

North-East Wales Bird Report 2011 - 2012



Clwyd Bird Recording Group
November 2013

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www.cbrg.org.uk

Published November 2013

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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 Welsh Ornithological Society)

Anne Brenchley (BTO East Clwyd representative and N Wales Atlas organiser)

Andrew Dale

Richard Groves

Adrian O Hibbert

Neil Hughes (Wrexham Birdwatchers)

Adrian Lloyd Jones (North Wales Wildlife Trust)

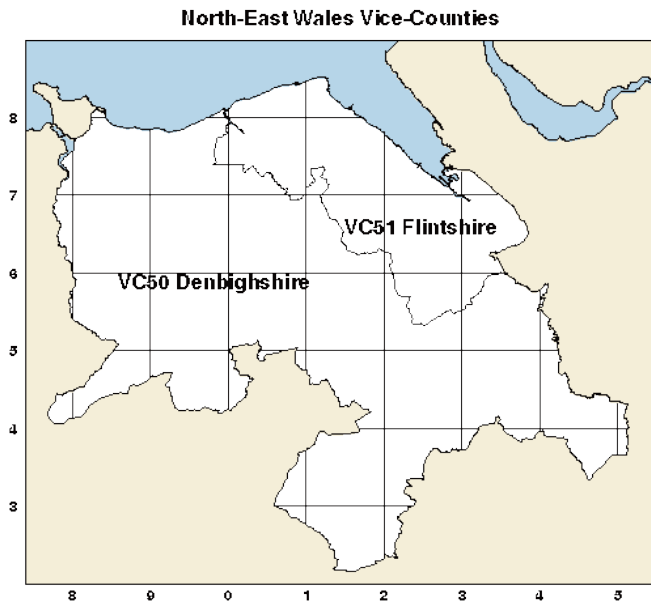
Glenn Morris (Deeside Naturalists' Society)

Hilary Nash

Rhian Pierce (RSPB)

www.cbrg.org.uk

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



Introduction

Editorial

Changes within the CBRG

Over the last two years there have been some comings and goings. Julie Rogers no longer has time to assist us and has resigned and no one person is now the Secretary. Andrew Wallbank has also had many other things to do with his time and had to resign but is very kindly still hosting the CBRG website. I thank them both for their contributions. We have two new members of the team: Richard Groves who acted as a 10km steward during the Atlas and whom I have known since my days living in Pwllglas. Glenn Morris has come on board as the DNS representative, replacing Andrew. He is a returner, having been a member of the CBRG back in the 1990s when I was also a member. They are both very welcome and have contributed to this report.

The purpose of the bird report

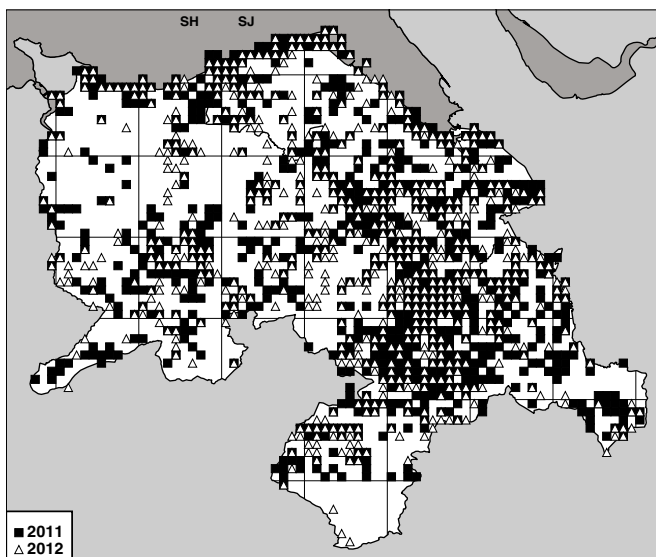
- a To present a detailed list of species seen and counted during the year, and for this to be as complete as possible, particularly to assist the conservation of bird populations within the area.
- a To present the data from the records in a way that, hopefully, is readable for the general public and especially for birders who provide the data.
- a To present the data in a way that is useful to anyone, from any agency, who may wish to check on the local status of any species.

Sources of records

For the years 2011-12 the Clwyd Bird Recording Group received records from the following sources, from many locations in North-East Wales, as shown in the map below. The sources were:

- Volunteer observers
- RSPB Conwy and Burton Mere Wetlands
- BHP Billiton (per Julie Rogers)
- All Garden BirdWatch data for the year
- Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) data
- Birdtrack records (only those with sites defined at 1 km square level)
- Deeside Naturalists' Society (per Glenn Morris)
- Cofnod
- Records of ringed birds
- Nest record summaries.

All 1km squares with at least one record in 2011 and 2012



Numbers of records

For 2011 I received just over 52,700 records and for 2012 I received just over 61,000 records, the majority of which have been imported to Recorder 6. The only records that are not imported are those of some feral or escaped species or records of rarities that have not been accepted by the appropriate committee. The sources of the data are listed above.

Species names

We have continued to use the English vernacular names as last year.

Information about species

Under the species names we provide a short description of the status of the species in North-East Wales, with information about whether it is on the Red or Amber lists of conservation concern (Johnstone, I, Young, A and Thorpe, RI, 2010. The revised population status of birds in Wales. Birds in Wales 7(1) 39-91), whether it is a Welsh Biodiversity Action Plan species and an indication of the interest in the species by the Rare Breeding Bird Panel.

The North Wales Breeding Bird Atlas project

The North Wales Atlas project continued for a further year in 2012. During the summer of 2011 much very useful targeted work was done to check out tetrads with less than 20 species recorded with breeding codes. This was done mainly by volunteers but also with the help of Chris Mellenship, paid by a grant from then CCW via the Welsh Ornithological Society. Chris checked many inaccessible upland tetrads for which we are very grateful. Targeted fieldwork in 2012 did not happen to the extent we would have liked because of the atrocious, wet weather

during the summer. However, the project concluded and the editors were busy over the winter of 2012-13. The text with all ancillary files were sent to the designer who worked for the publisher, Liverpool University Press, and the book was put together by the summer of 2013. We had some work to do at three proof stages, but the book has now been published and the editors, of whom I am one, are delighted with the product. I hope most of you bought a copy at the amazing pre-publication price of £20. We have been very gratified by the positive comments by those who have seen the book. Work on the Atlas during the 2012-13 autumn and winter meant that I was unable to produce a report for 2011 at that time.

CBRG Website

The website continues to serve a basic service providing information about the CBRG and the latest copies of files to download, eg the records submission spreadsheets.

BirdTrack

Within the last two years the Welsh Ornithological Society has become a partner with BirdTrack and, with Bob Haycock from Pembrokeshire, I have been attending the BirdTrack partner meetings in Thetford. I am looking forward to the BTO making the necessary changes for data to be searched for and provided according to Vice County boundaries (implemented by early October 2013 with thanks!). Further developments are afoot that should make such searches much easier in the future.

BirdTrack is now the way I would recommend all observers store their records. This has many advantages over sending me the records in a spreadsheet. Each observer would have their own database of records that can be examined by the observer in different ways. It would help if observers still used the 1km squares as recording units and the gazetteer is still available (and updated from time to time) from the Downloads page of the CBRG website.

Anyone who stores records in BirdTrack and is happy for the Recorder to be able to access their records does not have to do anything else. At the end of the year, or when I think most people will have added their records for the previous calendar year, I can download all the records in one go.

I would recommend that all observers create a BirdTrack account, at no charge, by visiting the website **www.birdtrack.net** or by visiting the BTO website **www.bto.org**

In the near future BirdTrack will be able to record bird sightings from anywhere in the world, so people will be able to store their holiday bird sightings there too. This could be helpful for anyone wishing to assist with the forthcoming European Atlas project.

Computerisation of records

I continue to use Recorder 6 as the database for holding the records from all the different sources within separate 'surveys' which means that I may search for records supplied by any one or more of the sources listed at the start of the Editorial. Currently, there are 383,903 records in the database.

Submission of records

The recording spreadsheet is still available, but is not the recommended method for submitting records for the report. See the section on BirdTrack, above.

If you do use the data recording spreadsheet it has the names of every 1 km square in the Vice-counties of Denbighshire and Flintshire and some of Meirionnydd (particularly the area of the Berwyn Mountains that were in Clwyd). For data entry the species name is entered by using the BTO two-letter code (in the systematic list, the table with the number of records has each species' code in the top-left corner). The place is entered by using the 1 km grid reference (NB in the format SJ2466, with no spaces or other characters). The grid reference also pulls in the correct VC number.

For nest sites, it would be very helpful if observers stored a more accurate grid reference in the Comments. This could be either a 6, 8 or 10 figure reference, depending on whether, or not, a GPS was used.

The other details cannot be known in advance, so they must be entered by the observer: date, observer name(s), sex/stage, breeding code, abundance and comments. When complete please send me the spreadsheet. The records do not have to be in any particular order – it is probably easiest (though not necessary) to use the forms chronologically, just entering the latest observations that you have recorded. The crucial aspects of each record are:

- Species code (this will show the species name used in Recorder 6);
- Date of the observation;
- The 1 km square grid reference (this is crucial and will show the location name and the VC number);
- The age and/or sex of the bird;
- The breeding activity code, where relevant (see the BTO Atlas codes);
- 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);
- 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. However, please enter each record on a separate row.

Please keep records of common species as well as rarities, but of particular concern now are those species that are:

- either Amber or Red listed,
- species on the Welsh Biodiversity Action Plan (WBAP) list or
- of interest to the Rare Breeding Birds Panel.

Included in this report are maps showing the distribution of the records we have received for some species of high conservation concern and of some other species that may be of interest.

Records of bird sightings may be made available by:

- using BirdTrack (www.birdtrack.net);
- using a spreadsheet available on the CBRG website; or
- using the Cofnod record submission facility (www.cofnod.org.uk).

If you use the spreadsheet 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

It has been apparent that the local rarities were not always being dealt with in the way intended and for good reasons. It was always difficult for me to chase someone who had seen, say, a Purple Sandpiper at Rhos-on-Sea in VC50 and require a description when if the bird flew round the corner to be seen at Penrhyn Bay in VC49 no description was needed. With national and Welsh rarities that do require descriptions and / or photographs there was clearly enough to do with these regional and national rare species. Consequently, in April 2012 a decision was taken to scrap the local rarities list. This has made the job of the Recorder considerably easier.

This means that observers need to be mindful of the Welsh and national (ie UK) lists of rarities.

Rarity species lists

For the list of Welsh rarities see: [www.birdsinwales.org.uk/downloads/WRP scarce species.pdf](http://www.birdsinwales.org.uk/downloads/WRP%20scarce%20species.pdf)

For the list of UK rarities see: www.bbrc.org.uk/currentrarespecies.htm

Acknowledgements

I remain most grateful to all the observers and organisations (listed at the start of the Editorial) who submitted records for the report – the list of individual contributors is at the back of the report.

I thank the British Trust for Ornithology for its support and assistance in making available bird records submitted to: Birdtrack, the Breeding Bird Survey and Garden BirdWatch.

I am very grateful to those members of the CBRG who contributed by writing a suite of species accounts. The contributors who helped me with this report were: Anne Brenchley, Andrew Dale, Richard Groves, Adrian Hibbert, Neil Hughes, Glenn Morris Hilary Nash and Rhian Pierce.

The maps have been produced using DMAP by Dr Alan J Morton.

Glenn Morris prepared the records from Connah's Quay Nature Reserve. I thank him for his help.

Jim Hulse has continued to be my 'Assistant Recorder' and has typed up other people's records and submitted his own. I am very grateful to him for great amount of help he gives.

I am very grateful to Barry Barnacal, Justin Coates, Ashley Cohen, Stuart Gillies, John Hawkins, Tony Pope, Robin Sandham, Peter Wood and Hamza Yassin for their photographs that add significantly to the attractiveness of the report. I am also very grateful to Dermot Smith and Will Miles for their drawings.

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 Trevor Payne for his proof-reading of the draft text and to Giles Pepler for checking the typeset report.

I trust that the observers and organisations think that we have made good use of the data they have provided.

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Weather summary 2011-12

Sadly, Len Walls died at the end of October 2012. He had very generously supplied us with weather data for several years and it was always a pleasure to see him towards the end of the year when the report was published. I took him a complimentary copy but he always gave a donation to the CBRG in return. His contribution to the work of the CBRG is greatly missed.

When I came to prepare the weather reports for these two years I found that there were some months' data missing apart from October to December 2012. I have not been able to fill the gaps so I regret there is no weather summary. As various other people have been very busy there is a lack of other articles. I hope the larger than usual selection of colour photos makes up for the omissions.

The Systematic List for 2011-12

The names of species and their order come from Harrop, A.H.J., Collinson, J.M., Dudley, S.P., Kehoe, C. & The BOURC. 2013. *The British List: A Checklist of Birds of Britain (8th edition)*. **Ibis** **155**: 635-676. The Welsh names have been taken from previous reports and where necessary, from the website www.avionary.info.

We have continued to use conventions from previous reports – dates are presented as day/month (in digits) and we have stated where birds are on the Red or Amber lists (from Johnstone, IG, Thorpe, RI and Noble, DG 2010. *The state of birds in Wales* 6: RSPB Cymru, Cardiff and Johnstone, I, Young, A and Thorpe, RI, 2010. *The revised population status of birds in Wales*. **Birds in Wales** **7(1)** 39-91.

Abbreviations that appear in the report include, in tables, the BTO two letter code for the species to which the table refers, if there is one, and:

BBS	Breeding Bird Survey organised by the British Trust for Ornithology
GBW	Garden Bird Watch organised by the British Trust for Ornithology
GP	Gravel pit
NR	Nature Reserve
WRP	Welsh Records Panel (see www.birdsinwales.org.uk)
BBRC	British Birds Rarities Committee (see www.bbrc.org.uk)
WBAP	Welsh Biodiversity Action Plan species
WRBBSG	Welsh Rare Breeding Bird and Raptor Study Group (a subgroup of the Welsh Ornithological Society)
RBBP	Breeding records of this species are of interest to the Rare Breeding Bird Panel (see www.rbbp.org.uk)

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 where those species are present, but there are no symbols to show their presence, please send in records to the Recorder. Please also use the maps to spur you into action if you know that a species breeds near you but is not shown. This will add to what is shown in 'The Breeding Birds of North Wales'.

Each account has a table showing the number of records received during the year and the maximum number of birds counted in that county and year. Some species have a table of breeding success data – these are the results from those nests that have been found and recorded and are not, necessarily, the actual number of nests that occurred in the area.

As in previous reports, it is apparent that we receive very few records of proven breeding by species that are not subject to specialist study. 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 (we expect that many of you are now well-acquainted with these codes that have been used both for the BTO Atlas and the North Wales Breeding Bird Atlas project – they are listed on the Atlas page of the CBRG website).

At the end of this section Anne Brenchley has written about the first and last dates for migrants. Please continue to send records of the first dates you see migrant species and keep records so that you know when you last saw them, when they have migrated away. This information

shows up very well in the BirdTrack graphs created from complete lists of bird records. We are very keen to know these last dates as well as when they arrive.

The systematic list is presented in two sections, firstly the Category A and C species then those that are in Category E.

Category Explanation

A	Species recorded in an apparently natural state at least once since 1 January 1950.
C1	Naturalized introduced species – species that have occurred only as a result of introduction.
C2	Naturalized introduced species – species with established populations resulting from introduction by Man, but which also occur in an apparently natural state.
C3	Naturalized re-established species – species with populations successfully re-established by Man in areas of former occurrence.
C4	Naturalized feral species – domesticated species with populations established in the wild.
E	Species recorded as introductions, human-assisted transportees or escapees from captivity, and whose breeding populations (if any) are thought not to be self-sustaining.

Category A and C species

Mute Swan *Cygnus olor*

ALARCH DOF

Breeding resident. Amber list.

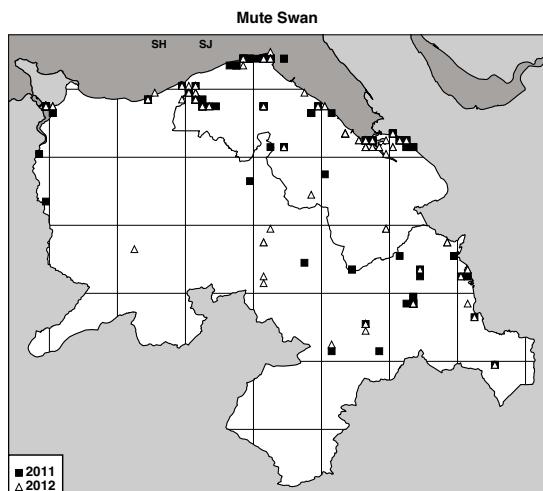
One of our commonest water-birds, this semi-domesticated “royal bird” is almost ubiquitous on sheltered coastal waters and many inland water bodies. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 36 (Denbs.) and 49 (Flints.). Recorded in 2/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 2/35 in 2012.

(MS)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	117	200
	Flints	141	43
2012	Denbs	129	67
	Flints	145	76

2011

Denbs. The only recorded breeding was at Pensarn where a pair were sitting on 2/03 (RS), and at Wrexham centre where a pair were seen with four cygnets on 11/06 and again on 14/08 (NH). The maximum count was an exceptional 200 W of Afonwen on 1/01 (NHu). Conwy also hosted significant congregations on several occasions with a maximum of 31 on 24/05 (DCR). Counts in double figures were also recorded at Erddig Pool, Wrexham, Kinmel Bay and Pensarn.

Flints. The most regular sites for significant concentrations were Shotwick Fields with 67 on 3/01 which was the maximum count of the year (SH); Deeside Industrial Park where 50+ were recorded on 25/03 (DCR) and S Rhyl / Rhuddlan where 57 were seen on 16/04 (SH). There



were no records of breeding, though juveniles were recorded at Llyn Helyg, Talacre and Point of Ayr.

2012

Denbs. The only breeding record was at Llanfwrog, Rhuthun where a nest was noted on 29/02 (AOH) and a family party of two adults and five juveniles seen on 9/11. The maximum count was 43 at Hanmer Mere on 25/08 (SD). Other significant numbers included 26 on River Dee floods at Worthenbury on 23/12 (NFr) and Conwy RSPB's maximum count of 18 on 12/10 (PeK).

Flints. The White Sands section of the Dee Estuary was particularly favoured with a flock of 76 recorded on

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (MS)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	2	2	5	3	5	8	6	5	9	10	10	11
Gronant			2	4	2	7	1	1	5	4	4	5
White Sands	2	17	10							5	6	15
Shotwick Fields	90	64	42							19	52	60
Hanmer Mere		2	2						17	16	3	3
2012												
Conwy RSPB	5	2	10	2	9	9	8	12	14	20		3
Gronant	7			1	8	2	1	1	2	7	2	
White Sands	51	48	24	3	1				2	21	72	76
Shotwick Fields		19										
Hanmer Mere	9	4							13	17	16	13

16/12 (JuR), being the maximum count of the year and other counts of over 50 on 16/01, 19/11, and 20/12 (JuR, KS, GR). A spring barley crop at Shotwick Fields was also a favoured grazing site with up to 51 recorded on three occasions during May (CW). No nesting records were received, but family parties or juveniles were reported from Fagl Lane GP, Hope, Rhuddlan and Talacre (SD, SH, JuR).

Bewick's Swan *Cygnus columbianus*

ALARCH BEWICK

Winter visitor. Amber list. WBAP.

While this species is an annual visitor to the Dee Estuary and surrounding areas, it is much more rarely recorded from Denbs., the majority of records being from the lower Dee valley during periods of winter flooding. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 4 (Denbs.) and 67

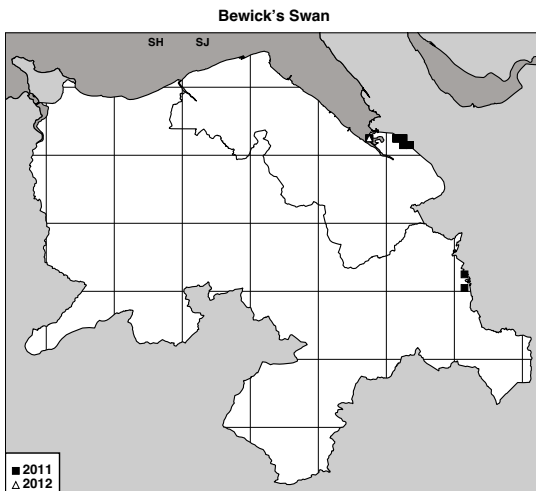
(BS)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	2	7
	Flints	23	131
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	3	35

(Flints.).

2011

Denbs. Two winter records from the Dee Valley, 7 at Ridleywood NE on 19/01 (NFr), and 4 at Isycoed on 12/02 (NHu).

Flints. Records from five locations, all in or around the upper Dee Estuary at White Sands, Shotwick Fields, and Deeside Industrial Park. A flock of over a hundred was on Shotwick Fields from 2/01 to 24/01, with a count of 131 on 3/01 the maximum count for the year (KS). The last of the spring were 19 on White Sands on 07/03 (JuR), and the first returning in autumn were 3 at Shotwick Fields on 7/11 (WAO).



2012

Flints. Only three records for the year, all of which were from White Sands where 22 were present on 16/01 and 35 on 13/02 (GR). The only record later in the year was a single bird on 19/11 (JuR).

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (BS)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Shotwick Fields	64	67								1	4	
White Sands	28	2	19									
2012	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
White Sands	22	35									1	

Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*

ALARCH Y GOGLEDD

Winter visitor.

Records are primarily concentrated around the Dee Estuary, where this species is found with other swans at Shotwick Fields and boating lake, IMF and other sites in the upper estuary. Smaller numbers are recorded less frequently from inland and coastal sites further west. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 6 (Denbs.) and 41 (Flints.).

(WS)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	10	10
	Flints	36	120
2012	Denbs	2	5
	Flints	22	56

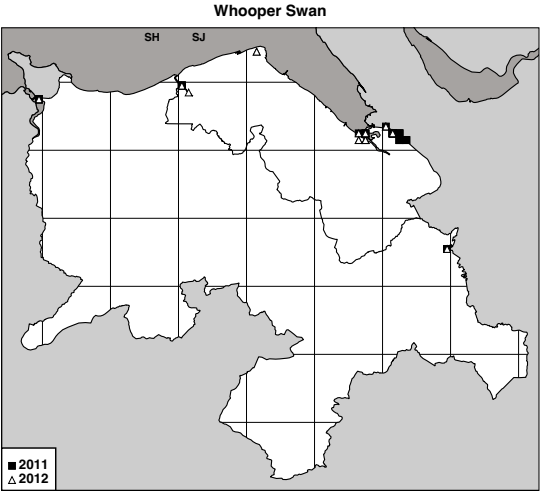
2011

Denbs. Recorded from only two sites - Conwy RSPB, and Trevalyn Meadows in the Dee Valley. At the former site small numbers were present from 09/10, and a maximum of 10 recorded on 6/12 (JHg), while at the latter winter floods attracted 2 on 15/02 and 4 adults with a juvenile from 21/12 until New Year's Day 2012 (NFr).

Flints. The majority of records were from Shotwick Fields and other adjoining sites around the upper Dee Estuary. A maximum , and high, count of 120 was recorded at Shotwick Fields on 13/01 (RTe). The last birds of spring were 59 at White Sands on 7/03 (JuR), though a single bird remained south of Rhyl from 25/03 until 17/04 (SH).

2012
Denbs. Recorded from the same two locations as in 2011: 4 adults and a juvenile at Trevalyn Meadows on 1/01 (NFr), and a single at Conwy RSPB on 4/01(JHg) were the only records.

Flints. Recorded at nine locations, the majority in the upper Dee Estuary including Connah's Quay NR, Inner Marsh Farm, Shotwick Fields, White Sands, Oakenholt, and Talacre. White Sands and Connah's Quay NR appeared to be the most favoured locations with an annual maximum of 56 at the former site on 16/01 (GR), and up to 52 present until 12/03 (JuR). The last of spring were 6 at Connah's Quay NR and White Sands on 8/04 (GM,JuR). The first of the autumn were 2 at Shotwick on 1/10, building to a maximum of 43 on16/12 (JuR).



Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (WS)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Shotwick Fields	73	66								6	30	50
White Sands	12	20	59									4
2012												
White Sands	56	52	52	6							23	43

Bean Goose *Anser fabalis*

Rare vagrant.

2012
Flints. Two were photographed at Shotwick Fields on 4/01 (BaB). Accepted by the WRP. See colour photo pages.

GŴYDD Y LLAFUR

(WS)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	1	2

Pink-footed Goose *Anser brachyrhynchus*

Passage migrant and winter visitor.

The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 36 (Denbs.) and 324 (Flints.).

GŴYDD DROED-BINC

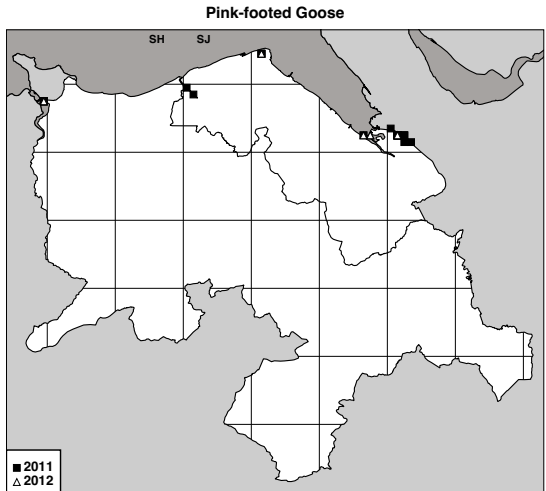
(WS)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	7	3
	Flints	23	1750
2012	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	11	1800

2011

Denbs. All records were from Conwy RSPB and the adjoining estuary, where 1-3 were present from 28/01-26/02(JHg,RAB); and an unusual out of season single was also recorded on 13/07(pJHg).

Flints. The trend of increase in numbers noted last year continued with substantial counts recorded on the Dee Estuary. Reported from eight locations mostly around the head of the estuary, with Shotwick Fields a particularly favoured location. Substantial numbers were present from the turn of the year with 1,100 at Shotwick on 3/01 (RS), the last spring record being on 15/03 when 8 were at Talacre (JuR). Several counts of over

1,000 were recorded during this period, the spring maximum being 1,750 grazing stubbles at Shotwick Fields on 23/02 (CW). This was also the last record of substantial numbers prior to migration. The first autumn record was a singleton at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 2/09 (KS), followed by the first and only significant numbers before the year's end, 200 at Shotwick Fields on 10/11 (CW). The only record away from the Dee Estuary was of 27 on the Clwyd Estuary in the Rhuddlan / S Rhyl area on 29-30/01 (SH).



2012

Denbs. The only record was an out of season bird at Conwy RSPB on 17/06 (pJHu), possibly the same bird seen at the same time in 2011.

Flints. Numbers continued to increase from the turn of the year peaking with a maximum of 1,800 grazing on salt-marsh at White Sands on 8/03. The last of spring were 250 again at White Sands on 8/04 (JuR). No substantial numbers were recorded before the end of the year, the only autumn records being 1 at Talacre on 19/09 (JuR), 16 at Connah's Quay NR on 8/11 (BH, KLJ) and 1 at Shotwick Fields on 16/12 (CW).

White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons*

Winter visitor. Red list. WBAP

The overwhelming majority of records of this species in the report area are of the 'European' albifrons race, which occurs most often, but irregularly and any record not specifically attributed to any particular race should be taken as referring to this one. The 'Greenland' flavirostris race is considerably rarer and more noteworthy in our area. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 2 (Denbs.) and 3 (Flints.).

GŴYDD DALCEN-WEN

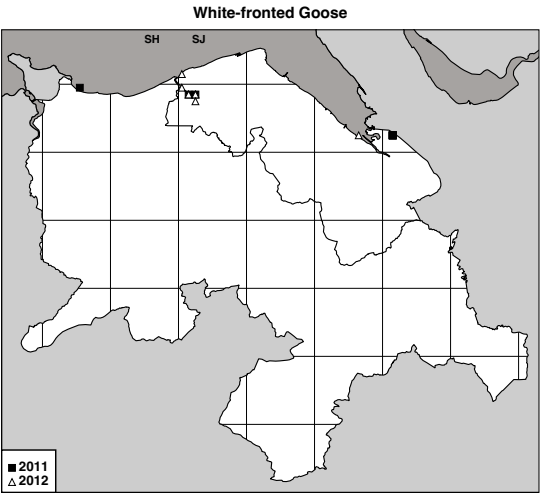
(WG)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1	8
	Flints	9	19
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	48	58

2011

Denbs. The only record was of 8 seen flying WSW over Colwyn Bay on 28/11 (RS).

Flints. A small flock of up to 14 including four juveniles was present grazing on stubble at Shotwick Fields from 13-28/11 (CW et al). During this period a flock of 19 was also seen at Rhuddlan on 19/11 (RTe).

2012
 Flints. A notable flock of up to 58 was feeding on the stubbles at Shotwick Fields from 14-19/02 (GR, CW). A singleton of the European race was at Rhuddlan on 25/02 (JuW) and a bird of the Greenland race was at S Rhyl / Rhuddlan area from 28/01-6/05 (SH, KS, JuW).



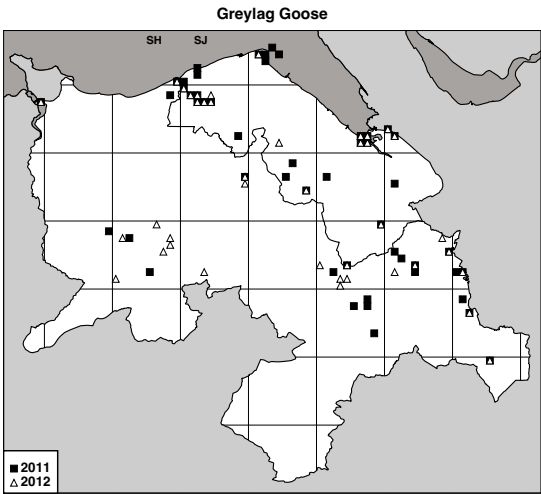
Greylag Goose *Anser anser*

Winter visitor and breeding resident.

This species comprises a resident feral breeding population relatively widespread on suitable inland water bodies. The majority of records during the spring and summer months are of small numbers on inland sites, probably indicating resident territorial breeding pairs, though records of actual breeding are uncommon. These resident birds concentrate into post-breeding moulting flocks on a number of sites notably the Dee Estuary and Gresford Flash. This population is supplemented by numbers of passage, and overwintering birds during the winter months. When the River

GŴYDD WYLLT			
(GJ)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	63	220
	Flints	52	500
2012	Denbs	76	400+
	Flints	92	310

Dee is in flood the Trevalyn Meadows, Ridleywood and Worthenbury areas of the lower valley attract significant numbers on an almost annual basis. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 268 (Denbs.) and 367 (Flints.).



