

Isles of Scilly

Naturetrek Tour Report

16 - 23 September 2017



St Martin's Island



American Golden Plover



Portuguese Man-o-War



Parasol Fungus

Report and images by Andrew Cleave



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Summary

We had a week of mostly fine, sunny weather, but there were a couple of days of low cloud, rain and drizzle. However, we were able to get out every day, visit all of the inhabited islands, enjoy an exciting RIB boat trip to some of the outer rocks and uninhabited isles, and spend plenty of time exploring St Mary's. We found many of the resident birds on our daily walks, and also came across some notable rarities for which the islands are famous. Although this was early autumn, there was plenty of colour from both the wild flowers and the exotic species which thrive in the mild climate. From our base at Sally Port we were able to take easy walks to many different habitats, and sample some of the many places to dine out in the evening.

Day 1

Saturday 16th September

Most of the party met on the quay at Penzance, ready to board Scillonian 111 for the 10.15am crossing to St Mary's. Sea conditions were good so many of the group stayed up on deck and we were soon rewarded by sightings of Bottle-nosed and Common Dolphins as we left Penzance. Bird sightings along the coast included many large feeding flocks of Gannets, with a few auks and Manx Shearwaters mixed with them. As we passed Land's End and headed out to sea, the bird numbers were reduced slightly but once we got closer to the islands there were more Gannets and auks on the water, and a few more glimpses of Common Dolphins.

We docked at St Mary's around 1pm and made our way to Santa Maria guesthouse, our base for the week. Once everyone had checked in we had a lunch break in Hugh Town and then met up again at 3.15pm for an introductory walk around the Garrison. Following the impressive Tudor ramparts, the trail gives sweeping views of the other islands as well as the southern end of St Mary's. Starlings, with their distinctive Scilly accent, Blackbirds and very confiding Song Thrushes were some of the most common birds on land, but we also had good views of Rock Pipit and Oystercatcher nearer the shore, and out at sea, large groups of Shags, another feature of the islands. Some of the group remarked on how common House Sparrows appeared to be, compared with many areas on the mainland. There were plenty of interesting plants to catch our attention, including some Autumn Lady's Tresses Orchids *Spiranthes spiralis* growing on top of the walls, mostly going over, but some still showing a few flowers. Many of the gardens we passed had colourful displays of Pelargoniums and Gazanias, and amongst them a few rare native plants such as Four-leaved Allseed *Polycarpon tetraphyllum*. Our circular walk took us back to the gatehouse of the Star Castle and its informative display about the history of the fortifications.

We arrived back at Santa Maria in time for a short break, and then we went to the Bishop and Wolf pub for our evening meal and a briefing from Andrew about the plans for the rest of the week. We then went to the Church Hall for an illustrated talk by Will Wagstaff, a resident naturalist and birdwatcher, who gave a very informative account of the wildlife of the islands.

Day 2

Sunday 17th September

We awoke to fine weather conditions with a blue sky and sea. After breakfast we set off to explore St Mary's on foot. Our route took us from Sally Port to Porthcressa beach where we checked the bay for birds, spotting a few Sandwich Terns amongst the gulls. These outnumbered the Black-headed Gulls, which are not a common

species here. Skirting around the base of Buzza Hill we walked past the allotments with their thick shelterbelts of *Pittosporum*, and noted some of the colourful “weeds” such as Corn Marigold *Glebionis segetum* which thrive here. House Sparrows, Robins, Dunnocks and Wrens were most common here, and overhead we spotted many Swallows feeding. On the edge of the rocks, and apparently feeding over the sea, were a small number of Sand Martins.

The path led us out to Peninnis Head which has some extraordinary granite rock formations, weathered into fantastic shapes by the wind. Sheltering in the crevices were some very lush specimens of Sea Spleenwort *Asplenium marinum*, and here and there, a few plants of Thrift *Armeria maritima* were still flowering. We spotted a few Wheatears here plus the occasional Stonechat, and Rock Pipits were seen lower down the cliffs. We enjoyed the views from this scenic spot and noted that there were quite a few Gannets passing by out at sea. As we checked all the birds at sea, a small pod of Harbour Porpoise were noted in St Mary’s Sound, the channel between St Mary’s and St Agnes, and we spent some time following these as they moved between the islands.

