24th and 28th August, then daily from 3rd to 29th September with a gap on 11th-16th. Highest 6 at Wied il-Luq on 3rd, 17th and 24th. 1 on 6th October.

ICTERINE WARBLER *Hippolais icterina* **BEKKAFIK ISFAR**
Singles on 16th and 30th April then from 5th to 21st May, highest 9 on 8th. In autumn recorded on 13th and 26th August; 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 19th, 20th, 26th, 27th and 30th September; 1st, 3rd and 14th October. 3 on 3rd and 19th September, otherwise singles.

GARDEN WARBLER *Sylvia borin* **BEKKAFIK**
Spring passage from 20th April to 1st June. Double figures from 6th to 13th May, highest 70 on last date, otherwise single figures. As usual autumn passage much heavier: daily from 15th August to 29th October with double figures from late August to early October. Highest 150 at Buskett/Salina on 24th and 80 at Hal-Far/Fergla Valley on 13th September.

BLACKCAP *Sylvia atricapilla* **KAPINERA**
As usual large concentrations in areas with abundant ivy. Up to 60 were at Buskett and Girgenti in January. On 30th the number at Buskett had increased to 200 and to 400 in early March. Up to 100 were still present on 27th but only 10+ on 29th-31st. 100+ were also counted at Bingemma in late February. In April singles on 4th, 9th and 23rd. 1-5 on several days from 21st September but numbers did not start building up before 22nd November. 50-100 at Buskett and 20-30 at Mtahleb in December.

WHITETHROAT *Sylvia communis* **BEKKAFIK AHMAR**
Spring passage from 18th March (previous earliest date was 27th) to 20th May.

Only one notable fall: 35+ at Hal Far on 3rd April, otherwise single figures. There were several days without any records. A female was seen at Buskett on 1st June. In autumn singles on 24th, 29th and 30th September and 2 on 1st October.

LESSER WHITETHROAT *Sylvia curruca* **BEKKAFIK IRMIEDI**
Record autumn: 1 at Salina on 8th-10th September. In October, 1 at Buskett on 1st. 1 at Salina on 1st-2nd, 1 at Ghadira on 11th. 1 on 14th and 3 on 21st at Ramla Valley, and 1 at Buskett on 28th.

RUPPELL'S WARBLER *Sylvia ruppelli* **BUFULA TAL-PAVALOR**
A male in breeding plumage was seen at Ta' Giorni on 25th March.

SARDINIAN WARBLER *Sylvia melanocephala* **BUFULA SEWDA**
First seen nest building on 11th March. First young out of nest on 16th April; some still in nest in early August. Up to 20 at Wied Znuber from mid-October might have been foreign birds wintering here.

SUBALPINE WARBLER *Sylvia cantillans* **BUFULA PASSAJRA**
Occasional from 18th, then present on most days from 24th March to 30th April. Mostly single figures but sometimes up to 15. Good falls on 26th March and 16th April with 25 and 40 respectively at Hal Far. Stragglers on 3rd, 7th, 12th (pair), 15th and 24th May. 1 on 9th, then few from 20th July increasing to 10-15 at Buskett by 30th. 50-100 there daily from 7th August to 8th September, then single figures and occasionally up to 20 till 2nd October. 2 on 14th October.

SPECTACLED WARBLER *Sylvia conspicillata* **BUFULA HAMRA**
Present in usual numbers. Nest building started in early March. First young seen out of nest on 8th April.

DARTFORD WARBLER *Sylvia undata* **BUFULA TAX-XAGHRI**
1 at Hal Far on 17th December.

WILLOW WARBLER *Phylloscopus trochilus* **VJOLIN PASTARD**
Daily from 18th March to 30th April with double figures on several days, highest 22 on last date. Only low single figures in May to 21st. Occasional from 15th, then daily from 23rd August to 21st October with gaps on 6th-9th and 11th-12th September. Mostly single or low double figures, but occasionally up to 40 at Buskett.

CHIFFCHAFF *Phylloscopus collybita* **VJOLIN TAX-XITWA**
Common and widespread during the first three months. As usual the maximum was recorded at Lunzjata with up to 30 in January and 60 from early February; only 10-20 in late March. Few stragglers till 24th April. First in autumn on 21st October. Up to 100 at Xemxija, 50 at Lunzjata and 30 at Buskett from 1st November onwards.

BONELLI'S WARBLER *Phylloscopus bonelli* **VJOLIN BAJDANI**
A record spring: 1-2 recorded daily in several localities from 30th March to 15th April; highest 6 (in 3 localities) on 5th. Then 2 at Ghadira on 25th April; 1 at Pieta from 2nd to 5th. 1 at Hal Far on 4th and 1 at Ghadira on 6th May. No autumn records.

WOOD WARBLER *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* **VJOLIN AHMAR**
Almost daily from 25th March to 24th May. Double figures on several days, highest 33 on 4th May. In autumn 1 on 15th-18th and 29th August, then low single figures on most days from 2nd to 30th September, highest 5 at Buskett on 14th. 1 on 1st, 8th and 11th-13th and 2 on 21st October.

GOLDCREST *Regulus regulus* **BUFULA TAL-QAMAR**
5 at Buskett on 1st January. Autumn passage from 21st October, with single figures in various localities on most days; highest 10+ at Wied Znuber on 25th October and at Buskett on 25th November. Smaller numbers in December. See also Gold/Firecrest.

FIRECREST *Regulus ignicapillus* **BUFULA TAT-TOPPU AHMAR**
Present till 29th March. Up to 15 at Buskett, 7 at Rabat and 6 at Girgenti throughout period. Smaller numbers in other localities. Late bird at Hal Far on 9th April. From 24th September in autumn; less numerous than usual, highest 10+ at Salina on 31st October. Only a few identified in December, but see under Gold/Firecrest.

GOLD/FIRECREST *Regulus regulus/ignicapillus*
1 at Ghadira on 26th March. 20+ at Buskett from 21st October and throughout November, decreased to 10+ in December. 1-2 at Lunzjata and Ramla Bay on several days in December.

FAN-TAILED WARBLER *Cisticola juncidis* **BAGHAL TAL-IMREWHA**
3 on 26th July and 1 on 22nd August at Salina. 1 at Ghadira on 20th September.

PIED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula hypoleuca* **ZANZARELL ISWED**
Occasional from 27th March, then on most days from 8th April to 12th May. Influxes on 27th and 30th April with 24 at Wied Znuber/Wardija and 40 at Ramla Valley/Ghadira respectively; single or very low double figures on other days. 2 late males at Hal Far on 20th May. In autumn low single figures on several days from 24th August to 6th October, highest 5 at Lunzjata on 13th September. Late bird on 22nd October.

