



Skomer Spring Special

18th-21st April 2015

Bird List



Participants: Julia Banks, Neil Bradshaw, Jean Chell, Jenny Edwards, Leigh Forman, Steve Johnson, Sue Johnson, Rob Mortimer, Trish Norman, Sasha Orgl

	Species	Details
1	Blackbird	At least 2 pairs around the Farm and North Valley
2	Blackcap	Present in unusually high numbers, males outnumbering females at first, then around 50:50 by the end of the trip, max. 18 seen by our group on 19 th
3	Buzzard	2-3 birds seen daily
4	Canada Goose	At least 3 pairs present
5	Carrion Crow	Several birds seen daily, pair with an interesting nest using bones at Moorey Mere
6	Chiffchaff	Up to 4 birds seen (much less numerous than Willow Warbler)
7	Chough	Perhaps 7-9 different birds seen (2-3 pairs & 3 together) at High Cliff, The Wick, Bull Hole & Skomer Head
8	Collared Dove	1 at the Farm on 18 th
9	Common Sandpiper	2 in North Haven on 21 st
10	Cormorant	1 west of Bull Hole on 19 th , 2 flew SW on 20 th
11	Cuckoo	1 in North Valley on 19 th – not welcomed by the Willow Warblers who chased it off!
12	Curlew	Up to 4 birds seen in North Valley
13	Dunnock	Pairs in several locations including the Farm and North Valley
14	Feral Pigeon	1 at Garland Stone on 18 th
15	Fulmar	Breeding pairs present along the cliffs e.g. The Wick
16	Gannet	Several seen from the island e.g. Garland Stone
17	Goldfinch	3 on 19 th , 1 on 20 th & 21 st
18	Great Black-backed Gull	Breeding pairs scattered around the island in prominent places, one seen eating a young rabbit whole at Skomer Head on 19 th
19	Grasshopper Warbler	1 reeling at Green Pond on 20 th
20	Herring Gull	Breeding pairs scattered around the coast
21	House Martin	8 on 18 th , 2 on 19 th , 25 on 20 th
22	Jackdaw	Small number of pairs scattered around the island
23	Kittiwake	Present at their colonies at The Wick and High Cliff
24	Lesser Black-backed Gull	The most abundant gull on Skomer, just settling down to breed during our visit
25	Linnet	Small numbers of migrants from the mainland seen daily, usually 1s and 2s, maximum 9 on 19 th

26	Little Owl	1 seen west of the Farm briefly on 18 th , then again for a longer period on 20 th – happy days!
27	Magpie	Up to 6 birds seen, most obviously in North Valley
28	Mallard	Up to 6 present (5 drakes), usually North Pond but regularly flying around North Valley, a pair at Moorey Mere on 20 th
29	Manx Shearwater	Seen and heard at night, and occasional birds heard during the day calling from their burrows
30	Meadow Pipit	Widespread, the most abundant ‘little brown job’! Many were migrants, others breeders.
31	Merlin	A female whizzed past Tom’s House on 18 th
32	Moorhen	Up to 3 at North Pond and 1 at Moorey Mere
33	Oystercatcher	Breeding birds present around the island, including a bird with a black ring on the left leg at Gorse Hill from a previous colour ringing project
34	Peregrine	Occasional singles seen daily, 2 birds seen together at Garland Stone on 19 th
35	Pheasant	Present around the island, most conspicuous in North Valley around North Pond
36	Puffin	A big arrival on the evening of 20 th , e.g. around 5,000 birds in North Haven and entertaining birds at The Wick (including Sticky!)
37	Pied Wagtail	Seen at the Farm & Moorey Mere
38	Raven	At least 3 pairs seen, including a very confident bird on the north coast who seemed to have lost his croak! Also 2 eating a Puffin along Welsh Way on 20 th .
39	Razorbill	2 offshore on 18 th , and then more on 19 th with many coming ashore, seen mating, on 20 th
40	Red Kite	1 over Martin’s Haven whilst waiting for the boat (later seen on Skomer by island staff)
41	Redstart	Male & female at the Farm (18 th & 19 th), 1 at Moorey Mere on (18 th), female North Pond (19 th), male at the Lime Kilns (20 th)
42	Reed Bunting	Up to 3 males regularly in North Valley and Moorey Mere
43	Robin	Migrants present in small numbers, e.g. 4 on 18 th
44	Rock Pipit	Harder to find than expected, 1 seen at The Wick on 20 th then 3 in North Haven on 21 st
45	Rook	Singles on 19 th & 21 st
46	Sand Martin	7 on 20 th
47	Sedge Warbler	1 at Moorey Mere on 18 th , 1 at Green Pond on 20 th , 1 on 21 st
48	Shag	1 over on 20 th
49	Shelduck	A pair on North Pond and probably another pair at Moorey Mere
50	Shoveler	A maximum of 6 birds on North Pond (5 drakes)
51	Skylark	At least 3 birds seen regularly west of the Farm and singing in that area
52	Snipe	1 in North Valley on 21 st

53	Song Thrush	2 on 19 th , 2 on 20 th
54	Sparrowhawk	A male chasing a Meadow Pipit (& narrowly avoiding some day visitors) at the Farm on 18 th
55	Stonechat	A pair at New Park on 18 th , a male in North Valley on 19 th , and a pair at Gorse Hill
56	Swallow	Steady passage during the trip, e.g. 46 on 19 th
57	Swift	Singles on 18 th & 19 th (early – 1 st spring records on the island in 2015)
58	Teal	At least one drake and 2 females on North Pond
59	Water Rail	1 seen by Dave & Ed in South Stream Valley during their run on 19 th !
60	Wheatear	Several seen, notable influx on 19 th (at least 20 seen near North Pond Hide), single Greenland birds seen at Skomer Head on 19 th and the Lime Kiln on 20 th
61	Whimbrel	A flock of 7 on 18 th , and singles on 19 th , 20 th & 21 st
62	Whitethroat	Male and female seen on 19 th
63	Willow Warbler	The most regularly encountered migrant warbler of the trip, seen regularly in the willows and elders and elsewhere, e.g. 41 on 19 th
64	Woodpigeon	4-6 birds present, usually in North Valley
65	Wren	Scattered all over the island

Mammals

Harbour Porpoise – 3 off the Garland Stone (18th), 4 off Tom's House (18th)

Common Dolphin – 1 off the Mew Stone (20th)

Grey Seal – seen in North Haven and along the north coast, including the Garland Stone