Our path skirted around the headland and led down towards Old Town Bay, and here we checked out the attractive churchyard with its mixture of Elm Trees, Tamarisks, and Cordyline Palms. Apart from the now-familiar Song Thrushes this was rather a quiet spot for birds, but we did notice a number of the distinctive Scilly form of the Speckled Wood butterfly, showing richer colouration than its mainland counterparts. We also found Holly Blue and numerous Red Admirals here. There were quite a few people enjoying a sunny Sunday morning on the beach, so there were few birds to watch here.

The Old Town cafe was a good place to stop for a lunch break and a sit down after the morning walk. From here it was just a short distance to the Lower Moors Nature Reserve where we checked out the hides and were rewarded with very good views of a Semi-palmated Sandpiper, a very vagrant from across the Atlantic. Other birds here included a few bathing gulls and a distant Greenshank, but a well-camouflaged Snipe was spotted very close to the hide and seemed quite unconcerned about the people watching it. A Water Rail could be heard calling from the reeds but was very difficult to see.

Continuing our walk, we returned to Old Town Bay and then followed the coastal trail to Tolman Point and the small sandy bay at Porth Minick. A colony of Sea Pea *Lathyrus maritima* grows here on the shore, but there were no flowers, only the distinctive trailing stems and pea pods. The trail led up to the end of the runway of St Mary’s Airport, and from here we could just make out the cliffs of Land’s End, 28 miles to the east.

There were more sightings of Wheatear, Stonechat, Meadow Pipit and Rock Pipit as we followed the trail past Giant’s Castle towards Porth Hellick. This beautiful bay has an expanse of sand at low tide which is a good feeding site for waders, and as the tide was still some way out there were a few Ringed Plovers and Oystercatchers feeding. An American Golden Plover, another very rare bird, was present in this bay, but rather distant and, as the tide came in, it went off with the other waders to roost on some rocks. We looked along the shore line where a small flock of Linnets was feeding and found a few more coastal plants, including Sea Sandwort *Honckenya peploides*, but the dominant species here were non-natives, such as *Carpobrotus edulis* and *Fascicularia bicolor*, planted to stabilise the sand.

The Higher Moors nature trail begins here so we followed the boardwalk and visited the hide overlooking the freshwater pool. At the far side, on the edge of the reeds, were a number of Greenshank roosting quietly, and a

few Common Snipe. Showing occasionally, a Jack Snipe was also spotted – apparently the first of the autumn for the islands. There were a few Mallards dabbling in the shallows and more Moorhens, and feeding over the water a number of Swallows. The path led on towards the road at which point some of the party decided that a taxi would be the best way to get back to Sally Port after our walk around the coast, whilst others decided to walk back to town.

We all met up again at Santa Maria before going to the Atlantic Inn for our evening meal where we discussed our findings and went over the plans for the following day.

Day 3

Monday 18th September

The plan for today was to visit Tresco so we had to meet on the quay just before 10am to catch one of the inter-island boats. Tresco is always a popular choice so there were plenty of people queuing for the boats. On the short crossing we spotted a single Little Egret on an isolated rock, and many more Shags and Oystercatchers. The Sandwich Terns were spotted again, and the most common gulls on the water were Great Black-backed.

On arriving at Tresco we headed towards the Abbey Gardens, where some opted to visit the gardens whilst those who had been before chose to walk around the south end of the island and check the pools. We planned to meet up again after lunch to explore the rest of the island in the afternoon. There were quite a few water birds on the pools, including a small group of seven Pink-footed Geese, which are uncommon visitors here. More Greenshank were spotted on the reed-fringed margins of the Great Pool, and with some searching from the hide, we also found Redshank, Snipe and two Ruff. Waterfowl included Mute Swan, Canada Goose, Teal and Gadwall, and some rather odd-looking hybrid Mallards. Water Rails could be heard but not seen, and there were quite a few Coots and Moorhens on the open water. A warbler calling from the willow scrub turned out to be a Chiffchaff. The party in the gardens were treated to sightings of two introduced species in the form of Red Squirrel and Golden Pheasant.