COLLARED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula albicollis* **ZANZARELL TAL-KULLAR**
An unusually poor year with only 4 spring records: singles on 30th March, 15th April, 7th May and 3rd June.

RED-BREASTED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula parva* **ZANZARELL TA' SIDRU AHMAR**
Following last year's good autumn, this year was another record: 1 at Delimara on 16th, 1 at Hal Far on 17th and 2 on 24th and 1 on 25th September at Buskett. 1 at Hal Far on 6th-8th, 3 at Salina on 9th, 1 at Hal Far on 10th, 8 at Buskett and 1 at Ghadira on 11th and 1 at Hal Far on 21st-25th (2 on 24th) October. Four were adult males.

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa striata* **ZANZARELL TAT-TIKKI**
2 on 16th, then daily from 22nd April to 21st May, most in early May. Highest 50+ on 8th and 13th. 1-2 on 1st-3rd June. 1 at Buskett on 11th June and 2 newly fledged young there on 9th July. 1 on 29th August then on most days from 13th

September to 21st October; low single figures, but 25+ at Buskett on 19th September. 1 on 1st November.

WHINCHAT *Saxicola rubetra* BUCAQCAQ TAS-SILLA
Spring passage from 2nd April to 21st May; most from 27th to 30th April, highest 40 at Hal Far on 29th. In autumn occasional from 30th August, then single figures on most days from 29th September to 21st October, highest 9 on 30th September.

STONECHAT *Saxicola torquata* BUCAQCAQ TAX-XITWA
Single figures in most places in January and February. Slight increase evident in early March. Last seen on 24th March. In autumn from 29th September, numbers increasing after mid-October. Up to 20 on most days in suitable localities.

WHEATEAR *Oenanthe oenanthe* KUDA
Early bird on 27th February. 1-6 on 10th-12th, then from 18th March to 6th May with occasional singles till 27th. Highest 100 on 18th March and 150 on 3rd April at Hal Far. Varying numbers on other days, often high double figures. Autumn passage from 13th August to 29th October with a peak in September. Double figures on most days, highest 50 at Hal Far on several days. 1 on 5th November.

BLACK-EARED WHEATEAR *Oenanthe hispanica* KUDA DUMNIKANA
Small spring passage from 18th March to 28th May with most in early April, highest 6 on 5th. Singles on 6th, 17th and 24th September.

ISABELLINE WHEATEAR *Oenanthe isabellina* KUDA IZABELLINA
1 at Hal Far on 2nd April.

RUFOUS BUSH CHAT *Cercotrichas galactotes* ROZINJOL TAX-XAGHRI
1-2 present for several days at Wardija during mid-May. 1 caught at Birzebbugia at the end of May.

ROCK THRUSH *Monticola saxatilis* GANBUBLU
Spring passage from 23rd March to 18th April with single figures on 9 days. Highest 5 on 8th April. Singles on 15th September and 7th October were the only autumn records.

BLUE ROCK THRUSH *Monticola solitarius* MERILL
First young seen out of nest in 13th May. High concentration along the Xlendi-Sarvaflu cliffs where 15 males were counted in August.

BLACK REDSTART *Phoenicurus ochruros* KUDIROSS ISWED
Single figures in rocky areas till 20th March. Slight increase evident in March. First in autumn on 14th October, but most from early November. Highest 15 at Mtahleb on 8th November. Only low single figures in December.

REDSTART *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* KUDIROSS
Early birds on 11th and 14th (2) March then on most days from 25th March to 21st May. Only single figures and occasionally up to 10. Autumn passage from 30th August to 5th November with double figures on most days from 24th September to 7th October, highest 50 on 2 days.

ROBIN *Erithacus rubecula* PITIROSS
Large numbers till mid-March with 200-300 at Buskett decreasing to 80-120 in late January. Small influxes in several localities in March. Few stragglers till 14th May. 1-2 stayed at Buskett throughout summer. First migrants from 3rd September reaching double figures at Buskett on 27th. Several large falls from 15th October with high double figures in most areas. 100-300 at Buskett till year end.

NIGHTINGALE *Luscinia megarhynchos* ROZINJOL
Spring passage from 18th March to 8th May with double figures from late March to late April, highest 30 at Buskett on 4th and at Hal Far on 16th April. 1 at Buskett from 30th July then up to 10 there from 15th August. Recorded in most localities from early September. Large fall on 17th September with 150+ at Buskett, then in slowly decreasing numbers with only single figures from early October and till 28th.

BLUETHROAT *Luscinia svecica* KUDIROSS BLU
Single males at Lunzjata on 12th and 18th March. 1 at Ghadira on 24th October and 1 at Lunzjata on 7th November.

FIELDFARE *Turdus pilaris* MALVIZZUN TAL-QTAJJA
1 on 30th January and 2 on 5th February. Very unusual bird on 31st August. 2 on 5th November and 25th December.

RING OUZEL *Turdus torquatus* MALVIZZ TAS-SIDRA BAJDA
Singles on 13th September; 23rd and 26th October; and 2nd November. 3 on 5th November.

BLACKBIRD *Turdus merula* MALVIZZ ISWED
1-4 in overgrown areas till 12th March. 2 on 29th September, then from 14th October onwards. No large passages recorded; only single figures.

REDWING *Turdus iliacus* MALVIZZ AHMAR
25 on 1st and 35 on 30th January at Buskett, otherwise only occasional low single figures there till 4th March. Up to 5 were at Lunzjata till 10th February. 1 on 5th, 14th and 17th, then low single figures on scattered dates from 22nd November onwards. Highest 8 on 9th and 6 on 10th December.

SONG THRUSH *Turdus philomelos* MALVIZZ
Single figures, with occasionally up to 15, throughout January and February. Double figures on a few days in March with 50 on 5th highest. Stragglers till 16th April. 2 on 30th September, then from 7th October with high double figures from 19th October. Much smaller numbers in November and only single figures in December.

MISTLE THRUSH *Turdus viscivorus* MALVIZZUN PRIM
1 at Wied il-Kbir on 4th March.

CORN BUNTING *Emberiza calandra* DURRAJSA
Common and widespread over most cultivated and rocky areas. Nest building started in late February. In flocks of up to 30 during August-October.

