

North-East Wales
Bird Report

2004 - 2006



Clwyd Bird Recording Group

North-East Wales Bird Report

(formerly Clwyd Bird Report)

2004 – 2006

Clwyd Bird Recording Group

www.cbrg.org.uk



Published December 2007

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Clwyd Bird Recording Group

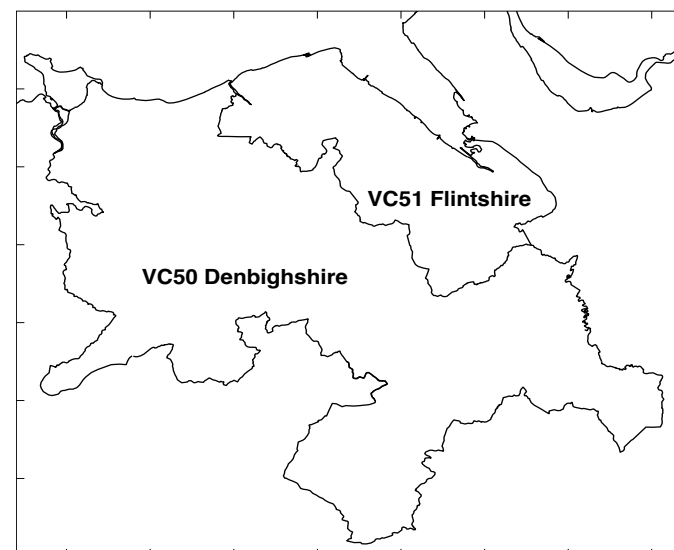
The group was founded in 1989 with the main aims to collect bird records for what was then Clwyd, but is now the area of the Vice Counties of Denbighshire and Flintshire, and to publish an annual bird report. The group, at the time of publication, comprises:

Chairman, Treasurer and County Recorder: Ian M Spence
 (also representing the Wales Raptor Study Group - North-East Wales and the Welsh Ornithological Society)
 Honorary Secretary: Julie Rogers

Anne Brenchley (BTO East Clwyd representative and N Wales Atlas organiser)
 Peter Coffey (Merseyside Ringing Group)
 Andrew Dale
 Neil Hughes (Wrexham Birdwatchers)
 Adrian Lloyd Jones (North Wales Wildlife Trust)
 Mel ab Owain (BTO West Clwyd representative)
 Geoff Robinson (RSPB)
 Paul Triggs
 Andrew Wallbank (Deeside Naturalists' Society)

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Area covered:
 The recording area for this report is shown in the map below.



Introduction

Editorial

I have been very lucky to take over the role of Recorder from Norman Hallas, who, mainly single-handedly, produced the last five Clwyd Bird Reports. I have found out what a huge amount of work he had done. However, the production schedule of the Clwyd Bird Reports had slipped so that the reports were appearing late in the day. The CBRG agreed with my proposal that we try to catch up and so we have produced a three-year report, though we expect to return to annual reports after this one.

Because of the implications of the boundary issues, described below, I have taken this opportunity to change the name of the report and to alter the format within the species accounts so that our report corresponds more closely with the Welsh Bird Report that we support by providing our collated records.

The CBRG has had to consider how best to present our information about birds in order to meet the very different demands of the public on whom we depend to purchase the report (thereby providing a source of income to pay for the next report). We know that the demands of twitchers are very different to those of, say, the RSPB in any review of the conservation status of what were common species. We hope that we have bridged the interests of all people who have an interest in the birds of north-east Wales. We also hope that we have maintained an adequate record of the fortunes of bird species which live in our area in the hope that they will continue to live, possibly even thrive, for future generations.

In preparing this three-year report, the members of the CBRG decided to concentrate efforts on the less common species. Therefore, for some species, eg Mute Swan, which is common and not of any current conservation concern, there appears a table to show the number of records received for each county, each year and the months in which the records were made. In future reports we anticipate reporting on all species in the normal way. For some species there is a very large increase in the number of records, in Flintshire, in 2005. This is caused by one person entering many records of birds 'present' in his garden in Birdtrack, for a period, almost on a daily basis.

I must make a short comment about species names. In recent years there was considered, by some in the international birding community, to be a need to have species names in English that were species-specific (though there were perfectly adequate scientific names to do the job, that also work well when birding with people who do not speak English). These names have now appeared in the latest version of the BOU checklist of British birds published in Ibis in 2006, so are the 'official' English names. Some names of common species have changed and are, for example, 'Eurasian Reed Warbler' or 'European Goldfinch'. These are the names that are used for importing records to the database and they are used in the systematic list for each species account heading. In other parts of the report, the authors have used the old common names such as 'Reed Warbler' or 'Goldfinch'. To the best of our reading there should be no confusions between species as a result of this.

We trust that the balance of the report will suit most observers. However, we also understand that the era of the 'bird report' as a book may be passing. We may need to explore the viability of publishing a web-based report. From the point of view of writing the report there is no change in the task; the big change is about the financial risk of printing a number of reports that maybe do not all sell, against investing in web-creation software and publishing the report at low cost

to the CBRG but at great inconvenience to anyone who prefers to read 'something', a book, in their armchair, or wherever. I would welcome comments from any reader as to what they would prefer. Ultimately, though, the decision will depend on how many bird reports are bought. Please encourage as many people as you can to buy this report and learn about the birds of north-east Wales.

Boundary issues

The Clwyd Bird Recording Group (CBRG) was formed in 1989 but Clwyd ceased to be in 1996 when local government reorganisation brought in the current unitary authorities. Within Wales, the Welsh Ornithological Society encourages the use of the Vice County boundaries that had been in use for over one hundred years prior to 1974, when Clwyd was formed.

However, since I took over as the County Recorder I have become aware of several issues about boundaries that were not known, or not clear, at the time when the last report (for 2003) was published. I am grateful for discussion with, and information from, David Ballance, that has helped with clarifying these issues. In this report there are three maps to clarify the boundary issues: firstly, the Vice Counties shown with rivers and major inland waters included to give some notion of place (Figure 1); secondly, a similar map of Clwyd (Figure 2); and lastly a map showing the current Unitary Authority boundaries (Figure 3).

When I took over the role I used an Ordnance Survey map (Sheet 107, printed 1962) for my knowledge of the northern boundary between VC49, Caernarfon, and VC50, Denbighshire. This showed a boundary that came north up the western bank of the Afon Conwy to a point near Benarth Hall, then a distinct turn to just north of east across the estuary and following the line of a stream entering the estuary at about SH803772. The boundary then gently curved north to the coast in the middle of Penrhyn Bay. After taking over the role, I found that research on behalf of the National Biodiversity Network shows that the boundary goes north up the western bank of the Afon Conwy, past Benarth Hall to the level of the railway bridge, then east on what is now the line of the A55 dual carriageway. It then follows the line of the previously understood boundary until just south of Penrhyn Bay when it veers to the east passing north of Llandrillo-yn-Rhos, but south of Rhos-on-Sea, reaching the sea to the north west of the Colwyn Bay, approximately opposite the middle of the current breakwater. This is also shown on the map at the back of HE Forrest, 1907, *The Fauna of North Wales*, London: Witherby. See Figure 1 for a map of the Vice County boundaries as I understand them.

This explanation is here because of two consequent changes to the area that is our duty to report. Firstly, the positive difference means that the whole of RSPB Conwy can be considered as being in VC50, Denbighshire, but the downside is that we have 'lost' Rhos-on-Sea and Rhos Point to VC49, Caernarfon.

In recent months, I have reached agreement with John Barnes, the Recorder for Caernarfon, that we will both record birds from RSPB Conwy – from his point of view, it is a site that he had understood to be in VC49, Caernarfon since its creation and before. It should be clear that any birds reported are from this one site and double recording for any national recording schemes (eg Rare Birds Breeding Panel) should not be a problem. John has also agreed that the salient of Caernarfon that is east of the Afon Conwy in the area around Maenan, should be considered to be in VC50, Denbighshire, so we use the river as our joint boundary.

Jim Dustow, the Recorder for Meirionnydd, likes to include all of the Migneint in Meirionnydd,

although there is the long extension of Denbighshire into that area of mountains. We have agreed to double record the area, though in reality the only source of data, currently, is from RSPB surveys. Having thought about the issue of the north-eastern corner of Meirionydd (that takes in Bod Petruall in Clocaenog Forest), I have decided that it would be best for me to accept records from that area (as a part of Clwyd) but to pass on those records to the Recorder for Meirionydd and we may, possibly, mention species recorded there if there is some special reason. Otherwise, we will report on records from within our VC area. See Figure 2 for a map of the old county of Clwyd.

That leaves one last area of contention. I have discussed the matter with Brayton Holt, the Recorder for Montgomeryshire. He needs to keep an account of records that occur within the Unitary Authority of Powys, and its modern boundary comes to the north of the Tanat Valley, whereas the southern boundary of VC50 extends to the south of the Tanat Valley. I shall collect records for the VC Denbighshire and we shall report on those records, but I shall ensure that I pass on the records that are within the modern Powys boundary to the Montgomeryshire Recorder.

There is one last problem that I cannot do anything about – the western edge of the recording and reporting area for this report is inconveniently in the middle of the new county of Conwy. See Figure 3 for the Unitary Authority boundaries. This is awkward for many reasons, mainly to do with reporting on local biodiversity issues and organising surveys or projects.

For members of the public, or any birdwatchers who are not especially interested or knowledgeable about these boundary issues, the key thing is for records for north-east Wales to be sent to me. I shall pass on any that are of interest to a Recorder in a neighbouring area.

Computerisation of records

When I agreed to take on the role of recorder in 2005, I knew that I would not be able, or willing, to deal with paper records. In view of the volume that I have received I am amazed that my predecessor, Norman Hallas, was able to put together a bird report at all. I decided that we must move to computerisation of records so that we would be able to search for, find and report on the records that we receive.

Several years before my new involvement with the CBRG, it had acquired a laptop and the program Recorder 2000, which was the program that was being promoted nationally for all recorders of any taxa to use for biological recording. As the CBRG had the software, I decided to try it. I started with an upgrade, to Recorder 2002, and had a difficult period getting used to it but was informed by colleagues at rECOrd in Chester that it was possible to use a spreadsheet to gather records and import them to the Recorder database. This meant that I would be able to send out a spreadsheet to recorders who have computers and are willing to submit records electronically. Currently I am using a further upgrade, Recorder 6 and am still waiting for some issues to be resolved to assist my accurate recording of all species and important subspecies, particularly White and Pied Wagtails.

The spreadsheet for submission of records has been created in Excel but is available in other formats if needed (eg for those who do not have Excel, I have the spreadsheet available in the Open Office format – Open Office is a suite of programs that are freely available from the internet). I have been very pleased that the majority of recorders have been able and willing to submit their records electronically. There are just four regular sources of records that now

arrive on paper. I typed the majority of the 2004 records into copies of the spreadsheet and imported the data. Since then I have had help from a couple of people, but my main assistant with this task is Jim Hulse, from Rhydymwyn. He has been my 'Assistant Recorder' and has typed up many thousands of records, saving me many hours of work, for which I am extremely grateful.

The CBRG database holds over 51,000 records and most of the 2007 records are still to be imported. Having the records on a database has meant that I have been able to respond to requests for bird data in relation to development enquiries which provides some welcome financial income that supports the production of bird reports. Having a growing database means that we will have to deal with the issue of establishing a data exchange agreement with Cofnod, the Local Record Centre for North Wales, though there are many steps to that process and I have not had sufficient time to start it as yet. One of the first steps will be to seek the agreement of all observers who submit records.

Submission of records

A standard record form is available from me or the CBRG Secretary and it would be most helpful if these forms were used and submitted to me, as Recorder, by email. All the records are imported to a database so it does not matter about the order of the records – it is probably easiest to use the forms chronologically, just entering the latest observations that you have recorded. The crucial aspects of each record are:

- Species name (as in the new BOU checklist);
- Date of the observation;
- Location name (preferably from the gazetteer, but if not then a name for the 1 km square that looks sensible);
- The 1 km square grid reference (this is crucial);
- The age or sex of the bird;
- The number of birds seen (please do not enter pairs as one record – please enter the number of males then on the next line, the number of females);
- The Vice County number, if known (eg 50 or 51); and
- In the comments column please enter any other aspects of the observation that are pertinent.

All of these details are stored. As the records are handled electronically, it does not matter how frequently you record the observations and please keep records of common species as much as rarities, but of particular concern now are those species that are either Amber or Red listed, or are species on the Welsh Biodiversity Action Plan (WBAP) list. Included in this report are maps showing the distribution of the few records we have received for some species of high conservation concern.

Records can be made available to the CBRG in a variety of ways, some of which are better than others. They would all be equally good, if they all had the same requirements, but that is expecting a lot. Records of bird sightings may be made available by:

- using a spreadsheet available from me (ianspence.cr@btinternet.com) with a gazetteer for place names, and a list of the BOU 2006 checklist species names;
- by using Birdtrack (www.birdtrack.net);
- by using the Cofnod record submission facility (www.cofnod.org.uk);
- by using the Birdguides record submission facility (www.birdguides.com but please give your name and address – see the rarity section, below); and
- by using the website run by Richard Smith (www.deeestuary.co.uk) emailing your records to him.

Please submit your records regularly, preferably no less frequently than every quarter. **For your records to be considered for a bird report, please submit the records before the end of March of the following year.** After that date they may be too late to include.

I look forward to receiving records from existing and new observers.

Rarity records

If you see a bird that is considered to be a rarity, please refer to the copy of the BOU 2006 checklist of species that I prepared that show if each species is a national, Welsh or local rarity then contact me at the email address above. I can also email or send you a form on which to record the usual information that is required – the details are shown in the bird report for 2003. If you take any digital photos, please label them with date, species, place and your name.

Please submit records of rarities to me as soon as is possible after the observation.

I have tried to ensure that records of rare birds have been dealt with properly, and verified by the appropriate panel. However, many of the records were processed well over a year after the observations were made and not all observers submitted descriptions as requested in previous reports. Many records of rarities came from the Birdguides website, but were anonymous, so I was unable to follow them up with enquiries about descriptions or photographs. As a result they have not been used as they could not go through any verification process. If you see a rarity and use the Birdguides, or other, website, please give contact details as well as details of the observation.

Some national rarities have been submitted to the BBRC (secretary@bbrc.org.uk), have been accepted and have appeared in British Birds. Those records have been included in this report. Some records of Welsh rarities have been submitted to the Welsh Rarities Panel (jrgreen@onetel.com), have been accepted and appeared in copies of Rare and Scarce Birds in Wales they have been included in this report. Currently, there is yet another category - of local rarities. These have been submitted to our small, local panel for their consideration and after discussion those deemed to be acceptable have been included.

Acknowledgements

Producing this report seemed to be a daunting task, when we first contemplated undertaking it. I am very grateful to those who contributed by writing a suite of species accounts, with the guidelines about how to produce the accounts changing as we gained experience. I also thank those people for their patience. The contributors who helped me with the writing were: Anne Brenchley, Peter Coffey, Andrew Dale, Neil Hughes, Mel ab Owain, Geoff Robinson, Julie Rogers, Paul Triggs and Andrew Wallbank. I am also grateful to Peter and Ann Coffey for proof reading the report (any remaining errors are my responsibility).

I thank Alan Davies and Susan Morris – the panel who help me make decisions about local rarities – for their assistance.

This has been my first experiment preparing a report in QuarkXPress and I am very grateful to Amanda Bunnell for her patience in teaching me some basic processes. She has also assisted with aspects of design (eg preparing the striking front cover) and seeking quotations from printers.

The maps have been produced using DMAP by Dr Alan J Morton, and I am very grateful to him when he has assisted with any query I have made to him.

Jim Hulse has typed up other people's records and is now submitting his own - I am very grateful to him for his assistance.

Len Walls has been very helpful in providing weather data from his Moel y Crio weather station at Halkyn, Flintshire.

I am very grateful to Gary Bellingham, Julie Rogers and John Lawton Roberts for their photographs that add significantly to the attractiveness of the report.

The leap forward in the quality of the production of this report has involved a considerable financial investment. The CBRG is very grateful to some contributors for their donations that have helped to make this report possible: the Wales Raptor Study Group – North-East Wales, Flintshire County Council, Peter Rathbone, the Clwyd Ornithological Society and Gilbert Jones.

I am very grateful to the members of the CBRG for their ongoing support and assistance with all that is needed to coordinate a report such as this. I also thank the members of the local Rarities panel, Alan Davies and Susan Morris for their assistance.

I remain most grateful to all the observers and organisations who submitted records for the report – the list of individual contributors is at the back of the report. Among the organisations that submitted records are the RSPB (Conwy, Inner Marsh Farm and the office at Bangor), Deeside Naturalists' Trust, Clwyd Monitoring, the Hiraethog Project and BHP Billiton (per Sam Dyer). All of us, above, have nothing to do without the records that are provided. I trust that the observers and organisations think that we have made best use of the data they have provided.

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Birding Highlights 2004 – 2006

This paper briefly summarises the main birding highlights and events for the three years covered by this report. The paper is based on all records received by the County Recorder and subsequently verified by the local, Welsh and British Birds Rarities Committee. Some readers may note discrepancies between this report and records highlighted in the Welsh Bird Report (especially 2004) and reports in other monthly magazines. In the past some records have bypassed the County Recorder and we hope that this situation will be rectified in the future. Also other records noted in magazines and bulletins, which subsequently cannot be verified because descriptions are either not submitted or do not stand close scrutiny, are not included in this report. Omissions also occasionally occur and for this we offer our apologies – we would prefer all observers to send their records to the Recorder.

2004

The year began with most birdwatchers being drawn to the coast to see the regular influx of divers (including one **Great Northern Diver**), waders, seaducks, geese and **Bewick Swan**. An **American Wigeon** at Border Pool, Inner Marsh Farm in late January was the first rarity of the year. One or two **Great Grey Shrikes** put in a regular appearance at the usual sites in Clocaenog Forest. As spring approached up to 40 **Twite** were seen along the coast near Flint. Spring migration produced a **White Stork** at Inner Marsh Farm in April, a **Temminck's Stint** at RSPB Conwy in May and two **Spoonbills**, which turned up at Rhyl, were a feature of June. The national **Nightjar** survey identified at least six sites where breeding probably took place. Most sightings were from Clocaenog Forest area. Late August and September saw a good passage of skuas at Point of Ayr, including **Pomarine**, **Long-tailed**, **Great** and **Arctic Skua**. September also brought a **Little Auk** to Towyn and three **Sabine's Gulls** at Point of Ayr. October saw a **Green-winged Teal** to Inner Marsh Farm and a **Firecrest** was ringed at Bronbannog. Another **Firecrest** turned up at Conwy RSPB reserve in November and a **Little Auk** was seen at Point of Ayr. The **Waxwing** influx started in November but numbers built up in December until they reached record proportions with 325 seen around the Rhuthun Craft Centre on Christmas Eve. One of the flock of 120 **Waxwing** found at Ewloe in late December had been colour ringed at Inverurie, Aberdeen in late October. A **Richard's Pipit** was the last notable bird of the year when one was seen in the Kinmel Bay area in December.

2005

Gulls galore! Gresford Flash was the place to be in January when **Ring-billed**, **Glaucous**, **Iceland** and **Yellow-legged Gull** all turned up. The **Iceland Gull** stayed in the Wrexham area until mid March. A flock of over 100 **Twite** was counted in the Oakenholt/Flint area in January and a male **Smew** showed up at Inner Marsh Farm and was probably the same bird seen at Shotwick Boating Lake a few days later. The **Richard's Pipit** seen in 2004 was still in the Kinmel Bay area at the beginning of the year and stayed on until well into April. The gull spree continued as **Mediterranean Gull** and **Little Gull** were seen at Pensarn in February and a **Little Auk** was seen off Point of Ayr. The first **Osprey** of the year was seen over Buckley in late March and a few **Waxwings** hung on in the Wrexham area until early April, when a late **Brambling** was also seen. **Hobby** arrived at Fenn's Moss in late April and the only **Long-eared Owl** of the year was seen being chased by a **Buzzard** at Gronant. In May, **Garganey** were recorded at Inner Marsh Farm and RSPB reserve at Conwy. The only **Corn Bunting** in all three years of the report was seen sitting on the boundary fence at Inner Marsh Farm but sadly this may no longer be a breeding species in North-East Wales. A notable rarity was the **Short-toed Lark** at Towyn in May. Several **Quail** were heard calling in the Mynydd Hiraethog area in June and July. Summer birding activity was fairly quiet but as autumn migration started, **Leach's Petrel** and **Velvet Scoter** were seen from Towyn in September. **Scoter** numbers

built up as autumn progressed and 14,000 **Common Scoter** were counted off the coast in October along with over 50 **Red-throated Diver**. **Black-tailed Godwit** numbers reached their annual peak of 5700 on the Dee Estuary. A **Long-tailed Skua** and 16+ **Leach's Petrel** were seen off Point of Ayr in October and another nice rarity, a **Long-billed Dowitcher** was seen at Inner Marsh Farm. An unusually late **Swallow** record was on the 26 November. In December, another **Ring-billed Gull** was seen at Gresford Flash along with an usually large flock of 500 **Lapwing**. Finally on Boxing Day a **Lapland Bunting** was seen at Llanasa.

2006

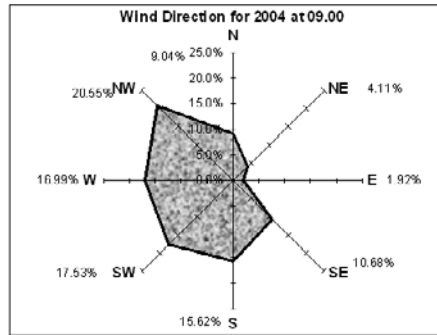
Birdwatchers out on the first day of the year were greeted with the spectacular sight of 80+ **Goldeneye** on Rhyl Marine Lake. A **Water Pipit** was present at RSPB Conwy on most days of the month and a **Yellow-legged Gull** was seen at Gresford Flash and RSPB Conwy. Shotwick fields held 80 **Bewick's Swan** along with 130 **Golden Plover** in February. Nineteen **Little Ringed Plover** recorded at RSPB Conwy on 10 February suggested that these birds would have a good breeding season but whilst birds were recorded throughout the summer months, breeding was not confirmed. In March, 33 **Goldeneye** were on Llyn Brenig; and **Black Grouse** showed well at the lek in Llandegla Forest, which must be one of the area's best bird spectacles. April brought one record of **Dartford Warbler** and a **Slavonian Grebe** off Llanddulas. **Green Woodpeckers** were widely reported in the Llangollen area and **Lesser Spotted Woodpecker** records increased from previous years. A **Wood Sandpiper** was present at Inner Marsh Farm in May and a rare spring record of **Great Skua** and a late **Glaucous Gull** were noted. Although spring/summer records of **Red Kite** increased in 2006 successful breeding has yet to be confirmed but **Hobby** did breed in 2006. In June, a **Honey Buzzard** was seen at Bettisfield Moss and a possible **Montagu's Harrier** noted at Fenn's Moss. If this is confirmed it will be the first record of this species for North-East Wales. At Gronant, 110 pairs of **Little Tern** bred and record numbers of **Common Tern** (722 pairs) bred at Shotton with over 1000 young ringed in July. A **Turtle Dove**, now a very scarce summer visitor, was seen and heard in the Ruabon area and an unconfirmed but well-watched **Stilt Sandpiper** was seen at RSPB Conwy. The autumn sea passage got underway in August with 150 **Manx Shearwater** seen off Point of Ayr and a flock of 21 **Black Tern** were seen offshore moving west at Towyn Beach in September. A juvenile **Black Guillemot** seen at Towyn was the only record for the reporting years. In October and November individual **Velvet Scoter** and **Great Northern Diver** were recorded. An increase in **Little Egret** records occurred at RSPB Conwy with 14 birds seen in October. An **Avocet** on the Dee Estuary was a notable sighting. Movements of large numbers of winter migrants were noted at the beginning of November including 1000 **Fieldfare** moving south over Penycae. As the year closed, an unusual sighting of a **Leach's Petrel** was noted on the Conwy estuary and on the RSPB reserve lagoon.

Anne Brenchley

Weather Summary 2004 – 2006. Data kindly supplied by Len Walls

2004

2004	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Max temp °C / date	10.8 / 10	13.2 / 3	15.4 / 31	18.1 / 24	19.7 / 16	22.6 / 8	30.1 / 27	26.1 / 8	22.0 / 5	15.3 / 3	13.2 / 3	11.7 / 11
Mean temp °C	4.6	4.4	5.6	8.3	10.6	13.6	14.0	15.9	13.4	9.1	7.1	5.2
Min temp °C / date	-3.6 / 29	-3.6 / 28	-3.0 / 2	0.0 / 9	2.6 / 5	3.6 / 19	6.6 / 13	7.5 / 28	6.0 / 24	2.8 / 26	-1.9 / 19	-3.2 / 20
Rain mm	134.7	51.2	28.3	42.0	49.3	57.5	90.6	132.7	67.1	124.1	92.5	81.7
Sun hours	47.8	114.7	117.6	98.3	221.8	192.2	157.0	151.3	138.5	92.4	39.7	81.9

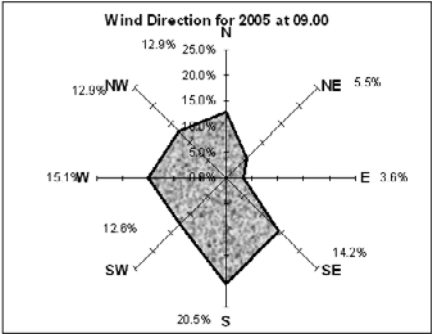


This was a relatively warm and wet year but with no major extreme weather events to record. 27 Jul was the warmest day with a maximum temperature of 30.1°C. The lowest temperature occurred on 29 Jan and 28 Feb when the temperature went down to -3.6°C. Sunshine for the year was average but Feb was notable with 114.7 hrs which was an impressive 163% of average and Dec had over 170% of usual sunshine. May had the most sunshine hours and the sunniest day was on 23 May with 14.8 hrs. Jan was the wettest month with 134.7mm =174% of average making this the second

wettest Jan since 1948. Aug was also a wet month with rain recorded on 21 days. The total was 132.7 mm making this the wettest Aug since 1986. The driest month was Mar with a rainfall of 28.3mm. The wettest day was 23.0mm on 19 Nov. Snowfall was limited to 20 days. Cloud amount was above average particularly Jul which was a very cloudy month as was Nov when there were 15 days with no sunshine whatever. Wind speeds averaged 9.5 mph, which were slightly below average continuing the decline in recent years and so not surprisingly there were fewer gales this year. As the chart shows, most winds this year were from the NW to SW quarter.

2005

This was another warm but slightly drier year than 2004. 12 Jul was the warmest day with a maximum temperature of 27.2°C. The lowest temperature occurred on 29 Dec when the temperature went down to -5.2°C. The year started much drier than normal and most of the rain came surprisingly in Apr and Oct but the year closed with above average rainfall in Dec. The wettest month was Oct with 125.2mm



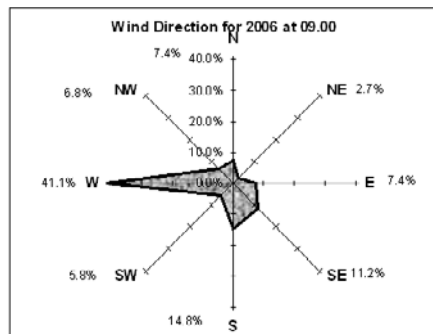
2005	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Max temp °C / date	11.7 / 9	10.2 / 8	16.8 / 19	17.5 / 30	22.7 / 27	26.9 / 19	27.2 / 12	24.0 / 17	23.6 / 4	18.6 / 10	16.7 / 2	11.5 / 10
Mean temp °C	5.4	3.3	6.3	7.6	10.0	14.0	15.0	14.8	13.6	11.5	6.1	4.5
Min temp °C / date	-2.6 / 23	-3.2 / 23	-4.0 / 6	-1.4 / 17	0.4 / 10	5.5 / 7	7.9 / 5	6.8 / 8	4.4 / 24	4.7 / 9	-2.2 / 23	-5.2 / 29
Rain mm	40.3	44.6	53.3	99.0	56.8	45.8	70.9	56.9	90.5	125.2	76.1	106.0
Sun hours	49.8	72.6	85.8	130.8	230.7	185.5	170.9	209.1	132.9	71.4	85.3	62.3

=135% of average; the wettest day was 11 Oct with 30.5mm. The driest month was Jan with rainfall of 40.3mm. Snowfall was limited to 24 days compared with 51 days in 1985. The sunniest month was May with a total of 230.7 hrs (= 121% of average). The sunniest day was 8 Jun with 15.2 hrs of sunshine. Wind speeds averaged 9.0 mph and were slightly below average continuing the decline in recent years. Fourteen gales were recorded, somewhat less than expected, 8 of which were in Jan. The chart shows that the wind was much more varied this year, mainly from N through W to SE.

2006	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Max temp °C / date	10.6 / 10	9.4 / 13	13.3 / 26	15.4 / 22	22.7 / 4	26.3 / 10	31.1 / 19	25.0 / 6	23.6 / 21	17.0 / 13	14.3 / 7	12.2 / 4
Mean temp °C	3.6	3.3	3.7	7.5	10.9	14.5	18.2	14.4	15.0	11.5	7.6	5.7
Min temp °C / date	-4.0 / 31	-3.9 / 10	-6.8 / 3	-2.8 / 5	1.7 / 23	5.6 / 1	8.5 / 14	6.3 / 26	7.3 / 8	5.2 / 24	-0.8 / 3	-1.1 / 24
Rain mm	19.7	68.2	137.7	55.7	114.2	38.6	11.2	101.2	49.4	133.0	81.9	140.0
Sun hours	73.9	65.5	83.6	178.5	180.2	214.5	240.8	136.7	163.4	93.8	88.7	41.0

2006

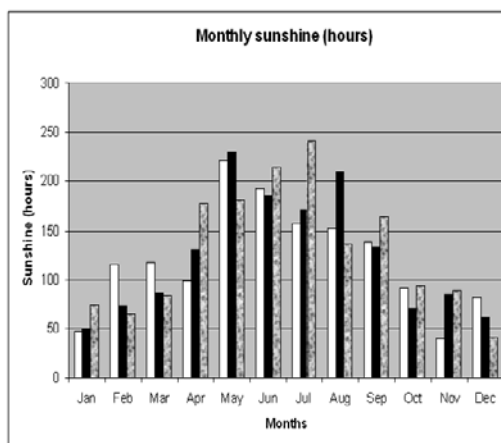
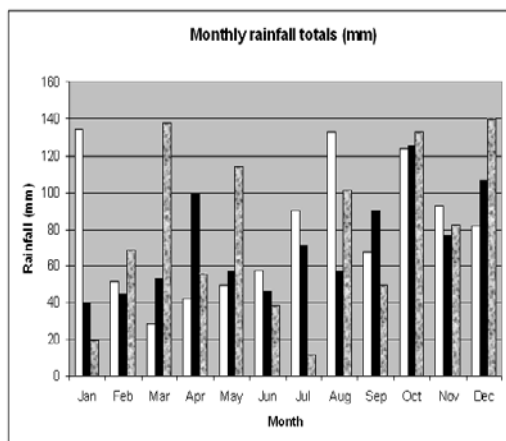
This was a hot and dry year. The average mean temperature for Halkyn Mountain was the warmest on record (1981-2006) with a value of 9.7°C. This is 1.2°C above average. The warmest day was on 19 Jul with a maximum of 31.1°C. The coldest day was 3 Mar with a minimum of -6.8°C. Mar was unusually the coldest month of the year. All four seasons were above average temperature. Winter was very dry with only 173.4mm of rain (= 75% of average). In fact there was a drought from 20 Jan to 6 Feb. In contrast spring was very wet indeed with 303 mm (= 160% of average). The summer months were dry with a total rainfall of 155.6 mm (= 77%) and a partial drought occurred from 28 Jun to 28 Jul. Autumn was just below average rainfall with a total of 263 mm (= 96%). Mar, Aug, Oct and Dec were all wet months, all the rest were dry. The total rainfall for the year was 947 mm = 106% of average at Moel y Crio and the total rainfall at Berth Ddu was 937.5 mm. The wettest month of the year was Mar with a total of 132.7 mm of rain; it was also the only month with appreciable snow



cover with 10 days with snow lying; the maximum depth recorded was 10 cms on the 4 Mar. The wettest day was on 25 Oct with a fall of 31.9mm; the driest month of the year was Jul with only 11.2mm in the whole month. The sunniest month was Jul with 240.8 hrs (154% of average) and the maximum sun was on 3 Jun with 16.3 hrs. The sunniest months relating to average value were Jan, Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Sep and Nov which were all above average; the rest were dull. Wind speeds increased noticeably this year reversing the tendency of recent years to decline, with a big increase in the westerlies

(41% of readings). The wind in Nov and Dec was particularly strong and persistent from the W, with winds of gale force lasting much longer than for many years. The maximum gust recorded at Moel y Crio in December was 73 mph during the squall on 31 Dec. During that

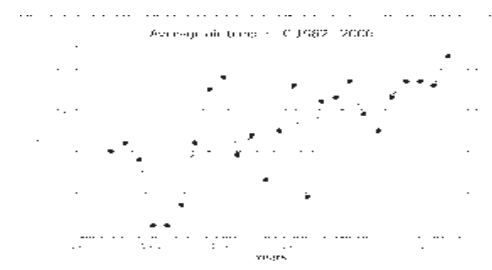
storm the rain was falling at a rate of 51 mm per hour for 10 minutes. The maximum gust for the year was 78 mph on 19 November. The chart shows that the majority of winds during the year came from the W.



A comment on weather trends....

I have to admit that I used to be fairly sceptical about the so called Global Warming. However, when I examine the above statistics, namely the unpredictable nature of the rainfall and the big increase in the temperature over the UK and Europe as a whole, I have to conclude that the climate of the world is changing at an alarming pace, far faster than any previous oscillation. For example the average maximum daily temperature in July at Moel y Crio was 5°C above average, in the same way the mean temperature for the whole year was 9.7°C, an increase of +1.2°C above average (see graph below with trend added). Please note that these temperatures were measured on NPL certified thermometers and are not extracted from cyber space by a mathematical climate model, as to what might occur. Although I recognise that these averages can go down as well as up, if this figure is superimposed on to the official graph of the expected global warming projections given on page 5 of "The Potential Effects of Climate Change in the UK" published by HMSO in 1991 it would equal the expected increase that is projected for the year 2010 already, and that is even with the worst case scenario of a 3 band graph. It seems to me that these facts must make it all the more imperative that if we have the wellbeing of children and grandchildren in mind we should all make every conceivable effort to reduce our carbon footprint on the world, and reduce our consumption of all products manufactured from fossil fuels in all its forms, before it is too late.

Len Walls (www.moelycrio.co.uk)



The Systematic List for the years 2004, 2005 and 2006

The names of species and their order come from Dudley, SP et al (2006), *The British List: A Checklist of Birds of Britain (7th edition)*, Ibis 148, 526-563. The Welsh names have been taken from previous reports and where necessary, from the website www.avonary.info

We have retained many of the conventions from previous reports – dates are presented as day/month in digits and we have stated where birds are on the Red or Amber List (from Thorpe, RI and Young, A (2002), *The population status of birds in Wales: an analysis of conservation concern, 2002 – 2007*, Welsh Birds 3(4), 289-302), and those that are the priority species for action, found in Wales (WBAP), as defined by the 2007 UK Biodiversity Action Plan habitats and species review.

Within the text we have used abbreviations (see table below) for some places that appear frequently or in tables.

Code	Common name, or gazetteer name, for location	1 km square
AKM	Abergele, Kinnel Manor	SH9577
APMP	Abergele, Pentre Mawr Park	SH9478
BB	Bagillt Bank	SJ2376
BRB	Clocaenog Forest, Bronbannog	SJ0352
CFBP	Clocaenog Forest, Bod Petruall	SJ0351
CON	Conwy RSPB Nature Reserve	SH7977
CQNR	Connah's Quay Nature Reserve	SJ2672
FLQ	Hope, Fagl Lane Quarry	SJ3058
GNW	Gronant, NW	SJ0884
GW	Gronant, W	SJ0883
IMF	Inner Marsh Farm, RSPB reserve	SJ3073
KBRH	Kinnel Bay, Rhyl Harbour	SH9980
MHLAI	Mynydd Hiraethog, Llyn Aled Isaf	SH9159
OMR	Oakenholt Marsh Reserve	SJ2671
PE	Pensarn	SH9478
POA	Point of Ayr	SJ1284
POACF	Point of Ayr, coastal fields	SJ1184
RM	Ruabon Mountain	(SJ24)
RSE	Rhuddlan, SE	SJ0377
RSP	Rhyl, splash point	SJ0282
SS	Shotton, Steelworks	SJ3070
TB	Towyn, beach	SH9779
WBQ	Wrexham, Borrass Quarry	SJ3652

Other abbreviations that appear in the report include, in tables, the BTO two letter code for the species to which the table refers and:

BBS Breeding Bird Survey organised by the British Trust for Ornithology
GBW Garden Bird Watch organised by the British Trust for Ornithology

We have abbreviated the names of months to just three letters (eg Jan, Feb, etc).

We have included maps to show the distribution of the records received for some species where we considered that maps would assist the summarising of those records. If you are aware of areas of the country where those species are present, but there are no symbols to show their presence, please send in records to the Recorder.

In preparing this report it has become clear to the authors that we receive very few records of proven breeding by species that are not subject to specialist study, such as the nest records that are reported in tables, mainly for raptors and some passerines. We would welcome knowing where any of these species are found to breed using the codes for evidence that are generally used for bird atlas purposes (by the time this report is published we expect that many of you will be acquainting yourselves with these codes for the BTO atlas).

At the end of this section Anne Brenchley has written about the first and last dates for migrants. I repeat, here, her plea for observers to keep recording the dates that migrants are seen later in the season. It is easy to record the new presence of a species – it is impossible to record the first absence of a species. We need to know the dates that, say, Swallows were still here so that we can find out the date of their last presence in the area.

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*)

ALARCH DÔF

Breeding resident.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(MS)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	71	96	84
Flints.	197	127	199
	All months	All months	All months

Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*)

ALARCH BEWICK

Annual, but uncommon winter visitor. Amber List. WBAP

The Dee Estuary is a site of national importance for this species, with Shotwick fields and boating lake being a particularly favoured location. There were no records from Denbs. during the report period.

2004

Flints. Up to 60 recorded on the Dee Estuary throughout Jan with favoured areas being Shotwick fields and boating lake. A late record of 25 at OMR on 8/03 was the latest of that spring (pCW). The first returning birds recorded on 12/11 when 25 were at White Sands, Oakenholt (pCW). Recorded throughout Nov and Dec with peak counts of 85 at Flint and

Broken Bank on 29/12 (DOJ, ANB).

2005

Flints. Recorded from 7/01 to 19/02, with a peak count of 60 at Flint on 7/01 (ANB). Later in the year, there was only a solitary record of 24 at IMF on 19/11 (CW).

2006

Flints. Recorded almost exclusively from the Shotwick fields area from 2/02 to 3/03, grazing on winter cereals, often with other swans. A maximum of 80 noted on 10/02 (AN). Wintering birds present 5/11 to 30/12, numbers building to 20 on the latter date (KS).

Whooper Swan (*Cygnus cygnus*)

ALARCH Y GOGLEDD

Annual, but irregular winter visitor in small numbers.

2004

Denbs. Recorded in small numbers from inland sites in the Dee, Clwyd and Conwy valleys. An adult and two juveniles on River Dee floods at Trevalyn Meadows 7-8/02 (NHu), while one at Holt 28/03 to 4/04 (NF). The only autumn/winter record was of 4 noted flying N over CON (ALD).

Flints. Small numbers with other swans at Shotwick fields, including a maximum count of 30+ on 2/01, but more usually 2. Also recorded from POA and Oakenholt there 7 were recorded on 8/03 (CW), the last record for spring. Returning birds noted from 13/10, 8 at POA (ANB, RS) to 29/12, 10 at Flint (ANB).

2005

Denbs. No records.

Flints. Very few recorded, 10-11 in the Flint/Shotwick area 7-9/01 (ANB, KS); and 4 flying N over Sychdyn on 11/02 (KG) being the only spring records. The only winter record was of 8 at Shotwick on 3/10 (CW).

2006

Denbs. The only spring birds reported were two flying W over Rhuddlan on 2/02 (SM). The first record of the winter was 4 at CON on 23/10 (ALD). There were intermittent reports from the Conwy Valley throughout the remainder of the year with 4 over Carneddau/Benarth on 7/12, and 3 at CON on 23/12 (ALD).

Flints. The majority of reports (eight) from Shotwick fields area where birds were recorded grazing winter cereal fields. A maximum of 16 was noted during 7-10/02, and the last record before migration was of 6 on 3/03 (KS). First recorded winter birds on the Dee were 8 at IMF on 29/10 (CW, ST); and 3 adults and a juvenile were at Shotwick fields the following day (WAO, ANB). A single bird remained on the estuary being noted at Shotwick and POA until 16/12 when 12 were at Shotwick (ANB), and 30/12 with 20 at the same site (KS).

Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*)

GWYDD DROED-BINC

Passage migrant, and winter visitor in small numbers.

The majority of records are from various sites around the Dee Estuary' POA and Shotwick fields being particularly favoured.

2004

Denbs. 200 seen flying SW over Towyn on 26/02 (SM) was the only report of substantial numbers from the county; though inland 2-4 were reported from the Holt/Trevalyn Marshes area 21-28/02 (DOJ, NF). An unusual summer record of a single bird at Gresford Flash, Wrexham on 15/05 (KS) was probably either a bird of feral origin, or a sick or injured individual unable to migrate.

Flints. Recorded 6/02-8/03 (eleven records) mostly from POA, Warren Farm with a maximum of 189 on 2/03 (SD). Winter records were few, starting with 3 birds reported from FLQ on 4/11 (KS); the only record of significant numbers was of 240 at Gronant on 26/11(CR), and a single bird at CQNR and Oakenholt on 30/12 (ELJ, CW).

2005

Denbs. The only record was of 81 flying over Holt on 23/01(NF).

Flints. at BHP Warren Farm, POA a flock of c45 was present from 23/01-9/03 (SD, RS, JB, ABG), maximum of 47 on 16/02. Birds were also at Shotwick fields, with 15 on 3/02, a flock of 172 on 21/02, and 150 remaining until at IE 11/03 (CW). Smaller numbers (maximum 8) were also recorded at FLQ on a number of dates throughout the winter up to 11/04 (KS). The first autumn record was of 19 at Shotwick fields on 16/09 (CW), and small numbers were noted both here and at POA on a few occasions up to the year-end. However the only record of substantial numbers was of 110 flying N over Sychdyn on Christmas Day (AB).

2006

Denbs. The only records were of a single bird at CON from 6/03-4/05 (ALD), and 30+ seen flying S over Llanddulas beach on 2/12 (SM).

Flints. Recorded principally from Shotwick fields and boating lake between 10/02 and 26/03 with a peak count of 196 on 16/02 (CW). Smaller numbers were at BHP Warren Farm, POA from 10/01-4/02 with a maximum of 20 on 16/01 (SD). Also recorded from Dyserth where 10 were with greylags on 8/02 (MC, GC); FLQ 2 on 21/01 (KS), and a single bird at Rhyl Marine Lake on 26/01(DR). Pre-Christmas/ winter records were confined to a single bird present at various sites around the Dee from 7/10-30/12(CW, KS, et al).

Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*)

GWYDD DALCEN-WEN

Scarce winter visitor. Red List. WBAP

2004

Flints. 7 at Border Pool, IMF on 5/12 (CW).

2005

Flints. Two present at various sites around the Dee Estuary 6/01-8/03.

2006 No records received.

Greylag Goose (*Anser anser*)

GWYDD WYLLT

Winter visitor and uncommon breeding resident.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(GJ)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	31	25	34
Flints.	63	36	41
	All months	All months	All months

Greater Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*)

GWYDD CANADA

Breeding resident.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(CG)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	63	55	48
Flints.	106	130	176
	All months	All months	All months

Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*)

GWYDD WYRAN

Rare vagrant, or birds of escaped/feral origin. Amber List.

2004

Denbs. 10 were at Holt on 21/02 (DOJ), at Trevalyn Meadows on the 28/02 (KS), and 9 at Gresford Flash, Wrexham on 5/03 (KS). That autumn 6 were again seen at Trevalyn Meadows on 2/11 (NF).

Flints. Reports throughout the year of 1-4 birds, probably of feral origin from FLQ. A single bird at Shotwick/IMF from 11-14/04. In the autumn 4 again at FLQ on 6/11(KS).

2005

Denbs. One on the River Clwyd at Nant Lewis Alyn from 27/02-08/03 (ELJ); and 2 at Gresford Flash, Wrexham from 29-31/08 (KS).

Flints. No records.