2011
 Denbs. Recorded from coastal and inland sites throughout the vice-county, particularly Gresford Flash, Kinmel Bay and the lower Dee valley, all of which hosted significant numbers at various times of the year. The only substantial numbers recorded in the early part of the year were on the Dee floods. On 11/02 220 were at Trevallyn Meadows, 90 at Ridleywood, and 15 at

Worthenbury (NFr). A total of 220 were still at Trevalyn Meadows on the 16/02 and 30 were at Holt on the same day (NFr, KS). Conwy RSPB did not attract as many as usual with a maximum of 16 on 27/03. Dyserth was a favoured location with 31 on 14/03, 20 on 6/04 and 26 on 30/08 (SH). No nesting records were received, but juveniles were reported from Llandyrnog on 18/05 (MD) and Bryn Goleu, Penycae on 27/05 (JAJ). Post breeding there were concentrations at Kinmel Bay, where there were 100 on 28/07, and later 100 on 17/11 (RMB); Gresford Flash had 85 on 8/10 and 180 on 21/10 and Trevallyn Meadows 105 on 21/12 (NFr).

Flints. Recorded from 16 locations, the most favoured localities being the Clwyd Estuary S of Rhyl and around Rhuddlan, sites around the upper Dee Estuary and at Talacre/Point of Ayr, and Fagl Lane Gravel Pit, Hope. Good numbers were at Fagl Lane Gravel Pit throughout much of Jan and Feb, including the maximum of 310 on 6/01; 250 were still present on 30/01 (GNR). Significant numbers were in the S Rhyl / Rhuddlan area during the same period, with a maximum of 150 on 3/-8/02 and 56 on 26/02, the last large flock of the winter (SH). The only recorded breeding was a flock of 18 adults, with 6 juveniles at Fagl Lane GP on 8/05(SD). Post breeding flocks began to concentrate in the usual localities, with 200 at Rhuddlan on 2/09 (SH). On the Dee Estuary 116 were at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands, Border Pool on 16/09 (RhPi), and 176 on the Warren Farm fields on 26/09 (JuR). The autumn maximum was 274 at Talacre dunes on 17/10 (JuR).

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (GJ)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB						2	15					
Hanmer Mere									12	11	8	
2012												
Conwy RSPB	27		11		2		2					
Gresford Flash							2				250	
Hanmer Mere	4								35	5		

2012

Denbs. Recorded in all months of the year except Aug, with only a single record during Sep and from twenty four locations of which only Conwy RSPB and Kinmel Bay were coastal. The only counts of substantial numbers in the early part of the year were 100+ at Gresford Flash on 10/01 (HL), and 70 at Kinmel Bay on 13/01 (JuW). Throughout the spring and summer months the vast majority of records were of single figures. The only breeding record was of 2 juveniles, with 16 adults at Llyn Brenig on 22/05 (SD). Post-breeding numbers began to climb from late Sep, when 50 were at Gresford Flash on 28/09 (KS). This site had several counts of substantial numbers during late Oct / early Nov, with 109 on 29/10 (SD), 100 on 1/11 (KS). The annual maximum of 400+ was recorded on 8/11 (HL) with 250 on 18/11 (WeBS). The Dee floods did not attract as many as in some years; the only substantial numbers being 250 at Trevalyn Meadows on 30/11 with smaller counts of 24 at Ridleywood on 2/12 and 80 at Worthenbury on 23/12 (NFr).

Flints. Recorded in all months except Jun and from seven locations around the Dee Estuary five on the Clwyd Estuary from South Rhyl and Rhuddlan and four inland water bodies, of which Fagl Lane Gravel Pit was again the most frequented. In the early part of the year good numbers were on the Clwyd Estuary with a maximum of 150 on 3-8/02 (SH) and several counts of 50+ until the end of Feb. Substantial numbers were also at Fagl Lane Gravel Pit during the same period, with 310 on 6/01 and 250 on 30/01 (GNR). Records during the summer breeding period were of small numbers, only a single record of over 20 being received. Breeding was

reported from Fagl Lane GP; 6 small juveniles were seen with 12 adults on 8/05 (SD). Numbers on the Afon Clwyd increased from mid-Aug, with 120 at Rhuddlan on 25/08, 200 on 2/09 (SH). Up to 187 remained for the remainder of the year. On the Dee 100 were at Shotwick Fields and 116 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 16/09 (GR, RhP.). The largest numbers on the Dee during autumn were at Warren Farm, Talacre where 104 were recorded on 19/09. There were several counts of 100-200 during Oct, with an autumn maximum of 274 on 17/10 (pJR). Few were on the Dee in Dec, when most seem to have been on the Clwyd.

Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*
Breeding resident.

A ubiquitous species found on most lakes, ponds and other water bodies. The Mersey Estuary is an important area for moulting congregations. Post-moulting peaks occur in late Sep/Oct on a number of sites including the Dee Estuary, Gresford Flash and Conwy RSPB, many birds remaining to winter. They were recorded during every month in both years in both counties. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 375 (Denbs.) and 2556 (Flints.), recorded in 6/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 9/35 in 2012.

2011

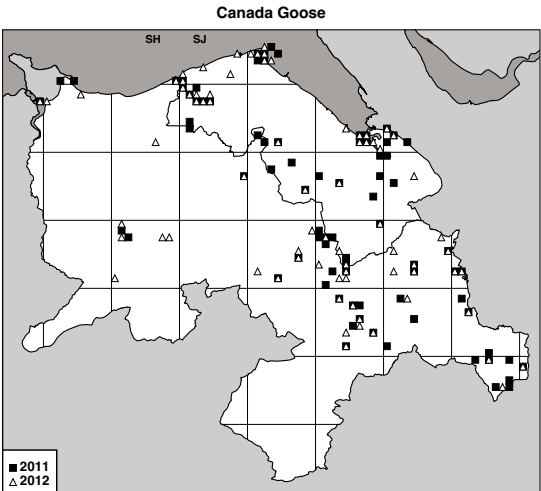
Denbs. Recorded in relatively modest numbers, with Conwy RSPB and Kinmel Bay the only coastal locations. Conwy RSPB was the only site where more substantial numbers were regularly recorded this year. A notable count at Conwy RSPB was 340 on 1/07 (JHg). Hanmer Mere also held substantial numbers during Sep-Nov with 415 on 22/09, 204 on 13/10, and 170 on 24/11 (WeBS). As usual the winter floods on the River Dee east of Wrexham also attracted significant numbers, with 140 at Ridleywood on 11/02 and 90 on 19/01. Trevalyn Meadows had 90 on 11/02 and 16/02 (NFr). More substantial counts from the rest of the county included 120+ flying over Rhos-on-Sea on 4/09 (SKT) and 100 at Gresford Flash on 8/10(KS).

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (CG)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	11	91	27	97	75	387	124		5	2	2	4
Connah's Quay NR			38	20	10	29	19	2		80		
Oakenholt Marsh	1000	12				96	137	180	400	2000	1000	
White Sands		26	2			32		260	90	400		
Talacre	127	100	45						24	5		85

Flints. Present throughout the year on Dee Estuary reserves. Other notable records from the

GWYDD CANADA			
(CG)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	146	415
	Flints	141	3300
2012	Denbs	178	415
	Flints	196	1871



Dee were 700 at Warren Farm, Talacre on 6/01 (RMB), and again on 11/01 (DCR); 3,300 at Connah's Quay NR/Oakenholt on 20/10 (RR); and 1,000 at Shotwick Fields on 11/12 (CW). On the Clwyd Estuary there were records from Jan-May and Jul-Sep, with maxima of 550 at Rhuddlan on 27/08 and the same number S of Rhyl on 10/09 (SH).

2012

Denbs. Numbers appear significantly lower than in 2011. Counts at Conwy RSPB were broadly in line with last year (see table of WeBS count data below). However, elsewhere there were only five records of over 100 and none over 200. In the early part of the year the only substantial numbers were 170 at Trevalyn Meadows on 10/01 (HL), 200 at Kinmel Bay on 11/01 (HC) and 180 at Hanmer Mere on 18/01 (WeBS). Later in the year, 134 were at Gresford Flash on 11/09 (HL) and 140 at Worthenbury on 23/12 (NFr). Only three instances of breeding were reported with young juveniles at Trefechan, Penycae on 12/05 (NHu), Llyn Brenig on 22/05 (SD) and Llandegla on 12/07 (SD).

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2012 (CG)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	138	15	18	77	43	368	109			6	3	3
Connah's Quay NR	65	150	40		14		15					
Oakenholt Marsh	600				28	25	230	52		18	220	5
White Sands				4	4	1	150	160	1100	16	11	
Talacre	105	70	55						67	17	120	35

Flints. The maximum recorded count was 1,871 at Connah's Quay NR / Oakenholt Marsh on 8/11 (PSH). Oakenholt Marsh is a very regularly used compartment. The maximum monthly counts for the reserve are shown in the following table. Away from the Dee, the Clwyd Estuary in the Rhyl / Rhuddlan area was well used.

Monthly maxima at selected sites:

(CG)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Oakenholt Marsh	600	500			28	25	450	500	1050	18	1871	1000
Clwyd Estuary	300	325	230	46	27			600	350	8	9	140+

The most regularly used inland site was Fagl Lane Gravel Pit, Hope where there were several records of 21-85 between 6/01 and 9/03 (GNR, KS, SD). There were relatively few reports of breeding with adults with broods and juveniles reported only from Oakenholt Marsh, Shotton Steelworks and the Clwyd Estuary (GEM, RyE, SH).

Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis*

GŴYDD WYRAN

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

2011

Denbs. Single birds were noted at Holt on 13/02, and Llandegla Fishery on 28/02. Singles were also seen later in the year at Gresford Flash, Wrexham on 21/10 and 13/11.

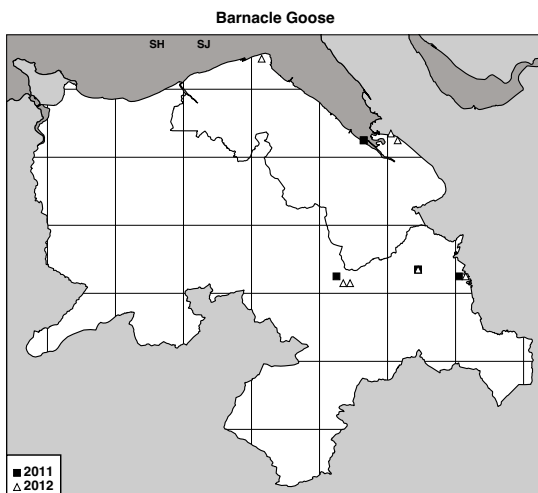
(BY)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	4	1
	Flints	2	9
2012	Denbs	7	1
	Flints	8	4

Flints. There were 9 at Oakenholt Marsh on 3/10 (BH) and 3 at the same site on 18/03 (pGEM).

2012

Denbs. Single birds were seen at Pendinas Reservoir. Presumably the same bird was seen at Gwynfryn both on 5/05 (DvK, RoL) and at Pendinas until at least 12/05. One was at Gresford Flash, Wrexham on 29/10 and another, or possibly the same bird, on the floods at Ridleywood on 2/12.

Flints. Shotwick Fields had 4 on 15/01, 3 on 14/02, then 2-4 between 3-20/05 and 3 were in fields near Talacre dunes on 29/10.



Brent Goose *Branta bernicla*

Winter visitor. Amber list.

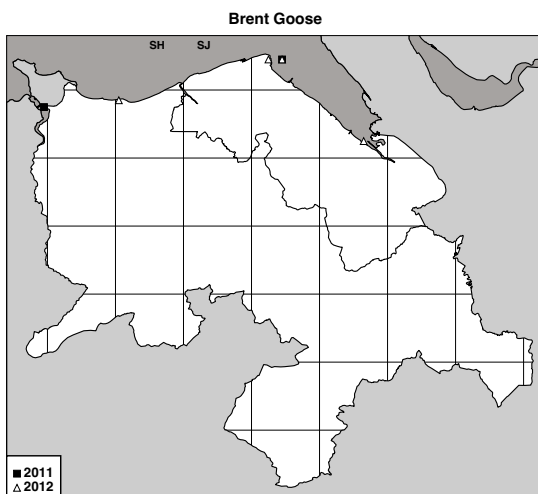
Recorded particularly in the Dee Estuary.

The majority of Denbs records are likely to be birds of the pale-bellied *hrota* race of which the majority of the population winters in Ireland though some winter on the Menai Strait and Y Foryd. Records from Denbs. can be assumed to relate to this form unless otherwise specified. However, Flintshire records are more likely to be of the dark bellied *bernicla* race, the majority of which winter in the S and E of the UK and continental Europe.

2011

Denbs. All records were from Conwy RSPB or the adjacent estuary, where 4 were seen flying west on 22/11 (pJHg). A single was seen on the estuary on 27/11 (JHg).

Flints. Three were on the mudflats at Point of Ayr on 13/11 (GR).



GŴYDD DDU

(BG)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	2	4
	Flints	1	3
2012	Denbs	2	2
	Flints	5	1

2012.

Denbs. Two of the pale bellied race were at Llandulas on 25/02 (JuW), with a single on the estuary at Conwy RSPB on 9/12 (pJHg).

Flints. A single dark bellied bird was at Connah's Quay NR on 15/01 (AW). Later in the year singles (probably the same bird) were recorded at Connah's Quay NR on 3/10, at Point of Ayr on 31/10 and 13/11 and Talacre on 1/11 (RsS, GR, RyE).

Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiaca*

Feral species of uncertain provenance.

2011

Denbs. One was at Kinmel Bay on 11/05.

Flints. There were 2 S of Rhyl on 22/04.

GŴYDD YR AIFFT

(EG)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	1	2
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	

Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*

Regular breeding resident and very common estuarine winter visitor. Amber list.

The Dee Estuary is a site of international importance for this species. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 90 (Denbs.) and 1836 (Flints.).

HWYADEN YR EITHIN

(SU)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	64	78+
	Flints	167	700
2012	Denbs	102	100+
	Flints	221	1100

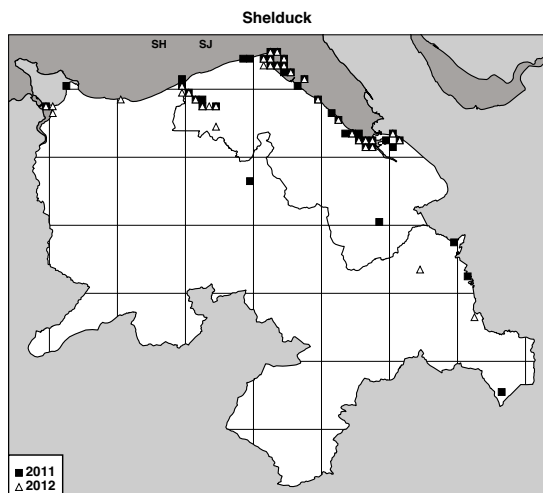
2011

Denbs. Conwy RSPB and the adjacent estuary contributed 77% of all the records, with a maximum count of 78+ on 9/05 (AtG). Kinmel Bay contributed a further 12.5%, with highest numbers during May and Jun when a maximum of 45 was recorded on 24/05 (DCR). There were no records of breeding.

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (SU)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	25	125	106	62	129	14	18	12			4	6
Point of Ayr	96	126	212	122	93	156	220	146	600	366	412	135
Mostyn Bank	11	3	10	15	64	75				42	46	1
Oakenholt Marsh	7	36	40	32	150	680	500	9	380	80	150	3
White Sands	200	180	110		81	150	26	16	27	26	26	140

Flints. Most of the sightings were from various locations in or adjoining the Dee Estuary. Key locations were Oakenholt Marsh NR, Point of Ayr and White Sands. Numbers of this and other species have continued their medium term decline, with a peak of only 700 compared to 1,100 during 2010. Reasons for this trend have not been conclusively established, but one factor may relate to the reduction in historic organic pollution of the estuary with a consequent decline in related prey organisms. Other notable records include: 350 at Point of Ayr mudflats on 5/01, 406 at Connah's Quay NR on 18/05 and 370 at the same location on 29/09 (GR). Away from the Dee Estuary the majority of records were from the Clwyd Estuary in the Rhyl S / Rhuddlan area where there were records throughout most of the year, including a maximum of 100 on 27/02 (SH) and several records of juveniles during May and Jun including a group of 40 on 24/06 (SH).



Dee were concentrated on the Clwyd Estuary to the S of Rhyl and around Rhuddlan, where birds were present throughout the year with a maximum of 150 recorded on 23/03 (SH).

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2012 (SU)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	38	21	32	53	108	23	3	8			3	12
Point of Ayr	40	76	98	57	40	75	98	34	550	1100	500	400
Mostyn Bank	2		18		1	7	19	60	125	45	31	3
Oakenholt Marsh	50	156	190		72	158	52	19	38		40	48
White Sands	27	200	193	163	48	77	14	40	16	56	114	70

Mandarin Duck *Aix galericulata*

Scarce breeding resident.

2011

Denbs. At Llangollen 4 adults were at Hendy on 22/02, 4 at Eglwyseg on 17/04, and a female with small ducklings was near Valle Crucis on 7/06 (JLR). At Gresford there were a number of records from 2/01 – 19/02 and later on 2/05 (KS), but all are of a single and may all relate to one individual. In the lower Dee Valley 5 were at Ridleywood on 24/03 and 4 at Pickhill Hall on 10/04.

Flints. An adult with small young was at Bodfari on 9/06 (AP).

2012

Denbs. Far fewer records than in 2011. There was one record from Llangollen where a single male was recorded on 6/03 (HN). At Gresford a male and female were recorded on 8/01 and 28/01 (KS, SK), later in the year on 4/12 and in the lower Dee Valley 2 were at Trevalyn Meadows on 23/11 (NFr).

2012

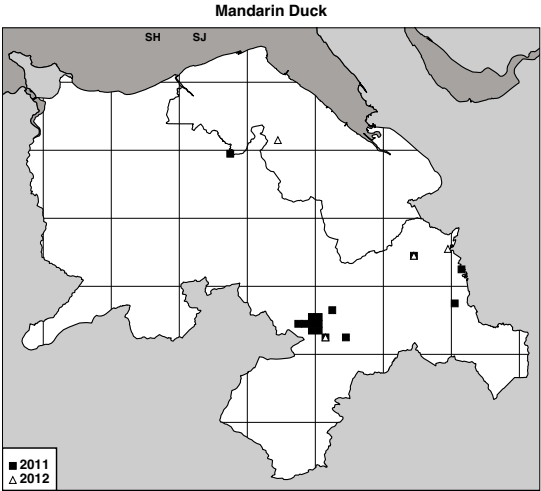
Denbs. As last year over 90% of records were from Conwy RSPB and the adjoining estuary. Notable counts at Conwy RSPB included 100+ on 22/01 (NM), 86 on the estuary on 19/03 (SaM), and 100 on 4/06 (GrR). Counts at Kinmel Bay included 50 on 11/01 (HC) and 80+ on 22/01 and 2/12 (DCR).

Flints. Recorded from the majority of squares within the Dee Estuary. The decline in numbers using the Dee Estuary, noted in recent years, has continued. Other notable counts include 300 at Connah's Quay NR on 2/06 (PSH), 200 at Talacre on 17/09 (DM) and 300 also at Talacre on 1/11 (RyE). Other records away from the

HWYADEN FANDARIN

(MN)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	21	5
	Flints	1	1+
2012	Denbs	6	3
	Flints	1	1

Flints. Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog has attracted this species on an almost annual basis. A single male seen on 23/04 (SD) was the only record this year.



Wigeon *Anas penelope*

Winter visitor. Amber list.

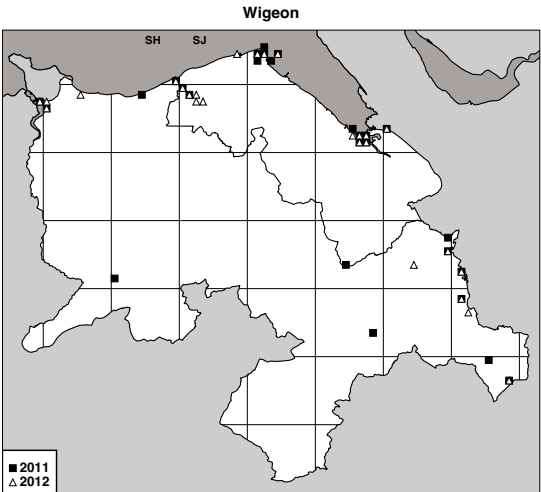
CHWIIWELL

The Dee Estuary is a site of national importance in the UK for this species. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 684 (Denbs.) and 1697 (Flints.).

(WN)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	59	250
	Flints	100	1000
2012	Denbs	88	625
	Flints	144	1200

2011

Denbs. The majority of records were from Conwy RSPB where a maximum count of 140 was recorded on 16/10 (WeBS). This species was recorded in all months except May and Aug, but the main winter influxes were during Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec. The only records outside these months were singles at Conwy RSPB on 21/06 and 22/07 (SaM, pJHg). The first substantial count of the autumn was 50 on 9/10. The most substantial numbers were recorded on the lower Dee Valley during flooding in the early part of the year when 120 were at Sutton Green on 8/01 (NHu), 160 at Ridleywood on 14/01 with 180 there on 16/02 and 250 were at Trevalyn Meadows on 16/02 (NFr).



Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (WN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	6	30	60						50	140	120	81
Point of Ayr	150	10	34						12	50	120	30
Point of Ayr Fields	600	430	45						1	144	220	40
Connah's Quay NR	4	28	6	1	1							3
Oakenholt Marsh	6	30	8						12			
White Sands	66	140	50						6	50		43

Flints. All the counts of significant numbers were during the winter months. The Warren Farm fields at Talacre managed by BHP were used by substantial numbers throughout the winter months with 700 on 4/01, 600 on 23/01, 430 on 6/02, with smaller numbers until 22/03. Later in the year 125 on 14/10 were the first big numbers of autumn, after which 140+ were there throughout the remainder of the year with a maximum of 370 on 19/12 (pJR). Other notable counts include at Connah's Quay NR 1,000 on 13/01 and 600 on 28/11 (GR). Away from the Dee the Clwyd Estuary held substantial numbers at times including 300+ on 3/01 (DCR), and 500 on 23/01 (SH).

2012

Denbs. The maximum was a count of 625 at Worthenbury on 30/11. All the major counts at Conwy RSPB are detailed in the table of WeBS counts below. The only other record of significant numbers at a coastal location was 200 at Kinmel Bay on 11/01 (HC). Later in the year the Dee floods, as usual, attracted substantial numbers with 120 on 28/11 and 625 on 30/11 at Ridleywood, 240 at Worthenbury and 100 at Ridleywood on 23/12 (NFr).

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2012 (WN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	125	26	17	15					69	136	111	41
Point of Ayr	10	461	8					1	5	50	11	25
Point of Ayr Fields	130	1	50						3	50	150	530
Connah's Quay NR	132	120	10						9	20		
Oakenholt Marsh			90									1200
White Sands	60		77	4						5		

Flints. As usual the majority of records were during Jan to Mar and Oct to Nov. The maximum number recorded during the early part of the year was 461 at Point of Ayr mudflats on 12/02 (GR). The last substantial numbers of the spring were 200+ at Warren Farm on 8/03 (DCR), 90 at Connah's Quay NR on 12/03 (GR). The only Apr record and the last of spring were 4 at White Sands on 8/04 (JuR). The first returning birds of the autumn were singles at Point of Ayr mudflats on 19/08 (GR) and at Connah's Quay NR on 30/08 (PSH). Numbers were more consistent later in the year with monthly maxima at Warren Farm of 140 on 22/10, 300 on 12/11 and 450 on 10/12 (pJR). At Connah's Quay NR 130 were seen on 28/10, 420 on 8/11, and 1,200 on 16/12 (GR, PSH, GEM). At Point of Ayr mudflats 50 were seen on 14/10, 300 on 28/11 and 25 on 16/12 (GR). Away from the Dee good numbers were on the Clwyd estuary throughout most of Feb with a maximum of 300 on 19/02. Later in the year numbers were more modest with an autumn maximum of 100 on 28/10 (SH).

Gadwall *Anas strepera*

Winter visitor and local breeding resident. Amber list.

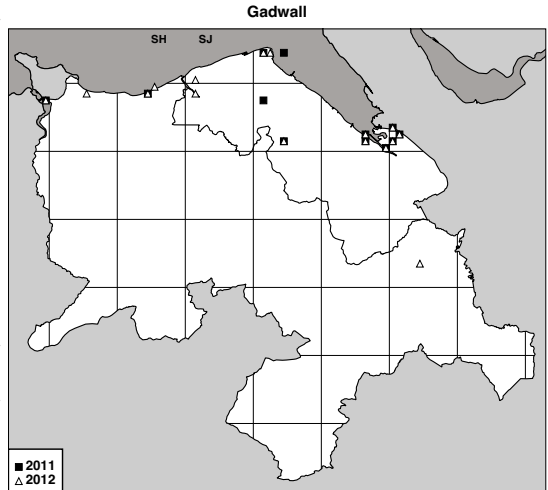
HWYADEN LWYD

(GA)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	27	2
	Flints	22	30
2012	Denbs	60	12
	Flints	26	30

This species occurs in small numbers intermittently throughout the year, appearing to favour freshwater or brackish ponds and lakes, with very few records from intertidal areas. Favoured locations include Conwy RSPB, and on the Dee RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands (Border Pool), pools at Shotton Papermill and Steelworks and lakes at Talacre, as well as various inland localities. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 7 (Denbs.) and 30 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. The majority of records were from Conwy RSPB, where 1+ or 2 were recorded intermittently throughout the year, with the exception of Jun, Aug and Nov (pJHg). Records appear much scarcer during the summer months, May – Sep. This combined with the



lack of any breeding records, perhaps indicates that these are not local breeding residents. The only record away from this location was a single at Pentre Mawr Park, Pensarn on 25/12 (RS).

Flints. Scattered records of small numbers from a variety of sites around the Dee; the most favoured locality being Border Pool, RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands and adjoining lakes and ponds in the Shotwick / Shotton area. The majority of records were of 1- 5 birds, the maximum being 30 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 27/10 (CW). There were 10 at Shotwick Fields and Shotton Steelworks on 3/01 (CW, KS) and 9 at Shotton Papermill on 13/05 (IMS). Away from the Dee inland records were from Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog, where 5 were noted on 23/01 (SD), with a pair on 6/11 (TeA), and at Llyn Helyg where there were 21 on 20/03 (LJ).

2012

Denbs. As in 2011 Recorded in modest numbers from Conwy RSPB throughout the year, with the exception of Jul and Sep (pJHg). The maximum count was 12 at Conwy RSPB on 28/10 (GrR). Away from Conwy singles were at Belgrano Beach, Pensarn on 10/01 (HC), Pentre Mawr Park, Pensarn on 15/01 (KS). There were 2 at Gresford Flash Wrexham, on 2/02 (HL).

Flints. There was a similar pattern of observations to 2011, with small numbers recorded throughout the year at similar locations. Most records were of 1- 8, with more substantial counts the exception. These included 11 at Shotwick Fields on 24/04 (CW). At Shotton Papermill 15 were seen on 1/06 and 20 on 11/06 (IMS). At RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands 20 were recorded on 31/08 with an annual maximum of 30 on 20/09 (CW) and 12 were seen at Talacre on 17/09 (DM). At inland locations the 22 which were seen at Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog on 31/01 was an exceptional count (SD). Single males were at Rhyl Brickworks on 26/11 (SD) and at Rhuddlan on 1/12 (DCR). The only breeding record was of small ducklings seen at Shotton

Teal *Anas crecca*

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

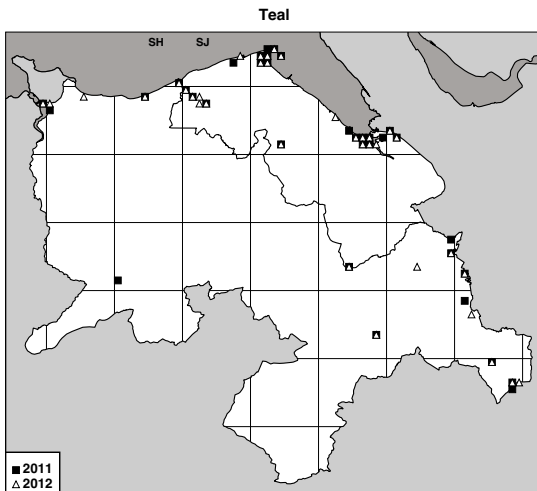
The Dee Estuary is a site of international importance for this species. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 307 (Denbs.) and 1370 (Flints.).

CORHWYADEN

(T.)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	90	400
	Flints	174	1000
2012	Denbs	140	650
	Flints	256	400

2011

Denbs. Recorded throughout the year; the majority of records were from Conwy RSPB, for which monthly WeBS counts are shown in the table below. The maximum count at Conwy was 354 on 17/12 (SaM) and there were counts of between 100 – 240 on several occasions during Jan, and Sep-Dec. There were records from eleven further locations, of which Kinmel Bay was the only coastal site. All other substantial counts were from the Dee floods to the E of Wrexham where there were 300+ at Sutton Green on 12/02 (NHu), and 400 at Ridleywood on 16/02 (NFr). Most summer records were at Conwy RSPB, but a record of 2 at Fenn's Moss on 11/06 is perhaps particularly indicative of possible breeding (JoAr).



Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (T)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	342	100	31	6			28	63	126	295	256	362
Point of Ayr	200	150	100	14				48	100	50	100	67
Oakenholt Marsh	78	103	61	2			2	20	500	30	250	150
Connah's Quay NR	99	108	66	1	2			7		8	72	51
White Sands	10		4				7		65	50	101	14

Flints. Numbers continue to decline with the maximum count less than half that of last year. During the early part of the year numbers were relatively low with several counts in the region of 200 during Jan and a maximum of 400 at Connah's Quay NR on 27/01. The last significant spring counts were 100 at Talacre Gas Terminal and Point of Ayr mudflats on 6/03 (GR), after which numbers tailed off. The first significant numbers of autumn were 48 again on the Point of Ayr mudflats during the WeBS count of 17/07. However, numbers remained relatively modest until the Sep WeBS when 100 were at Point of Ayr, 500 at Connah's Quay (GR, AW) and 750 were at Oakenholt Marsh on 8/10 (GEM). There was something of an influx during late Nov with 1,000 at Connah's Quay NR on 28/11 (GR) and 650 on the Border Pool at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 11/12 (CW). The only inland record was of 18 (10 females, 8 males) at Ddol Reservoir, Yscefiog on 6/11 (TeA).

2012

Denbs. Conwy RSPB provided 82% of sightings including maximum counts of 100 on 12/10 (ChF) and 28/10 (GrR). As usual the Dee floods attracted the year's largest numbers with 650 at Worthenbury on 2/12 (NFr).

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2012 (T)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	131	86	35	32				13	77	140	212	124
Point of Ayr	120	35	50	30				5	115	400	100	400
Oakenholt Marsh	300	100	125			1			205	135	280	180
Connah's Quay NR	37	106	130					4	45	20	100	66
White Sands	30							1			41	

Flints. Oakenholt Marsh held good numbers throughout most of the winter months with up to 300 present from the New Year until late Jan. The last record of substantial numbers was 125 on 12/03 (AW, GR). Later in the year 205 on 16/09 was the first major autumn record, 280 on 18/11 the winter maximum, and 100+ were present throughout Sep–Dec (GR, GEM). The Point of Ayr intertidal areas had good numbers, particularly later in the year when there were maximum counts of 400 on 14/10 and 16/12 (GR). The various sites at Talacre were also well used with 150 at the Gas Terminal on 12/02, and 132 at Warren Farm on 17/10, 173 on 27/11, 157 on 10/12 and 170 on 21/12 (pJR). Numbers on the Clwyd Estuary were relatively low with few records over 40, the maximum being 100 on 27/08 (SH), an unusually early record for significant numbers. The only inland record was 3 at Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog on 31/01 (SD).