ORTOLAN BUNTING *Emberiza hortulana* ORTOLAN
Small passage in spring: single figures on 7 days from 31st March to 29th April highest 8 at Qortin (Xaghra) on 4th. 2 at Ghadira on 15th September.

LITTLE BUNTING *Emberiza pusilla* DURRAJSA QERQNIJA
1 at Hal Far on 9th April and 1 at Ta' Qali on 30th October.

REED BUNTING *Emberiza schoeniclus* DURRAJSA TAL-QASAB
1 at Salina on 31st January.

CHAFFINCH *Fringilla coelebs* SPONSUN
Small numbers throughout winter with up to 20 at Buskett. Few irregularly till 2nd May. 2 at Buskett throughout July and August and up to 10 there in September. Singles occasionally seen in other localities in summer. Autumn passage from 7th October, with high double figures in October, highest 100 at Hal Far on 17th and at Buskett on 21st. Smaller numbers in November and December.

BRAMBLING *Fringilla montifringilla* SPONSUN SELVAĠĠ
2 at Xaghra on 1st November.

SERIN *Serinus serinus* APPARELL
Single figures till mid-March. 3 on 8th April and singles on 11th May and 11th June. 1 on 28th September, then from 19th October onwards; double figures on several days.

GREENFINCH *Carduelis chloris* VERDUN
Only a few during January and February. Passages on several days in March, then occasional till 12th May. In autumn few from 30th September then passages (mostly double figures) from 15th October and throughout November. Smaller numbers in December.

SISKIN *Carduelis spinus* EKRU
Passages on 6 days in October from 18th, highest 40 on 23rd and 15 on 31st. On 4 dates in November with a passage on 28th (30 logged). 1 on 2nd and 2 on 29th December.

GOLDFINCH *Carduelis carduelis* GARDELL
Occasionally recorded in January-April to 12th. 1 on 13th September, then from 16th October onwards. Double figures (highest 30) on several days from 24th October to 18th November. Only a few in December.

LINNET *Acanthis cannabina* GOJJIN
Single or low double figures in most areas in January and February. Passages (treble figures) on several days in March and early April. 1 at Ghadira on 1st and 6th May. Few in Gozo and 2 at Tal-Handaq during summer. Few passage birds from 5th September, but most from 21st October with several heavy passages, often thousands. Smaller numbers in December.

CROSSBILL *Loxia curvirostra* KRUCJAT
Small irruption in summer: 1 at Lunzjata on 9th, 1 at Marsalforn on 13th and a flock of 9 at Buskett on 17th-19th July. 1 at Ta' Xbiex on 6th and 1 at Buskett on 13th-17th August. 1 at Salina on 15th September.

BULLFINCH *Pyrrhula pyrrhula* BUGEDDUM
A female was trapped near Rabat on 7th November.

HAWFINCH *Coccothraustes coccothraustes* GHASFUR TAZ-ZEBBUĠ
2 on 20th March. Autumn passage from 16th October to 4th November. Best days were 23rd and 24th October with 31 and 23 respectively, otherwise single figures.

SPANISH SPARROW *Passer hispaniolensis* GHAMMIEL TAL-BEJT
Abundant everywhere all through the year.

TREE SPARROW *Passer montanus* GHAMMIEL TAS-SIGAR
Small numbers present and widespread all over the Islands. Numbers augmented by migrants from October, but no large passages recorded.

ROSE-COLOURED STARLING *Sturnus roseus* STURNELL ROZA
A first year bird was present with Starlings at Ghadira on 10th November.

STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris* STURNELL
Up to 500 at Luqa and Hal Far during January, February and March to 18th. Smaller numbers in several other localities. Late birds on 9th, 16th and 20th April and 21st May. Autumn passage from 25th September with thousands on several days after mid-October. Up to 3000 were at Hal Far daily, but in December the number decreased to under a thousand.

GOLDEN ORIOLE *Oriolus oriolus* TAJRA SAFRA
Exceptionally early birds on 10th and 18th March, then single or low double figures (maximum 25) daily from 15th April to 15th May. Stragglers till 10th June. In autumn 2 on 20th, then on most days from 28th August to 7th October. 48 on 10th September, otherwise single figures.

ADDITIONS TO SYSTEMATIC LIST FOR 1971

Black-Necked Grebe: 1 on 31st July (earliest record to date).
 Great Crested Grebe: 1 at Delimara on 22nd January.
 'Grey Geese': Flock of 11 over Buskett on 4th October.
 Mallard: 7 on 1st and 11th November, at M'Xlokk.
 Teal: Singles on 3rd, 9th and 22nd October.
 Wigeon: 1 on 13th and 3 on 14th November, at Delimara.
 Pintail: Singles at M'Xlokk on 8th March, 1st and 14th November.
 Garganey: 1 at B'Bugia on 20th February and 1 at M'Xlokk on 3rd October.
 Pochard: 1 on 16th July and 2 on 20th November, at M'Xlokk.
 Ferruginous Duck: 1 at M'Xlokk on 4th October.
 Common Scoter: 1 off Kalafrana on 15th November (3rd record for Malta).
 Bocted Eagle: 1 at Buskett on 19th September (5th record for Malta).
 Eleonora's Falcon: Singles on 24th and 29th May.
 Ringed Plover: 1 at Delimara on 13th June.
 Dotterel: Flock of ca. 50 at Qadi on 10th November.
 Lapwing: 12 at M'Xlokk on 20th February.
 Curlew Sandpiper: Singles on 15th June and 28th July.
 Sanderling: 3 near M'Xlokk on 17th May.
 Ruff: 1 on 9th August.
 Spotted Redshank: 1 on 5th September.
 Greenshank: 1 on 5th June.
 Curlew: Singles at Delimara on 6th June and 30th October.
 Black-Winged Stilt: Singles on 12th, 15th, 22nd and 24th March and 7th May.
 Stone Curlew: 1 on 25th March.
 Cream-Coloured Courser: 1 at M'Xlokk on 5th February and 1 at 'Il-Fiddien' on 19th September.
 Pomarine Skua: 1 off south coast on 27th December.
 White-Winged Black Tern: 2 at M'Xlokk on 11th May.
 Sandwich Tern: A 'good number' reported off Delimara on 14th November.
 Long-Eared Owl: 1 on 27th October.
 Little Swift (*Apus affinis*): 1 at 'Il-Fiddien' on 2nd April (3rd record for Malta)
 Needle-Tailed Swift (*Hirundapus caudacutus*): 1 was shot at Faqqanija in mid-November (1st record for Malta).
 Wood Lark: 8 at Buskett on 17th November.
 Woodchat Shrike: 1 at Benghisa on 16th May was of the Corsican race, *L.s. badius* (3rd record of this sub-species in Malta)
 Rock Thrush: Singles on 19th and 27th September.
 Mistle Thrush: 1 on 25th October.