2006

Denbs. Two birds, probably of feral origin, at Gresford Flash, Wrexham on 8/06 (KS) and 2 birds, probably feral, at CON on 29-30/03, with 1 at CON on 15/10 (pALD).

Flints. 18 at Oakenholt Marsh, Dee Estuary from 23-26/01 (CL, GR), 1-2 remaining in the Shotwick area until 12/02 (AN, ABG). 12 were again at Oakenholt on 12/10 (AW), and a single bird at CQNR on 30/12 (KS).

Brent Goose (*Branta bernicla*)

GWYDD DDU

Regular winter visitor in small numbers. Amber List.

Recorded particularly in the Dee Estuary. Most records relate to the pale-bellied race which breeds in Greenland and Svalbard, wintering in the UK, Eire and Denmark. BHP Warren Farm, at POA is the most favoured site for this species.

2004

Flints. A flock of up to 46 was regularly at Warren Farm, POA from 7/01-9/02 (SD, JH, RS, ABG); and 3 of the dark-bellied race were with them on the 8/01; 17 at Oakenholt Marsh on 5/04 (JH) was an unusually late record. The first returning birds at POA were 6 on 31/10 (CW), with numbers building to 30 by 14/12 (KL), when 25 of the dark-bellied race were also reported from the same site (RS).

2005

Flints. Numbers at BHP Warren Farm peaked at 58 on 11/01 (SD), but only 8 were present for the last record of spring on 15/01 (RS,CW). Wintering birds were first recorded on 4/11 when 50 were again at Warren Farm (LJ), though numbers for the remainder of the year were more usually 14-16.

2006

Flints. Numbers increased with up to 95 at POA 4-5/01(ELJ), 37 on 18/01 was the last record of spring (GR). The first record of the autumn was a single bird on 7/09 (GR), but it was not until 8/11 when 22 and a single dark-bellied (GR) were the first substantial influx of the autumn. The pre-Christmas peak was 78 on 6/12 (GR). There were also 2-3 birds of the dark bellied race at CQNR 30-31/12 (KS, AW, ABG).

Common Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*)

HWYADEN YR EITHIN

Scarce breeding resident and very common estuarine winter visitor. Amber List.

The Dee Estuary is a site of International Importance for this species.

2004

Denbs. 25+ were near Rossett on 20/02 (DOJ). 40 were on the River Clwyd at Rhyl on 19/04 (KS) and 10 were at CON on 15/05 (RMB). Two birds were at Borrass Quarry in June (LW). Two adults and a juvenile were offshore at Towyn on 9/10 (SM).

Flints. Highest counts at OMR were 450 on 15/09, 390 on 14/11 and 212 on 30/12. Peak count at POA was 950 on 19/09 (RH) with 500 there on 31/10 but the highest count of the year was 2,800 at Bagillt on 7/09 (RH). Inland, two were at Llyn Helyg on 6/03 (ELJ) with 4 there on 17/04 (DOJ). A male and female were at Fenn's Moss on 21/03 (KD).

2005

Denbs. Inland, 11 were on the River Dee floods at Holt on 23/01 (NF) and 8 at Fenn's Moss on 11/05 (THu). 27 were on the Afon Clwyd at Nant Lewis Alyn on 27/02 (ELJ). On the coast 40 were on the S side of Rhyl on 23/04 (SM) and small numbers at Towyn and Kinmel Bay - peak 8 at Towyn on 6/11 (SM).

Flints. Largest numbers were again at BB with 2,250 on 30/08 (RH). POA held 1,000 on 24/09

and OMR 450 on 19/09. Inland birds were seen on the River Dee floods at Worthenbury with 4 on 16/11 (NFr). Breeding was proved at Rhuddlan on the River Clwyd where 2 adults with 4 chicks were seen on 30/05 (SH) and then 32 adults with 10 juveniles on 7/06 (SM).

2006
Denbs. In the early part of the year up to 5 birds were on the Afon Clwyd, Denbigh on the 28/01 (ELJ), 15 were seen at CON on 4/02 (DCR) and 6 were present at Pensarn on 15/2 (SM). Breeding was proven in the Rhyl area when 2 adults were seen with 10 juveniles on 31/05 (RMB). Two pairs were seen at Fenn's Moss on 11/06 (NH) suggesting possible breeding in this area. In the latter part of the year the peak count was of 20 birds at Pensarn on 18/02 (SM).

Flints. Most records were from the Dee Estuary with 150 birds at OMR on 4/01 and 50 at POA on 5/01 (GR) while 30 were on the River Clwyd on 11/01(DCR). Highest counts in the early part of the year were 200 at Flint on 13/01 (JR) and 222 at OMR on 30/01 (GR). Inland, birds were seen at Llyn Helyg on 6/01 (ELJ), a single at Ridleywood on 15/03 (NFr) and a pair were at Hendre on 22/04 (PD). Breeding was proven at Rhuddlan with a pair seen with 3 juveniles on 26/05, 13 juveniles were seen at CQNR on 14/08 (CL) while 14 juveniles were seen at Rhuddlan on 5/08 (SH). Peak counts in early summer were 531 at OMR on 3/07 (GR) and 500 at POA on 26/06 (GR). Peak counts for the year were 1,200 at POA on 26/10 (GR) and 600 at OMR on 11/09 (GR) .

Mandarin Duck (*Aix galericulata*) HWYADEN FANDARIN
Scarce breeding resident.

2004
Denbs. The highest count was for 23 at Holt on 28/03 (NF). A single drake was seen at Llangollen on both 27 and 28/03, a pair was seen at Holt on 18/4 and two birds were there again on 1/05. A drake was reported flying down the river at Pont Canol, Denbigh on 13/05, and a further two pairs were reported at Erddig pool, Wrexham on 22/11 and 29/12.

Flints. The only record was of a single drake on Border Pool at IMF on 28/04.

2005
Denbs. A single drake was reported at Llangollen on 10/04 and 25/10, and a pair was seen at Fron Fawr, Llangollen on 14/04. A single drake was seen in Garden Village, Wrexham on 1/05. At Holt a drake was reported on 3/05, a female with young on 18/06, 7 birds on 23/07 (NF), and a single bird on 11/08. 2 birds were seen at Almere and one at Trevalyn Meadows on 7/08.

Flints. A pair was seen S of Mold on 19/05 (JW).

2006
Denbs. The highest count was of 10+ at Almere on 4/03 (NHu). A single drake was seen at Llangollen on 11 and 31/03, and at Britannia Inn, Llangollen on 26/03. One pair was seen at Holt on 15/04 and four drakes were reported there on 28/05 (NF). Two were at Corwen on 16/04 and one was at CON on 23/11. One male was at Acton Park, Wrexham on 6, 9, and 28/12 (KS).

Flints. There were no records this year.

Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*) CHWIWELL
Common winter visitor. Amber List.

The Dee Estuary is a site of national importance in Great Britain for this species.

2004
Denbs. Maximum coastal counts of 250 at Kinmel Bay and 100 at Towyn on 2/01 (SM), 250+ near Rossett on 21/02 (DOJ) and 330 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 21/01 (RMB). Inland records from Hanmer with 110 on 27/01 (HL); the Dee flood plain had a number of records with 24 at Trevalyn on 8/02 (NF) and 150 on 1/11 (NFr); large count of 1,100 at Worthenbury on 28/10 (NFr).

Flints.
Table below shows maximum counts at Dee Estuary Reserves.

(WN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
BB		550							20	128	330	
OMR	500	550	280							300	300	1000
POA	280	220	226						6	46	155	250

Some other large counts recorded were 550 at IMF Border Pool on 24/01 (MG); 537 at CQNR on 25/01 (DNS); and 150 at Rhuddlan on 28/11 (SH).

2005
Denbs. 200 were at Ridleywood on 13/01; 40 at Wothenbury on 13/01, 140 on 11/11 and 850 on 16/11; 190 at Trevalyn on 11/11 and 200 on 19/11 (NF); 30 at CON on 3/10 and 20 on 24/11 (RMB); 30 at Hamner Mere on 20/11 (KS). Recorded offshore at Kinmel Bay and Towyn. Maximum count was 320 at Kinmel Bay on 22/01 (SM).

Flints.
Table below shows maximum counts at Dee Estuary Reserves.

(WN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
BB				33		1				1120		
OMR	700	350							20	300		400
POA	400	350	340	150				1	59	43	450	400

Also recorded on River Clwyd, Rhyl with 300+ on 27/01 (CRi, DR); 700 at Flint on 16/02 and 2,000 on 20/10 (pRS); 302 at CQNR on 9/12 (CM).

2006
Denbs. Recorded at CON Jan to Mar and end Aug to Dec with maximum count of 340 on 31/10 (pALD, DR, AW). Recorded offshore at Kinmel Bay, Pensarn, Towyn and Rhyl with maximum count of 160+ at Towyn on 18/01 (RB, SM). Also recorded along River Dee during floods with 120 at Ridleywood on 15/03 (NF), 24+ at Sutton Green on 27/11 (NHu), 110+ at Holt on 10/12 (NF) and 50+ at Trevalyn Meadows on 16/12 (NHu).

Flints.
Table below shows Maximum counts at Dee Estuary reserves.

Also recorded at FLQ in Jan with maximum count of 10 on 21/01 (KS); 2 at Llyn Helyg on

(WN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CQNR	1325	220	283	10					50	300	158	500
OMR	600	120	1800								600	1000
POA	600	800	850						70	150	500	700

16/02 (ELJ); IMF Border Pool with maximum count of 97 on 10/12 (CW); Rhyl with maximum count of 300+ on 21/03 (DR); Rhuddlan maximum counts of 300+ on 13/01 and 21/02 (SM).

American Wigeon (*Anas americana*)

CHWIWELL AMERICA

Rarity.

2004

One was seen at IMF on 27/01. Accepted by the Welsh Rarities Panel.

Gadwall (*Anas strepera*)

HWYADEN LWYD

Uncommon winter visitor and scarce breeding resident. Amber List.

2004

Denbs. Only one record received of a pair at Pont Canol, Denbigh on 13/05 (ELJ).

Flints. The highest count was of 40+ at SS, where the species was recorded throughout the year, on 26/09 (PT). Elsewhere there were sightings of 22 and 21 on 6/01 and 12/01 respectively at Llyn Helyg, the main inland site (ELJ), 16 at CQNR on 6/02, where it was recorded on several occasions and 16 at Oakenholt on 16/12.

2005

Denbs. No records were received.

Flints. Again the majority of records received were from SS, a maximum count of 28 on 23/10 and CQNR, a maximum count of 22 on 12/03.

2006

Denbs. Three records were received; CON had 4 on 24/09 and 4 on 9/12. The other record was that of a single bird NE of Ridleywood on 15/03 (NFr).

Flints. The majority of records received were from CQNR, OMR and SS with a highest count of 48 at SS on 15/10 (PT). Inland, the only records were from an active quarry W of Caerwys (on 8 occasions) and a single sighting at Whitford. All the inland sightings were during the winter period with a maximum count of an amazing 57 from the quarry W of Caerwys on 5/02 (PD).

Eurasian Teal (*Anas crecca*)

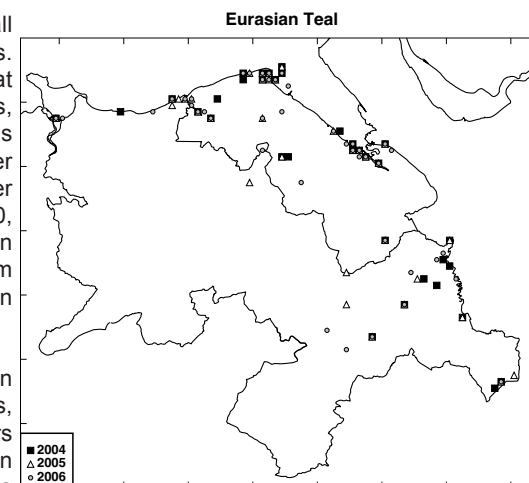
CORHWYADEN

Widespread and locally abundant winter visitor, and rare breeder. Amber List.

The Dee Estuary is a site of international importance for this species.

2004

Denbs. Inland: Found in small numbers at a wide range of sites. Significant numbers can be found at Fenn's Moss in suitable conditions, where a maximum count of 394 was recorded on 15/11 (EHEM). Other notable records were 250 on River Dee floods at Worthenbury on 28/10, and 240 at Trevalyn Meadows on 3/11(NF). Coastal records were from CON where 215 were recorded on 15/01(ALD), and offshore at Towyn.



Flints. Inland: Recorded, mostly in small numbers, from a variety of sites, Coastal: Usual large numbers recorded from appropriate habitat on the Dee Estuary. Monthly maxima from the reserves at IMF, BB, OMR, POA and CQNR are shown in the following table.

Eurasian Teal. Dee Estuary, 2004 monthly maximum counts.

(T.) 2004	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
IMF	500							150				
BB	270	40	6							390	5	
OMR	579	300	65	12		2		17	500	290	370	200
POA	410	250	90					30	63	180	192	80
CQNR	725	190	80	15		2		63	326	887	475	179

2005

Denbs. Inland: Again recorded from a number of inland sites, mostly in relatively small numbers. The largest inland count was 190 on River Dee floods at Worthenbury on 16/11 (NF). Notable records include 91 at Fenn's Moss on 17/01 (EHEM), 52 at World's End on 15/02 (JLR), 40 at Nant Lewis Alyn on 27/02 and 8/03 (ELJ) and 180 at Trevalyn Meadows on 19/11 (NF). Coastal records were from CON and birds seen offshore at Towyn and Kinnel Bay (SM).

Flints. Inland: Recorded from several sites. Coastal: Recorded from the usual Dee Estuary sites (see table below). A major influx of 1,600 at CQNR on 20/10 (RS) was particularly notable.

Eurasian Teal. Dee Estuary 2005 monthly maximum counts

(T.) 2005	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
IMF										200+		
BB	125											400
OMR	400	350	75						780	59		45
POA	145	109	48	13				3	179	150	100	200+
CQNR	361	206	249	25				100+	651	1600	524	683

2006
Denbs. Inland: Recorded from fewer sites than usual, and in relatively small numbers. The only substantial winter count was of 130 at Ridleywood on 15/03 (NF). Coastal. See table for monthly maxima at CON.

Eurasian Teal. CON 2006 monthly maximum counts

(T.) 2006	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy	25								158	272	123	140

Flints. Inland: Recorded from relatively fewer of the usual sites, and again in small numbers particularly in the early part of the year. A notable record was of 31 at Maesmynan Quarry pool on 11/11 (PD). Coastal: As with inland records relatively few birds in the early part of the year, but numbers increased dramatically later in the year with peak counts of 1,200 at OMR on 8/12 (GR), and 1,213 at CQNR on 10/12 (CM).

Eurasian Teal. Dee Estuary 2006 monthly maximum counts

(T.) 2006	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
IMF				30					25	1400	10	
BB	80	100	72						20			140
OMR	100	100	50					500	600	900	800	1200
POA	120	200	60	24				24	120	107	250	200
CQNR	62	295	500+					400	388	539	209	1213

Green-winged Teal (*Anas carolinensis*) CORHWYADEN ADEINWERDD
Rare vagrant.

Only two records in this three year period.

2004
This was from Border Pool at IMF on 18/10 (pCW). Accepted by the Welsh Rarities Panel.

2006
Flints. A male was seen at IMF on 6/10 (AN). Accepted by Welsh Rarities Panel.

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) HWYADEN WYLLT
Common breeding resident. Amber list.

2004
Denbs. 51 records. The largest counts were 48 at APMP on 3/01 (CDR) and 60 at Towyn on 5/12 (SM).

Flints. 363 records. The largest counts were 419 at CQNR on 14/11 (DNS) and 1100 at Oakenholt on 9/06 (JH), but WeBS counts at three sites were:

(MA)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
BB	2			5	4	3	4	19		1		5
OMR						4	6	55	69			
POA								183	178	84	45	17

2005
Denbs. 67 records. The largest counts were 50+ at APMP on 18/08 and 31/08 (SM) and 75+ at Towyn on 19/11 (SM).

Flints. 227 records. The largest counts were 242 at CQNR on 28/06 (CM) and 370 at Oakenholt on 13/07 (JH). WeBS counts included.

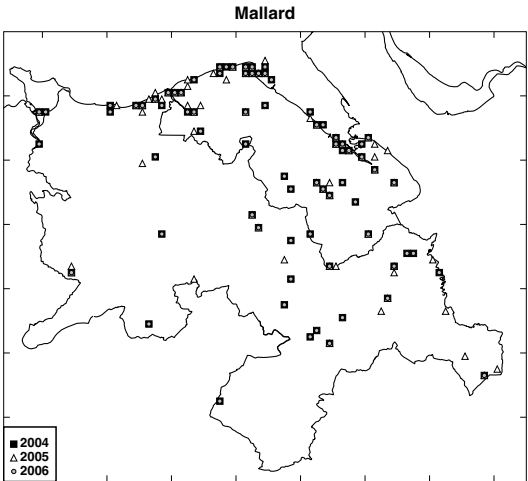
(MA)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
BB						1		2				
OMR			5	1		195	140	500				
POA	61	4	13	5	2	185	53	217	135	55	15	27

2006
Denbs. 107 records. The largest counts were 75 at CON on 19/12 (pALD) and 90+ on 11/09 at Towyn (SM).

Flints. 418 records. The largest counts were 350 at OMR on 24/08 (GR) and 438 at CQNR on 9/08 (CM).

(MA)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
BB								5	2			
OMR			10			55						
POA	14	8	2	10	7	50		188	103	40	10	20

The distribution of all records is shown.



Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*)*Winter visitor. Amber List.*

HWYADEN LOSTFAIN

The Dee Estuary is a site of international importance for this winter visitor. Most records are from site on or close to the estuary, though significant numbers are also recorded on the middle Dee floodplain when winter flooding provides suitable conditions.

2004

Denbs. Inland counts included 180 at Ridleywood on 10/02 (NF); 400 at Hem House on 21/02 (DOJ); 450 on River Dee floods at Worthenbury on 28/10; and 300 at Trevalyn Meadows on 1/11 (NF).

Flints. Coastal maxima from BB, OMR, and POA listed in the table (WeBS, CW, SD, RH, JH et al).

Northern Pintail. Dee Estuary 2004 monthly maximum counts.

(PT) 2004	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
BB		28							260	3147	1250	
OMR		200	25						500	15		2000
POA	130	5	2						130	30	150	210

Inland, small numbers also recorded at Lllyn Helyg (ELJ).

2005

Denbs. Records included Ridleywood, where 490 on River Dee floods on 13/01 (NF); 90 again on Dee floods at Worthenbury on 13/01 and 235 on 16/11 (NF); Trevalyn Meadow, 12 on 5/11 (NF); and Fenn's Moss, 12 on 13/11 (TH).

Flints. Coastal

Northern Pintail. Dee Estuary 2005 monthly maximum counts.

(PT) 2005	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
BB		1200		19				3		523		1
OMR	250	7		2					4000			
POA	200	10	8						98	189	60	200

Inland counts included and up to 20 (25/02) at Lllyn Helyg on various dates (ELJ).

2006

Denbs. The only inland observation was of 45 at Ridleywood on 15/03 (NF). Coastal observations were mostly from CON where single birds were often present, up to a maximum of 4 on 4/02 (AD, DR et al); and 2+ offshore at Pensarn on 18/12 (SM).

Flints. Coastal

Northern Pintail. Dee Estuary 2006 monthly maximum counts.

(PT)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
BB		1500	2									1200
OMR	150		60					5	130	40		20
POA	230	84	21					2	241		175	176

Other notable records include various counts at Mostyn up to a maximum of 220 on 14/11 (GR); and 700 feeding on stubble at Shotwick fields on 10/09 (CW). Inland records from Lllyn Helyg, maximum of 22 on 18/03 (ELJ) and Rhuddlan, 5 on 29/12 (SH).

Garganey (*Anas querquedula*)

HWYADEN ADDRAIN

*Uncommon summer visitor and passage migrant. Amber List.***2004**

Flintshire. A male at IMF on 2/05 (CW; one at POA Warren Farm on 11/08 (SD); an eclipse male at IMF on 20/08 (KS); and 1 (possibly a juvenile) at POA on 2/10 (GT). Some or all of these records could relate to the same bird.

2005 No records**2006**

Denbs; 1 at CON 4-6/05 (AD).

Flints. 1 male at IMF, with another over the Cheshire border, on 16/05; 2 males also at IMF on 27/05, 1 at POA on 5/09 (CR); a single male on 28/10 (CW); and an unusually late individual was also at POA Llawndy Farm on 6/12 (SD).

Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*)

HWYADEN LYDANBIG

Winter visitor in small numbers. Amber List.

The Dee Estuary is a site of national importance for this species.

2004

Denbs. Inland: Recorded, usually in small numbers from Trevalyn Meadows, 6 on River Dee floods on 3/11 (NF) ; at APMP was a maximum of 17 on 30/12 (SM); and Gresford Flash, Wrexham, maximum 42 recorded on 27/01 (HL), Fenn's Moss, and Hanmer Mere. On the coast recorded from CON, and offshore at Towyn (9 on 28/12) (SM).

Flints. Inland, in small numbers at Lllyn Helyg, Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog and Rhuddlan.

Coastal.

Northern Shoveler. Dee Estuary 2004 monthly maximum records.

(SV) 2004	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
IMF	50											
POA	8	12	4					2	10	7	4	11
CQNR	4	5	6	2		1					4	1
SS	23	13	4					7	27	2	14	

2005

Denbs. Inland: Records from Gresford Flash (maximum of 22 on 8/01 (KS)), at APMP (maximum of 11 on 22/12 (SM)); Worthenbury, 25 on floods 16/11 (NF); Fenn's Moss where maximum of 43 recorded on 17/01, and 3 on 5/05 was a notably late spring record (EHM); Afon Clwyd, Nant Lewis Alyn (ELJ), and Borrass Pool (KS). The only coastal record was of 4

at Kinmel Bay on 11/12 (SM).

Flints. Inland records from Ddol Resr, Ysceifiog, where 14 on 27/02 and 6/03 (ELJ); and Rhuddlan where 8 on 14/01 was the largest early year count, and 6 on 11/12 was the largest late year count (SH). Coastal:

Northern Shoveler. Dee Estuary 2005 monthly maximum records.

(SV) 2005	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
IMF	20+									20+		
POA	6	15	7						10	2	2	10
CQNR	4	8	2							3		10
SS	11	13	2	3					18	5+		26

2006

Denbs. Recorded from the same sites as in previous years, plus Ridleywood. Maximum counts: 12 at APMP on 18/02 (NH); 20 at Gresford Flash on 3/03 (KS); 11 at Ridleywood on 15/03 (NF); and at Fenn's Moss, where a female on 22/06 was an interesting breeding season record. Coastal records from CON were a maximum of 3 on 7/08 (AD), 9 offshore at Towyn on 18/01, and offshore at Pensarn on 18/12 (SM).

Flints. Inland records from FLQ, though 10 near Rhuddlan on 13/01 was the best count; 12 at Hendre on 25/03 (PD) and 4 near Caerwys on 2/12 (PD). Coastal:

Northern Shoveler. Dee Estuary 2006 monthly maximum records.

(SV) 2006	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
IMF									52			
POA	27	18	24						15	15	9	7
CQNR	6	2	10	1						4	6	5
SS	1			5			4		20+	17	14	2

Common Pochard (*Aythya ferina*)

HWYADEN BENGGOCH

Winter visitor.

2004

Denbs. Recorded from Trevalyn Meadows, 10 on floods on 10/02 (NF); and in very small numbers at WBQ, Gresford Flash and Hamner.

Flints. Notable records from POA, maximum of 38 on 11/10 (SD); Greenfield Valley 17 on 17/01 (DOJ).

2005

Denbs. 3 at Stryd Las, Rhosllanerchrugog on 1/04 (JLR), and 4 at CON on 24/11 (RMB).

Flints. Largest counts were 21 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 1/01 (RMB); 25 at POA on 6/01 (SD); 15 at FLQ on 13/02 (KS) and 12 at SS on 30/10 (PT).

2006

Denbs. Recorded at CON (maximum 12 on 4/02 (MC,GC); and in small numbers at Stryd Las, Rhosllanerchrugog, and Gresford Flash.

Flints. Largest counts were 20 at SS on 17/12 (PT), 30 at POA on 10/01 (SD); 5 at Shotwick boating lake on 2/02 (WAO); and small numbers at CQNR and OMR. Inland, the largest record was 20 at FLQ on 1/01 (KS); and small numbers at Llyn Helyg (ELJ).

Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*)

HWYADEN GOPOG

Resident breeder in small numbers and locally common winter visitor. Relatively widely distributed on lakes and other stillwaters throughout the year.

2004

Denbs. Usually recorded in small numbers, but 13 at WBQ during Feb (LW).

Flints. Up to 30 at FLQ on various dates throughout the year (KS, KD); 25 at Ddol Res., Ysceifiog on 23/02 (LD); 12 at Llyn Helyg on 6/03 (ELJ); 13 at IMF Border Pool on 14/04 (KS); 19 at CQNR on 4/05 (DNS); and 44 at SS on 23/05 (PT).

2005

Denbs. 24 at Dolwen Resvr on 14/02 and again on 27/02 (LJ); 8 at Stryd Las on 1/04 (JLR); 9 at Borrass Pool on 26/08 (KS); 8 on Dee floods at Worthenbury on 16/11 (NF), and 20 at Hamner on 20/11 (KS). An unusual report was of 2 females offshore at Towyn on 27/02 (SM).

Flints. 54 at SS on 27/02 (PT), where up to 30 regularly present and successful breeding was recorded with up to seven broods present on 17/07 (PT); up to 30 at FLQ on various dates (KS et al); a maximum count of 32 at Llyn Helyg on 25/02 (ELJ); and a maximum count of 16 at CQNR on 9/04 (CM) and 10 at POA on 3/12 (SD).

2006

Denbs. 46 at Stryd Las on 24/01; 11 at Erddig pool on 14/04 (JB); and 36 at Llyn Bran on 24/10 (EL). Breeding recorded at Borrass Pool, and Erddig pool with females and their broods seen at both sites.

Flints. 50 at FLQ on 1/01 (KS); 32 at Llyn Helyg on 16/02 (ELJ); 30 on Shotwick boating lake on 1/05 (KS); 45+ at SS on 1/10, where present in numbers throughout the year and successful breeding occurred (PT); and a maximum of 18 at Caerwys on 14/10 (PD). Breeding was also recorded at Rhyl Brickworks Pond, with a female and 4 young present on 17/07 (KS).

Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*)

HWYADEN BENDDU

Regular winter visitor in small numbers. Amber List. WBAP

2004

Denbs. 40 at Kinmel Bay on 4/01 (RMB), and single females at CON on 1/01, 19/03, 18/12 and 31/12 (ALD).

Flints. Single birds at POA Warren Farm on 4/02, 15/03 (SD); and at POA on 28/09 (KD).

2005
Denbs. 1 female at CON on 8/01 (DCR).

Flints. 1 at Warren Farm POA on 5/01 (SD); 1 female at Gronant dunes on 23/09 (RMB); and 4 at POA on 31/12 (GR).

2006
Denbs. 1 female offshore at Towyn on 2/02 (SM).

Flints. 1-3 recorded from POA on various dates from 5/01-29/03 and 19/11-10/12 (GR, SD, ANB).

Common Eider (*Somateria mollissima*) HWYADEN FWYTHBLU
Uncommon marine winter visitor. Amber List.

2004
Flints. One at Gronant dunes on 10/06 (pRS), was an unusual summer record.

2005
Denbs. 3 females at Towyn on 27/10 (SM).

2006
No records.

Common Scoter (*Melanitta nigra*) MOR HWYADEN DDU
Winter visitor. Amber list. WBAP

2004
Denbs. Often seen in large numbers offshore between Colwyn Bay and Rhyl. The maximum count was 6,000+ off Towyn on 2/09, with counts of 5,000+ recorded on three other occasions (SM). Summer sightings included 2 at CON on 9/07.

Flints. As expected records and numbers of birds seen were less than for Denbs. Largest count was a flock of 76 at Gronant, surprisingly on 22/07 (pRS) with other sightings including flocks of 29 and 15 both at the POA on 9/02 and 22/02 respectively.

2005
Denbs. Maximum counts of 14,000 and 10,000 off Towyn on 4/10 and 9/10 respectively (SM). Other records included 4,500+ off Kinmel Bay on 26/01 and 5,000+ off Llanddulas on 3/03. Summer sightings included two unusual records, both at Gresford Flash; a male on 16/07 and then a female on 24/07 (KS).

Flints. The highest count was of 54 (again in the summer) at Gronant on 20/07; other sightings included 22 at the POA on 22/10 and 12 at Gronant on 3/06.

2006
Denbs. Often seen in large numbers offshore between Colwyn Bay and Rhyl. The maximum count was 7,000+ off Towyn on 4/02, with counts of 5,000+ recorded on four other occasions

(SM).

Flints. As expected records and numbers of birds seen were less than for Denbs. The maximum count was that of a flock of 500 flying W off POA on 7/10 (NFr) with other sightings including a flock of 500+ off Towyn on 13/10 (SM) and 20+ off Gronant on 1/05 (KS).

Velvet Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*) MOR HWYADEN Y GOGLEDD
Uncommon winter visitor.

There were no records from Flints.

2004
Denbs. . Two records: 6 off Towyn on 17/01 (SM) and 1 off Llanddulas on 27/01(DCR).

2005
Denbs. Five records: 1 off Llanddulas on 3/03 (DCR) with 1 on 1/09, 2 on 10/10, 1 on 17/10 and 2 on 27/12 all seen off Towyn (SM).

2006
Denbs. Four records: 1 at Towyn on 13/10 (SM), and singletons again off Towyn on 3/11, 12/11 and 19/11 (SM).

Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*) HWYADEN LYGAD AUR
Widespread winter visitor.

2004
Denbs. Only six records received including 4 at CON on 12/01 (pALD), 1 at Llyn Brenig on 18/03 and 2 at Nant-y-Ffrith Reservoir on 13/12.

Flints. Sightings included 10 and 13 both at Rhyl Marine Lake on 11/03 (RMB) and 27/11 (DCR) respectively.

2005
Denbs. Records this year included 17 (twice) and 15 at Llyn Brenig on 27/02, 12/03 (ELJ) and 20/03 (KS) respectively and unusually a lone male at CON on 9/06 (DCR).

Flints. Maximum counts were of 15, 13 and 12, all recorded at SS on 6/02, 20/02 and 18/12 (PT) respectively.

2006
Denbs. The majority of sightings received were from either CON or Llyn Brenig, where the maximum count of 33 birds was recorded on 18/03 (ELJ). An unusual record was that of 2 males at the River Clwyd, Rhyl on 30/07 (DCR).

Flints. Sightings included one large count of 80+ at Rhyl's marine lake on 1/01 (DCR).

Smew (*Mergellus albellus*)
Scarce winter visitor. LLEIAN WEN

2004
Denbs. Two records of a first winter / female at Llyn Brenig on 22/01 and 21/03 (ELJ).

Flints. Two records: a first winter / female at Warren Farm, POA on 13/01 (pSD) and a male at the Border Pool, Inner Marsh Farm 22-24/01 (pCW, MG).

2005
Denbs. No records received.

Flints. A male was seen at IMF Border Pool On 16/01 (KS) and at Shotwick boating lake on 23/01 (ANB).

2006
No records.

Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*)
Winter visitor. HWYADEN FRONGOCH

2004
Denbs. Recorded regularly off Llanddulas, Pensarn and Towyn with 10+ off Towyn on 14/01 and 10 off Pensarn on 30/12 (SM).

Flints. The majority of sightings were from either Rhyl Marine Lake or POA, maxima for these two sites were 30 at the former on 15/12 (ELJ) and 14 at the latter on 27/11(RH). There was also an interesting record of 30 off Rhuddlan on 11/08 (RMB).

2005
Denbs. Again regularly seen off Llanddulas and Towyn with 40+ off Towyn on 21/11 (SM).

Flints. Again the majority of sightings were from either POA, which had a maximum count of 17 on 4/12 (GR) or Rhyl Marine Lake, with a maximum count of 23 on 1/12 (RMB).

2006
Denbs. Recorded regularly off Pensarn, Towyn and at the CON, with 8 at CON on 18/03 (AW) being the highest count.

Flints. The majority of sightings were from either Rhyl Marine Lake or the POA, maximum for these two sites were 15 at the former on 23/11 (SM) and 17 at the latter on 18/01(GR).

Goosander (*Mergus merganser*)
Breeding resident and winter visitor. HWYADEN DDANHEDDOG

2004
Denbs. Records received from many parts of the county with 14 at Hanmer on 27/01 (HL)

being the highest number recorded. Breeding was apparent with the sighting of 5 juveniles at Berwyn on 15/07 (JLR).

Flints. Many records received with a maximum count of 20 at Rhuddlan on 1/02 (SH). Breeding was apparent with the sighting of 6 juveniles on the River Clwyd at Rhyl on 21/06 (DCR).

2005
Denbs. Regular sightings from many locations with a maximum count of 11 at Holt on 27/03 (NF).

Flints. Records received from a number of locations with the highest count being of 14 at Worthenbury on 16/11 (NFr). Breeding was apparent with the sighting of parties of juveniles on six occasions all in the Rhuddlan area (SH/SM).

2006
Denbs. Records received from many parts of the county with 7 at CON on 24/09 (pALD) being the highest number recorded. Breeding was apparent with the sighting of 5 juveniles at Holt on 26/05 (NF).

Flints. Many records received with a maximum count of 16 at the River Clwyd, Rhyl on 30/07 (DCR). Breeding was apparent with the sighting of parties of juveniles on four occasions all in the Rhuddlan area (SH).

Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*)
Uncommon breeding resident. HWYADEN GOCH

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(RY)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	12	8	41
Flints.	62	23	37
	All but Feb, Nov, Dec	All but Jan, Sep, Nov, Dec	All but Jan, Mar, Dec

Willow Ptarmigan (*Lagopus lagopus*)
Declining breeding resident on heather moors. Red List. WBAP GRUGIAR

2004
Denbs. Four records from the RM, World's End area, with a highest count of 2 on 31/03 (KS). Elsewhere recorded as follows: 1 W of Cilcain on 8/04 (MR/PR), 1 at Gwynfryn on 13/5 (EM), 3 at Llandegla Moor on 15/05 (DCR) and 7 at Moel Famau on 8/12 (SGR).

Flints. Only one record that of a single bird at Cilcain on 8/04 (ELJ).

2005
Denbs. Again most sightings (three) were from the RM, World's End areas with a highest count of 2 on 21/10 (MeR). Elsewhere recorded as follows: 3 at the Horseshoe Pass on 3/04 (KS),

1 at Llyn Brenig on 9/04 (ELJ), 1 at Gwynfryn on 15/05 (LW), 2 at Bryneglwys on 7/06 (MH), 1 at Moel Famau on 10/10 (WAO) and 2 at Fenn's Moss on 9/11 (JD).

Flints. Again only the one record of 1 bird at Cilcain on 29/05 (DCR).

2006
Denbs. Six records received from the RM, World's End areas, with a highest count of 5 on 28/01 (AJR). Elsewhere recorded as follows: 4 NE of Llyn Brenig on 15/01 (ELJ), 1 at Llangwyfan on 22/04 (MB), 1 at Bryneglwys on 23/04 (RHe) and 1 NE of Llyn Brenig on 4/10 (EL).

Flints. Only one record that of 2 birds above Cilcain on 10/05 (DCR).

Black Grouse (*Tetrao tetrix*)

GRUGIAR DDU

Scarce breeding resident. Red List. WBAP

Llandegla Forest and Moor and RM together hold a substantial part of the Welsh population of this species.

2004
Denbs. Ten records received of which 80% were from the RM, World's End area with a maximum count of 8 on 31/03 (KS). The species was also recorded twice in Clocaenog Forest.

Flints. One record of 2 at Moel Arthur on 13/05 (WAO).

2005
Denbs. Twenty five sightings of which twenty four were the species county stronghold with sizeable parties on four occasions: 13 on 27/01 (JB), 17 on 7/02 (HL), 16 on 7/02 (KS) and 15 on 18/02 (JuR). The other sighting was of 6 at Eglwyseg on 10/05 (SM).

Flints. Again just the one record, a solitary male near Cilcain on 29/05 (DCR).

2006
Denbs. Twenty six records received of which 80% were from the Llandegla Forest and RM, World's End areas with a maximum count of 12 on 19/03 (AJR). The species was also recorded at Bryneglwys, Clocaenog Forest, Coedpoeth and Gwynfryn. Probably the best viewing point is that managed by the RSPB at Llandegla Forest.

Flints. Just two records were received: 1 on 10/05 (DCR) and 2 on 16/06 (PT), both at Cilcain.

Red-legged Partridge (*Alectoris rufa*)

PETRISEN GOESGOCH

Now a locally common breeding resident where large numbers are bred and released in moorland areas for shooting.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(RL)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	14	6	
Flints.	7	8	2
	All but Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct	Jan, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Dec	Feb, Mar, May, Jun, Nov

Grey Partridge (*Perdix perdix*)

PETRISEN

Scarce localised breeding resident. Red List. WBAP

2004
Denbs. Three records: 2 in April and 6 in Oct at Borrás Quarry, Wrexham (LW) and 3 at Kinmel Bay on 21/12 (PR/MR).

Flints. Seven sightings of either a single bird or a pair: 1 on 21/03, 2 on 5/04, 1 on 8/05 all at Northop (DOJ), 1 at Oakenholt on 6/06 (JH) and 1 on 22/04, 2 on 24/04 (DOJ), 2 on 3/05 (NH) all at Shotwick.

2005
Denbs. Three records: 1 at Mynydd Glyn-Lws on 10/04 (EL), 2 near Towyn on 9/05 (SM) and 1 near Gwynfryn on 22/06 (LW).

Flints. Sadly only one sighting of 2 at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft on 24/04 (IMS).

2006
Denbs. Three records: 1 on 8/01 S E of Towyn (JuR), 2 at Penycæ on 9/02 (JoR) and 2 N of Bodelwyddan on 24/06 (IMS).

Flints. Surprisingly only two sightings, 2 at Border Pool, Inner Marsh Farm on 23/04 (CW) and 1 at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft on 23/04 (IMS).

Common Quail (*Coturnix coturnix*)

SOFLIAR

Passage migrant. Amber List.

The only records were in 2005.

2005
Denbs. Three records: a single bird calling at Mynydd Hiraethog on 23/06 (ELJ), 6+ at Mynydd Hiraethog on 8/07 (IMS) and 1 calling at Almere on 7/08 (NF).

Flints. No records.

Red-throated Diver (*Gavia stellata*) TROCHYDD GYDDFGOCH
Passage migrant and winter visitor to offshore waters. Amber List.

2004
Denbs. The majority of sightings received were from either off Llanddulas or Towyn, but the two sightings with the largest number of birds were: 5 off Pensarn beach on 30/10 (SM) and 9 off Kinnel Bay on 3/11 (SM).

Flints. Two records: 2 at POA on 19/04 (CR) and 1 offshore at POA on 1/09 (pSD).

2005
Denbs. The majority of sightings were at sea off Towyn, with maximum counts of 20+ on 16/10, 17/10 and 50+ on 27/10 (SM). A count of 20+ was also recorded off Kinnel Bay on 28/10 (SM).

Flints. Seven records received of which six were of single birds off POA, the other record being that of 2 off Gronant on 16/10 (ELJ).

2006
Denbs. The majority of sightings received were from either offshore at Pensarn or Towyn, with the two maximum counts being of 20 offshore W of Towyn on 13/10 and 10 also offshore at Towyn on 11/05, an unusually late record (SM).

Flints. Only one record received of 5 birds flying W offshore at POA on 7/10 (NFr).

Black-throated Diver (*Gavia arctica*) TROCHYDD GYDDFDDU
Occasional winter visitor. WBAP

There was only a single record from the three years.

2004
Denbs. Just one record of 1 bird off Llanddulas on 5/03 (DCR).

Great Northern Diver (*Gavia immer*) TROCHYDD MAWR
Occasional winter visitor.

2004
Denbs. Only one record in the year of 2 birds off Llanddulas on 11/02 (NH).

Flints. One record of 1 off Point of Ayr on 15/09 (ANB).

2005
No records.

2006
Denbs. Two records received for the year of single birds flying offshore at Towyn on 22/10 and 3/11 (SM).

Flints. No records.

Little Grebe (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*) GWYFACH FACH
Breeding resident in small numbers.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(LG)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	10	11	34
Flints.	131	90	158
	All months	All months	All months

Great Crested Grebe (*Podiceps cristatus*) GWYACH FAWR GOPOG
Breeding resident on inland lakes and ponds, and winter visitor to coastal waters.

2004
Denbs. Records received from many parts of the county. Coastal, concentrations were recorded off Towyn, Llanddulas, Pensarn and Rhuddlan with a maximum count of 30+ on 30/12 at Pensarn (SM). Inland breeding was noted with a pair with 2 young seen at Acton Park, Wrexham on 27/05 (KS).

Flints. The majority of coastal records received were for locations along the Dee Estuary with sightings throughout the year, the maximum count was of 31 off Bagillt on 23/11 (RH). Inland, recorded from Llyn Helyg and FLQ.

2005
Denbs. Fewer records received this year both from coastal and inland locations with breeding not being confirmed at any site. The maximum count was that of 30+ off Pensarn on 14/07 (SM).

Flints. the majority of records were from locations along the Dee Estuary with a maximum count of 30 off Bagillt on 26/10 (CW). Once again records for inland locations were received from FLQ and Llyn Helyg.

2006
Denbs. Records received from many parts of the county. Coastal concentrations were recorded offshore from Towyn, Llanddulas, Pensarn and Kinnel Bay with a maximum count of 25+ on 19/02 W of Towyn (SM); inland there were many sightings of single birds or pairs, however no records confirming breeding were received.

Flints. The majority of records received were for locations along the Dee Estuary with sightings throughout the year. The maximum count was of 12 offshore at Bagillt on 26/01 (GR). Inland, records were received from FLQ and Llyn Helyg where breeding was confirmed with the sighting of a juvenile on 15/07 (ELJ).

Slavonian Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*)

Scarce winter visitor.

GWYACH GORNIOG

There were only two records in the reporting period.

2004

Denbs. One record of a single bird at CON on 25/01 (pALD).

2006

Denbs. A single bird offshore E of Llanddulas on 20/04 (EL).

Northern Fulmar (*Fulmarus glacialis*)

ADERYN-DRYCIN Y GRAIG

Breeding resident, summer visitor and passage migrant.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(F.)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	12	16	
Flints.	6		3
	Jan, Feb, Apr, May, Jun, Aug, Sep	All but Feb, Sep, Oct, Nov	All but Feb, Oct, Nov, Dec

Manx Shearwater (*Puffinus puffinus*)

ADERYN-DRYCIN MANAW

Regular offshore during summer and autumn. Amber List.

2004

Denbs. On 14/09 19 were offshore at Towyn (SM) and 6 were off Towyn on 15/09 (SM) and a single bird on 21/09 (SM). A single bird was seen off Pensarn on 23/09 (KS).

Flints. First record of the year was a single bird off Gronant on 17/06 (ANB). On 14/09 24 were at POA (NF). Strong NW Gales on 21/09 saw 30+ birds past POA (SGR).

2005

Denbs. A single bird offshore of Towyn on 14/09 (SM).

Flints. 12 birds were seen off Gronant on 20/07 (pRS) and 20 birds from POA on 1/10 (NF).

2006

Denbs. 14 birds flying E were off Towyn on 31/07 (SM). 10 birds were flying W at Towyn on 2/09 (SM).

Flints. 5 birds were seen at POA on 22/06 (GR). 150 birds were at POA on 1/08 (GR, NF), 3 at POA on 7/10 (NF). Singles were recorded at POA on 8/09 and 9/12 (ANB, GR).

European Storm-petrel (*Hydrobates pelagicus*)

Occasional summer passage migrant. Amber List.

PEDRYN DRYCIN

2004

Denbs. No records received.

Flints. 30/08 saw 2 birds past POA (SM) whilst 2 birds were recorded at POA on the 15/09 (ANB).

2005

Denbs. A single was recorded off TB on 21/07 (SM).

Flints. 2 birds were seen past POA on 1/10 (CR, NF, ANB).

2006

Denbs. No records received.

Flints. A single record of 2 birds seen off POA on 10/08 (NF).

Leach's Storm-petrel (*Oceanodroma leucorhoa*)

PEDRYN GYNFFON-FFORCHOG

Autumn passage migrant. Amber List.

2004

Denbs. On 15/09 30 were seen off Towyn (SM) and a single off Pensarn (KS). On the 23/09 there were 5+ past Pensarn (KS) and 1 past Towyn (SM).

Flints. Strong NW winds saw a peak number of 56 off POA on 15/09 (pRS). 8 flew past POA on the 30/08 (ANB) and 2 birds were also seen at CQNR (pRS).

2005

Denbs. 7 birds offshore at Towyn on 29/09 (SM).

