

Islay & Jura

Naturetrek Tour Report

29th Oct – 4th Nov 2021



Choughs by Dave Jackson



Twite by Julian Cook



Craighouses by Alistair Cameron



Richardson's Cacking Goose by Julian Cook

Report by Neil McMahon



Naturetrek

Mingledown Barn

Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

GU34 3HJ

UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Summary

Our seven day adventure to the islands of Islay and Jura coincided with large arrivals of wintering geese, passage Whooper Swans and the mass passage of Redwings. With sunshine, fast moving showers and dark brooding skies, we were treated to frequent and intensive rainbows against the backdrop of brown hills, dramatic coastlines and the impressive Paps of Jura. Thousands of Barnacle Geese and hundreds of Greylag and Greenland White-fronted Geese ensured the grass fields and flats were alive with birds. The eagles were particularly numerous this year with White-tailed Eagles every day and Golden Eagles majestically riding the hillside air currents. Highlights for many of us were the magnificent pod of five Bottle-nosed Dolphins very close inshore at Bruichladdich which performed beautifully, and rare birds included singles of American Wigeon, Lesser Scaup, Ring-necked Duck and a Richardson's Cackling Goose. The resident flock of Choughs at Ardnave wowed us all and seeing five White-tailed Eagles flying around Nave Island was a special treat. We were fortunate to see Hen Harriers most days and the Great Northern Divers were frequently swimming around in small packs. Plenty of deer, seals and hares added more mammal interest and we even recorded three species of butterfly.

Day 1

Friday 29th October

Our adventure to these two very special islands began with pick-ups in Glasgow and the Stonefield Castle Hotel at Tarbert. With the COP26 Conference about to start Glasgow, the roads very busy and subject to numerous closures. This didn't cause too many concerns as guests helpfully made themselves available at Gilmour Street train station and at the Airport which simplified the process.

The initial journey through Dumbarton and along the western shores of Loch Lomond was in heavy rain and wildlife seen from the roadside was somewhat scarce. Once we found the A83 and travelled the shores of Loch Fynne, the weather improved and our comfort stop at Inverary was dry. A distant Common Seal and some Common Guillemots were about the best on offer.

As we progressed west and onto the northern section of the Kintyre Trail, we notched up Red-breasted Merganser, Goosander, plenty of Grey Heron, Curlew and Oystercatchers.

At the Stonefield Castle Hotel, we picked up Chris, John and Ann and drove the nine or so miles to Kennacraig, the ferry terminal for our journey to Islay. We arrived just after 5pm, ahead of schedule and birds on view in fading light (but with a bright sunset) consisted of Redwing, Rock Pipits in flight, Goldeneye, Little Grebe, more Red-breasted Merganser and a single Common Seal balancing precariously on a rock hidden from view under the surface of the water. It wasn't long before the ferry (called The Finlaggan) powered into view, docked and spewed out its foot passengers and a variety of vehicles. We waited our turn and were grateful that there was enough room for both minibuses on the big Calmac Ferry. It was too dark to see anything outside during the crossing, so we ate a meal on the ferry, held a briefing on the week's plans and documented our pre-order for the evening meal for the following night.

We made good time and docked at Port Askaig in darkness and were the second and third vehicles off the ferry. We then motored first west and then south to our accommodation in Port Ellen. Here we identified the location of the shops and the venues we would visit for our evening meals during the week and after a bit of a delay we were allocated our rooms at No 1 Charlotte Street, a B&B establishment opposite the main beach. After pre-

ordering our breakfasts, we retired to our rooms in preparation for our first full day on the beautiful island of Islay.

Day 2

Saturday 30th October

Overnight an open window would have provided an opportunity to listen to Redwings calling as they undertook their nocturnal migration above the rooves of Port Ellen.