SPECIES RINGED AND TOTALS

Species	Ringed in 1972	Recovered in 1972	Grand Total Ringed	Grand Total Recovered
<i>Calonectris diomedea</i>	45	1	186	2
<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	10	—	71	—
<i>Hyrobates pelagicus</i>	1,794	2	5,116	6
<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	1	—	9	1
<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	—	—	4	1
<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	1	—	3	—
<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>	1	—	4	—
<i>Porzana porzana</i>	1	—	4	1
<i>Porzana parva</i>	—	—	4	—
<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	2	—	11	1
<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	—	—	27	1
<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	—	—	4	—
<i>Calidris minuta</i>	1	—	95	2
<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	1	—	6	—
<i>Calidris alpina</i>	—	—	6	—
<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	—	—	10	1
<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	—	—	12	1
<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	—	—	7	2
<i>Tringa glareola</i>	2	1	42	6
<i>Tringa hypoleucos</i>	—	—	11	—
<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	—	—	6	1
<i>Gallinago media</i>	—	—	1	1
<i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>	—	—	1	—
<i>Larus argentatus</i>	2	—	9	1
<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	3	—	8	—
<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	1	—	4	—
<i>Otus scops</i>	7	—	29	2
<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>	1	—	5	1
<i>Apus apus</i>	—	—	1	—
<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	2	—	19	3
<i>Upupa epops</i>	3	—	6	—
<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	12	1	69	1
<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>	6	—	31	—
<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	4	2	5	2
<i>Riparia riparia</i>	73	—	1,053	8
<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	439	2	3,085	28
<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	1	—	12	1
<i>Delichon urbica</i>	198	2	959	5
<i>Anthus campestris</i>	—	—	5	—
<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	44	—	192	1
<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	33	—	100	1
<i>Anthus cervinus</i>	—	—	2	—
<i>Motacilla flava</i>	63	—	506	12
<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	45	—	187	2
<i>Motacilla alba</i>	4	—	105	3
<i>Lanius collurio</i>	7	—	26	—
<i>Lanius senator</i>	12	—	35	—

<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>	1	---	1	---
<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	2	---	11	---
<i>Prunella modularis</i>	53	1	148	1
<i>Cettia cetti</i>	5	---	38	---
<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>	---	---	9	---
<i>Locustella fluviatilis</i>	---	---	1	---
<i>Locustella naevia</i>	1	---	1	---
<i>Luscinia melanopogon</i>	3	---	23	---
<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	30	---	236	1
<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>	1	---	2	---
<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	32	---	202	---
<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	36	---	243	1
<i>Hippolais icterina</i>	34	---	173	---
<i>Hippolais pallida</i>	---	---	1	---
<i>Sylvia hortensis</i>	---	---	1	---
<i>Sylvia borin</i>	398	1	1,476	2
<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	65	---	680	2
<i>Sylvia communis</i>	67	---	525	---
<i>Sylvia curruca</i>	5	---	8	---
<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	239	---	1,004	3
<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>	212	---	652	---
<i>Sylvia conspicillata</i>	42	---	170	---
<i>Sylvia undata</i>	---	---	13	---
<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	122	---	461	1
<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	552	3	2,818	8
<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>	16	---	26	---
<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	92	---	386	---
<i>Regulus regulus</i>	15	---	23	---
<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>	16	---	68	1
<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>	55	1	233	1
<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>	1	---	38	---
<i>Ficedula parva</i>	3	---	8	---
<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	29	---	174	---
<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	12	---	82	---
<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	47	---	120	1
<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	10	---	48	---
<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>	1	---	1	---
<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>	---	---	1	---
<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>	---	---	1	---
<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	3	---	23	3
<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	2	---	11	---
<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	114	---	547	---
<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	753	15	3,406	65
<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>	---	---	1	---
<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	105	---	354	1
<i>Luscinia svecica</i>	4	---	22	---
<i>Turdus torquatus</i>	---	---	2	---
<i>Turdus merula</i>	6	---	41	4
<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	1	---	3	---
<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	28	2	108	6
<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	7	---	34	---
<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>	---	---	2	---

<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	---	---	1	---
<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	22	---	77	1
<i>Serinus serinus</i>	---	---	68	2
<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	91	2	238	17
<i>Acanthis cannabina</i>	85	3	682	40
<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	---	---	1	---
<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	283	1	2,260	33
<i>Passer montanus</i>	1	---	27	---
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	1	---	5	---
<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	4	---	20	---
Totals	6,526	40	30,132	292

RINGING RECOVERIES

This section of the report deals with 25 recoveries of 13 species. 15 others, all of them in, or within 5 kilometers of the place of ringing, are omitted. Only 10 have been reported from abroad and two of these were recovered in 1971 but reported during this year. For local recoveries of over five kilometers the distance is given, this, together with the directions, are approximate.

Key to symbols and terms used in the recovery lists:

Ring number: where this is followed by an asterisk (*) the ring has been returned.

Age: pull. (pullus) --- nestling or chick, not yet flying;
 juv. --- young, able to fly freely;
 1Y --- bird in its first year of life;
 p.j. --- post-juvenile;
 f.g. --- full-grown, age uncertain;
 ad. --- adult, at least one year old.

Sex: M. --- male;
 F. --- female.

Manner of recovery:

v --- caught or trapped, and released with ring;
 + --- shot or killed by man;
 x --- found dead or dying;
 () --- caught or trapped alive and not released, or released but with ring removed;
 /?/ --- manner of recovery unknown.

Date of recovery:

Where this is unknown the date of the reporting letter is given instead and is shown in brackets. An 00 in the date indicates that exact date of the month is unknown.