Flints. 16 past POA on 1/10 (NF, ANB, pRS).

2006

Denbs. An unusual record was a single bird recorded at CON on the estuary on 3/12 and on the reserve lagoons on 5/12 (pALD).

Flints. Records from POA on 7/10 where 11 birds were seen flying West (NF), 8/12 when a single bird was seen (ANB) and 9/12 where 8 birds were recorded (GR, ANB).

Northern Gannet (*Morus bassana*)

HUGAN

Regular long-distance visitor to coastal waters in small numbers. Amber List.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(GX)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	15	20	26
Flints.	10	8	9
	All but Jan, Feb, Nov, Dec	All but Jan, Feb, Nov, Dec	All but Jan, Feb, Mar, Dec

Great Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) MULFRAN
Common resident throughout the year, with no known breeding sites. Amber List.

This species is mainly seen along the coast, but with increasing records on rivers and at inland waters.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(CA)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	41	28	41
Flints.	194	160	273
	All months	All months	All months

2004
Denbs. Largest counts all came from the mouth of Afon Clwyd with 80+ at Rhyl Harbour on 20/01 and 60+ there on 21/06 (DCR), and 50 on Horton's Nose on 6/05 (RMB).

Flints. See table for monthly maxima near Rhuddlan by SH. Other large counts were 186 at Gronant dunes on 17/06 (ANB), 220+ there on 13/10 (DCR), 176 at CQNR on 17/10 (DNS), 154 at OMR on 17/10 (RH), 334 near Gronant on 31/10 (ELJ), 200+ at Prestatyn on 31/10 (SAH), 161 at CQNR pm 14/11 (DNS) amd 200 at POA on 14/12 (KL).

2005
Denbs. Largest counts were 60+ S of Rhyl on 23/04 (SM), 100+ at Horton's Nose on 10/10 (SM) and 120+ at Rhyl Harbour on 12/11 (SM).

Flints. See table for monthly maxima near Rhuddlan by SH. Other large counts were 200 at Gronant dunes on 8/02 (RMB), 150 at POA on 2/03 (RMB), 200 at Gronant dunes on 3/06 (RMB) and 340 near Gronant on 17/09 (CR).

2006
Denbs. Largest counts were 100+ at Rhyl Harbour on 25/08 (SM) and 117 at Colwyn Bay cliffs on 16/09 (DCR).

Flints. Other large counts were 400 at POA on 13/01 (RMB) and 200 at Gronant dunes on 8/08 (RMB).

Monthly maxima near Rhuddlan (SH)

(CA)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2004	105	59	58	78	23	28	23	42	136	117	132	nc
2005	71	56	86	108	73	71	30	50	88	162	139	133
2006	45	14	68	107	80	31	48	41	104	162	111	116
Mean	74	43	71	98	59	43	34	44	109	147	127	125

European Shag (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis*) MULFRAN WERDD
Scarce non-breeding visitor.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(SA)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	5	2	5
Flints.	0	0	0
	Jan, Jun, Sep, Oct	Sep, Oct	Sep, Oct

Seen only at CON, Llanddulas and Towyn.

Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*) GREYR BACH
Uncommon resident with breeding on the periphery of our area. Amber List.

Increasingly seen at suitable coastal and estuary locations.

2004
Denbs. Coastal: only records from CON were received where 2 birds were seen in every month of the year except Jun.

Flints. Coastal: peak counts of 5 birds at CQNR on 8/01 (KS, NH) and 4 birds at CQNR on 22/08 and 14/11 (DNS).

2005
Denbs. Coastal: two records for CON with a single bird on 16/04 (DCR) and 2 birds on 3/12 (RMB). A single bird was at Towyn on 23/10 (SM).

Flints. Coastal: peak counts of 9 birds at CQNR on 19/09 (CM) and POA on 5/09 (CR). Records were received for every month of the year. CQNR/OMR is the primary site for this species. Singles and pairs are recorded throughout the year, with greater numbers occurring in the latter part of the year.

2006
Denbs. Coastal: a peak count of 14 birds at CON on 17/10 (pALD). There was a huge increase in records from CON over the previous 2 years. Birds were seen in every month of the year.

Flints. Inland: a bird was found dead by a stream at Flint Mountain on 9/03 (SE). In the Mold area, 3 birds were seen on 21/03 at Leeswood Hall (PP) and on 14/12 at Pentrehobin, Mold on 2/04 (IMS). Coastal: a peak count of 40 birds at OMR on 7/08 (CL). Other high counts were, 17 at CQNR on 24/08 (AN, KS) and 16 at OMR on 24/08 (GR). At Rhuddlan, 4 birds were seen on 13/05 (SH) all flying N.

Grey Heron (*Ardea cinerea*) GREYR GLAS
Widespread resident.

The Dee Estuary is a site of national importance in Great Britain. Despite this being a common species, few heronries are known and counted regularly.

2004

Denbs. Inland: a peak count of 4 birds at Holt on 28/03 (NF). 3 birds were seen on a number of occasions at Wrexham, Erddig pool on 27/06 and 5/05 (NH) and at Gresford Flash on 3/05 (KS). 2 birds were seen at WBQ on 1/05 (LW). All other inland records were of single birds. Coastal: a peak count of 10 birds at CON on 6/02 (RMB). Rhyl Marine Lake had 3 birds on 21/01 and 21/01 (RMB). Birds were also recorded at Towyn, Kinmel Bay and Llanddulas where there were 2 on 22/08 (EL).

Flints. Inland: very few records were received from inland sites. This is probably down to under-recording. Single birds were seen at Sychdyn on 26/09 (IMS), Ysceifiog on 23/02, 21/07 and 27/08 (LD). 2 birds were recorded at Nannerch on 1/05 (RMB) and 4 at Llyn Helyg on 4/04 (ELJ). Coastal: the peak count was of 8 birds at Walwen marsh, Bagillt on 25/01 and 14/11 (JH, RH) and 8 at OMR on 30/12 (DNS). CQNR/OMR and POA were the principal recording sites. There were 7 birds on the coastal fields at POA on 18/07 (pSD). The River Clwyd had 6 birds on 21/06 (DCR).

2005

Denbs. Inland: heronry consisting of 5 nests on the River Clwyd at Nant Lewis Alyn where up to 17 birds were recorded on 2/04 (ELJ). A single bird was recorded on a garden lawn in Llanddulas on 29/01 (EL). Other large counts included 12 at Nant Lewis Alyn on 27/02 and 8/03 (ELJ) and 10 at Erddig on 26/02 (NH). Coastal: present throughout the year at a number of coastal and estuary sites.

Flints. Inland: single birds at Llyn Helyg on 24/02, 25/02 and 27/02 (ELJ). Single birds were at Sychdyn on 2/01 and at Sandycroft on 24/04 (IMS). Coastal: a peak count of 7 at OMR on 8/01 and 16/01 (CM) and 6 at Rhyl on 11/09 (SM).

2006

Denbs. Inland: heronry consisting of 4 nests on the River Clwyd at Nant Lewis Alyn with 12 birds present on 28/01 and 22/04 (ELJ). 6+ birds were recorded on the Afon Conwy near Caerhun on 10/10 (SM). Coastal: CON had 10 birds on 16/03 (RMB) and 16 birds on 9/09 (DCR).

Flints. Inland: Caerwys, Maesmynan Quarry had a number of birds through the year, with 3 on 21/01, 2 on 29/07 and 17/08 and 4 on 1/10 (PD). A single bird in Dyserth made visits to gardens with 3 sightings on 27/02, 28/02 and 31/08 (GC). A single bird was recorded at Hendre on 17 occasions throughout the year. At Llyn Helyg 2 birds were seen, where breeding was suspected as 1 of the birds flew into the depths of nearby trees. Coastal: a peak count of 17 birds was recorded at CQNR/OMR on 23/03 (AW). At Rhyl Marine Lake 8 birds were seen roosting on the island on 30/09 (DCR) and 5 birds were also seen on 4 occasions, 1/01, 15/01, 2/09 and 9/09 (RMB, DCR).

White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*)

CICONIA GWYN

Rare vagrant.

There was only one record in the reporting period.

2004

Flints. 1 seen at IMF on 9/04 (pCW). Accepted by Welsh Rarities Panel.

Eurasian Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*)

LLWYBIG

Scarce winter visitor.

There was only one record in the reporting period.

2004

Flints. 2 birds were seen around Rhyl on 4/06 and 20/06 (BE, KS, JR).

European Honey-buzzard (*Pernis apivorus*)

WAOD Y MEL

Occasional visitor. Amber List.

There were only two records in the reporting period.

2004

Denbs. One record over woods near Glan Conwy on 5/07 (ALD).

2006

Denbs. There has been just one record, from Bettisfield Moss in Jun (ELJ).

Red Kite (*Milvus milvus*)

BARCUD

Occasional visitor, has bred. Amber List.

2004

Denbs. There were six records, all but one at CON (2 birds) from the southern part of the County, four between Apr and Jul, with two in Nov. Two birds were seen together in the Ceriog valley and at World's End in Nov.

Flints. There was one record from Connah's Quay in Aug.

2005

Denbs. There were nine records between Feb and Dec with two birds seen together, twice, in the south-western part of the area during the breeding season.

Flints. There were four records between Apr and Aug, all of single birds.

2006

Denbs. With 20 records between Feb and Jul and two records during BBS walks, breeding is bound to occur in the near future. Two were seen together near Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 9/06 and then three together on 28/06 in the same area.

Flints. There were just two records, both near Mold - one in Jun and one in Oct.

Eurasian Marsh Harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*)

Very scarce passage migrant.

BOD Y GWERNI

There have been just two records for this report.

2004

Flints. One bird seen at CQNR on 1/09 (SHR).

2005

Flints. One bird seen at Flint on 4/05 (CL).

Hen Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*)

Scarce breeding species and winter visitor. Red List.

BOD TINWEN

2004

Denbs. Sixteen records came from three areas – Mynydd Hiraethog, RM and Fenn's Moss mainly between Mar and Jul. There were records of 2 ring-tails together on 14/04 and three together on 12/07 on RM.

Flints. Of the six records, one was from POA and the others from the IMF/CQNR area, mainly in the early months (Jan to Mar) with one record at Shotwick in Oct.



Hen Harrier - Gary Bellingham

2005

Denbs. Thirty one records from the same three areas – the first, a male at Glasfryn on 9/01, and seven records from RM in Jan and Feb. Eleven records were from the three main areas between Mar and Jul with 12 more records from RM and Fenn's Moss between Oct and Dec.

Flints. Four records were from POA in Jan (1), Apr (2) and Dec (1) and one record from CQNR on 3/10 and one from OMNR on 22/11.

2006

Denbs. Of the eighteen records, there was a male on Mynydd Hiraethog on 10/02, and on RM there were two records of 3 ringtails together on 16/01 and 18/02, a male and female on 13/04 and 3 birds together on 4/11 and 28/12. Others were of a single male in the Ceiriog valley in two places on 11/06, so possibly the same bird seen twice. Breeding success was lower than in other years, probably affected by a poor vole year or other factors.

Flints. There was one record of a ring-tail at CQNR on 22/01.

Breeding (WRSG):

(HH)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young fledged	Young per nest
2004	10	50	24	2.40
2005	12	53	27	2.25
2006	7	24	12	1.71

Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*)

Rare breeding resident.

GWALCH MARTH

There were no records from Flints.

2004

Denbs. There were seven records, five from Clocaenog Forest in Feb, Apr and Dec, the others being 1 bird at Llandegla Moor on 28/03 and 1 at CON on 28/12.

2005

Denbs. There were just three records, from the RM area, all of males in Mar or Apr.

2006

Denbs. There were ten records – four from CON in Feb (1 bird), Mar (1), Jun (2) and Sep (1). Other records were of single birds from near Denbigh (22/04), Clocaenog Forest (two records in Apr) and RM (two records in Mar).

Breeding. Recorded at just one nest with a count of 3 eggs, leading to 1 fledged young.

Eurasian Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter nisus*)

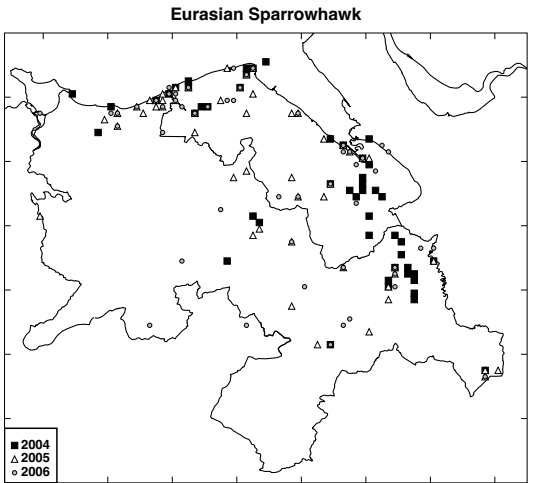
Common and widespread breeding resident.

GWALCH GLAS

This species appears to be under-recorded in the W and S of Denbs. However, compare the map for Sparrowhawk with that for Buzzard, and maybe Sparrowhawk is less frequent in those areas (or is it less often seen as it soars less and may be more often in woodland).

2004

Denbs. There were eighty eight records from every month except Jun. It is clear from the map that the species is under-recorded in the S and W though this area also includes large areas of moorland from which Sparrowhawk would not be expected. Most records were of single birds, with just two records of 2 birds at Rhyl (21/01) and at Gresford Flash (12/03). In Towyn, Collared Dove was frequently a prey species (SM).



Flints. There were forty six records from every month except Feb, most of which were of single birds. Records of 2 birds came from SS (4/01), Rhuddlan (2/08) and Hawarden (10/10). There was an exceptional record of 5 birds during a BBS walk at Dyserth on 18/04 (MrsL).

Breeding. Recorded at one nest with a minimum of 1 egg, leading to 1 fledged young (WRSG).

2005

Denbs. Sixty records, with birds recorded every month, but with a lack of sightings reported from the S and W of the County. Most records were of single birds, but on 1/04 4 birds were seen at Fenn's Moss; 4 nestlings were ringed near Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 15/07; and on 9/09 2 birds were seen circling together at Towyn.

Flints. There were fifty six records from every month, mainly of single birds. On 15/04 at Greenfield, 2 birds were seen; on 29/04 and again on 26/07 at Rhuddlan, 2 birds were seen; on 22/10 S of Rhyl, 2 birds; and at Llanasa on 27/12 there were 2 birds hunting a flock of finches.

Breeding. Recorded at 2 nests with a count of 7 eggs leading to 5 fledged young, a mean of 2.5 young per brood (WRSG).

2006

Denbs. Of the sixty five records from every month, all but one were of single birds except for a sighting of 2 females at Towyn on 12/09. There were three records from the western part of the County.

Flints. There were sixty records, from every month, mainly of single birds, though 2+ birds were seen at Queensferry on 1/01; 2 were seen at POA on 6/02, 2 males were seen at Rhuddlan on 6/03 and 30/06, and 2 unsexed birds were seen there on 15/09 and 7/10.

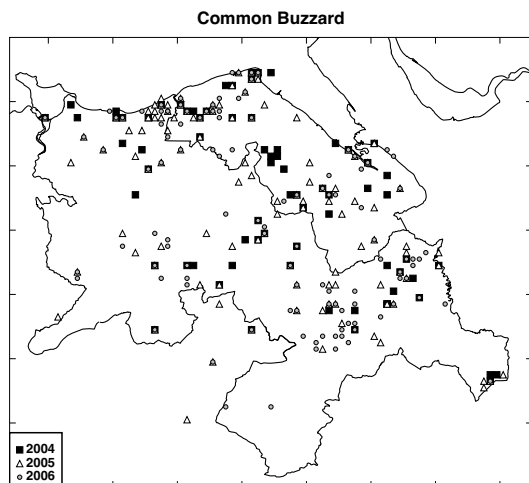
Common Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*)

Common and widespread breeding resident.

BWNCATH

2004

Denbs. There were sixty four records, many with more than one bird. See the table for the maximum count in each month, with a notable total of 10 counted near Llanfair TH on 3/10 (SM).



Flints. Of the total of eighty one records, many were of more than one bird. The table, above, shows the maximum numbers seen in each month, with 15 seen during a BBS walk on 27/04 (EW) being exceptional.

Maximum counts each month at a single location

(BZ)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs	2	3	4	5	3	4	2	4	3	10	2	3
Flints	6	5	5	15	7	4	5	6	4	2	1	4

2005

Denbs. There were 107 records with the maximum counts in each month shown below. Near Denbigh 9 birds were seen on 2/04 (ELJ); 9 were seen at Bodfari on 24/05 (OPJ) and 10 were counted at Mynydd Hiraethog on 7/11 (ELJ).

Maximum counts each month at a single location

(BZ)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs	3	3	4	9	9	4	2	5	4	2	10	1
Flints	7	6	6	4	4	4	2	1	4	6	2	5

Flints. There were eighty five records with 7 birds counted together at Sychdyn on 1/01 (IMS).

2006

Denbs. There were 106 records, many of single birds, but with maximum counts shown below. 14 were seen circling together over Coedpoeth on 24/08 (JAJ).

Maximum counts each month at a single location

(BZ)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs	3	5	5	5	4	4	2	14	4	6	2	2
Flints	2	2	8	4	4	5	1	3	7	4	2	3

Flints. There were 87 records with the largest counts being 8 at SS on 19/03 (PT) and 7 at Dyserth, circling over Moel Hiraddug on 26/09 (MC).

Breeding (WRSG):

(BZ)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young fledged	Young per nest
2004	26	54	25	0.96
2005	32	75	31	0.97
2006	22	31	25	1.14

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)

Rare spring and autumn migrant.

GWALCH Y PYSGOD

2004

Denbs. Seven records for this year, though two records were probably of the same bird on spring migration over RM on 14/04. Other spring records were at Penrycae (2/04), and CON on 26/04, 11/05, 13/05 and 14/05 (the last three dates may have involved the same bird). Other records were of a bird flying S over Holt on 27/06 and one flying E on 2/09 at CON.

Flints. No records.

2005
Denbs. Just two records – one bird feeding on a fish on S side of Moel Famau on 2/04; and one at Llidiart y Parc, near Glydyfrdwy on 13/09.

Flints. Five records – 2 in spring at Buckley (25/03) and Queensferry (7/04). Other records were at Prestatyn (7/06) and at Rhuddlan (7/06 probably the same bird) and on 19/06 flying S harried by crows.

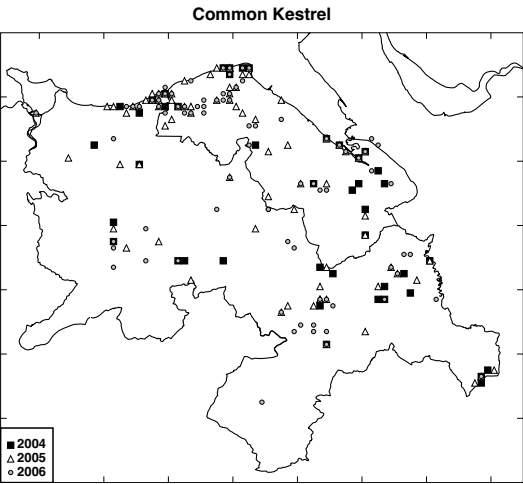
2006
Denbs. There were just three records – at CON (9/04) and at Penycae (8/06 flying NE and 4/08 flying S).

Flints. One spring record at Rhuddlan, flying NE chased by gulls on 16/04 (SH) and 1 bird at Flint marshes flying SE on 10/09 (RP).

Common Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*) CUDYLL COCH
Common breeding resident. Amber List.

2004
Denbs. There were forty five records, most of single birds but with some of 2 birds, from every month in the year.

Flints. There were twenty eight records from each month except Feb with most records being of single birds. Two broods of 3 chicks were ringed at Sandycroft on 25/06 and Shotton Paper Mill on 2/07 (IMS).



Flints. There were seventy seven records from every month of the year, of mainly 1 or 2 birds. Three broods ringed were 3 at Shotton Paper on 26/06, 4 at Rhydymwyn on 30/06 and 2 at Sandycroft on 1/07 (IMS).

2005
Denbs. There were sixty eight records each month of the year of which most were of single birds. 4 were seen at Kinmel Bay on 2/01 (KS) and 3 at Fenn's Moss on 2/07 (JPA) and 5 there on 22/11 (HP).

Flints. There were ninety three records of mainly 1 to 3 birds from every month of the year. 5 chicks were ringed at Shotton Paper Mill on 29/05 (IMS) and 5 were seen at Gronant dunes on 27/07 (RMB).

2006
Denbs. There were fifty four records from every month of the year, of 1 or 2 birds.



Common Kestrel - Gary Bellingham

Breeding (WRSG):

(K.)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young fledged	Young per nest
2004	13	63	26	2.00
2005	10	50	33	3.30
2006	9	37	20	2.22

Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) CUDYLL BACH
Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List.

2004
Denbs. There were eleven records of single birds at 7 locations. Late winter records were from RM (5/01) and Holt (24/01). A f near Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 25/04 allowed close approach in a car as she sat on a hedge (PMR). Other records were on Mynydd Hiraethog (30/10), RM (4/11) and three at CON on 4/12, 8/12 and 18/12 may have been of the same bird.

Flints. There were forty records of singles from 8 locations from each month of the year except Jun. Twenty eight records were from POA though some of these on the same date were probably the same bird (recorded there each month except Jan, May, Jun) and 6 winter records from OMR (in Jan, Feb and Dec). Other records were from Rhyl (20/01), Rhuddlan (27/02), CQNR (12/04), Nannerch (1/05), Flint (6/12) and Rhes-y-Cae (20/12).

2005

Denbs. There were eleven records from 6 locations. Two were at RM on 30/01 and 19/02. Three were at Fenn's Moss on 1/04, 29/11 and 20/12. Other records were at Penycae on 3/04, Mynydd Hiraethog on 25/07, 10/08 and 11/12 and at Coedpoeth on 11/11.

Flints. Only fourteen records of singles from 4 locations. Nine records were from POA in Jan, Feb, Mar, Oct and Dec. Two records from OMR (25/02 and 25/03) and CQNR (27/02 and 1/04) may, possibly, have involved the same bird. One was seen at Gronant dunes on 4/10.

2006

Denbs. There were eight records of singles from 6 locations. Two records at Mynydd Hiraethog on 18/02 and 18/03, near Llandegla (02/04), RM (4/04), near Bryneglwyd on 27/04 and 1/06, at Moel Famau on 7/10 and near Llanarmon-yn-Ial (19/12) where a female chased but failed to catch a Fieldfare (JAJ).

Flints. There were twenty records of singles from 5 locations. Nine records were from POA in Jan, Apr, Sep and Nov; six records from OMR in Jan, Mar, Oct, Nov and Dec. Others were from CQNR (15/09, 4/10 and 5/11), Rhuddlan (16/10) and near Bagillt (14/12).

Breeding (WRSG):

(ML)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young fledged	Young per nest
2004	8	33	17	2.13
2005	5	21	12	2.40
2006	2	6	6	3.00

Eurasian Hobby (*Falco subbuteo*)

HEWAOG YR EHDYDD

Uncommon passage migrant and scarce breeding species. Amber List.

2004

Denbs. There were fourteen records from 6 locations. The earliest was on 3/05 at Fenn's Moss and the latest was on 14/09 at Almere. There were 8 other records from Fenn's Moss with 1 to 6 (on 18/05, THu, and 6 on 4/07, ANB) birds seen. Other records of single birds were at Llangollen on 10/06, Towyn on 14/08, Burton on 4/09 and at Wrexham town centre on 4/09.

Flints. There were six records from 5 locations. The first two records were probably the same bird at Gronant dunes on 17/06. Other records were. S of Rhyl on 22/06, Queensferry on 30/07, SS on 1/08 (possibly the same bird as seen at Queensferry), and at Rhyl on 11/08

2005

Denbs. There were eighteen records from 8 locations. The earliest was on 24/04 at Fenn's Moss where there were 1 – 5 (on 12/05, THu) birds. There were four records of a single bird near Penycae, three of which between 14/05 and 1/06 may well have been the same bird. Other sightings were on RM (23/06) hunting moths (JLR), at Eglwyseg (26/06), Almere (07/08), Trevalyn meadows (7/08) – probably the same bird as seen at Almere – 2 near Bettisfield on 31/08 and near Borrass on 1/09.

Flints. There were ten records from 5 locations. The earliest was on 1/05 at SS and again on 31/07. Other records were a single at Rhuddlan on 20/07 that was seen diving at, but missing, House Martins and Swifts (SH); two records of a single near Rhydymwyn on 3/08 and 10/08

(probably the same bird); S of Rhyl on 27/08 and four records from POA, 1 on 1/10 and three records on 2/10, probably all of the same, late, bird.

Breeding. Recorded at 1 nest with a minimum of 2 eggs, leading to 2 fledged young (Anon via WRSG). This is the first known breeding within NE Wales in the last 15 years.

2006

Denbs. There were twenty two records from 8 locations. The earliest record was of 3 on 23/04 at Fenn's Moss and there were ten other records from that area of between 1 – 7 (on 14/05, JuR) birds. There were six records near Penycae of singles on 12/05, 13/06, 24/06, 28/06, 29/06 and 22/07. Other records were: 1 at Llanbedr DC on 10/06 and 6/07, 1 at Moel Famau (16/06), 1 near Llangynhafal (17/06) and Rossett on 4/08.

Flints. There were only 6 records of single birds from 3 locations. Rhuddlan was a favoured place with sightings on 12/05, 11/07 and two on 1/09, possibly of the same bird. There was reference to other sightings on dates not specified that suggested breeding at the N end of the county. Other sightings were at POA on 4/07 and on 14/07 at Halkyn.

Breeding. Recorded at 1 nest with a minimum of 2 eggs, leading to 2 fledged young (Anon via WRSG).

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*)

HEWAOG TREMOR

Breeding resident. Amber List.

2004

Denbs. There were twenty four records, birds seen every month except Aug and Dec. Mainly single birds, but 2 were seen near Trefnant (8/03), at Wrexham (7/07), RM (12/07) and Pensarn (2/09).

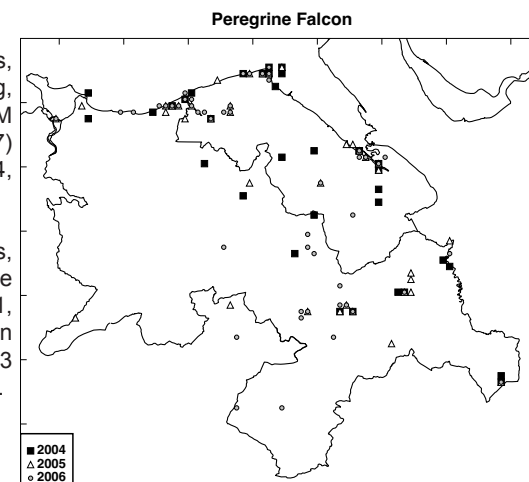
Flints. There were sixty three records, seen in every month of the year, mainly records of single birds. 2 birds were seen at Rhuddlan (4/04), POA (23/08, 3/09, 31/10, 30/11), at Connah's Quay (5/10) and OMR (13/10).

2005

Denbs. There were thirty two records, birds seen every month except Aug, mainly as singles. 2 birds seen at RM (19/02), Wrexham (28/03, 9/06, 12/07) and near Llantysilio Mountain (3/04, 22/04).

Flints. There were sixty four records, seen every month, mainly as single birds. 2 were seen at POA (15/01, 27/03, 23/04, 3/08), near Rhydymwyn (16/07), Flint (2/11) and SS (18/12). 3 were seen at CQNR on 30/09 (pRS).

2006



Denbs. There were thirty two records, seen in every month, mainly as single birds. 2 were seen. near Llangollen (18/04), at the Berwyn Mountains (28/05), near Bryneglwys (1/06) and at CON (5/10, 6/10, 28/10).

Flints. There were seventy five records, seen every month, mainly as single birds. 2 were seen. near Gronant (31/01), near Dyserth (10/03, 12/07, 27/07), near Mold (28/08), near POA (19/09, 10/10) and at CQNR (08/10).

Breeding (WRSG):

(PE)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young fledged	Young per nest
2004	20	48	30	1.50
2005	17	45	26	1.53
2006	10	36	26	2.60

Water Rail (*Rallus aquaticus*)

RHEGEN Y DWR

Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List.

2004

Denbs. Coastal: 2 at CON on 6/02 (RMB).

Flints. Inland: a single bird was at Greenfield Valley on 9/03 (ELJ). Coastal: a single bird was at IMF on 24/01 (MG). SS was the main site with up to 2 birds present for the first winter period with records from 4/01 – 29/02 (PT), and possibly 2 birds for the second winter period with records from 10/10 – 21/11 (PT). Gronant had a single bird on 2/03 and 3 birds on 6/03 (CR).

2005

More records were received from across the area than 2004.

Denbs. Inland: records from Three-cornered Meadow, Trevalyn where 1 bird was present on 16/01 and 11/11 (NF). At Gatewen, Wrexham 3 birds were heard on 6/03 (KS) and a single heard at Erddig pool on 9/05 and 16/10 (KS). Coastal: TB had a single bird on 7/03 (SM).

Flints. Coastal: SS held 2 birds over the first winter period, with records from 23/01 – 6/02 (PT) and 2 birds over the second winter period with records from 9/10 – 18/12 (PT). There were a number of birds recorded at Gronant dunes with 2 on 2/02 and 27/02 (ELJ). There was a single bird recorded at POA on 8/12 during a low tide bird count (GR).

2006

Denbs. Coastal: CON had 4 birds on 5/01 (MC) and 10/07 (pALD) and 3 birds on 17/07, 8/12 and 15/12 (pALD).

Flints. Inland: a single bird was recorded at Greenfield Valley on 30/01 and 17/02 (ELJ) and at Fenn's Moss on 14/05 (JuR). Coastal: SS had up to 3 birds present over the first winter period, with 3 birds seen on 8/01 and singles up to 26/02 (PT). A single bird was recorded for the second winter period with records between 1/10 – 26/11 (PT). A single bird was ringed on 26/11 (pBH). Single birds were recorded at POA on 14/01 (NH) and Gronant dunes on 22/09 and 12/10 (KS, SM).

Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*)

IAR DWR

Locally common breeding resident.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(MH)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	14	36	55
Flints.	114	67	101
	All months	All months	All months

Common Coot (*Fulica atra*)

CWTIAR

Locally common breeding resident and winter visitor.

Found on many inland lakes and other still-waters.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(CO)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	39	42	54
Flints.	178	131	302
	All months	All months	All months

Eurasian Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*)

PIODEN Y MOR

Abundant winter visitor around coast but scarce breeding resident. Amber List.

The Dee Estuary is an internationally important site for this species. The largest flocks are found there but this species can be seen anywhere on the Clwyd coast. Peak numbers occur in Jan/Feb (9450 in Jan 2005) and Oct/Nov (14680 in Oct 2006). Unusually high numbers (8600) were also reported in the Dee estuary in Aug 2005. POA has birds present all year, including non-breeders in Apr-Jun. Less than ten records of breeding attempts are submitted each year but they include both inland and coastal sites.

2004

Denbs. Reported in moderate numbers along the whole length of the coast with peak numbers in spring of 400+ on 15/01 at Horton's Nose, 300+ on 13/03 at Pensarn, and 300+ on 13/03 at Towyn. Lower numbers were recorded in autumn, peaking at 300 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 7/11 and 300+ on 31/12 at Horton's Nose.

Breeding success at Llyn Brenig was confirmed when 2 adults accompanied by 2 juveniles were seen on 1/06 (BE). Singles were reported from Gresford Flash on 5/04 and Bettisfield on 19/05 (KS) and Nant y Ffrith reservoir on 28/07 (SD).

Flints. Monthly maxima for Dee estuary locations are shown below (data provided by WeBS counts, JH, RH, DNS/DN, DCR and KS):

(OC)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
POA	4590	5500	2214	2500	937	644	1200	3350	6080	10000	7443	5400
BB	824	1333	158	80	2		1	1518	2200	680	860	350
OMR / CQNR	520	300	802	140	195	60	167	240	4500	4000	1000	350

The peak spring count on the Irish Sea coast was at Gronant (1500 on 10/03 (pRS)) with smaller counts there of 200 on 10/01 and 150 on 3/05 and 200 on 11/03 S of Rhyl. In autumn, 200 were S of Rhyl on 4/08 and 130 were counted at Prestatyn on 31/10.

Breeding pairs were present at SS from 15/03 through to July (PT), E of Queensferry from 26/03 to 21/06 and at Shotwick Boating Lake on 24/04 (DOJ).

2005

Denbs. Numbers along the coast were slightly higher than in 2004, with maxima of 500 recorded at Llanddulas on 3/03 and 8/12. Towyn regularly had good numbers, with 400 on 26/02. Smaller flocks were present at many locations on the coast.

Breeding was not proved but two birds were seen at Holt on 3/05 (NF) and singles were at Gresford Flash on 28/03 and 16/05; Brynnygrog on 16/04; and Fenn's Moss on 5/05.

Flints. Numbers in the Dee Estuary were higher at POA in spring compared to 2004 but lower elsewhere and lower in all sectors in autumn. The monthly maxima drawn from WeBS counts

(OC)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
POA	8800	6000	2000	3680	1900	1355	1470	7350	4750	5020	500	3500
BB	450	575	33		34	60	540	1200	263	490		344
OMR / CQNR	200	350	300	110	350	1000	420	56	2500	1450	560	450

and individual records are shown below.

A pair successfully raised a chick at SS (PT). Another adult was recorded at Sandycroft (12/06) during a BBS survey (IMS)

2006

Denbs. Although slightly lower than in 2005, birds were present in moderate numbers at many locations on the coast except during the breeding season. Flocks of over 100 were common with a spring maximum of 200 recorded on 9/03 at Pensarn. Autumn numbers peaked at 300 at Llanddulas on 19/09 and 400 at Horton's Nose on 30/09.

Breeding was not proved but an adult was seen NE of Llyn Brenig on 16/04, at Gresford Flash on 20/04 and 26/04 and at Fenn's Moss on 22/06. Two adults were seen NE of Ridleywood on 16/05

(OC)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
POA	4000	1500	1200	1100	350	250	1000	2000	2500	4500	2000	1000
MDR	3500	3000	2600		100	350		1000	2000	700	5000	4500
BB	350	500	400		200	300	10	200	500	350	700	1400
OMR / CQNR	200	150	50	500	600	51	23	2400	2000	3000	2500	800

Flints. The monthly maxima drawn from WeBS counts and individual records are shown below. Small flocks were seen along the coast from POA to Rhyl with peaks of 100 at Gronant (8/08) and 250 S of Rhyl (20/10).

A pair successfully raised a chick at SS (PT) and a pair nested on disused land SE of Rhuddlan (SH). Five adults were recorded during a BBS survey at Sandycroft on 23/04.

Pied Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*)

CAMBIG

Scarce visitor.

Only five records over the three years and four were from locations in the Dee estuary.

2004

Denbs. One at CON on 16-17/05 (pAD) was the first for the reserve.

Flints. One sighting at Mostyn on 16/01 (CGD).

2005

Sightings were restricted to the inner Dee Estuary, with singles recorded at CQNR on 17/10 and at OMR on 22/11.

2006

One sighting at OMR on 7/10 (DJ).



Pied Avocet - Gary Bellingham

Little Plover (*Charadrius dubius*)

CWTIAD TORCHOG BACH

Rare summer visitor and passage migrant. Scarce breeder.

Birds were present during the breeding season at a small number of sites in Denbs. and Flints., although breeding success has not been confirmed.

2004

Denbs. Gresford Flash had 1 on 3/04, 2 on 28/04 and 1 on 15/05 (KS). Borrass Quarry had 2 in July (LW).

Flints. FLQ had 1 on 26/03 (KD) and 2 were reported on various dates from 29/03 to 11/05. IMF had 1 on 31/03 (pCW) and 2 from 1/04 to 3/05. Two were reported on 5-6/08 at POA.

2005

Denbs. Only one record of a single at Gresford Flash on 19/04.

Flints. The earliest arrivals, two birds, were recorded at FLQ on 2/04 (KS); and on various occasions to 9/05. SS had a single on 3/04 and POA had one on 10/04. Inner Marsh Farm had numbers building up to 3 between 12/05 and 14/05 but had a record count (11 birds) on

26/07. POA had a single on 24/07.

2006

Denbs. CON had 19 birds on 10/02, an auspicious sign for the breeding season. There were regular sightings of adults from several different parts of the reserve from 9/04 throughout the season. Elsewhere 2 birds were seen near Marford on 24/03, one to the E and another to the NW. Gresford Flash had 2 adults on 23/04 and 1 on 28/04.

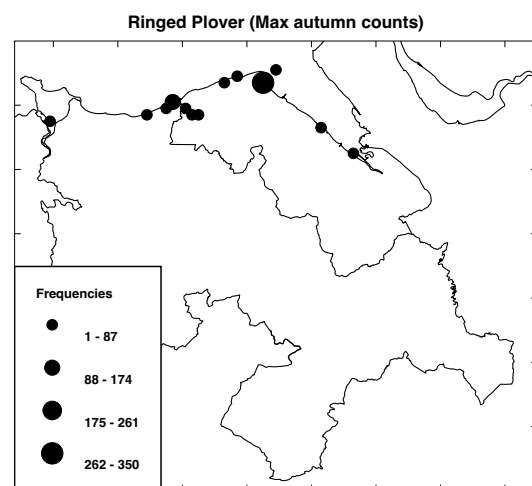
Flints. Small numbers were recorded at coastal sites, with OMR being visited by 1 on 15/04, 3 on 23/04 and 3 on 10/08. POA had 2 on 14/05 and Inner Marsh Farm had a single on 20/05. Inland, 2 pairs were at FLQ on 3/04 and a pair were seen N of Hope on 14/04. Two birds were W of Hendre on 24/06.

Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*)

CWTIAD TORCHOG

Breeding resident in small numbers, passage migrant. Red List.

Small groups can be seen along the whole of the Clwyd coast. POA in Aug is the best site for larger flocks of birds on passage, with a peak of 350, but spring flocks rarely exceed 50 birds. Breeding was confirmed each year from a small number of sites.



2004

Denbs. Maxima of 17 at CON on 3/01; 10 at Llanddulas on 9/02; 10 at Kinmel Bay on 8/03; 50 at Pensarn on 19/08; 100+ at Kinmel Bay on 14/10; and 45 at Towyn on 14/11.

Flints. Present at many locations in the Dee estuary. Peak counts of 54 at Flint saltmarsh on 25/01; 40 at Gronant on 3/05; 266 at POA on 22/08; and 40+ at Prestatyn on 31/10. Two adults were seen with 2 juveniles at Gronant on 18/07 (JuR).

2005

Denbs. In spring 30 were recorded on 26/01 at Kinmel Bay and 20 on 28/01 at Pensarn. Autumn numbers were slightly lower. Breeding attempts were recorded, with nests at Towyn and Kinmel Bay in early May (SM).

Flints. The largest spring flocks were 40 at POA on 8/02, 30 at Gronant (1/05) and Rhyl Harbour (7/05). In autumn, 66 were seen at Gronant on 6/11 (ELV). One nesting attempt was reported at POA, with an adult sitting on a late nest on 17/07 (JuR).

2006

Denbs. Present in small numbers along the coast. Autumn saw 30+ at CON on 9/09, 75 at Kinmel Bay on 22/09 and 30 at CON on 27/12. No breeding attempts were recorded.

Flints. Numbers in spring were low, with a maximum of 40 birds seen at Gronant. The autumn

passage brought much larger flocks, especially at POA where numbers built up from 100 on 13/08 to 350 on 26/08 before falling back to 300 on 7/09 and a more typical 20 by 8/10. Breeding was confirmed at Gronant where 5 were seen (11/07)

European Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*)

CWTIAD AUR

Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor. Red List.

This species has been seen at both coastal and inland locations, usually in very small numbers (less than 5) but larger flocks occasionally occur on the coast, with IMF/ Shotwick fields the favoured area. There has been one record of successful breeding.

2004

Denbs. Winter coastal sightings of 2 at CON on 8/02; 6 at Llanddulas on 9/02 and 1 at Towyn on 6/10. Inland records include singles at RM on 12/02, 14/04 and 27/09 (JLR); 2 E of Hem House (SJ3955) on 21/02; and 2 at Mwdwl-eithin, Mynydd Hiraethog on 21/06. Successful breeding confirmed on 18/06 at Llyn Aled with 2 adults and 3 juveniles (NH).

Flints. Two were seen at Inner Marsh Farm and 1 at River Clwyd, Rhyl on 3/01. Three were at Rhyl on 29/07. All other sightings were at POA: 22 on 25/02 (pSD); singles on 4/03, 25/04 and 3/08; 2 on 12/09; 3 on 6/10 and 1 on 3/11.

2005

Denbs. Four records included 30+ birds S of Towyn on 2/02 (SM) and 2 singles on RM on 2/05 (JLR)

Flints. There were three sightings of single birds from POA between 11/02 and 15/02 and autumn sightings of 2 birds at POA (5/09) and S of Rhyl (11/09). Larger numbers were seen at Border Pool, Inner Marsh Farm, with 20 present on 14/10 (KS) and 13 on 21/10.

2006

Denbs. Sightings at CON included 2 birds on 3-4/02, a single on 19/09 and 2 on 18/10. One was seen flying W and then turning inland at Towyn on 17/12. The only inland sighting was a single on RM on 26/04.

Flints. The earliest bird was a single on 8/01 at OMR. At Border Pool, Inner Marsh Farm, 30 were seen on 3/02 but nearby Shotwick fields held a flock of 130 on 12/02 and another flock throughout April, building from 31 on 2/04 to 90 on 16/04 before reducing to 40 on 23/04 and 2 on 9/05. Limited numbers elsewhere include at POA (1 on 23/08 and 2 on 24/09), OMR (1 on 8/09 and 2 on 25/11) and S of Rhyl (3 on 30/09).

Grey Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*)

CWTIAD LLWYD

Winter visitor and passage migrant. Amber List.

The Dee estuary is a site of national importance but only small numbers are found on the Welsh side, concentrated at POA. A flock of 800 on 29/01/2005 was exceptional.

2004

Denbs. Singles were reported at Towyn on 17/11 and Kinmel Bay on 25/11 (SM).

Flints. POA had peak counts of 81 on 22/02, 44 on 4/03, 80 on 12/10, and 200 on 14/11(JH/RH). OMR had 1 on 6/01 and 2 on 22/01 and 80 were seen NW of Gronant on 31/10 (ELJ).

2005
Denbs. Two birds observed at Kinmel Bay on 16/01 was the only record in 2005.

Flints. POA accounted for 42 out of 48 records. Only single figure counts were made during the summer (Mar – Aug) but for the winter season numbers between 20-50 birds are regular. Several observers (pRS, pCW) recorded a flock of 800 on 29/01; numbers also built up in December to 86. Birds were also seen at Gronant, with a maximum of 40 on 17/10.

2006
Denbs. Sightings of 1 or 2 birds along the coast in early spring, with a peak of 12 on 13/02 at CON.

Flints. Numbers at POA fell from 80 on 5/01 to 50 by 6/03 but built up again in autumn to a peak of 100 on 26/10. Small numbers, usually less than 5, were seen at a variety of sites on the coast and estuary and Gronant had 12 on 3/02.

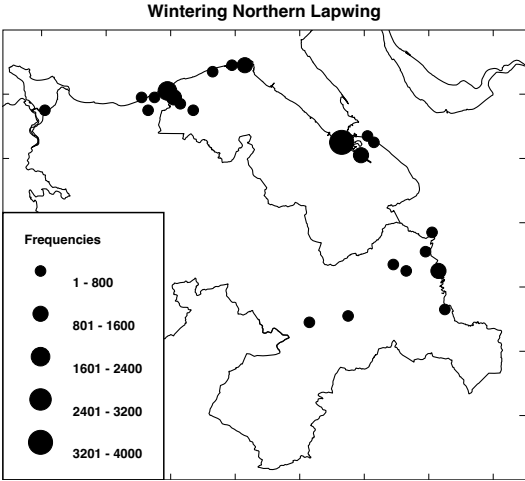
Northern Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*) CORNCHWIGLEN
Breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Red List. WBAP

This species is recorded in moderate numbers at coastal and inland locations throughout NE Wales during winter months (see map). The coastal areas around Rhyl and the Dee estuary at OMR / CQNR hold the largest flocks (with maxima of 2000 in Dec 2006 and 4000 in Jan 2004 respectively) but flocks of up to 500 can be seen regularly at inland sites, with a maximum of 1200 in the Dee valley during floods. Birds were observed during the breeding season in a wide variety of locations but in small numbers.

2004
Denbs. Maxima of 400 at CON on 9/01 and 2000 at KBRH on 21/01. Smaller flocks in autumn, with a maximum of 230 at Towyn.