We filed downstairs for our 7.30am breakfast, it being still dark outside. By the time we had munched the first meal of the day, it was light enough to scan through the corvids and gulls on the beach opposite and identify a flock of waders as Ringed Plovers. We popped around the corner to the Co-op to purchase our picnic lunches seeing Red-breasted Mergansers, Cormorant, Shag and Hooded Crow in the bay by the ferry terminal. We then departed north from Port Ellen and over halfway towards Bowmore where we saw flocks of distant Barnacle Geese being disturbed down by the coast. The possible cause was an adult White-tailed Eagle which flew across the road some way ahead of us and disappeared to the east. We also saw our first flocks of the very handsome Greenland White-fronted Geese and the larger, greyer Greylag Geese in fields next to the road. We stopped at Bowmore and some of us photographed the unusual round church at the top of the hill. Sparrowhawk and Grey Wagtail were noted as we alighted from the minibuses and the little pier and breakwaters provided Rock Pipit, Red-breasted Merganser and Ringed Plover with Eiders further out and Barnacle and Pale-bellied Brent Geese in flight.

We then took a slow drive to Bridgend, stopping en-route to examine more geese which included a Pink-footed amongst the Barnacles. A couple of flocks of Whooper Swans were present and one of several Ravens gave a close and vocal fly-past. Wildfowl included Shelduck, Teal and Wigeon and Curlew and Redshank were the main waders. From Bridgend we drove a short distance to scan over some fields to Loch Skerrols, a small fresh-water loch which held Mute and Whooper Swans, Tufted Duck and Wigeon. A single drake American Wigeon and a Greater Scaup were picked out and we enjoyed flights of geese coming across in front of us with a background blue sky.

Passerines included a single Twite and several Yellowhammers and we could see a few Red Deer stags on the nearby slopes. Skylark and Redwings flew over and we folded our tripods and popped down to the northern shores of Loch Indaal. Here the birds were difficult to appreciate with a heavy chop to the water, but we saw three Red-throated Divers, Great Northern Divers and plenty of Red-breasted Mergansers.

Our next venue was the RSPB Visitors' Centre at Gruinart to use their facilities and to look at the displays. Small birds there included good views of a Treecreeper and we ate our lunch looking over the grass field flats with a few Roe Deer and Brown Hares plus thousands of Barnacle Geese.

The geese in the far field took flight and we could see three distant Golden Eagles soaring over the hills east of Loch Gruinart. Common Buzzards showed much closer and a flock of forty Lesser Redpolls flew over and alighted briefly. With good weather still holding, we drove the single track road to Loch Ardnave where we abandoned our minibuses and walked to the end of Ardnave Point and watched over the channel separating the point from Nave island. A 'ringtail' Hen Harrier showed nicely and Choughs put on a display with a final flourish

of up to fifty of these birds entertaining us. I think it would be fair to say that it was actually the White-tailed Eagles that stole the show. Two birds showed well on Nave Island and were joined by two more that came flying in over the sea from the north-east and then a fifth particularly pale-headed bird. We watched them perched on the ground close to where numerous seals were maneuvering around on the beach and grassy slopes but more spectacularly in flight. Other birds included plenty of geese, a couple of Great Northern Divers, Eider and Gannets. Curlews, Golden Plovers, Stonechats and more Ravens and Common Buzzards popped up on a walk back to the vans. Unfortunately we were hit by a very sharp shower just short of the vehicles. A flock of thirty Twite didn't stay long. We drove back via Gruinart Flats where a Red-breasted Goose had been reported but wasn't seen by us and we had to stop for a few Brown Hares active on the roads en-route. Roe Deer included five together on Nave Island.

That evening we enjoyed a fine meal at the Islay Hotel which was just down the road from our accommodation.

Day 3

Sunday 31st October

The forecast indicated that the weather would be very wet in the morning and so it proved to be! Heavy rain all morning meant it was impossible to walk out and successfully see any wildlife, so we opted to drive out on the minor road along the coastline east of Port Ellen, checking the fields, bays and coastal rocks as we did so. Most wildlife was hidden away in the sodden conditions, but there were still swirling flocks of migrant Redwings with smaller numbers of Blackbirds and Mistle Thrushes. A couple of Red Deer stags defied the weather, one of them expertly picked out by Chris on a rocky island that it would have had to swim out to reach. Common Gulls methodically checked for worms in the grassy fields and Common Seals bobbed up and down in the shallows and Shags, Cormorants and Red-breasted Mergansers continued fishing in their normal fashion. Rooks, Jackdaws and Hooded Crows were in good numbers but several sodden Common Buzzards didn't seem to like becoming drenched! Our lovely hosts at No 1 Charlotte Street arranged "elevenses", so on our return we enjoyed hot drinks and some nibbles including early-in-the-season mince pies.