During the afternoon we walked back along the edge of Great Pool, spotting a single Stock Dove amongst the Wood Pigeons, and getting a further look at the Ruff and Pink-footed Geese. We had time to check the churchyard and then walk to Old Grimsby and admire the superb views towards St Martin's and the Eastern Isles. Two Grey Herons were seen on seaweed covered rocks, presumably waiting for the tide to drop. By now it was time to head back to New Grimsby for the boat, but there was time to fit in an ice-cream break at the New Inn before the boat came to take us back to St Mary's.

We met again to discuss our findings and complete checklists before walking to the Mermaid Inn for our evening meal, enjoying the lovely views of the harbour from the upstairs dining room.

Day 4

Tuesday 19th September

The calm weather conditions today were ideal for our RIB boat trip with Island Sea Safaris, so we met with Mark Groves on the quay and boarded Firebrand IV for our trip to the Western Rocks. Mark told us about some of the shipwrecks which litter the seabed here and explained about the tides and currents which make the islands a hazard to shipping in bad weather. The large cruise liner, Europa, was anchored off St Mary's, and it looked even larger when we got close to it in the RIB; it was one of many which had visited the islands this year.

We had some very close views of Grey Seals hauled out on the rocks and in the water around the RIB, and there was one unusual sighting in the form of a Peregrine sitting on an exposed rock pinnacle. We were able to get close views of the Shags which seem to live here in large flocks, and also the Oystercatchers which roost at high tide on certain small islands. A single Turnstone was spotted, still in summer plumage, but we could not find any other waders. A local lobster fisherman showed us his catch as we passed by, and in the open water we got very close views of a Portuguese Man-of-war, one of many which had started to invade UK waters.

After an exciting tour of the outer rocks and un-inhabited islands, Mark took us to the quay at St Agnes. We took the quiet road across the island and turned down Barnaby's Lane towards Wingletang Down, with tame Song Thrushes, Blackbirds and Robins as our companions. On the open headland we stopped to check out the site for the Least Adder's-tongue Fern *Ophioglossum lusitanicum* at its only UK location. We were pleased to find quite a few of the minute emerging fronds. A Stonechat was spotted distantly, and a single Wheatear was found closer to the shore, feeding with some Rock Pipits.

Our path led us past St Warna's Well and then on to the Coastguard Cafe for lunch. From here we took the coastal trail again to find the historic mazes on Castella Down. We had time to stop at Troy Town Farm to sample the famous ice-cream and enjoy the views towards Annet and the Western Rocks, which we had seen from the sea a couple of hours earlier. We followed the main trail past Porth Killier and checked the beach here, where White Wagtails and Rock Pipits were busy feeding on the strand line. Flocks of Starlings joined them at times and Swallows and House Martins also seemed to be finding food in the same area. We were at the Quay in time for the return boat to St Mary's and arrived back at the quay at around 5.15pm.

We met up again to discuss our findings before going to the Scillonian Club for our evening meal. We were given a table by the window with a lovely view of the harbour.

Day 5

Wednesday 20th September

In view of the drizzly weather we decided to spend a couple of hours in Hugh Town, and some took the opportunity to visit the museum which has some very informative displays of the archaeology, history and natural history of the islands. We then met at the bus stop to take the island bus to the Kaffeehaus at High Lane for lunch.

After a memorable lunch, topped off with freshly-made apple strudel, we walked towards Maypole and Borough Farm, by which time the weather had improved a little. We took a brief detour to Newford Duckpond and found a small colony of Cornish Moneywort *Sibbthorpia europaea* growing on a bank at its only Scilly location. We then walked down Watermill Lane, down to the coast, admiring the many lofty Elm trees which lined the lane and hedgerows. Crossing a little stream we came to the main coast path which we followed towards Porth Hellick.

When we reached Pelistry Bay the tide was just covering the sand bar so we were unable to walk onto Tolls Island, but we did walk along the beach and check out all the shells which were washed up. Amongst the Common Limpets were large numbers of Flat Periwinkle shells in a range of bright colours. Along the path there were splashes of colour from Goldenrod *Solidago virgaurea* and Bell Heather *Erica cinerea* to brighten up an otherwise grey day.