CORY'S SHEARWATER	<i>Calonectris aiomeæa</i>	CIEFA
SS 92.770*	ad. 14. 06. 70	Filfla: 35°47'N, 14°25'E.
	+ ca.24. 03. 72	ca. 20 kms. SSE of Delimara Pt. v. ca. 35°40'N, 14°40'E.
STORM PETREL	<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>	KANGU TA' FILFLA
210.2227	p.j. 13. 06. 70	Filfla.
	+ (17. 01. 72)	Delimara Pt. (15 km ENE)
211.4915*	p.j. 27. 05. 72	Filfla.
	x 20. 08. 72	Itala Marina: 38°03'N, 15°26'E, (Messina) Sicily.
WOOD SANDPIPER	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	PESPUS TAL-BAHAR
BV 02.841*	p.j. 30. 04. 72	Ramla Valley
	() 04. 05. 72	Siggiewi, (25 km SE)
WRYNECK	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	BULEBBIET
BJ 48.710	p.j. 11. 04. 72	Ghadira: 35°58'N, 14°21'E.
	+ 27. 09. 72	Khanis: 35°31'N, 24°01'E, Crete.
SKYLARK	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	ALWETTA
BJ 55.518	f.g. 27. 10. 72	Hal Far.
	+ end.10. 72	Żebbuġ. (8 km WNW)
BJ 55.534	f.g. 21. 11. 72	Xemxija, St. Paul's Bay.
	+ ca.15. 12 72	Birkirkara, (9 km SE)
SAND MARTIN	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	HAWWIEFA TAX-XTUT
HX 95.183	p.j. 15. 05. 70	Ramla Valley: 36°03'N, 14°17'E.
	v 24. 07. 71	Skrunda: 56°41'N, 22°01'E, Latvian SSR.
(Ring No. Riga F 6269 added)		
SWALLOW	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	HUTTIFA
JE 59.198*	p.j. M. 12. 04. 71	Ramla Valley.
	x 29. 06. 72	near Pesmes: 47°17'N, 05°34'E. (Haute Saone), France.
(At the time of death this Swallow was breeding).		
JE 58.621*	p.j. F. 08. 04. 71	Ramla Valley.
	x 22. 08. 72	Allier, Tarbes: 43°11'N, 00°07'E. (Hautes Pyrenees), France.
HOUSE MARTIN	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	HAWWIEFA
HX 12.611*	p.j. 08. 05. 69	Lunzjata Valley: 36°03'N, 14°14'E.
	x 05. 05. 72	Taganrog: 47°14'N, 38°55'E, Sea of Azov, (Rostov) U.S.S.R.
JJ 56.048*	p.j. 19. 05. 72	Ramla Valley.
	x 01. 07. 72	Schonewerda: 51°19'N, 11°22'E, Artern, (Halle in Sachsen Anhalt) Germany.

CHIFFCHAFF	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	VJOLIN TAX-XITWA
554.422	p.j. 26. 10. 72	Wied Znuber, Hal Far.
	v 10. 12. 72	Lunzjata Valley. (36 km NW)
162.538	p.j. 06. 11. 72	Lunzjata Valley.
	v 16. 12. 72	Buskett. (26 km SE)
SONG THRUSH	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	MALVIZZ
CP 66.938	p.j. 23. 10. 72	Wied Znuber, Hal Far.
	+ (28. 10. 72)	Zejtun. (5 km NNE)
ROBIN	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	PITIROSS
JC 91.694	p.j. 12. 02. 71	Buskett: 35°51'N, 14°26'E.
	+ 10. 10. 71	near Gabes: 33°52'N, 10°06'E, Tunisia
JH 83.195	1Y 14. 11. 71	Sahina.
	/?/ 05. 01. 72	Msida. (8 km SE)
JE 60.376	1Y 25. 10. 71	Wied Znuber, Hal Far.
	v 07. 02. 72	Rabat. (12 km NW)
JC 91.690	p.j. 12. 02. 71	Buskett.
	+ 00. 02. 72	Gabes: 33°52'N, 10°06'E, Tunisia.
JH 84.093	1Y 26. 10. 71	Buskett.
	+ 20. 02. 72	Mareth: 33°37'N, 10°12'E, Tunisia.
JK 31.209	1Y 21. 10. 72	Wied Znuber, Hal Far.
	() 1st wk.11. 72	Rabat. (12 km NW)
JK 31.861	1Y 25. 10. 72	Wied Znuber, Hal Far.
	() 1st wk.11. 72	Rabat. (12 km NW)
JK 31.571	ad. 26. 10. 72	Lunzjata Valley.
	v 05. 11. 72	Qrendi. (30 km SE)
JK 31.108	1Y 10. 10. 72	Wied Znuber, Hal Far.
	() 11. 11. 72	Mellieha. (20 km NW)
LINNET	<i>Acanthis cannabina</i>	GOJJIN
HX 76.818	f.g. F. 28. 10. 70	Lunzjata Valley.
	() (24. 03. 72)	Marsascala. (35 km SE)

RECOVERIES IN MALTA OF BIRDS RINGED ABROAD

The symbols and terms are the same as those used in the 'Ringing Recoveries', with the exception that the term 'juv.' cannot always be relied upon to signify a young bird able to fly freely; owing to lack of unanimity in the various ringing schemes, this term may sometimes mean a chick or pullus. A number in brackets beside the term 'pull.' indicates the size of the brood.

Species	Location	Age	Date	Coordinates	Notes
NIGHT HERON	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>				KWAKKA
Zagreb C221267		pull.	30. 06. 67	Subotica: 46°04'N, 19°39'E, (Vojvodina), Yugoslavia.	
		+	04. 09. 69	Qrendi: 35°50'N, 14°27'E.	
Zagreb C236104		pull.	17. 06. 72	Bilje: 45°37'N; 18°43'E, (Hrvatska), Yugoslavia.	
		+	08. 09. 72	Tal-Handaq: 35°52'N, 14°28'E.	
SQUACCO HERON	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>				AGRETT ISFAR
Zagreb C234956		pull.	26. 06. 72	Bosanska Gradiska: 45°08'N, 17°15'E, (Hrvatska), Yugoslavia.	
		+	03. 09. 72	Bahar ic-Caghaq: 35°56'N, 14°28'E.	
LITTLE EGRET	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>				AGRETT ABJAD
Zagreb C230776		pull.	24. 06. 69	Bilje: 45°37'N; 18°43'E, (Hrvatska), Yugoslavia.	
		x	(19. 09. 69)	Filfla: 35°47'E, 14°25'E.	
OSPREY	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>				ARPA
Helsinki M-6.740		pull.(3)	25. 06. 72	Stensbole: 60°21'N, 25°43'E, (Uusimaa), Finland.	
		+	21. 09. 72	Gudja: 35°51'N, 14°31'E.	
Stockholm 9.211.142		pull.	04. 07. 72	Lake Asnen: 56°38'N, 14°40'E, (Smaland), Sweden.	
		+	26. 09. 72	Rabat: 35°53'N, 14°25'E.	
HONEY BUZZARD	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>				KUCCARDA
Stockholm 9.026.949		pull.(2)	11. 08. 72	Trasko-Storo: 59°25'E, 18°46'E. W Molja, (Uppland), Sweden.	
		+	00. 09. 72	Buskett: 35°51'N, 14°26'E.	
MONTAGU'S HARRIER	<i>Circus pygargus</i>				BUGHADAM GRIZ
Helgoland 5.183.707		pull.	08. 07. 72	Aventoft: 54°54'N, 08°49'E, Kr. Nordfriesland, Germany.	
		+	16. 09. 72	Tarxien: 35°52'N, 14°31'E.	
LITTLE RINGED PLOVER	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>				MONAKELLA
Helgoland 0.895.606		juv.	13. 06. 71	Norderstedt: 53°44'N, 09°59'E, (Schleswig Holstein), Germany.	
		+	18. 04. 72	Ramla Valley: 36°03'N, 14°17'E.	