The weather conditions began to brighten then, and as the rain subsided and we glimpsed blue skies on the horizon, we began to find birds in the bay and beach area in front of our accommodation. A cracking Great Northern Diver just moulting out of summer plumage fished close to us, Whooper Swans flew south and Ringed Plover, Oystercatcher and Rock Pipits foraged on the shoreline. A migrant flock of fifty Chaffinches mingled with the local House Sparrows. It was time to go out again!

We took the minor road that runs out north of Port Ellen and picked up the Glen Road through to Ballygrant. Stonechats were shaking off the dampness of the morning and the raptors were doing likewise with views of Sparrowhawk and Common Buzzards preening and drying their wings. Roadside cattle included plenty of Highlands and Red Deer dotted the flanks of the hills and small valleys. Small birds included Long-tailed Tits, Siskins and more Stonechats and large numbers of corvids including plenty of Ravens. On the northern section of the Glen Road, a female Hen Harrier passed us twice at close range – the bird of the day for some of us. Next we drove down to Loch Finlaggan which was generally quiet but provided distant sightings of Little Grebe, Common Buzzard, Golden Plover and Mistle Thrushes and a White-tailed Eagle soared into view and then disappeared behind the maturing spruce plantation.

By the time we had reached the north shore of Loch Indaal, the blustery wind of earlier had disappeared and we were treated to stunning light and calm waters and a plethora of fabulous birds showing nicely. A cracking Long-tailed Duck was close and attracted the attention of the members of our group with long lenses. Further out, up to fourteen Slavonian Grebes shone stark black and white in the afternoon sunshine. Great Northern, Black-throated and Red-throated Divers were fishing the rich waters and we picked out Eiders and Common Scoters amongst the plentiful Red-breasted Mergansers and Shags. At the junction of a nearby freshwater burn, Turnstones and Rock Pipits foraged. With the light quickly fading we drove along the Gruinart Flats Road and on to the RSPB reserve again to witness the sight and sound of thousands of Barnacle Geese coming in to roost. There were Roe Deer and Brown Hares on view too but the hoped-for Barn Owl didn't materialise, but a 'ring-tailed' Hen Harrier flew through, no doubt en-route to a nearby roost site.

We then drove back to Port Ellen and ate out at a bistro restaurant on the sea-front which proved very popular, before returning to our bed and breakfast accommodation.

Day 4

Monday 1st November

The general plan for the day was to visit Jura, but strengthening winds caused the cancellation of the morning ferry from Kennacraig to Port Ellen, and it seemed likely that the ferry to Jura might suffer a similar fate. We drove to Port Askaig and were advised that the Jura ferry wouldn't be running before lunchtime. So, we spent some time scanning the Sound of Islay and the opposite shore of Jura – surely one of the most dramatic views in the UK – and saw plenty whilst doing so! First an adult Golden Eagle was watched masterfully stroking the powerful winds as it flew low north along the shores of Jura, only to be followed by three more Golden Eagles! A distant White-tailed Eagle was soaring further north over a Jura headland. A Common Buzzard and then a Merlin passed over the Sound from Jura to Islay and Common Seals and Shags were found in the turbulent waters.

Plan B came into play and we drove slowly to Loch Skerrols and this time walked through the woodland on the west side which provided good views of small birds which included Coal Tits, Goldcrest, Treecreeper, Siskins and Bullfinch. There were plenty of vocal Whooper Swans on the Loch and the small Eurasian Wigeon flock still contained the drake American Wigeon. We checked the aythya duck flock but could see no sign of anything different amongst the Tufted Ducks. We moved on to Gruinart, noting Pale-bellied Brent Geese at Loch Indaal as we did so. Flocks of Barnacle Geese were both sides of the Flats road and we were able to quickly pick out a fabulous Richardson's Cackling Goose. Smaller and browner than the Barnacle Geese and looking like a dwarf Canada Goose its credibility status as a genuine wild bird is good – Julian managed to take some very good images of this transatlantic vagrant.