Green-winged Teal *Anas carolinensis*

Vagrant.

2012

A single bird was at Conwy RSPB on 1/12 (JHg). To be submitted to the WRP.

CORHWYADEN ASGELL-WERDD

(TA)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	0	

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

Common breeding resident. Amber list.

The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 122 (Denbs.) and 519 (Flints.). Recorded in 9/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 14/35 in 2012.

HWYADEN WYLLT

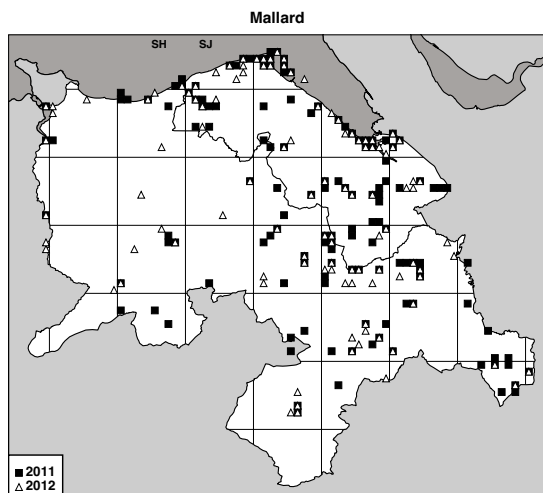
(MA)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	202	165
	Flints	299	221
2012	Denbs	234	197
	Flints	359	208

2011

Denbs. Recorded from inland and coastal water bodies throughout the vice-county. Away from Conwy RSPB the largest counts were 70 on Erddig Park Lake on 15/01 (WeBS), 75 at Acton Park Lake on 19/01 (NH). At Hanmer Mere there were 110 on 24/11 and 132 on 20/12 (WeBS), though it is possible that these records could have been influenced by birds released by shooting interests. Breeding was recorded at Afonwen, Gresford Flash, Acton Park, Wrexham, and Beddwlwyn.

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (MA)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	87	15	13	12	28	52	80	68	105	221	40	39
Point of Ayr	72	40	20	5	17	56	2	102	122	50	4	12
Oakenholt Marsh	102	91	2	3	30	75	51	12				17
Connah's Quay NR	5	5	6	14	60	221	153	21		8		10
White Sands	4	11	42		54	165	10	106	9	14	12	6



Flints. Widely recorded throughout the vice-county, the majority of records are from various locations in the Dee Estuary. The general trend of declining numbers continues with a further reduction in peak counts, the maximum being 221 at Connah's Quay NR on 5/06 (WeBS) which is less than half the mean maximum for previous years. Other notable records include 165 at White Sands on 5/06 and 106 on 14/08 (JuR), 122 at Point of Ayr mudflats on 18/09 (GR), 110 at Warren Farm on 3/11 (JuR) and 116 at Connah's Quay NR on 28/11 (GR). On the Clwyd Estuary the two largest counts were 77 on 30/01 with 80 flying SE on 1/09 (SH). Inland the largest counts were 63 at Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog on 1/02, and 52 at Holywell on 20/01 (MD).

2012

Denbs. Numbers have generally been significantly lower than in 2011. Away from Conwy RSPB counts were relatively modest, the maximum being 197 at Hanmer Mere on 18/01. Others include 109, also at Hanmer Mere on 13/02 and 70 at Erddig Park Lake on 15/01 and later in the year 72 were at Hanmer Mere on 15/12 (WeBS).

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2012 (MA)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	32	32	8	11	20	43	78	33	32	60	27	28
Point of Ayr	22	17	15	9	2		2	30	42	20	20	42
Oakenholt Marsh		80	32		15	208	7	14	18	10	10	15
Connah's Quay NR	16	38	42		40	3	55	21	27	22		35
White Sands	30	14	21	19	33	49	4	50	6	3		

Flints. Notable counts from around the Dee include 208 at Oakenholt Marsh on 24/06 (RhPi, WeBS) which was the annual maximum but much fewer than could have been expected. 110 were seen at Oakenholt Marsh Reserve on 8/07, 100 at Connah's Quay NR on 1/08 (GEM), 150 feeding on barley stubbles at Shotwick Fields on 21/09 (CW) and 104 at Connah's Quay NR on 18/10 (GR). On the Clwyd Estuary 109 were recorded on 14/11 and 112 on 15/12 (SH). The maximum inland count was 80 at Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog on 31/01 (SD).

Pintail *Anas acuta*

Winter visitor. Amber list.

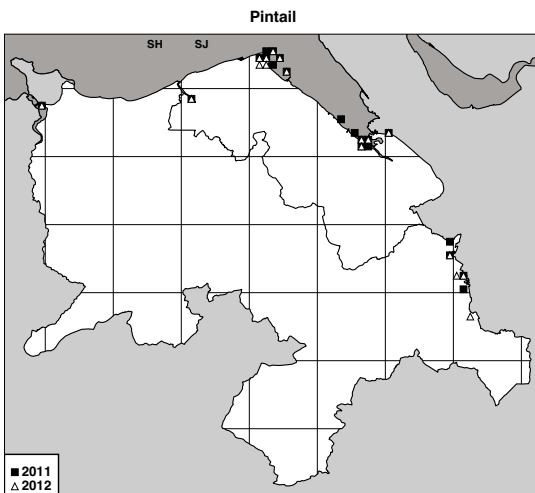
HWYADEN LOSTFAIN

(PT)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	13	750
	Flints	53	2000
2012	Denbs	15	650
	Flints	40	400

The Dee Estuary is a site of international importance for this winter visitor. Most records are from places either on or close to the estuary; though significant numbers are also recorded on the middle Dee floodplain when winter flooding provides suitable conditions. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 349 (Denbs.) and 2435 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. The main occurrences were on winter floods in the middle Dee valley to the E of Wrexham, with 530 at Trevalyn Meadows on 5/01 and a very high count of 750 on 16/02 with 220 at Ridleywood also on 16/02 (NFr). Later in the year a maximum count of 160 was at Trevalyn Meadows on 21/12, though numbers were greater after the New Year (NFr). Also an occasional visitor to Conwy RSPB in small numbers where there were 2 on 21/02 and 5 on 26/10 (pJHg, RoH).



Flints. Key locations having major concentrations this year were mainly Connah's Quay NR and Point of Ayr mudflats. Other substantial counts were recorded at Bagillt with 1,000 on 25/11 (GR) and Connah's Quay NR with 350 on 27/11 (MD), 500 on 24/11 (BH), 500 on 25/11 (GEM) and 2,000 on 29/09 (GR). The only record away from the Dee was a single bird on the upper Clwyd Estuary on 20/05 (SH).

Monthly maxima of WeBS counts for selected sites:

2011 (PT)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Talacre	2	3	3							2	4	100
Point of Ayr	300	120							10	100	250	150
Connah's Quay NR		50							2000	150	500	
2012												
Talacre	30+	80+							10	2	100	40
Point of Ayr	200	160	2						30	81	140	160
Connah's Quay NR	400		65							100		

2012

Denbs. In the early part of the year 530 were at Trevalyn Meadows on 5/01 and 200+ at Holt on 8-10/01 (KS, HL). Later in the year there were 90 at Worthenbury on 28/11, increasing to 650 on 30/11, 40 were at Ridleywood and 140 at Worthenbury on 23/12 (NFr). At Conwy RSPB there were singles on 30/08 and 7/09, 4 with Wigeon on the estuary on 10/09, and singles on 17/09, 20/09, and 23/11.

Flints. Numbers on the Dee were significantly lower than in previous years. The maximum counts were 200 at Point of Ayr on 15/01 (GR) and 400 at Connah's Quay NR on 27/01 (GR). The only record from a location away from the Dee was a single female on the upper Clwyd Estuary on 15/01 (SH).

Garganey *Anas querquedula*

Uncommon summer visitor and passage migrant. Amber list.

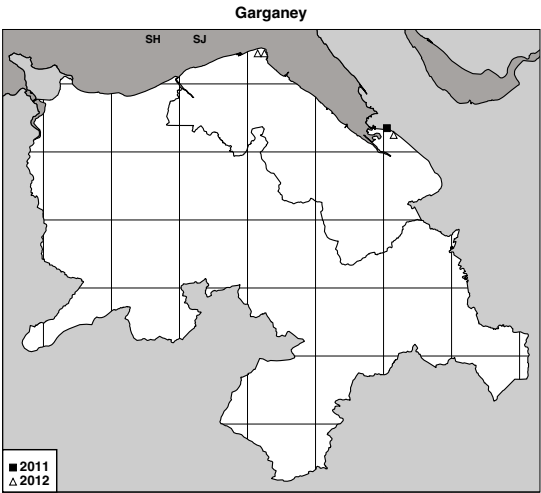
2011

Flints. A single male was at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands, Border Pool on 21/04, with a female on 24-26/04, then alone on 29/04 (CW).

2012

Flints. Two drakes were at Shotwick Fields 5-7/05, 1 on 8/05, 3 on 20/05, and 1 drake on 28/05 (CW, GR). One was at various locations around Talacre from 5/09 – 10/10 (JuR).

HWYADEN ADDRRAIN			
(GY)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	4	2
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	10	3



Shoveler *Anas clypeata*

Winter visitor in small numbers. Amber list.

The Dee Estuary is of national importance for this species. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 52 (Denbs.) and 49 (Flints.).

HWYADEN LYDANBIG			
(SV)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	51	78
	Flints	62	70
2012	Denbs	58	20
	Flints	80	20

2011

Denbs. Numbers were much smaller than average. At Conwy RSPB birds were present during Jan to Jun and Sep to Nov, but the maximum counts were only 5 on 16/01 and again on 24/09 (WeBS). In the E, as usual the most commonly used site was Gresford Flash, where 1-5 were present on various occasions from 2/01 to 20/02, 15 on 29/01. Later in the year a single female on 10/12 and 18 on 18/12 were the only records for this site (KS). Elsewhere there were a few records of 1-3 from Fenn's Moss, Ridleywood and Trevalyn Meadows, the only larger numbers being 12 at Ridleywood on 16/02 (NFr) and 15 at Fenn's Moss on 29/03 (HC).

Flints. The favoured localities for this species on the Dee Estuary are Burton Mere Wetlands

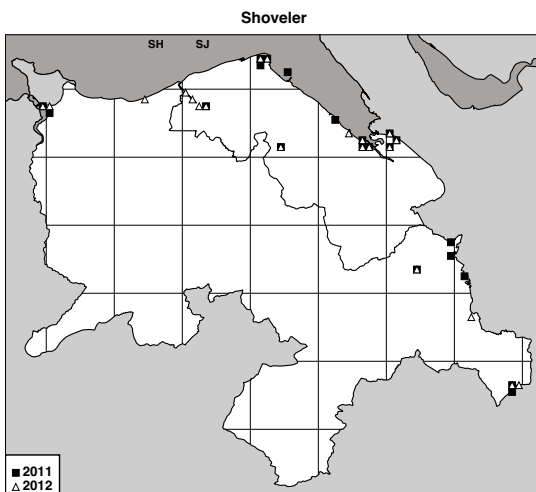
RSPB, Talacre pools and Warren Farm for which monthly maximum counts are shown in the table below. The only count of more than the mean of the previous few years was 70 at Border Pool, RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 25/08 (CW).

Monthly maxima of WeBS counts for selected sites:

2011 (SV)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Talacre	17	10							8	12	6	1
Warren Farm	7	5	2						4	7	5	5
Burton Mere	15	8	19					70	1		10	5
2012												
Talacre									1	7	1	3
Warren Farm									3	5	5	5
Connah's Quay NR			4						12	8	20	9
Burton Mere	2	5						1	4		3	6

2012

Denbs. Numbers continued below the long term average. At Conwy RSPB numbers were particularly low in the early part of the year, with only two records of 1+ on 13/01 and 7/04 and 1 on 24/06. Later in the year birds were present from 1/10 - 24/12 (pJHg, WeBS), with a maximum of 6 on 28/10 (GrR). At Gresford Flash there were only a total of five records during Jan, Feb and Dec, most being of 1-5 (KS), 20 on 2/02 (HL) being an exception this year. Other records were from Fenn's Moss, Pensarn and Worthenbury, where 14 on 30/11 (NFr) made a notable sighting.



Flints. The species occurred in all months except Apr and Jul. Numbers

remained low, particularly in the early part of the year when there were very few if any at regularly used sites. A pair were at Shotton Papermill in the breeding season on 1/06, but no further indication of nesting was reported. Away from the Dee up to 4 were on the Clwyd Estuary during 18/02 - 11/03 and later on 1/05 when 3 were on the upper estuary (SH). Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog had 6 (4 females / 2 males) on 31/01 (SD).

Pochard *Aythya ferina*

Winter visitor. Red list.

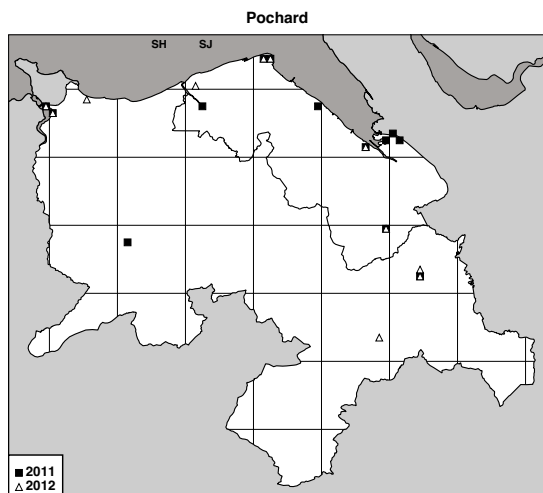
The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 11 (Denbs.) and 23 (Flints.).

HWYADEN BENGGOCH

(PO)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	36	7
	Flints	21	20
2012	Denbs	93	7
	Flints	15	8

2011

Denbs. Recorded in small numbers in all months except Apr and Jun. Conwy RSPB was the



most frequented site with 89% of all records and logged the maximum of 7 on 16/12 (WeBS). Sightings also came from Acton Park Lake, Wrexham where a single male was noted on three occasions during the year (KS, NH) and Llyn Aled where there was a single on 12/11 (SD).

Flints. The majority of records were during Jan-Mar, with a single sighting in Aug and two during Nov. Almost half of the records were from Warren Farm or elsewhere in Talacre. The only inland sighting was at Fagl Lane Gravel Pit, Hope where a singleton was noted on 22/01 (SD). The maximum count was 20 at Shotwick Lake 3/01 (KS). All other records were of 1-3.

2012

Denbs. As in 2011, over 90% of records were from Conwy RSPB, where the species was recorded in small numbers during all months of the year with a maximum annual count of 7 on 16/12. Other sightings were at Acrefair where a male was present on dates from 1/04 – 20/05. There were 6 at Colwyn Bay on 3/12 (RRD); 3 were at Gresford Flash on 13/02 (HL), 1 male possibly from the same group was at Acton Park on 19/02 and then back at Gresford Flash on dates from 4-18/03 (NB, KS).

Flints. Recorded intermittently in small numbers during Jan-Mar, a single record in May, and then during Nov-Dec. The most favoured locations were again around Talacre. The only inland sightings were again at Fagl Lane Gravel Pit, Hope where the annual maximum count of 8 was recorded on 25/02 (KE) and Hanmer Mere where 6 on 13/02 (WeBS) was the next largest count. All other records were of 1-4.

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*

Resident breeder in small numbers and locally common winter visitor. Amber list.

Recorded during all months of the year in both counties and both years. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 32 (Denbs.) and 63 (Flints.).

HWYADEN GOPOG

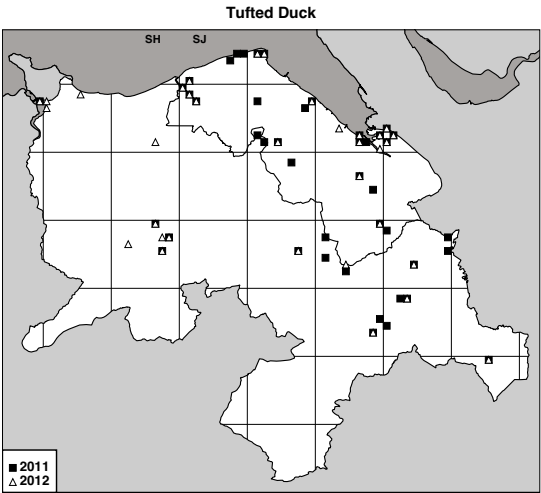
(TU)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	97	34
	Flints	103	58
2012	Denbs	148	52
	Flints	122	50

2011

Denbs. Records received from sixteen locations, of which Conwy RSPB is the only coastal situation, all others being inland lakes or reservoirs. Only five records were of 15 or more birds and 34 at Afonwen on 17/01 (MD) was the annual maximum count. There were also 17 at Stryd Las, Rhosllanerchrugog on 17/01 (PL), 17 at Hanmer Mere on 18/01 (WeBS), 15 at Conwy RSPB (WeBS) and 21 at Llyn Bran, Mynydd Hiraethog on 12/11 (SD). There were no confirmed

records of breeding.

Flints. Recorded from 27 locations, twelve of which were ponds and lakes around the Dee and Clwyd estuaries. The remainder were inland lakes and reservoirs. The majority of records were of 1-10. Only six were of more than 30. Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog was a regular location for significant numbers, with 58 on 1/02, 41 on 9/03, 36 on 24/10 (MD) and 48 on 18/11 (WeBS), all of which were fewer than the mean for recent years. Other notable records were 40 at Shotwick Boating Lake on 3/01 (KS) and 34 at Shotton Paper Mill on 13/05 (IMS). Breeding took place at three sites: RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands, Border Pool where a duck had a newly hatched brood of 7 on 26/07 (CW); Altami where on 28/07 three females each had broods totalling 19 recently fledged young and at Fagl Lane Gravel Pit, Hope where a count of 22 on 12/08 included 7 juveniles (GNR).



Monthly maxima of WeBS counts for selected sites:

2011 (TU)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	4	2	3	15	6	7	5	10	2	3		2
Ddol Resr, Ysceifiog	22		41							36		
Connah's Quay NR	4	8	8	6	2	5		1		2	2	3
Henmer Mere	17	2	11						14	3	4	12
2012												
Conwy RSPB	4	5	8	11	10	5	7	11	9	2	1	5
Ddol Resr, Ysceifiog			26							18	48	
Connah's Quay NR		6	12		4				2	6		
Henmer Mere	2								7		52	18

2012

Denbs. Recorded from many of the same sites as in 2011; 74% of records were from Conwy RSPB, where the species was recorded in all months and a maximum count of 19 seen on 5/09 (AnH). The majority of records were of 1-6, with only twelve of 12-20. The only record greater than this was an exceptional record of 52 at Hanmer Mere on 20/11 (WeBS) which was more than the mean maximum of recent years.

Flints. Recorded from the usual sites around the Dee and Clwyd Estuaries. However, there were considerably fewer inland records. Breeding was confirmed at three locations: Shotwick Fields where on 12/07 a duck was noted sitting on a nest at the edge of a ditch (CW); Alltami where three ducks had a brood of 7 well grown young and another of 2 newly hatched ducklings on 26/07 (GNR) and at Connah's Quay NR where there was a brood of 6 on 29/07, reduced to 5 by 11/08 (GEM). There were only five records of over 20: 50 at Ddol Reservoir on 31/01 (WeBS), 27 at Shotwick Lake on 27/02 (WeBS), 28 at Shotton Paper Mill on 1/06 and 30 on 11/06 (IMS); and 29 at Rhyl Brickworks Pond on 26/11 (SD), all of which were less than the

mean maximum for recent years.

Scaup *Aythya marila*

Regular winter visitor in small numbers. Amber list.
WBAP.

2011

Denbs. Offshore between Old Colwyn and Belgrano is a favoured location and on various dates from 2-23/01 between 4-14 were recorded there (RTe, MtG). Two males were at Conwy RSPB on 8/03 (SaM), 3 were at Old Colwyn on 11/03 (RS), 5-8 were at Llanddulas from 11-20/12 (RS) and 3 at Kinmel Bay on 24/12.

Flints. The only sighting was a single female on the Border Pool at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 28/11 (CW).

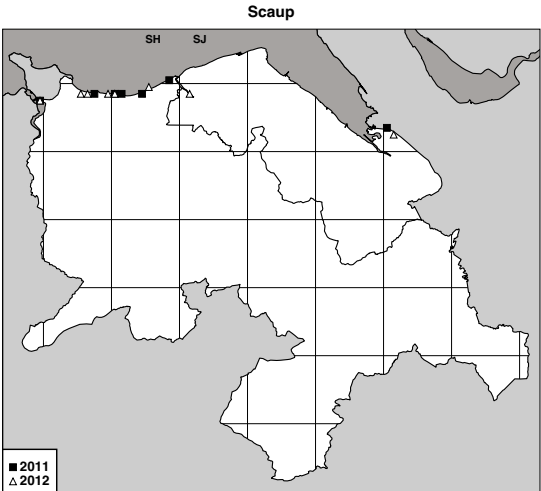
2012

Denbs. As usual 2-5 were at various locations off Old Colwyn to Pensarn Beach 8-14/01 (HC) and 1 was in the same area 14-29/03 (JuW). A male was at Conwy RSPB 7/06-26/07 (pJHg, JuW) and 1-4 were again off Llanddulas 14-19/10 (JuW).

Flints Two were at Shotwick Lake on several dates 14/01-12/02 (WeBS) and a single female was on the Clwyd Estuary at Rhuddlan on 7/10 (SH).

HWYADEN BENDDU

(SP)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	11	14
	Flints	1	1
2012	Denbs	19	5
	Flints	3	2



Eider *Somateria mollissima*

Generally scarce non-breeding resident and winter visitor.

2012

Denbs. Up to 2 were offshore at Rhos-on-Sea / Colwyn Bay / Llanddulas on several dates 13/01-5/03 with 1 off Rhos-on-Sea on 11-12/09.

Flints. One was in the Dee Estuary at Mostyn on 18/01 and 20/02 (GR).

HWYADEN FWYTHBLU

(E)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	8	2
	Flints	2	1

Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis*

Winter visitor and passage migrant.

HWYADEN GYNFFON-HIR

(LN)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	5	1
	Flints	15	1

2011

Denbs. On 18/12 a male flew W on a strong wind with the scoter flock off Llanddulas (RS).

2012

Denbs. One, possibly the Rhuddlan bird (see below) was off Colwyn Bay / Old Colwyn / Llanddulas on various dates 24/03–5/04 (JuW).

Flints. A female was on the Clwyd Estuary near Rhuddlan from 25/02–2/03, possibly with another on 25/02.

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*

Winter visitor. Amber list. WBAP.

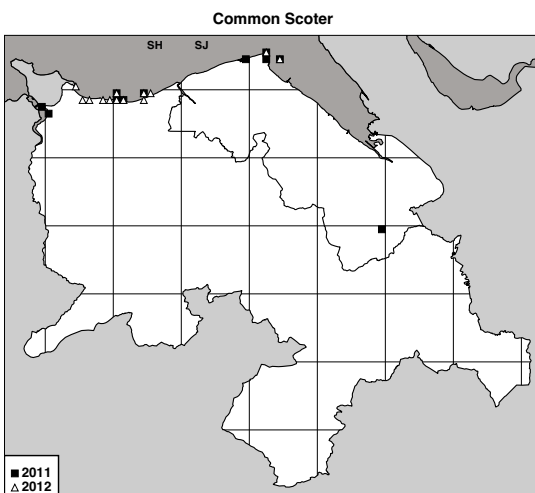
MOR HWYADEN DDU

(CX)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	25	10000
	Flints	10	34
2012	Denbs	56	25000
	Flints	4	28

Liverpool Bay is of international importance for its population of wintering Common Scoter and the North Wales coast from the Great Orme to North Wirral Foreshore is a key area for this population. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 6143 (Denbs.) and 1738 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. The main flock was present off Llanddulas from the turn of the year until 15/02 when 500+ were present. The maximum count of the year was on 30/01 when 10,000 were at Llanddulas and 4,000 far out from Pensarn (KS). The last record of spring was 40 on 4/03 (RMB). A male remained at Conwy RSPB from 21/04 – 9/05 (JHg, RS). The first of autumn were 200 off Llanddulas on 27/09 (RMB) and up to 6,000+ on 11/12 (RS) were present off Old Colwyn /Llanddulas for the remainder of the year.



Flints. Recorded irregularly in small numbers during most months excluding Mar, Apr, and Oct. Numbers were usually from 1-12, with 34 at Gronant on 8/05 (WeBS) being exceptional. A record of a pair at Fagl Lane Gravel Pit, Hope on 24/06 was an unusual inland sighting (GNR).

2012

Denbs. Recorded in all months except May, though numbers were relatively small from May–

Jul. During the early part of Jan numbers off Llanddulas were relatively modest, with counts of 1,000-3,000 the norm. A record of about 10,000 on 15/01 (KS) was exceptional. However numbers increased as the month progressed and by mid-Feb numbers were described as “massive”, with regular counts of 10,000 – 25,000 off Llanddulas and Colwyn Bay during 14/02 -29/03 The largest counts were 19,400 off Llanddulas on 26/02 (JuW), 25,000 off Old Colwyn on 18/03, and 20,000 off Colwyn Bay on 22/03 (StN), all of which are many more than the mean maximum for recent years. The last substantial numbers of spring were on 29/03 when 10,000 were off Llanddulas beach (JuW). Numbers were small during the summer months with May–Jul counts of 12-300, though 1,500 were off Llanddulas on 21/07 (SD). The first of the main autumn influx were 20,000 present from 5-9/09 (JuW, KS, JnG, ACm), numbers tailing off until 14/10 when c.10,000 were again off Llanddulas (RTe, JuW), after which numbers remained in the 2,000–10,000 range for the remainder of the year.

Flints. There were scattered occurrences during Feb, Jul, Oct and Nov. Again the most common location was from Gronant to Point of Ayr. Twenty were at Point of Ayr on 12/02 (WeBS), 28 at Gronant on 22/07 (WeBS), 7 at Point of Ayr and 8 at Gronant on 14/10 with a single at Point of Ayr on 1/11 and 18/11 (RyE, GR). All these counts are considerably fewer than the mean maximum for recent years – perhaps because the majority of birds are staying further W in Colwyn Bay?

Surf Scoter *Melanitta perspicillata*

Scarce trans-Atlantic vagrant to Wales.

2011

Denbs. A single drake was off Llanddulas with the Common Scoter flock on 6/11 (RS). Accepted by the WRP.

MOR-HWYADEN YR EWYN			
(FS)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	

Velvet Scoter *Melanitta fusca*

Regular winter visitor in small numbers. Amber list.

2011

Denbs. Recorded 23/01-9/03 when up to 4 were present off Old Colwyn / Llanddulas / Pensarn. Later in the year 4 males and 3 females were off Llanddulas (RS), after which up to 12 were regularly recorded for the remainder of the year. Counts of 30+ up to 40 on 19/11 (RS) were notable.

MOR-HWYADEN Y GOGLEDD			
(VS)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	23	40
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	70	15
	Flints	0	

2012

Denbs. Recorded from Jan to Apr, and Sep to Dec. There were regular records of 1-12 until 9/04 in the usual area from Colwyn Bay to Pensarn. The maximum count was 15 off Old Colwyn / Llanddulas on 25/02 (JuW). Later in the year, up to 8 were present in the same area from 6/09 and for the remainder of the year (JuW).

Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula*

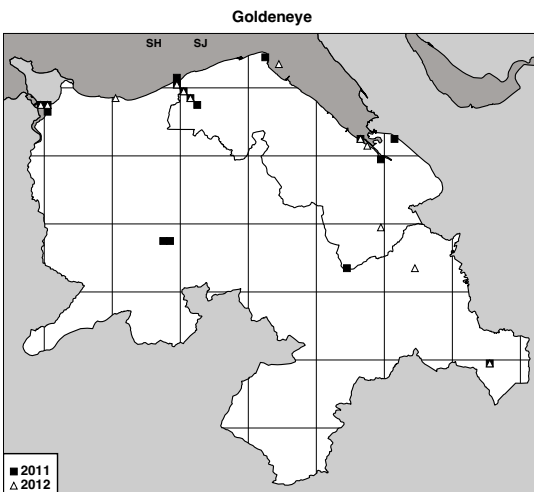
Widespread winter visitor.

The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 13 (Denbs.) and 21 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. Recorded from five locations, 83% of records were from Conwy RSPB where at least 1 was present throughout the year and a maximum of 7 was noted on 17/12 (WeBS, JHg). Other locations were Hanmer Mere which held birds during Jan-Mar and Nov-Dec and a maximum of 10 were present on 14/03; Kinmel Bay with 7 at Horton's Nose on 2/01 (RS) and 2 on 18/12 (KS). Llyn Brenig had 9 on 23/02 (PSu) and 5 on 12/11 (SD). Nant-y-fridd Reservoir had 1 on 5/11 (SD).

Flints. Recorded in small numbers from Jan-Apr and Oct-Dec. The maximum count was 12 on the upper Clwyd Estuary on 5/02 (SH).



2012

Denbs. Again Conwy RSPB provided the majority of records with birds present in all months except Jul, and a maximum count of 6 on 24/12 (JHg). Other locations were Hanmer Mere with 10 on 30/01 (SD) and 20 on 18/03 (HL); 1 at Gresford Flash on 15/03 (SK), and 1 at Llanddulas on 11/03.

Flints. Recorded during Jan-Mar, single records in Aug and Nov, and during Dec. As in 2011, the majority of records were from the Clwyd Estuary, where the maximum count of 9 (3 males and 6 females) was recorded on 25/02 SH, KS).

HWYADEN LYGAD AUR

(GN)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	48	10
	Flints	31	12
2012	Denbs	32	20
	Flints	37	9

Smew *Mergus albellus*

Scarce winter visitor.

2012

Flints. A female was at Point of Ayr and Talacre on 12/12.

LLEIAN WEN

(SY)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	2	1

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*

Winter visitor. Amber list.

Mainly recorded from coastal locations and the estuaries of major rivers. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 23 (Denbs.) and 17 (Flints.).