Species	Location	Age	Date	Coordinates	Notes
GREY PLOVER	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>				PLUVIERA GRIZA
Paris CA43.688		f.g.	18. 09. 70	Radès: 36°52'N, 10°18'E, (Tunis), Tunisia.	
		+	16. 08. 72	Bahar ic-Caghaq: 35°57'N, 14°24'E.	
DUNLIN	<i>Calidris alpina</i>				BEG-GAZZINA TAT-TIZZ
Paris SA329215		1Y	29. 09. 70	Radès: 36°52'N, 10°18'E, (Tunis), Tunisia.	
		x	early 08. 72	Salina: 35°57'N, 14°26'E.	
WOOD SANDPIPER	<i>Tringa glareola</i>				PESPUS TAL-BAHAR
Stockholm 4.046.573		ad.	09. 07. 68	Kvismaren: 59°11'N, 15°24'E, Norrbyas, (Narke), Sweden.	
		+	02. 06. 71	near Tarxien: 35°52'N, 14°32'E.	
Larsson 7255		ad.	06. 08. 70	Leornadsberg: 58°37'N, 16°06'E, Norrkoping, (Ostergotland), Sweden.	
		+	00. 09. 71	Salina: 35°57'N, 14°25'E.	
GREAT SKUA	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>				CIEFA KBIRA
London HW 28.067		pull.	19. 07. 70	Hermanees: 60°52'N, 0°53'W, Unst, (Shetland), Scotland.	
		+	winter 1971/72	off Marsaxlokk: ca. 35°50'N, 14°35'E.	
London HW 25.384		pull.	16. 07. 71	Foula: 60°08'N; 02°05'W, (Shetland), Scotland.	
		+	26. 03. 72	off Filfla: 35°49'N, 14°27'E.	
MEDITERRANEAN GULL	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>				GAWWIJA RASHA SEWDA
Moskwa M-148.830		juv.	23. 06. 71	Orlov Islands: 46°17'N, 31°45'E, U.S.S.R.	
		+	00. 01. 72	Wied iz-Zurrieq: 35°49'N, 14°27'E.	
BLACK-HEADED GULL	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>				GAWWIJA RASHA KANNELLA
Zagreb B420246		pull.	29. 05. 69	Bosanska Gradiska: 45°08'N, 17°15'E, (Bosna i Hercegovina), Yugoslavia.	
		/?/?	10. 12. 69	Qormi: 35°53'N, 14°28'E.	
HERRING GULL	<i>Larus argentatus</i>				GAWWIJA PRIMA
Paris DW 04.481		pull.	20. 05. 70	Chikly: 36°50'N, 10°13'E, Lac de Tunis, (Tunis), Tunisia.	
		+	25. 01. 72	Marsa: 35°53'N, 14°30'E.	
TURTLE DOVE	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>				GAMIEMA
Praha H-38.779		pull.	16. 06. 69	Nakri: 49°07'N, 14°20'E, (Ceske Budejovice), Czechoslovakia.	
		+	24. 04. 71	Zurrieq: 35°50'N, 14°29'E.	
CUCKOO	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>				DAQQUQA KAHLA
London DS 43.082		1Y	13. 07. 69	Dungeness: 50°55'N, 0°59'E, (Kent), England.	
		+	20. 04. 72	Mellieha: 35°58'N, 14°22'E.	

HOOPOE Hiddensee 6.017.507	pull.	21. 06. 71	<i>Upupa epops</i>	DAQQUQA TAT-TOPPU Barenbruck: 51°42'N, 14°30'E, (Cottbus), D.D.R.
	+	05. 09. 72		Ghajn Tuffieha: 35°56'N, 14°21'E.
SAND MARTIN London HV 20.270	ad.	14. 06. 69	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	HAWWIEFA TAX-XTUT Fair Oak: 50°58'N, 01°18'W, Eastleigh, (Hampshire), England.
	v	27. 01. 72		Qormi: 35°53'N, 14°28'E.
HOUSE MARTIN Stavanger 9.222.203	ad.	22. 05. 71	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	HAWWIEFA Robergvannet: 59°14'N, 10°21'E, Vestfold, (nr. Tonsberg), Norway.
	/??/	00. 09. 72		Birzebbugia: 35°50'N, 14°32'E.
BLUE-HEADED YELLOW WAGTAIL Helsinki K 222.579	1Y	07. 08. 63	<i>Motacilla f. flava</i>	ISFAR Kylasaari: 60°12'N, 24°59'E, Helsinki, (Uusimaa), Finland.
	()	05. 04. 72		Marsascala: 35°53'N, 14°34'E.
WILLOW WARBLER Stavanger 9.200.816	pull.	08. 07. 69	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	VJOLIN PASTARD Kaldhol: 62°22'N, 05°59'E, Hareid, (More and Romsdal), Norway.
	v	03. 05. 72		Wied Znuber, Hal Far: 35°49'N, 14°31'E.
(Ring replaced by B.T.O. 554.205)				
PIED FLYCATCHER Helsinki K 672.386	pull. (5)	26. 06. 71	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>	ZANZARELL ISWED Livonsaari: 60°31'N, 21°45'E, Askainen, (Turku-Pori), Finland.
	+	30. 04. 72		Zejtun: 35°52'N, 14°33'E.
ROBIN Praha M 607.082	p.j. F.	10. 05. 70	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	PITIRROSS Piestany: 48°36'N, 17°49'E, (Slovakia), Czechoslovakia.
	()	00. 10. 70		Qala: 36°01'N, 14°18'E, Gozo.