After this success, we consumed our lunch at the RSPB visitor centre whilst scanning the goose-filled fields around us. Chaffinches, House Sparrows, Pied Wagtails, Starlings and Redwings fidgeted in the hedge-line and the farm buildings. We then took a drive around Loch Gorm in windy conditions with light showers racing in and providing yet another day of vibrant rainbows! Small flocks of assorted geese, corvids, Rock Doves and Pheasants dominated with ducks on the loch including Teal, Tufted Duck and Pochard. Common Buzzards were active and another Golden Eagle was perched atop a craggy hillside near Kilchoan.

We drove down to the protected calm west shore of Loch Indaal and at Bruichladdich we enjoyed good views of gulls, Shags and Red-breasted Mergansers feeding on small fish in the shallows. Further out there were four Black-throated Divers, a Red-throated Diver and a Great Northern Diver and we watched a diving Gannet. We began to move on until Karen shouted and pointed out that animals in the water were dolphins. And they were very close to shore – five magnificent Bottle-nosed Dolphins which flipped and dived in front of us. They rounded the pier and we were positioning ourselves for some more close viewing but the small pod exited out into the loch and we watched them cavorting at range. Dolphins are no longer regular visitors to the island, so we considered ourselves very lucky.

Back in the minibuses, we patrolled further south and seeing now familiar sights of grazing geese, gleaning corvids and dawdling gulls. Arriving at Portnahaven, we were already losing the light as grey clouds dominated the horizon and the powerful south-west gusts churned up the waters around this remarkable stalwart community, almost defying the frequently stormy conditions. We were able to walk down to watch several large Grey Seals as they worked the splash zone on the high tide, many in pairs with the dark males intent on escorting the grey females. This is also an area renowned for Otters, but we looked in vain. Excited gulls were snatching at small fish in the cauldron of water that separated the lighthouse island from the village and even a Gannet came in to try its luck. Rock Pipits were flitting along the shoreline and a couple of hardy Robins called from gardens and coastal bushes. Roe Deer browsed the vegetation next to the lighthouses. However, with the lack of light defeating us, we called it a day and drove in a long arc for fifty minutes back to Port Ellen. After completing our check-lists we subsequently meandered down the road for our evening meal at The Islay Hotel and re-lived our best moments from a busy wildlife-filled day.

Day 5

Tuesday 2nd November

After another hearty breakfast we left No 1 Charlotte Street, grabbed some lunchtime provisions and drove north to Port Askaig. A Common Buzzard flying over the road south of Bowmore completely distracted our attention from the White-tailed Eagle that flew over both the minibuses in the opposite direction! On arrival at the ferry terminal we learnt that repairs were being carried out and we had over an hour's delay before sailing across. In the meantime scanning the Sound of Islay produced a few birds of interest with the highlight being a Little Auk which was swept along rapidly on the very strong current here. So swift was its passage that not everyone had time to appreciate it through the telescope before it was out of sight. Eiders, Great Northern Divers and distant Black Guillemots and Razorbills were similarly swept past. Overhead plenty of Redwings flew by and it was some time before we noticed a couple of Grey Herons perched in trees above us! A Greenfinch was the first of this species for the trip list.

Over on Jura we scanned the rocky shores from the road and then drove slowly over the moorland, espying small groups of Red Deer as we did so. Hooded Crows and Common Buzzards stood out in the stark surroundings. Stonechats flitted by the roadside and alert observers picked out a 'ringtail' Hen Harrier and two distant Golden Eagles. A muscle-bound accipiter flew over the road but we gave it the benefit of the doubt and assigned it as a female Sparrowhawk. A few Kestrels hovered and wheeled over the grassy ridges.