HWYADEN FRONGOCH

(RM)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	74	26
	Flints	16	3
2012	Denbs	110	28
	Flints	43	9

2011

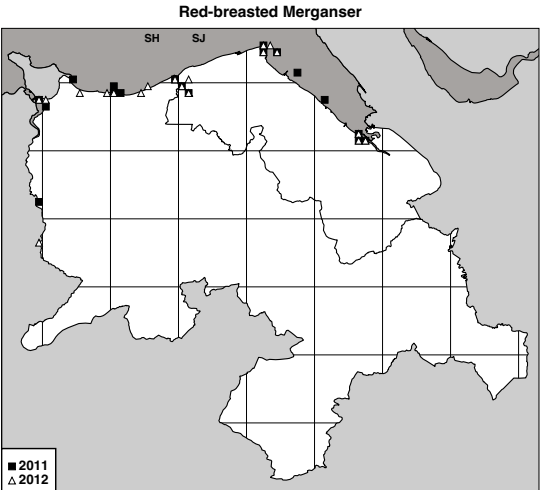
Denbs. Three quarters of all records were from Conwy RSPB where birds were present in all months of the year. The great majority of counts were less than 10. The maximum of 26 was noted on 2/04 (pJHg). Other notable counts were 15+ on 7/01 (RBM) and 20 on 5/04 (pJHg), 20 on 30/01, 14 on 31/01 and 15 on 19/11. The only inland sighting was a single at Llanrwst on 21/05 (MHa).

Flints. Recorded from various locations in and around the Dee and Clwyd Estuaries during Jan- early Mar, a single record in Jul, then Oct-Dec. On the Dee 3 were at Point of Ayr on 22/01 and 1 on 23/01, a single remained at Talacre on various dates during Feb (pJR). During Oct-Dec single birds were also recorded at various locations. On the Clwyd, a male was S of Rhyl on 12/03 and 3 on 2/04 (SH), 1 at Rhuddlan on 24/07 (DvJ) and a female was on Rhyl Marine Lake 22-26/12 (DCR).

2012

Denbs. As in 2011, 75% of records were from Conwy RSPB where birds were present in small numbers, usually less than 10 in all months of the year. The maximum count at Conwy RSPB was 28 on 27/10 (DLe). Other notable records were 19 on 29/10 (JHg,GrR) and 18 on 4/11 (AdT). All other records were from the coast between Kinmel Bay and Llanddulas during Jan-Mar and Oct-Nov. Numbers appeared to peak in mid to late Feb when the maximum count was 28 off Llanddulas on 11/02 (JuW), all other records being in the range 1-14. There were only three records from the coast later in the year with 4 at Llanddulas on 19/10 (KS), 5 on 5/11 (JuW) and 4 on 18/11.

Flints. The Clwyd Estuary was the most commonly used site with 1-4 present throughout Jan-early Mar, the last record of spring being a single at Rhuddlan on 15/04 (SH) and 3 on 13/10, the only autumn/winter record (JNW). Also seen at Brickworks Pond where there were 2 males on 13 and 17/01 (DCR) and Rhyl Marine Lake where 1-6 were present during 4/01 – 7/02, 9 on 9/03, and 2-4 during 8-18/12 (DCR). On the Dee 1-2 were recorded during Jan-Mar, Jul, Sep-Dec at various locations.



Goosander *Mergus merganser*

Breeding resident and winter visitor.

HWYADEN DDANHEDDOG

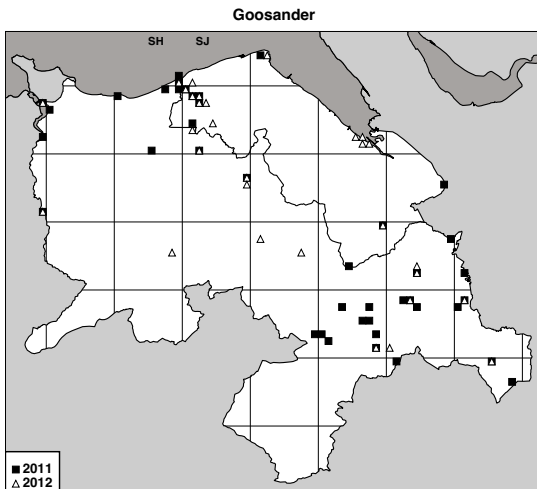
(GD)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	66	23
	Flints	41	34
2012	Denbs	34	9
	Flints	90	23

There were considerably more records than for Red-breasted Merganser. The distribution of this species is more biased towards inland freshwater lakes and river locations, which far outweigh coastal sites. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 25 (Denbs.) and 17 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. Recorded during all months except Jul, though only single records in Jun and Aug. Most records were of 1-9+, the only records over this being 12 at Kinmel Bay on 5/01 (DCR), 14 at Trevalyn Meadows on 16/02 (NFr), 23 probably well grown juveniles flying over Penycae on 31/08 and 20 at Bryn Goleu, Penycae on 9/10 (JAJ).

Flints. Recorded during Jan-Sep, 88% of records were from the Clwyd Estuary. All but one of the records were of 1-13, the maximum count being 34 (7 females with four broods totalling 27 juveniles) at Rhuddlan on 5/06 (SH). The only records away from the Clwyd were 7 at Fagl Lane Gravel Pit, Hope on 22/01 and 26/01 (SD, GNR) and 2 on 16/03 (GNR); 1 at Saltney on 8/04 (SD) and 2 at Warren Farm, Talacre on 14/09 (pJR).



2012

Denbs. Recorded in 17 grid squares, of which only Conwy RSPB and Kinmel Bay were coastal locations and in all months except Jun, Oct, and Nov. The majority of records were of small numbers, usually 1-5, the only larger counts being 7 females and 2 males at Sutton Green on 7/01 (NHu), 9 at Conwy RSPB on 14/08 (pJHg) and 30/08 (RoH), and 7 at Llyn Brenig on 28/08 (TP).

Flints. As in 2011 the vast majority of records were from the Clwyd Estuary where Goosanders were recorded in every month except July. Numbers were marginally higher than in 2011, with 20% of counts between 10-20 and a maximum of 23 (19 males and 4 males) on 29/02 at Rhuddlan (SH). There were three reports of 2 females with broods of 5 and 6 juveniles respectively, all at Rhuddlan on 17/05, 6/06, and 23/06 (SH). Fagl Lane Gravel Pit had several good counts during Jan- Mar with a maximum of 18 on 28/02 (KE) and a number of other counts in double figures until 9/03, when 13 were the last of the year at that site. On the Dee Estuary there were intermittent records of 1-6 from various locations during Jan, Mar, Jul, Aug, Nov and Dec. At Connah's Quay NR there was 1 on various dates from 10/01 – 23/01, 2 on 7/03, and 1 on 12/11 and 6 were at Oakenholt on 15/07. At Bagillt there were 4 on 12/03 and 1 on 19/08, and at Talacre 1 on 13/12, and 2 on 17/12.

Ruddy Duck *Oxyura jamaicensis*

Uncommon breeding resident.

HWYADEN GOCH

(RY)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	1	1
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	2	3

2011

Denbs. A single was at Conwy RSPB on 11/08 (NM).

Flints. A male was at Shotton Paper Mill on 11/05 (IMS).

2012

Flints. There were 3 at Shotton Paper Mill pools on 1/06, and 2 on 11/06 (IMS).

Quail *Coturnix coturnix*

Passage migrant in small numbers in late spring. Amber list.

SOFLIAR

(Q)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	2	1
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	6	3
	Flints	1	1

2011

Denbs. There were two records of calling males, one at Ruabon Mountain on 27/05 (JAJ) and one at Ty Nant Gell, near Llangernyw on 14/06 (DLe).

2012

Denbs. The records were of up to 3 at Holt from 25/05 - 4/06 (KS).

Flints. A single was heard calling from a barley field at Shotwick on 17/07 (CW).

Red-legged Partridge *Alectoris rufa*

Locally-common resident, though annual releases for shooting make it hard to assess the size of the feral nesting population.

PETRISEN GOESGOCH

(RL)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	48	25
	Flints	15	18
2012	Denbs	41	25
	Flints	4	20

As the table below shows, this species is seen most often in spring and early summer, with a second peak in Oct when most releases take place. Recorded in 4/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 5/35 in 2012.

Total numbers recorded each month in each county:

2011 (RL)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.	17	7	6	2	3	4	1			25	8	
Flints.	18		3	7	1	2	1			1	1	
2012												
Denbs.	4	2	4	6	7		6			19	6	
Flints.				2					1	20		

2011

Denbs. The maximum count was of 25 at Ruabon Mountain on 28/10.

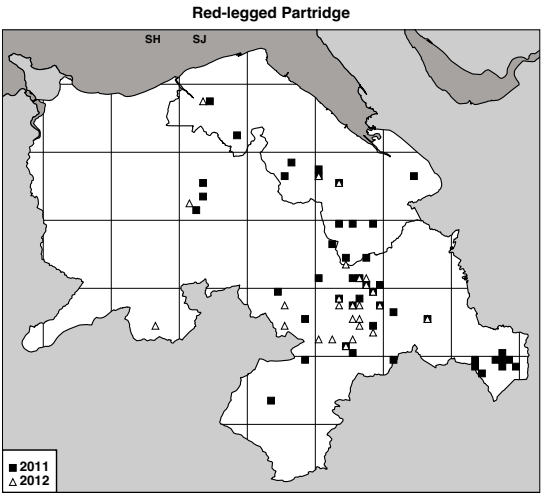
Flints. The only confirmed breeding in the wild this year was at Penbedw, with fledged young

seen on 4/07 (MD). The maximum count was of 18 at Pentre on 4/01.

2012

Denbs. The maximum count was of 20 at Ruabon Mountain on 25/06.

Flints. The maximum count was of 20 at Rhuddlan on 16/10.



Red Grouse *Lagopus lagopus*

Scarce breeding resident on heather moors. Amber list.

GRUGIAR

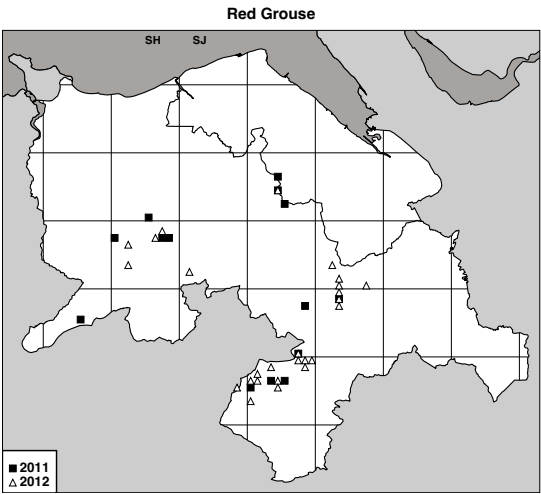
(RG)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	22	8
	Flints	1	1
2012	Denbs	47	6
	Flints	0	

The increasing number of records suggests that the extensive conservation projects to maintain and improve heather moor habitats are paying off slowly for both grouse species, but numbers are still well below those of the 1980s and there has been no significant change in the maximum recorded over the past nine years. The strongholds for Red Grouse are the open moors of Mynydd Hiraethog, Ruabon Mountain and the Berwyns, with smaller numbers in the Clwydians.

2011

Denbs. The maximum counts were of 8 at Ruabon Mountain on 4/03 and two records of 4 at Mynydd Hiraethog in Mar.

Flints. The only record was from Moel Arthur in the Clwydians on 23/09 (WAO).



2012

Denbs. The maximum counts were of 6 at Mynydd Hiraethog on 6/03 and records of 4 at Ruabon on 25/03, the Berwyns on 22/05 and the Clwydians on 2/04.

Black Grouse *Tetrao tetrix*

GRUGIAR DDU

Scarce, but increasing, breeding resident on heather moors with adjacent woodland cover. Red list.

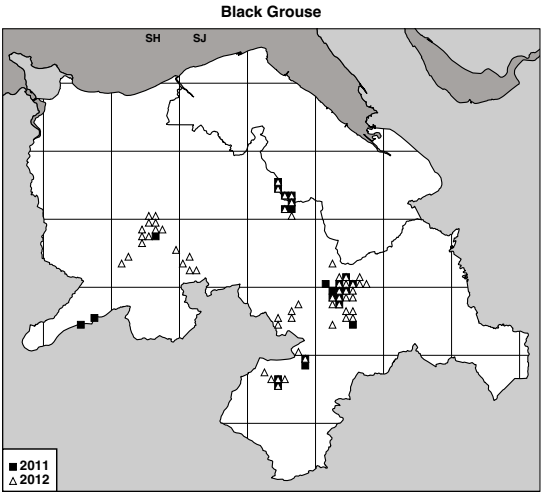
(BK)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	44	13
	Flints	2	5
2012	Denbs	103	24
	Flints	2	1

The strongholds for Black Grouse are Ruabon Mountain and the Clwydians, with fewer records from Mynydd Hiraethog and the Berwyns.

2011

Denbs. The maximum count in a single flock was of 13 lekking males at Ruabon Mountain on 13/04, though the same observer (KS) recorded a total of 33 males at different parts of this moor on that day. A special survey of the Moel Famau CP on 21/04 found 25 males in total, with a maximum lek of 9 males (DCC). The highest count from Mynydd Hiraethog was 4 in the Llyn Brenig area on 8/02 (SM).

Flints. The only two records were from the special survey of the Clwydians on 21/04 with just 1 and five males from different parts of Moel Famau.



2012

Denbs. The maximum count was of 24 lekking males at Ruabon Mountain on 11/03, though the same observer (KS) recorded a total of 35 males at different parts of the moor on that day. The highest count in the Clwydians was 5 on 17/03, but there was no full survey.

Flints. Both records were of 1+ birds in May in the Clwydians.

Grey Partridge *Perdix perdix*

PETRISEN

Scarce and declining breeding resident. Red list.

(P)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1	10
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	4	2

This species was a regular, though local, breeder until the late 1980s when there was a rapid decline in numbers. Breeding at Connah's Quay NR, for example, was last confirmed in 1990. Recorded in 1/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 1/35 in 2012.

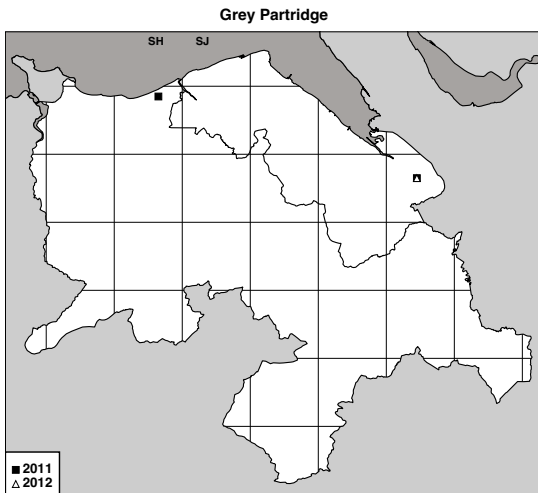
2011

Denbs. A flock of 10 on 1/01 near Towyn (AnCu) suggests the species may be holding out at this traditional site, but there was no confirmation of breeding.

2012

Flints. No proof of breeding again this year, though a pair was seen several times in the

breeding season at a traditional site in Sandycroft (IMS).



Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*

Common breeding resident, though annual releases in very large numbers for shooting make it hard to assess the size of the feral nesting population.

Recorded in 18/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 28/35 in 2012.

FFESANT			
(PH)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	124	22
	Flints	317	65
2012	Denbs	165	20
	Flints	281	26

2011

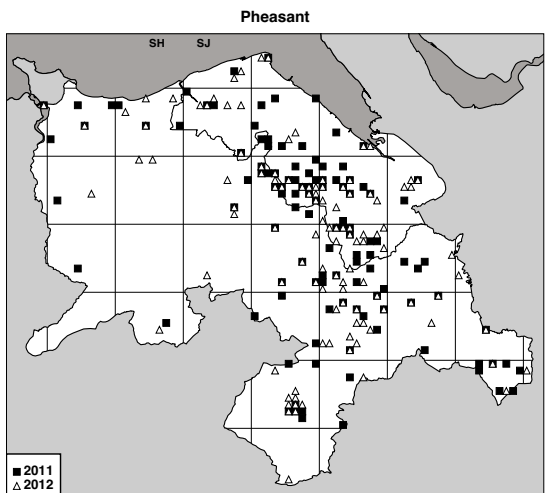
Denbs. The highest count was of 22 at Dyserth on 27/03. While 17.7% of records were from BBS surveys, 26.6% were from GBW sites.

Flints. The highest count was of 65 near game-rearing pens at Moel Arthur on 10/02. Just 2.8% of records were from BBS surveys but 47.0% were from GBW sites (at Cilcain, Prestatyn, Rhydymwyn and Sychdyn). There were many other records from Rhydymwyn by JVHu.

2012

Denbs. Surprisingly, the only proof of breeding in the wild was a nest with eggs in the Clwydians on 28/04 (RHa). The highest count was of 20+ near Llangollen on 30/8. 16.7% of records were from BBS surveys and 28.5% were from GBW sites.

Flints. The highest count was of 26 at Rhuddlan on 15/04. Rather more, 5.6%, of records came



from BBS surveys and 31.0% were from GBW sites.

Red-throated Diver *Gavia stellata*

Passage migrant and winter visitor. Amber list. RBBP.

2011

Denbs. Most records were from the coast at Pensarn and Colwyn Bay. The peak spring count was 30 at Llanddulas on 27/02 (KS). The last 30 spring birds left Old Colwyn on 11/03 (RS), whilst the first returning birds were recorded on the 14/09, when 3 were seen at Llandrillo-yn-Rhos (DJ). Peak autumn count was 60+ on 6/11 far offshore at Llanddulas (RS).

Flints. A maximum of 25 were recorded at Point of Ayr on 2/02 (GR). In the latter part of the year 2 were recorded on 12/12 (KS) at Point of Ayr colliery pools.

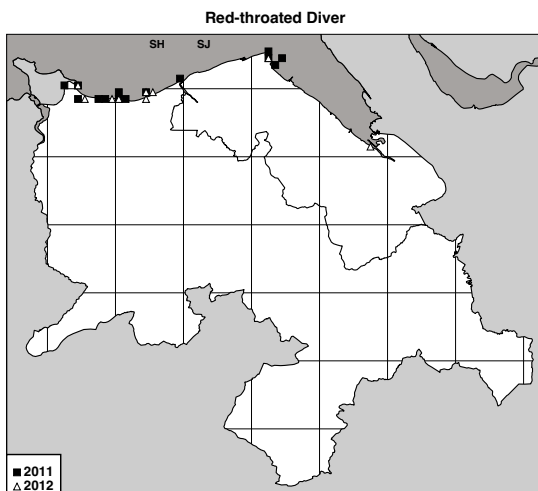
2012

Denbs. Again most records were from along the coast with a peak spring count of 90 at Pensarn beach, Belgrano on 13/01 (HC). Numbers dwindled throughout spring with individual birds recorded at Llanddulas until 5/05 (JuW). The first returning bird was recorded at Rhos-on-Sea on 30/08 (JuW). The peak autumn count was 20 on 19/10 at Llanddulas (KS).

Flints. A maximum of 3 were recorded at Talacre flying W on 27/01 (GNR). A single was recorded at both Talacre and Connah's Quay on 9/09 and 6/10 (AC, GJn).

TROCHYDD GYDDFGOCH

(RH)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	16	60+
	Flints	4	25
2012	Denbs	38	90
	Flints	4	3



Black throated Diver *Gavia arctica*

Scarce winter visitor. Amber list.

2012

Flints. Records of an individual were received from Rhyl or the Marine Lake between 21/01 and 23/01 (KS, DvJ)

TROCHYDD GYDDFDDU

(BV)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	5	1+

Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer*

Scarce winter visitor. Amber list.

TROCHYDD MAWR

(ND)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	6	1
	Flints	6	1
2012	Denbs	5	1
	Flints	38	1

2011

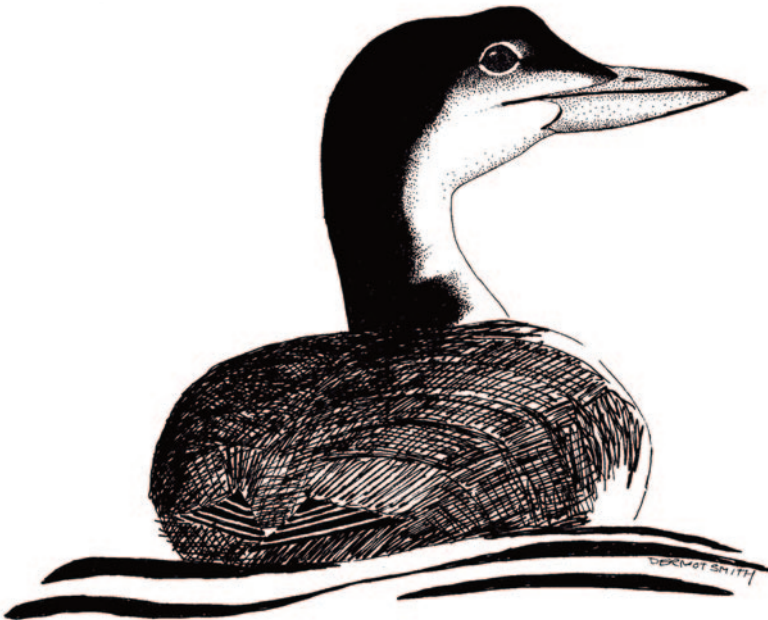
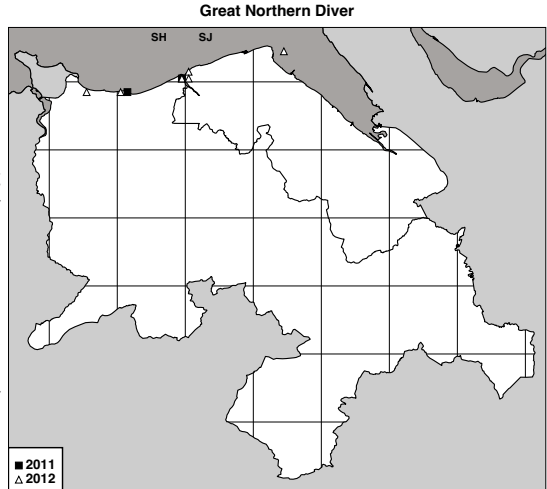
Denbs. A single at Kinmel Bay was recorded 8/12 – 31/12.

Flints. A number of sightings of a single adult bird at Rhyl Marine Lake were recorded 17/12 – 31/12.

2012

Denbs. Probably the same bird from the end of 2011 was recorded throughout Jan near Kinmel Bay. Just one end of year record was another single on 11/12 at Colwyn Bay (JuW).

Flints. All early records were from Rhyl Marine Lake with a single recorded throughout Jan. This was probably the same bird as recorded in Denbs. during the same winter period. Another single was recorded from Point of Ayr mudflats on 28/11 (GR).



Great Northern Diver by Dermot Smith

Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*

Breeding resident, summer visitor and passage migrant.
Amber list.

2011

Denbs. All spring records of up to 4 were from along the coast between Colwyn Bay and Rhos-on-Sea. A winter maximum of 7 was recorded on 18/12 at Llanddulas (RS).

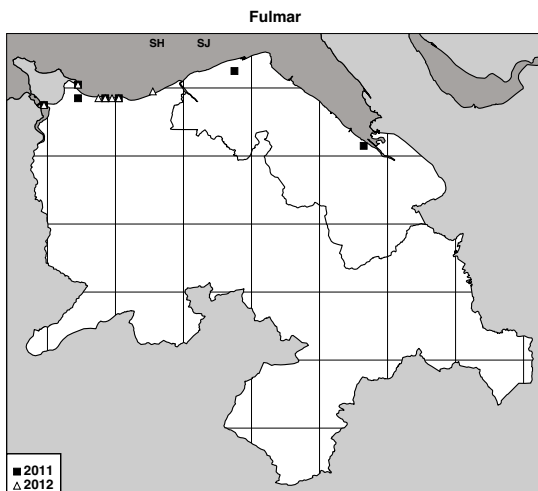
Flints. Two birds were recorded at an occupied nest (breeding code ON) in Prestatyn Quarry 23/04–13/06 (LJ).

2012

Denbs. Birds were recorded every month along the coast. A peak count of 6 was recorded at occupied nests (ON) on the cliffs at Colwyn Bay on 21/07 (SD).

ADERYN-DRYCIN Y GRAIG

(F)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	5	7
	Flints	5	2
2012	Denbs	21	6
	Flints	0	



Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*

Migrant. Amber list.

2011

Denbs. Both records were from Llanddulas with 5 seen offshore on 22/05 (RS).

Flints. There were 6 recorded on 17/07 at Point of Ayr (GR) and at Talacre 29 were seen on 18/08 (GNR).

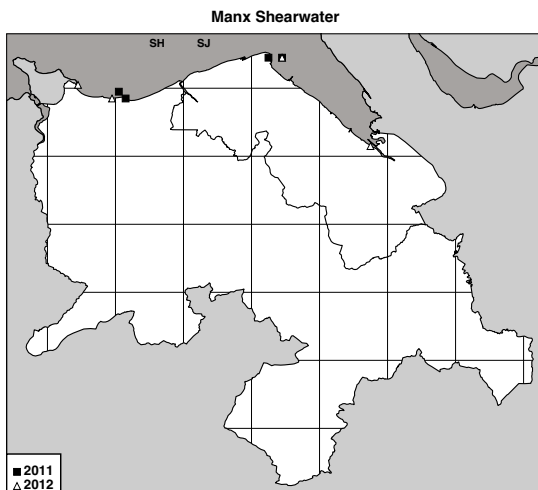
2012

Denbs. A number of records were obtained off the coast at Rhos-on-Sea with a maximum of 50 counted on 30/08 (JuW).

Flints. Two records of singles were obtained from Talacre and Point of Ayr on 4/08 and 19/09 (GR, PDS).

ADERYN-DRYCIN MANAW

(MX)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	2	5
	Flints	2	29
2012	Denbs	6	50
	Flints	2	1



Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus*

Passage migrant. Amber list.

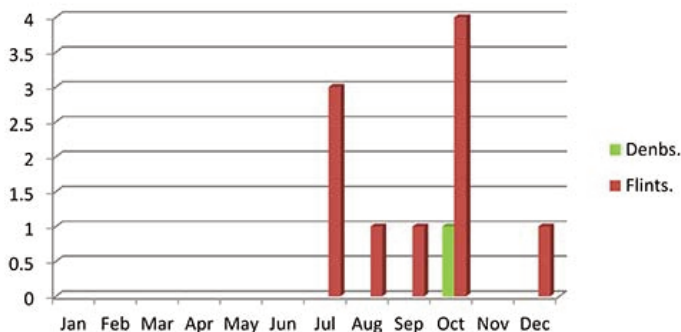
PEDRYN DRYCIN

2011

Flints. A single bird was recorded flying W on 8/12 at Rhyl (DCR). This was an exceptionally late record, though we only have a few records to compare it with.

(TM)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	1	1
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	

Storm Petrel records, 2004-12



Leach's Petrel *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*

Passage migrant in autumn. Amber list. RBBP.

PEDRYN GYNFFON-FFORCHOG

2011

Denbs. Four were recorded at Colwyn Bay on 7/10, a single was found on a street in Rhos-on-Sea on 26/11 and later released at the Little Orme (JHg, RS).

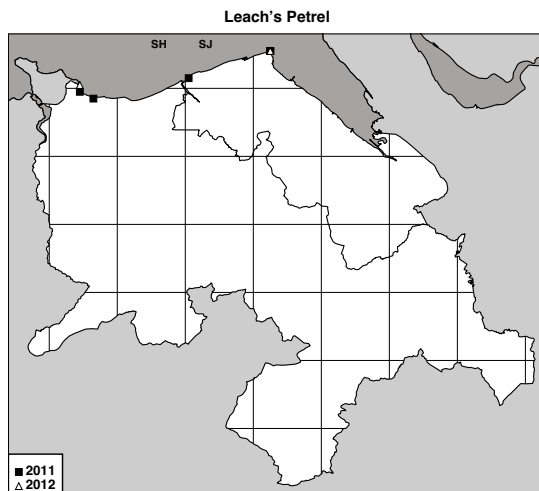
(TL)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	2	4
	Flints	4	23
2012	Denbs	1	2
	Flints	1	8

Flints. A maximum count of 23 was recorded on 7/10 at Point of Ayr and 1 was seen at Rhyl on 14/09.

2012

Denbs. Two were at Rhos-on-Sea on 12/09 (JuW).

Flints. Eight were at Point of Ayr on 19/09 (JuR).



Gannet *Morus bassanus*

Migrant. Amber list.

HUGAN

(GX)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	11	40+
	Flints	3	8
2012	Denbs	16	100
	Flints	5	20

2011

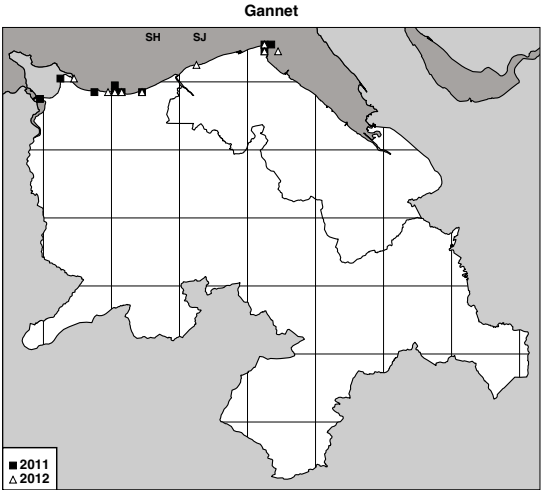
Denbs. A peak spring count of 40 birds was obtained on 1/04 and 40+ on 22/05 (JBM, RS). The peak autumn count of 30 was at LLandrillo-yn-Rhos on 22/09 (DvJ).

Flints. All records were from Talacre or Point of Ayr with 8 recorded on 8/08 (GNR).

2012

Denbs. Birds were recorded along the coast Jan – Sep with a peak count of 100 on 30/08 at Rhos-on-Sea (JuW).

Flints. Four records were from Talacre or Point of Ayr with 20 birds recorded on the 16/04 (GNR).



Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Resident breeder, passage and winter visitor. Amber list.

MULFRAN

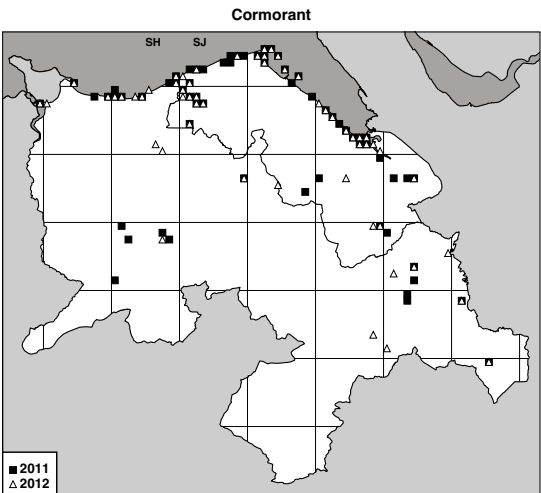
(CA)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	99	150
	Flints	149	294
2012	Denbs	122	36
	Flints	212	50

The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 138 (Denbs.) and 358 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. Coastal records came mainly from Conwy and Kinmel Bay whilst inland records were common from Wrexham and Mynydd Hiraethog. The peak count in the first few months was 30 from Kinmel Bay on 27/02 (RMB). Regular records of low numbers were obtained throughout the year but the summer maximum was 150 near Kinmel Bay on 28/07 (RMB). The autumn peak was 70+ on 30/08 at Llanddulas (JVHu).