For inland sites there was an exceptionally high count of 1200 on 10/02 E of Ridleywood during flooding of the Dee valley (NFr). Other counts included 400 at Trevalyn Meadows on 21/01 and 400 at Gresford Flash on 22/01. The Dee valley again had good flocks in autumn, with 450 on 28/10 at Worthenbury and 600 on 3/11at Trevalyn Meadows.

Breeding records include 8 pairs at Francis Lane, Wrexham on 25/03, and 9 birds at Pont Canal, Denbigh on 13/05 (ELJ). These and records from ten other sites are shown on the map below.



Flints. Counts along the Flintshire coast and Dee estuary in autumn / winter were larger than in recent years. Monthly maxima are shown in the table.

Rhyl* sightings include Rhyl Marine Lake and River Clwyd, Rhyl. Data provided by WeBS (JH/RH); DNS/DN; RMB, DCR, pSD; and ELJ)
SS recorded a large flock of 900+ on 4/01. No flocks of more than 50 birds were reported away from the coastal strip.

(L.)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Rhyl*	1500	800	200			30				35	600	480
POA	870	250	273				12	49	30	20	315	600
BB	63	126							13	58	209	220
OMR / CQNR	4000	2225	200	2	3	28	240	708	342	447	1500	2000

Breeding was reported from six locations, including 10 birds E of Halkyn on 11/06.

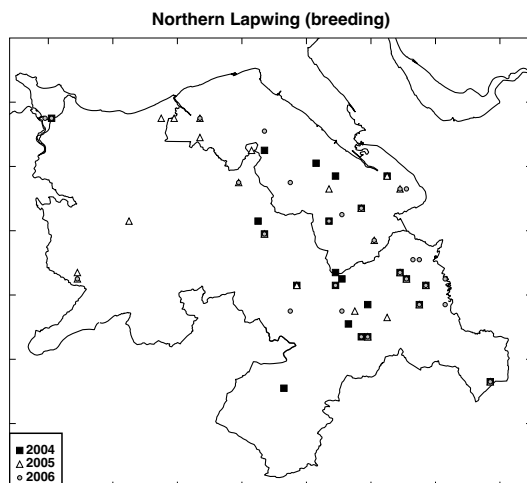
2005
Denbs. Comparatively low numbers were reported this year. On the coast, the largest flocks were at Belgrano beach (220 on 22/01) and inland, flocks of 500 were seen at Gresford Flash (4/01and 26/12).

The coastal areas around Towyn had some breeding activity but data from BBS and individual records showed most breeding was recorded inland (see map). These include 22 birds on 19/04 W of Ruabon and 13 pairs at CON throughout the season. Post-breeding groups were reported at Penycae, Tainant (70+ on 14/06), at Fenn's Moss (35 on 19/06) and Nant y Ffrith reservoir (33 on 11/07).

Flints. Numbers recorded in winter months on the N coastal strip and in the Dee estuary (shown below) were also lower than in 2004.

(L.)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Rhyl	1000	300						300	20	100	250	200
POA	850	750	52					10	29	102	480	800
OMR / CQNR	1376	474	23			90	98	152	134	545	720	1240

IMF recorded a maximum of 250+ on 22/10.



Breeding activity was reported from three locations, including 22 adults at Sandycroft on 24/04 and 13 on 12/06 (IMS).

2006
Denbs. Occasional sightings of large flocks in the coastal area during winter months, including 500 on 23/01 at Towyn and 1000 on 30/12 at KBRH. Inland, flocks were seen at Dinbren Isaf, Llangollen (200 on 3/01) and Gresford Flash (300 on 21/01).

Records of breeding attempts increased to 16, none of which were for the coastal area except CON. The map shows the distribution of breeding

sites across Clwyd recorded in 2004 -06. It represents only 100-150 pairs per year.

Flints. The Dee estuary and Flintshire coast again held large winter flocks, with the Rhyl area and OMR / CQNR favoured locations. Monthly maxima are shown below.

(L.)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Rhyl	1700	600	200						220	250	700	2000
POA	750	850	88							500	650	850
OMR / CQNR	3100	2260					500	184	198	1000	1810	1000

Other coastal flocks reported include 1000 on 31/12 at SS. The only significant inland flocks included an unusual mid-summer group of 200 on 14/06 at Sandycroft (AW). The area SE of Rhuddlan held flocks throughout the winter, peaking at 650 on 16/12.

It was a mixed year for breeding attempts in Flintshire; 9 records showed some successes, with the largest concentration of adults (11) seen at Sandycroft on 23/04, but ELJ's comment about Nant Lewis Alyn, Denbigh "What a sad site – one!" summed up the fragility of the population at recognised breeding sites.

Red Knot (*Calidris canutus*)

PIBYDD YRABER

Passage migrant and winter visitor. Red List.

The Dee estuary is a site of international importance for this species but although numbers on the Flintshire side of the estuary held up well in 2005, counts in spring 2004 and autumn 2006 were relatively low. The main sites are POA and OMR / CQNR; this species is uncommon along the Denbighshire coast.

2004

Denbs. Very small numbers were recorded; 35 were at Pensarn on 21/11 (SM).

Flints. Numbers recovered from 2003 lows. Monthly maxima (from data provided by WeBS (JH/RH), DNS/DN, pSD, NH and ELJ) are shown below.

(KN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
POA	260	24	454	1				1	2	1000	1000	1200
OMR / CQNR	150	300	400	110	40				2000	2500	1500	1000

Another notable record was a flock of 2040 at Bagillt on 9/10.

2005

Monthly maxima for the two key sites are shown below (data drawn principally from WeBS, pCW,pRS,RH).

(KN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
POA	5500	1300	70	2			1		10	130	500	800
OMR / CQNR	500	400	600	2500	2		800	750	5000	2890		200

A strong spring passage was recorded in mid-April at OMR and in autumn numbers built up steadily through September, peaking on 19/09.

2006

Denbs. Very low numbers, with a maximum of 21 recorded on 14/02 at CON.

Flints. Much lower numbers were recorded in the Dee estuary with maximum monthly counts of 2000 at OMR in Jan and Nov.

(KN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
POA	500	1000	200	3	18		1	10	50	100	70	120
OMR / CQNR	2000	500	50					300	300	400	2000	500

Flocks of 500 and 300 were also seen in Feb at Bagillt and Mostyn respectively, and 400 were at Bagillt in Dec.

Sanderling (*Calidris alba*)

PIBYDD Y TYWOD

Passage migrant and winter visitor.

The Dee estuary is a site of national importance but significant sightings at estuary locations other than POA are unusual. Sightings along the coast from POA westwards occur regularly, usually in small groups of up to 40 birds with occasional larger flocks of up to 200 in spring and 300 in autumn.

2004

Denbs. Numbers were small early in the year but Kinnel Bay had 150 on 8/03. Autumn counts include 200 on 14/10 at Kinnel Bay and 150 on 14/11 at Towyn. There was an inland record of a single bird on 9/05 at Gresford Flash (KS).

Flints. Gronant had a late spring flock of 88 on 16/06 (pRS). In autumn, 120 on 31/10 at

Prestatyn, 100 on 1/12 at Rhyl and a flock of 100 on 26/10 at Flint Docks.

2005

Denbs. Small flocks were recorded along the coast but Towyn had 80 on 13/01 and a late spring influx brought 130 to Towyn on 31/05. In autumn there was a maximum of 290 at Towyn on 6/12.

Flints. POA had 80 on 9/01 and 200 on 2/03 but that flock had reduced to 75 by 2/06. Gronant had 50 on 3/06. In autumn, numbers steadily increased with 80 at Gronant on 17/10, 150 NE of Rhyl on 10/11.

2006

Denbs. Numbers were low in spring, with 50 on 28/02 at Towyn. Autumn flocks were larger but still modest in comparison to 2005 - Kinmel Bay had 138 on 3/11 and Towyn had 60 on 16/12.

Flints. Also, low spring numbers with maximum of 40 on 15/01 at POA. In autumn, Rhyl had 72 on 12/07.

Little Stint (*Calidris minuta*)

PIBYDD BACH

Very scarce passage migrant, usually found on autumn passage.

2004

Denbs. Singles were seen at CON on 7/09 and 14/09 (pALD).

Flints. The first record of the year was for 2 birds at POA on 1/09 (pSD). A single bird was at Shotwick Boating Lake on 16/10.

2005

Denbs. No records.

Flints. POA provided an unusual early record, one being seen on 26/02 (pCW). In early autumn, as part of an influx of migrants, 6 birds were reported on 11/09 by the River Clwyd at Rhyl (CR,SM) and 2 at the same location on 16/09.

2006

Denbs. The earliest sightings were up to 4 birds at CON between 11-14/06 (pALD). In Oct CON had ten records of a single bird, probably the same bird.

Flints. CQNR had a single on 9/08. Two birds were present at River Clwyd, Rhyl on 1/10 and 2 birds were in the CQNR / OMR area on 7-8/10.

Temminck's Stint (*Calidris temminckii*)

PIBYDD TEMMINCK

Rare migrant.

Only one record in the reporting period.

2004

Denbs. There was 1 at CON on 15/05 (pALD).

Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*)

PIBYDD CAMBIG

Scarce autumn passage migrant. WBAP

Three main locations to see this species are all in Flintshire – POA; River Clwyd, Rhyl; and OMR / CQNR. The only sightings from Denbighshire were from CON in 2006. The autumn passage spans from late Aug to mid-Oct. but there was also one record of a spring migrant in 2006.

2004

Denbs. A single was seen at CQNR/ OMR on 1/10.

Flints. POA had at most 2 birds on 6 dates between 22/08 and 19/09 and 1 on 17/10 (RH, pRS, KS). River Clwyd, Rhyl had birds on 28/08, 12/09, 19/09 and 9/10.

2005

Denbs. No records.

Flints. The earliest and latest birds were singles at POA on 22/08 and 7/10 (CR/RH). Up to 6 were seen at River Clwyd, Rhyl between 27/08 and 29/08, and 8 at POA on 1/09. The first record for OMR was 2 birds on 2/09. River Clwyd, Rhyl had a total of 21 birds observed on 5 dates between 27/08 and 20/09. POA and OMR had totals of 12 and 8 respectively.

2006

Denbs. CON had 1 or 2 birds between 17-19/09, the earliest for the autumn passage, and a single bird was seen on 7-8/10.

Flints. An unusual sighting in spring of 2 at River Clwyd, Rhyl on 21/03. Two were seen at the same location on 26/08 and 2 on 24/09 at POA. All other records occurred in Oct. with up to 7 counted at CQNR/OMR between 5-8/10 and a late migrant on 23/10.

Purple Sandpiper (*Calidris maritima*)

PIBYDD DU

Winter visitor in very small numbers.

Records from Rhos-on-Sea, the main site for this species in north-east Wales, are now excluded because it falls outside VC 50. There were no records in 2004 and only one each in the later years.

2005

Denbs. The only sighting was a small flock of 10+ birds at Towyn on 21/10 (SM)

2006

Denbs. One bird seen on the sea wall at TB on 9/11 (SM)

Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*)

PIBYDD Y MAWN

Passage migrant and common winter visitor. Amber List.

The Dee estuary is an internationally important site for wintering Dunlin and flocks seen on the

Flints. coast contribute to that status. The largest monthly total (12,400) was in Dec 2004 but numbers did not exceed 6,500 in 2005 and 2006. Small flocks are seen along the Denbs. coast but flocks of 100+ are unusual.

2004

Denbs. All records were coastal except for 1 at Gresford Flash on 10/05 (KS). Peak spring counts were 500+ at Belgrano on 22/01, 400 at Kinmel Bay on 8/03, and 142 at Llanddulas on 13/03. Autumn peaks were 400 at Towyn on 14/11 and 200 at Kinmel Bay on 3/12 (SM, RMB, DCR).

Flints. Monthly maxima, (from data provided by WeBS (JH/RH), DNS/DN, pSD, RMB, NH and ELJ) are shown below.

(DN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
POA	600	2410	200	19	30	1	150	509	100	2000	1110	2200
BB		30		23			1			500	18	200
OMR / CQNR	7000	2500	2500	26	850	3	100	100	200	1500	3000	10000

Counts from Rhyl to Gronant had peaks of 156 at River Clwyd, Rhyl on 22/05, part of the late spring movement seen at OMR, and 100+ at Prestatyn on 31/10.

2005

Denbs. Flocks of 160 were at Towyn on 6/03 and 100 were E of Llanddulas on 23/12. The only inland record was a single bird at Nant y Ffrith reservoir on 26/07, the first record for this site (SD).

Flints. Monthly maxima, (from data provided by WeBS (RH), DNS/DN, pSD, pRS, pCW) are shown below.

(DN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
POA	1800	1000	700		333	17	350	50	191	30	1000	1200
OMR / CQNR	4000	5000	1200	6	3		230	450	300	360	2700	3000

Smaller flocks occur regularly between POA and Rhyl. Sightings include 150 at River Clwyd, Rhyl on 25/01, 350 at Gronant on 9/05, 200 S of Rhyl on 11/07 and 150 at Gronant on 23/09.

2006

Denbs. Only one flock of 100+ was recorded - 380 on 28/12 at Towyn.

Flints. Numbers at the two main sites were lower in most months than 2005, although the combined monthly total of 6500 in Jan and 1200 in May were exceptions, the latter reflecting a strong spring passage. The monthly maxima are shown below.

(DN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
POA	2500	2500	600	10	1200	50	100	350	300	80	500	1000
OMR / CQNR	4000	3000	200	410	1		4	27	30	250	500	3000

The maximum size of flock recorded elsewhere in the Dee estuary was 100 in Jan at Bagillt. Along the northern coastal area, a large flock of 4000 birds was at Gronant on 3/02. The area

NW of Rhuddlan had 400 birds on 21/02 and Gronant had another flock of 500 on 6/03.

Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*)

PIBYDD TORCHOG

Scarce passage migrant.

2004

Flints. An early passage was recorded this year, with birds observed on 4 dates in Jan. The first was seen at OMR on 6/01 (JH), followed by 3 at CQNR on 7/01, 1 at OMR on 22/01 and 2 on 24/01 at CQNR. Autumn passage brought a juvenile to IMF on 20/08 (KS) and 4 birds to River Clwyd, Rhyl on 5/09 (JuR).

2005

Flints. No birds were recorded on the spring passage but there was a better showing in autumn. OMR had the earliest birds, with 2 on 17/08, a juvenile on 29/08, and 2 birds on 5/09 and 11/09. River Clwyd, Rhyl also recorded 2 on 11/09 and one was seen at Rhuddlan on the same day. A single was seen at SS on 2/10 and 3 at Inner Marsh Farm on 21/10.

2006

Denbs. The only record for the vice-county during the three year period 2004-06 was a single bird seen at CON on 26/09.

Flints. An early sighting of 2 birds on 4/01 at OMR turned out to be the only spring record. Early autumn migrants were recorded at POA on 27/08 (2 birds) and 26/08 (1) and S of Rhyl on 27/08 (1). Later migrants were sighted in the Dee estuary, a single at SS on 17/09 and 2 at CQNR on 26/09.

Jack Snipe (*Lymnocyptes minimus*)

GIACH FACH

Scarce migrant and winter visitor.

The habit of this species to sit tight unless flushed makes them difficult to detect but there were sightings from coastal and inland sites in both vice-counties.

2004

Denbs. Fenn's Moss had 2 on 26/01 (EHEM), 4 on 5/02 (SA) and 4 on 4/03 (DHo). A single bird was seen at Holt on 28/12 (NF)

Flints. Singles were seen S of Halkyn on 10/01 (DOJ) and at Gronant on 30/01 (DCR) and 2/03 (CR).

2005

Two sightings, one at Gronant, Flintshire on 27/01 flushed whilst checking an area for Common Snipe (27 flushed) and the second at CON, Denbighshire on 27/12 (DCR).

2006

Denbs. The first of the year was seen at Holt on 2/01. All other sightings (10) were at CON with 3 each in Jan and Dec, 2 in Feb and 1 in Mar and Nov. The only occasion when more than 1 bird was seen was 26/01 when 4 were recorded.

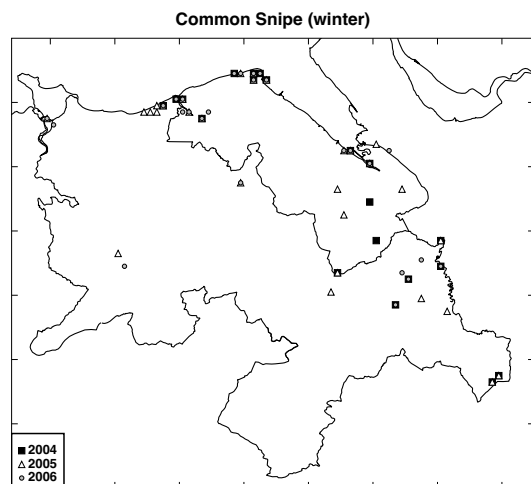
Flints. One record only, a single bird seen on 10/02 at Gronant.

Common Snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*)

GIACH GYFFREDIN

Rare breeding resident; passage migrant and winter visitor. Amber List.

This species is difficult to detect because of its habit to sit tight unless flushed and is probably significantly under-recorded. It is present in small numbers at inland sites, mainly in Denbs., and at coastal sites. All records of possible breeding were in Denbs., with a maximum of 3 in 2006.



2004

Denbs. There were only 3 coastal records, all from Towyn, with a maximum of 9 on 9/12 (SM). Inland records were from 6 sites but concentrated at Fenn's Moss which had birds present for 8 months (excluding May-Aug), with maxima of 15 on 5/02 (SA) and 23 on 25/09 (JPA) and Borras Quarry which had birds present in all months except Jun-Aug with a maximum of 30 in Jan (LW). There was only one breeding record of a bird "chippering" W of Gwynfryn on 30/04 (JLR).

Flints. Small numbers were present along much of the Flintshire coast, with maxima of 14 NW of Gronant on

7/03 (ELJ) and 8 at POA on 27/09 (KS). Birds were noted at 3 inland sites.

2005

Denbs. Nine sightings at Fenn's Moss had counts of 1-5 birds but 24 were seen on 17/01 (EHM). Trevalyn meadows had 23 on 16/01 and 42 on 16/03 (NF), the highest count for Clwyd in 2005. There were 10 birds at Wrexham Ind. Estate on 20/02 and 8 were seen at Nant Lewis Alyn, Denbigh on 27/02 and 8/03. In autumn Mynydd Hiraethog had 4 on 17/09 and Nant y Ffrith reservoir had 6 on 9/10. On the coast, 19 were seen S of Pensarn on 26/11 and 12 at CON on 27/12. A single bird was recorded SE of Capel Siloam on 14/05 during a BBS visit.

Flints. Small numbers, mainly at coastal sites. 27 were seen at Gronant on 27/01 and POA had regular sightings throughout spring and autumn, with a maximum of 11 on 8/03 at Warren Farm. Autumn records include 9 SE of Rhuddlan on 23/09, and 8 at Bagillt on 3/12. The few inland sightings included 10 at Pentrehobin, Mold on 1/11. There were no records of breeding attempts in Flintshire.

2006

Denbs. Small numbers (<10) were present at coastal sites but two larger counts were made at CON on 18/01 and 13/02 (40 on each occasion). The highest count for inland sites was 9 on 14/04 at Erddig pool – birds were there throughout Mar-Apr. Numbers at other sites were

lower than in 2005 but birds were reported at a few new sites, including 7 on 5/03 E of Marford and 6 on 16/09 at Borras Pool. There were three sightings during the breeding season; BBS squares SW of Glynfryn (single on 26/04) and SE of Capel Siloam (single on 30/04 and 2 on 25/06); and the area E of Llandegla Forest had a "drumming" male on 10/05 (JuR).

Flints. Low numbers were seen at both coastal and inland sites; for the latter the only record of note was 13 seen NW of Rhuddlan on 21/02. At coastal sites, the area S of Rhyl had 10 on 2/03, Gronant had 12 on 6/03 and POA had 12 on 28/11.

Long-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*)

GIACH GYLFIN-HIR

Rare vagrant.

2005

Flints. At IMF, Border Pool 1 bird was seen on 14/10 (KS) and on 21/10 (JuR). Accepted by the BBRC.



Long-billed Dowitcher - Gary Bellingham

Eurasian Woodcock (*Scolopax rusticola*)

CYFFYLOG

Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List.

There were no coastal records

2004

Denbs. A single bird was seen at Rhuddlan on 19/11 (SH), and 2 birds seen at RM on 15/12 and 21/12 (JLR).

Flints. There was only a single record from the breeding season, of a single bird at Hawarden Castle on 19/06 (DCR). Other records were of single birds at Northop 1/01 (DOJ), Fenn's Moss 24/01 and 26/01 (JPA and EHM), Rhydymwyn 27/02 (AB), SS on 24/10 (PT), Rhuddlan 31/10 (SH), Ewloe 14/11 (DOJ), Pantymwyn 13/12 (MB).

2005

Denbs. Again, there was only a single record from the breeding season, of a single bird at Cae Llwyd Reservoir, Penycae on 19/05 (JLR). Significant records were 5 birds flying from Newtown Forest to Penycae top reservoir on 14/03 (JLR) and 5 birds flushed during a partridge shoot at RM on 5/11 (JLR). At RM 3 birds were seen on 28/01 and 8/03 (JLR) and 2 birds were seen at Eglwyseg 17/01 (JLR), Loggerheads CP 23/11 (MB) and World's End 10/12 (JLR).

Flints. Only two records for Flintshire, both were of single birds at Rhuddlan on 18/11 and 9/12 (SH).

2006

Denbs. All but two records were from the first quarter of the year. At Plas y Fron, RM, 4 birds were seen (JAJ). At Llanarmon-yn-Ial, 3 were recorded on 14/01 (PR) and Eglwyseg on 8/02 (JLR) whilst 2 birds were seen at Glyndyfrdwy on 28/03.

Flints. A single bird was seen roding at Llyn Helyg on 19/04 (ELJ). A single bird landed on a driveway in Llanasa on 1/12 (ELJ).

Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa*)

RHOSTOG GYNFFONDDU

Passage migrant. Principally a winter visitor but increasingly found through the year.

Amber List.

The Dee Estuary is an internationally important site for this species. The principal site is OMR where a substantial wintering population roosts on the salt marsh at high tide. There is also a small summer population that appears to alternate between OMR and IMF.

2004

Denbs. Peak count away from the Dee Estuary was 45 at APMP, on 16/11 (SM). Six records from CON were received through the year, with a peak count of 31 occurring on 31/01 and 10/08 (pALD).

Flints. Peak counts were 4,200 at OMR on 22/01 (pRS), 5,220 at OMR on 19/09 (RH, DNS) and 4,260 at BB on 9/10 (RH). Peak counts for May-July were 240 at CQNR on 4/05 (DNS), 300 at OMR on 18/06 (DNS) and 300 at CQNR on 19/07 (DNS).

2005

Denbs. CON had 5 birds on 20/03 (DCR), 7 birds on 16/04 (DCR) and a single bird on 3/10 (RMB).

Flints. Oakenholt Marsh was again the principal site. Peak counts were in the latter half of the year with 5,000 birds recorded on 19/09, 17/10 and 11/06 (RH, AW). 5,700 were recorded on 12/10 (RH). Numbers for the first half of the year were lower; peak counts were of 2,620 birds on 29/03 and 3,000 on 11/04 (RH). Away from OMR/CQNR records 1,000+ were at Talacre on 1/12 (ELJ) and 500 at WF on 15/02 (pRS). 1,600+ were recorded offshore of POA on 2/12 (CR).

2006

Denbs. 16 at CON on 27/04 (pALD).

Flints. OMR/CQNR is the principal site for the fourth year running, although significantly more records were received than the previous two years. Records away from the Dee Estuary were 30+ at River Clwyd, Rhyl on 11/01 (DCR), 40 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 27/09 (RMB), and peak counts at OMR/CQNR were 3,809 on 27/11 (CM), 3,500 on 15/01 and 18/01 (GR), 3,100 on 13/02 (DNS). 2,000 were seen at CQNR on the Bunded pools on 28/08 (AW).

The table below shows peak counts for OMR for the 3 years, 2004 to 2006.

(BW)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2004	2000	2500	2620	3000		5	1100	950	5000	5000	4200	
2005	2000	2500	2620	3000		5	1100	950	5000	5700	4200	
2006	3500	3100	1800		248		237	600	3000	3000	1200	900

Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*)

RHOSTOG GYNFFRONFRITH

Passage migrant and winter visitor. Red List.

The Dee Estuary is a site of international importance in the UK. All records for this species are coastal.

2004

Denbs. Towyn had a single bird recorded on 14/01 (SM).

Flints. The principal sites for sightings were OMR and POA with additional records from Gronant dunes with a count of 43 birds on 2/03 (CR), Rhyl where a single bird was seen on 20/03 (BE) and then 30 birds seen on 3/08 (RMB) and Bagillt with a single bird on 22/11 (RH). The peak counts for the year were at Gronant with 43 birds on 2/03, Rhyl with 30 birds on 3/08 and POA, which held 90 on 12/12 (pSD).

2005

Denbs. A single record was from Towyn of 3 birds offshore on 17/10 (SM) and single birds at Belgrano beach on 29/01 and 19/02 (SM).

Flints. POA was again the principal site with only a few records from Oakenholt Marsh and Bagillt. Peak counts for the year were 44 on 12/02, 40+ on 2/10 and 30 on 22/10 all at POA (RH, pRS). The peak count for OMR was 11 on 10/03 (PCW). The only month that birds were not recorded was Jul.

2006

Denbs. All records were from CON., with single birds seen on 13 occasions and 4 on 9/04 and 2 on 30/04 (pALD).

Flints. As with 2004 and 2005, POA was again the principal site for recordings. Peak count for POA was 60 on 12/02 (GR) where birds were recorded on the mudflats during a WeBS count. Other high counts for POA were 25 birds on 18/01 (GR) and 21 birds on 15/01 and 8/10 (GR). The River Clwyd at Rhyl held 200+ on 26/01 (DCR). The largest counts elsewhere were 8 at CQNR on 3/03 (KS) and 12 at OMR on 8/12 (GR).

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*) COEGLFINIR
Passage migrant and localised summer visitor in small numbers. Amber List.

2004
Denbs. Inland: A single bird was recorded at Nant-y-Ffrith Reservoir on 30/04 (JLR). Coastal: CON held 12 on 28/04 (pALD).

Flints. Coastal: The peak count was 27 birds on 6/05 at OMR (JH). Other records of note were 11 at OMR 18/04 (JH), 10 at POA 18/04 (ANB), 10 at POA 31/07 (RH). August records of birds at River Clwyd 2 (7/08 ANB), 4 (10/08 JR) and POA 2 (23/08 KS) show the principal autumn migration.

2005
Denbs. Coastal: The only record was on 25/09 of a single bird at Towyn (SM).

Flints. Inland: A single bird was recorded at Llanasa on 8/05 (ELJ). Coastal: The distribution of records for 2005 was relatively even along the coast. The primary site was POA where significant counts were 8 birds on 27/04 (RH) and 10 birds on 1/05 (pRS). The highest count was of 14 birds at Walwen Marsh, Bagillt on 8/05 (RH). The first record of the year was on 17/02 when a single bird was recorded at WF (pSD).

2006
Denbs. Coastal: The principal site for records this year was CON where the first record was of a single bird on 25/04 (pALD). The last record from CON was a single bird on 19/08 (pALD). Llanddulas had a single bird seen on 16/04 (RS) and TB had 6 birds on 4/08 (SM).

Flints. Coastal: The first record of the year was a single bird heard calling on 31/01 at Gronant (DR). An usual sighting was of 3 birds at SS on 23/04 (PT). The highest count of the year was 24 birds at OMR on 23/04 (GR). Rhuddlan had 1 bird on 20/02 (ANB).

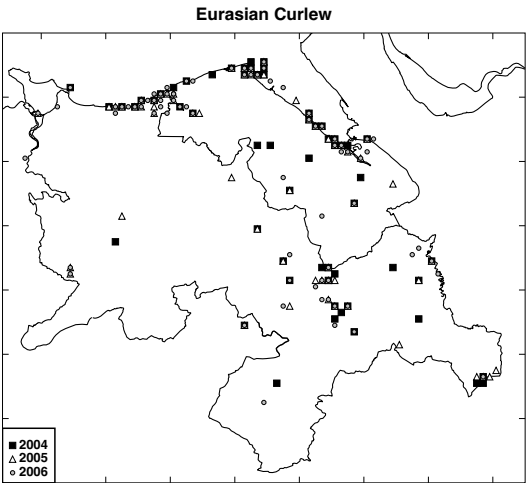
Eurasian Curlew (*Numenius arquata*) GYLFINIR
Breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Red List.

The Dee Estuary is an internationally important site for this species.

2004
Denbs. Inland: found in probable breeding area in small numbers mainly on RM. Single birds were seen at Gwynfryn on 13/05 and 1/06 (EM, NH). On Llandegla Moor, 3 male and 3 female birds were seen on 30/04 (JLR); 2 birds were at Llandegla on 17/05 and a single on 2/07 (TL). There were 2 birds at Penycae on 15/06 (JR) and a single 23/05 (NH). Away from RM, 2 birds were seen at Francis Lane, Wrexham on 29/05 and a single bird at Gresford Flash on 19/06 (both KS). Nant-y-Ffrith reservoir had 3 male and 3 female birds on 30/04 (JLR) and 2 birds on 29/03 and 9/04 (JLR, SD). At Mynydd Hiraethog 4 birds were recorded on 12/04 (SM) and then 12+ birds on 18/06 (NH). Coastal: 250 birds were recorded at Kinmel Bay on 8/11 (RMB). There were also 50 birds at Belgrano beach on 22/01 (SM).

Flints. Inland: Bettisfield / Fenn's Moss had 9 birds on 20/04, 3 on 6/05 and 4 on 7/06 (all EHEM) with single birds seen between these dates. Single birds were seen at Cilcain 26/04 (HJ) and Babell 2/05 (ELJ). At Buckley, 3 birds were seen on 16/05 (GNR) and 2 birds at

Caerwys on 2/04 (AB). Coastal: large numbers of wintering and passage birds are found at coastal locations, with non-breeding birds found at these locations in the summer. Peak count for OMR was 116 on 4/12 (CM), with other large counts of 300+ birds recorded at Warren Farm POA during both winter periods.



Maximum counts at three sites:

2004	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CQNR	76	84	107	57	16	3	62	61	30	100	100	116
POA	250	190	437				720	1240	1040	1038	284	200
POA saltmarsh	350	655	556			320	1460	1075				

2005
Denbs. Inland: probable breeding area at RM, first birds (6) seen at Pendinas Reservoir on 1/04 (JR) and subsequent sightings at various locations across RM, mainly of 1 or 2 birds. The first record of spring at Fenn's Moss was on 12/03 when a single bird was seen (EHEM). 23 birds were present on 12/05, this being the peak count for the area. Birds were recorded at Fenn's Moss from 1/04 to 2/07 (THu, JPA, EHEM, JD, PW, NH, BVO). 28 birds were recorded at Nant Lewis Alyn on 8/03 (ELJ), 2 birds were seen at Mynydd Hiraethog on 1/04 (SM) and 2 birds were recorded at Capel Siloam on 11/05 (MaO) and 19/06 (BV). Coastal: regular records were received from Towyn throughout the year, with occasional winter records from Llanddulas and Belgrano, the latter having a peak count of 80 birds on 29/01 (SM). The peak count was from CON on 15/07 when 330+ birds were seen. Llanddulas held 127 on 31/12 (EL).

Flints. Inland: only three records were received, of single birds, from Buckley on 17/04 (GNR), Cilcain on 5/05 (HJ) and Sandycroft on 12/06 (IMS). Coastal: large numbers of wintering birds found at locations all along the coast, with smaller numbers of non-breeding and passage birds found during the summer months. BB held 720 birds on 30/08 (RH) while 233 birds were at CQNR on 8/01 (CM) and 100+ at Rhyl.

Maximum counts at three sites:

2005	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CQNR	233	147	66	12	33	10	32	93	125	42	23	19
POA	480	360	265	269	34	383	1080	1147	1230	460	500	250
POA saltmarsh			245	38				1200	1180	890		

2006

Denbs. Inland: records of possible breeding birds were again mainly from the RM area. The first bird of spring was recorded on 8/03 with 4 birds at Penycae (JLR) where 9 birds were also recorded on the 9/03 (JLR). Fenn's Moss held 5 birds on 10/05 (NH), 6 birds were seen at Penycae, including juvenile birds on 3/07 (JLR). Capel Siloam may have also been a breeding site with 3 bird seen on 30/04 (BVO) and 5 birds seen on 11/06 (MaO). Coastal: CON held the peak number of birds on 17/07 with 427 (pALD). Records from all along the coast, but peaks from Llanddulas with 78 birds on 9/02 (EL) and 2/03 (EL), Towyn with 80 birds on 28/12 (SM) and Colwyn Bay with 120 birds on 19/11 (DCR).

Flints. Inland: again birds were seen at Buckley - 2 birds on 16/04 (GNR). At Hendre, 2 birds were recorded on 24/05 (PD). At Fenn's Moss, 8 birds were seen on 19/06 (KS) with 15 on 22/06 (KS) and the last record of the season from there of 5+ birds on 2/07 (NH). Coastal. Large numbers of wintering birds found at locations all along the coast, with smaller numbers of non-breeding and passage birds found during the summer months. The maximum count at BB was 350 on 8/02 (GR), 200+ birds on the River Clwyd at Rhyl on 28/12 (HC, RC, AC) and OMR held 100 birds on 16/08 (GR).

Maximum counts at two sites:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2006												
CQNR	173	84	61	33	14	16	18	9	16	79	148	305
POA	300	150	300	250	74	200	1000	1000	800	400	400	130

Spotted Redshank (*Tringa erythropus*)

PIBYDD COESGOCH MANNOG

Passage migrant and scarce over-wintering visitor.

The Dee Estuary is of national importance for this species but with low figures from the Welsh side. All records were from coastal sites in Flints.

2004

Flints. There were seventy records in 2004, all from the Dee Estuary except a record of a single bird on the River Clwyd at Rhyl, seen on 29/06 (ANB). All other records of this species were from POA with thirty records and CQNR/OMR with thirty eight records. The peak count for the year was 10 birds at Oakenholt Marsh on 15/09 (DNS). Records were submitted for every month of the year apart from May and Jul. Almost all records from POA were of single birds but 2 birds were recorded on 26/02 (DR) and 1/12 (pSD). Both CQNR and OMR had counts of 2 or more birds more regularly than counts of single birds.

2005

Flints. Again, the principal site was CQNR/OMR. Records were received of single birds at Rhuddlan 26/08 (ANB) and Rhyl 20/09 (ANB). POA again had only records of single birds except 19/09 when 2 birds were recorded (CR). The peak for this year was 9 birds, recorded on Oakenholt Marsh 9/09 (WeBS). From Aug to Dec most of the records for CQNR are of 3 or more birds on the Bunded Pool area, whereas the records for OMR are of single birds (WeBS, DNS).

2006

Flints. A single record was received from the River Clwyd at Rhyl where a single bird was seen on 30/07 (DCR). Again, the principal area for this species is CQNR/OMR with 122

records. POA had 25 records of single birds, with 2 birds recorded on 26/08 (GR). The peak count was of 14 birds 16/10 (CL) on Oakenholt Marsh. High counts occurred with 8 (21/08, CL), 10 (19/10, CL), 12 (23/10, BH), 12 (30/10, CL), 8 (22/08, ANB), 9 (29/09, WeBS), 11 (20/09, CL), 12 (02/10, CL), 9 (23/10, GR).

The table below illustrates the peak counts of birds for 2004-6 from CQNR/OMR

(DR)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2004	9	3	1	1	-	-	-	6	10	6	9	9
2005	2	4	3	1	-	-	-	5	9	5	7	1
2006	9	4	4	1	5	3	6	8	11	14	7	10

Common Redshank (*Tringa totanus*)

PIBYDD COESGOCH

Possible breeding resident and common winter visitor. Amber List.

The Dee Estuary is of international importance for this species.

More records were received from Flintshire than Denbighshire presumably because of better habitat.

2004

Denbs. Inland: 3 birds were seen at Llyn Brenig on 18/07 (EL) and 8 birds were at BQW on 1/12 (LW). Coastal: 347 at River Clwyd on 13/03 (RH), 260 at Llanddulas Beach on 3/12 (EL) and 200 at Kinnel Bay on 8/03 (RMB).

Flints. Inland: only record - a single bird was seen at FLQ on 3/05 (KS). Coastal: seen all along the coast in winter. Peak counts were from CQNR, 2,520 on 7/08, 1,353 on 2/09 and 1,134 22/08 (all DNS). OMR held 1,000 birds on 15/09, 17/09 and 1/10 (DNS). Peak count for POA was 800 birds on 12/01 (pRS).

2005

Denbs. Inland: birds were recorded at Llyn Brenig on 20/03 (KS) and at Wrexham with up to 9 birds at Boras Pool on the 7/01 and 9/01 (KS, SD). Gresford Flash held 10 birds on the 7/01 and 2 on 16/12 (HL, KS). Coastal: peak count was 240 birds at Llanddulas beach on 11/01 (EL). Counts of 200 were recorded at CON on 3/10 and Llanddulas

Flints. Coastal: again the Dee Estuary, particularly OMR and CQNR, were the principal sites for records. POA and BB also held good numbers in both winter periods. Peak counts from CQNR were 2,000+ on 25/03 (KS), 331 on 12/03 (pRS) and 341 on 24/07 (pRS). OMR had counts of 2,995 on 19/09, 1,611 on 9/09 and 1,504 on 25/08 (CM).

There were 700 birds at BB on 20/04 (RH) whilst POA had 1,000 birds on 16/10 (RH), 800 on the 5/11 (CW) and 780 on 7/10 (RH).

2006

Denbs. Inland: three records were received, two from the Conwy Valley with 3 birds on the Afon Conwy near Caerhun on 10/10 (SM) and a single bird at Tal-y-Cafn on 7/04 (JC). A single bird was also recorded at Gresford Flash on 27/03 (KS). Coastal: peak coastal counts for the year were from CON where 320 birds were recorded on 19/09, 280 on 2/09 and 272 on 26/08 (pALD) and Llanddulas beach where 100+ birds were recorded on 18/01 and 22/12 (EL).

Flints. Coastal: peak counts were at CQNR with 2,000+ birds recorded on 12/09 (CL), 28/08 (AW) and 9/10 (CM). OMR had peak counts of 1,000 birds on 22/08 (CL) and 24/08 and 11/09 (both GR). POA had 300 birds on 16/04 (RS). There were 200+ birds on the River Clwyd at Rhyl on 28/12 (CH, RC, AC).

Common Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*)

PIBYDD COESWERDD

Passage migrant.

2004

Denbs. Coastal: the only record was of a single bird at CON on 12/03 and 13/05 (pALD).

Flints. Coastal: the primary area for records is along the Flintshire Coast/Dee Estuary with the bulk of the records from Oakenholt Marsh, CQNR and POA. There were records of a single bird at Rhuddlan on 19/08 (ANB) and SS on 21/10 (PT). Good numbers of birds were recorded at Rhyl with 7 birds on 10/08 and a single 11/08 (both ANB), 4 birds on 27/08 and 5/09 (JR) and 4 on 10/09 and 2 on 12/09 (both ANB). The peak count for the year was 20 at CQNR on 7/08 (DNS). This is a species that is regularly recorded in groups, with 4+ birds being fairly common group sizes.

2005

Birds were seen in every month of the year except May.

Denbs. Inland: a single bird was recorded at Fenn's Moss on 21/06 (EHM).

Flints. Coastal: the majority of records were from CQNR, with additional counts from POA, Oakenholt Marsh and Rhyl. The highest count for the year was of 11 birds at CQNR on 25/08 and 9/09 (pRS and WEBS). POA had 2 to 3 birds seen on 19/09, 2/10, 5/10, 16/10 and 31/10 (SM, CR, KS, pSD).

2006

Denbs. Coastal: here were fifty eight records from CON mainly in the second half of the year, with a peak of 7 birds on 13/08 (pALD); 4 or more birds were seen on 11/08, 12/08, 13/08, 16/08, 26/08, 27/08, 1/09, 11/09, 12/09, 20/09, 21/09, 23/09, 24/09, 25/09 (all pALD).

Flints. Coastal: as with 2005, the majority of records are from the Dee Estuary with almost 66% of all records. The principal recording areas were: CQNR had a peak count of 29 on 20/09 (CL) with a small group being seen regularly from Aug (3 on 3/08 SS) until Oct (6 on 24/10 ET) on the Bunded Pools. Oakenholt Marsh held 23 birds on 24/08 (GR) with counts of 2 or more birds on 27/08, 15/01, 18/01, 11/09, 23/09, 10/11 (AW, GR). POA had a peak of 5 on 23/08 (GR) with singles in Jan, Aug, Sep, Nov, and Dec; 4 birds were here on 15/08 (AN).

Green Sandpiper (*Tringa ochropus*)

PIBYDD GWYRDD

Passage migrant and winter visitor in small numbers.

2004

Denbs. Inland: 2 birds were recorded at Three-Cornered Meadow in November (NFr).

Coastal: 2 birds were recorded at CON on the 12/04 and 13/04 (pALD) and singles on 26/06 and 2/07 (pALD).

Flints. Coastal: the peak count was of 5 birds at Shotwick, Broken Bank in August (DOJ). Single birds were seen at SS in Jan, Apr, Jul and Nov. POA had a single bird on 5/08 and 6/08, singles were also seen at Rhuddlan on 11/08 and 19/08 (RMB, ANB), Connah's Quay (25/03), Oakenholt Marsh (19/07) and CQNR (26/07).

2005

Denbs. Inland: 2 birds were recorded at Three-Cornered Meadow 16/01 (NFr) and a single at Borrass pool, Wrexham on 27/09 (KS).

Flints. Coastal: 2 birds were recorded at SS on 23/10 with singles on 20/03, 30/07 and 18/12 (all PT). Singles were also seen on the River Clwyd at Rhyl on 11/09 and 22/10 (CR) and at Rhuddlan on 11/09, 7/10 and 22/10 (SM, ELJ).

2006

Denbs. Inland: Marford (sightings on 5/03, 14/03, 19/03, 21/03, 24/03, 25/03, 27/03, 3/08, 9/08 JuR, JLR). Singles were also seen at Nant Lewis Alyn, Denbigh on 28/01 and Bod Petruel in Clocaenog Forest on 28/07. Coastal: CON had single birds on 1/06, 20/07, 23/07 and 30/7 with 3 birds also seen on 28/07 and 2 on the 23/07 (pALD).

Flints. Coastal: this species appears to favour a few sites in the area, namely SS (sightings on 19/02, 26/02, 19/03, 23/07, 27/08, 17/09, 15/10, 22/10, 29/10 all PT) There were also sightings from Rhuddlan, Shotwick, IMF and Oakenholt marsh.

Wood Sandpiper (*Tringa glareola*)

PIBYDD Y GRAEAN

Scarce passage migrant.

Only two records, both from Flints.

2005

Flints. One record of a single bird from River Clwyd at Rhyl in August (CRi).

2006

Flints. One record of a single bird at IMF on 4/05 (CW).

Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*)

PIBYDD Y DORLAN

Double passage migrant and breeding visitor.

No breeding recorded in the period of this report but birds probably breed on upland rivers and lakes such as Llyn Brenig and Llyn Alwen where they are regularly recorded in summer.

2004

Denbs. First bird seen at Kinmel Bay 31/03 (ANB). At Llyn Brenig, 2 were seen on 3/05 (KS) and 2 on the same day at Gresford Flash. Llyn Brenig held 4 birds on 15/05, the highest count of the year. Last birds were two at Minera Quarry on 6/07. Recorded from seven different sites.

Flints. First bird was seen at Rhyl on 11/03 (RMB). Highest counts were 8 at Ruddlan on the R Clwyd on 4/07 (SH) and 6 at Rhyl Brickworks on 7/07 (JR). Four birds were on Wepre Brook at Connahs Quay on 4/08 while 5 were seen at Ddol Reservoir, Yscefiog (LD) on 21/07. Last

bird of the year was at POA on 22/08 (RH). Recorded from 15 different sites.

2005

Denbs. First bird was at Gresford Flash on 8/04 with 2 there on 24/04 (KS). Highest count was 7 at Bryngrog, Wrexham on 16/04. Llyn Brenig had 2 birds on 5/05 (ELJ) as did Plas Uchaf Reservoir on 14/05. A single bird was on Llyn Aled Mynydd Hiraethog on 8/07 (SD). Last bird at Nant-y-ffrith Reservoir on 25/08 (SD). Recorded from 12 different sites.

Flints. First bird at SS on 24/04 (PT). Two birds seen at FLQ on 25/04 (KS), 2 at OMR on 25/04 and singles at POA on 29/04 (DR) and Gronant on 1/05 (KS). Autumn peak was 3 at POA Warren Farm on 29/09 (SD) and 2 at RSPB POA on 18/09 (RH). Last record of the year was 2 at Warren Farm on 29/09 (SD). Recorded from 14 different sites.