Reaching the only village on the island, Craighouse, we parked the minibuses and went for a walk. First we checked the pier and scanned over the Small Isles, it was possible to see quite a number of Wild Goats grazing the vegetation. Great Northern Divers always seem to value the relatively sheltered area between the shoreline

and the Small Isles and a good half a dozen birds provided great views, many of them adults moulting out of summer plumage. Shags and Red-breasted Mergansers were always on view and we noted Cormorant and four winter-plumage Black Guillemots. Migrant and resident passerines showed nicely and included Chiffchaff, Redwings, Siskins, Rock Pipits, House Sparrows, Starling and Chaffinches. A few waders included Common Redshank, Ringed Plover, Oystercatcher and Curlew and Common Seals bobbed and hunted the shallow waters. A female Bullfinch perched right out for us, a Grey Wagtail flitted by and we chatted with some of the local residents who were interested in our fervent scanning and observing. With some lovely sunshine warming us, the insects also emerged and we saw late season examples of Small Tortoiseshell, Peacock and Red Admiral butterflies, a Silver Y moth and an unidentified hawk dragonfly that looked very much like a Migrant Hawker.

After a few hours on the island, during which time the shop of the Jura Distillery and a new café had been sampled, we re-boarded the mini-buses and explored further north. The stark beauty of Jura unfolded to our left and the Argyll mainland glistened off to our right. We marveled at the lifestyle of many of the islanders, some with easy access only available by boat. A couple of berry-laden Rowan trees were proving popular with hungry Redwings so we parked nearby and watched the feeding frenzy. Chaffinches, a female Brambling and a Goldcrest joined the busy thrushes. With our time on Jura running out, we travelled just a little further up the single road, just far enough to find two terrific Red Deer stags right beside the road who were completely unconcerned by our presence – until they saw Alan's big lens come out!

We drove slowly back south through Craighouse and thence to the ferry, checking for any additional wildlife on the way. It was almost dark on reaching Islay so we drove back to our accommodation and after a short time to freshen up we wandered down the road for an enjoyable meal at the Seasalt Bistro.

Day 6

Wednesday 3rd November

Our last full day on Islay and with the weather forecast changing for the better, the decision was made to explore the wonderful upland near to Port Ellen called the Oa. From Port Ellen, the narrow road winds up past small farms and houses through the low hills and pastures up onto the heather moors and granite hilltops. We had been waiting for a half day of sunshine for this excursion as it involves a two-mile walk in exposed habitat. The keen wind meant it was always going to be a little cool and blustery, but the sunshine prevailed. Kestrels, Common Buzzards, geese and corvids were all our 'usuals' with Stonechats and Redwings flying onto trackside perches as we drove slowly up the incline. A dark thrush flew across the road in front of the lead minibus and proved to be a Ring Ouzel - it showed briefly again but was then lost to view. We drove on and parked at the car park for the RSPB reserve and the American Monument. On alighting from the vehicles, we immediately sighted two immature Golden Eagles lifting up ahead of us. These large raptors quickly gained height, ignored the Ravens and Common Buzzards below them and then powered past us. For the next hour they simply kept themselves aloft by facing into the strong breeze as it vortexed against a high slope nearby. Starlings, fly-by geese and a few House Sparrows were next and some Wild Goats were visible on the opposite slope. In front of one of those small herds Chris found a third Golden Eagle, this one perched on the cliff edge with us looking down on it. Gazing out to sea it was possible to see distant Gannets and we ambled to the American Monument, an impressive lighthouse-style structure which commemorates the loss of two American troop-ships nearby in 1918 with a large loss of life. By this time a Snow Bunting had flown past us calling but most of our merry band didn't manage to get a view. As we drew closer to the Monument, sheep and Wild Goats were spotted below and then the vocal Snow Bunting flew back into view before disappearing again.

We stepped up to the Monument and the plaques were read with thought and condolences. After a poignant group photo we walked the moorland boardwalk with a Common Buzzard hunting overhead and then at a turn in the footpath we found our Snow Bunting, this time scurrying around on the ground by a metal gate. A Song Thrush also posed and we then took the short walk back to the car park where a small flock of House Sparrows were feeding on suspended seed feeders and three Twite posed in the late autumn sunshine. A second Snow Bunting was glimpsed during our minibus journey back from the Oa and we stopped to scan a variety of fields which contained Rabbits, Common Buzzards, geese and a flock of Redwing. We took a quick comfort break at No 1 Charlotte Street and then drove north from Port Ellen, coming rapidly to a stop when an adult male Hen Harrier flew alongside us!