Flints. Nearly all the records were from along the Dee Estuary and along the coast. The maximum count of 294 was from Rhuddlan on 23/09 (SHu).



Monthly maximum counts in each month from each county:

2011 (CA)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.	10	30	8	3	2	4	150	70	60	10	15	3
Flints.	28	42	35	77	124	104	54	121	294	62	250	40
2012												
Denbs.	30	8	6	10	7	3	20	16	36	30	6	1
Flints.	50	40	54	156	130	25	145	79	245	162	101	80

Monthly maximum counts from near Rhuddlan (Rhuddlan or Rhuddlan S):

(CA)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2011	28	31	35	48	67	38	18	121	294			
2012	17		54	156		14	44	79	188	162	101	70

2012

Denbs. The peak in the early months was 30 at Pensarn beach on 13/01 (HC). Regular records of low numbers were obtained throughout the year. The autumn peak was 36 on 12/09 at Rhos-on-Sea (JHg). These counts are much lower than would have been expected. It is not clear if anyone is counting the birds that roost on the remaining jetty for filling ships with stone between Old Colwyn and Llanddulas.

Flints. Nearly all the records were from along the Dee Estuary and along the coast. The peak early month count of 50 birds was obtained from Connah's Quay NR on 15/01 (AW). The peak autumn count was 245 at Rhyl on 21/09 (SH).

Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*

Scarce non-breeding visitor. Amber list.

MULFRAN WERDD

2011

Denbs. There were just two records with a maximum of 3 at Conwy RSPB on 24/10 (NM). The other record was 2 at Llanddulas on 19/11 (KS).

(SA)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	2	3
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	12	4
	Flints	0	

2012

Denbs. The records were from Llanddulas or Rhos-on-Sea with a maximum of 4 at Rhos-on-Sea on 22/08 and 30/08 (JuW). The other records were in Jan, Mar, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep and Oct.

Bittern *Botaurus stellaris*

Rare winter visitor. Amber list. RBBP.

ADERYN Y BWN

2011

Denbs. There was one record of a single at Conwy RSPB on 3/01 (ShRo)

(BI)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	11	1+
	Flints	0	

2012

Denbs. All records were of a single at Conwy RSPB during Feb and Dec. The early year record

was on 6/02 and the other records were probably all of the same bird that stayed from 21/12 into 2013.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Resident and passage visitor. Amber list. RBBP.

2011

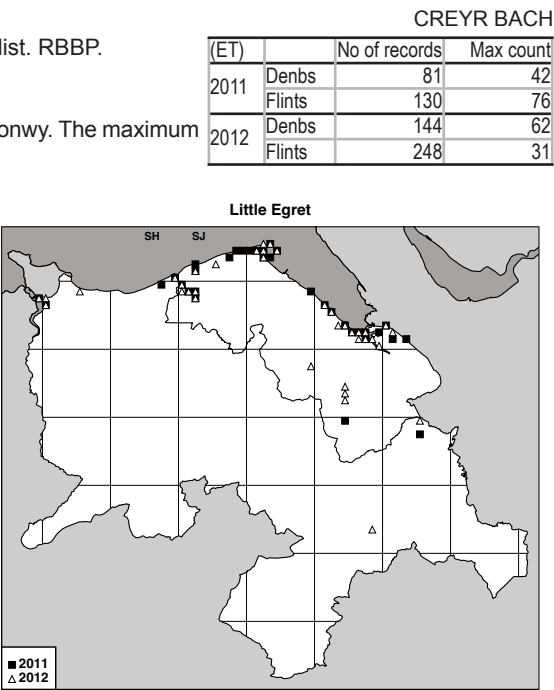
Denbs. Nearly all records were from Conwy. The maximum was 42 on 14/08 (JHg).

Flints. The majority of records were from along the Dee Estuary. The maximum was 76 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands Border Pool on 8/08 (CW).

2012

Denbs. Nearly all records were from Conwy. The maximum was 62 on 14/07 (MHu).

Flints. The majority of records were from along the Dee Estuary. The maximum was 31 at Connah's Quay NR on 4/09 (GRMP).



Monthly maxima in each county. For Denbs, the totals are largely those from Conwy RSPB, but there are many other locations with sightings in Flints:

2011 (ET)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.	1	1	2	1	2	5	30	42	19	8	4	1
Flints.	3	3	3	2	4	6	17	76	14	7	8	5
2012												
Denbs.	3	1	26	10	4	29	62	20	22	7	2	8
Flints.	3	5	8	6	5	21	22	30	31	9	4	5

Great White Egret *Ardea alba*

Rare vagrant.

2011

Denbs. A single was seen at Conwy RSPB on 14/10 (DvJ, DOH). Accepted by the WRP.

2012

Flints. Two were seen on the Welsh side of RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 4/01 (SD). Accepted by the WRP.

CREYR MAWR GWYN

(HW)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	2	1
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	1	2

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Breeding resident.

CREYR GLAS

2011

Denbs. All but eight records were of 1-3. The majority were from Conwy RSPB with a maximum of 10 on 16/01 (DCR).

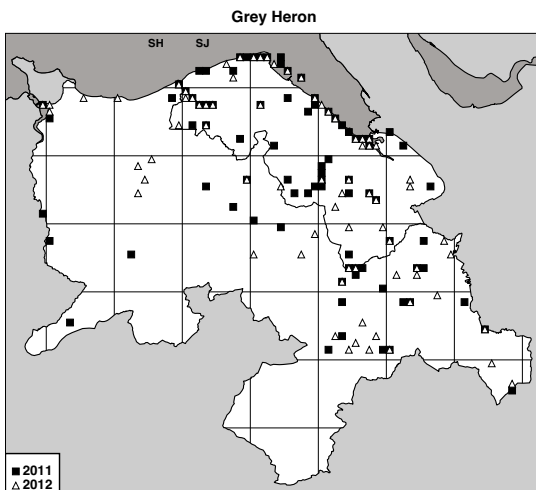
There were no records of confirmed breeding.

Flints. All but twenty records were of 1-3. The majority were from around the Dee Estuary with a maximum of 12 seen around Connah's Quay NR on 27/11 (MD).

2012

Denbs. All but eleven records were of 1-3 and were from throughout the county with birds present in every month. The maximum was at Conwy RSPB on 8/04 where 12 were recorded (SNe).

Flints. All but twenty eight records were of 1-3 from throughout the county with birds present in every month. The maximum of 9 was recorded on 22/07 at Bagillt, Walwen Marsh (GR), 20/08 at the White Sands (JuR), 28/11 at Connah's Quay NR (GEM) and on 30/12 at Rhuddlan (SH).



Monthly maxima from each county:

2011 (H)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.	10	2	1	1	2	4	2	1	1	9	4	4
Flints.	6	3	8	1	3	3	9	8	6	5	12	4
2012	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.	5	3	2	12	5	10	1	8	5	3	4	1
Flints.	4	2	3	1	3	5	9	9	8	5	9	9

Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia*

Scarce vagrant. Amber list.

LLWYBIG

2011

Flints. A single, almost certainly the same bird, was recorded around the Dee Estuary during the autumn, mainly at Oakenholt Marsh / Connah's Quay NR and Point of Ayr. A juvenile was recorded at Talacre on 29/10 (SD).

2012

Flints. A single was recorded on a number of occasions around the Dee Estuary throughout the spring, mainly at Connah's Quay NR and Point of Ayr. The last recording was of an adult

(NB)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	6	1
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	14	1

bird feeding on 15/03 at Shotwick Fields (CW). All these sightings may have related to the same bird.

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Breeding resident.

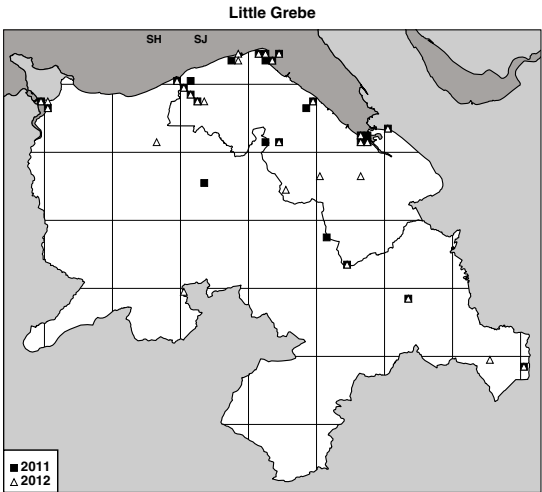
2011

Denbs. Coastal records were obtained mainly from Conwy whilst inland records were common from Erddig pool, Wrexham. The spring peak of 5 was at Afonwen on 21/03 (MD). Regular records of low numbers were obtained throughout the year. The autumn peak was 6 on 12/11 at Conwy RSPB (DCR).

Flints. Most records were from around the Dee Estuary and close to the coast where the largest counts were 6 near Rhyl on 8/01 (SH), Holywell on 20/01 (MD) and near Rhyl again on 12/02 (SH). Inland records included a peak of 9 at Ddol reservoir, Ysceifiog on 1/02 (MD). Evidence of breeding included at least 1 fledged young on 25/05 at Greenfield (LJ) and 2 juveniles on the Border Pool at Burton Mere Wetland on 9/08 (CW). Later in the year a peak of 7 was recorded at Ddol reservoir, Ysceifiog on 6/11 (TeA).

GWYFACH FACH

(LG)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	45	6
	Flints	79	9
2012	Denbs	75	4
	Flints	137	9



Monthly maxima for each county:

2011 (LG)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.	1	2	5	1	1	1	3	1	3	1	6	
Flints.	6	9	5	2	1	1	1	4	2	3	7	3
2012												
Denbs.	1	2	2	1	2	6	2	2	4	3	1	1
Flints.	9	9	6	2	6	6	2	6	9	6	5	5

2012

Denbs. Records were obtained mainly from Conwy RSPB. Breeding evidence was obtained at Plas Uchaf reservoir, Llanefydd on 23/07 where 4 juveniles were recorded alongside 1 male and 1 female bird (JVHu). Regular records of low numbers were obtained throughout the year.

Flints. Most records were from around the Dee Estuary and close to the coast where the maximum spring counts were 9 at Rhyl on 15/01 and 11/02 (SH). Inland records included a peak of 4 at Ddol reservoir, Ysceifiog on 31/01 (SD). Evidence of breeding included 4 juveniles at Rhydymwyn in May and Jun (JVHu) and up to 8 juveniles, 5/09, regularly seen at Talacre (pJR). The autumn peak of 9 was recorded at Talacre on 26/09 (pJR).

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*

Breeding resident and winter visitor.

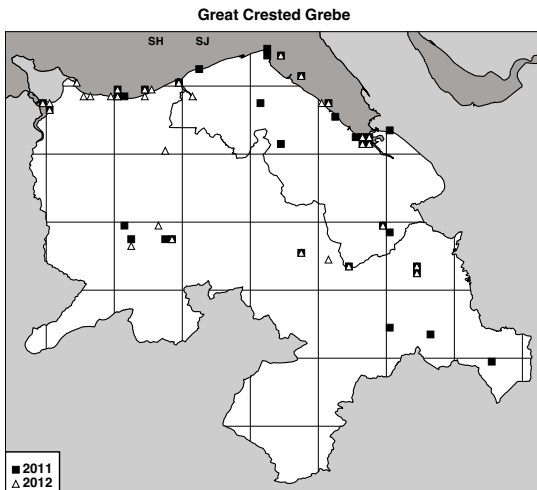
GWYBACH FAWR GOPOG

(GG)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	81	400+
	Flints	29	32
2012	Denbs	107	162
	Flints	38	28

2011

Denbs. Recorded in every month except Sep. Widely distributed at the larger inland water bodies with winter records mainly from the coast. The spring peak was 400+ on 19/02 offshore at Pensarn (RS). Three juveniles were recorded at Ruabon on 29/05 (NHu) and 5 fledged young were recorded at Gresford Flash on 28/06 (KS). The autumn peak was 30 on 11/12 also at Llanddulas (RS). There were inland winter records from Gresford Flash and Acton Park.

Flints. Recorded in each month except Jan, Feb, Jun and Jul. The majority of records received were from locations along the Dee Estuary with sightings throughout the year. Others were at Llyn Helyg, Hope and Rhyl. The peak count in the latter part of the year was 32 at Bagillt (Walwen) on 25/11 (GR). Away from the Dee Estuary 3 were seen at Hope on 29/10 (NH).



Monthly maxima for each county:

2011 (GG)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.	250	400+	3	25	4	5	4	2		1	28	30+
Flints.			1	8	2			1	1	3	32	2
2012												
Denbs.	20	162	12	2	7	2	1	3	30	20	2	6
Flints.	1	2	4	4	2			1	1	28	1	

2012

Denbs. Recorded in every month. The spring peak was 162 birds on 28/02 at Llanddulas (JuW). The autumn peak was 30 on 9/09 also at Llanddulas (KS).

Flints. Recorded in every month except Jun, Jul and Dec. The majority of records received were from locations along the Dee Estuary with sightings throughout the year. Other sightings were at Rhuddlan, Hope and Rhyl. The peak count in the latter part of the year was 28 at Greenfield Dock on 22/10 (SD). Away from the Dee Estuary a maximum of 4 were seen at Fagl Lane GP, Hope throughout Mar.

Red-necked Grebe *Podiceps grisegena*

Scarce winter visitor. Amber list.

2011

Flints. Both records of the same bird were submitted. It was seen at Shotwick Fields near the Dee Estuary on 3/01 (KS).

GWYACH YDDFGOCH

(RX)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	2	1
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	

Slavonian Grebe *Podiceps auritus*

Scarce winter visitor

2011

Flints. A single was at Rhyl Marine Lake on 19/12 (DvJ).

2012

Denbs. Another single was at Llanddulas on 10/09 (JMB).

GWYACH GORNIOG

(SZ)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	1	1
2012	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	0	

Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*

Scarce winter visitor. Amber list.

2012

Denbs. A single was near Kinmel Bay on 21/01 (NHu).

GWYACH YDDFDDU

(BN)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	0	

Red Kite *Milvus milvus*

Regular visitor and possible breeder. Amber list. RBBP.

The recent trend of increasing numbers of records has stopped, with considerably fewer records in 2012. Birds were seen in most months in Denbs.

Despite the numbers of records and birds, Red Kite has not been confirmed to breed in our area since the first known attempt, near Afonwen, Denbs. in 2001 (which was unsuccessful).

2011

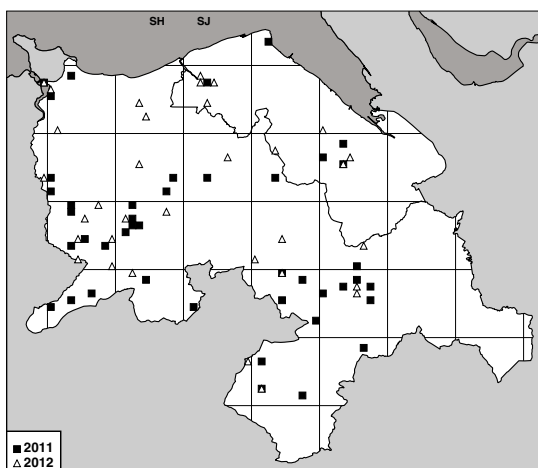
Denbs. Most sightings were of singles or twos, the exceptions being 3 near Glyndyfyrdwy on 29/03 and 5 seen a few kilometres SE of Llanrwst on 12/02 (RTe).

Flints. All sightings were of singles. One recorded during a BBS survey near Mold on 23/04 led to hope of

BARCUD

(KT)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	50	5
	Flints	5	1
2012	Denbs	39	5
	Flints	8	1

Red Kite



possible breeding but it was not seen again.

Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*

Very scarce passage migrant. Amber list.

2011

Denbs. The first bird was seen at Conwy RSPB on 6/05 and the second, a female, was recorded there and nearby on 17/05 (RS).

WAOB Y GWERNI			
(MR)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	3	1
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	6	2

2012

Flints. There was an early record of a single on 8/03 at Connah's Quay NR. The other records were later in the year with singles seen at Connah's Quay NR or over White Sands on four dates in Aug. Two, a juvenile and a female, were seen at Border Pool, RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 22/09 (KS).

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*

Scarce breeder and winter visitor. Red list. WBAP. RBBP.

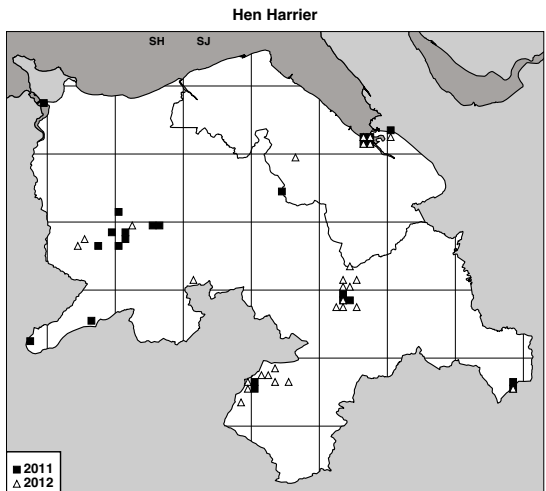
Records were distributed in a similar way as in previous years with the exception of the records in the Berwyns from where records have not been received previously. All records are very welcome and the map shows all records of sightings. Actual breeding locations are not illustrated.

WAOB TINWEN			
(HH)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	28	3
	Flints	10	1
2012	Denbs	32	2
	Flints	6	1

2011

Denbs. There were records from every month except Aug, Sep and Nov. This indicates that birds were seen on passage and while breeding. Most records were of singles and there were a few records of two. The largest count of 3 was near Llyn Aled Isaf on Mynydd Hiraethog on 27/03 (KS).

Flints. The first record was of a ringtail over White Sands on 15/01 and a female at Connah's Quay NR on 15/02. All other records were of singles from the last months of the year between 17/10, again at Connah's Quay NR and the last there on 31/12. One record from elsewhere was at Border Pool, RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 28/12.



2012

Denbs. Records were made in all months except Oct and Nov with most records of singles and a few of two birds. There were two records from Fenn's Moss in Jan and all the other

records were from upland areas at, or close to, breeding areas.

Flints. All of the records were from the Dee marshes area with the exception of a single near Nannerch on 7/02.

Table showing the occurrence of males, ringtails (females/juveniles) and others in 2011.

Denbs(HH).	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Male	1	1	1	1		1	1					1
Ringtail				1			2			1		
No details	3	2	4	1	1	4	2			1		1
Flints.												
Ringtail	1	1									1	1
No details										3	1	2

Table showing the occurrence of males, ringtails (females/juveniles) and others in 2012.

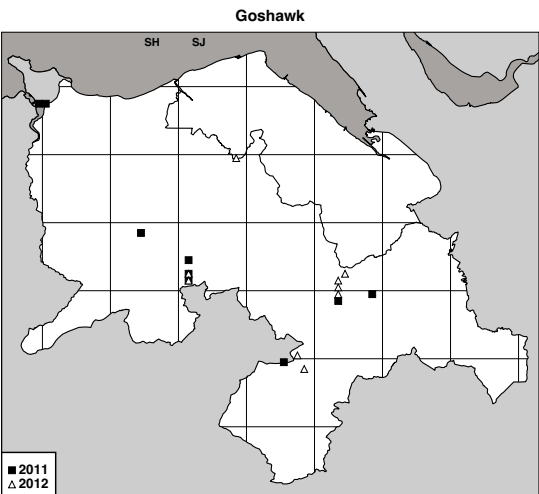
Denbs.(HH)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Male	1	1			4				2			
Ringtail		1			2				1			
No details	2	1	2	2	4	4	4	1				1
Flints.												
Male					1							1
No details	1	1						1				1

Breeding (WRBBRSG):

(HH)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2012 Denbs	3	11	5	5	1.67

Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*

Rare breeding resident, probably under-recorded. RBBP.



GWALCH MARTH

(GI)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	9	2
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	11	3
	Flints	1	1

2011
Denbs. There were only a few records which suggests that this large bird is somewhat elusive, or perhaps less numerous than had been thought. All the records were from Jan to Jul, though not May. Most were of singles from areas in or close to forests and 2 were seen near World's End on 8/03 (HC) and at Foel Frech, Clocaenog Forest on 15/04 (KS).

2012

Denbs. There were records during Feb to Jun and in Nov, mainly of singles though 3 were seen near Craig Bron Bannog, Clocaenog Forest on 29/02 (DEVJ). Two records in Nov were from the Berwyn mountains.

Flints. The only record was a single near Bodfari on 28/02.

Breeding (WRBBSRG):

(GI)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2012 Denbs	3	3	2	2	0.67

Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*

Common and widespread breeding resident.

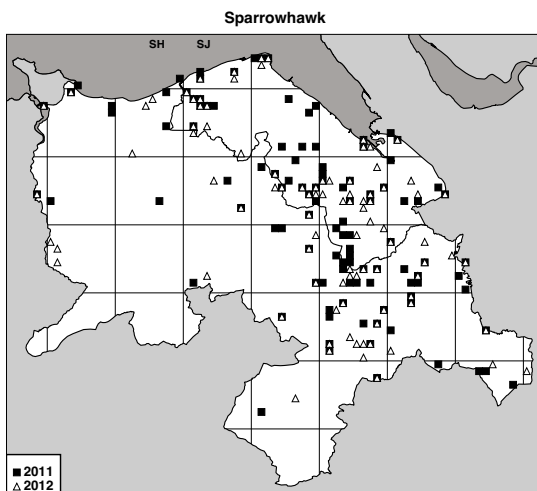
GWALCH GLAS

Birds were seen in every month in both years in both counties. Like the records in the 2009 report, the records from these two years were heavily biased to the north and east.

(SH)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	231	3
	Flints	204	3
2012	Denbs	227	2
	Flints	271	3

2011

Denbs. Records were mainly of singles with just five records of more and 70.6% of records were from GBW sites. This suggests that some Sparrowhawks are regular visitors to bird feeders in gardens. NH had two surprising records when he had 2 together over his garden on 24/03 and then 3 there on 5/04. He had never seen 3 together like this before and he lives quite close to the centre of Wrexham. Other sightings of 2 were at Gredington on 23/04 (SD), near Glyn Arthur on 16/09 (GEM) and near Llanddulas on 14/10 (JnG).



Flints. All but three records were of

singles (i.e. 1 or 1+, where 1+ means 'present') and 53.9% were from GBW sites. The records of 2 were from Rhydymwyn on 3/03, when a pair was circling over the village (JVHu) and near Broughton on 11/04 (SD). Several records indicated that birds were in suitable breeding habitat. One was seen carrying food near Rhydymwyn on 8/05 and had been seen hunting for several days (MD). At this date, the food may have been for the female rather than for feeding young birds. The largest count was 3 seen together near Cilcain on 5/08 including a juvenile, which may have been seen again, nearby, a bit later.

2012

Denbs. All but seven records were of singles and 74.0% of all records were from GBW sites. Three records of 2 were from two GBW sites, at Llangollen during week beginning 23/09 and Burton in weeks beginning 16/12 and 23/12. The other sightings of 2 were near World's End

on 29/02, at Bwlchgwyn on 2/05, in Acton Park, Wrexham on 24/07 and near Glyn Arthur on 22/09.

Flints. All but five records were of singles and 58.5% of records were from GBW sites. It seems there is more chance of seeing Sparrowhawk in the wider countryside in Flints than in Denbs. In this case it is not a large number of records from JVHu that leads to the reduced percentage of GBW sightings in Flints (cf say, Goldfinch). The records of 2 were from Sychdyn on 14/02 (a male and a female), Sandycroft on 7/04, near Cilcain on 12/10 (again a male and female together) and 3 were seen at Fagl Lane Quarry, Hope on 30/01 (GNR).

Buzzard *Buteo buteo*

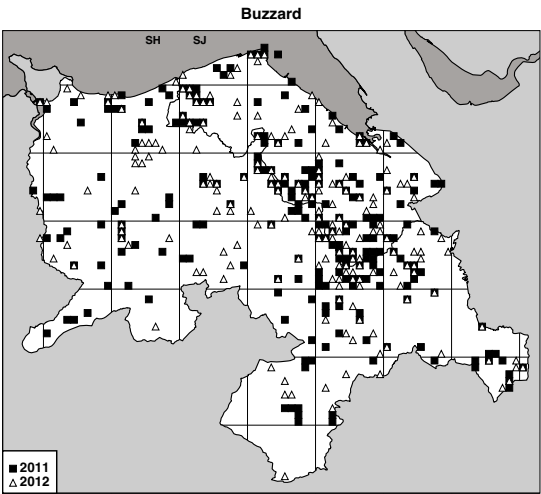
Common and widespread breeding resident.

Birds were seen during every month of both years in both counties and numbers of records were broadly similar to the numbers in 2009 and 2010. Recorded in 17/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 29/35 in 2012.

BWN CATH			
(BZ)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	365	6
	Flints	329	8
2012	Denbs	324	14
	Flints	439	18

2011

Denbs. Just under two thirds of all records were of singles and 37.8% were of counts of 2-6 birds. Some 20.0% of records were from GBW sites – is the Buzzard becoming a ‘garden bird’? The records were received from a wider area than previously, with records from the Ceiriog valley area, though still none from near the Tanat valley. The four records of 6 were from: Alyn Waters CP, Gwersyllt on 17/03 (pBT) and on 21/03 (KGF), Castell, near Bodfari on 10/04 (MD) and near St Asaph on 19/05 (SH). There were only two records of confirmed breeding, near Erbistock and Clawddnewydd.



Flints. Here, too, most of the records were of singles with 33.4% being of 2-8. An even greater percentage of records was from GBW sites, at 27.7%. To be counted in GBW the bird has to ‘use’ the garden and be no higher than the top of the roof of the house. It is likely that the number of birds involved is many fewer than the number of records but it is interesting that gardens are being used by such a large bird. The largest counts were: 7 at Penycloddiau on 2/04 (MD), 7 near Rhydymwyn on 6/04 and 9/04 (MD), 7 near Rhuddlan on 13/08 (SH) and 8 near Penycloddiau on 9/04 (EdW). There were three records of confirmed breeding – all from the wider Mold area.

2012

Denbs. There were fewer records of singles with 40.1% of records being counts of 2-14. Only 7.4% of records were from GBW sites; a considerable reduction from 2011. The largest counts

Maximum counts in each month in each county:

2011(BZ)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs	3	5	6	6	6	5	3	3	4	4	2	5
Flints	3	3	5	8	3	4	4	7	6	3	2	2
2012												
Denbs	3	7	13	6	4	8	4	4	4	2	4	14
Flints	5	4	10	4	4	6	4	3	4	18	3	5

were: 8 during a BBS survey near Bryn-Rhyd-yr-Arian on 2/06 (ALC), 13 near World's End on 10/03 (PIW) and 14 near Rhewl, Rhuthun on 5/12 (pBT). There were several records of possible or probable breeding but none of confirmed breeding. One sad record was of 2 tussling with their talons locked, killed by a passing lorry in Gresford on 29/02 (KS).

Flints. The majority of records were singles with 29.2% of records being counts of 2-18 and 16.4% of all records were from GBW sites. The tables do not seem to show any regular pattern for the larger counts. They are not all during the autumn when most birds (adults + juveniles) would be expected. The largest counts were all from near Rhuddlan with: 10 on 17/03 and 9/10, 13 on 18/10, 14 on 24/10, 15 on 15/10 and 16/10, 16 on 1/10 and 18 on 17/10 (all SH). The last is, by far, the largest count recorded in recent years.

Breeding (WRBBSRG):

(BZ)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2011 Denbs	38	83	67	55	1.45
2012 Denbs	28	34	34	33	1.18

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

Rare spring and autumn migrant. Amber list. RBBP.

2011

Denbs. All but one of the records were from Conwy RSPB when singles were recorded in Mar, Apr, May and Aug. The first record was a single at Conwy RSPB on 27/03 (RBM). One record was from Llyn Brenig on 25/04. As yet, none has started to breed either on the coast (highly unlikely) or inland (possible). The last record was 1+ at Conwy RSPB on 5/08 (JHg).

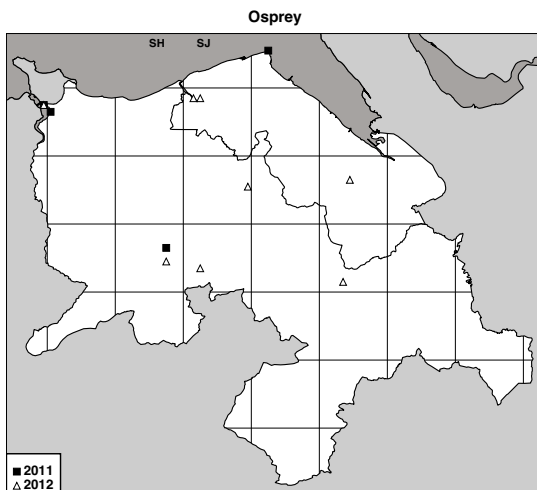
Flints. One was seen at Point of Ayr on 2/05.

2012

Denbs. Nine of the records were from Conwy RSPB in Mar, Apr and May. The first record was there on 30/03 (RoH). The other records were from scattered inland locations and the last record was over Waen Uchaf,

GWALCH Y PYSGOD

(OP)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	13	1
	Flints	1	1
2012	Denbs	14	1
	Flints	4	1



Clocaenog Forest on 26/10.

Flints. Three records were from near Rhuddlan in Mar and Apr with the first on 27/03. One glided N over Sychdyn on 12/04 (IMS).

Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*

Common breeding resident. Red list. WBAP.

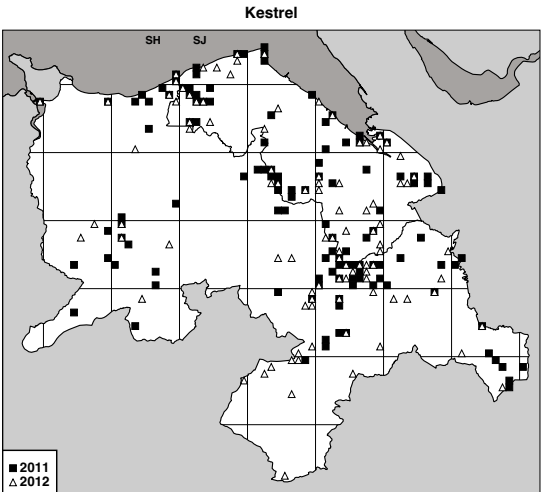
Recorded in every month in both counties in each year.
The distribution of records is broadly within the area of previous records (see the report for 2010).

CUDYLL COCH			
(K)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	118	3
	Flints	95	6
2012	Denbs	86	6
	Flints	111	3

2011

Denbs. The majority of records were of singles as just 8.5% of records were of 2-3. There were five records from GBW sites (4.2%). The records of 2 ranged from Fenn's Moss to Ruabon Mountain and Llanddulas, where they were mobbed by a Crow on 6/11 (JnG). At Panorama, Llangollen 3 were seen hovering together on 31/05 (NH). There were just a few records of possible and one of probable breeding activity.

Flints. Again, most of the records were of singles with just twelve records (12.6%) of 2-6. Only two records were from GBW sites (2.1%). The largest counts were a brood of 4 ringed at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft on 10/06 and a brood of 6 ringed at Shotton Paper mill on 16/06 (IMS). Apart from these two records of confirmed breeding there were some of probable breeding and another record of confirmed breeding at Little Mancot.