We reached the ancient burial chamber at Porth Hellick Down and then took the path down to Porth Hellick Bay and the Cloudsley Shovell Monument. The tide was almost fully in so there were no waders feeding on the shore, but when we checked from the hide we saw Greenshank and Snipe as before, but this time there were at least two Little Stints and a Curlew Sandpiper feeding quite close to the hide, giving us quite good views. A Curlew was spotted in flight over the shore and a single Turnstone was also seen in flight. Once again we could hear Water Rails squealing but could not see them. Along the trail back to the road we paused to admire the head-high clumps of Tussock Sedge *Carex paniculata* and the fronds of Royal Fern *Osmunda regalis*. We reached the road in time for the bus back to Hugh Town.

We met up again for our evening meal at the Bishop and Wolf.

Day 6

Thursday 21st September

The plan today was to visit St Martin's so we collected picnic supplies in Hugh Town and met on the quay in time for the 10.15am boat. Conditions were ideal for the short crossing which took us to the quay at Lower Town, near the Island Hotel. From the jetty we had lovely views of the uninhabited island of Tean and the white sand beaches typical of St Martin's.

We followed the footpath around the western end of the island, sticking close to the coast below Tinkler's Hill. Near the path was a well-preserved Kelp Pit, a reminder of the important industry once in operation here to burn kelp for soda production in the 17th and 18th centuries. We moved on to Porth Seal, where appropriately there were some Grey Seals, and we were treated to the haunting calls of the seals hauled out on the rocks below. The footpath hugged the coast, giving us superb views back to Round Island and also of the numerous rocks and small islands surrounding St Martin's. When White Island came into view we found the stone mazes on some flat ground close to the shore, and there was the usual rocky coast flora growing there with a few species, such as Rock Samphire *Cribthum maritimum*, flowering freely. There were also a few very photogenic Parasol Mushrooms growing amongst the stones in the mazes. Rock Pipits and White Wagtails were seen feeding on the strand line, and above us on the rocks we were able to watch Stonechats and Wheatears. A few Swallows were seen overhead, and out to sea there were some small feeding flocks of Gannets.

We rounded Scilly Point, noting one of the rock formations which resembled an Easter Island statue, and then saw the impressive white sand beaches of St Martin's Bay. We chose a sunny spot in the dunes to enjoy our picnic and some were tempted to paddle. There was an interesting assemblage of seaweeds on the exposed rocks and several species of anemone and mollusc were identified. Offshore we could see the now familiar sight of groups of Shags in the water and on the rocks.

After a pleasant break here we continued towards Great Bay and then over the grassy hill towards the inhabited part of the island. Some very fine Red Devon cattle were present here as part of the conservation grazing scheme run by the local Wildlife Trust. Along the path we saw several Small Copper butterflies investigating their food plant – Sheep's Sorrel *Rumex acetosella*. From the main island road we had excellent views back towards St Mary's, and as the tide was low we could see the extensive St Martin's flats – large expanses of white sand uncovered at low water and an attraction to waders and gulls.

We had time to check out the churchyard and some of the gardens. The sunny weather had tempted many butterflies out to feed on Red Valerian and other colourful non-natives spilling over the garden walls. An interesting feature in the church was the gallery made from re-claimed ship's timbers, some of them showing the burrows and chalk-lined galleries made by the Shipworm *Teredo navalis*.

A tea-break at the Polreath Tearoom was very welcome and then we visited the display of photographs about life on St Martin's on show in the Methodist Church hall. After that there was just a gentle stroll down hill to the quay at Higher Town, where we caught the return boat to St Mary's. On the way back, as well as the usual Oystercatchers, we saw a small flock of Sanderling flying in to roost on a rock and a solitary Grey Heron.

We met up again before our evening meal, and returned to the Bishop and Wolf.

Day 7

Friday 22nd September

In spite of the grey skies and threat of rain we decided to visit Bryher. Conditions were a bit choppy as we left St Mary's but we were soon in the shelter of Tresco and Samson, where we saw a few Sandwich Terns and the occasional Little Egret. A single Cormorant stood out amongst the more common Shags.