Moving on again we took the Glen Road which was generally quiet and threaded ourselves down to the Ardnahoe Distillery, the newest single malt distillery on the island. Three of us took a good value distillery tour with the remainder sampling cake and hot drinks in the modern café. A balcony overlooking the Sound of Islay and the western flank of Jura was compelling and provided fabulous views of the Paps as well as a couple of hovering Common Buzzards and yet more flocks of Redwings.

After leaving the distillery, we pushed on to Loch Skerrols where several scarce ducks had been reported. In poor light we were able to pick out the drake American Wigeon, a Long-tailed Duck and a first-year Ring-necked Duck. A distant Lesser Scaup was just too far away and difficult for many in our party to appreciate, so after noting plenty of common woodland birds which included a flock of over a hundred Siskins we drove down to the Gruinart Flats for one final time.

Of course there were flocks of noisy Barnacle Geese both sides of the road and we picked out a Pink-footed Goose and the Richardson's Cackling Goose again. A 'ringtail' Hen Harrier flew over moving west. Then with the light fading fast we completed our last scan and took a slow drive back to No 1 Charlotte Street.

Prior to our last evening meal together at the Islay Hotel, we completed our checklists and talked through the plans for the final day. Dave J in the meantime had compiled a stunning set of images from our trip and we marveled at these displayed on the big screen set to a background of traditional Scottish music. We enjoyed our meal at the Islay Hotel and threaded our way back to our accommodation and final night on Islay.

Day 7

Thursday 4th November

Our itinerary for the day included catching the Calmac Ferry from Port Ellen to Kennacraig and so after breakfast and saying goodbye to No 1 Charlotte Street, we made our customary stop at the local Co-op and had just enough time to drive a few miles along the minor roads on the southern coast. Plenty of Common Seals and Red-breasted Mergansers were standard sights by now, but a late House Martin was the only hirundine seen during the trip. Grey Wagtail, Brambling, thrushes, common waders and the usual Shags and Cormorants were the best of the rest and a couple of Great Northern Divers were waiting for us back at Port Ellen. The ferry was running to time and it wasn't long before we were boarded and set off ahead of time. A position on the starboard outer deck was probably the best spot from which to observe wildlife in or over the sea as we chugged from Islay to the mainland. More Great Northern Divers, Common Guillemots and Razorbills made up most of

the sightings and we didn't manage to see any hoped-for Harbour Porpoises. Kittiwake was the most common gull encountered.

On the approach to Kennacraig the number of birds increased with Black Guillemot, Common Scoter, Eider, Long-tailed Duck and divers of all three species showing well as we passed them by. In total, sixty Great Northern Divers were counted from the ferry and we saw a distant White-tailed Eagle soaring over a hillside before we docked.

After departing The Finlaggan we drove the short distance to Stonefield Castle Hotel where we said goodbye to Chris, Ann and John. The rest of us drove on for about an hour in fine weather, stopping again at Inverary for a comfort break and refreshments. With the minibuses splitting up on the approach to Glasgow, our happy clan was further divided with departures from Gilmour Street by train for some and the airport for those by car and plane. Despite the short days, occasional rain and showers and plenty of rainbows, we very much made the most of the camaraderie, wildlife, landscapes and comforts on offer on the wonderful islands of Islay and Jura.

Receive our e-newsletter

Join the Naturetrek e-mailing list and be the first to hear about new tours, additional departures and new dates, tour reports and special offers. Visit www.naturetrek.co.uk to sign up.