2012

Denbs. Most of the records were of singles and twelve (14.0%) were of 2-6. Four records were from one GBW site at Tallarn Green, Sarn in Jun, Oct and Nov. The largest counts were all of broods ringed: 3 near Gwytherin on 6/06, 5 near Cerrigydrudion on 15/06 and 5 near Llyn Brenig on 26/06 (IMS). There were several records of birds seen in suitable breeding habitat.

Flints. All but seven records (6.3%) were of singles. Three records came from a GBW site at Rhydymwyn in Mar, Apr and Sep. The largest counts were 3 at Hawarden Industrial Estate on 9/07 and a brood of 5 nestlings ringed at Shotton Paper mill on 26/06 (IMS). There were a few records of possible breeding.

Breeding (WRBBSRG):

(K)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2011 Denbs	4	14	11	11	2.75
2011 Flints	2	11	10	10	5.00
2012 Denbs	6	25	20	20	3.33
2012 Flints	1	6	5	5	5.00

Merlin *Falco columbarius*

Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber list. RBBP.

CUDYLL BACH

(ML)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	11	2
	Flints	18	1
2012	Denbs	13	1
	Flints	23	1

It is difficult to summarise the timing of occurrence of the records as they do not seem to fit, clearly, either a migrant or resident /breeding pattern. Jun is the only month with no records in either county or year. There were no breeding attempts recorded in either year.

2011

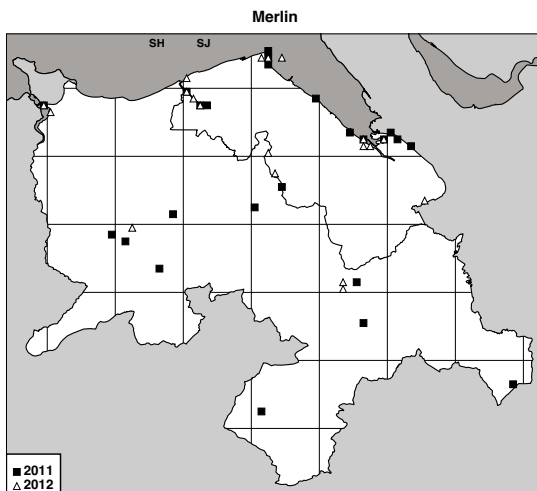
Denbs. All but two records were of singles. The records of 2 were from Creigiau Llwdion on Mynydd Hiraethog on 21/03 (RS) and near Pentrellyncymmer on 19/08 (DvJ).

Flints. The pattern of records is more like a migrant with singles seen in Jan, Mar, Apr then Sep to Dec. Merlin used to breed on the Clwydian hills though this has not been recorded for several years now. In Yorkshire, Merlin nests have been found at places of increasing altitude, the altitude increasing at a rate of 30m per annum (Yorkshire Bird Report 2011). Perhaps the Clwydians are no longer high enough to support Merlins – though why? Their prey do not seem to have disappeared (though they may possibly be reduced in numbers).

2012

Denbs. All singles were seen in Jan, Feb, Apr, May and Dec. This suggests that migrants returned to try to breed but did not stay.

Flints. Again, all records were of singles and the only months with no records were Mar and Jun. However, only one of the records was from a potential breeding area – at Penycloddiau on 5/05 (EdW).



Hobby *Falco subbuteo*

Uncommon passage migrant and scarce breeder. Amber list. RBBP.

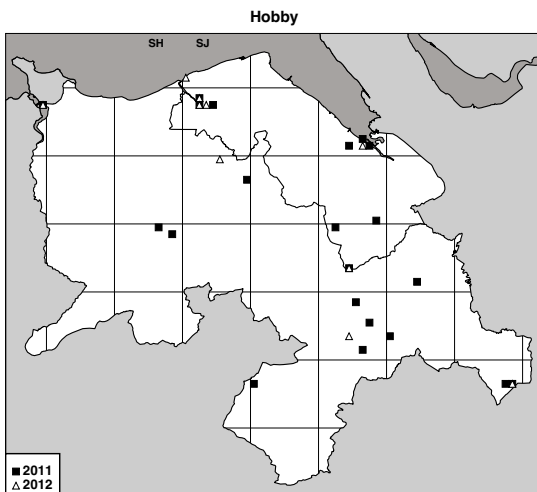
HEBOG YR EHEDYDD

(HY)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	29	2
	Flints	8	1
2012	Denbs	2	4
	Flints	15	2

2011

Denbs. Only seen during May to Aug. The first was a single seen near Froncysyllte on 23/05 (KS) and most records were of singles, with one record of 2 at Fenn's Moss on 30/07 (SD). An adult was seen at Penycae each day from 21/07 to 25/07 (JAJ) but there was no evidence of breeding in the area. The last record was from near Llandyrnog on 21/08 (pBT).

Flints. Two records were in May, the first being near Rhuddlan on 16/05 (SH) with the others in Aug and Sep and two of the latter were probably on migration at Rhuddlan: on 2/09 heading SE and on 14/09 heading SW (SH). The other last record, also on 14/09, was from Connah's Quay NR (DoC).



2012

Denbs. Only seen during May, Jul and Aug with the first record from Nant-y-Ffrith reservoir on 5/05 when 2 were flying N (SD). A single was at Conwy RSPB on 29/08 seen flying S (pJHg). Two adults and 2 juveniles were in the Llandyrnog area between 13/08 and 30/08 (JH) and the last sighting was the last record of the year.

Flints. All but two records were from near Rhuddlan between 21/05 and 1/10 (SH). This suggests that breeding probably occurred in that area especially as the last two records of the year involved juveniles. An adult and juvenile were seen together near Rhuddlan on 20/09 (SH).

Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*

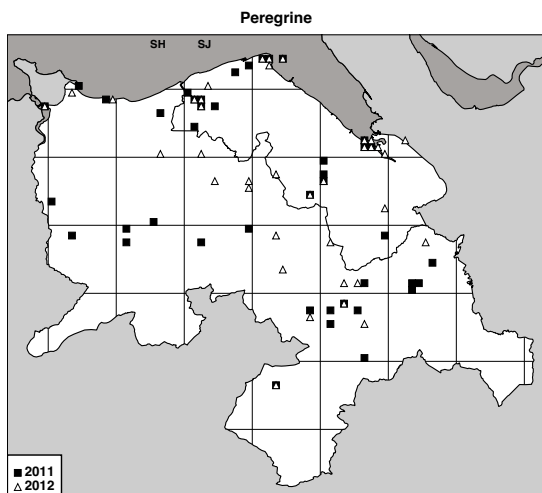
Breeding resident. RBBP.

HEBOG TREMOR

(PE)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	42	3
	Flints	72	3
2012	Denbs	26	2
	Flints	85	3

2011

Denbs. Seen in every month except Nov. Most records were of singles but 2 were seen at Wrexham, screaming on 16/06 and were probably birds that nested in the box on the Police Station (NH). Two were also seen near Dyserth on 16/07, one of which was probably a juvenile (SH), 2 at Wrexham on 2/08 and several other days, probably including at least one juvenile (NH). A pair circled over a garden at Rhos-on-Sea on 31/12 (SKT). There were records of 3 at Eglwyseg on 29/05 and again there, on 9/06 when a female was with 2 juveniles (NJS).



Flints. Seen in every month and most records were of singles. There were several records of 2: at Talacre on 6/01 (RMB), at Prestatyn quarry on 5/03, 10/03, 14/03, 27/05 and 13/06 (LJ) the last record including a juvenile; at Rhydymwyn on 15/07 (JVHu), at Oakenholt on 24/09 (pGEM) and at Connah's Quay NR on 28/11 (GR). The records of 3 were from Pantymwyn on 4/03 when 3 individuals flew past in 30 seconds (GEM), juveniles in a nest at Prestatyn quarry on 9/06 (LJ), there again on 25/06 when a pair was with one juvenile (LJ), at Oakenholt on 27/09 and 2/10 (GEM) and near Rhydymwyn on 10/10 (MD).

2012

Denbs. There were records from each month except Jan and most were of singles. Records of 2 were from near World's End on 10/03 (PIW) and near Denbigh on 19/06 and thought to be nesting nearby (JNW).

Flints. Recorded in every month. Most records were of singles including a nestling ringed at Connah's Quay power station on 1/06 (IMS). Records of 2 were from Connah's Quay NR on 27/01 (GR), there again on 16/02 (BH), 18/03 and 17/07 (PSH), probably the adults that bred at the power station, at Talacre on 22/07 (ACm), at Connah's Quay NR on 18/09 (JuW), at Oakenholt on 5/10 (PDS) and 12/11 (pGEM). Records of 3 were from Padeswood cement works on 30/06, which included a fledged juvenile (IMS), at Connah's Quay power station on 19/07 (GEM) and at Connah's Quay NR on 4/10 (PSH).

Breeding (WRBBSG):

(PE)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2011 Denbs	6	19	16	16	2.67
2012 Denbs	6	16	6	6	1.00

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*

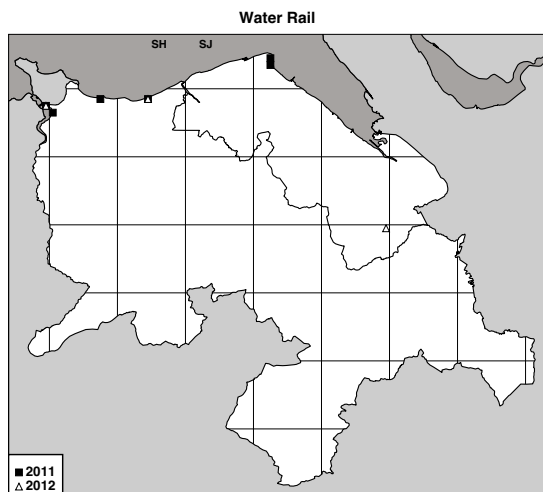
Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber list. RBBP.

2011

Denbs. There were records from all months except Feb, Jul, Aug and Nov. Apart from a dead bird found on the side of the A55 near Old Colwyn on 3/01 during cold weather (RS), the other records came from just two sites: Pentre Mawr Park, Abergele and Conwy RSPB. Most records were of singles but 2 were seen at Pentre Mawr Park on 12/03 and 25/12 (RS) and 2 were seen at Conwy RSPB on 13/10, 16/10 and 11/12. Records of 3 were all from Conwy RSPB on 21/01 (RoH) and 15/10 (pJHg). The records during

RHEGEN Y DWR

(WA)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	20	3
	Flints	2	1
2012	Denbs	37	16
	Flints	1	1



May and Jun suggest that breeding may have been attempted but no observer reported any evidence of breeding.

Flints. Singles on 14/03 near Talacre and on 26/12 there were the only records.

2012

Denbs. The observations were made during Jan to Mar, Aug and Oct to Dec, so there were none apparently present during the breeding season. There was one record from Pentre Mawr Park of a single on 15/01. All other records were from Conwy RSPB and all but one were of 1 or 1+ birds. On 16/12 a survey was undertaken using recordings of bird calls and 16 were counted (pJHg)!

Flints. The only record was from Black Brook close to Fagl Lane Quarry on 30/01 (GNR).

Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

Locally common breeding resident.

Moorhens were recorded in every month in both years in both counties. The distribution of records still has a northern and eastern bias in our area. Recorded in 3/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 6/35 in 2012.

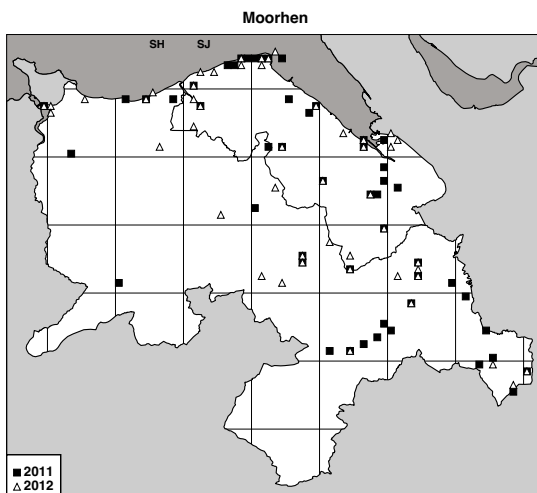
2011

Denbs. Most records were of 1-3, a small number of records were of 4-7 and the majority of records came from Conwy RSPB. The largest counts were 9 at Conwy RSPB on 17/10 (NM), 9 at Pentre Mawr Park, Abergele on 25/12 (RS) and 10+ at Conwy RSPB on 16/01 (DCR). There were records of juveniles from Trevor and close to the River Dee near Wrexham Industrial Estate.

Flints. There were a few records of 1 or 1+. Most records were counts of 2-10 and the site with most records was

IAR DWR

(MH)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	108	9
	Flints	78	23
2012	Denbs	144	16
	Flints	110	18



Talacre. The largest counts were 11 at Talacre on 14/12 with 12 there on 16/10 (pJR) and 23 near Holywell on 20/01 (MD). There was evidence of breeding at Wepre Park, Connah's Quay, Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog and near Holywell.

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (MH)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Abergele shore	15	22	12							15		21
Conwy RSPB	5	8	4	3	2	1	2	7	4	7	8	4
Connah's Quay NR	1		1	2	2		2			1	1	
Gronant		1	2	4		1	2	3	3	7	4	7
2012												
Abergele shore	18	19									24	20
Conwy RSPB	6	2	4	3	2	2	2	6	5	8	3	2
Connah's Quay NR		2			2			4		2		
Gronant	3	2	2	3	6		4	3	5		2	

2012

Denbs. Most records were of 1-3, with fewer counts of 4-8 and the majority of records, again, were from Conwy RSPB. The largest counts were 10 at Gresford Flash, Wrexham on 8/01 (SD), 10 at Pentre Mawr Park on 26/11 (SD), 13 at Belgrano, Pensarn on 10/01 (HC) and 16 at Pentre Mawr Park on 9/01 (SD). Birds were recorded in suitable breeding habitat at three sites but the only evidence to confirm breeding was a nest with young at Plas Uchaf reservoir, Llanefydd on 23/05.

Flints. Most records were of 1-3 and a smaller proportion of 4-11 with the majority of records from Talacre. The largest counts were 14 at Talacre on 14/10 (pJR) and 18 at Greenfield Valley on 31/01 (SD). There was evidence of possible or probable breeding from a few sites and breeding was confirmed at Blaenau, near Rhydtalog, Oakenholt and Talacre.

Coot *Fulica atra*

Locally common breeding resident and winter visitor.

There were birds recorded during every month in both years from both counties. Recorded in 3/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 4/35 in 2012.

		CWTIAR	
(CO)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	122	30
	Flints	102	103
2012	Denbs	157	28
	Flints	119	65

2011

Denbs. Most of the records were of 1-18 and the majority were from Conwy RSPB. The largest counts were 20 at Pentre Mawr Park, Abergele on 4/03 (RMB), 20+ at Gresford Flash, Wrexham on 28/12 (NHu), 23 near Afonwen on 12/06 including young birds (MD), 30 at Gresford Flash on 2/01 (KS) and 30 at Pentre Mawr Park on 27/02 (RS). The only evidence of breeding was confirmed at Erddig Pool, Gresford Flash and near Afonwen.

Flints. The majority of records were of 1-33 with most records from Talacre although the largest counts were from Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog. The largest counts were 40 at Llyn Helyg on 20/03 (LJ), 42 at Connah's Quay NR on 6/02 (AW) and from Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog there were 43 on 24/10, 47 on 17/01, 100 on 26/01 and 103 on 1/02 (MD). Breeding was confirmed at Greenfield Valley, Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog, near Holywell, near Caerwys and at Llyn Helyg.

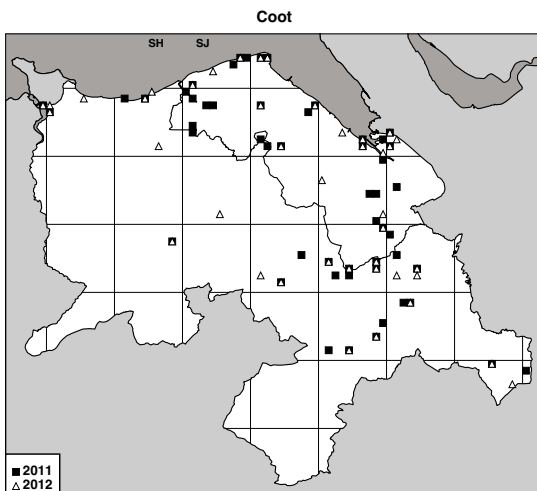
Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (CO)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Abergele shore	24	22	12						16	23		25
RSPB Conwy	11	14	3	9	6	3	7	11	5	3	4	5
Connah's Quay NR	5	2	12	5		12	15	7		20	3	5
2012												
Abergele shore	37	35									15	15
RSPB Conwy	7	3	5	3	5	10	2	3	3	1	3	4
Connah's Quay NR	1	2	8		2	1		2		2	6	18

2012

Denbs. Nearly all the records were of 1-10 and, again, mostly from Conwy RSPB. There were just another three records of 11-16 and the largest counts were 20 at Gresford Flash on 8/01 (SD), 20 at Hanmer Mere on 25/08 (SD), 22 at Llyn Cyfynwy, Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 19/03 (SD) and 28 at Pentre Mawr Park on 9/01 (SD). There were several records of possible or probable breeding and it was confirmed near Ffrith, Nant-y-Ffrith reservoir, near Acrefair, at Brymbo pool and Plas Uchaf reservoir, Llanefydd.

Flints. The vast majority of records were of 1-30 from either the Talacre area or Oakenholt. The largest counts were 48 at Rhyl brickworks on 26/11 (SD), 50 at Ysecifog reservoir on 31/01 (SD) and 65 at Llyn Helyg also on 31/01 (SD), when the birds were crowded into a small ice-free patch of water. There were a few records of possible and probable breeding and it was confirmed at Shotton Paper mill, Shotton steelworks, Ddol Reservoir, Ysecifog and at Talacre.



Crane *Grus grus*

Rare vagrant.

2012

Denbs. There were many records of a pair on Whixall Moss just across the border in Shropshire but just a single record from Fenn's Moss on 21/05, when 1 was seen at 20.37 hours, possibly coming in to roost (JuS). Accepted by the WRP.

GARAN

(AN)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	0	

Avocet *Recuvirostra avosetta*

Scarce visitor. Amber list. RBBP.

CAMBIG

(AV)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1	2
	Flints	2	4
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	4	4

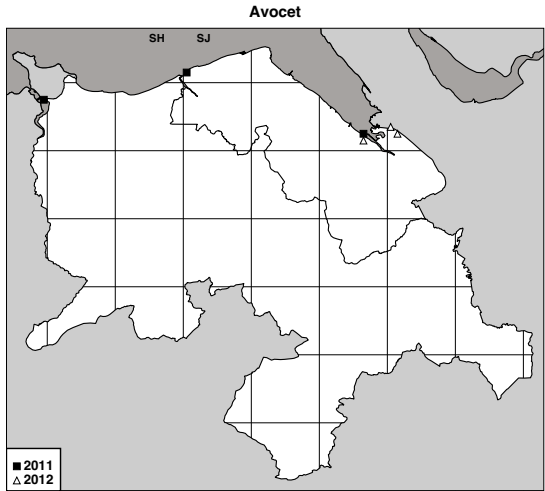
2011

Denbs. The only record was of 2 at Conwy RSPB on 20/04.

Flints. One record was a single at Rhyl on 16/03 and the other of 4 was at Connah's Quay NR on 17/04 (AW).

2012

Flints. A single was at Shotwick Fields on 20/05 (GR), another single was at Border Pool, RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 31/05, though there were about 20 over the border in England (KS)! There were 2 at Shotwick Fields on 24/06 (CW) and 4 at Oakenholt on 13/08 (JHo).

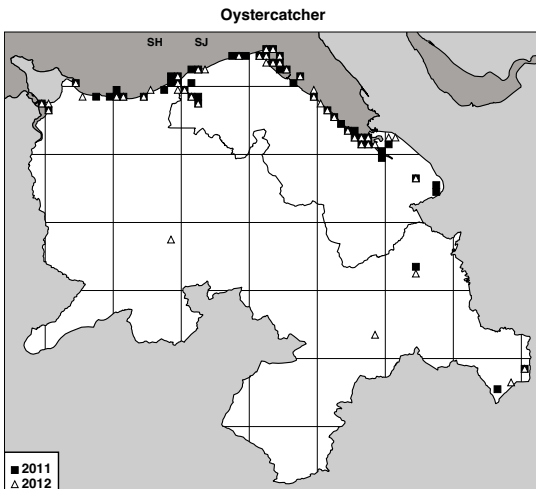


Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*

Abundant winter visitor around the coast but scarce breeding resident. Amber list.

PIODEN Y MOR

(OC)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	118	884
	Flints	188	5250
2012	Denbs	170	840
	Flints	220	5000



Birds were recorded in every month of both years in both counties. The distribution map shows that records have mainly come from the same sites as in previous years. The tables show the WeBS counts at selected sites for every month in both years. The maximum counts did not always coincide with a WeBS survey date. What is striking is that after maxima of 12,000 in 2009 and 15,000 in 2010 the maxima for the two years reported here were very much lower. The weather over both years was rather different so it is difficult to think that meteorology affected the flock sizes. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 479 (Denbs.) and 9193

(Flints).

2011

Denbs. Most of the records were counts of 1-340 and most of the largest counts were from Conwy RSPB with 500 on 21/06 (pBT), 618 there on 15/05 (JHg), 714+ there on 6/05 (pJHg) and 884 there on 17/07 (JHg). The other large count was 700+ at Horton's Nose, Kinmel Bay on 12/04 (DCR). None of the records provided any evidence of breeding.

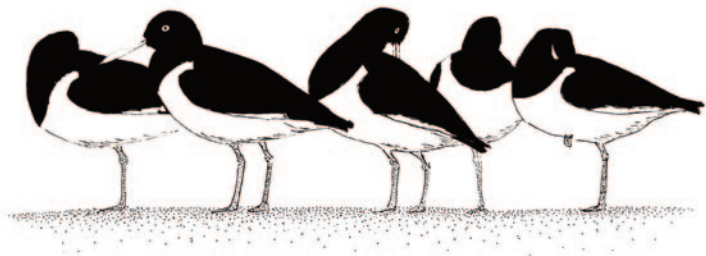
Flints. There were much larger flocks seen from Gronant and down the Dee Estuary. This is clearly shown by the tables of WeBS counts. About two thirds of the records were counts of 1-300 and the other third was higher counts up to 5,250 at Mostyn on 13/11 (MaBr). There were records of probable breeding near Bagillt and at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft and confirmed breeding at Connah's Quay NR.

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites from W to E:

2011 (OC)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	2	43	45	59	618	31	884	142	41	58	64	75
Gronant	1794	192	290	150	262	579	44	361	270	45	14	420
Point of Ayr	3000	2500	1500	50	12	6	100	1000	1000	4500	3000	2000
Mostyn Dock	3120	530	2490	4	5	30	432		230	115	5250	3150
Walwen Fields	2680	3000	2400				30	185	250	770	980	1344
Oakenholt	3500	850	250	500	6	2	3000	1500		1500	400	1500
2012												
Conwy RSPB	70	24	60	386	578	422	134	165	284	64	47	41
Gronant	250	542	760	620	506		825	1280	4000	600	1050	1500
Point of Ayr	3000	1000	900	550	4	14	300	4000	5000	5000	4000	4000
Mostyn Dock	900	3950	285	34	41	20		3	210	58	583	3100
Walwen Fields	1650	1055	180		86		200	576	137	1120	1290	
Oakenholt		1000	450		400	5	80	2400	2100	2400	1050	1700

2012

Denbs. Most of the records were of 1-405 with just four records of larger flocks: 500 at Llanddulas on 10/01 and 14/10 (RTe), 578 at Conwy RSPB on 20/05 (JHg) and 840 on the estuary there on 15/06 (JHg). There were some records of possible and probable breeding from widely separated places: Pensarn, Llyn Brenig and Fenn's Moss. There were no records of confirmed breeding.



Oystercatchers by Dermot Smith

Flints. Again, nearly two-thirds of the records were counts of 1-300 and there were sixty eight records of larger counts (not including WeBS counts). There were four records of 5,000: at Point of Ayr on 16/09 and 14/10 (GR), at Mostyn also on 14/10 (GR) and at Connah's Quay NR on 17/10 (PDS). If the two flocks counted at Point of Ayr and Mostyn were of different birds the maximum number on the estuary could have been at least 10,000. There was one record of possible breeding at Gronant, several of probable breeding at Rhyl Marine Lake and Beeches Farm and confirmed breeding at Connah's Quay NR and Oakenholt.

Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*

Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor. Red list.
WBAP.

CWTIAD AUR

(GP)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	11	21
	Flints	10	12
2012	Denbs	4	10
	Flints	11	120

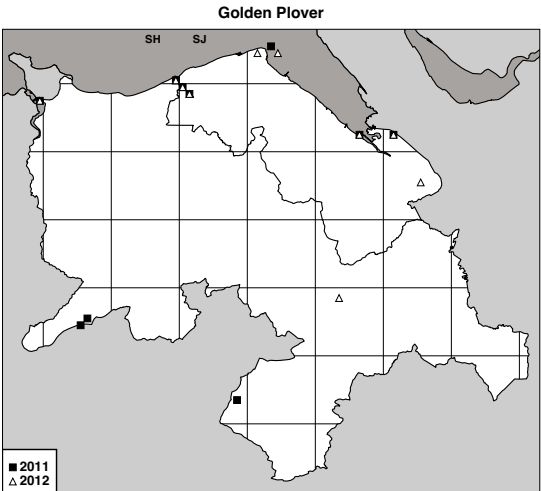
The pattern of the timing of records suggests that only a few potentially breeding birds were encountered and that

most records were of migrants or over-wintering birds and generally in small numbers. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 6 (Denbs.) and 149 (Flints). There were no records from Mynydd Hiraethog, whence the last record was in 2009. There were only two counts from WeBS surveys, one each from two sites.

Seen in these months:													
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

2011

Denbs. Six of the records were of 1-3 from Conwy RSPB at either end of the year, with another winter record near Kinnel Bay. A female was seen making distraction displays (code DD) on the Berwyn Mountains on 2/07, thereby confirming breeding (NHu). Three pairs were found on the Migneint near Ysbyty Ifan on 12/04. At that time of year they may have been migrants or may have been breeders that had just taken up residence. On 22/07 a small flock of 21 was seen in the same part of the Migneint (RD).



Flints. Nine of the records were from

the Afon Clwyd just S of Rhyl between Jan and Jul. The highest counts were 11 on 26/02 just S of Rhyl and 12 a bit further SE on 27/02 (SH). At the end of the year the largest count was 5 at Shotwick Fields on 11/02 (CW). These counts are many fewer than the average for 2004-10.

2012

Denbs. The largest count was also the first record when 10 were near Kinnel Bay on 1/01 (JuW). The other records were during Jan, Mar and Oct.

Flints. Eight of the records were counts of 1-4 but the largest counts were of much larger flocks: 90 on the Afon Clwyd, S of Rhyl on 11/02 (SH), 50 at Shotwick Fields on 19/02 and 120 there on 2/12 (GR).

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*

Winter visitor and passage migrant. Red list.

The distribution of records was much as in 2010; restricted in the main to four sites: Conwy RSPB, the estuary of the Afon Clwyd, Point of Ayr and Connah's Quay NR. None of these is suitable for breeding. Birds were seen in every month, but not continuously in either county.

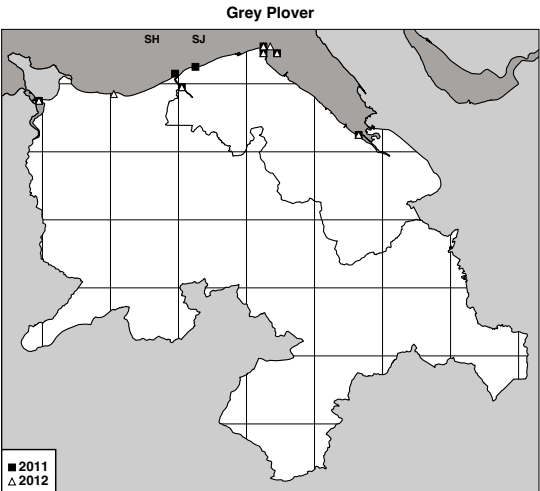
2011

Denbs. There were records of 1-3 during Jan to Apr and Oct. All but one record was at Conwy RSPB.

Flints. Recorded during every month except Apr. Twelve of the records were from the estuary of the Afon Clwyd with counts of 1-4. The three largest counts were from Talacre/Point of Ayr with 12 on 5/06 (GR), 20 on 31/12 (ACm) and 30 on 11/12 (GR). The first and last of these were WeBS counts.

2012

Denbs. There were four records from Conwy RSPB of 1-2. The other record was a single at Llanddulas on 5/02.



Flints. Nineteen of the records were from the Afon Clwyd, S of Rhyl during Jan to Apr and Dec with counts of 1-8. There were nine records of 10 or more and the largest counts were all from the Point of Ayr: 40 on 16/12, 48 on 18/11(GR) and 60 on 1/11 (RyE).

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (GV)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Gronant			1							46	98	35
Point of Ayr			4			12	1			1	1	30
2012												
Gronant	12	11	9							25	25	
Point of Ayr	9	1	4	5						4	48	40

CWTIAD LLWYD

(GV)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	7	3
	Flints	28	98
2012	Denbs	5	2
	Flints	35	60

Seen in these months:												
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*

Increasingly scarce breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Red list. WBAP.

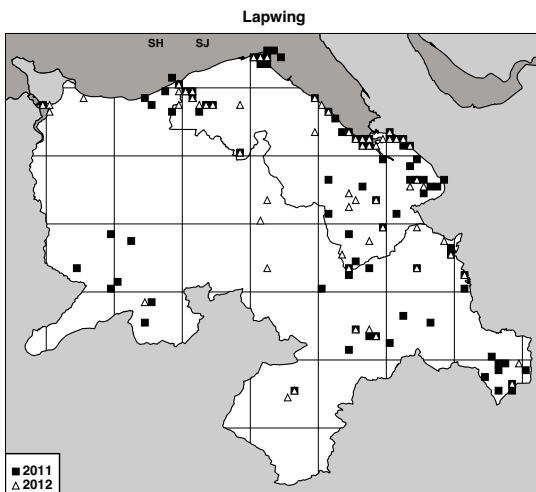
CORNCHWIGLEN

(L)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	137	2700
	Flints	159	2000
2012	Denbs	153	750
	Flints	186	3000

Recorded during every month in both years in both counties. The spread of records is broadly similar to that in 2010. The large area of predominantly pasture in N Denbs. Is largely without Lapwings. The largest counts were from sites that were not covered by the monthly WeBS surveys. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 1732 (Denbs.) and 2425 (Flints).