2006

Denbs. First bird of the year was seen on the 8/04 at CON (pALD) with 3 here on the 15/04. Gresford Flash held a single bird on the 21/04 (KS) with 2 on 23/04. There was a peak of 4 birds at Llyn Brenig on the 3/07 (CP). Breeding was proven at Dolwen reservoir where a pair were seen with 3 chicks on the 13/07 (ELJ). Last of the year were 4 birds seen at Tal-y-Cafn on the 10/10 (SM).

Flints. First birds of the year were 2 seen at Rhyl on the 10/4 (SM) 4 birds were at Rhuddlan on the 15/04 (SH) with 3 at OMR on the 19/04 (AN). Peak in the spring was 5 birds at CQNR on the 30/04 (AW). Up to 3 birds were seen at POA on the 16/07 (GR). Peak in autumn was 6 birds seen at Rhuddlan on the 22/08 (SM CR). Last bird of the year was seen at Rhuddlan on the late date of 1/12 (SH) No breeding was proven in Flintshire this year

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*)

CWTIAD Y TRAETH

Winter visitor and passage migrant. Amber List.

2004

Denbs. Twenty six records. Largest counts were all at Llanddulas with 50+ on 13/03 (DCR), 60 on 30/07, 138 on 17/08, 154 on 18/09 and 50 on 3/12 (all EL).

Flints. Forty two records. Largest counts were 100+ at Pensarn on 22/08 (RMB) and 80+ at Ffrith beach, Prestatyn on 16/10 (DCR).

2005

Denbs. Thirty five records. Largest counts were all at Llanddulas with 50+ on 3/03 (DCR), 60+ on 13/03 (DCR), 52 on 5/08 (EL), 60+ on 2/12 (EL) with high tide roosts of 103 on 2/09, 145 on 20/10 and 105 on 6/11 (all EL).

Flints. Forty three records. Largest counts were smaller than last year and further E, at Bagillt: 35 on 13/02 (RH), 30 there on 13/03 (RH) and 30 on 26/10 (CW).

2006

Denbs. Seventy three records. Largest counts were mainly at Llanddulas with 53 on 4/01 (EL), 80+ on 29/03 (EL), 120+ on 23/09 (SM) and 112 on 25/09 (EL). Other large counts were 100 at Pensarn on 12/08 (RMB) and 82 at Rhyl Harbour on 22/09 (SM).

Flints. Seventy one records. Largest counts were still low with 30 to E of Rhyl on 3/02 (RMB)

and 24 at Rhyl splash point on 20/11 (RMB).

Pomarine Skua (*Stercorarius pomarinus*)

SGIWEN FRECH

Uncommon passage migrant.

2004

Flints. The only record was an adult pale phase bird off POA on 14/09 (NFr).

Arctic Skua (*Stercorarius parasiticus*)

SGIWEN Y GOGLEDD

Passage migrant in small numbers. WBAP

Seen along the coast from Rhyl splash point to POA.

2004

Denbs. First bird seen off Splash Point Rhyl on 27/06 (DCR). One was seen chasing Sandwich Terns off Kinnel Bay on 9/09 (SM), 3 were offshore at Towyn on 2/09 (SM) and a single off Kinnel Bay on 9/09 was the last record for the year.

Flints. First bird off Gronant on 27/07 with the last bird seen off POA on 21/09 (KS). There was a peak of 17 birds at POA on 30/08 with 13 on 29/08 (ANB). Eight were there on 14/09 (NFr).

2005

Denbs. First bird offshore at Towyn on 18/09 (SM). Others were seen at Kinnel Bay on 26/09 and 2 off Towyn on 29/09 (SM)

Flints. First bird was off Gronant on 20/07. The last bird was at POA on 2/10 (both Dee Estuary Website). Relatively small numbers in 2005.

2006

Denbs. First bird of the year was seen offshore at Towyn on the 8/06(SM), with a second bird on the 13/06(SM). A dark phase bird was seen chasing Sandwich Terns over TB on the 2/08(SM). Three birds were seen over CON on the 23/08 (pALD). Both dark and pale phase birds were seen off Towyn on the 30/08 (SM), while 2 pale phase birds were seen off Pensarn beach on the 4/09 (SM). Last birds of the year were dark phase birds at Pensarn and Towyn on the same date 21/09 (SM).

Flints. The only spring bird was a pale phase adult seen at Gronant on 1/05 (KS). In the autumn 3 birds were at POA on 10/08 (SM, NFr) flying W. Three pale phase birds were seen close inshore at POA on the 7/09 (GR), the last birds of the year.

Long-tailed Skua (*Stercorarius longicaudus*)

SGIWEN LOSTFAIN

Scarce passage migrant.

There were only two records in this reporting period.

2004

Flints. There was a juvenile off POA on 21/09 (NH, KS).

2005
Flints. There was 1 offshore at POA on 1/10 (CR).

Great Skua (*Stercorarius skua*)
Uncommon passage migrant.

SGIWEN FAWR

2004
Denbs. No records.

Flints. Seen on five dates off POA from 30/08 to 21/09 with 2 birds seen on 30/08 and 14/09 (NFr).

2005
Denbs. No records.

Flints. The only record was 3 birds off POA on 1/10 (NFr).

2006
Denbs. The only record was a single bird seen on the Conwy Estuary on the late date of 20/11 (pALD).

Flints. The only record was a rare spring sighting of a single bird at Barkby Beach Prestatyn on the 20/5 (DCR).

Mediterranean Gull (*Larus melanocephalus*)
Scarce but increasing visitor.

GWYLAN MOR Y CANOLDIR

2004
Denbs. All records were of single birds along the coast with a series of records at RSPB Conwy between 2/02 and 24/02 involving an adult and first winter (ALD). Conwy also had a first winter on 19/04 and a second summer on 3/05 (ALD). A bird was at Pensarn on 17/03 (SM).

Flints. Again all records were of single birds along the coast. One was at SS on 15/05 and 30/05 (PT). POA had a single bird on 31/07 (RH). An adult was on the River Clwyd at Rhyl on 27/07 and 10/09 (ANB).

2005
Denbs. Two birds were seen off Pensarn on 17/02 with a single off Abergele on 23/02 (SM). TB held an adult and a second winter bird on 13/03. An adult was at Kinmel Bay on 1/09 (ANB).

Flints. An adult was at Gronant on 16/02 (LJ) and again on 27/02 (LJ). An adult was also at Prestatyn Beach on 7/08 (ANB).

2006
Denbs. First bird of the year was seen at Gresford Flash, an adult on the 5/02 (KS). An adult bird was also seen at TB on 8/02 and again on the 28/02 (SM). Gresford Flash again held an adult bird on the 18/03 (KS). CON had spring birds on the 4/04 and 26/04 and then a run of single birds from the 4/07 through to the 27/07 with 2 birds on the reserve on the 28/07 (pALD).

The last bird of the year was seen at CON on the 30/10 (pALD)

Flints. The only bird of the year was a second winter at Rhuddlan on the 1/09 (SH)

Little Gull (*Larus minutus*)
Scarce passage migrant.

GWYLAN FECHAN

2004
Denbs. An adult was at CON on 18/04 and 25/04 (ALD).

Flints. A single was at OMR on 9/02 (ANB).

2005
Denbs. Two birds were reported at Rhyl Harbour on 13/02 (ANB).

Flints. A single bird at ShST on 29/05 (PT).

2006
Denbs. The only bird was a single seen at CON on the 7/10 (pALD).

Flints. No records.

Sabine's Gull (*Larus sabini*)
Scarce passage migrant.

GWYLAN SABINE

2004
Flints. The two records were one juvenile off POA on 14/09 (NFr) and two juveniles passing POA on 21/09 (NH, KS, SJR).

2005
Flints. The only record was a juvenile offshore at POA on 1/10 (NFr).

Black-headed Gull (*Larus ridibundus*)
Common resident and winter visitor. Amber List.

GWYLAN BENDDU

Mainly recorded from the coast, rivers and some inland waters – hence under-recorded on fields and other inland sites, especially in winter. There were no records from breeding colonies – does it still breed in this area?

2004
Denbs. Thirty nine records. Largest counts were 2,000 at Kinmel Bay on 4/01 (RMB), 800 at Ridleywood on 10/02 (NFr) and 1,100 at Worthenbury on 28/10 (NFr).

Flints. Eighty three records. Largest counts were 1,000 near Rhuddlan on 23/01 (SH), 5,350

at Bagillt on 24/01 (JH), 1100 near Rhuddlan on 6/02 and 26/11 (SH), with 2,000 there on 31/12 (SH).

2005
Denbs. Forty seven records. Largest counts were lower with 500+ Gresford Flash on 3/01 (KS), at Pensarn on 19/02 (KS) and at Llanddulas beach on 6/03 (DCR), 700+ at Gresford Flash on 5/03 (KS) and 2,500 on River Dee floods at Worthenbury on 16/11 (NFr).

Flints. Forty seven records. Largest counts were 3,500 near Rhuddlan on 19/01 (SH), 4,000 there on 11/02 (SH) and 1,000 there on 24/10 (SH).

2006
Denbs. Seventy four records. Largest counts were low, again, with 400+ at Gresford Flash on 21/03 (JuR), and 700+ near Holt on 10/12 (NF).

Flints. 109 records. Largest counts were 500 near Rhuddlan on 24/02 (SH), 1,000 at CQNR on 26/03 (AW), 1,000 near Rhuddlan on 17/12 (SH) and 1,000+ on the Afon Clwyd, Rhyl on 28/12 (HC, RC, AC).

Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*) GWYLAN FODRWYBIG
Scarce winter visitor.

2004 No records.

2005
Denbs. 1 bird was seen at Wrexham Flash on 23/01 and then on 23/12 (KS). This could possibly have been the same bird.

2006
Denbs. One adult was at Gresford Flash on 11/01 (KS) and there were four records of a single bird at CON between 4-8/04 (pALD).

Mew Gull (*Larus canus*) GWYLAN Y GWEUNYDD
Passage migrant and winter visitor.

Largest counts are along the coast, but may also be recorded inland at various sites dependent on weather conditions.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(CM)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	20	20	24
Flints.	42	30	40
	All but Jun	All but Jul	All months

Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*) GWYLAN GEFNDDU LEIAF
Uncommon breeding resident and passage migrant. Amber List.

Now recorded year-round

2004
Denbs. Peak count was 150 at Gresford Flash on 14/12 (KS). Borrass Quarry, Wrexham regularly held birds with a peak count of 50 on 4/01.

Flints. Peak count was 150 at BB on 24/01 (JH). At POA there were 110 on 1/09 (SD) with 104 at OMR on the same date (RH).

2005
Denbs. Peak count again at Gresford Flash on 3/01 when more than 500 were present (KS). This site seems to be one of the region's main roost sites. The Dee floods at Holt held over 100 birds on 17/02 (NFr) with 100 birds on Trevalyn Meadows on 11/11 (NFr).

Flints. More inland records than in 2004 with a count of 500 on the Dee floods at Worthenbury on 16/11 (NFr). On the coast OMR held 219 birds on 3/10 (RH), 35 were at Rhyl on 16/05 (SM) with 54 at Rhuddlan on 8/04 (SH) – possibly passage birds.

2006
Denbs. Peak counts in the early part of the year were 200+ at Borrass pool, Wrexham on the 5/02 and 270 at Ridleywood on the 17/03 (NFr) and 88 birds were seen at Gresford Flash on the 3/03 (JR). The later peak was 200+ at Holt on the Dee floods on the 10/12 (NF).

Flints. In the spring 25 were at POA on the 2/05 (GE, HB) with 25 at Rhuddlan on 19/05 and 75 there on 1/09 (SH). Peak counts were 150 at OMR on 6/09 (CL) with 100 birds present here on 23/10 (GR) with just 30 at POA on 11/09 (JP).

Yellow-legged Gull (*Larus michahellis*) GWYLAN GOES FELEN
Regular but scarce vagrant.

2004
Flints. Only a single record – a bird at POA on 1/09 (PSD).

2005
Denbs. A third winter bird was seen at Gresford Flash on 23/01 (KS).

2006
Denbs. There was 1 adult at Gresford Flash on 2/01 (KS), 1 at CON on 12-13/01 (pALD) and 1 at CON on 4/03 (pALD).

Flints. There was 1 at OMR on 14/10 (AN) and 1 at CQNR on 30/10 (CL).

Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) GWYLAN Y PENWAIG
Common resident, breeding on the coast, mainly on roofs. Amber List. WBAP

2004
Denbs. Twenty three records. Largest counts were 2,000 at Kinmel Bay on 4/01 (RMB), 2,000+ offshore at Towyn on 13/10 (SM) and 1,000 at Llanddulas on 23/11 (KS).

Flints. Eighty one records. Largest counts were all at POA: 1,470 on 14/01 (JH), 1,360 on 18/01 (RP), 3,390 on 23/01 (JH) and 3,750 on 14/11 (RH).

2005
Denbs. Forty seven records. Largest counts were 3,000+ at Pensarn on 19/02 (KS), 3,500+ at Llanddulas beach on 6/03 (DCR), and 1,000 at Llanddulas on 23/12 (RMB). There were records of breeding on house roofs at Kinmel Bay, Towyn and Pensarn (SM).

Flints. Forty five records. The two largest counts were, again, at POA: 750 on 12/02 (RH) nad 1,000+ on 2/10 (KS). A pair raised two young on a house roof in Rhuddlan (SH) and there was nesting on roofs in Rhyl (SM).

2006
Denbs. Seventy three records. There was only one record of more than 1,000 birds, being 2,000+ at Llanddulas on 23/09 (SM).

Flints. Fifty five records. There were no counts of more than 1,000 birds. The highest counts were of 600 at POA on 11/06 and another 600 on mudflats nearby on the same day (GR).

Iceland Gull (*Larus glaucoides*) GWYLAN YR ARCTIG
Scarce winter visitor.

The only records are from 2005.

2005
Denbs. A first winter bird was in the Wrexham area for several weeks, being seen at Gresford Flash on 6-9/01 (HL, KS, ANB), 1 N of Wrexham on 8/03 (NH) and at Nine Acre Field on 11/03 (SD) with another at Llanddulas on 8/03 (SM) and on 13/03 (DCR).

Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*) GWYLAN Y GOGLEDD
Scarce winter visitor.

There were only three records in this reporting period

2004
Denbs. A first summer bird was at CON on 26/04 (per ALD).

2005
Denbs. At Gresford Flash, 1 bird was seen on 6/01 (HL) and on 8/01 (KS) – probably the same bird.

2006
Denbs. 1 bird was at CON on 3/05 (ALD).

Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) GWYLAN GEFNDDU FWYAF
Non-breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List.

2004
Denbs. Seven records. The largest count was 30 at Kinmel Bay on 4/01 (RMB).

Flints. Sixty four records. Largest counts were 150 at OMR on 22/01 (pCW), 200 at Bagillt on 24/01 (JH) and at OMR there were 149 on 29/10 (RH), 135 on 1/12 (RH) and 130 on 16/12 (pCW).

2005
Denbs. Twelve records. The largest counts were of 20 inland at Pensarn on 13/10 and 20 at Llanddulas on 23/12 (RMB).

Flints. Thirty one records. Largest counts were less than last year: 65 at POA on 12/02 (RH) and 100 at OMR on 2/12 (GR).

2006
Denbs. Eleven records. The largest count was 10 inland at Pensarn on 28/12 (RMB).

Flints. Fifty four records. The largest counts were 68 at CQNR on 13/01 (AB, IMS), 70 at OMR on 30/01, 60 there on 23/10, 70 at POA on 8/11 and 63 at OMR on 20/11 (GR).

Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) GWYLAN GOES DDU
Passage migrant. Amber List.

Seen in small numbers along the coast. Probably significantly under-recorded.

(KI)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	2	1	10
Flints.	5	1	5
	Jan, Mar, Apr, Sep	May, Oct	Jun to Dec

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

Little Tern (*Sternula albifrons*) MORWENNOL FECHAN
Passage migrant and regular summer breeding visitor. Red List.

2004
Flints. Only recorded from Gronant, their main breeding area. First birds were seen on 3/05 (KS) and by 6/05 70 were present. At the end of May 160 birds were present and 89 pairs nested, fledging 167 chicks. Birds were present till the end of Aug.

2005

Flints. Recorded at Gronant from 25/04 when 4 birds were present. More widely recorded in 2005 with 30 birds at POA on 10/05, 5 off Rhyl on 21/05 (RMB). Highest counts at Gronant were 265 on 10/07, an amazing 410 on 25/07 and 361 on 27/07. Despite these numbers it was a less successful breeding season with 73 pairs fledging about 40 chicks. At POA there were 120 birds on 8/08 (RH) and last recorded at Gronant on 23/08.

Numbers of pairs and breeding productivity at Gronant.

(AF) Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Pairs	85	58	110	89	73	110
Young	1	63	190	167	40	160
Productivity	0.01	1.09	1.73	1.88	0.54	1.45

2006

Denbs. The only record was a juvenile on TB on 15/08 (SM).

Flints. The first birds seen at Gronant were 2 on 25/04(GNR) with 15 present on 3/05. Unusually 23 were present off Flint on 14/05 (GR) fishing the river with other tern species. On the same day 36 were flying around the shingle ridge at POA (GR) where on the 5/06 one pair were found to be breeding with a nest containing 2 eggs. Unfortunately this nest was predated. At Gronant 250 were present by mid Jun. Around 100 pairs nested producing 160 chicks to fledging. At POA 92 birds were counted on 15/08 (GR) including 76 juveniles. Last birds of the year were 4 adults at POA on 26/08 (GR).

Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*)

CORS-WENNOL DDU

Scarce passage migrant in spring and autumn.

2004

Denbs. No spring records but 3 juveniles at CON on 11/09 (ALD) and on the same date 3 were seen offshore at Towyn (SM). The last bird of the year was at CON on 24/09.

Flints. The first spring record was at CQNR on 7/04 (RT) and a single bird was there on 12/04 (ANB). The first autumn bird was at POA on 30/08 with 2 there on 15/09. A single was at OMR on 16/09 and 19/09 (DNS).

2005

No birds were recorded in either county.

2006

Denbs. No spring records. The first for the autumn was an adult on TB on the 2/09 (SM), where on the 13/09 a flock of 21 birds were seen moving W offshore (SM). The last bird of the year was a single on the Conwy Estuary on the 14/09 (pALD).

Flints. The only record was of a bird flying W on the 7/10 off POA (NFr).

Sandwich Tern (*Sterna sandvicensis*)

MORWENNOL BIGDDU

Passage migrant. Amber List.

The Dee Estuary is a site of national importance in Great Britain for summer/autumn passage. Adults bring newly fledged chicks to feed in the mouth of the Estuary.

2004

Denbs. First spring birds were 2 off Towyn on 24/05 (SM); 50+ were there on 1/09 (SM) while 30 were off Kinmel Bay on 6/09 and 50+ on 9/09 (SM). Last seen off Kinmel Bay on 18/11 with two birds moving W (RMB).

Flints. First birds at POA on 4/04 (CR) with 3 present. The spring peak was 86 at POA on 30/04. Autumn peak was 580 at Gronant on 22/07 with 150 present at POA on 31/07 (RH). The last record was at POA on 27/09 (KS, NH).

2005

Denbs. The first record was 2 birds at Llanddulas on 23/3 (EL). At Kinmel Bay there were 30+ on 7/05 (SM). The peak count was 200+ at Kinmel Bay on 26/07 and the last birds were 20+ well offshore there on 18/09 (SM).

Flints. Six were present at Rhyl Marine Lake on 6/04 (RMB). First Gronant records on 14/04 (ELJ) with the spring peak 200+ there on 9/05 (KS). POA held 635 birds on 19/07 and the autumn peak was 800+ at Gronant on 6/08 (CR). The only records away from the coast were single birds around the Common Tern colony at SS on 30/07, 31/07, 7/08 and 14/08.

2006

Denbs. The first birds of spring were 2 at CON on 27/03 (pALD) and 6 passed through the Conwy estuary on the 8/05 (pALD). The largest flock in the spring was 20 that passed offshore at Towyn on 21/05 (SM). In the late summer the first juveniles appeared on the 27/07 with 2 offshore at Pensarn. The first real build up of birds began on the 3/08 with 70 on the beach at Kinmel Bay (SM) and 87 at Towyn on the 12/08 (SM). Four juveniles were at Towyn on the 15/08 with 46 adults (SM). The autumn peak was 120 birds on Llanddulas beach on 16/09 (DR CRI). The last birds of the year were 3 flying W off TB on 13/10 (SM).

Flints. First birds of spring were 2 at the POA on 30/03 (GNR); 3 were present here on 13/03 (AN) while 30 birds were seen at Gronant on 1/05 (KS). Two birds were seen at SS on 7/05 (PT) with a further 2 birds passing through the inner Dee Estuary at Flint on 14/05 (GR). The autumn build up started on 6/07 when 50 birds were present at POA with the peak reaching 300 on 16/07 (GR) and again at POA 100+ birds were still present here on 10/08 (SM). The last birds of the year were 12 seen at the POA on 24/09 (GR).

Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*)

MORWENNOL GYFFREDII

Passage migrant and breeding summer visitor. Amber List.

2004

Denbs. First bird of the year was seen on the 3/05 at Gresford Flash(KS). CON had 3 birds on 19/06 and 2 birds on the 4/07 (pALD), while 2 birds were seen off Towyn on 3/08 (SM), with 10 there on 1/09 (SM) being the last birds of the year.

Flints. First bird of the year was a single at Shotton on the 2/04 (pRS). By 3/05 30 birds were present at the breeding colony at SS where 656 pairs bred this year with 761 chicks being ringed. 130 birds were seen at OMR on the 6/05 (JH). The first birds seen at POA were 5 on the 16/06 (JH); 160 birds were at OMR fishing the river on the 29/06 (JH), while 29 birds were seen on the shingle ridge at POA on 16/08 (SD). The last birds of the year were 2 seen at POA on 21/09 (KS).

2005
Denbs. The only records were of single birds fishing Gresford Flash between 9/06 and 18/06 (KS).

Flints. The first record was 6 birds at OMR on 23/04 (RH). At SS, 575 pairs nested, producing 920 chicks most of which were ringed. OMR had 36 birds fishing the tide on 23/05. Up to 20 were recorded at Gronant on 26/06 (ANB). Bagillt had 30 on 26/06 (RH). The last record was 5 birds at Connah's Quay on 29/08.

Numbers of pairs and young ringed at Shotton Steelworks.

(CN) Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Pairs	545	555	626	656	575	722
Young ringed	810	617	815	740	920	1129

2006
Denbs. Only 3 records this year. A single was seen at CON on 13/07 (pALD). An adult was seen at TB on 15/08 (SM) and 3 birds were seen flying W at Kinmel Bay on 17/08 (SM).

Flints. First bird of the spring was a single seen on the River Dee at Connah's Quay on the early date of 1/04 (CL). The next birds were not seen until 3 appeared at SS on 23/04 (PT) while 10 were at CQNR on 1/05 (KS). 250 were fishing the river with other tern species at Flint on 14/05 (GR). In the late summer the peak count was 260 birds at the POA on 26/07 (GR) while 100+ birds were at POA on 10/08 (SM), 50 were at OMR on the 8/08. All birds had left the Shotton colony by the 3/09 when the last 2 birds were seen (PT). The last record for the year was 20 birds seen at POA on the 7/09 (GR).

Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*)
Passage migrant. Amber List.

MORWENNOL Y GOGLEDD

2004
Denbs. There was 1 at CON on 8/05 (pALD).

Flints. Several birds seen passing POA, 6 on 16/08, 2 on 15/09 and 4 on 6/10 (BHP).

2005
Denbs. There were 3 adults plus 1 juvenile at Kinmel Bay on 26/07 (JS).

Flints. There were 5 at Gronant dunes on 29/07 (pRS).

2006
Denbs. No records.

Flints. There was 1 recorded at POA on 6/01 (pSD).

Common Guillemot (*Uria aalge*)
Occasional visitor in small numbers to coastal waters.

GWYLOG

2004
Denbs. At Llanddulas, there was 1 on 11/02 (NH) and 100+ on 14/10 (KS); 2 at Towyn on 10/09, 100+ on 11/10 and 2 on 2/11 (SM); 1 at Pensarn on 19/09 (NH) and 1 there on 23/09 (KS) and 5+ at Kinmel Bay on 3/11 (SM).

Flints. At Oakenholt, there was 1 on 9/02 (ANB, PCW); 1 at POA on 1/09, 2 on 12/09, 5 on 18/09, 15 on 21/09 and 70 on 28/11 (pSD, NH, KS, PCW).

2005
Denbs. There was 1 at Llanddulas on 3/03 (DCR); 1 at Towyn on 12/03, 10+ on 16/10 and 2 on 5/11 (SM).

Flints. There were 2 at POA on 24/09, 3 on 2/10 and 5 on 22/10 (pRS, KS).

2006
Denbs. Kinmel Bay with 1 on 8/03 and 31/03 (SM); Towyn 1 on 17/04, 8/06 and 28/12 also 2 on 8/12 and 4 on 16/12 (SM); Pensarn 1 on 2/11 (SM).

Flints. Prestatyn 1 on 20/05 (DR); 2 off Oakenholt on 11/09 (GR).

Razorbill (*Alca torda*)
Small numbers occasionally recorded offshore.

LLURS

2004
Denbs. There were 2 at Towyn on 5/02 (SM); 40+ at Llanddulas on 14/10 (KS).

Flints. There was 1 at POA on 21/03 (JH).

2005
Denbs. Just 1 at Pensarn on 31/08 (SM).

Flints. No records.

2006
Denbs. There were 3 offshore at Kinmel Bay on 22/09 (SM); 1 at Llanddulas on 23/09 (SM); 1 maybe oiled bird at Towyn on 30/08 with 10+ offshore on 22/09, 15+ on 30/09 and 1 on 6/10 (SM)

Flints. No records.

Black Guillemot (*Cephus grylle*)

GWYLOG DDU

A scarce visitor to coastal waters.

There was only one record received.

2006

Denbs. Just 1 juvenile recorded offshore at Towyn on 12/09 (SM).

Little Auk (*Alle alle*)

CARFIL BACH

Very scarce passage migrant and winter visitor to our coastal waters.

2004

Denbs. At Towyn there was 1 on 15/09 (SM); 1 at Rhos Point on 27/09 (DW – included here because of our decision later than 2004 to report only on VCs 50 and 51).

Flints. There was 1 at POA on 12/11 (ANB, pRS).

2005

Denbs. There was 1 at Towyn on 29/09 (SM).

Flints. At POA, there was 1 on 12/02 (RH) and 1 on 13/02 (ANB, pRS), possibly the same bird.

2006

Denbs. and Flints. No records

Stock Pigeon (*Columba oenas*)

COLOMEN WYLLT

Breeding resident. Amber list.

2004

Denbs. Only small numbers reported with largest count of 20 at Francis Lane, Wrexham on 1/05 (KS). Nesting record from Pandy with 2 on 11/07 (pBH).

Flints. Main sightings from Deeside Industrial Park area with largest count of 7 at SS on 26/04 (DOJ). Nesting records from Shotton Paper Mill (IMS).

2005.

Denbs. Number of sites recorded up to 10, but numbers down with largest count of 6 at Gresford Flash on 6/01 (SD).

Flints. There were 6 at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft on 12/06. Nesting records from Shotton Paper Mill (IMS).

2006

Denbs. Main counts: 8 at GF on 2/01 (KS); 30 at CON on 18/03 (AW); and 42 at Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd on 2/10 (PT). No nesting records.

Flints. 2 sizable counts: 21 at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft on 10/06 (IMS) and 40 at IMF Border Pool on 4/09 (PCW). Nesting records from 2 sites Beeches Farm with 3 nesting on 30/07 and 3 nesting at Shotton Paper Mill on 9/08 (IMS).

Breeding (IMS):

(SD)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young fledged	Young per nest
2004	10	19	14	1.40
2005	13	24	17	1.31
2006	14	26	11	0.79

Common Wood Pigeon (*Columba palumbus*)

YSGUTHAN

Abundant breeding resident, often culled by local agricultural interests.

Mainly recorded by surveys – BBS, GBW and ringing.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(WP)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	74	54	92
Flints.	111	97	117
	All months	All months	All months

Eurasian Collared Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*)

TURTUR DORCHOG

Common and widespread breeding resident, chiefly of suburban areas.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(CD)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	44	25	35
Flints.	95	298	85
	All months	All months	All months

European Turtle Dove (*Streptopelia turtur*)

TURTUR

Very scarce summer visitor and possibly breeding. Red List. WBAP

2004

Denbs. 1 or 2 birds seen in Gwynfryn area between 3/05 and 19/06 (JLR, LW).

Flints. No records.

2005 No records.

2006

Denbs. Reported from Rhosymedre-Ruabon area, heard on 25/07 (JM); heard and seen on 29/07 (MW)

Flints. No records.

Rose-ringed Parakeet (*Psittacula krameri*)

Scarce vagrant.

Only one record.

2004

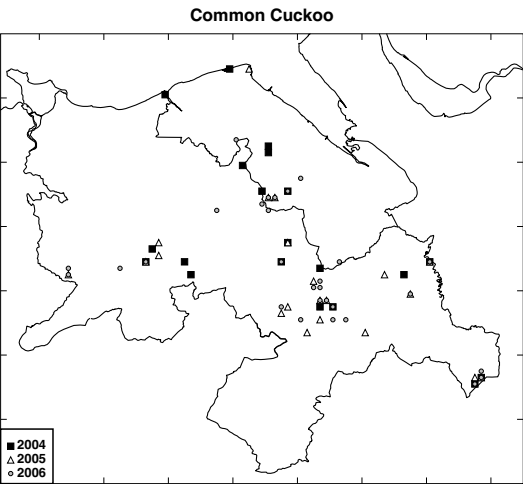
Denbs. 1 at Holt on 21/02 but seized by Sparrowhawk (NH).

Common Cuckoo (*Cuculus canorus*)

Increasingly uncommon breeding summer visitor. WBAP

COG

This species is found mainly in upland areas or fens and meadows.



2004

Denbs. Only 9 sites had records and first report from Worlds End on 17/04 (JLR) and last from RM on 27/07 (JLR).

Flints. First record from Rhyl, Marine Lake on 22/04 (ANB) with 5 other site records with the last being 2 at Gronant dunes on 31/07 (ANB).

2005

Denbs. Fifteen sites recorded and first report from Dinbren Hall, Llangollen on 11/04 (JLR) and the last record of 2 at Fenn's Moss on 19/06 (NH).

Flints. First record from POA on 1/05

(pRS). Only other reports were from Cilcain area - 1 at Garth on 27/05 (WAO) and last 1 at Cae Newydd on 29/05 (DCR).

2006

Counts up with 39 records mostly from Denbs.

Denbs. First record was 1 at Holt on 15/04 (NF). More than 1 heard: 2 at Llandegla Forest on 10/05 (JuR); 2 at Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 11/05 (GO); 2 at Llangynhafal on 9/06 (PT); 3 at Penycae on 9/06 (JR); 2 at World's End on 1/06 (NHu). Also at Fenn's Moss with 3 on 10/05 (NHu), 1+ on 14/05 (JuR), 3 on 11/06 (NH) and 1 on 30/06 (JuR).

Flints. First record was 1 at Cilcain on 22/04 (HJ). Also recorded at Tremeichion on 11/05 (ELJ); Rhydymwyn on 26/05 (MD); 3 at Garth on 11/06 and 2 on 16/06 (PT).

PARACIT TORCHOG

Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*)

Scarce breeding resident. Amber List.

TYLLUAN WEN

Almost certainly this species has been under-recorded, but the degree of its scarcity is still unknown. A project was started in 2004, a partnership between the WRSg and the four Unitary Authorities that are now in NE Wales, that hopes to establish how many breeding pairs there are in the area.

2004

Denbs. There were only four records of single birds, from Fenn's Moss on 2/01 and 24/01 and at Holt on 26/04 and 15/08.

Flints. There were only four records – single birds were seen at IMF on 24/01 and at Mostyn on 7/03. Two first summer males were ringed at a nest-box, together, at Shotton Paper Mill and another male was ringed at another box at the same place on 8/06 (no breeding took place there, IMS).

2005

Denbs. There were 5 records of single birds – at Holt (21/01 and 17/06), 1 was found dead by the road at Mochdre, Colwyn Bay (21/01), 1 Rossett (7/02) and near Rhuddlan (20/02). Two pairs bred within a kilometre of each other with 4 nestlings ringed at one on 20/05 and 4 at the other on 30/06.

Flints. There were 9 records – 1 near Hope (12/01). Two pairs nested at Shotton Paper Mill about 300m apart – 2 adults flew out of one box and there were 4 downy nestlings in another on 18/05; 4 nestlings were ringed there on 29/05 and another 4 on 23/07. There were 2 at Connah's Quay (12/06) and 3 nestlings ringed at Sandycroft (27/06), with singles seen near Leeswood (20/04), at Padeswood (27/06) and near Dyserth (16/12).

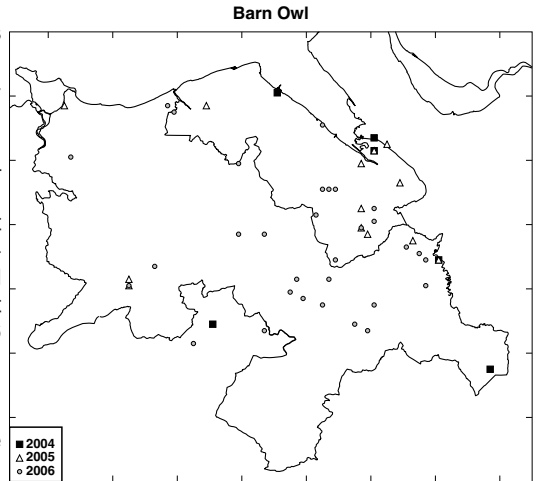
2006

Denbs. There were 24 records, mainly of single birds. There were 2 birds at Rhydtalog (1/01), 2 near Ruabon (12/05) and 2 near Towyn (25/11). Near Pentrefoelas, 3 nestlings were ringed (20/07) and 4 nestlings ringed near Cerrigydrudion (27/07).

Flints. There were 9 records, all of single birds. There was no known breeding in the County as it was a very poor vole year, so there were very few suitable prey (WRSg).

Breeding (WRSg):

(BO)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young fledged	Young per nest
2004	4	15	7	1.75
2005	8	33	21	2.63
2006	5	7	7	1.40



Little Owl (*Athene noctua*)
Uncommon breeding resident.

TYLLUAN FACH

The WRSG received no records of Little Owl breeding from any part of NE Wales during 2004 – 2006.

2004

Denbs. Eight records only from Rhuthun (13/05) to the Dee, near Rossett (20/02) and Bangor-is-y-Coed (7/07) in the central part of the county. At Holt, 2 were seen (15/09) and 2 at Erddig, Wrexham (7/10).

Flints. Five records of single birds at Meliden (12/03), Penymynydd (19/06), POA (21/09) and Shotton (31/10).

2005

Denbs. Six records from the same part of the county as in 2004. There were 3 birds recorded at Marford on 11/07 when 2 were seen and another heard (KS).

Flints. Ten records with three from near Mold, 4 owls being seen one evening on 8/07 (IMS). Two records of singles were from near Rhuddlan (11/07 and 7/10).

2006

Denbs. Eight records of single birds, mainly from the Wrexham / Marford area but with two records in the N near Towyn (14/06) and Pont-y-Ddol (28/06).

Flints. Fourteen records (a welcome increase) mainly from near Mold with 2 seen near Padeswood on 6/03 (JuR), with singles seen near Trelawnyd (20/04) and near Rhuddlan (6/06 and 21/07).

Tawny Owl (*Strix aluco*)
Widespread breeding resident.

TYLLUAN FRECH

2004

Denbs. Sixteen records, with nine of singles from near Llanddulas between Jul and Dec (EL). Other records from Holt (9/02, 26/04 and 2 on 15/08, NF), Clocaenog Forest (1/08), 2 were in Wrexham centre (15/08, NH) and 3 chicks were ringed at Pandy on 9/05 (pBH).

Flints. Four records of singles from near Hawarden (22/01), Hope (3/05), near Nercwys (10/05) and Sychdyn (5/09).

2005

Denbs. Twenty four records with five of singles from Llanddulas in Jan, Feb and Oct, singles near Wrexham (Apr, May, Jun, Aug, Sep), Holt (Jun and Aug) and Bwlchwyn (Nov). Other records include 2 calling at World's End on 27/05 (KS) and 2 chicks ringed at Pandy on 2/05 (pBH).

Flints. Six records. Singles near Rhuddlan (13/01, Cilcain (13/06) and Nercwys Mountain (1/07) with 2 at Penymynydd on 18/07 (DCR) and 2 chicks ringed at Rhydymwyn on 6/05

(IMS).

2006

Denbs. Twenty two records, mainly of singles with five records from Llanddulas (May, Jun, Jul, Nov, Dec) and six records from near Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd (Feb, Jun, Sep) with an adult and juvenile together on 17/06 (PT). Other singles were from the Wrexham area with 2 calling at World's End on 28/06 (KS) and 2 at Bwlchwyn on 17/09 (JC).

Flints. Seven records, all from the N end of the county – singles near Rhuddlan (Jan, Apr, Aug, Oct), Nercwys Mountain (03/06), near Trelawnyd (4/03) and 2 at Llanasa on 22/01 (ELJ).

Breeding (WRSG):

(TO)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young fledged	Young per nest
2004	5	12	8	1.60
2005	9	24	11	1.22
2006	1	2	2	2.00

Breeding in 2006 was badly affected by the poor vole year so there was insufficient prey.

Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*)

TYLLUAN GORNOG

Rare breeding resident. Amber List.

2004 No sighting records.

Breeding. Recorded at 1 nest with a minimum of 3 eggs, leading to 1 fledged young. This one nestling ate its 2 smaller siblings which suggests that there was insufficient natural prey available (WRSG).

2005

Denbs. A single bird was chased by a Buzzard at Gronant dunes on 14/04.

Flints. No records.

2006

Denbs. Just two records of evidence at a traditional site on RM on 17/02 and 11/03.

Flints. No records.

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*)

TYLLUAN GLYSTIOG

Scarce winter visitor, passage migrant and occasional breeder. Amber List.

2004

Denbs. Ten records with five from the well-known and televised wintering area at Kinmel Bay involving 1 or 2 birds in Dec. Other records were from CON (19/03, 16/10) Towyn (5/10) and Fenn's Moss (4/03, 27/10).

Flints. Ten records from three main areas – near Rhyl (20/01), POA and its surrounds (Oct,

Nov) and Shotwick (Mar, Apr) and 2 birds were seen at Gronant dunes on 22/10 (pRS).

Breeding. Recorded at 1 nest with a minimum of 1 egg, leading to 1 fledged young (WRSg).

2005

Denbs. Nineteen records, with twelve from the Kinmel Bay hunting area (Jan, Dec) with 4 seen on 8/01 (EL). Other records were from Fenn's Moss, with 2 on 19/01 and 14/04 (BA), 1 flying in off the sea at Towyn on 17/10 (SM) and 1 at RM on 19/05.

Flints. Sixteen records, all of which came from the POA / Gronant area, all being of singles in Feb, Mar, Apr, Oct, Nov and Dec except for 3 at Gronant dunes on 9/03 (SD).

2006

Denbs. Only nine records with five from Towyn / Kinmel Bay in Jan, Mar and Dec – a maximum of 3 on 30/12 (KS). Others were 1 at CON on 14/03, 1 at Fenn's Moss (14/04, 21/04) and 1 on Mynydd Hiraethog (9/10).

Flints. Only seven records with five from Gronant dunes – 2 on 14/01 and 2 on 6/03 (ELJ). Others were 2 at Shotwick on 17/02 (AN) and 2 at IMF on 17/03 (JuR).

European Nightjar (*Caprimulgus europaeus*)

TROELLWR MAWR

Scarce breeding summer visitor. Amber List. WBAP

2004

Denbs. Twenty four records, mainly from counts during the national survey organised by the BTO, seventeen of which were from Clocaenog Forest, the maximum number seen being 5 near Denbigh Crossroads on 12/06 (pGC). Other records were from RM (1/05), World's End (2 on 21/06, 1 on 26/07), near Loggerheads (25/06) and near Colwyn Bay (05/10).

Flints. Six records, all from the BTO survey at Nercwys Mountain, single birds in Jun and Jul (pGC).

2005

Denbs. Four records, with two from Clocaenog Forest in Jun (a male and female at one location and a male at another on 23/06), 2 at World's End on 27/05 and 2 at RM on 27/06.

Flints. Just one record – a single bird at Nercwys Mountain on 10/07.

2006

Denbs. Three records – singles at RM on 13/06 and 28/06 and 2 in Clocaenog Forest on 30/06.

Flints. Two records of 2 birds at Nercwys Mountain on 3/06 and 7/06.

Common Swift (*Apus apus*)

GWENNOL DDU

Fairly common and widespread summer visitor.

2004

Denbs. Twenty records with the first near Penycae on 24/04 JLR) and the last N of Wrexham

on 2/09 (KS).

Flints. Twenty eight records with the first at Rhyl Marine Lake on 22/04 (ANB) and the last near Rhuddlan on 10/09 (SH). There was evidence of breeding in Rhuddlan (DCR).

2005

Denbs. Twenty seven records with the first at Ruabon on 27/04 (MR) and the last near Abergele on 17/08 (RMB). The largest gatherings recorded were 153 at Fenn's Moss on 12/06 (THu) and 300+ at AKM on 23/07 (DPB).

Flints. Twenty two records with the first near Rhuddlan on 28/04 (SH) and last at SS on 28/08 (PT). The largest counts were 100+ at POA on 1/05 (pRS) and 120 near Rhuddlan on 11/07 (SH).

2006

Denbs. Thirty records with the first at CON on 17/04 (pALD) and the last at Wrexham on 18/08 (KS).

Flints. Thirty three records with the first near Rhuddlan on 16/04 (SH) and the last at SS on 27/08 (PT). The largest count was 100 near Rhuddlan on 28/06 (SH).

Common Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*)

GLAS Y DORLAN

Local breeding resident. Amber List.

There have been no records of breeding during the three years of this report.

2004

Denbs. Most reports from CON. Also 1 at Trevalyn Meadows on 13/02, 1 at Bangor-is-y-Coed on 7/07 (DOJ) and 1 at Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 5/09 (JLR).

Flints. Most reports come from Dee Estuary and none during period 9/03 to 11/07. More than 1 bird reported at SS with 2 on 11/07 (PT), 2 at Rhuddlan on 18/08 (SH) and 2 at Oakenholt on 12/11 (RH).

2005

Denbs. No records from Conwy but from 10 other sites.

Flints. All but one report from coastal sites, 1 at Greenfield Valley on 15/04 (ELJ).

2006

Denbs. Several reports from CON 1 on 5/01, 2 on 25/09 and 1 on 10/12 (MC, SM, pALD); 1 on Afon Clwyd, Nant Lewis Alyn on 22/04 (ELJ); 1 on River Dee at Holt on 28/05 (NF); 1 on R. Alyn, Trevalyn on 7/07 (NHu); 1 on Llangollen Canal, Pentrefelin on 4/09 (JLR); 2 at Tainant, Penycae on 8/11 (JAJ).

Flints. More reports but mostly from coastal sites including CQNR, Flint, POA, SS and Talacre during Aug to Dec. Also 1 reported at Shotwick boating lake on 2/02 (WAO); 1 at Greenfield Valley on 13/01 (ELJ); 1 Rhuddlan on 2/01 and 18/08, 2 on 18/08, 22/08 and 8/10 (SH, SM).

Green Woodpecker (*Picus viridis*)

CNOCELL WERDD

Breeding resident. Amber List.

2004

Denbs. There were sixteen records, with the main sites being Fenn's Moss, Marford Quarry and Llangollen area. Erddig had 24+ sightings in 2003 and none in 2004.

Flints. Seven reports with 1 at Drury on 31/01 (DOJ); 1 at FLQ on 15/04 (KD); 1 at Cilcain on 7/05 (HJ); 1 at Alltami on 17/05 (DOJ); 1 at Caerwys on 22/05 (LEJ); 1 at Rhydymwyn on 22/06 and 1 at Pantymwyn on 7/08 (MB).

2005

Denbs. Fifteen records from widespread sites. Llangollen area had a number of records but also from Fenn's Moss, Marford Quarry and the Clwydian Range.

Flints. Eight records from similar areas as last year.

2006

Denbs. Twenty records from Llangollen area, Llanarmon-yn-Ial and Marford Quarry with 1 at the last site on 3/03, 5/03, 13/04 and 2 pairs on 23/04 (JuR, KS).

Flints. Just three reports with 1 at Moel y Parc on 13/04 (ELJ); 1 at Dyserth on 15/04 (MC, GC); 1 at CQNR on 20/09 (CL).

Great Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos major*)

CNOCELL FRAITH FWYAF

Widespread breeding resident.