We landed at Anneka's Quay and walked along the shore towards Church Quay, finding many interesting shells and seaweeds on the way. The most common birds feeding on the strand line were Starlings and House Sparrows, but on the water's edge there were a few waders including Ringed Plover, Greenshank, Turnstone and Oystercatcher. As we walked further on we saw a few Little Egrets on rocks just off Green Bay, and a single Whimbrel in flight. The path turned inland through Veronica Farm, and in one of the barns there were some Swallows resting on high beams, although there did not appear to be any nests.

It was drizzly at times, but there were clear spells and we stopped to have our picnic by the boatyard near Samson Hill. We then followed the coastal path towards Rushy Bay and spotted a few plants of Sea Holly *Eryngium maritimum* still in flower at the edge of the dunes. Stonechats and Meadow Pipits were seen in the tiny fields below the hill. We walked around Heathy Hill where there was a very good view of the Norrard Rocks and some Gannets fishing close inshore. The fog came and went, obscuring the views at times. It was very sheltered at Great Par and there were a few pipits and wagtails feeding on the strand line.

We had time to check out the artist's studio in its very enviable position on the shore, before we had a quick look at the Great Pool where there were a few gulls preening and some Swallows feeding very low over the water. The drizzle turned to rain at this point, so the Vine Cafe was a welcome refuge. After a rest and tea with home-made cakes, we made our way down to the quay for the return boat to St Mary's. The tide was still low but Seahorse managed to get to the end of the quay and with the rain now falling steadily, we were relieved that this was a boat with a covered cabin. It was still a bit choppy for the return journey, but there were sightings of the Little Egrets again and the Sandwich Terns which were fishing in a narrow channel.

We met up again before our evening meal to go over the checklists, and then travelled by taxi to Juliet's Garden restaurant where the menu featured much local produce.

Day 8

Saturday 23rd September

This was our last day on the islands so we packed our bags and left them to be collected, and then we had time for various visits around St Mary's during the morning before meeting up again on the quay ready to board Scillonian 111 for the trip back to Penzance. A bus ride to Porth Hellick gave the chance for a last look at the American Golden Plover and the other waders which frequent the beach there at low tide.

We joined the queue on the quay in the afternoon to check in and, once we had boarded, we managed to find seats on the lower aft deck with good visibility for sea-watching. The sea conditions were good and visibility was clear so we had plenty of sightings of Gannets, auks and shearwaters on the way back. We enjoyed the views of the islands as they receded into the west and looked out for the Seven Stones Lightship and the Wolf Rock Lighthouse.

Numbers of birds seemed to increase as we neared Land's End and the turbulent waters around the Runnel Stone reef were most productive with large numbers of Manx Shearwaters and auks seen in a small area. Some of the auks were close enough to be identified and most seemed to be Razorbills. There were some sightings of Common Dolphin, which caused great excitement on the boat, and lovely views of the coast as we neared Penzance. There was a most unusual cloud formation over the land as we entered Mount's Bay with extraordinary ridges of clouds stretching far into the distance.

We docked at Penzance about 7pm and then collected our luggage before we said our farewells and continued with our various journeys home.

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Semi-palmated Sandpiper



Little Stint

Species Lists

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	September								
			16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
1	Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>								✓	
2	Manx Shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	✓							✓	
3	European Storm Petrel	<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>								?	
4	Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	
5	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓			✓			✓	✓	
6	European Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		2	2			1	1		
8	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		1	1				7	2	
9	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	2		3	1					
10	Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>			10						
11	Pink-footed Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>			7						
12	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>			✓		✓				
13	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>			✓						
14	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
15	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>			✓						
16	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>			✓	✓				✓	
17	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>									
18	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>				✓					
19	Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>			H						
20	Ring-necked Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>			1						
21	Golden Pheasant	<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>			✓						
22	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>		H	H		H			H	
23	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	
24	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>			✓		✓			✓	
25	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
26	American Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis dominica</i>		✓						✓	
27	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>					✓		✓	✓	
28	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>		✓			✓				
29	Jack Snipe	<i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>		✓							
30	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>					✓		✓		
31	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		✓							
32	Semi-palmated Sandpiper	<i>Calidris pusilla</i>		✓							
33	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>					1				
34	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	
35	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>			2						
36	Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>			2						
37	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	✓	1	1		✓		✓	✓	
38	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>						✓			
39	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>					2				
40	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
41	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus melanocephalus</i>		✓					✓		
42	Black-legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	✓							✓	
43	European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
44	Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
45	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	✓	✓	✓		3	✓	✓	✓	
46	Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>	✓							✓	
47	Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>	✓							✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	September								
			16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
48	Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia 'feral'</i>	✓							✓	
49	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>			✓						
50	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
51	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
52	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>		✓	✓						
53	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>		✓							
54	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
55	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	✓	✓	✓						
56	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓		
57	Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
58	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba alba</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		
58a	Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba yarrellii</i>	✓								
59	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
60	Duncock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	
61	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	
62	Eurasian Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
63	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
64	Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>		3	2	✓		4	3	✓	
65	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		✓		✓	1	✓		✓	
66	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>		1							
67	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>						✓			
68	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>			✓						
69	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>							✓		
70	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
71	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>						H			
72	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
73	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
74	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>			✓				✓	✓	
75	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
76	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Mammals