Social Media

We're social! Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and be the first to hear about the launch of new tours, offers and exciting sightings and photos from our recently returned holidays.



www.facebook.com/naturetrekwildlifeholidays



www.twitter.com/naturetrektours



www.instagram.com/naturetrek_wildlife_holidays

Checklist

Mammals

	I=Introduced		Date: OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2021						
	Common name	Scientific name	29th	30th	31st	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
1	European Hare - I	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>		✓	✓	✓			
2	European Rabbit - I	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
3	Grey Seal	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>				✓	✓		
4	Harbour Seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	Bottle-nosed Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>				5			
6	European Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
8	Fallow Deer - I	<i>Dama dama</i>					✓		
9	Wild Goat	<i>Capra aegagrus</i>		1			6		
10	Pipistrelle Bat	<i>Pipistrellus sp.</i>					1		

Birds

	I=Introduced		Date: 29 OCTOBER - 4 November 2021						
	Common name	Scientific name	29th	30th	31st	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
1	Pale-bellied Brent Goose	<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>		✓		✓			
2	Barnacle Goose	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	Cackling Goose	<i>Branta hutchinsii</i>				1		1	
4	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	Pink-footed Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>		1				1	
6	Greater White-fronted Goose	<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		✓		✓		✓	
10	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>				✓			
11	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>		✓		✓		✓	
12	American Wigeon	<i>Mareca americana</i>		1		1		1	
13	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>			✓	✓			
15	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	
16	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>				5			
17	Ring-necked Duck	<i>Aythya collaris</i>						1	
18	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	
19	Greater Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>		1					
20	Lesser Scap	<i>Aythya affinis</i>						1	
21	Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
22	Common Scoter	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>				✓			2
23	Long-tailed Duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>			3		1	1	1
24	Common Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	✓	✓		✓			✓
25	Goosander	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	✓						4
26	Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
27	Common Pheasant - I	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
28	Red-throated Diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>			2	2			2
29	Black-throated Diver	<i>Gavia arctica</i>			3	4			2
30	Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>			10	1	12	1	60

I=Introduced			Date: 29 OCTOBER - 4 November 2021						
	Common name	Scientific name	29th	30th	31st	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
31	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			
32	Slavonian Grebe	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>			14				1
33	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
34	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		1					
35	Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
36	European Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
37	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
38	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>		3		5	2	3	
39	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>		1	2				
40	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>		1	2	1	1	2	
41	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>		6	1	3	1	7	1
42	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
43	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		H					
44	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
45	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>		✓		✓		✓	
46	European Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>		✓	3	✓			
47	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
48	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
49	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>				✓			
50	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>			✓				
51	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>			1				
52	Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>		✓					
53	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
54	Black-legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>		✓					✓
55	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
56	Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
57	Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
58	European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
59	Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>	✓			✓			✓
60	Little Auk	<i>Alle alle</i>					1		
61	Auk sp.	<i>Alle sp.</i>		✓					
62	Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>					✓		✓
63	Black Guillemot	<i>Cepphus grylle</i>					5	1	2
64	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
65	Feral Pigeon - I	<i>Columba livia var. domestica</i>	✓						✓
66	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
67	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
68	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>			✓		✓	✓	
69	Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>				1			
70	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓						✓
71	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>		c50					
72	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
73	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
74	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>							✓
75	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
76	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
77	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>		H	H	✓	✓		H
78	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>				✓	✓	✓	
79	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓		✓			
80	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		✓					
81	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>							1

	I=Introduced		Date: 29 OCTOBER - 4 November 2021						
	Common name	Scientific name	29th	30th	31st	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
82	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>			✓				
83	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>					1		
84	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>		✓	H	✓	✓	H	H
85	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
86	Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>		✓		✓	✓		
87	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
88	Ring Ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>				1			
89	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
90	Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>			✓		✓		✓
91	Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
92	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
93	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
94	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
95	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
96	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
97	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>		H	H	H	✓	H	H
98	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		✓		✓	✓	H	✓
99	Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba yarrellii</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
100	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
101	Eurasian Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
102	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
103	Brambling	<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>					1		1
104	Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>		1	1	✓	1		H
105	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>					1	1	
106	Twite	<i>Linaria flavirostris</i>		c30	✓		5	3	
107	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		✓					
108	Lesser Redpoll	<i>Acanthis cabaret</i>		30	1	1	50		✓
109	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
110	Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>	✓		H	30	✓	100	✓
111	Snow Bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>						2	
112	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>		✓					
113	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>		✓	H			✓	