Mainly recorded by surveys – ringing, GBW, BBS.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(GS)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	72	79	96
Flints.	55	151	74
	All months	All months	All months

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos minor*)

CNOCELL FRAITH LEIAF

Scarce breeding resident. Red List. WBAP

2004

No records.

2005

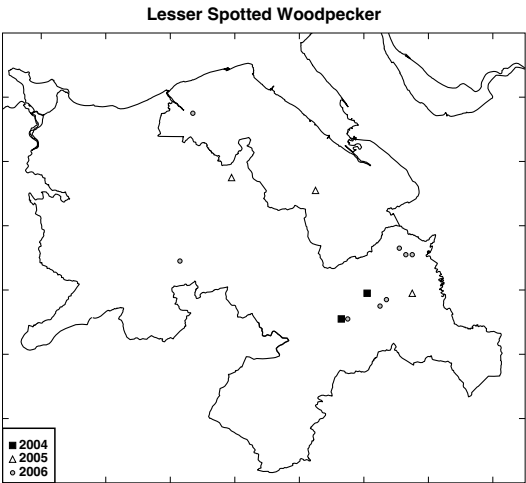
Denbs. At Nant Lewis Alyn, 1 on 2/04 (ELJ); 1 at Wrexham Industrial Estate on 11/05 (NH).

Flints. There was 1 heard calling NW of Mold on 25/02 (AB).

2006

Denbs. More records in 2006, a number of records from Marford area between 5/03 and 13/04 with a pair seen on 25/03 (JuR); 1 at Clocaenog Forest on 15/04 (IW); 2 site records for Erddig, 1 bird at Hafod wood on 21/04 and 28/04 (JLR) also recorded at Coed y Glyn wood with 2 on 27/04 and 1 on 29/04 (NHu); 1 at Penycae on 26/06 and 5/07 (JAJ)

Flints. Only one record from area, 1 female at Rhuddlan on 3/12 (SH).



Greater Short-toed Lark (*Calandrella brachydactyla*)

EHEDYDD LLWYD

Rare visitor.

Only one record.

2005

Denbs. 1 at Towyn on 31/05 (SM). Accepted by the Welsh Rarities Panel.

Sky Lark (*Alauda arvensis*)

EHEDYDD

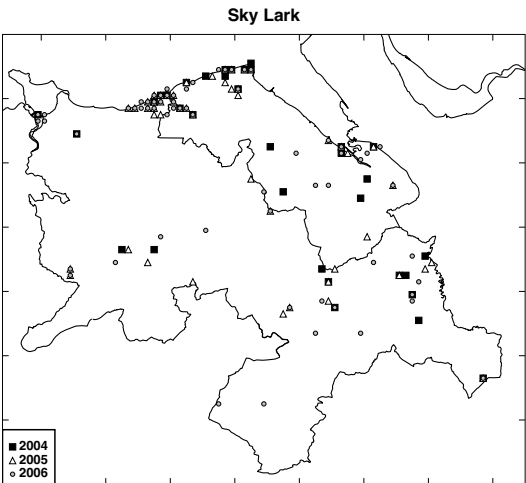
Widespread though localised breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List. WBAP.

There has been a reduction in the breeding habitat of this once common bird, the presence of which counts towards the Government's Quality of Life Index. Its stronghold appears to be on the Morfa between Abergele and Rhyl.

2004

Denbs. There was 1 singing near Rossett on 21/02 (DOJ); singing on territory at CON on 17/03 and at Llyn Brenig on 21/03 (ELJ). Largest count 15 at Towyn on 5/10 (SM).

Flints. There were 5 singing at Gronant on 7/03 (ELJ); singing on territory at Llanasa on 11/03, CQNR



on 23/03 and Cilcain on 8/04 (ELJ). Largest count with 35 at POA on 9/12 (DG).

2005

Denbs. First singing records, 2 at on RM on 9/03 (JLR) and 2 at Holt on 19/03 (NF). Most reports come from the coast mainly from Towyn with maximum count of 14 on 4/10 (SM). Inland largest count 11 at Bwlchgwyn on 14/10 (SD) and 7 at Gwynfryn on 15/05 (LW).

Flints. There were 3 singing at Llanasa and 2 at Penycloddiau on 27/02 (ELJ). Larger counts than in Denbs. mostly at coastal sites with Gronant dunes, POA and Oakenholt Marsh having good numbers. One large count of 350 at Shotwick fields on 3/11 (CW).

2006

Denbs. First spring song record at RM on 17/02 (JLR). Most large counts are winter coastal records.

Flints. As with Denbs. most records are from coastal sites with first singing records at Gronant dunes with 12 on 6/03 (ELJ) and 4 at POA on 19/03 (ELJ).

Sand Martin (*Riparia riparia*)

GWENNOL Y GLENNYDD

Summer breeding visitor and passage migrant. Amber List.

2004

Denbs. First spring record, 6 at CON on 17/03 (ELJ). Twenty reports in the county with Borrass Quarry having a count of 120 in May (LW) and 23+ Holt on 1/05 (NF). Last record, 5 at RM on 1/10 (JLR).

Flints. First spring records: 1 at POA on 18/03 (pRS) and 5 at Brickworks, Rhyl same day (BE). Same number of reports as Denbs with good numbers reported from Rhuddlan with 110 on 12/04 then a maximum count of 120 on 29/04 (SH). Nesting records from FLQ with maximum count of 66 on 1/06 (KD). Last record, 3 at Rhuddlan on 24/08 (SH).

2005

Denbs. First spring record, 1 at TB on 17/03 (SM). Nesting sites recorded at Holt with 60 on 2/05 (NF). 10+ at Llyn Brenig with some juveniles on 8/07 (SM); 50+ at Borrass Pool on 26/08 and 10+ at Gresford Flash on 10/09 (KS). Last record, 1 at Towyn on 18/09 (SM).

Flints. First spring record, 2 at Talacre dunes on 21/03 (CL). Largest count 11 at Rhuddlan (10/04) on a poor spring passage (SH); only 1+ recorded at FLQ with nesting colony moved (KS). Last record, 1 at Rhuddlan on 25/08 (SH).

2006

Denbs. First spring record, 1 at CON on 26/03 (pALD). Nesting sites in a bank of River Dee at Sutton Green with first 4 birds seen on 7/04 (NHu); 50 birds at Nant -Lewis-Wood nesting on both banks of the Afon Clwyd (ELJ); 6 at Llyn Brenig on 14/05 and seemed to be nesting nearby (ELJ). Last record, 1 at TB on 21/09 (SM).

Flints. First spring record 1 at SS on 26/03 (PT); 20 recorded on 16/06 at St. Asaph near known nest site (MK); and 2+ at FLQ nesting colony on 29/04 (KS). Last record, 2 at Rhuddlan on 6/08 (SH).

Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)

GWENNOL

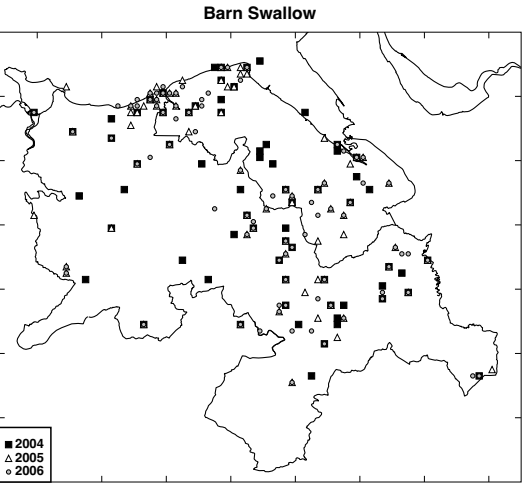
Common and widespread summer breeding visitor and passage migrant. Amber List.

2004

Denbs. First spring record, 2 at Erddig on 21/03 (NH). Nesting records from Bedwlyn, Bodelwyddan and Cefn Meiriadog (pBH, IMS); BQ had 30 birds in May (LW); Llandegla had 23 on 17/05 (TL); 21 at Betws-yn-Rhos on 22/05 (MaB); 20 at Derwen on 8/06 (MB); 50 at Holt on 15/08 (NH); 15+ at Llansannan on 3/10 (SM). Last record 1 at Towyn on 18/10 (SM).

Flints. First spring record, 2 at POA on 28/03 (JH); Rhuddlan had up 120 in April (SH)

No nesting reports in 2004 but 25 reported at Mold on 6/06 (AB); 12 at Gronant on 26/06 (ELJ); 16 at Dyserth on 5/07 (MrsL). Rhuddlan had 130 on 29/07 and 100 on 8/09 (SH). Last report, 2 at POA on 14/10 (DCR).



2005

Denbs. First spring record, 1 at Llanrwst on 1/04 (SM) with 20+ at Gresford Flash on 12/04 (KS); 82 at TB on 2/05 and 100+ on 5/09 (SM); 21 at Llandegla on 28/05 (TL); 10 at Gellifor on 5/06 (MT). A very late last record at Trevor of 1 on 26/11 (MR).

Flints. First spring record, 2 at Llanasa on 2/04 (ELJ) with 20 at St. Asaph on 14/04 (RMB); 18 at Mold on 11/06 (AB, IMS); 15 at Connah's Quay on 12/06 (RF-R); 50+ at Gronant Dunes on 27/07 (pRS) and 50+ at Talacre on 19/09 (SM). Maximum count of 200 at Rhuddlan on 21/09 (SH). Nesting records from Beeches Farm, Sandycroft, Cefn Meiriadog, Bodelwyddan and Pandy (pBH, IMS). Last record, 1 at POA on 4/11 (LiJ)

2006

Denbs. First spring record, 1 at Glyndyfrdwy on 27/03 (EJ). Nesting records from Bodelwyddan, Pandy and Cefn Meiriadog. Large counts from Penycae with 250 gathering on wires on 9/09, 500 on 17/09 and 200 on 29/09 (JAJ). One very late record from CON on 13/12 (pALD).

Flints. First spring record, 1 at CQNR on 30/03 (AW). Nesting record from Beeches Farm, Sandycroft and Gwespyr. Counts lower than in Denbs. Largest count at Rhuddlan with 50 on 6/08 and 23/09 (SH). Last record, 1 at Rhuddlan on 28/10 (SH).

Breeding (IMS, pDN):

(SL)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young fledged	Young per nest
2004	7	28	22	3.14
2005	25	112	98	3.92
2006	38	158	119	3.13

House Martin (*Delichon urbica*)

GWENNOL Y BONDO

Common and widespread summer breeding visitor and passage migrant.

2004

Denbs. First spring record, 2 at Eglwyseg on 22/04 (JLR) with 10 at Gwynfryn on 24/04 (LW); 15 at Llangwm on 14/05 (GKJ) and 25 at Borrass Quarry in June (LW). Late, larger counts of 250+ flying S at HP on 12/09 (SM) and 50+ at Rossett on 14/09 (NH). Last record 1 at Bedwllwyn on 3/10 (pBH).

Flints. First spring record, 2 at Rhuddlan on 15/04 (SH). There were 100 at Rhuddlan on 27/04 (SH); 55 at Afonwen on 22/05 (EW); 30 at St. Asaph on 22/07; 15 at Rhyl on 28/06 (RMB). Numbers build up with 100 at Rhuddlan on 29/08 and 17/09 (SH); 250+ at SS on 5/09 (PT). Last record, 1 at Buckley on 23/10 (GNR).

2005

Denbs. First spring record, 40+ at Froncysyllte on 3/04 (JAJ). Also 25 at Holt on 3/05 (NF); 30+ at Towyn on 3/06 and at Abergele on 13/06 (SM); 10 at Llandegla on 3/07 (TL). Last record, 1 at Towyn on 30/10 (SM).

Flints. First spring record, 7 at Rhuddlan on 5/04 (SH). There were 100 at POA on 1/05 (pRS); 30 at Queensferry on 13/06 (RF-R); 130 at Rhuddlan on 13/06 and 100 on 21/09 (SH); 50+ at Gronant dunes on 27/07 (pRS). Last record, 2 at Rhuddlan on 4/10 (SH).

2006

Denbs. First spring record, 5 at nest sites at Rhewl on 13/04 (ELJ). Nesting record from Holt, 3 nests on 28/05 (NF) and 6 at Coed y Glyn, Wrexham (NH). Large count at Penrycae of 500 in mixed flock with swallows on 17/09 (JAJ). Last record, 75+ on passage at Llanbedr Dyffryn Ciwyd on 22/09 (PT).

Flints. First spring record 5+ at SS on 2/04 (PT). Nesting record, 2 sites at Cwm, Dyserth on 3/05 (MC). Largest count 100 at Rhuddlan on 13/05 (SH). Last record, 2 at Rhuddlan on 10/10 (SH).

Richard's Pipit (*Anthus novaeseelandiae*)

CORHEDYDD RICHARD

Rare migrant.

2004

Denbs. 1 was seen at Kinmel Bay, Mercury Enterprise Park on 12/12 (KS). Accepted by the Welsh Rarities Panel.

2005

Denbs. The same bird as in 2004 was seen in Jan and Feb and was present until 12/04 (SM, JuR, KS, DCR).

Tree Pipit (*Anthus trivialis*)

CORHEDDYD Y COED

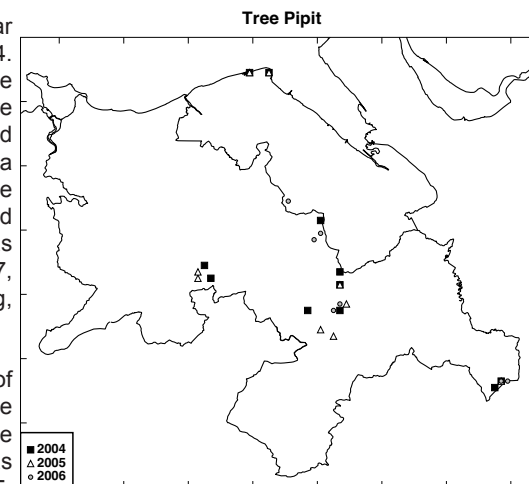
Scarce summer breeding visitor and passage migrant. WBAP

This species appears to be under-recorded, though scarce.

2004

Denbs. The earliest record this year was at the Horseshoe Pass on 19/04. Two were reported at Nilig in the Clocaenog Forest on 13/05, 2 were reported at Fenn's Moss on 15/05, and one on 19/05, and 10 at Llandegla Moor on 13/05. At World's End a male was seen displaying on 25/05, and heard singing on 24/06. One bird was reported at Llandegla Forest on 21/07, and one was ringed at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest on 22/08.

Flints. This year's first record was of two birds on 17/04 at POA. Single birds were reported from the same location on 19/04 and 10/05. One was reported at Bettisfield Moss on 19/05, and 2 were here on 2/07. Two were reported at Gronant Dunes on 24/05, and 4 at Moel Findeg on 25/05.



2005

Denbs. The first record this year was a single bird at Craig Bron Bannog, and another at Foel Frech, both Clocaenog Forest, on the same day, by the same observer, 12/04 (GNR). Reports of single birds were received from Valle Crucis, Llangollen on 13/04, Pendinas Reservoir on 17/04 and 8/06, World's End on 1/05, Castell Dinas Bran, Llangollen on 10/05 and Fenn's Moss on 2/07, where two birds were reported on 19/06.

Flints. The earliest record is 1 at POA on 1/05. The only other report is of 5 birds at Gronant Dunes on 4/05.

2006

Denbs. This year's first records were of 2 birds on 22/04 at Fenn's Moss (Nhu) then at Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 28/04 (DD). One was reported at World's End on 7/05 (DCA), at Fenn's Moss on 19/06 (KS) and at Eglwyseg on 26/06 (JLR).

Flints. Single birds were reported from Pant Du, Nercwys Mountain on 3/05 (DD) and Garth, Cilcain on 10/05 (DR).

Meadow Pipit (*Anthus pratensis*)

CORHEDYDD Y WAEN

Common breeding resident and both passage and winter visitor.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(MP)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	54	82	96
Flints.	38	41	57
	All months	All months	All months

Rock Pipit (*Anthus petrosus*)

CORHEDYDD Y GRAIG

Scarce, mainly winter, visitor on the coast.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(RC)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	3	6	6
Flints.	2	6	8
	Jan, Mar, Oct, Dec	Jan, Mar, Oct, Nov, Dec	Jan, Mar, Aug, Oct, Nov, Dec

Water Pipit (*Anthus spinoletta*)

CORHEDYDD Y DWR

Scarce winter visitor.

2004

Denbs. One bird was reported at CON on 24/11 and 31/12.

2005

Denbs. One record at CON on 27/12.

2006

Denbs. There were eighty records of a single bird at CON between 1/01 and 2/04, then again on 24/09 (pALD).

Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla flava*)

SIGLEN FELEN

Passage migrant and localised breeder in small numbers. Amber List. WBAP

2004

Denbs. At CON there were 6 birds on 27/04, and 4, including one grey-headed, were there on 6/05. One blue-headed wagtail was reported there on 16/05. A possible breeding record was received from Ruabon on 27/05 (JLR).

Flints. Reports were received from Shotwick fields for 6 on 24/04, 3 on 3/05, and 1 on 22/06. There were 2 at Afonwen on 22/05 (BBS – EW). Further records were of 1 at the River Clwyd, Rhyl 29/06, 3 at Oakenholt Marsh 19/07 and 1 at POA on 31/07.

2005

Denbs. A singing male was reported at Ruabon with a possible nesting female on 28/05 and

6/06 (JLR).

Flints. There were 2 at Shotwick Boating Lake on 25/04, and 3 on 9/05. Oakenholt Marsh had 1 on 25/04, 1/05 and 26/07. One was seen at Gronant dunes on 25/04, and 3 on 4/05. A single was seen at CQNR on 9/05 and 26/07. Up to 6 birds, including one blue-headed, were reported from IMF, Border Pool between 11/05 and 29/05.

2006

Denbs. One was at CON on 18/04, 30/04 and 1/05, and three were there on 3-4/05. One was there again on 5/05, and on 12 and 22/09 (pALD). Towyn had one on 2/05 and 25/08 (SM). One was reported flying over Francis Lane, Wrexham on 29/04 (KS). None were seen at the usual site at Ruabon this year (JLR).

Flints. Reports were received of a blue-headed male at Shotwick Boating Lake on 30/04 with a further 4 there on 1/05 (ANB, KS). Single records were received from near Rhyl (10/04), POA (15/04), SS (23/04) and OMR, Flint (19/07 and 11/09). CQNR had 2 on 16/08, 1 on 11/09, and a juvenile and 2 adults on 12/09 and 3 were at Rhuddlan on 8/09 (SH).

Grey Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*)

SIGLEN LWYD

Fairly common breeding resident.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(GL)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	34	36	64
Flints.	32	91	62
	All months	All months	All months

White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba alba*)

SIGLEN WEN

Passage migrant.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	2	7	25
Flints.	6	15	13
	Mar, Apr, May, Sep	Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Sep	Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Aug, Sep, Oct

Pied Wagtail (*Motacilla alba yarrellii*)

SIGLEN FRAITH

Common breeding resident.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(PW)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	43	51	72
Flints.	39	43	65
	All months	All months	All months

Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*)

CYNFFON SEDAN

Scarce and irregular winter visitor.

2004

Denbs. NE Wales shared in a great Waxwing year with the first single bird reported at Abergele town centre on 21/11. Rhuthun hosted a flock of 12 on 3/12 with numbers rising through the month to reach a peak of 150 on 19/12, and falling to 20 on 31/12. Additionally, 16 birds were seen in Denbigh on 19/12, 27 were seen there on 19/12, and 29 were seen in Glyn Ceiriog on 22/12.

Flints. The first record was in Rhyl - a flock of 6 on 11/12; 8 were seen in Flint on 12/12 and 23 at Connah's Quay on 23/12. Mold hosted a flock starting with 2 on 20/12, rising to 105 on 23-24/12 and falling to 10 on 25/12. On 27/12 flocks of 50 were at Buckley and 30 were at Prestatyn. Connah's Quay hosted 23 on 29/12. Ewloe then had a flock of up to 120 from 29-31/12. The last report was on 31/12 for 2 at Gwaenysgor.

2005

Denbs. The Waxwing invasion continued into this year with reports from Rhuthun from 1/01 – 11/01, with a maximum count of 130 on 1/01 and 12 were later reported there on 10/03. A flock of up to 60 frequented the Wrexham area from 5/01 – 8/02, with 15 there on 28/02, and up to 50 from 20/03 – 4/04. There were 19 at Holt on 22/01, and there were reports of up to 75 from the Burton, Rossett and Gresford areas from 11 – 21/02 while 50 visited gardens in Bwlchgwyn from 9-18/03. The following winter, one was in Colwyn Bay on 19/11, with no further reports this year.

Flints. The flock at Mold built from 5 on 1/01 to 150 on 14/01. At Ewloe, 100 were seen on 1/01, 80 were at Queensferry on 6/01, 40 were at Broughton on 13/01, 20 were at Connah's Quay on 15/03 and 27 were at Penymynydd on 16/03.

2006

No records were received this year.

White-throated Dipper (*Cinclus cinclus*)

BRONWEN Y DWR

Widespread localised breeding resident.

2004

Denbs. Single birds were reported regularly from Dulas Valley, Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, Loggerheads Country Park and Erddig pool near Wrexham. Breeding was confirmed at Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog and Pandy. Further reports were of 2 at Cyffylliog on 5/12, 1 at Pont Canol, Denbigh on 22/01, 1 at Llangollen on 28/03, 2 at Horseshoe Falls, Llangollen on 6/07, 1 at Tainant, Penrycae on 21/06, 1 at Pwllglas on 6/07, 1 at Trevor on 15/06 and 2 at Pentrebyschan, Wrexham on 20/10, 1 of which was singing.

Flints. There were regular reports of 1 at Greenfield Valley. Other sightings were 1 at Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog on 17/01, 1 at Lathcroft, Connah's Quay on 6/04 and 2 at Northop on 4/05.

2005

Denbs. Regular reports came from Dulas Valley, Horseshoe Falls, World's End and Erddig

pool, where one was observed nest building. Single sightings were also received from Bodnant, Cyffylliog, Afon Clwyd in Denbigh, Eglwyseg, Erbistock, Loggerheads CP, Pentrefoelas and Trevor Uchaf.

Flints. 1 was seen regularly at Dyserth and 2 were at Greenfield Valley. At St Asaph there were 2 on 14/04 and single birds were reported from Mold on 24/04, Rhyl on 9/06 and Swinchart Stream, Flint on 17/08. A single was seen at Rhuddlan on 22 and 27/11 and 2/12 and was the first seen there for a couple of years.

2006

Denbs. Single birds were reported regularly from Cyffylliog, Dulas Valley at Llanddulas, Llangollen, and Erddig pool, Wrexham, where an adult was seen feeding a young bird on 24/05 (NHu). Further records came from Bontuchel, Pentrellyncymmer, Afon Clwyd in Denbigh, Eglwyseg, Alyn Waters CP, Llanarmon-yn-Ial, Llanfihangel GM, World's End and Trefor Uchaf.

Flints. Single birds were reported from Rhuddlan SE, Mold NE, and Pentrehobin, Mold.

Winter Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*)

DRYW

A common breeding resident and winter visitor.

A widespread species found in a range of rural and urban habitats throughout the county. Significantly under-recorded.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(WR)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	72	63	93
Flints.	65	103	69
	All months	All months	All months

Hedge Accentor (*Prunella modularis*)

LLWYD Y GWRYCH

Common breeding resident and garden visitor. WBAP

Mainly recorded by surveys – ringing, GBW, BBS.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(D.)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	85	67	105
Flints.	86	155	89
	All months	All months	All months

European Robin (*Erithacus rubecula*)

ROBIN GOCH

Common breeding resident.

Most records from surveys – ringing, BBS, GBW

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(R.)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	121	83	164
Flints.	106	321	172
	All months	All months	All months

Black Redstart (*Phoenicurus ochruros*)

TINGOCH DU

Scarce migrant and winter visitor.

Only two records in the years for this report.

2004

Denbs. A single female was reported at Towyn on 2/11 (SM). There were no other reports this year.

2005

Denbs. A singing male was reported at the Horseshoe Pass on 25/06 (JLR), but no female was seen.

Common Redstart (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*)

TINGOCH

Summer breeding visitor mainly in wooded upland areas. Amber List.

2004

Denbs. Thirty seven records were received, just over half of which were from surveys (BBS, WBBS) and ringing records. The first record was at Nant-y-Ffrith Reservoir on 21/04 (SD). The last record was for one ringed on 5/09 at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest (IMS).

Flints. Nine records with the first near Rhuddlan on 22/04 (SH) and the last was at Llanasa on 6/08 (ELJ).

2005

Denbs. Twenty six records of which the first was a singing male at Trevor Uchaf, W on 10/04 (JLR). The last record was 1 ringed at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest on 3/09 (IMS).

Flints. Three records were received, the first on 25/04 and the last on 6/06, both at Gronant, SW (ELJ, BBS). A singing male was at Moel y Parc on 21/05 (OPJ).

2006

Denbs. Thirty seven records were received. The first record was at Foel Frech, Clocaenog Forest on 15/04 (IW). The last was at CON on 25/08 (pALD).

Flints. Ten records. The first record was near Cilcain on 22/04 (HJ) and the last was at Halkyn Mountain on 14/07 (AB).

Whinchat (*Saxicola rubetra*)

CREC YR EITHIN

Breeding summer visitor in small numbers, mainly in upland areas.

2004

Denbs. Eighteen records of which the first report was 3 birds at Borrass Quarry, Wrexham in Apr (day not specified, LW) and the last report was from RM on 4/11 (JLR).

Flints. Nine records. The first report was from CQNR on 3/05 (KS) and the last report was at Moel Arthur, N on 17/08 (WAO).

2005

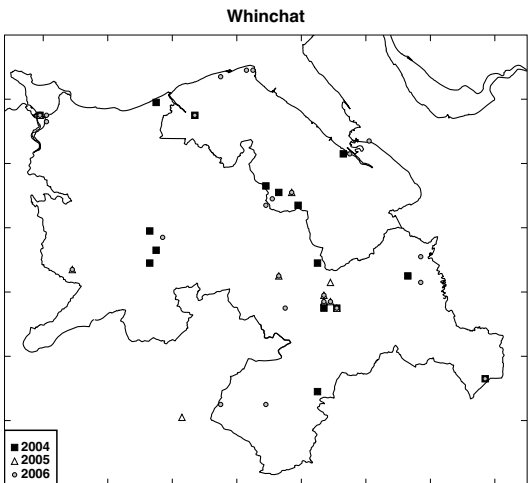
Denbs. Eighteen records. The first record was on 20/03 at CON (DCR). The last record was on 3/07 during a BBS visit near Capel Siloam (MaO).

Flints. One record was received, of 12 nestlings ringed near Cilcain on 19/06 (pBH).

2006

Denbs. Twenty eight records of which the first reports were on 23/04 at RM (JLR) and Fenn's Moss (ANB) and the last report was from CON on 1/09 (pALD).

Flints. Ten records. The first report was from IMF, Border Pool on 1/05 (CW) and the last report was from CQNR on 23/08 (AN).

**Stonechat (*Saxicola torquata*)**

CLOCHDAR Y CERRIG

Breeding resident in small numbers. Amber List.

2004

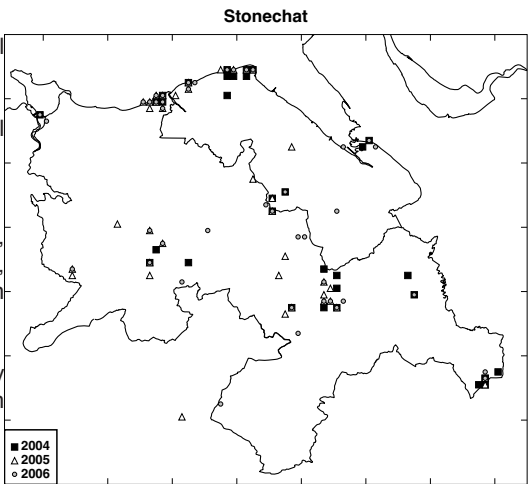
Denbs. Sixty eight records, from all months except Aug.

Flints. Thirty eight records, from all months except Sep, Oct and Nov.

2005

Denbs. 148 records from all months, with most records coming from Towyn, where juveniles were reported from 2/05 – 4/10 (SM).

Flints. Thirty seven records, from every month except August, mainly from coastal sites.



2006
Denbs. 132 records, from every month. Regular reports were received from Towyn (with juveniles from 16/05), Kinmel Bay (with a juvenile on 8/07, SM), and Mountain Lodge / World's End, RM.

Flints. Twenty seven records, from every month except Aug, Sep, and Nov.

Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*)
Breeding summer visitor.

TINWEN Y GARN

2004
Denbs. Forty five records. The first was of 3 birds at Llyn Brenig reserve, on 17/03 (NH) and the last record was Llyn Brenig again on 30/10 (ELJ).

Flints. Forty records. The first record was at Shotton on 17/03 (pRS) and the last was at Prestatyn on 6/10 (RMB).

2005
Denbs. Sixty one records. The first was a single male on 17/03 and the last was a single male on 23/10. Both records were from TB (SM).

Flints. Thirty six records of which the first was on 27/02 at Penycloddiau (ELJ) and the last was on 22/10 S of Rhyl (SM).

2006
Denbs. Ninety records. The first was of a single bird at CON on 24/03 (pALD) and the last record was, again, a single bird at CON on 20/10 (pALD).

Flints. Fifty three records. The first record was one male at CQNR on 25/03 (AN) and the last was one female, again at CQNR, on 16/10 (CL).

Ring Ouzel (*Turdus torquatus*)
Breeding summer visitor in small numbers to upland areas. Red List. WBAP

WYALCHEN Y MYNYDD

2004
Denbs. Six records. A male was seen displaying at the Horseshoe Pass on 12/04 (KS), where 2 males were seen on 18/04 and a further 2 birds were seen on 9/05. A male was seen at Eglwyseg on 20/04, and 1 male and 2 females were seen at World's End on 25/04 (JLR).

Flints. Just one record of 3 males near Cilcain on 8/04. (ELJ).

2005
Denbs. Five records. Single sightings were from Dinbren Isaf, Llangollen on 28/03, Horseshoe Pass (male) on 2/04, near Eglwyseg (male) on 21/04, Eglwyseg Mountain on 24/04 and Llangollen on 26/09 (JLR).

Flints. Two records. A male was reported at Llanasa on 27/02 and 24/03 (ELJ).
2006

Denbs. Five records. One pair was reported at World's End on 25/03 (AN). A male was seen near Eglwyseg on 7/04 (JLR), and another at Horseshoe Pass on 18/04 (JLR) and 3 were at Cadair Berwyn, Berwyn Mountains on 28/05 (MP). None were found breeding on RM or near Horseshoe Pass (JLR).

Flints. Four records. Single records were received from Oakenholt on 26/03 (AW) and Sarn, Tallarn Green on 7/05 (RW) but 6 were near Cilcain on 13/04 (ELJ).

Common Blackbird (*Turdus merula*)
Common and widespread breeding resident.

MWYALCHEN

A widespread and familiar species found in a range of rural and urban habitats throughout the county. Significantly under-recorded.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(B.)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	105	80	135
Flints.	98	341	197
	All months	All months	All months

Fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris*)
A very common passage and winter migrant.

SOCAN EIRA

2004
Denbs. Twenty one records, of which the last spring record was of 10 birds at Gresford Flash on 25/04 (NH) and the first autumn record was of a single bird at Top Reservoir, Penycae on 10/10 (JLR).

Flints. Fourteen records. The last spring record was of 2 birds on 22/04 and the first autumn record was of 14 birds on 8/10. Both records were from near Rhuddlan (SH).

2005
Denbs. Twenty eight records. The last spring record was on 8/03 at Afon Clwyd, Denbigh (ELJ) and the first autumn record was of 12 birds on 15/10 at Llangwyfan (WAO).

Flints. Seventeen records. The last spring record was of 163 birds flying E over Sychdyn on 20/03 (IMS) and the first autumn record was of 11 birds at SS on 23/10 (PT).

2006
Denbs. Forty records. The last spring record was of 50+ birds at Cwm Pennaner, W, Moel Eglwys on 10/4 (WAO) and the first autumn record was of 25 birds at Cae Llwyd Reservoir, Penycae on 27/10 (JAJ). The highest count was 1000 moving S, fast and high over Penycae on 12/11 (JAJ).

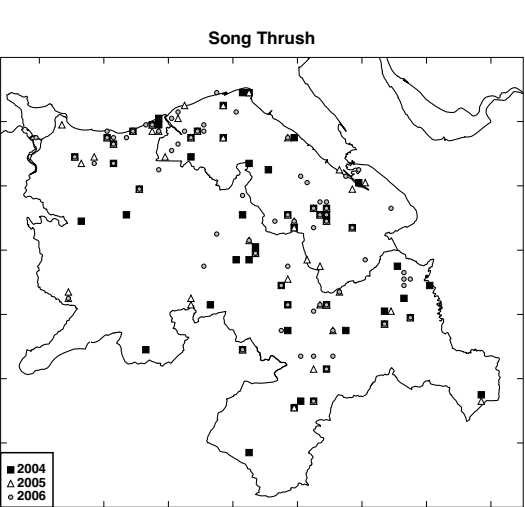
Flints. Fourteen records. The last spring record was of 30 birds on 23/03 at Oakenholt (AW) and the first autumn record was of 3 birds on 30/10 at CQNR (CL). The highest count was 175 near Rhuddlan on 24/12 (SH).

Song Thrush (*Turdus philomelos*)

Widespread breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List. WBAP

BRONFRAITH

This species is under-recorded and is most likely more common than the distribution map shows. Most records are from surveys – BBS, GBW or ringing.



except Sep.

2004
Denbs. Sixty six records, from every month.

Flints. Forty two records, from all months except Feb, Aug and Sep.

2005
Denbs. Fifty records, from all months except Aug and Oct.

Flints. Fifty records, from all months except Sep and Oct.

2006
Denbs. Sixty five records, from all months except Aug.

Flints. Sixty records, from all months

Redwing (*Turdus iliacus*)

Common passage migrant and winter visitor throughout the area. Amber list.

COCH DAN-ADEN

2004
Denbs. Eighteen records, of which the last spring birds (20) were reported on 18/03 at Clocaenog (KS) and the first autumn birds (200+) were reported on 9/10 at Top Reservoir, Penrycae (JLR).

Flints. Twenty three records. The last spring birds (2) were reported on 29/03 and the first autumn record (85) was on 9/10, both from near Rhuddlan (SH).

2005
Denbs. Thirty five records. The last spring birds (50+) were reported on 20/03 and the first autumn birds were reported on 7/10. Both records were from Wrexham (KS).

Flints. Thirty two records. The last spring bird was heard at night on 22/03 and the first autumn bird was heard at night on 5/10. Both records were from near Rhuddlan (SH).

2006
Denbs. Forty records. The last spring birds (650, and the highest count) were reported on 25/03 and the first autumn birds (7) were reported on 12/10. Both records were from Penrycae

(JAJ).

Flints. Thirty records. The last spring bird was heard at night on 27/03 and the first autumn record was on 13/10. Both records were from near Rhuddlan (SH). The highest count of 200+ was at Bodrhyddan Hall, Dyserth on 16/03 (MC).

Mistle Thrush (*Turdus viscivorus*)

Fairly common breeding resident.

BRYCH Y COED

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(M.)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	33	40	48
Flints.	30	27	27
	All months but Sep	All months but Sep	All months but Jul

Common Grasshopper Warbler (*Locustella naevia*)

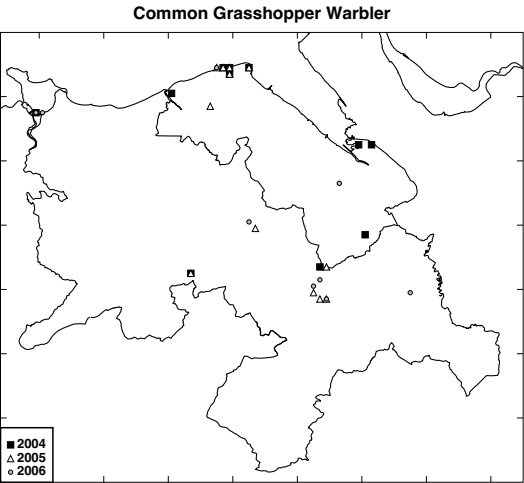
Localised summer breeding visitor. Red List. WBAP

TROELLWR BACH

2004
Denbs. Seven records. The first of the year was at RM on 20/04 (JLR). Two were heard reeling at CON on 9/05 and 1 was at Llandegla Moor on 15/05. At Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, 2 were ringed on 14/8, and 6 were ringed there on 15/08.

Flints. Fourteen records. The earliest was one at Shotwick Boating Lake on 8/04 and 9/04. POA held 2 birds on 22/04 and 4 on 26/04 and 2 were also reported S of Rhyl on 22/04. One was near Gronant on 3/05, with a further 1 at Gronant dunes on 4/05, 23/05 and 24/05 and 2 at Gronant on 28/05. One adult and a juvenile were at FLQ on 16/07 and 1 was heard at Broken Bank, Shotwick on the same day.

2005
Denbs. Nine records. This year's first was heard at RM on 12/04 (JLR). Single reports were then received for Nant-y-Ffrith Reservoir (1/05), near Cynr-y-Brain RM (6/05), near Rhuthun (10/05), and World's End (10/05 and 27/05). Two were calling at World's End on 26/05 and 1 was ringed at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest on 16/08. The last record was two at Nant-y-Ffrith Reservoir on 6/09 (SD).
Flints. Eight records. Three separate reports of single birds were received for 25/04 near Gronant with 4 there on 26/04 and 2 were at Barkby Beach, Prestatyn on 29/04, 1 at POA on 1/05 and the last report was for one heard



near Dyserth on 22/07.

2006

Denbs. Fourteen records. The first record of the year was at CON on 15/04, and was heard there until 23/04 (pALD). There was a single near Rhewl (4/05, MB); 2+ were heard reeling at Llandegla Forest on 10/05, 21/05, and 21/05; 3 were at RM on 26/04, with 1 there on 22/08. Records were also received from World's End (1/05 and 28/06) and Pentre Maelor, Wrexham (18/04 and 24/04).

Flints. Two records. The first was near Alltami on 25/04 (PaD) and a single from Barkby Beach, Prestatyn (28/04).

Sedge Warbler (*Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*)

TELOR YR HESG

Breeding summer visitor.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(SW)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	16	43	27
Flints.	21	28	23
	Apr to Oct	Apr to Aug	Apr to Aug

Eurasian Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*)

TELOR Y CYRS

Localised breeding summer visitor.

2004

Denbs. No reports were received.

Flints. Twenty records, with the first on 25/04 at SS (PT) and the last record was on 26/09 (pBH). All records came from two sites, mostly from ringing records with sixteen records from SS and four records from Deeside Industrial Park.

2005

Denbs. Five records were received from APMP from 18/05 to 31/08. (SM)

Flints. Twenty four records. The first reports were on 24/04, from Mold, NE (MWa) and SS (PT). Records were received from 4 sites, mainly from ringing - SS, Shotton Paper Mill, Gronant dunes and Shotwick. The last report on 25/09 at SS.

2006

Denbs. Three records. A single was reported at CON on 21/04 (pALD), 1 was at APMP on 2/06 (SM) and 15 birds were ringed at CON on 5/08 (IMS).

Flints. Twenty records of which the first was on 25/04 at Gronant dunes (GNR). One was at Shotton Paper Mill on 10/07 (IMS) and 1 was E of Rhyl on 25/07 (DCR). The last record was on 17/09 of 7 birds ringed at SS (pBH). Eight records came from SS and 8 from Deeside Industrial Park.

Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*)

TELOR PENDDU

Common breeding summer visitor with small numbers wintering.

The distribution of records suggests that the Blackcap is widespread and common across our area.

2004

Denbs. Fifty six records. Reports were received mainly from the southern half of the county, every month from Jan to Sep, and then from Wrexham and Rhuthun in Dec.

Flints. Forty nine records. Reports were received every month, except Mar, from across the county.

2005

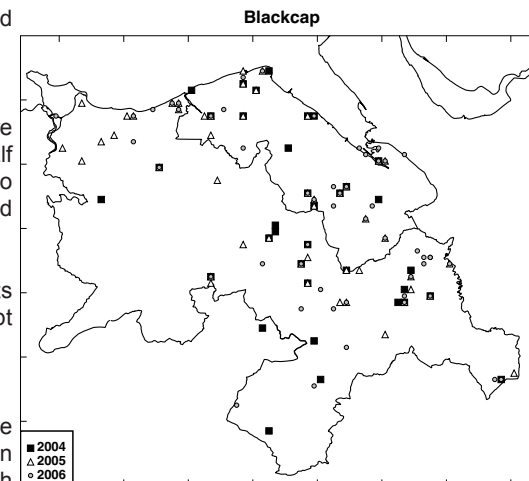
Denbs. Fifty nine reports were received from across the county, in every month except Feb and Oct, with more records from the N of the county than last year.

Flints. Seventy one records, from all months this year, from across the county.

2006

Denbs. Fifty three records, from every month except Jul.

Flints. Fifty seven records were received, from every month from across the county.



Garden Warbler (*Sylvia borin*)

TELOR YR ARDD

Breeding summer visitor.

Widespread in suitable areas of dense vegetation around woodlands and gardens and while less common than Blackcap they may be often overlooked. Poorly recorded in 2004 and 2005.

2004

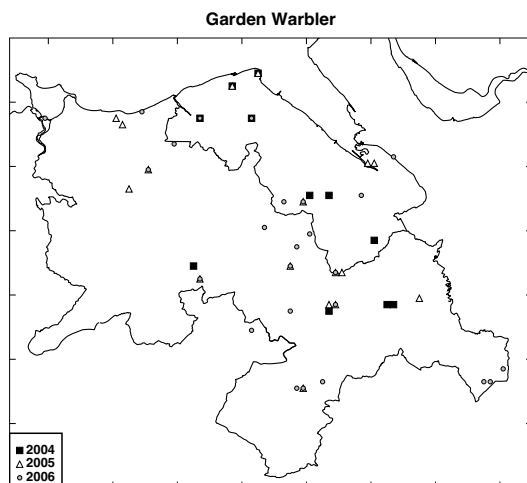
Denbs. Only four records this year. First seen on 5/05 at Erddig (NH) through to 23/08 at Rhuddlan (SH).

Flints. Seven records this year. Present at Rhydymwyn (DOJ) on 5/05. Last record Mold (AB) on 6/06.

2005

Denbs. Thirteen records. First noted on 12/04 at Llanddulas (EL) and last seen from Clocaenog (IMS) on 16/08, when one individual was ringed.

Flints. Six records only. First seen at Pantymwyn on 5/05 (MB). Last record of the year was on 25/09 at POA (CR).



2006
Denbs. Twenty three records this year. First record at Nant y Ffrith Reservoir on 26/04 (SD). Last seen on 4/09 from APMP (SM). Ten birds ringed at Bronbannog on 6/08 (IMS).

Flints. Eight records. First seen from Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 27/04 (PR). Other records from Apr and May only.

Lesser Whitethroat (*Sylvia curruca*)
Scarce breeding summer visitor.

LLWYDFRON FACH

2004
Denbs. Six records only. First record from Wrexham Industrial Estate on 03/05 (KS) and last seen on 8/10 in Towyn (SM).

Flints. Three records from Rhuddlan between 30/04 and 9/08 (SH).

2005
Denbs. Seven records. First 3/05 in Holt (NF) and last near Kinmel Bay 3/07 (SM). Breeding confirmed at Towyn on 17/06 (SM) where an adult was observed feeding a juvenile.

Flints. Thirteen records. Earliest record from Pantymwyn (MB) and Rhuddlan (SH) on 23/04. Last seen on 27/08 near Rhuddlan (SH).

2006
Denbs. Eleven records. Earliest in Towyn on 24/04 (SM) and last seen on 4/09 at CON (pALD).

Flints. Eight records: first from Rhuddlan on 23/04 (SH) and the last from the same site on 18/08. Breeding confirmed from the Rhuddlan and Cilcain areas.

Common Whitethroat (*Sylvia communis*)
Common breeding summer visitor.

LLWYDFRON

Widespread wherever there is lowland scrub throughout the recording area.

2004
Denbs. Twenty six records. First of the spring from Fenn's Moss on 20/04 (EHEM) with the last

record from Bronbannog on 5/09 (IMS) where two birds were ringed. Birds were recorded from suitable breeding habitat on four BBS surveys.

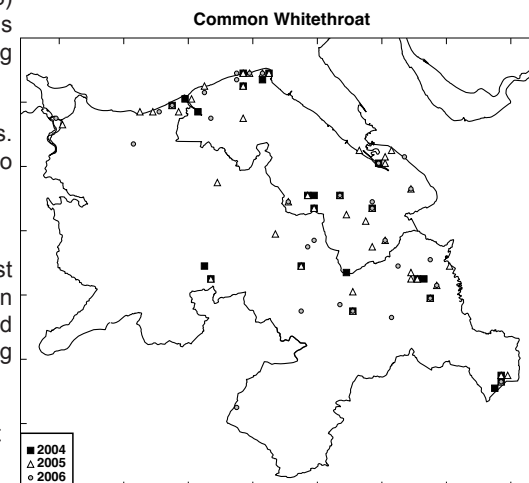
Flints. Sixteen records from 12 sites. Present from 25/04 at SS through to 5/09 when one was ringed (pBH).