2011

Denbs. Most of the records were of small numbers, but ranging from 1-60 and twenty four records were of 61-2,700. The largest counts were 1,000 near Kinmel Bay on 28/12 (RMB) and at Trevalyn Meadows on 31/12 (HL), 2,500 near Wynnstay Lake, Ruabon on 14/12 (JAJ) and 2,700 at Trevalyn Meadows on 16/02 (NFr). These counts are considerably greater than the average maxima for 2004-10 (1732.4). There were a few records of possible or probable breeding but none of confirmed breeding.



Flints. One hundred records were of 1-99 and fifty nine were counts of 100-2,000. It seems that more of the larger flocks occur in this county. The largest counts were: 1,000 at Connah's Quay NR on 13/01 (GR), 1,000 at Talacre dunes on 21/12 (pJR), 1,500 at Shotwick Fields on 23/12 (CW), 2,000 at Connah's Quay NR on 18/11 (LJ) and 2,000 at Shotwick Fields on 11/12 (CW). These are rather fewer than the mean maxima for 2004-10 (2425.1). There were very few records of possible or probable breeding and just one of confirmed breeding at the northern edge of Hawarden Airport.

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (L)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	120	96	9	15	11	7	5	20	14	44	73	271
Point of Ayr fields	655	400							1	180	600	600
Oakenholt Marsh	1	658								40	50	677
2012												
Conwy RSPB	20	45	14	6	5	6	7	11	10	1	21	7
Point of Ayr fields	174	700							2	75	380	377
Oakenholt Marsh		1000							84	140	390	110

2012

Denbs. The majority of records were of 1-50 and just fourteen records were counts of 80-750. The largest counts were 500 at Trevalyn Meadows on 1/01 (NFr), 700 near Kinmel Bay on 11/01 (HC) and 750 at Trevalyn Meadows on 5/01 (NFr). These counts are less than half the

average maxima for 2004-10. There were a few records of possible and probable breeding and just one of confirmed breeding just W of Cerrigudrion.

Flints. There were more records of 1-99 and fifty six counts of 100-3,000. The largest counts were 1,000 at Connah's Quay NR on 12/02 (GR), 2,000+ just S of Rhyl on 6/01 (DCR) and 3,000 at Shotwick Fields on 17/02 (CW), the last being somewhat more than the mean maximum count for 2004-10.

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*

Scarce summer visitor and passage migrant. Scarce breeder. RBBP.

2011

Denbs. Recorded each month Mar to Jul. The first record was a single near Wrexham on 28/03 at a site which is considered to be possible breeding habitat (KS). There were two other records from Conwy RSPB, one of which had 2 that were thought to be a pair on 11/05 and 8/06 (JHg), then a set of records at that site through Apr to the last record of a single on 23/07 (JHg). The largest counts were 4 on 24/05 and 7 on 20/06, at least one of which was a large chick (RS).

Flints. There were records in Mar, Apr, May and Jul. Three records were from near Rhuddlan: the first was a single on 25/03, another single on 29/04 and 2 on 10/07. This was the last record of the year, along with another 2 just S of Rhyl on the same date, but different birds (SH). The other records were 3 at Border Pool, RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 27/04 (CW) and 4 chicks ringed at Connah's Quay power station on 25/05 (IMS).

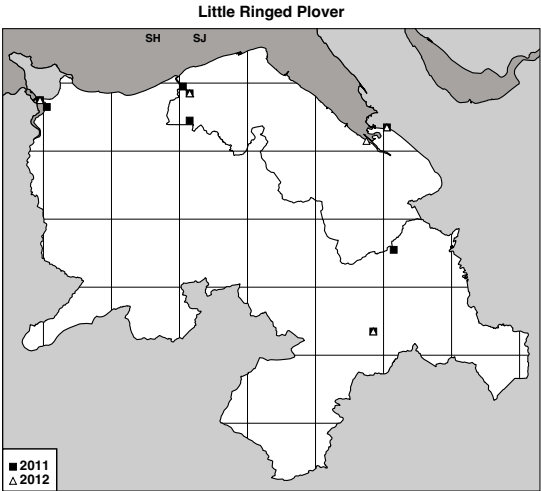
2012

Denbs. All records were from just two sites during Apr to Jun and most were from Conwy RSPB. At the inland site only a single was seen on several occasions but it was thought to be probably breeding. The first record was at this inland site on 1/04 (NHu). The Conwy RSPB records were of 1-2 with 3+ on 28/04 (AxJ), 3 on 5/05 and 3 on 7/05 (JuW). The last sighting was 1+ on 30/06 (pJHg).

Flints. Records were during May to Jul and the first was a single near Rhuddlan on 4/05 (SH). There were 2, considered to be a pair, at Border Pool on 31/05 (KS). The last record was a single near Rhuddlan on 8/07 (SH). Despite all the rain, 3 chicks survived and were ringed at Connah's Quay power station on 11/06 (IMS).

CWTIAD TORCHOG BACH

(LP)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	31	7
	Flints	6	4
2012	Denbs	31	3
	Flints	4	3



Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*

Breeding resident in small numbers, passage migrant.
Amber list. WBAP.

CWTIAD TORCHOG

(RP)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	29	24
	Flints	34	100
2012	Denbs	33	20
	Flints	42	200

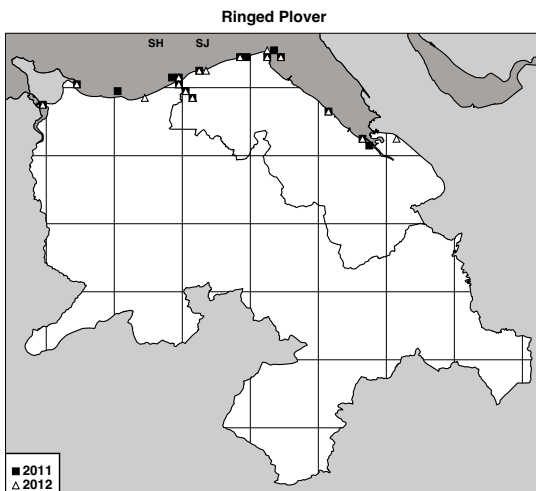
The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 56 (Denbs.) and 195 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. Recorded in all months except Jul. Most records from along the coast as usual, were of 1-16. The largest counts were 20 at Horton's Nose, Kinnel Bay on 20/03 (RS), 20 at Rhos-on-Sea on 28/12 (pBT) and 24 there on 9/01 (MtG). These counts are lower than the mean for the years 2004-10 (56.1). There were no records of breeding activity.

Flints. Recorded in all months except Oct and Dec. Most of the counts were of 1-23 and the largest counts were 50 S of Rhyl on 27/08 and 55 there on 9/09 (SH) with 100 at Point of Ayr on 14/08 (GR). The WeBS counts for two sites are shown in the table. These

large counts are about half of the mean maximum counts for 2004-10 (194.9). Breeding was confirmed at Gronant where 3 chicks were ringed on 24/06 (pBH).



Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (RP)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Gronant			94	42	69	25	30	15	4		14	
Point of Ayr			2		23	9		100	3			
2012	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Gronant	18		21	30	10	18	25				23	
Point of Ayr			4	4	50	22		150	50			200

2012

Denbs. Recorded in all months except Apr, Jul and Aug. Most records were of small numbers, 1-18. The two largest counts were 20 at Conwy RSPB on 2/01 (pJHg) and 80+ at Horton's Nose on 24/01 (DCR). Again, there were no breeding records.

Flints. Recorded during every month and most records were of 1-53. The largest counts were all at Point of Ayr: 100 on 30/08, 150 on 19/08 and 200 on 16/12 (all GR). Breeding was again proven at Gronant when 2 chicks were seen on 21/07 (SD).

Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus*

Rare migrant.

2011

Flints. A single was seen at Penycloddiau on 22/04 (EdW).

HUTAN Y MYNYDD

(DO)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	1	1
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

Passage migrant and localised summer visitor in small numbers. Amber list. RBBP.

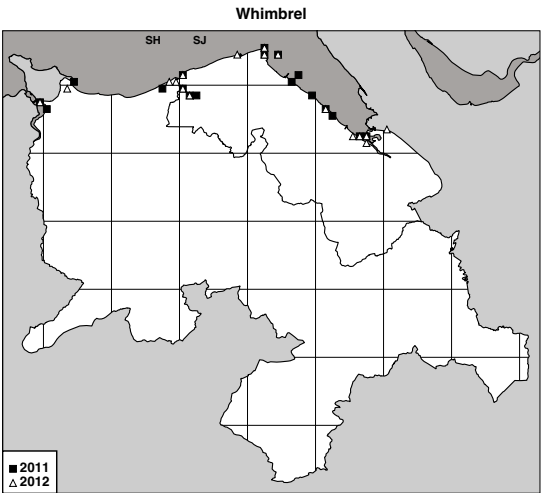
The records came from similar, mainly coastal, places to those in 2009 but with none from the Wrexham area or Fenn's Moss. The temporal distribution of records indicates this is a summer migrant with small numbers lingering in Jun. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 18 (Denbs.) and 24 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. The first record was on 16/04 at Conwy RSPB (JHg). Only two records were from other sites, one of which was the largest count. A flock of 21 was at Rhos-on-Sea on 21/08, flying S at 11.00 (SKT). All other records were of 1-14 from Conwy RSPB. The last spring record was 2 there on 30/05 (RS) and the first record of probable returning birds was 9 on 4/07 (pJHg). The last autumn record was a single there on 11/09 (GNR).

COEGYLFINIR

(WM)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	19	21
	Flints	29	13
2012	Denbs	22	42
	Flints	44	52



Flints. The first record was 2 at Rhyl on 22/04 and the last record was a single at Talacre on 2/09 (GNR). The largest counts were in the spring with 10 near Rhyl on 30/04, 11 there on 1/05 and 13 near Rhuddlan on 29/04 (all SH). Another 10 were seen at Point of Ayr on 8/05 (GR). With this species the WeBS counts do not seem to cover the sites or be at times when maximum numbers are present.

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at one site:

2011 (WM)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Point of Ayr					10	2	7	3				
2012												
Point of Ayr					2	3	10	1				

2012

Denbs. The first record was earlier this year - a single at Conwy RSPB on 18/03 (JHg). Most of the records came from that site and were in larger numbers during the spring period. Most

records were of 1-10 but 42 were at Conwy RSPB on 12/05 (CJ). The last record was a bit later this year when 1+ was recorded at the same site on 13/10 (pJHg).

Flints. The first record was of 2 just S of Rhyl on 20/04 (SH). Most counts were of 1-10 but there were three larger parties, all of which were in spring. All the large counts were on the Afon Clwyd, just S of Rhyl: 52 on 5/05, 36 on 6/05 and 22 on 8/05 (all SH). The last record was a single at Bagillt on 16/09 (MaBr).

Curlew *Numenius arquata*

Breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.
Red list. WBAP.

GYLFINIR

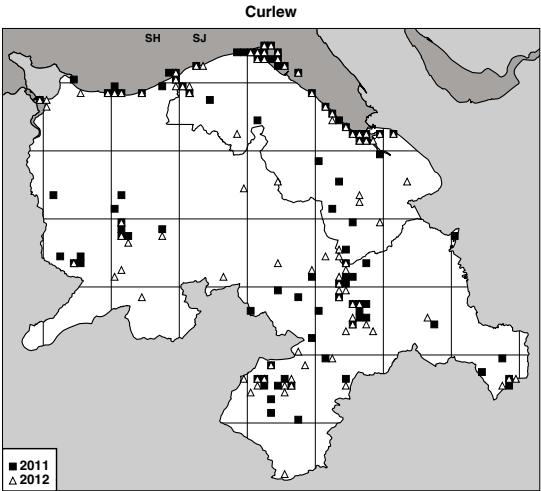
(CU)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	159	470
	Flints	190	1000
2012	Denbs	207	461
	Flints	280	1500

Recorded during every month in both years in both counties. The records came from similar general areas as in previous years. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 352 (Denbs.) and 1199 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. Most of the records were of small numbers (1-80) from Conwy RSPB and the largest counts were all there with c100 on 11/08 (NM), 180 on 17/09, 213 on 26/09 (JnG) and 470 on 30/01 (SaM). There were a few records of possible or probable breeding from upland areas.

Flints. The majority of records were of 1-100 and there were twenty six records of 114-900. All the largest counts were from Point of Ayr (see the table of WeBS counts) and they were all of 1,000 on 23/01, 3/08, 14/08, 16/10 and 13/11 (all GR). There were just two records of possible breeding from upland areas.



Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (CU)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	23	123	222	15		11	253	335	192	170	79	72
Point of Ayr	1000	750	800	140	200	320	900	1000	400	1000	1000	400
Point of Ayr fields	146	385	3							5	109	217
Oakenholt Marsh	10	19	12	1	4		3	12	120	7	2	4
2012												
Conwy RSPB	231	117	152	104	4	97	353	300	461	198	131	73
Point of Ayr	700	500	450	500	220	350	1000	1500	1200	800	800	400
Point of Ayr fields	69	109	89						12	200	213	205
Oakenholt Marsh	5	53	50		5	8	12	41	29	50	25	40

2012

Denbs. Again, the majority of records were from Conwy RSPB with counts of 1-90. The largest flocks were 105+ at Llanddulas on 15/08 (JVHu), 140+ inland near Kinnel Bay on 2/12 (DCR) and at Conwy RSPB 343 on 30/07 (pJHg) and 461 on 16/09 (JHg). There were several records of possible and probable breeding from upland areas and a record of confirmed breeding near Cerrigydrudion.

Flints. Most records were counts of 1-100 from coastal sites. There were thirty eight records of 109-800 and the largest counts were all at Point of Ayr: 1,000 on 22/07, 1,000 on 4/08, 1,200 on 16/09 and 1,500 on 19/08 (all GR). There was just one record of possible breeding and one of probable breeding.

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*

Passage migrant. Principally a winter visitor but increasingly found throughout the year. Amber list. RBBP.

The map shows that most records were from regular sites. Records occurred temporally nearly throughout the year, the exceptions being in Denbs. in May and Dec 2011 and Dec 2012 and in Flints. in Jun 2011. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 34 (Denbs.) and 4,890 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. All but one record were from Conwy RSPB, the exception being a single at Kinnel Bay on 17/11. Most of the counts were 1-18 and the largest counts were 20 on 7/08 (JHg) and 23 on 1/08 (pJHg). During Jun and Jul when they could have been expected to be absent at their northern breeding areas there were up to 18 present, on 23/07 (JHg).

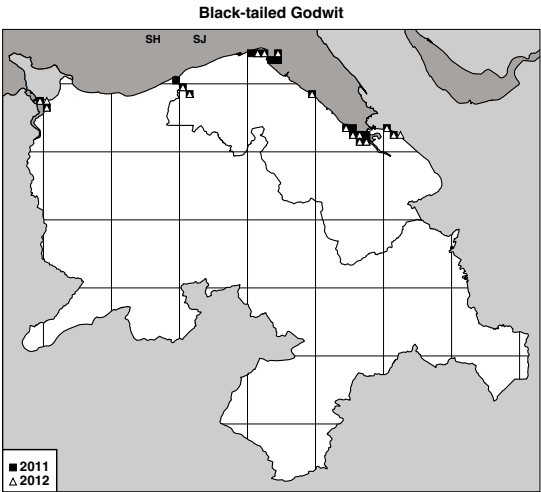
Flints. The sites in this county attract the large numbers (though not always coinciding with WeBS survey dates – see table). There were thirty eight records of 1-10, the others being larger counts. The fifteen records of 1,000-4,000 were in Jan, Feb, Aug, Sep, Oct and Nov, mainly from Connah’s Quay NR / Oakenholt Marsh or, less frequently, Point of Ayr. The largest counts from Connah’s Quay NR were 3,000 on 21/01, 3,000 on 28/11 and 4,000 on 5/02 and from Point of Ayr, where there were 3,000 on 16/10 and 13/11 (all GR).

2012

Denbs. All the records were from Conwy RSPB, mainly counts of 1-32. The largest counts were 48 on 17/07 (JHg), 60 on 10/07 (JHg) and 100 on 16/09 (ShA).

RHOSTOG GYNFFONDDU

(BW)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	60	23
	Flints	109	4000
2012	Denbs	59	100
	Flints	152	4000



Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (BW)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	5	7					8	12	2	7	14	
Point of Ayr	20	1	8				3			900	3000	22
Oakenholt Marsh	2500	2300	533				76	2000	1500	200	800	30
Connah's Quay NR				700	650		4	36	95	285		
2012												
Conwy RSPB	1	11	1	8		5	23	11	22	22		
Point of Ayr	1							4		500	2200	1000
Oakenholt Marsh	78	200	45			3	160	1280		1500	50	3
Connah's Quay NR	39						3	3	6			

Flints. Fifty eight records were counts of 1-10 and thirty two were of 1,000-4,000, from Connah's Quay NR / Oakenholt Marsh or Talacre / Point of Ayr during Aug to Dec. The early to middle part of the year had a maximum of 200 on five dates between 12/02 and 12/08 at Connah's Quay NR (GEM). The largest counts were 3,500 at Connah's Quay NR on 5/10 (PDS) and all the others were from near Talacre dunes: 3,200 on 15/11, 3,500 on 3/12 and 4,000 on 17/12 and 21/12 (all pJR).

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*

Passage migrant and winter visitor. Red list. WBAP.

This species is a regular sight throughout the year in Flints. even though in summer the numbers are small. A few birds use sites in Denbs. irregularly with no clear pattern, as might be expected from a migrant. The birds that remain through the summer do not breed. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 45 (Denbs.) and 54 (Flints.).

2011

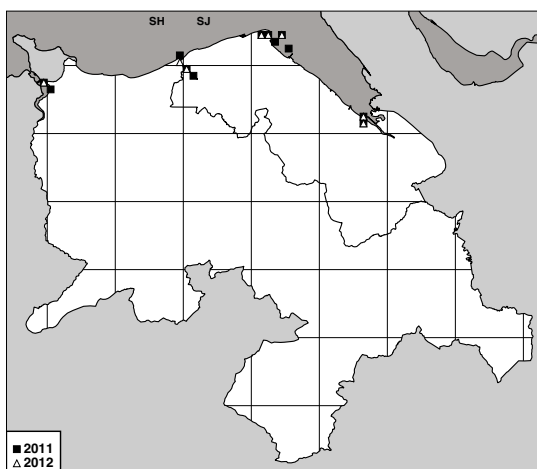
Denbs. All but one record were from Conwy RSPB, the other being a single at Horton's Nose, Kinmel Bay on 30/01. All but one record were of 1-2 and the largest counts were 3 on 5/05 (pJHg) and 3 on 11/06 (JHg).

Flints. The Afon Clwyd does not seem to attract more than a couple of birds at a time and all the largest flocks were seen at Point of Ayr; as shown in the WeBS table, below. Connah's Quay NR attracted 1-20 at either end of the year and other sites had 1-20, though there were 120+ at Talacre on 11/01 (DCR). The largest counts were also WeBS counts at Point of Ayr: 350 on 16/10 and 350 on 13/11 (GR).

RHOSTOG GYNFFRONFRITH

(BA)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	19	3
	Flints	46	350
2012	Denbs	24	3
	Flints	32	75

Bar-tailed Godwit



Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (BA)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB						3			1			
Point of Ayr	1		4		2	22	130	53	110	350	350	300
2012	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB					1				3	1		1
Point of Ayr	30	14	3	5	15	9	5	6	15	40	75	70

2012

Denbs. Again, all but one of this year's records were from Conwy RSPB, the other place being near Kinnel Bay with a single on 1/01. All the records were of 1-2 apart from a WeBS count of 3 at Conwy RSPB on 16/09.

Flints. The counts were considerably lower than in 2011. Most were of 1-40 and the largest counts were from WeBS survey dates at Point of Ayr: 70 on 16/12 and 75 on 18/11 (GR).

Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

Winter visitor and passage migrant. Amber list.

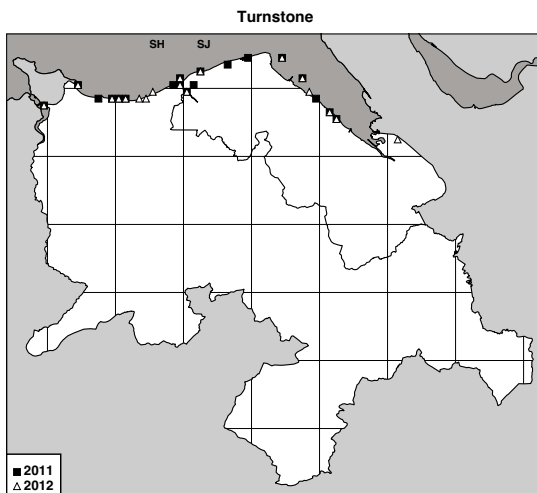
The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 125 (Denbs.) and 63 (Flints.).

CWTIAD Y TRAETH

(TT)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	29	63
	Flints	32	66
2012	Denbs	37	141
	Flints	24	48

2011

Denbs. During Jan to Apr records were mainly of 1-43 from coastal sites. The largest counts at that time were 70+ at Horton's Nose, Kinnel Bay on 4/01 (DCR), 60 there on 20/03 (RS) and 63 near Llanddulas on 9/04 (JBM). This, the largest count of the year, was only half of the mean maximum for recent years. There were two records in Jun including a count of 24 near Kinnel Bay on 26/06 (DCR). The first autumn record was 10 at Rhos-on-Sea on 1/08 (VRB). From then until the end of the year counts were lower than at the start of the year, with maxima of 31 E of Old Colwyn on 25/08 (JVHu) and 41 at Llanddulas on 1/10 (JVHu).



Flints. In the first months of the year, Jan to May, there were counts of 1-20 with two higher: 25 at Mostyn on 23/01 (GR) and 25 at Rhyl on 13/02 (RMB). Presumably the birds present in Jul (largest count 2) were birds that were unable to go to their northern breeding grounds. The first returning birds in autumn were 6 at Mostyn on 14/08 (GR). In the remaining months counts were mainly in single figures, 1-24 with the largest two counts being 66 at Mostyn on 16/10 (GR) and 30+ at Rhyl on 13/11 (DCR).

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts from selected sites:

2011 (TT)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Abergele to Llanddulas	33		35						26		43	41
Mostyn Dock shore	25	6	3	10	9		2	6	24	66		
2012												
Abergele to Llanddulas	29	55		54					48	27		141
Mostyn Dock shore	2			19					32		5	48

2012

Denbs. During Jan to May most counts were of 1-12 with a single record of 22 at Rhos-on-Sea on 8/02 (JuW). The last spring record was a single at Conwy RSPB on 19/05 (GNR). The first autumn record was 4 at Rhos-on-Sea on 3/08 (JuW). From Aug to Dec most records were of 1-25 with larger counts of 26 at Llanddulas on 14/10 (RTe), 50 at Rhos-on-Sea on 22/10 (JuW) and 141 at the Abergele to Llanddulas WeBS sector on 16/12.

Flints. More than half of the records were from the period Jan to May and of counts of 1-15 with one record of 19 at Mostyn on 8/04 (MaBr). During May and Jul a single was recorded at Shotwick Fields which seems an unlikely place to see them. Was this bird thinking of breeding there? In the latter part of the year there were a few records of 1-16 and the largest counts were 32 at Mostyn on 16/09 (MaBr), 34 near Llanerch-y-Mor on 22/09 (TeA) and 48 at Mostyn on 16/12 (GR).

Knot *Calidris canutus*

Passage migrant and winter visitor. Amber list.

The map shows that records occurred in similar places as in 2009 and 2010. However, the timing of their presence seems to be unpredictable. Knot have been recorded in every month of the year, but not in both counties and their pattern of presence has been different each year. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 8 (Denbs.) and 3143 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. All but one of the records was from Conwy RSPB, the other being offshore at Kinmel Bay. Records were mainly of 1-2; 4 were seen by Kinmel Bay on 9/01 (MtG) and 4 were flying high towards the N at Conwy RSPB on 27/08 (ADa).

Flints. This is the county in which to see large numbers of Knot. Eighteen records were of 1-50 and all the others were of at least 100. The WeBS counts did not always seem to coincide with the largest flocks and most of the largest counts were at one site. At Point of Ayr there were 1,000 on 16/10 and 3,000 on 5/01 (GR). The other large counts were at Connah's Quay NR with 1,000 on 5/02 (GR), 1,000 on 24/09 (pGEM), 1,000 on 28/11 (GR), 1,000 on 11/12 (AW), 1,200 on 18/02 (GR) and 2,500 on 29/09 (GR).

2012

Denbs. All but two of the records were from Conwy RSPB. Most of the records were of 1-5 but a 'large' flock of 30 was there on 11/02 (pJHg).

PIBYDD YR ABER

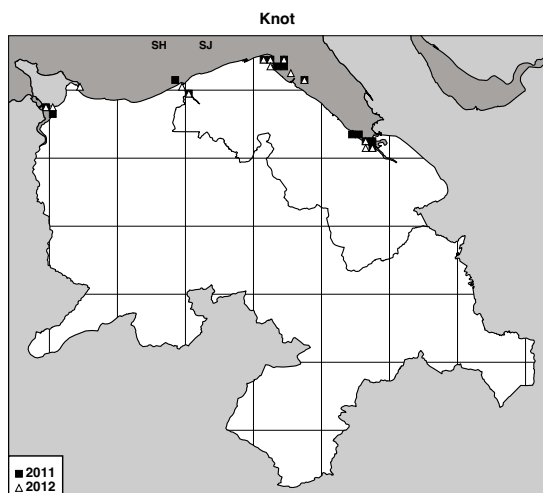
(KN)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	19	4
	Flints	42	3000
2012	Denbs	27	30
	Flints	49	34000

Seen in these months:

	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
D	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (KN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Point of Ayr	12	6	4			2			6	800	600	350
Oakenholt Marsh	100	250						30	300		200	1000
2012												
Point of Ayr	600	200	12	5	1				250	1500	1500	34000
Oakenholt Marsh			10								2	



Flints. Twenty two records were of 1-40, the others being at least 100. This year the largest counts were at three sites, with just one large count from Connah's Quay NR with 1,500 on 28/09 (GEM). The others were in the Point of Ayr area, from Talacre 1,000 on 17/12 (SD) and 5,000 on 1/11 (RyE). They were also seen from near the dunes at Talacre, 1,700 on 16/12 and 3,300 on 17/12 (pJR). From Point of Ayr the counts were 1,200 on 31/10, 1,500 on 14/10 and 18/11 and a massive flock of 34,000 on 16/12 (all GR). This last count was truly exceptional. With birds on the English side of the Dee Estuary there would have been a total in excess of 50,000 Knot that day! Exactly why is unclear and we wait with interest to

see if such numbers will be repeated in the near future. The last counts approaching this size were 25,000 at Point of Ayr on 17/12/1989 and 10,000 on 11/12/1977. This year's largest count will skew the mean maxima for few years to come.

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*

Scarce passage migrant. Amber list. RBBP.

The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 2 (Denbs.) and 4 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. All records were from Conwy RSPB during May, Jun, Aug and Sep. They were mainly records of singles and the earliest spring record was 1 on 7/05 and latest spring record was 1 on 20/06. The first autumn record was a female on 19/08 and last was 1+ on 26/09. The largest count was 3 on 5/09 (JHg).

Flints. There was a single record of 2 on 17/04 at Rhyl in spring. The first autumn record was a single at Talacre on 14/09 and last another single at Shotwick Fields on 23/11.

2012

Denbs. Just two records from Conwy RSPB in spring, both of which were singles a few days apart on 7/05 and 12/05. This was a poor showing.

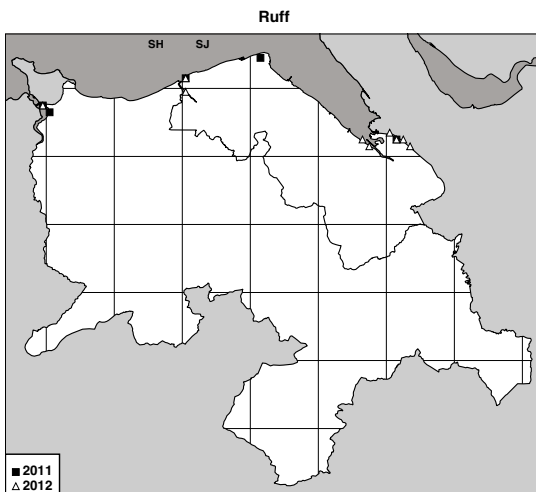
PIBYDD TORCHOG

(RU)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	23	3
	Flints	5	2
2012	Denbs	2	1
	Flints	16	13

Monthly maxima in each county:

2011 (RU)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.					1+			1+	3			
Flints.				2					1		1	
2012												
Denbs.					1							
Flints.		1	4	1	4	1	1	1	2	4	13	

Flints. Seen every month from Feb to Nov. The earliest record was a single at Rhyl on 11/02 and last 'spring' record was 4 at Shotwick Fields on 26/05 (CW). These were three males and a reeve lekking. A single was present there during Jun and Jul but breeding was not confirmed. The first probable returning migrant was a single at Connah's Quay NR on 31/08. The two largest counts were 4 near Wrexham Industrial Estate on 30/10 (WAO) and 13 at flooded Shotwick Fields on 10/11 (KS).



Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

Scarce autumn passage migrant. WBAP.

PIBYDD CAMBIG

2011

Denbs. All the records were from Conwy RSPB and most were counts of 1-6. There were three records of a single on 6/05, which was also seen on 7/05, presumably a late departing migrant going northwards. There were six records in Jun of 1 or 1+, possibly one late staying individual. The largest counts were 7 on 30/08 (AxJ) and 13 on 31/08 (JHg). The last record was 1+ on 22/10 (JHg).

(CV)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	51	13
	Flints	1	2
2012	Denbs	7	2
	Flints	1	4

Flints. A single was seen on the Afon Clwyd, S of Rhyl on 18/09 (SH).

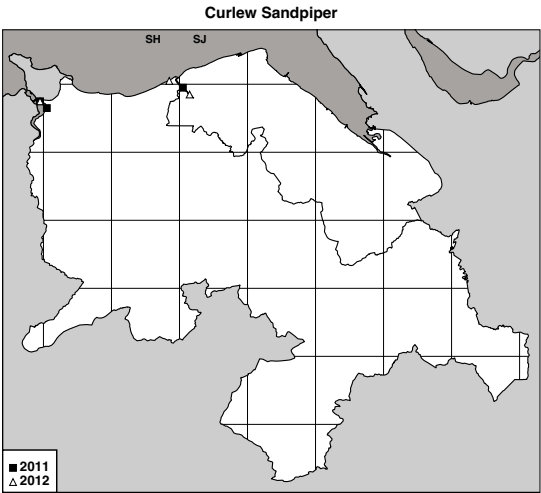
Monthly maxima in each county:

2011 (CV)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.					1+	1+		13	6	1+		
Flints.									1			
2012												
Denbs.					1+				2			
Flints.									4			

2012

Denbs. There was a record of a single on 23/05 at Conwy RSPB. The last record was a single at Kinnel Bay on 29/09.

Flints. There were 4 on the Afon Clwyd, NW of Rhuddlan on 23/09 (SH).



Temminck’s Stint *Calidris temminckii*

Rare vagrant.

2011

Denbs. A single was seen at Conwy RSPB from the Tal y Fan hide on 3/05 (AxJ). Accepted by the WRP.