1	Grey Seal	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>				✓	✓	✓		✓
2	Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>		✓		✓	✓			✓
3	Bottle-nosed Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	✓							
4	Common Dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	✓							✓
5	Harbour Porpoise	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>		7						✓
6	Bat sp			✓				✓		
7	Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>			✓					
8	Brown Rat	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>				✓	✓	✓		

Butterflies and Moths

1	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
2	Peacock	<i>Aglia io</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
3	Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>		✓	✓					
4	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>			✓	✓				
5	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
6	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
7	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
8	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>				✓		✓		

	Common name	Scientific name	September							
			16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9	Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>		✓	✓					
10	Fox Moth - larvae	<i>Macrothylacia rubi</i>	✓							

Dragonflies

1	Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombeii</i>		✓						
2	Migrant Hawker	<i>Aeshna mixta</i>		✓	✓					✓

Other invertebrates

1	Meadow Grasshopper	<i>Chorthippus parallelus</i>		✓				✓		
2	Garden Spider	<i>Araneus sp</i>		✓				✓		

Marine Invertebrates

1	Snakelocks Anemone	<i>Anemonia sulcata</i>		✓				✓		
2	Beadlet Anemone	<i>Actinia equina</i>		✓				✓		
3	Comb Jelly	<i>Beroe cucumis</i>				✓				
4	Portuguese Man-of-war	<i>Physalia physalis</i>				6				
5	String Jelly	<i>Apolemia sp</i>				✓				
6	Common Limpet	<i>Patella vulgata</i>						✓		
7	China Limpet	<i>Patella ulyssiponensis</i>						✓		
8	Toothed Topshell	<i>Monodonta lineata</i>					✓			
9	Flat/Purple Topshell	<i>Gibbula umbilicalis</i>					✓			
10	Grey Topshell	<i>Gibbula cineraria</i>					✓			
11	Flat Periwinkle	<i>Littorina obtusata</i>					✓			
12	Rough Periwinkle	<i>Littorina saxatilis</i>					✓			
13	Shore Crab	<i>Carcinus maenas</i>					✓			
14	Goose Barnacle	<i>Lepas anatifera</i>				✓				
15	Sandhopper	<i>Talitrus sp</i>		✓			✓		✓	✓

Plants

English name	Scientific name	Notes
Ferns		
Sea Spleenwort	<i>Asplenium marinum</i>	Peninnis Head
Maidenhair Spleenwort	<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>	Widespread
Lanceolate Spleenwort	<i>Asplenium obovatum</i>	St Agnes
Royal Fern	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	Higher Moors
Hart's-tongue Fern	<i>Phyllitis scolopendrium</i>	Widespread
Bracken	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Common
Male Fern	<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Common
Broad Buckler-fern	<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>	Higher Moors
Lady Fern	<i>Athyrium filix-foemina</i>	Lower Moors
Least Adder's-tongue Fern	<i>Ophioglossum lusitanicum</i>	St Agnes
Native Flowering Plants		
Sea Kale	<i>Crambe maritima</i>	Porth Minick
Wild Radish	<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	Common
Sea Rocket	<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Sandy beaches
Sea Campion	<i>Silene uniflora</i>	Peninnis Head
Red Campion	<i>Silene dioica</i>	St Mary's
White Campion	<i>Silene latifolia</i>	Peninnis Head
Rock Sea Spurrey	<i>Spergularia rupicola</i>	Peninnis Head