2005
Denbs. Thirty six records. Earliest sighting came from Ruabon Mountain on 10/04 (pJLR) with the last record being of one bird ringed in Clocaenog at Bronbannog on 3/09 (IMS).

Flints. Twenty eight records. Present from 24/04 at Sandycroft (IMS) through to 31/07 at SS where a bird was ringed (pBH).

2006
Denbs. Twenty eight records. Present from 22/04 at CON through to 5/08 (pALD).

Flints. Twenty two records. First arrival noted on 21/04 at POA (ELJ). Last recorded at Deeside Industrial Park on 11/09 (pBH) where one individual was ringed.



Dartford Warbler (*Sylvia undata*)
Rare vagrant.

TELOR YR EITHIN

Recorded in only one year.

2006
Denbs. The only record was on 26/04.

Wood Warbler (*Phylloscopus sibilatrix*)
Scarce breeding summer visitor. WBAP

TELOR Y COED

Infrequently recorded each year from a few regular sites, including near Carrog and just outside our recording area at Bod Petruall (VC 48). In the breeding season recorded from mature deciduous woodland on the upland fringes.

2004
Denbs. Four records. Earliest at Horseshoe Pass on 28/04 (JLR) and last recorded from World's End on 25/05 (KS).

Flints. Two records: POA on 3/05 (ANB) and Loggerheads on 6/05 (ANB).

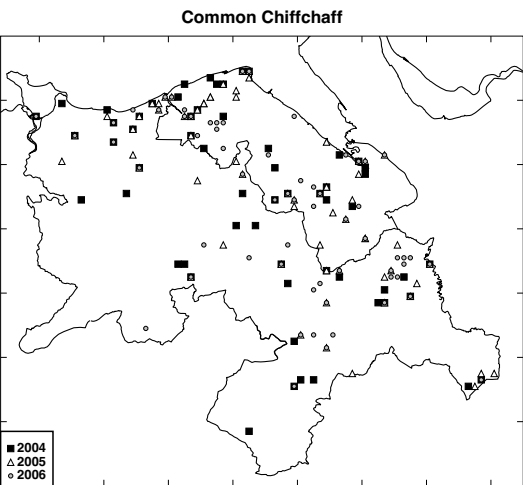
2005
Denbs. Five records. First at Fron Fawr, near Llangollen on 24/04 (JLR) and last at World's End on 25/05 (KS).

Flints. Only two records: POA on 1/05 (pRS) and Wepre Park 29/04 (SM).

2006
Denbs. Four records. First at Hendre, Llangollen on 24/04 (JLR), last at Cadair Berwyn 28/05 (MP).

Flints. Two records in early May from Nercwys Mountain (DD).

Common Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus collybita*) SIFF-SAFF
Common and widespread summer breeding visitor with some birds overwintering.



Recorded in almost every month in each county during 2004-6, summer visitors replaced in Oct-Mar by winter visitors.

2004
Denbs. Sixty eight records. First seen on 24/02 at Erddig, Wrexham (NH) but these three individuals could have overwintered. Successful breeding noted in Aug and Sep as several birds ringed at Bronbannog, Clocaenog on 15/08 (23) and 5/09 (24) IMS.

Flints. Fifty four records. Most records from Apr and May. First seen on 17/03 at Shotton (NH). Earlier records probably of overwintering birds.

2005
Denbs. Forty seven records. First of the spring probably at Chirk on 19/03 (ELJ). Last record on 8/10 at Bwlchgwyn (SD). Evidence of successful breeding again on 16/08 and 3/09 at Bronbannog when 42 and 27 individuals were ringed (IMS).

Flints. Seventy six records. Several coastal records in late February but most frequently reported from 20/03 onwards.

2006
Denbs. Sixty eight records. First reported on 25/03 at Cyffylliog (DD). A regular breeding species on BBS surveys.

Flints. Sixty one records. First spring sightings in Feb and early Mar but first migrants not heard singing until 28/03 at CQNR. Widespread in the breeding season.

Willow Warbler (*Phylloscopus trochilus*) TELOR YR HELYG
Common and widespread summer breeding visitor.

A regular breeding species on BBS surveys in both counties.

2004.
Denbs. Seventy six records. First record at Bersham Woods on 21/03 (ANB) and last seen at Towyn on 29/09 (SM).

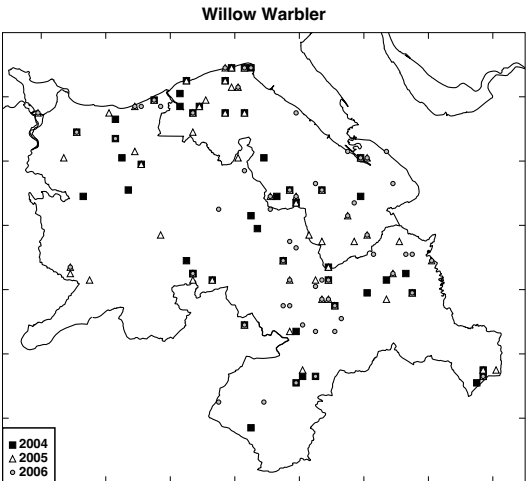
Flints. Fifty four records. Present from 02/03 at POA until 17/08 (pSD).

2005
Denbs. Fifty two records. Noted at Burton on 01/04 (KS). Last record at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest on 3/09 (IMS).

Flints. Thirty four records. First seen at Padeswood on 2/04 (GMR) through to SS on 25/09 (PT).

2006
Denbs. Fifty six records. First sighting on 2/04 at CON (pALD). Last seen at Bronbannog, Clocaenog on 8/09 (IMS).

Flints. Thirty six records. Seen at SS on 2/04 (PT). Last seen at same site on 3/09.



Goldcrest (*Regulus regulus*) DRYW EURBEN
Common and widespread breeding resident.

This species occurs in a variety of wooded habitats where conifers tend to dominate, including gardens. A regular breeding species on BBS surveys in both counties.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(GC)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	49	45	64
Flints.	26	29	36
	All months	All months	All months

Firecrest (*Regulus ignicapilla*) DRYW PENFFLAMMGOCH
Scarce migrant and winter visitor. Amber List.

Four records in 2004, no records in 2005 and two records in 2006.

2004
Denbs. A bird was ringed at Bronbannog on 16/10 (IMS) and two records from CON on 1/11 and 7/11 (ALD), which could have been the same bird.

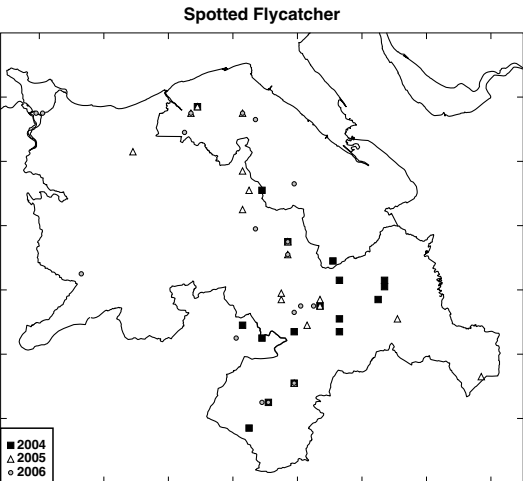
Flints. One record from Connah's Quay 26/02 (pRS).

2006
Denbs. One record from Llangollen 28/01 (ANB)

Flints. One record from Cilcain 10/12 (ANB)

Spotted Flycatcher (*Muscicapa striata*)
Uncommon breeding summer visitor. Amber List. WBAP

GWYBEDOG MANNOG



There have been few sites where this species has been recorded in each of the three years. Is this under-recording or signs of a speedy decline?

2004
Denbs. Twenty two records, the first noted on 17/05 in Garth (JLR), the last on 18/08 at Wrexham (KS). Breeding was confirmed at 3 sites.

Flints. One record only. An individual seen at Bodrhyddan Hall, Dyserth on 5/07 (MrsL).

2005
Denbs. Fifteen records. Earliest record at World's End 10/05 (SM), last from Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 28/08 (BR).

Breeding only confirmed from two sites this year.

Flints. Four records from 4 sites. First of the year at Rhuddlan on 27/05 (SM) and last at Rhuddlan on 26/06 (MrsL).

2006
Denbs. Eighteen records. First noted 5/05 at Llanarmon-yn-Ial (BR), last on 31/08 at CON (ALD). Breeding confirmed from four sites.

Flints. Five records. Individuals at Llyn Helyg on 10/06 (ELJ), Rhydymwyn on 24/06 (MB), St Asaph on 4/07 (SH), Gorsedd on 4/08 (ELJ) and Rhuddlan on 18/08 (SH).
Breeding (IMS, pDN):

(SF)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young fledged	Young per nest
2004	1	4	3	3.00
2005	2	9	8	4.00
2006	3	13	12	4.00

Pied Flycatcher (*Ficedula hypoleuca*)
Breeding summer visitor. GWYBEDOG BRITH

This species is usually found in upland areas with sessile oak. It will readily adapt to nestboxes where these have been erected and the majority of the records received are of ringed birds. Records largely from Apr, May and Jun, probably as the birds are much more difficult to locate once males stop singing in June and adults moult while juveniles undergo post-juvenile moult – but where?

2004
Denbs. First record from SW of Cilcain at Cae Newydd on 8/04 (PMR) and the last from Bwlchgwyn 6/08 (SD).

Flints. First spring record from Cilcain on 8/04 (ELJ) and the last record submitted for Loggerheads 22/06 (pBH).

2005
Denbs. At Llanarmon-yn-Ial, where birds breed regularly, the first bird seen was noted on 6/04, which is the earliest date in the twenty one years that records have been kept for this location. The last record of the season was from Coed Nantddu, Clocaenog on 18/06 (IMS).

Flints. First record from Hendre on 24/04 (ELJ). Last record received from Rhydymwyn on 16/06 (IMS).

2006
Denbs. Noted at Pentredwr on 15/04 (JLR). Last record from Pandy on 8/07 (pBH).

Flints. First record from Llyn Helyg on 13/04 (ELJ) with the last at Coed y Felin, Hendre on 8/06 (IMS).

Breeding (IMS, pDN):

(PF)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young fledged	Young per nest
2004	32	222	128	4.00
2005	22	149	100	4.55
2006	79	556	378	4.78

Long-tailed Tit (*Aegithalos caudatus*)
Common breeding resident. TITW GYNFFON-HIR

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(LT)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	39	56	141
Flints.	51	229	66
	All months	All months	All months

Blue Tit (*Cyanistes caeruleus*)

TITW TOMOS LAS

Common breeding resident.

Most records are from surveys – ringing, GBW, BBS

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(BT)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	254	189	196
Flints.	141	462	203
	All months	All months	All months

Breeding (IMS, pDN):

(BT)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young fledged	Young per nest
2004	78	699	494	6.33
2005	99	761	265	2.68
2006	149	1188	784	5.26

Great Tit (*Parus major*)

TITW MAWR

Common and widespread breeding resident.

Mainly recorded by surveys – ringing, GBW, BBS.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(GT)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	200	154	163
Flints.	125	449	181
	All months	All months	All months

Breeding (IMS, pDN):

(GT)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young fledged	Young per nest
2004	50	348	237	4.74
2005	65	392	230	3.54
2006	103	700	473	4.59

Coal Tit (*Periparus ater*)

TITW PENDDU

Widespread breeding resident, found in woodland and gardens.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(CT)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	114	67	93
Flints.	54	315	87
	All months	All months	All months

Willow Tit (*Poecile montanus*)

TITW'R HELYG

Scarce breeding resident in recently wooded areas. Red List. WBAP

A rarely recorded species that may easily be overlooked.

2004

Denbs. Five records: Pentrellyncymmer 21/02 (SM), World's End 27/07 (JLR), Bronbannog, Clocaenog, where birds were ringed on 15/08 and 22/08 (IMS) and World's End on 9/12 (JLR).

Flints. No records submitted.

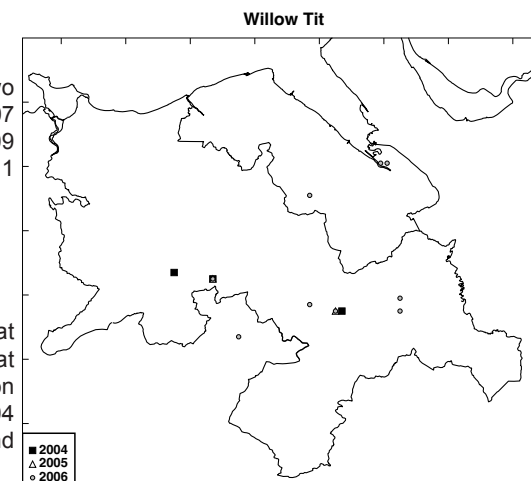
2005

Denbs. Five records only from two sites. Eglwyseg 17/01 (WF) and 16/07 (JLR), Bronbannog 16/08 and 3/09 (IMS) and Eglwyseg again on 3/11 (WF).

Flints. No records submitted.

2006

Denbs. Six records including 2 at Eglwyseg in Mar and singles at Bryneglwys 14/03 (JLR), Erddig on 11/04 (JLR), Puleston Mill on 18/04 (NH), Bronbannog on 6/08 (IMS) and at Eglwyseg in Dec (WF).



Flints. Two records: Individuals ringed at Cilcain on 29/05 and at SS on 27/08 (pBH).

Marsh Tit (*Poecile palustris*)

TITW'R WERN

Uncommon breeding resident frequenting well wooded habitats. Red List. WBAP

2004

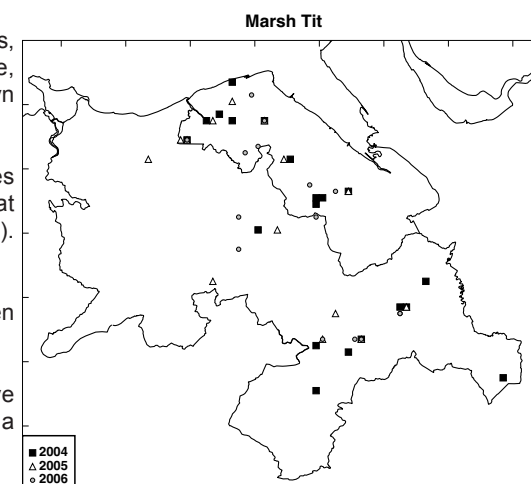
Denbs. Twelve records from nine sites, including Bodelwyddan Castle, Wrexham area, Fenn's Moss, Berwyn and Trevor.

Flints. Eleven records from ten sites including breeding confirmed at Rhydymwyn by ringing on 4/06 (IMS).

2005

Denbs Fourteen records from eleven sites.

Flint. Twenty one records from five sites including regular visits to a garden in Sychdyn in Jan and Feb.



2006
Denbs. Eleven records from eight sites.

Flints. Seven records from six sites.

Wood Nuthatch (*Sitta europaea*) DELOR Y CNAU
Common and widespread breeding resident.

This species occurs in a variety of predominantly mature, broadleaf woodland habitats including suburban gardens.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(NH)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	39	56	71
Flints.	17	245	50
	All but Feb, Aug, Sep	All months	All months

Breeding (IMS, pDN):

(NH)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young fledged	Young per nest
2004	1	7	0	0.00
2005	3	19	16	5.33
2006	2	17	17	8.50

Eurasian Treecreeper (*Certhia familiaris*) DRINGWR BACH
Widespread breeding resident.

Most records are from surveys – ringing, GBW, BBS

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(TC)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	16	24	19
Flints.	10	16	11
	All but Jan, Aug, Sep	All but Nov	All months

Great Grey Shrike (*Lanius excubitor*) CIGYDD MAWR
Scarce winter visitor.

Regularly recorded in three favoured sites in Denbs. only – Clocaenog Forest (Waen Uchaf, Foel Frech and Craig Bronbannog), World’s End and Fenn’s Moss.

2004
First record of 1 at Waen Uchaf on 4/01 (DOJ) with mainly a single bird seen on seven other

dates until 13/04 at Craig Bronbannog (KS) with 2 reported on 15/01 at the same place (PK). One was at Fenn’s Moss on 7/12 (TH).

2005
The first record at World’s End was 1 on 4/02 (ANB) with other records of the same bird until 20/02 (ANB). A single appeared at Craig Bronbannog on 10/04 (ANB) and was last seen at Foel Frech on 19/10 (ANB). A single bird was seen at Fenn’s Moss on 25/03 (ANB) and in the autumn 1 was there on 9/11 (ANB) with 6 further records until the last sighting on 17/12 (ANB).

2006
There was just 1 bird at Craig Bronbannog from 29/01 (ANB) with eleven other records until last seen at Foel Frech on 16/04 (ANB).

Eurasian Jay (*Garrulus glandarius*) YSGRECH Y COED
Fairly common breeding resident.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(J.)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	22	35	34
Flints.	11	113	58
	All but Feb, Sep	All but Jan	All months

Black-billed Magpie (*Pica pica*) PIODEN
A common and widespread breeding resident.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(MG)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	54	45	80
Flints.	133	262	135
	All months	All months	All months

Red-billed Chough (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhorocorax*) BRAN GOESGOCH
Rare breeding resident. Amber List.

2004
Denbs. One record this year on 13/04 (PM).

Breeding. Recorded at 1 nest with a minimum of 5 eggs, leading to 3 fledged young (WRSG).

2005
Denbs. Three records from two sites this year.

Breeding. Recorded at 1 nest with a minimum of 5 eggs, leading to 3 fledged young (WRSG).

2006

Denbs. Two birds were seen by the cliffs, Colwyn Bay on 19/02 (JuR) and on two occasions at CON on 27/02 and 16/10 (pALD). There were four records of up to 3 birds from elsewhere in the county.

Breeding: Recorded at 1 nest with a minimum of 5 eggs, leading to 3 fledged young (WRSG).

Eurasian Jackdaw (*Corvus monedula*)

JAC-Y-DO

Common breeding resident.

Most records from surveys – BBS and GBW.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(JD)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	42	48	62
Flints.	56	58	41
	All months	All months	All months

Breeding (IMS, pDN):

(JD)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young fledged	Young per nest
2004	1	2	2	2.00
2005	1	3	3	3.00
2006	4	15	15	3.75

Rook (*Corvus frugilegus*)

YDFRAN

Common and widespread colonial breeding resident.

Surprisingly few records received and few localities of rookeries have been recorded.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(RO)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	33	21	35
Flints.	28	25	21
	All but Nov	All but Feb	All but Aug

Carrion Crow (*Corvus corone corone*)

BRAN DYDDYN

Common breeding resident.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(C.)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	65	61	107
Flints.	65	60	89
	All months	All months	All months

Hooded Crow (*Corvus corone cornix*)

MAE'R FRAN LWYD

Occasional species.

2004

Denbs. One individual, possibly a hybrid, present in the Llangollen area seen by JLR on 24/04.

2005

Denbs. There was 1 near Towyn on 6/03 (SM) and 1 near Llangollen on 11/04 (JLR).

2006

Denbs. There was 1 near Llangollen on 28/01 and 20/05 (JLR).

Common Raven (*Corvus corax*)

CIGFRAN

Fairly common and widespread breeding resident.

Shows a preference for uplands but can occur almost anywhere.

2004

Denbs. Thirty three records. The most notable a flock of 20 at Llyn Brenig on 30/10 (ELJ).

Flints. Forty four records from twenty one sites ranging from the coastal to upland sites.

2005

Denbs. Sixty one records. The maximum was 90+ birds seen at roost at Penycae on 22/01 (JLR).

Flints. Fifty five records. Notably a flock of 18 flying over Moel Plas-yw (Moel Arthur) on 18/11 (MB) and 10 seen at Oakenholt Marsh on 19/09 (pRS).

2006

Denbs. Fifty six records. A flock of 50+ was seen in flight above the summit of Foel Gannol, Cyffyllog on 20/02 (DD) and 10 were seen at Denbigh on the banks of the Afon Clwyd on 28/01 (ELJ).

Flints. Sixty records received.

Breeding (WRSG, pDN):

(RA)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young fledged	Young per nest
2004	24	108	66	2.75
2005	19	88	57	3.00
2006	29	123	50	1.72

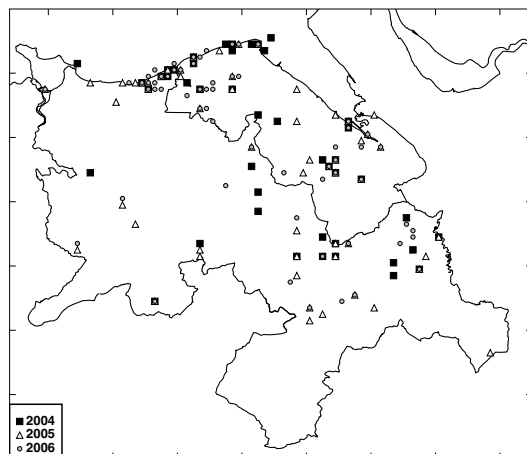
Common Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*)

DRUDWEN

Common and widespread breeding resident. Red List. WBAP

This species is under-recorded largely in the areas less populated by humans.

Common Starling



2004 Denbs. 58 records, from all months except Mar. The table shows the largest counts.

(SG)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
AKM		2000+		30								
KBRH		3000+										
PE		180+				30				100		
Towyn					30+	800+				200	1000+	
WBQ	20	1		8	10	200	40	100	90	12	150	40

Flints. 84 records, from all months of the year. The table shows where the largest counts occurred.

(SG)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CQNR							600					
GNW			300+									
GW	250+											
POA	50+			17		300+			100	100		20
POACF								30		30	350	
RSE	2000	3000										2300
RSP				40		15	150	200		600+		

2005

(SG)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CFBP			1000									
BRB		1000+										
CON	10000+											
LSW		400+										
MHLAI											324	
PE	4500											
TB					10	100+		1200+				

Denbs. Forty five records, from all months of the year. A new feature to the year is the very large roost that takes place in the reedbed at CON.

Flints. Ninety eight records (though many were daily records of 1+ at one site), from all months of the year. The table shows the maximum counts at single locations.

(SG)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CQNR											100	
POA					11		261				150	
RSE	1000	1000	1200									750

2006

Denbs. Sixty six records, from all months except Jul. The table shows the maximum counts at single locations.

(SG)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
AKM			2000+									
CON	10000+								20+			
MHLAI		200+										
PE										3500	380	
TB									160	180	20+	

Flints. The table shows the maximum counts at single locations.

(SG)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CQNR		1						300	30	200	300	
DS			2000+									
POA		200							5			
RSE			3000	50		36			100	2000		
SS								3000+				

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)

ADERYN Y TO

Common breeding resident. Amber List. WBAP

Recorded in most months in both counties. Across the area the species is widespread in both rural and urban land below 300m although the highest numbers were recorded from coastal towns and built-up areas. Breeding was confirmed at four sites in all years: Rhyl (RMB) and Towyn (SM) on the coast and at Bodelwyddan and Cefn Meiriadog, where young birds were ringed by IMS (see Ringing Report).

2004

Denbs. Flocks of over 100 regularly seen at Towyn in the winter months (SM). Highest count 160+ on 6/08.

Flints. Flocks of over 25 seen at Buckley (63 on 16/05 and 73 on 13/04 GNR), Rhuddlan (35 on 9/07 SH and 30 on 4/08 and 11/08, RMB) and Mold (25 on 6/06, AB).

2005
Denbs. Fewer flocks reported this year with a maximum of 80 at Towyn on 12/02 (SM).

Flints. Small family parties regularly recorded by BBS at Sychdyn (IMS/AB), Buckley (GNR) and POA (KM). Highest counts outside the breeding season were 200 at Rhyl (RMB) on 1/09, 43 at Rhuddlan (SH) on 8/08 and 25 at Rhosemor (MB) on 15/08.

2006
Denbs. Flocks of 40-90 recorded outside the breeding season from Towyn (SM) peaking at 90 on 2/08 and 12/09.

2006
Flints. Highest counts outside the breeding season were fewer than in previous years with 70 at Rhuddlan (SH) on 24/07 and 50+ at POA (MC) on 14/08.

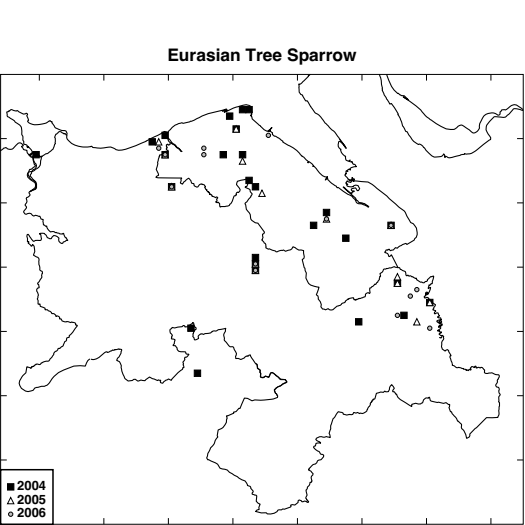
Breeding (IMS):

(HS)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young fledged	Young per nest
2004	49	160	93	1.90
2005	40	151	68	1.70
2006	61	212	120	1.97

Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*)
A scarce localised breeding resident. Red List. WBAP

GOLFAN Y MYNYDD

This species which is usually a multi-brooded, colonial nester is rarely reported in the breeding season outside the three known colonies regularly ringed by IMS (see Ringing Report) near Bodelwyddan and Cefn Meiriadog (Denbs.) and Sandycroft (Flints). More widespread reports are received outside the breeding season, most usually from lowland areas with arable farming in Flintshire and around Wrexham.



2004
Denbs. Small numbers reported in the months Jan-Mar from the coast and Wrexham area. Breeding confirmed in the Rhuthun area on BBS (MB). Flocks of 20+ reported in Nov-Dec from Coedpoeth (DS) and Borrass Quarry (LW).

Flints. Eighteen records scattered across the area.

2005
Denbs. Eleven records outside the two main breeding colonies. Flocks of 30+ seen at Burton (HL) on 4/04 and 17 at Holt (NF) on 17/02. Breeding probable around Francis Lane, Wrexham and NE of Rhuthun.

Flints. Only five records away from the breeding colony at Sandycroft. At a feeding station N of Sychdyn, 8 were seen on 24/03 (MB).

2006
Denbs. Small numbers recorded from only 7 locations away from the regular colonies. Breeding probable at Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd and NE Rhuthun. The breeding colony at Cefn Meiriadog was abandoned about mid-Sep for no known reason, at about one month after the nesting activity had ceased (IMS).

Flints. Only recorded from three sites away from Sandycroft with only one possible breeding effort reported.

Breeding (IMS):

(TS)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young fledged	Young per nest
2004	81	409	244	3.01
2005	85	407	257	3.02
2006	104	488	339	3.26

Chaffinch (*Fringilla coelebs*)
Common and widespread breeding resident.

JI-BINC

Most records from surveys – ringing, BBS, GBW

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(CH)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	174	139	174
Flints.	97	347	174
	All months	All months	All months

Brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla*)
Localised winter visitor in variable numbers.

PINC Y MYNYDD

2004
Denbs. Six records from four locations, most notably a flock of 100-120 from Clocaenog Forest on 29 and 30/11 (ANB)

Flints. Three records of singles and 1 pair at Shotton in mid Mar (DOJ) and another single from Holywell in late Apr (ANB).

2005
Denbs. Eleven records from six locations. All singles or twos with exception of 14 on 8/10 at Llangollen (JLR) and 12 flying S on 27/10 at Bwlchgwyn (SD).

Flints. Eight records from five locations. All single figures with exception of 11 at Padeswood on 29/10 (GNR).

2006

Denbs. Twenty nine records from eleven locations. Maximum number 20 in mixed flock with Chaffinches at Penycae on 17/02 (JLR) and 20 again at Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 3/03 (PR).

Flints. Seventeen records from eight locations. All single figures except 10 at Trelawnyd on 16/01 (RB).

European Greenfinch (*Carduelis chloris*)

LLINOS WERDD

Common breeding resident.

Mainly recorded by surveys – ringing, GBW, BBS.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(GR)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	132	74	105
Flints.	90	271	138
	All months	All months	All months

European Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*)

NICO

Common breeding resident.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(GO)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	72	88	103
Flints.	76	333	157
	All months	All months	All months

Eurasian Siskin (*Carduelis spinus*)

PILA GWYRDD

Breeding resident in forests, with marked spring passage of migrants in April.

Most records from surveys – ringing, GBW

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(SK)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	150	80	123
Flints.	28	11	73
	All but Sep	All months	All but Sep

Common Linnet (*Carduelis cannabina*)

LLINOS

Widespread breeding resident. Amber List. WBAP

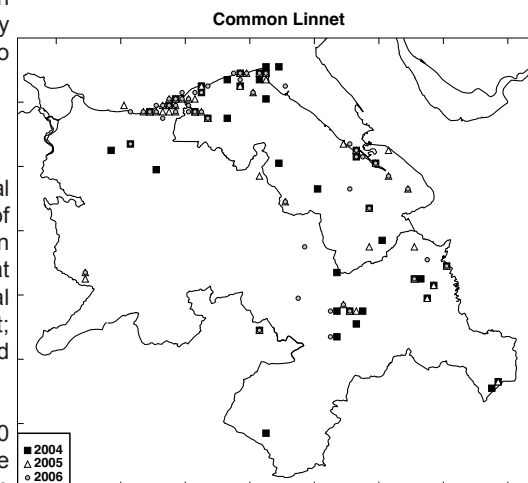
Most records coming from coastal areas with large flocks recorded in autumn and winter.

Breeding for this species not often recorded especially from sites away from the coast and this may be due to under-recording.

2004

Denbs. Small numbers seen at coastal sites in all months but larger flocks of 40-50 seen at Pensarn and Towyn in the autumn. Seen in single figures at inland sites. Penycae Res; several locations around Wrexham; Holt; Llangollen; Ruabon Moor and Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant.

Flints. Flocks of between 100-150 seen at POA in autumn. Single figure numbers seen inland during the breeding season. A flock of 40 recorded at Rhydymwyn on 7/03 (IMS) and 30 seen at FLQ on 8/09 (KhD).



2005

Denbs. The majority of records from coastal sites with flocks of 30-110 seen at Towyn, Kinmel Bay and Pensarn in the autumn and winter. Inland flocks seen at Burton (50 on 4/04 HL) and 40+ at Borrass Pool, Wrexham on 26/08 (KS).

Flints. Small flocks of between 15-30 regularly seen at coastal sites throughout the year. Maximum count was 300+ at Gronant dunes on 17/10 (ELJ). Several breeding season sightings inland were from BBS survey at Buckley, Queensferry and Sandycroft. The largest inland flock was of 200+ at Llanasa on 26/12 (ELJ).

2006

Denbs. Flocks of between 20-50 recorded from coastal sites at Kinmel Bay, Pensarn and Rhyl in the autumn and winter. Maximum (50) recorded on 3/03 at Kinmel Bay (SM). Inland, birds were recorded in the breeding season from Holt, Ruabon Moor and Castell Dinas Bran, Llangollen. On 9/11 PR saw a flock of 50+ feeding in kale fields along with chaffinches at Llanarmon-yn-Ial.

Flints. Almost exclusively coastal sites records with small numbers seen inland at Rhuddlan, Sandycroft, Cilcain, Buckley, Queensferry and Sychdyn.

Twite (*Carduelis flavirostris*)

LLINOS Y MYNYDD

Winter visitor to coastal areas. Red List. WBAP

2004

Denbs. Only two records, each of 3 birds at CON in Nov and Dec.

Flints. Twenty one records of birds seen in autumn, winter and early spring from Flint, POA, Gronant, Oakenholt and CQNR. Maximum of 40 on 9/03 at Oakenholt (PCW) and CQNR (ELJ) – these were probably the same birds.

2005
Denbs. No records this year.

Flints. Twenty one records, all late winter and early spring with the exception of 14 at Gronant on 15/11 (CR). Maximum count of 100+ on 9/01 in the Oakenholt, Bagillt, Flint area – seen by several observers.

2006
Denbs. Only a single record this year -3 birds seen on the estuary near CON on 24/12.

Flints. Fourteen records from Dee Estuary sites and Gronant. Maximum 50 at Flint on 27/01 (ELJ).

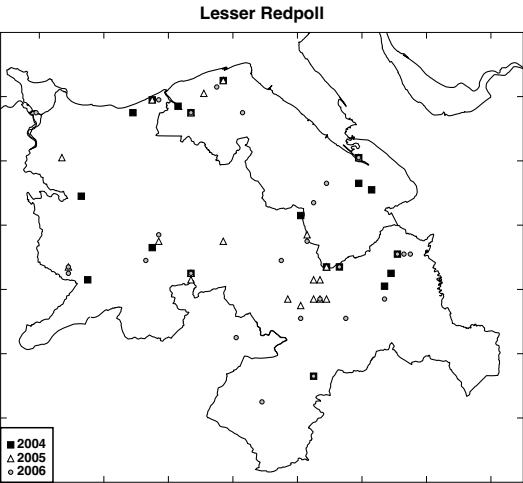
Lesser Redpoll (*Carduelis cabaret*)
Breeding resident. WBAP

LLINOS BENGOC

This species is most often recorded out of the breeding season from a range of sites, possibly related to forestry plantations, scattered over the recording area.

2004
Denbs. Small numbers (max.12) seen outside the breeding site from Abergele and Wrexham. Birds were ringed in Clocaenog Forest in late summer and autumn (IMS) and near Chirk (pBH). At Nant-y-Ffrith Res, 35 were seen on 28/08 (SD).

Flints. Only a couple of breeding season records from Gronant and Moel Findeg. Other records from SS, Ewloe, Marford Quarry and Rhuddlan with maximum number of 15 recorded around Rhuddlan on 26/03 (BE) and 2/04 (SH).



2005
Denbs. Flocks of between 10-20+ recorded in late winter and early spring from World's End, Bontuchel, Llandegla, Nant-y-Ffrith Res. And Eglwyseg. The last flock was recorded on 3/04 at World's End (KS). Small numbers seen in appropriate habitat in the breeding season but only one probable record of breeding when JLR saw a bird nest building at World's End on 15/05.

Flints. Only 11 records from 7 sites this year. 30 seen at Rhuddlan on 16/10 (SH).

2006
Denbs. Small numbers seen in a variety of sites during winter and early spring with the maximum flock size of 18 recorded near Llangollen by JLR on 13/04. In the breeding season birds were recorded on three separate BBS surveys and a bird was singing at Llyn Brenig on 14/05 (ELJ). 19 full-grown birds were ringed in Clocaenog Forest on 6/08 (IMS).

Flints. 16 records from 9 sites. A couple of sightings in Apr were from gardens, which were considered unusual records by observers.

Common Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*)
Usually a scarce breeding resident.

GYLFIN GROES

2004
Denbs. Birds seen in a range of sites with suitable coniferous woodland habitat with records scattered throughout the year. Flocks of over 10 birds were seen in Clocaenog (10 on 10/12 (WAO) and 30 on 16/11 (RMB)) and 22 at World's End on 31/10 (JLR).

Flints. One record of a single bird at POA on 30/10 (ANB).

2005
Denbs. Most records in late winter and early spring from the following sites. World's End, Moel Famau, Llangollen, Llandegla Forest, Eglwyseg, Mynydd Hiraethog, Nant-y-Ffrith Res., Pendinas Res., Penycae, Coed Pant-glas and Pentrebychan near Wrexham. Probable and confirmed breeding from several sites. Maximum flock size 40, including a high proportion of juveniles at Llandegla Forest on 6/05 (GGI).

Flints. Only 3 records from Rhuddlan (Apr), Gronant (Apr) and Mold (Jul).

2006
Denbs. Fewer records this year. 30 seen at Pendinas Res. on 30/11 (JAJ).

Flints. No records this year.

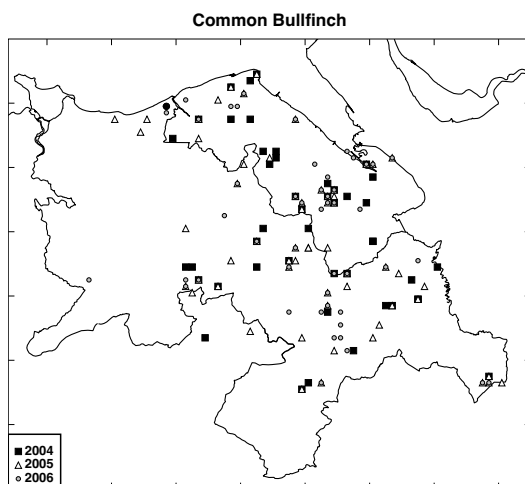
Common Bullfinch (*Pyrrhula pyrrhula*)
Breeding resident. Red List. WBAP

COCH Y BERLLAN

A fairly widespread and regularly recorded species in all months. This applies for all three years (see map). Usually recorded as singles or pairs with the occasional family group in summer.

Numbers of records and the months for which they were submitted.

(BF)	2004	2005	2006
Denbs.	54	58	36
Flints.	51	73	63
	All months	All months	All months



Hawfinch (*Coccothraustes coccothraustes*)

GYLFINBRAFF

Scarce breeding resident. WBAP

A species that is infrequently recorded with no confirmation of breeding during this report period. There were no records in 2004 and 2006.

2005

Denbs. Confirmed with autumn and winter sightings at Eglwyseg (WF).

Flints. Two seen at Pantymwyn on 21/11 (MB).

Lapland Longspur (*Calcarius lapponicus*)

BRAS Y GOGLEDD

Scarce vagrant.

2005

Flints. There was 1 seen at Llanasa on 26/12 (ELJ).

Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*)

BRAS YR EIRA

Regular coastal winter visitor in small numbers.

2004

Denbs. All coastal records (16 in total) from either Pensarn or Kinnel Bay. Maximum seen 20+ at Pensarn on 18/01 (DCR). Two inland sightings from Moel Famau (ANB) of a single on 16/11 and 2 on 26/12.

Flints. Eight records from Gronant and POA, with maximum of 9 seen at Gronant on 4/12 (ELJ).

2005

Denbs. More records (38) this year but of smaller numbers (max. 7). Most records from Towyn with a few from Pensarn and Kinnel Bay.

Flints. Small numbers recorded on 5 occasions, all from either Gronant or POA.

2006

Denbs. Eleven records all of small numbers at Pensarn.

Flints. Seven records (mainly singles) from POA, Rhyl splash point and Gronant.

Yellowhammer (*Emberiza citronella*)

MELYN YR EITHIN

Formerly common breeding resident. Red List. WBAP

Still breeding in small numbers in suitable habitat (arable farmland or land providing good sources of weed seeds) but possibly under-recorded.

2004

Denbs. Ones and twos seen in the breeding season from a range of sites including Wrexham, Abergele, Rhuthun, Cilcain, Minera, Holt and Derwen. Regular winter sightings, from a Bodfari garden where birds are fed, of individuals or small groups of up to 13 birds (OPJ).

Flints. Twenty eight records mainly of individuals in the breeding season, with a maximum of 9 seen around Llanasa on 10/04 (ELJ).

2005

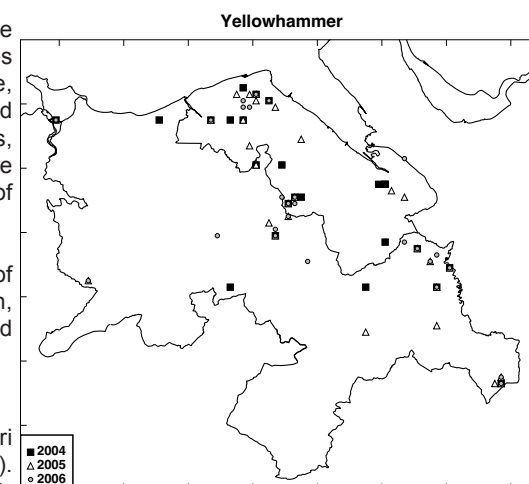
Denbs. Regularly seen in a Bodfari garden throughout the year (OPJ). Maximum 53 on 20/01 but flocks of 10-30 seen in all winter months. Recorded on BBS surveys and from several other sites in the breeding season. More widespread than in 2004.

Flints. Seventeen records mainly from 8 sites in the breeding season. Early spring record of 10 from Llanasa on 24/03 (ELJ).

2006

Denbs. Seen at 14 different sites in the breeding season but only one small winter flock of 8 birds at Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd on 24/02 (PT) this year.

Flints. Seventeen records, mainly of small numbers in the breeding season. Maximum flock of 8+ at Shotwick on 23/10 (WAO).



Reed Bunting (*Emberiza schoeniclus*)

BRAS Y CYRS

Breeding resident. Amber List. WBAP

2004

Denbs. Twenty five records from fifteen sites, seventeen of which were in the breeding season. Birds appear to breed regularly at Fenn's and Bettisfield Mosses.

Flints. Thirty six records from eleven sites. A flock of 19 at POA on 13/02 (JH) was notable. Ten birds were ringed at SS on 29/02 (pBH) but no confirmed breeding records were received.

2005

Denbs. Thirty one records from fifteen sites. Birds were recorded on four BBS surveys on both visits and were presumed to be breeding. Regular sightings were received from Fenn's Moss (EHM).

Flints. Forty four records from fifteen sites. Breeding confirmed at SS (PT). There were 10+ birds seen at Gronant dunes on 23/06 (SM) and at SS on 11/12 (PT).

2006

Denbs. Sixty two records from eighteen sites. Birds were recorded on four BBS surveys. No actual breeding confirmed. Winter flocks of 20+ and 15 seen at CON on 4/02 (MC/GC) and on 18/03 (AW).

Flints. Thirty four records from fourteen sites. Breeding confirmed from SS and Rhuddlan.

Corn Bunting (*Emberiza calandra*)

BRAS YR YD

Scarce localised breeding species. Red List. WBAP

Records of this species are sadly declining and it would appear that annual breeding no longer occurs. Only one record during these three years.

2005

Flints. One bird seen sitting on boundary fence at IMF on 15/05 (pCW).

Feral species and presumed escapes**Black Swan** (*Cygnus atratus*)

ALARCH DU

2004

Denbs. Two records: 1 at Trevalyn meadows on 3/11 (NFr) and 1 at Hanmer on 28/11 (KS).

Flints. Six records: 2 at Shotwick fields on 2/01 (DCR) and 1 at FLQ between 1/03 and 10/11 (KD).

2005

Denbs. There was 1 at Rhuddlan on 7/06 (SM).

Flints. No records.

2006

Denbs. Six records of 1 to 2 birds at CON from 23/03 to 13/09 (JC, pALD, AW).

Flints. Seven records of a single bird in the Rhyl / Rhuddlan area between 10/04 (SM) and 1/09 (KS).

Lesser White-fronted Goose (*Anser erythropus*)

GWYDD DALCEN-WEN LEIAF

2004

Denbs. A single bird probably of feral origin was present in the Conwy area from 23/04-3/09 initially at CON and later at Abergele (ALD, EL, SM).

2005

Denbs. Just one record of 1 at CON, probably an escape, on 1/08 (DCR).

2006

Denbs. Twenty-eight records of 1 or 2 birds at CON between 19/03 and 26/07 (pALD).

Canada / Greylag Goose hybrid

2006

Denbs. One record of a single bird at Gresford Flash on 21/01 (KS).

Egyptian Goose (*Alopochen aegyptiaca*)

GŴYDD YR AIFFT

2005

Denbs. One record of 6 birds near Ridleywood on 14/11 (NFr).

Flints. Five records of 2 to 6 birds between Rhyl and Rhuddlan from 8/08 (CR) to 28/08 (ANB).

2006
Denbs. No records.

Flints. Five records of 2 to 4 birds between Rhyl and Rhuddlan from 5/07 (ANB) to 22/08 (SM).

Ruddy Shelduck (*Tadorna ferruginea*) HWYADEN GOCH YR EITHIN

2004
Denbs. Two birds were recorded at CON on 19/06 (pALD). They flew NE from the reserve.

2005
Flints. A single bird was recorded at Oakenholt Marsh during a WeBS count on 19/09 (RH).

2006
Flints. Two records were received, all from CQNR. A single bird was seen on 18/05 and 11/06 (CM) whilst 2 birds were recorded on 9/06 (CM).

American / Eurasian Wigeon hybrid

2006
Denbs. Five records of a single bird at CON between 4/01 to 19/02 and again from 21/11 to 27/12 (pALD).

Great White Pelican (*Pelecanus onocrotalus*) PELICAN GWYN

Only one record.

2006
Denbs. A single was seen flying S over Llandrillo-yn-Rhos on 7/10 (STh).

Common Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) FFESANT
Locally common breeding resident, especially in areas where large numbers released by shooting interests.

Widespread across the county.