RETRAPS

1. Retraps of spring migrants:

The following list shows the length of stay and gain in weight of trans-Saharan spring migrants. The weight, in grams, appears in brackets beside the date. Only those birds which gained at least one gram between the dates of ringing and retrap are included.

Species	Ringing Date & Wt	Date Retrapped & Wt.	Locality
Whitethroat	3. 4.72 (15.5)	7. 4.72 (19.3)	Wied Znuber
Whitethroat	3. 4.72 (14.0)	7. 4.72 (18.5)	Wied Znuber
Whitethroat	3. 4.72 (13.5)	8. 4.72 (16.1)	Wied Znuber
Subalpine Warbler	26. 3.72 (8.5)	28. 3.72 (9.9)	Wied Znuber
Subalpine Warbler	4. 4.72 (12.2)	7. 4.72 (14.0)	Ghadira
Subalpine Warbler	11. 4.72 (11.4)	15. 4.72 (14.0)	Ghadira
Willow Warbler	11. 4.72 (8.7)	15. 4.72 (11.6)	Ghadira
Willow Warbler	26. 4.72 (9.2)	30. 4.72 (10.2)	Ghadira
Willow Warbler	7. 4.72 (8.9)	16. 4.72 (11.2)	Wied Znuber
Bonelli's Warbler	2. 5.72 (7.2)	5. 5.72 (9.0)	Pieta
Wood Warbler	6. 5.72 (10.2)	8. 5.72 (12.4)	Pieta
Pied Flycatcher	26. 4.72 (10.8)	30. 4.72 (13.0)	Ghadira
Pied Flycatcher	13. 4.72 (11.6)	16. 4.72 (13.2)	Wied Znuber
Whinchat	15. 4.72 (16.8)	19. 4.72 (20.4)	Ghadira
Redstart	23. 4.72 (14.1)	25. 4.72 (15.4)	Ghadira
Redstart	7. 4.72 (15.5)	15. 4.72 (19.2)	Ghadira
Nightingale	1. 4.72 (21.0)	7. 4.72 (27.9)	Ghadira
Nightingale	3. 4.72 (19.2)	4. 4.72 (20.2)	Ghadira
Nightingale	3. 4.72 (14.5)	8. 4.72 (28.5)	Wied Znuber
Nightingale	27. 4.72 (17.6)	30. 4.72 (21.5)	Wied Znuber

2. Retraps of trans-Saharan autumn migrants:

The following list shows the length of stay and gain in weight of trans-Saharan autumn migrants. The weight, in grams, appears in brackets beside the date.

Species	Ringing Date & Wt	Date Retrapped & Wt.	Locality
Woodchat Shrike	10. 9.72 (34.0)	12. 9.72 (36.4)	
		& 17. 9.72 (46.2)	Buskett
Reed Warbler	28. 8.72 (14.9)	7. 9.72 (16.0)	Mtahleb
Reed Warbler	13. 9.72 (13.0)	17. 9.72 (14.5)	Pergla Val.
Reed Warbler	8. 9.72 (13.0)	12. 9.72 (14.8)	Buskett
Great Reed Warbler	17. 9.72 (33.6)	21. 9.72 (35.2)	
		& 24. 9.72 (37.4)	Buskett
Great Reed Warbler	17. 9.72 (29.4)	24. 9.72 (40.2)	Buskett
Great Reed Warbler	21. 9.72 (27.0)	24. 9.72 (29.8)	Buskett
Garden Warbler	30. 8.72 (17.3)	3. 9.72 (20.0)	
		& 8. 9.72 (26.8)	Buskett
	8. 9.72 (21.9)	10. 9.72 (23.0)	Salina
Garden Warbler	12. 9.72 (18.8)	21. 9.72 (24.7)	Buskett

Garden Warbler	21. 9.72 (26.0)	24. 9.72 (28.0)	Buskett
Garden Warbler	24. 9.72 (20.5)	1.10.72 (25.5)	Salina
Garden Warbler	1.10.72 (23.2)	7.10.72 (26.2)	Buskett
Lesser Whitethroat	8. 9.72 (12.9)	10. 9.72 (15.0)	Salina
Lesser Whitethroat	14.10.72 (14.6)	21.10.72 (16.0)	Ramla Val.
Subalpine Warbler	12. 8.72 (13.2)	15. 8.72 (14.7)	Buskett
Subalpine Warbler	12. 8.72 (12.8)	17. 8.72 (15.3)	Buskett
Subalpine Warbler	15. 8.72 (11.4)	23. 8.72 (16.2)	Buskett
Subalpine Warbler	15. 8.72 (9.4)	24. 8.72 (14.3)	Buskett
Subalpine Warbler	23. 8.72 (13.7)	26. 8.72 (15.2)	Buskett
	&	30. 8.72 (15.8)	Buskett
Subalpine Warbler	24. 8.72 (11.8)	1. 9.72 (13.4)	Buskett
Subalpine Warbler	26. 8.72 (12.4)	29. 8.72 (14.2)	Buskett
Subalpine Warbler	28. 8.72 (11.5)	3. 9.72 (15.4)	Buskett
Subalpine Warbler	28. 8.72 (11.0)	31. 8.72 (12.0)	Buskett
Subalpine Warbler	28. 8.72 (12.8)	3. 9.72 (15.8)	Buskett
Subalpine Warbler	29. 8.72 (10.2)	3. 9.72 (13.5)	Buskett
Subalpine Warbler	29. 8.72 (11.8)	1. 9.72 (13.8)	Buskett
Subalpine Warbler	3. 9.72 (14.0)	8. 9.72 (15.6)	Salina
Subalpine Warbler	8. 9.72 (12.5)	14. 9.72 (14.3)	Buskett
Nightingale	17. 9.72 (19.3)	19. 9.72 (21.2)	Buskett
Nightingale	17. 9.72 (22.2)	21. 9.72 (24.4)	Buskett
	&	24. 9.72 (26.3)	Buskett
Nightingale	29. 9.72 (19.0)	1.10.72 (20.7)	Buskett
Redstart	11.10.72 (12.7)	12.10.72 (13.7)	Ghadira
Spotted Flycatcher	6.10.72 (17.5)	11.10.72 (19.0)	Ghadira
Willow Warbler	30. 9.72 (8.8)	7.10.72 (11.1)	Ramla Val.
Tree Pipit	11.10.72 (26.0)	12.10.72 (28.5)	Ghadira
Sedge Warbler	1.11.72 (10.5)	2.11.72 (12.7)	
	&	4.11.72 (13.3)	Ramla Val.