English name	Scientific name	Notes
Sea Sandwort	<i>Honckenya peploides</i>	Porth Hellick
Wall Pennywort	<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Widespread
Allseed	<i>Radiola linoides</i>	St Martin's
Four-leaved Allseed	<i>Polycarpon tetraphyllum</i>	Hugh Town
Thrift	<i>Armeria maritima</i>	Peninnis Head
Purple Loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Lower Moors
Bird's-foot Trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Common
Tufted Vetch	<i>Vicia cracca</i>	St Mary's
Western Gorse	<i>Ulex gallii</i>	Porth Hellick Down
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Common
Sea Pea	<i>Lathyrus maritima</i>	Porth Minick
Bell Heather	<i>Erica cinerea</i>	Porth Hellick Down
Ling	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	St Martin's
Tamarisk	<i>Tamarix gallica</i>	St Mary's
Fennel	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Porth Minick
Alexanders	<i>Smyrniolum olusatrum</i>	Garrison
Sea Holly	<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	Bryher
Hogweed	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Garrison
Marsh Pennywort	<i>Hydrocotyle vulgaris</i>	Higher Moors
Cornish Moneywort	<i>Sibbthorpia europaea</i>	Newford Duckpond
White Poplar	<i>Populus albus</i>	Higher Moors
Grey Willow	<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Widespread
(Cornish) Elm	<i>Ulmus sp</i>	widespread
Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Common
Madder	<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Porth Hellick Down
Woody Nightshade	<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Lower Moors
Trailing St John's-wort	<i>Hypericum humifusum</i>	Tresco
Buck's-horn Plantain	<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	Widespread
Chamomile	<i>Chamamelum nobile</i>	Bryher
Sea Mayweed	<i>Tripleurospermum maritimum</i>	Porth Hellick
Corn Marigold	<i>Glebionis segetum</i>	Fields and gardens
Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Common
Chicory	<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Fields and gardens
Goldenrod	<i>Solidago virgaurea</i>	Porth Hellick Down
Sheep's-bit	<i>Jasione montana</i>	Peninnis Head
Eyebright	<i>Euphrasia sp</i>	St Martin's
Common Broomrape	<i>Orobanche minor ssp maritima</i>	Tresco
Autumn Lady's Tresses Orchid	<i>Spiranthes spiralis</i>	Garrison
Wood Sage	<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	Widespread
Marram Grass	<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>	Bryher

Non-native and Exotic Plants

Mind-your-own-business	<i>Soleirolia soleirolii</i>	widespread
Deltoid-leaved Dewplant	<i>Drosanthemum floribundum</i>	Walls on St Mary's
Wire-plant	<i>Muehlenbeckia complexa</i>	St Mary's
Karo	<i>Pittosporum crassifolium</i>	Widespread
Red Angel's Trumpet	<i>Brugmansia sanguinea</i>	St Mary's, St Agnes
Giant Viper's Bugloss	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Widespread
Ake-ake (Daisy Bush)	<i>Olearia avicennifolia</i>	Widespread
Hottentot Fig	<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Widespread
Chilean Iris	<i>Libertia formosa</i>	Tresco
German Ivy	<i>Delairia odorata</i>	St Mary's
Chilean Myrtle	<i>Luma apiculata</i>	Tresco
Tree Bedstraw	<i>Coprosma repens</i>	Widespread

English name

Pastel del Risco
 Chilean Hardy Bromeliad
 Date Palm
 Cabbage Palm
 New Zealand Flax
 African Lily
 Three-cornered Leek

Scientific name

Aeonium (arboreum)
Fascicularia bicolour
Phoenix canariensis
Cordyline australis
Phormium tenax
Agapanthus praecox
Allium triquetrum

Notes

Widespread
 St Mary's
 Tresco
 widespread
 Tresco
 gardens, widespread
 Widespread

Fungi:

Common Earth Ball
 Parasol Mushroom

Scleroderma aurantiacum
Lepiota procera



Atlantic Grey Seals



RIB trip