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) COLOMEN Y GRAIG
Common and a pest in many towns

2005

Denbs. One record of 6 at Mynydd y Gyrt on 9/05 during a BBS walk (DMP).

Flints. Four records of 4 to 8 birds seen during BBS walks at Buckley (GNR) and near Sandycroft (IMS).

2006
Denbs. Two records: 20+ at CON on 7/04 (JC) where they benefit from food put out for wild birds and 4 seen at Llandegla on 15/06 during a BBS walk (AAL)

Flints. Eleven records. Mainly from in or close to towns with a maximum of 50 near Rhuddlan on 8/12 (SH).

Trumpeter Finch (*Bucanetes githagineus*) LLINOS UTGANOL
Presumed escape.

2006
Denbs. One record of a single at Towyn on 15/10 (SM) feeding with House Sparrows.

Records for which we await decisions by the British Birds Rarities Committee:

Stilt Sandpiper, 11-13 July 2006, Conwy RSPB

Rosy Starling, 6-14 October 2006, Conwy RSPB

If accepted, these will be incorporated into the report for 2007.

Records submitted to the Welsh Rarities Panel too late for acceptance prior to this report

American Wigeon, 31 March 2006, Connah's Quay NR

Montagu's Harrier, 22-30 June 2006, Fenn's Moss

Common Redpoll, 28-29 January 2006, Wrexham, Borrass Pool

Arctic Redpoll, 24 January 2006, Saltney

If accepted, these will be incorporated into the report for 2007.

First and last dates of selected migrants

	First dates				Last dates		
	2004	2005	2006		2004	2005	2006
Eurasian Hobby	3/05	24/04	23/04		14/09	2/10	4/08
Little Tern	3/05	25/04	25/04		31/08	23/08	26/08
Sandwich Tern	4/04	23/03	27/03		27/09	18/09	13/10
Common Tern	2/04	23/04	1/04		21/09	29/08	7/09
European Nightjar	1/05	27/05	3/06		26/07	10/07	30/06
Common Swift	22/04	27/04	16/04		10/09	23/07	27/08
Sand Martin	17/03	17/03	26/03		1/10	18/09	21/09
House Martin	15/04	3/04	2/04		23/10	30/10	10/10
Barn Swallow	21/03	1/04	27/03		18/10	26/11	13/12
Tree Pipit	17/04	12/04	22/04		22/08	2/07	26/06
Yellow Wagtail	24/04	25/04	18/04		31/07	26/07	12/09
Common Redstart	21/04	19/04	15/04		5/09	3/09	25/08
Whinchat	Apr	20/03	23/04		4/11	3/07	1/09
Northern Wheatear	7/03	27/02	24/03		30/10	23/10	20/10
Ring Ouzel	8/04	27/02	25/03		25/04	26/09	28/05
Fieldfare	8/10	15/10	27/10		25/04	8/03	10/04
Redwing	9/10	5/10	12/10		29/03	22/03	27/03
Common Grasshopper Warbler	8/04	12/04	15/04		15/08	6/09	22/08
Sedge Warbler	28/04	11/05	21/04		14/09	31/07	27/08
Eurasian Reed Warbler	25/04	24/04	21/04		26/09	25/09	17/09
Garden Warbler	5/05	12/04	26/04		23/08	25/09	4/09
Lesser Whitethroat	30/04	23/04	23/04		8/10	27/08	4/09
Common Whitethroat	20/04	10/04	21/04		5/09	3/09	11/09
Wood Warbler	28/04	24/04	24/04		25/05	25/05	28/05
Common Chiffchaff	17/03	19/03	25/03		5/09	3/09	?
Willow Warbler	2/03	1/04	2/04		29/09	25/09	8/09

This table, which will be a regular feature of the bird report in future, shows the recorded first and last dates for the majority of species regarded as migrants in north-east Wales. One notable exception is Blackcap which is omitted from this table because this species is now seen throughout the year, winter records coming mainly from gardens. First and last dates of genuine migrants then become impossible to distinguish from those of over-wintering birds.

Recorders are keen to note the first date when migrants are seen or heard each year but the last recorded dates show considerable variability. In 2005, the last Swift record was from July which may genuinely indicate an early departure but may equally show that recorders forgot to note later sightings. The last Swallow records in 2005 and 2006 were extremely late and conversely species such as Ring Ouzel, Wood Warbler and Pied Flycatcher were rarely seen after mid-summer. Recorders are encouraged to note down sighting dates for all these migrants so that future trends can be examined.

Anne Brenchley

Articles

Action for Farmland Birds in Conwy

Britain's countryside has undergone major change since the Second World War. Agricultural policy change meant that farmers intensified their methods, achieving this by mechanisation, taking out field boundaries such as hedges, draining fields and filling in ponds to make the most of every possible piece of land. Such actions have resulted in Britain losing 95% of its wildflower meadows, 85% of its lowland heath and over half of the ponds since 1945. This intensification was compounded by advances in crop breeding and urbanisation. Not only had the habitats disappeared or been altered, but the seasonal cycle that our wildlife had become accustomed to had also changed. Many farmland bird species were unable to adapt to these changes and underwent population declines, many of which continue today. The species most affected are Lapwing, Black Grouse, Yellowhammer, Tree Sparrow, Linnet, Barn Owl and even species that are thought to be common, such as Bullfinch and Song Thrush. All of these species are recognised as needing conservation action in Conwy and are therefore included in the Conwy LBAP.

One project that is being carried out to help two bird species affected by these changes is the Hiraethog project. The Hiraethog moors are on the Conwy / Denbighshire border, in the south of Conwy County. It is an area of agriculture and forestry and has been a great area for wildlife in the past. Lapwing and Black Grouse were once common here and land with known records for these species is being targeted for appropriate land management to benefit these species. Such works include reed management and creating scrapes for Lapwing and heathland and forestry management for Black Grouse. The project has partners including RSPB, Forestry Commission, Countyside Council for Wales, North Wales Wildlife Trust, Welsh Development Agency, Welsh Water and Conwy and Denbighshire County Councils. Funding for the project has been made possible with assistance from the European Union's Objective 1 programme (through the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund provided through the Welsh Assembly Government) with additional support from Conwy and Denbighshire County Councils.

There are also two other major sites in Conwy where many efforts have been put into conservation action for Lapwing. The first is at the RSPB Conwy reserve, a site which was created from the spoil when the A55 was built, where Lapwing now successfully breed, with 13 pairs breeding in 2005. This site is also important as a place where local people can come and get to know this bird, which was once a familiar sight across Conwy. The other location where Lapwings are thriving in Conwy is at Morfa Madryn, near Llanfairfechan (owned by Conwy and Gwynedd County Councils). The reserve is managed by tenant farmers, who tailor their actions for the Lapwing. The site consists of low-lying marshy fields and has a series of pools and scrapes. The project has been a very successful one and in 2005 was the best breeding site for Lapwing in Wales, with 42 pairs present. Like the RSPB reserve this site also allows members of the public to enjoy their local birds.

The Barn Owl is another species mostly associated with farmland, a beautiful bird, which is known to have undergone population declines across much of the UK. However, the status of the Barn Owl population in Conwy is relatively unknown. In order to address this issue the North-East Wales Barn Owl project was launched. The project has resulted in over 50 landowners being contacted and over 30 farmers requesting to have Barn Owl nest boxes erected in their barns. Boxes have already gone up in 8 Conwy farms, but there are still many boxes for us to put up over the winters of 2006 and 2007.

We are lucky enough in Conwy to have received funding from the European Union Objective 1 funds (provided through the Welsh Assembly Government) and the Countryside Council for Wales to put towards conserving and enhancing the biodiversity of Conwy's countryside. Since the autumn of 2004 we have been able to carry out biodiversity projects on land throughout Conwy. One project we have just started is one specifically designed to help conserve smaller farmland birds, such as Tree Sparrow and Yellowhammer. This project includes improving bird habitat on farms that carry out pheasant shoots and hence already have some cover crops present. By making some fairly basic adjustments, such as protecting scrub habitat and hedgerows for roost and nest sites and providing the farmers with additional seed mixes to mix with their kale to provide a more favourable food supply for smaller birds, we hope we can greatly help to increase the local populations of these species.

In summary, the aim of these projects is that one day the local community of Conwy will not be so amazed to see species such as the Lapwing at nature reserves like Morfa Madryn or RSPB Conwy because they and other farmland birds will be a familiar sight throughout Conwy's countryside once again.

Becky Groves, Biodiversity Project Officer, Conwy County Borough Council

Y Graig Nature Reserve

Y Graig (The Rock) is a nature reserve on a small limestone escarpment near the village of Tremeirchion. It has been managed by the North Wales Wildlife Trust since 1987 to protect the calcareous grassland, woodland, scrub and bare rock habitats it supports. The reserve is 8.6 ha in size and is divided between three owners: the NWWT (4.8 ha); Denbighshire County Council (2.4 ha); and the Tremeirchion Consolidated Relief in Need Charity (1.5 ha).

Approximately half the reserve is Oak woodland with a well developed understorey of Hazel, Hawthorn, Holly, Cherry and Rose. Ash, Elm, Sycamore and Silver birch are scattered throughout the woodland as well as the occasional mature Beech, which are a noticeable feature of the site. The woodland floor supports a range of native plants, noticeably Bluebell and Common Dog Violet in spring, and Herb Robert, which seems able to produce flowers almost throughout the year.

The reserve offers magnificent views of the Vale of Clwyd from its upper slopes and rounded top, which support limestone grassland with areas of bracken. Sheep's Fescue is the dominant grass, within which a variety of plants grow such as Common Rock-rose, Salad Burnet, Ploughman's Spikenard, Bird's-foot Trefoil, Common Stalk's-bill, and Carline Thistle. Small patches of acid soil within the grassland allow Bell Heather, Heath Bedstraw and Tormentil to grow. A disused quarry exists at the southern end of the reserve, within which notable flowers such as Autumn Ladies Tresses, Pyramidal Orchid and Autumn Gentian may be found. The grassland habitats are kept in good condition by a small herd of hardy Hebridean sheep, a primitive breed able to take care of themselves, and bracken and scrub are cleared by hand every year to keep it under control.

Many bird species frequent the reserve including Great Tit, Marsh Tit, Treecreeper, Nuthatch, Green and Great Spotted Woodpecker, Jay and Pied Flycatcher. Woodcock often overwinter within the woodland areas, which are regularly patrolled by Tawny Owls. The areas of Gorse,

Blackthorn and Hawthorn scrub provide good breeding habitat for Yellowhammer, Mistle Thrush, Bullfinch, Whitethroat, Blackcap, Long-tailed Tit and Greenfinch. Buzzards can often be seen in the skies around the reserve, taking advantage of thermals rising from the ground.

Wild mammals are less visible, but Polecats, Wood Mice and Bank Voles have been seen, and most recently, hazelnuts gnawed by Dormice have been found within the reserve, which provides very good proof that they are present.

Y Graig is also a great place for invertebrates and 25 butterfly species have been recorded including Holly Blue, Comma, Purple Hairstreak, Orange Tip, Dingy Skipper, Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary, Grayling, Brown Argus and Green Hairstreak. In June and July, the pale greenish light from female Glow Worms attracting a mate can be seen on the south and west facing grassland areas. Ant hills made by the Yellow Meadow Ant are also visible in the grass, and this indicates that the site has not been ploughed, probably due to its shallow soils.

A number of paths through the reserve enable good access for the reasonably fit, and circular walks are possible. Picnic tables have also been carefully placed to provide great places to have a packed lunch while enjoying the wonderful views!

Y Graig is situated half a mile south of Tremeirchion, to the east of St. Asaph at SJ 086 721. From the A55 turn south on to the B5429 for 2 miles. From the A541, turn North at Bodfari for 2 miles. Park at the side of the road opposite Tremeirchion Chapel. A reserve leaflet is available from the NWWT on 01248 351541 and costs 25p. Members of the NWWT get a booklet about the reserves for free, so why not call and join us!

Adrian Lloyd Jones, Conservation Officer (East), North Wales Wildlife Trust

Wildlife Crime in North-East Wales

I have been asked to submit an article reflecting on some of the wildlife crime work of North Wales Police in North-East Wales. During the past five years hundreds of files have crossed my desk and we have been able to resolve many of these cases without recourse to the courts. Unfortunately probably even more files remain unresolved. Establishing guilt beyond all reasonable doubt as required by criminal courts is a hard call for any criminal offence but where the injured party cannot communicate with you life becomes even more difficult. Dr Doolittle would have been a wonderful resource for any wildlife crime officer.

Taking up post I was perhaps very naive in thinking that I would be spending the majority of my time dealing with the high profile wildlife crime of egg theft with perhaps a bit of poisoning thrown in. I was immediately disabused of this on my very first shift as the first case brought to my attention related to the destruction of Great Crested Newt resting places. Eventually that case went to court with the developers being found guilty; unfortunately this was a detection rate that could not be sustained.

Although perhaps not the greatest part of our work, Divisional Wildlife Crime Officers and I have spent a lot of time investigating wildlife crime relating to birds and I would like to reflect on some of our work in North-East Wales. This area has never been an area visited routinely by Operation Easter targeted egg collectors. These are a group of people identified by the Police as active egg collectors who travel throughout the United Kingdom taking the eggs of

some of our most vulnerable species. Indeed on reflection I can only recall one incident of the eggs of Schedule 1 birds having been stolen within North-East Wales and that on the very western fringes of Conwy. There is however intelligence to suggest that some of the Operational targets visit the area on a regular basis.

The Spring of 2006 saw a very interesting case involving the disturbance of a Goshawk in the Clocaenog forest. The offender in this case was not interested in taking eggs but was instead a rogue photographer who wished to photograph the birds on the nest. It must be said however that there were clear links to the egg collecting community. The consequence of his activities was that the nest was abandoned.

The most pleasing aspect of this case for me was not actually gaining the conviction but the way in which so many people gave so freely of their time and expertise. In my view the case was a great example of partnership working with so many people and organisations making such valuable contributions. It is perhaps wrong to single out particular individuals but Pete Burton made such a valuable contribution it would be remiss not to mention him by name.

The fine imposed on the individual may not have been huge at £400 but he had his equipment of equal value confiscated and was banned from entering any nature reserve for 12 months. This was the first such penalty ever imposed in the UK.

Operation Easter and the introduction of custodial sentencing led a couple of years ago to the Police being informed that the level of egg collecting had reduced to such an extent that it was probably no longer the criminal activity that posed the greatest threat to schedule 1 birds and raptors in particular. Instead it was suggested that our efforts should be directed at illegal poisoning. This is where most of our time is now spent.

The poisoning of Peregrine Falcons is sadly an activity that is encountered most years. Annually we find or hear of pigeons smothered in poison having been staked out near eyries where they have been taken by Peregrines. In one particular incident we were fortunate to receive reports of young Peregrines suffering from the effects of poisoning at an early stage. Working with the RSPCA on that occasion the chicks were recovered from the quarry they resided in and taken for veterinary treatment where they recovered and were subsequently returned to the territory a few days later.

Whilst the recovery and eventual return of Peregrines might be considered to be a success the fact was that we (the Police) did not have any evidence that could be used to form a prosecution against those responsible. Realistically obtaining enough evidence to institute proceedings in relation to the poisoning of peregrine falcons is unlikely to happen. If we sit back and wait for evidence to be presented to us it is unlikely that any positive action would be taken and we have, therefore, tried to use other means. Such an alternative is likely to take the form of intelligence obtained from sources with knowledge of who is poisoning Peregrine Falcons and the methods being used.

By gathering intelligence proactive action has been taken against those suspected of poisoning Peregrine Falcons in Conwy and Denbighshire. On one occasion search warrants were executed on a number of premises resulting in searches of pigeon lofts and private houses. More recently we have asked and accompanied Inspectors of the Welsh Assembly Government to search private dwellings and associated buildings. Such searches are of course unlikely to turn up evidence of a specific offence where birds have been poisoned but are directed more at finding evidence relating either to the possession of illegal pesticides

such as alphachloralose or of illegal use and storage of chemicals that can be lawfully possessed.

None of the searches outlined were successful on the day but there is no doubt that those targeted as well as others in their social circle received a very strong message to the effect that we take the issue seriously. It might perhaps be rather too early to be congratulating ourselves but the fact is that since those searches were conducted there have been no incidents of Peregrine persecution in an area that had previously been identified as a poisoning hotspot.

The poisoning of Peregrine Falcons is not the only form of poisoning that takes place in North Wales. Gamekeepers are often deemed to be persecutors of anything with talon or claw. In reality in North Wales we have had very few poisoned birds being recovered in situations suggesting persecution by game interests. However two years ago North Wales Police received intelligence to the effect that raptors were being routinely persecuted on a Flintshire estate. The suggestion was that an under-keeper was poisoning the birds without the knowledge of his head keeper.

On the basis of the intelligence received magistrates were prepared to issue search warrants which were executed in an operation involving not only North Wales Police but also Welsh Assembly Government Inspectors and investigators from the RSPB's investigation unit. The search took place over a number of hours and included not only a dwelling but also numerous outbuildings and the grounds of the estate, in particular the areas around the pheasant release pens. No evidence of raptor persecution was found but two large tins of Cymag were found in an outbuilding. Cymag is a chemical that was in common use as a pesticide but its use was banned some years ago with possession having been made illegal more recently. Other pesticides were found stored in a manner that did not conform to legal requirements.

It is clear that on many occasions where gamekeepers persecute birds of prey they do so because of pressure exerted on them by their employers or those for whom they provide shooting. Those pressures can become enormous where tied accommodation and family considerations are taken into account.

In the past where gamekeepers have been convicted they shoulder the blame with their employees not being required to evidence that they had taken measures to prevent illegal acts taking place. In more recent times legislation has been passed that requires employers to ensure that they carry out proper health and safety assessments relating to the storage and use of hazardous materials including pesticides. As a consequence where the Police are investigating potential offences the focus of the enquiry will be on the employers as much as the employees.

In the case outlined the head keeper was eventually formally cautioned for offences relating to the offences identified. His employers, a family of standing in the community, were able to demonstrate that in this particular case that they had no legal responsibility for the proper storage of pesticides. However the fact that they were the focus of a criminal investigation again sent a clear message that where offences relating to pesticides are being investigated employers as well as employees are equally liable.

There are many other issues involving birds that North Wales Police Wildlife Crime Officers have investigated in North-East Wales. Illegal trading of song and shore birds taken from the wild, the intentional killing of a Mute Swan by the rider of a water bike, the intentional killing of

a Sparrowhawk by a young driver, and the illegal setting of pole traps have all resulted in prosecutions. Operation Artemis, a national Policing Operation aimed at tackling Hen Harrier persecution, has been implemented whilst the illegal trading of taxidermy specimens on internet auction sites has been identified as an emerging problem. We therefore have plenty to do but we cannot do it without the assistance of the public who can help so much. If you have information please call North Wales Police (0845-6071-6002) or me (07818-076008) directly if you prefer. Contact will always be treated as confidential unless you agree otherwise.

Sergeant Pete Charleston, Wildlife Liaison Officer, North Wales Police

North Wales Breeding Bird Atlas 2008-2011

Your help is needed!

The next few years will be very exciting for birdwatchers in north Wales (Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Gwynedd including Ynys Môn across to Wrexham) because we are undertaking a major bird atlas project that everyone can take part in. Many other parts of the UK have done local bird atlases since the 1960s but this has never been done in north Wales. Maybe the size of the task has been too daunting and no-one has been brave enough to take on the project but a small group of keen but slightly mad birdwatchers decided that the time was right. The British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) was organising its national repeat of the Wintering and Breeding Atlases for the UK and if we were to do an atlas project in north Wales then it had to be now. This group of people comprises Andrew Dale, Geoff Gibbs (Caerarfonshire), Kelvin Jones (Meirionnydd), Peter Stuttard (Ynys Môn) and myself.

A local atlas can provide invaluable baseline information that helps to determine conservation priorities and action. Not surprisingly, the project has received support from all the major statutory and voluntary conservation organisations, local authorities etc across the area. This support is essential in promoting the project but the main task will be to find sufficient volunteers to adequately cover what is a huge geographic area including some quite remote and not readily accessible terrain.

The basic survey unit for the atlas is a tetrad (2x2 km square). There are 25 tetrads in each 10km square and in north Wales this amounts to just less than 1600 tetrads. We are only aware of a couple of hundred regular birdwatchers/recorders/surveyors across the whole of north Wales so covering all these tetrads is going to be a tall order. This project will rely on the input of those dedicated few but offers the great opportunity to bring on board new volunteers and introduce them to the delights of atlasing, which I can assure you is great fun. Although we are asking surveyors to spend only 2-4 hours in each and every tetrad in the breeding season, some tetrads will require at least this much travelling time just to get there.

We sowed the seeds for this project with birders and local clubs in 2005 and started having regular planning meetings in 2006. A website will be going live in late 2007 (www.northwalesbirdatlas.co.uk) . This will provide a lot more detailed and up-to-date information. This project has been given a lovely Lapwing logo by our celebrated local artist Thelma Sykes.

What will the atlas tell us? We have heard a lot about species declines over the past few years and sadly for many of our specialised woodland and farmland species such as Lesser Spotted Woodpecker and Yellowhammer, these declines may well have continued. There are, however,

some winners as well as losers and Little Egret is likely to be one of these. The atlas will be comprehensive and there may be some pleasant surprises as gaps in distribution are filled in places where birdwatchers rarely frequent.

How can you take part? We hope that all readers of this report can contribute in some way. Whatever your birdwatching skills there is something you can do. The regular birdwatcher can adopt a tetrad and find as many of the breeding species within that tetrad as your time will allow. Surveyors will need to visit all the major habitats in the tetrad and where possible make an evening visit to sites you think may have nighttime species such as owls, woodcock etc. Two to four hours should be the minimum time allocated to each tetrad but experience from pilot surveys, elsewhere in the UK, indicates that few extra species are found after ten hours effort and that volunteer time is then best used by moving on to another tetrad. Given our restricted volunteer workforce this is what we would advise. All birdwatchers can provide Roving Records (casual reports) for records of birds seen in the breeding season from right across the atlas area, from garden records to one-off birding trips. It is vital, however, that recorders note down the tetrad where birds are seen. All recording forms and guidance on how to identify tetrads are available from the Atlas Coordinators.

An update on progress will be provided in future North-east Wales Bird Reports, in regular volunteers newsletters and of course on the website. Your help is vital so please get in touch.

Anne Brenchley

North Wales Atlas Coordinator for North-East Wales

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Little Egret - Gary Bellingham

Ringling Report 2004 – 2006

The numbers of birds ringed show increases for all three years over the total for 2003 (6958). There have been some changes in the ringing effort as circumstances change and the weather takes its toll by preventing mist-netting. It is also noticeable that the contribution of the late Andy Madden ended in 2005, though another MRG ringer, Nicky Edwards, has taken over the site and is still contributing records. Also, it is evident that there has been more effort put into the ringing of nestlings – with increases of 20%-25% over the 2003 totals for pulli ringed. For my part, this has also meant that the BTO has been supplied with electronic versions of nest record cards with the ‘full’ histories of the nestlings ringed. I understand that the members of MRG are increasingly using the program IPMR to record nest histories. This increase is of great use to the BTO as nest histories that are submitted electronically are available to be used in national analyses almost immediately (after some checking processes are completed). The key contributors to the ringing totals have been Merseyside Ringing Group (Bob Harris, Paul Triggs and Pete Coffey), John Lawton Roberts, the Spence and Brenchley partnership (Ian M Spence), Stuart K Thomas and Bernard Wright. I am very grateful to all who have made this report possible.

Fairly good numbers of raptors have been ringed, though effort has varied. The Common Tern rafts at Shotton have done very well, with a record year in 2006. It can be seen that 2006, conversely, was not a good year for owls. Both Barn Owl and Tawny Owl fared badly because it was a very poor vole year – probably partly related to the cyclical nature of vole populations but not helped by poor, cool, wet weather in May which would not have assisted their breeding. Fewer voles meant that I did not find any evidence of Tawny Owls breeding and I only found two active nests of Barn Owl. Kestrels suffered too, and from the remains visible in their nests they turned to birds as prey with the lack of voles to feed their young.

The numbers of Grasshopper Warbler ringed has declined, partly because I was not able to make as many ringing visits to Bronbannog, but also probably because the habitat at the site is changing – willow and birch trees are growing where there used to be just herb level vegetation. Consequently, the habitat these warblers need has reduced to a great extent.

It is clear that the members of MRG and myself are checking many nest-boxes – see the totals for Pied Flycatcher, Blue Tit and Great Tit. Worryingly, the totals for Pied Flycatcher have been lower for all three years reported here than in 2003 and there is concern for the conservation status of this species. It appears to be declining at all sites – especially by occupying fewer boxes than in previous years. As yet, nobody knows what is happening and whether it is a local issue or one that relates to its migrations or wintering area in Africa. However, if there is concern about Pied Flycatcher, inspection of the totals list shows that Spotted Flycatchers are much harder to find as they seem to be distributed at very low density in our area.

Many Blue and Great Tits have been ringed, but they are ringed while they are still growing in their nests, usually at least a week before fledging. The tables of breeding success for these species in the systematic list show that actual productivity can vary considerably from year to year, with 2005 being an especially poor year for Blue and Great Tits.

There have been more House Sparrows ringed, at least partly because of their success in nest-boxes at a site near Bodelwyddan. I have been able to ring birds at three Tree Sparrow colonies for these three years, so their totals have increased. One of the colonies was still new in 2004 but is growing each year. The Chaffinch totals are impressive and increased on the 2003 totals and clearly 2004 was a good year for Siskin.

The Common Terns continue to provide interesting recoveries, with many spending at least some of the winter off the coast of west Africa. So, why did one go as far as Namibia, nearly twice the distance of the other African recoveries – or do they all go that far south, but because of a lower human population in Namibia the birds are not so readily recovered?

	2004			2005			2006		
Species	FG	Pull.	Totals	FG	Pull.	Totals	FG	Pull.	Totals
Mute Swan				2		2	1		1
Mallard				1		1			
Storm Petrel				20		20	1		1
Hen Harrier		10	10		8	8		7	7
Goshawk								1	1
Sparrowhawk	1		1	2	4	6	4		4
Buzzard		4	4		36	36	1	2	3
Kestrel		16	16		40	40		9	9
Merlin		4	4		4	4			
Peregrine		12	12		18	18		22	22
Water Rail							1		1
Moorhen							8		8
Oystercatcher								1	1
Ringed Plover								5	5
Black-headed Gull					2	2			
Herring Gull				2		2	9		9
Little Tern		27	27		9	9		13	13
Common Tern		740	740		920	920		1196	1196
Stock Dove		16	16		14	14		13	13
Woodpigeon	6	2	8	3		3	4		4
Collared Dove				1		1			
Barn Owl	3	8	11	3	19	22		7	7
Little Owl					6	6			
Tawny Owl		3	3	1	7	8			
Long-eared Owl		2	2		3	3			
Kingfisher							1		1
Great Spotted Woodpecker	34		34	31		31	29		29
Sand Martin	1		1						
Swallow	4	48	52	2	145	147	3	122	125
House Martin	1		1						
Tree Pipit	1		1						
Grey Wagtail	5	19	24	4	30	34		5	5
Pied Wagtail		6	6		5	5		3	3
Dipper		13	13		11	11			

	2004			2005			2006		
Species	FG	Pull.	Totals	FG	Pull.	Totals	FG	Pull.	Totals
Wren	49	3	52	42	12	54	53		53
Dunnock	66	4	70	55	12	67	61		61
Robin	87	26	113	73	17	90	94	3	97
Redstart	11	38	49	4	32	36	3	10	13
Whinchat		29	29		12	12		35	35
Wheatear		14	14						
Blackbird	70	17	87	61	14	75	69	1	70
Song Thrush	13	16	29	11	12	23	7		7
Redwing	2		2	2		2			
Mistle Thrush							1		1
Grasshopper Warbler	4		4	1		1			
Sedge Warbler	5		5	25		25	12		12
Reed Warbler	59	18	77	68	23	91	112	24	136
Blackcap	48		48	33		33	51		51
Garden Warbler				7	4	11	14		14
Whitethroat	7		7	5		5	3		3
Wood Warbler					12	12			
Chiffchaff	92		92	86		86	40		40
Willow Warbler	37	8	45	50	13	63	75		75
Goldcrest	72		72	70		70	43		43
Firecrest	1		1						
Spotted Flycatcher		32	32		22	22		12	12
Pied Flycatcher	96	725	821	104	746	850	79	620	699
Long-tailed Tit	68		68	68		68	79		79
Blue Tit	1034	1325	2359	792	1217	2009	850	1243	2093
Great Tit	382	818	1200	323	874	1197	368	701	1069
Coal Tit	119	7	126	98	8	106	97		97
Willow Tit	5		5	7		7	3	8	11
Marsh Tit	2	6	8	1		1			
Nuthatch	8	41	49	9	58	67	13	33	46
Treecreeper	5		5	2		2	2		2
Jay	1		1	5		5	2		2
Magpie	1		1	1		1	5	1	6
Chough		3	3		3	3		4	4
Jackdaw		10	10	1	11	12	1	15	16
Starling					7	7	2	4	6
House Sparrow	71	90	161	28	96	124	33	107	140
Tree Sparrow	10	256	266	8	302	310	2	314	316
Chaffinch	379	5	384	291		291	317	2	319

	2004			2005			2006		
Species	FG	Pull.	Totals	FG	Pull.	Totals	FG	Pull.	Totals
Brambling				1		1	1		1
Greenfinch	420		420	348		348	307	32	339
Goldfinch	40	5	45	78		78	80		80
Siskin	339		339	91		91	186		186
Lesser Redpoll	37		37	18		18	24		24
Crossbill					1	1			
Bullfinch	25	4	29	19	4	23	13		13
Yellowhammer				11		11	3		3
Reed Bunting	48		48	21		21	14		14
TOTALS	3769	4430	8199	2967	4793	7760	3179	4575	7754

Unfortunately the Cetti's Warbler controlled by MRG in 2003 was not trapped in the period covered by this report and no other has turned up as yet. It appears that Reed Warblers from north-east Wales do not all migrate via Icklesham, as some use a more directly southerly route to western France and beyond. Presumably the Willow Warbler caught at Shotton in spring was still on its way north to Scotland.

The other recoveries that I have included are mainly movements over 40 km that are of interest. Two recoveries of Siskin ringed at the same site in Nottinghamshire do suggest that perhaps there are cross-country flights by birds on a regular basis.

Ringers enjoy their ringing and contribute to the analyses conducted by BTO staff that show changes in survival rates. These changes can affect bird populations and their conservation status. Ringers do retrap birds ringed by other ringers, but the majority of ringed birds are found dead, often by members of the public. If you find a dead bird with a ring on it, please ensure that the BTO receives the information. This can be done by writing a letter if you are so inclined, or the information can be submitted via a website, www.ring.ac.uk for those who prefer more modern communication methods. However you send in the information you will, eventually, receive a sheet of paper showing where and when the bird was ringed, the distance moved and how long it lived.

Ian M Spence

2004-2006 Selected recoveries

Codes used in the recoveries:

M	Male
F	Female
Pull.	Ringed as pullus (nestling)
2	Fully grown, year of hatching unknown
3	Hatched during the calendar year of ringing
3J	Hatched during the calendar year of ringing and in juvenile plumage
4	Hatched before the calendar year of ringing, but exact year unknown
5	Hatched during the calendar year prior to the year of ringing
6	Hatched before the previous calendar year, exact year unknown

U1524	Mute Swan	6 M	
01.12.1991	Rhyl, Clwyd		
08.08.1998	Llyn Coron, Anglesey		
21.08.2004	Llyn Coron, Anglesey		
	62 km 260°	4647 days	Field record
DA72229	Sparrowhawk	M Pull. 4/4	
15 07 2005	Wern, Llanarmon-yn-Ial, Clwyd		
22 03 2006	Lloc, Holywell, Clwyd		
	22 km 342°	250 days	Alive, released, tangled in hedge
EJ74165	Kestrel	Pull. (3/3)	
25 06 2004	Beeches Farm, near Sandycroft, Clwyd		
30 10 2004	Vallée des Vaux, Trinity, Jersey, CHANNEL ISLANDS, 49°13'N 02°06'W		
	445 km 173°	127 days	Dead, drowned
FR07582	Oystercatcher	5	
17.05.1980	Point of Ayr, Clwyd		
28.04.1982	Llanfairfechan, Gwynedd		
29.04.2006	Tingwall Valley, Shetland		
	766 km 10°	9478 days	Sick or injured, not known to be released
FS40887	Curlew	2	
17.11.1974	Point of Ayr, Clwyd		
17.05.1996	near Alte Picardie, Weser-Ems, Helgoland, FR GERMANY, 52°33'N 07°01'E		
	698 km 98°	7852 days	Caught and released by a ringer
SX54054	Common Tern	Pull.	
08.06.1995	Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd		
29.07.2001	Oosterscheldekering, Roggenplaat, Zeeland, THE NETHERLANDS, 51°39'N 03°44'E		
	492 km 111°	2243 days	
SV82386	Common Tern	Pull.	
23.06.2002	Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd		
21.11.2005	Mile 4 Saltworks, near Swakopmund, NAMIBIA, 22°34'S 14°30'E		
	8608 km 169°	1247 days	Caught and released by a ringer

SV82780	Common Tern	Pull.	
21.07.2002	Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd		
23.04.2003	Somone, SENEGAL, 14°29'N 17°05'W		
	4481 km 197°	276 days	Caught and released by a ringer
SV82669	Common Tern	Pull.	
07.07.2002	Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd		
30.08.2002	Seaforth Nature Reserve, Merseyside		
07.12.2003	Fata, Palmarin, SENEGAL, 14°06'N 16°47'W		
	4515 km 196°	518 days	Caught and released by a ringer
SX09790	Common Tern	Pull.	
22.06.1997	Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd		
15.12.2003	Fata, Palmarin, SENEGAL, 14°06'N 16°47'W		
	4515 km 196°	2367 days	Caught and released by a ringer
SV14746	Common Tern	Pull.	
02.08.1998	Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd		
15.12.2003	Fata, Palmarin, SENEGAL, 14°06'N 16°47'W		
	4515 km 196°	1961 days	Caught and released by a ringer
SX54360	Common Tern	Pull.	
16.06.1996	Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd		
20.07.2000	The Skerries, Gwynedd		
09.04.2004	Zeebrugge, West-Vlaanderen, BELGIUM, 51°20'N 03°11'E		
	473 km 117°	2854 days	Caught and released by a ringer
SV41006	Common Tern	Pull.	
18.06.2000	Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd		
30.06.2002	Seaforth Nature Reserve, Merseyside		
04.05.2004	Zeebrugge, West-Vlaanderen, BELGIUM, 51°20'N 03°11'E		
	473 km 117°	1416 days	Caught and released by a ringer
SX54044	Common Tern	Pull.	
18.06.1995	Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd		
01.08.1997	Seaforth Nature Reserve, Merseyside		
06.05.2005	Brufut, GAMBIA, 13°23'N 16°45'W		
	4592 km 196°	3610 days	Caught and released by a ringer
SX54064	Common Tern	Pull.	
18.06.1995	Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd		
01.08.1995	Seaforth Nature Reserve, Merseyside		
20.07.1997	Seaforth Nature Reserve, Merseyside		
11.07.2004	Werkeiland Roggenplaat, Oosterscheldekering, Zeeland, THE NETHERLANDS, 51°39'N 03°44'E		
	492 km 111°	3311 days	Field record
SR42205	Common Tern	Pull.	
24.07.2005	Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd		
05.04.2006	at sea off Dakar, SENEGAL, 14°14'N 18°10'W		
	4489 km 198°	255 days	Caught and released, not by a ringer

SR50259 Common Tern Pull.
09.07.2006 Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd
03.10.2006 Chiclana de la Frontera, Cadiz, SPAIN, 36°26'N 06°09'W
1881 km 188° 86 days Found dead

NV84960 Little Tern Pull.
29.06.2003 near Gronant, Clwyd
13.12.2003 Fata, Palmarin, SENEGAL, 14°06'N 16°47'W
4521 km 196° 167 days Caught and released by a ringer

FP41536 Woodpigeon Pull.
29.07.2003 Meols, Wirral
11.02.2004 Wrexham, Clwyd
39 km 165° 197 days Shot

CL82350 Blackbird 4 F
03.11.2002 Fife Ness, Crail, Fife Region
20.11.2003 Llandrillo-yn-Rhos, Clwyd
338 km 193° 382 days Caught and released by a ringer

P323646 Grasshopper Warbler 4
09 08 2003 near Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Clwyd
06 06 2004 Cottam Power Station, Nottinghamshire
181 km 82° 302 days Caught and released by a ringer

3710112 Reed Warbler 3
21.08.1999 Mortagne Centre, Floirac, Charente-Maritime, FRANCE, 45°28'N 00°44'W
06.07.2003 Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd
878 km 350° 1415 days Caught and released by a ringer

P834829 Reed Warbler 3J
22.08.2002 Llangorse Lake, Powys
05.06.2005 Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd
31.07.2005 Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd
146 km 6° 1074 days Caught and released by a ringer

T076150 Reed Warbler 3
14.08.2004 Leighton Moss, near Silverdale, Lancashire
10.07.2005 Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd
107 km 189° 330 days Caught and released by a ringer

J863745 Reed Warbler 3
27.08.2006 Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd
17.09.2006 Portland Bill, Dorset
303 km 173° 21 days Caught and released by a ringer

T161041 Reed Warbler Pull.
12.06.2006 Deeside Industrial Park, near Shotwick, Clwyd
02.08.2006 Icklesham, Sussex
361 km 136° 51 days Caught and released by a ringer

J863729 Reed Warbler 3
26.08.2006 Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd
10.09.2006 Slapton Ley, Devon
329 km 188° 15 days Caught and released by a ringer

R034447 Whitethroat 3
06.07.2003 Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd
23.04.2004 Streatham, Greater London
281 km 135° 292 days Found freshly dead or dying

P323907 Blackcap 3 M
22 08 2004 near Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Clwyd
11 05 2005 Heysham Harbour, Heysham, Lancashire
06 06 2005 Heysham Harbour, Heysham, Lancashire
115 km 18° 288 days Caught and released by a ringer

1M2341 Chiffchaff 4 M
18.03.2002 Meols, Wirral
27.08.2002 near Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Clwyd
15.08.2004 near Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Clwyd
43 km 209° 881 days Caught and released by a ringer

0M6784 Willow Warbler 3
19.07.2003 Easter Inch Moss, Blackburn, Lothian Region
25.04.2004 Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd
297 km 174° 281 days Caught and released by a ringer (= M)

R619330 Pied Flycatcher Pull.
30.05.2003 Duffryn, near Newcastle, Shropshire
07.06.2005 Pandry, near Glyn Ceiriog, Clwyd
52 km 357° 739 days Caught and released by a ringer (= M)

T229327 Pied Flycatcher 6 F
15 05 2005 Coed y Felin, Hendre, Clwyd
13 05 2006 Tynning's Barrow Swallet Cave, Mendips, Somerset
218 km 167° 363 days Dead, not fresh, bird found

ARV407 Long-tailed Tit 2
08 10 2004 Hilbre Island, Wirral, Merseyside
20 12 2004 Llandrillo-yn-Rhos, Clwyd
34 km 258° 73 days Caught and released by a ringer

P323360 Blue Tit 5
16 02 2002 near Bodelwyddan, Clwyd
20 11 2003 Borth, Dyfed
97 km 203° 642 days Sick or injured, fate unknown, bird found

VA31882 House Sparrow Pull. (4/4)
11 05 2003 near Bodelwyddan, Clwyd
17 05 2004 Wem, Shropshire
72 km 133° 372 days Freshly dead, bit window escaping other birds

VS88418 Greenfinch 3 M
03.12.2000 Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd
03.05.2004 Seascale, Cumbria
135 km 348° 1247 days Found freshly dead or dying

R130221	Goldfinch 5 M		
02.04.2003	Highworth, Wiltshire		
20.04.2006	Llwynmawr, Clwyd		
	175 km 326° 1114 days	Caught and released by a ringer	
R416099	Siskin 3J		
25.07.2003	Llwynmawr, Clwyd		
08.03.2004	Oakdale, Gwent		
	139 km 181° 227 days	Found freshly dead or dying	
R380812	Siskin 4 M		
28.10.2003	Burgh Castle, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk		
10.05.2004	Llwynmawr, Clwyd		
	328 km 277° 195 days	Caught and released by a ringer	
R529386	Siskin 5 M		
04.03.2004	Draycott, Gloucestershire		
27.05.2004	Llwynmawr, Clwyd		
	140 km 316° 84 days	Caught and released by a ringer	
R440916	Siskin 5 M		
18.04.2004	Gleadthorpe Grange, Warsop, Nottinghamshire		
04.06.2004	Llwynmawr, Clwyd		
	141 km 257° 47 days	Caught and released by a ringer	
R804183	Siskin 5 F		
14.04.2004	Llwynmawr, Clwyd		
08.03.2006	Redlynch, Hampshire		
	239 km 156° 693 days	Found freshly dead or dying	
T116747	Siskin 5 M		
26.03.2006	Gleadthorpe Grange, Warsop, Nottinghamshire		
18.04.2006	Llwynmawr, Clwyd		
	141 km 257° 23 days	Caught and released by a ringer	

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GO Stuart Taylor
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House Martin by M S Wood

Local groups

Clwyd Ornithological Society

Secretary: Jacquie Irving. Telephone: 01745-854132.

Deeside Naturalists' Society

The DNS is a local natural history society that was founded in 1973 to conserve flora and fauna on Deeside and in the surrounding area. The society has about 700 members and holds monthly meetings and slide shows through the winter months. The Nature Reserve at Connah's Quay, alongside the River Dee, has five hides and a Field Studies Centre. Access is by permit only, available to all members.

Membership Secretary: Walter Griffiths. Telephone: 01244-813287.

Wrexham Birdwatchers

Wrexham Birdwatchers meet on the first Friday each month and on Saturday or Sunday every other month. The winter indoor programme (on Fridays) runs from September to April and is a series of lectures and slide shows, currently held in the Memorial Hall, Gresford. The outdoor programme runs through the year. Social evenings and weekends are also held. An Annual Report is produced.

Honorary Secretary: Marian Williams. Telephone: 01978-854633.

Wales Raptor Study Group – North-East Wales

The Wales Raptor Study Group – North-East Wales is a small number of fieldworkers who are dedicated to protecting raptors, owls, Chough and Raven. Currently, in the Vice Counties of Denbighshire and Flintshire there are about ten people who contribute records to the Group. We are not able to record the nests of all the species we are interested in every year but most of the nests of Schedule 1 species are checked. Most of the fieldworkers are volunteers and do fieldwork in their spare time.

One of the key problems for the species we record is that of disturbance. Several of the species we check are protected by Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981, so their nests cannot be wilfully disturbed without a licence to do so. All of the fieldworkers in our Group have the appropriate licence each year from the Countryside Council for Wales, with which we have a close working relationship. Each fieldworker covers an area and this ensures that only one or two people visit each nest, but those visits are co-ordinated to prevent undue disturbance. We also have good working relations with the local Police Wildlife Liaison Officers.

Each year a report shows how each nest has fared, but each nest is only referred to by its code – we never discuss openly where the nests are located.

Ian M Spence, Coordinator

National groups

British Trust for Ornithology (BTO)

BTO regional representatives:

Clwyd East: Anne Brenchley, Tŷ'r Fawnog, 43 Blackbrook, Sychdyn, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6LT. Telephone: 01352-750118. Email: anne.brenchley@btinternet.com

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North Wales Wildlife Trust

Head Office: 376 High Street, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 1YE. Telephone: 01248-351541.

North East Office: Loggerheads Country Park, Mold, Denbighshire, CH7 5LH. Telephone: 01352-810469.

Contact: Adrian Lloyd Jones, Conservation Officer (East).

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)

North Wales Office: RSPB Cymru, Maes y Ffynnon, Penrhosgarnedd, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 2DW. Telephone: 01248-363800.

RSPB Members' groups:

North Wales: John Morris. Telephone: 01745-855687.
Chester: Roger Nutter. Telephone: 01829-782237.

Welsh Ornithological Society (WOS)

Membership Secretary: Alan Williams, 30 Fairfield, Penperlleni, Pontypool, Gwent, NP4 0AQ. Email: alan.williams@virgin.net

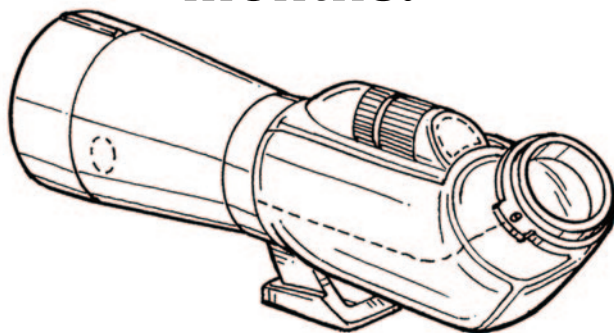
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