3 Retraps of residents/summer residents and winter residents in successive years.

In the following tables, the top line shows the approximate period which had elapsed between ringing and retrap. The figures show the number of individuals retrapped in 1972.

a) Residents/Summer residents:

Species	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.	6 yrs.
Manx Shearwater	1					
Cory's Shearwater			2			
Storm Petrel	17	16	21	4		
Cetti's Warbler			1	1		
Sardinian Warbler	5	4	5			1
Blue Rock Thrush	1					
Spanish Sparrow	5					

b) Winter Residents:

Grey Wagtail		1				
Blackcap		2				
Chiffchaff	18	9	2		1	1
Robin	9	1	2			

4. Length of stay of winter visitors/residents:

In the following table, the top line shows the number of weeks which had elapsed between ringing and retrap in the same winter. The figures show the number of individuals retrapped in 1972.

Species	1-4 wks.	5-8 wks.	9-12 wks.	13-16 wks.
Grey Wagtail	2	3	1	
Wren	1			
Dunnock	6	1		
Moustached Warbler	1	1		
Blackcap		1		
Chiffchaff	20	11	3	1
Stonechat	3			
Robin	36	23	9	3

5. Increase in weight of winter visitors/residents:

The following list shows the gain in weight of winter visitors/residents. The weight, in grams, appears in brackets beside the date.

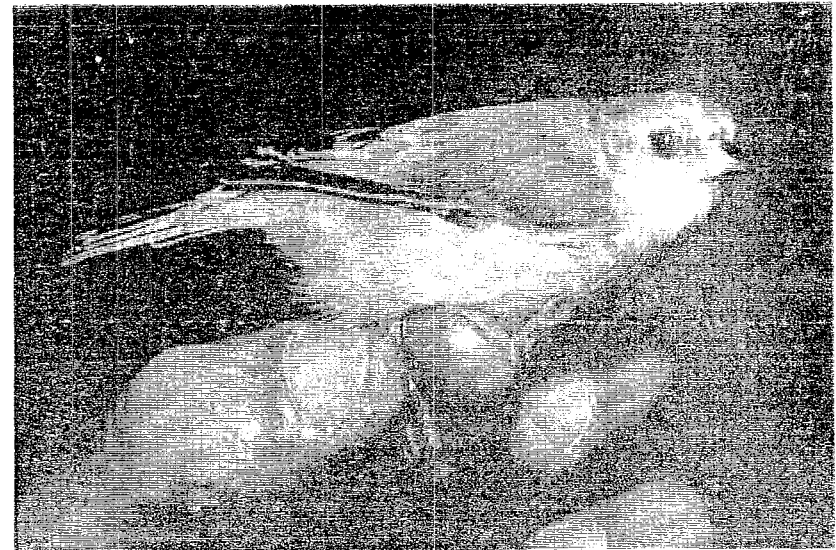
Species	Ringing Date & Wt.	Date Retrapped & Wt.	Locality
Grey Wagtail	7.11.72 (17.6)	28.12.72 (19.0)	Lunzjata
Dunnock	15.11.72 (16.0)	17.11.72 (21.0)	
		& 2.12.72 (22.7)	Lunzjata
Dunnock	31.10.72 (18.2)	1.11.72 (19.5)	Lunzjata
Moustached Warbler	5.11.72 (10.0)	11.11.72 (12.7)	Lunzjata
		& 9.12.72 (12.1)	
Moustached Warbler	19.11.72 (12.3)	9.12.72 (13.7)	Lunzjata
Chiffchaff	16. 1.72 (7.1)	6. 2.72 (8.2)	Lunzjata
Chiffchaff	6. 2.72 (7.2)	20. 2.72 (8.2)	Lunzjata
Chiffchaff	10.12.72 (7.5)	24.12.72 (8.6)	Lunzjata
Chiffchaff	10. 2.72 (7.4)	20. 2.72 (9.1)	Lunzjata
Chiffchaff	10. 2.72 (7.2)	20. 2.72 (8.2)	Lunzjata
Chiffchaff	13.11.72 (9.0)	17.12.72 (6.7)	Hal Far
Robin	23.10.72 (15.7)	29. 1.72 (18.3)	Lunzjata
Robin	14.10.72 (18.0)	4.11.72 (16.0)	Lunzjata
Robin	1.10.72 (14.6)	2.10.72 (17.0)	Salina
Robin	24.10.71 (14.2)	7. 3.72 (17.2)	Buskett
Robin	28.10.71 (15.7)	1. 1.72 (18.3)	Ghadira
Robin	3.12.71 (17.4)	22. 2.72 (20.9)	Buskett
Robin	25.10.72 (14.5)	25.12.72 (16.3)	Mtahleb
Robin	27.10.72 (15.5)	30.10.72 (17.0)	Salina
Robin	19.10.72 (15.3)	17.11.72 (17.3)	Lunzjata
Robin	26.11.72 (17.1)	31.12.72 (15.4)	Salina
Robin	21.10.72 (14.8)	28.10.72 (15.9)	
		& 1.11.72 (17.2)	Buskett
Robin	11.11.72 (15.5)	25.11.72 (17.5)	Buskett

Robin	22.11.72	(16.0)	29.11.72	(18.2)	Buskett
Robin	10.10.72	(17.9)	22.10.72	(14.4)	Hal Far
Robin	15.11.72	(15.8)	9.12.72	(17.4)	Lunzjata
Robin	6.11.72	(15.2)	21.11.72	(17.1)	
			& 28.12.72	(18.4)	Lunzjata
Robin	7.11.72	(14.5)	8.11.72	(16.0)	Lunzjata
Robin	7.11.72	(14.8)	11.11.72	(16.8)	Lunzjata
Robin	4.11.72	(17.0)	17.12.72	(19.5)	Hal Far
Robin	5.11.72	(14.5)	11.11.72	(16.3)	Hal Far
Robin	7.11.71	(16.1)	5. 3.72	(19.6)	Buskett



Male Sardinian Warbler. 293 of this resident species were ringed in 1972. (photo: J. Sulfana)

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Penduline Tit. This juvenile Tit which was ringed at Lunzjata Valley, was the first record for the Maltese Islands. (photo: V. Vella Muskat)



Storm Petrel. Over 1,200 Storm Petrels were ringed during one single night. (photo: J. Sulfana)