PIBYDD TEMMINCK

(TK)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	

Sanderling *Calidris alba*

Passage migrant and winter visitor.

Sanderling are mainly seen along the coast of the Irish Sea and in these years were counted at sites where they have been seen before. Their temporal pattern of occurrence has been different in each year and county, with the presence in the summer months of 2012 being unexpected. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 92 (Denbs.) and 131 (Flints.).

PIBYDD Y TYWOD

(SS)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	16	300
	Flints	9	50
2012	Denbs	9	50
	Flints	13	300

Seen in these months:

D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

2011

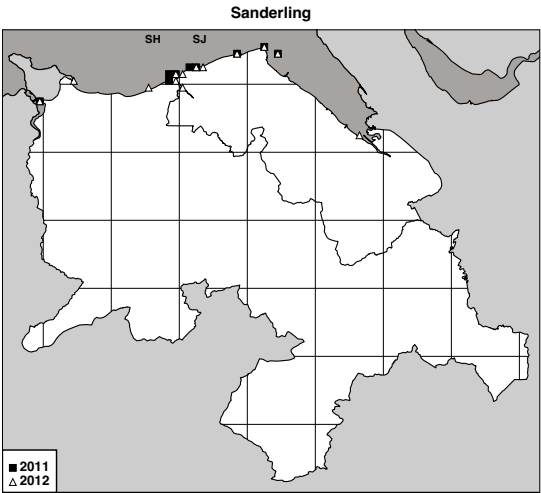
Denbs. All but three records were from Kinnel Bay or Norton’s Nose. The other three records were of singles at Conwy RSPB and most counts were of 1-60. The largest counts were 110+ at Horton’s Nose on 4/01 (DCR), 220+ there on 20/03 (RS) and 300+ at Kinnel Bay on 12/01 (DCR), considerably more than the average for recent years.

Flints. Seven records were counts of 1-30 and the largest counts were 40 at Point of Ayr on 21/10 (KS) and 50 on the shore near Rhyl on 20/11 (RMB). These are many fewer than the average for recent years.

2012

Denbs. Most of the records were from Kinnel Bay or nearby and were of 1-5. The largest counts were 20 near Kinnel Bay on 1/01 (SAH), 30 at Horton's Nose on 21/01 (KS), 30+ there on the same day (NHu), and 50 at Belgrano, Pensarn on 10/01 (HC).

Flints. Ten records were counts of 1-32 and the largest counts were 50 at Point of Ayr on 16/12 (GR), 80+ at the tide line at Rhyl on 12/01 (DCR) and 300 at Rhyl by the golf course on 1/12 (SAH), which is more than double the mean maximum in recent years.



Dunlin *Calidris alpina*

PIBYDD Y MAWN

Passage migrant and common winter visitor. Red list.

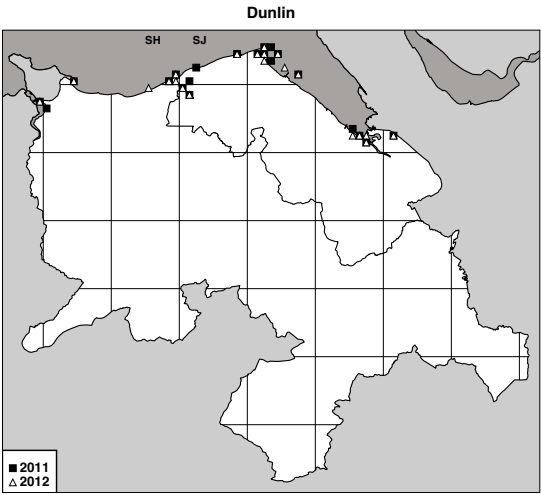
Seen in all months in both years in both counties except for Mar 2011 in Denbs. The records came from most of the same places as in 2010 but the maximum counts were in Flints. Numbers were much lower than in 2010 and were the lowest for several years. The average maximum counts for 2004-10 were 327 (Denbs.) and 5214 (Flints.).

(DN)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	51	300
	Flints	64	2000
2012	Denbs	75	100
	Flints	88	2000

2011

Denbs. All but six records were from Conwy RSPB. The others were from Rhos-on-Sea (a single) and the Kinnel Bay / Horton's Nose area. The majority of records were of 1-45+ and the largest counts were 267 at Conwy RSPB on 10/02 and 300 at Horton's Nose on 2/01 (RS). These large counts are about what might have been expected.

Flints. There were relatively few records of counts under 10 and forty two records of 10-2,000, with sixteen



of 100-2,000. They came from several places, mainly in the Dee Estuary, as shown on the map. The largest counts were all at Connah's Quay NR: 800 on 28/11, 1,500 on 21/01 and 2,000 on 5/02 (all GR). Only one of the WeBS counts coincided with dates and places with the large flocks. These maximum counts are much lower than would have been expected.

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

2011 (DN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB		1			1	1	15	1	20	1	10	
Gronant			62	86	31	80	29		8	60	294	350
Point of Ayr	4	25	25		150		30	300	20		430	100
Oakenholt Marsh	200	600	3					6			50	500
2012												
Conwy RSPB		108	1		27		2	11	28	28	1	2
Gronant	69	86	230			6		2		35	4	14
Point of Ayr	500	700	150		250	2	2	70	200	100	50	2000
Oakenholt Marsh	500	1000			2					17		115

2012

Denbs. Again, the majority of records were from Conwy RSPB and the counts were much lower than 2011 in Denbs. or in Flints. The largest counts were 96 at Rhos-on-Sea on 11/02 and 98 there on 9/02 (JuW) and 100 at Belgrano beach, Pensarn on 10/01 (HC).

Flints. Twenty nine records were of counts of 100 or more from a range of places from Rhyl round to Connah’s Quay NR. The four largest counts were 1,000 at Mostyn on 18/01, 1,000 at Connah’s Quay NR on 23/01 and 12/02 and 2,000 at Point of Ayr on 16/12 (all GR). Again, these counts were much lower than we would have expected. Were the last two years peculiar in some way or is this a new trend?

Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima*

Scarce winter visitor.

PIBYDD DU

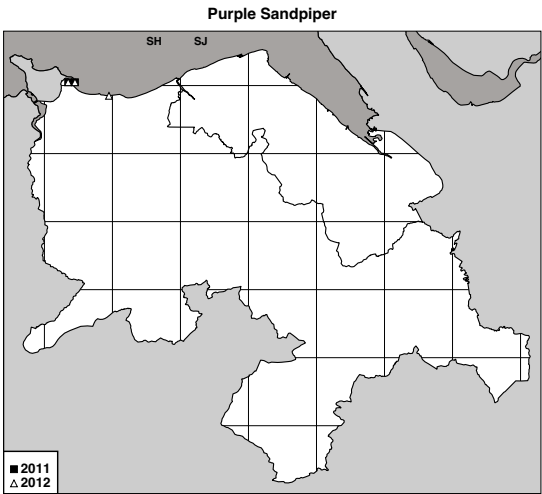
(PS)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	6	23
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	18	18
	Flints	0	

This species may appear more regularly in reports now that it is no longer considered to be a rarity requiring a description. This was always a problem when no description was needed when the species was seen just round the corner on the north shore at Rhos-on-Sea and Penrhyn Bay.

2011

Denbs. The only record early in the year was a single at Rhos-on-Sea on 9/01 (MtG). The first record of the end of the year was 4 at the same place on 2/11 (DvJ). The largest count was 23 at Llandrillo-yn-Rhos on 25/12.

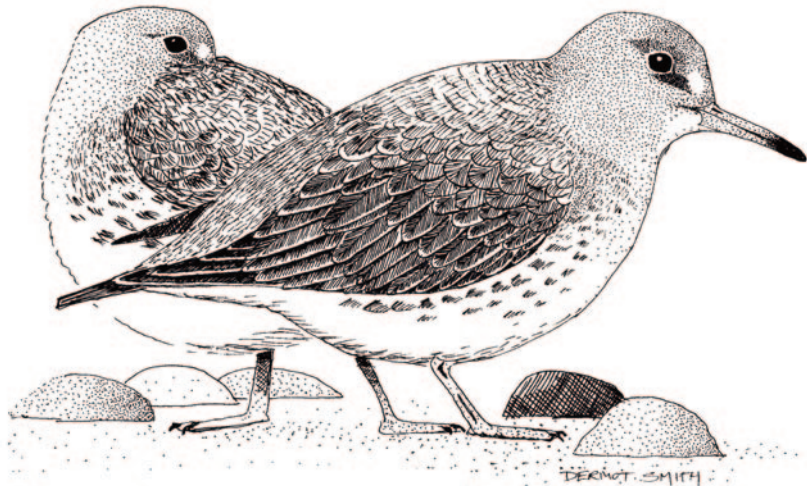
2012



Denbs. Most records are from two adjacent squares near Rhos-on-Sea but one went as far as Llanddulas on 12/02, which along with another seen at Rhos-on-Sea (JuW) that day were the last records at the start of the year. The first record at the end of the year was 18 at Llandrillo-yn-Rhos on 27/11, which was also the largest count.

Monthly maxima in Denbs.:

(PS)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2011	1										4	23
2012	12	5									18	14



Purple Sandpiper by Dermot Smith

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*

Very scarce passage migrant, usually found on autumn passage.

PIBYDD BACH

(LX)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	14	1
	Flints.	11	4
2012	Denbs	5	1
	Flints	3	2

Monthly maxima in each county:

2011 (LX)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs						1+	1+		1+			
Flints.								1	4			
2012												
Denbs								1	1			
Flints.					1				2			

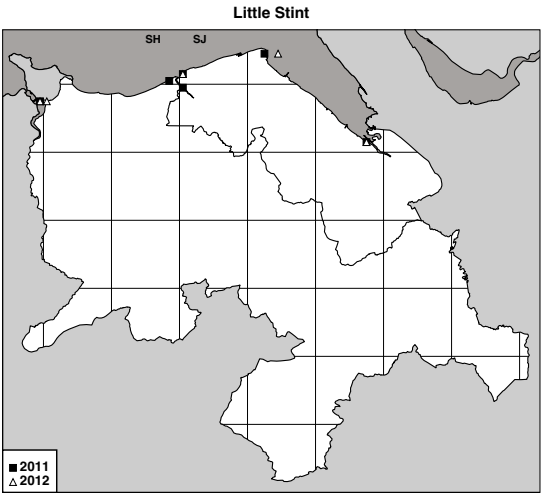
2011

Denbs. All but one of the records were from Conwy RSPB, the other having come from Kinmel Bay. The records were counts of 1 or 1+.

Flints. Most of the records were from Rhyl or on the Afon Clwyd just S of Rhyl and were of 1-2 with 4 seen at Rhyl on 11/09. Singles were seen at each of the other sites.

2012

Denbs. All records were from Conwy RSPB. The first on 29/08 was seen to fly from the estuary into the reserve (RoH). The other records were singles, so possibly it was the same bird on 26 and 27/09.



Flints. There was a late spring record of a single at Rhyl on 7/05 and the other records were in Sep at Connah's Quay NR and 2 at Point of Ayr on 16/09 (GR).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper *Tryngites subruficollis*

Scarce vagrant.

2011

Denbs. A single was present at Conwy RSPB from 16/09 to 18/09. It was photographed and though not yet accepted by the WRP, because the record was submitted late, it is expected that it will be accepted in due course. See colour photo pages.

PIBYDD BRONLLWYD

(BQ)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	

Grey Phalarope *Phalaropus fulicarius*

Scarce passage migrant.

2011

Denbs. All records relate to probably the same single that was at Conwy RSPB from 24/09 (JHg) to 26/09 (JnG).

LLYDANDROED LLWYD

(PL)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	5	1
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	0	

2012

Denbs. A single was present at Llanddulas on 10/09 (JMB).

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

Passage migrant and breeding visitor. Amber list.

The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 7 (Denbs.) and 10 (Flints.).

PIBYDD Y DORLAN

(CS)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	30	5
	Flints	22	5
2012	Denbs	50	5
	Flints	42	5

2011

Denbs. Conwy RSPB was the site where most of the birds were seen, mainly 1-3. The first was a single at Llay Pool on 5/04 (KS). The last was 1+ at Conwy RSPB on 17/09 and the largest count was 5 at the North Wales Industrial Park, Abergele on 7/05 (RS). There were no records with evidence of breeding.

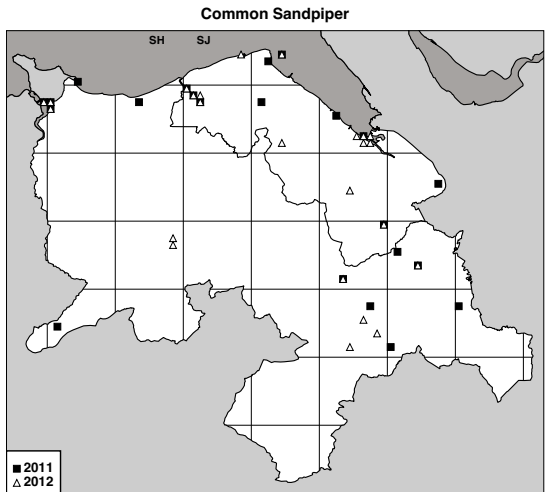
Seen in these months:													
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Flints. Most of the sightings were from the Afon Clwyd, NW of Rhuddlan: the first of the year was a single on 10/04 (SH) and the last, also a single there, was on 24/09 (SH). Most counts were of 1-3 and largest counts were all NW of Rhuddlan: 4 on 1/07, 5 on 6/05 and 5 on 4/08 (all SH).

2012

Denbs. Again, the majority of sightings were from Conwy RSPB with records of 1-5. The first of the year was seen near Acrefair on 13/04 (HN) and the last was a single at Conwy RSPB on 1/10 (JHg). The largest counts were there: 4 on 27/08 and 5 on 31/08 (AnH). There were two records of probable breeding, near Trevor Uchaf and at Llyn Brenig.

Flints. There were fewer records from NW of Rhuddlan and more from elsewhere. The first was a single S of Rhuddlan on 6/04 (SH) and the last bird of the year was at Connah's Quay NR on 10/09 (BH, KLJ). There were five counts of 4, four of which were from NW of Rhuddlan and the largest count was 5 there on 20/04 (SH).



Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*

Passage migrant and winter visitor in small numbers. RBBP.

PIBYDD GWYRDD

(GE)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	43	9
	Flints	3	1
2012	Denbs	8	3
	Flints	7	4

It is difficult to see any pattern of temporal occurrence in these records. The chart shows that over the years 2004-12, May is the only month without records and that most are seen in autumn. The table of maximum counts indicates that there are few records in winter with none in May, when they would be expected to be on their northern breeding grounds. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 3 (Denbs.) and 4 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. All but six of the records were from Conwy RSPB and all but two were of 1-6. The largest counts were 7 at the SE end of Conwy RSPB on 4/08 (RS) and c9 on 2/08 (AxJ).

Flints. The records were singles.

2012

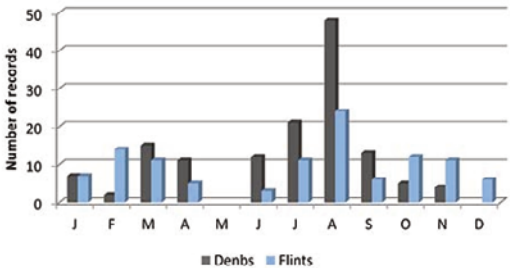
Denbs. Five records were from Conwy RSPB, all of which were singles, one of which was asleep in front of the café at 11.15 on 24/08. The largest count was 3 at Borras, Wrexham on 23/03 (KS).

Flints. Five records were of singles and the larger counts were 2 at Border Pool, RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 19/08 (CW) and 4 at Deeside Industrial Park on 30/10 (WAO).

Monthly maxima in each county:

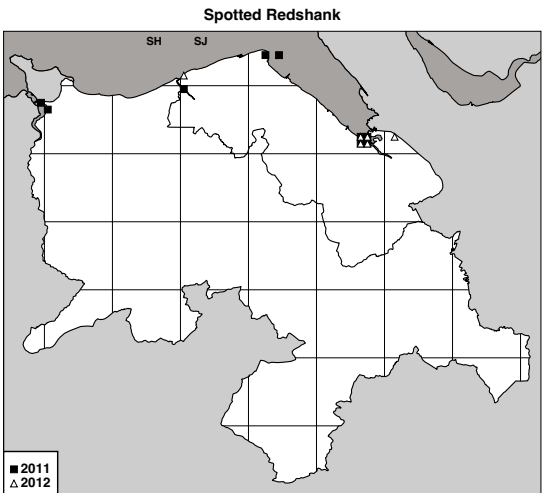
2011 (GE)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.	1			1		1	3	9	5		1	
Flints.	1		3			1		1				
2012												
Denbs.			3	1					1			
Flints.	1						1	2		4		

Green Sandpiper records 2004-2012



Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*

Passage migrant and scarce over-wintering visitor.
Amber list.



PIBYDD COESGOCH MANNOG

(DR)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	16	3
	Flints	27	15
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	58	11

The pattern of records and counts of birds shown in the charts indicate that Spotted Redshank overwinters in Flints and is a passage migrant with most records in autumn. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 1 (Denbs.) and 13 (Flints.).

2011

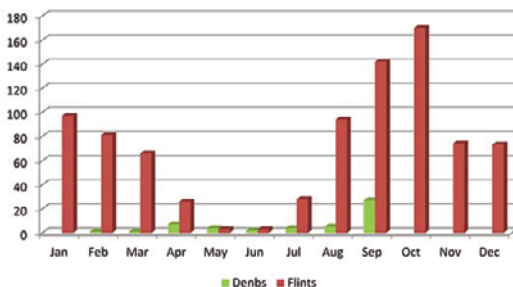
Denbs. All the records were from Conwy RSPB and most were of 1-2. There were records of 3: on 16/09 (RS) and 17/09 (JHg), presumably

the same birds.

Flints. The pattern of records, here, this year, most clearly fit the description 'passage migrant and scarce over-wintering visitor'. Eight of the records were from the first part of the year, with counts of 1-3 and the last spring record was a single on the Afon Clwyd, S of Rhyl on 7/05 (SH). The first bird of autumn was 1+ at Connah's Quay NR on 1/08 (MHa). Most of the autumn records were of 1-7 and the larger counts were 9 at Oakenholt on 18/09 and from Connah's Quay NR: 8 on 21/09, 15 on 17/10 (GR) and 14 on 23/10

Seen in these months:													
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

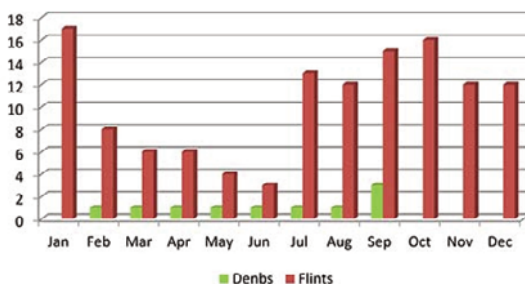
Spotted Redshank records 2004-12



2012

Flints. Birds were present nearly all of the year (and perhaps they were present all year but not seen). Taking the first part of the year as Jan to May, there were five records of 1-4. In Jun and Jul a single was recorded at Shotwick Fields and at Connah's Quay NR on several occasions – possibly just one summering bird? The first autumn record was 1 on 2/08 at Connah's Quay NR. Almost all the records in that latter part of the year were from, or close to, Connah's Quay NR with counts of 1-8. The larger counts were 11 on 27/09 (BH, KLJ) and 9 on 5/10 and 8/10 (BH, KLJ).

Spotted Redshank max counts 2004-12



Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

Passage migrant and scarce over-wintering visitor.
RBBP.

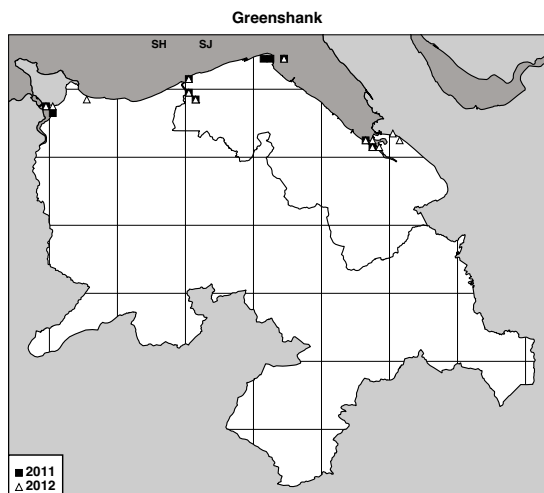
The majority of records and the larger flocks are in the autumn. There are a few records, and birds, over the winter. In spring most records and birds are in Flints. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 4 (Denbs.) and 27 (Flints.).

PIBYDD COESWERDD

(GK)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	46	4
	Flints	36	15
2012	Denbs	21	6
	Flints	102	18

2011

Denbs. All the records were from Conwy RSPB and in the first five months they were of 1-2 only. The last spring record was 1+ on 14/05 (JHg). There were records of a single in Jun and Jul and the first autumn record was 1 on 3/08 (IC). Most of the autumn records were of 1-3 but 4 were seen on 17/08 (DvJ) and 17/09 (JHg).



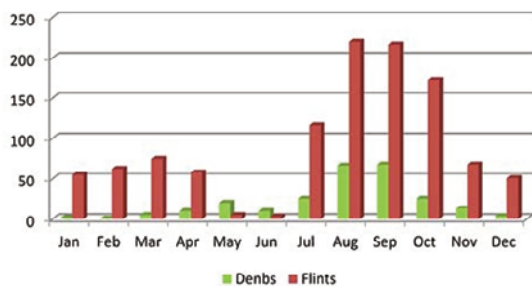
Flints. There were six records in the first part of the year, all but one from Connah's Quay NR and counts of 2-3. The last spring record was 2 NW of Rhuddlan on 6/05 (SH). There was one record of 1+ at Connah's Quay NR in Jul but the first autumn record was 1+ there on 1/08 (MHa). Most records were during Aug and Sep of 1-4 and the largest count was 15 at the same place on 2/09 (KS).

2012

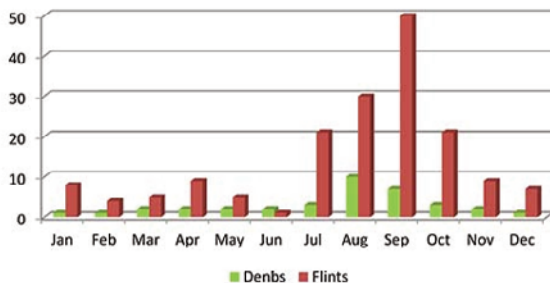
Denbs. There were just three records in the early part of the year, of singles, at Conwy RSPB. All but one record were from that site. A single was there in Jul and the first autumn record was 1+ there on 18/08 (pJHg). The records in the latter part of the year were mainly of 1-3, with 4 on 29/08 (pJHg) and 6 on 27/09 (JMB). The last record of the year was a single at Colwyn Bay on 3/12.

Flints. There were nineteen records during Jan to May, of 1-4 and mainly at Connah's Quay NR. There was one record of 1+ in Jun, but autumn passage seemed to start early with three records of 10-12. The first count of 10 was on 25/07 at Connah's Quay NR (GEM). All the larger counts were during Aug and Sep with 1-14. The largest counts were 16 on 11/08 at Connah's Quay NR and 18 on 3/08 there (GEM). From Oct to Dec records were mainly of 1-9 with a large count of 13 at the same place on 10/10 (pGEM).

Greenshank records 2004-12



Greenshank max counts 2004-12



Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

Scarce passage migrant. RBBP.

PIBYDD Y GRAEAN

(OD)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	11	1
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	

2011

Denbs. All records were of 1 or 1+ at Conwy RSPB in May, from 1/05 until 15/05 so probably all relate to one individual.

Redshank *Tringa totanus*

Scarce breeding resident and common winter visitor.
Amber list.

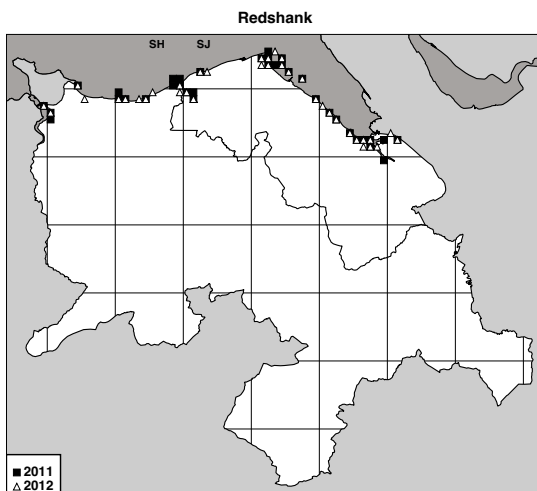
PIBYDD COESGOCH

(RK)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	72	397
	Flints	138	1980
2012	Denbs	132	550
	Flints	287	3470

Recorded in all months in both years in both counties, except May 2012 in Denbs. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 283 (Denbs.) and 2664 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. Most records were from Conwy RSPB. In the months Jan to May most counts were of 1-15 and the larger counts were 50+ at Llanddulas on 17/01 (MD) and 100 at Conwy RSPB on 27/03 (RS). During Jun and Jul the largest count was 20 at the same place on 21/06. In Aug larger numbers appeared, presumably returning passage birds, with counts of 1-80. The largest counts were in Sep with 200 near Kinmel Bay on 1/09 (RMB), 397 at Conwy RSPB on 25/09 (pJHg) and at the end of the year 100 near Kinmel Bay on 28/12 (RMB).

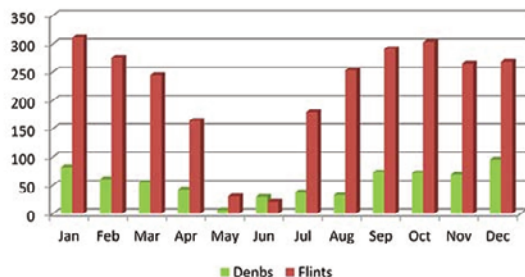


Flints. Much larger flocks occurred in Flints. particularly in the Dee Estuary from Point of Ayr to Connah's Quay NR. During Jan to May there were counts of 1-300. The largest were 600 at Point of Ayr on 5/01 and 680 there on 23/01 (GR). There were just two records of a single in Jun. Autumn migration started early with 950 at Mostyn on 17/07 (GR). The largest monthly counts coincided with WeBS survey days. The numbers are in the table, below. The largest count of the year was 1,980 at Mostyn on 18/09 (GR), which was considerably fewer than the mean maximum for recent years.

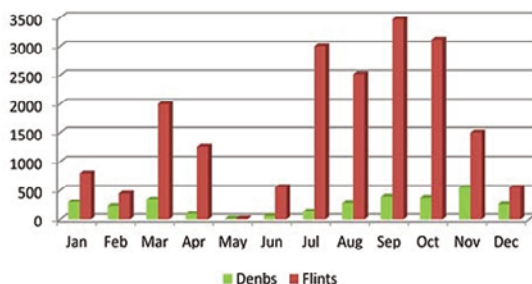
2012

Denbs. Again, most records were from Conwy RSPB, with counts of 1-56 during Jan to May and two large flocks, both near Kinmel Bay: 150 on 11/01 (HC) and 200 on 26/02. During Jun 1+ was recorded at Conwy RSPB and autumn passage seemed to have started by 17/07 when 136 appeared there (pJHg). During Aug and Sep the maximum was 67 at the same place. In the last three months of the year most counts were 1-50. The largest counts were an exceptional 550 at Conwy RSPB on 14/11 (pJHg), 110 there on 18/11 (RRD) and 150 at Colwyn

Redshank records 2004-12



Redshank max counts 2004-12



Bay on 3/12 (RRD).

Flints. During Jan to May there were many records of 1-250. The largest counts at that time of year were 600 at Mostyn on 18/01 (GR) and 1,260 there on 8/04 (MaBr). During Jun there were records of up to 20 at Shotwick Fields with two broods seen, which confirmed breeding in the county. Larger numbers appeared from mid-Jul with 100 at Connah's Quay NR on 17/07 (SH) and 300 on 29/07 (GEM). During Aug and Sep there were many records of 100+ and up to 700. The largest counts in those months were 800 at Connah's Quay NR on 2/09 (pGEM) and 3,470 at Mostyn on 16/09 (MaBr) – a relatively large count. There continued to be many counts of 100+ in Oct and the largest was 1,300 at Connah's Quay NR on 19/10 (GEM). During Nov and Dec numbers dropped

with counts of 1-250 and maxima of 450 at Point of Ayr and 400 at Connah's Quay NR on 18/11 (GR), 400 at Point of Ayr on 28/11 (GR) and 300 near Talacre on 16/12 (GR).

WeBS counts from selected sites:

2011 (RK)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	87	104	124	1			55	290	81	102	329	148
Point of Ayr	250	300	200				5	200	250	600	480	450
Mostyn Dock shore	680	206	27	200			950	1055	1980	580	74	462
Oakenholt Marsh	50	170	9	2	1		2	10		300	150	50
Connah's Quay NR	9	122	9	15			128	721	200	11	6	
2012												
Conwy RSPB	333	56	272	154		11	118	230	219	449	256	246
Point of Ayr	250	300	250	80		4	20	20	100	500	450	300
Mostyn Dock shore	14	40		1260			50		3470	753	140	8
Oakenholt Marsh	150	100	10				15	47	550	560	400	120
Connah's Quay NR	1						464	580	620	410	2	78

Jack Snipe *Lymnocyrtus minimus*

Scarce migrant and winter visitor. Amber list.

The temporal pattern of records (see table, below) clearly indicates this species is a winter visitor. The map shows

GĭACH FACH

(JS)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	7	1
	Flints	8	3
2012	Denbs	11	2
	Flints	10	1+

records from regular sites and a couple of new ones. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 3 (Denbs.) and 2 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. All records were of singles and five were from Conwy RSPB. However, the last record at the start of the year was near Penycycae on 28/02 (JLR). The first of the autumn was at Conwy RSPB on 15/10 (SaM).

Flints. There were records from several places and most were of 1-2. The last record early in the year was a single on Penycloddiau on 27/02 (EdW). The first record in autumn was 2 at Shotwick Fields on 24/10, when they were nearly run over during mowing operations (RhPi). The largest count of 3 was from Gronant on 11/01.

Monthly maxima in each county:

2011 (JS)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.	1	1								1		
Flints.	3	2								2	1	
2012												
Denbs.	1+										2	2
Flints.	1+		1							1		1

2012

Denbs. All but one of the records were from Conwy RSPB, the exception being a single near Holt on 5/12. There were several records of 2. The last bird in the first part of the year was at Conwy RSPB on the early date of 14/01. The first in autumn was late, on 23/11 at the same place. There were seven records of 1-2, there, during Dec.

Flints. All records were of singles. The last of the early part of the year was near Rhuddlan on 17/03 (SH). The first of the autumn was near Gronant on 16/10 (GNR). The five records during Dec were all near Rhuddlan.

Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola*

CYFFYLOG

Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber list.

The distribution of records in time largely suggests that Woodcock is a winter visitor in both counties. However, two records in Denbs in Jun 2011 suggest it is mainly in the winter that observers find Woodcock. It seems there are small numbers of breeding Woodcock still in this area.

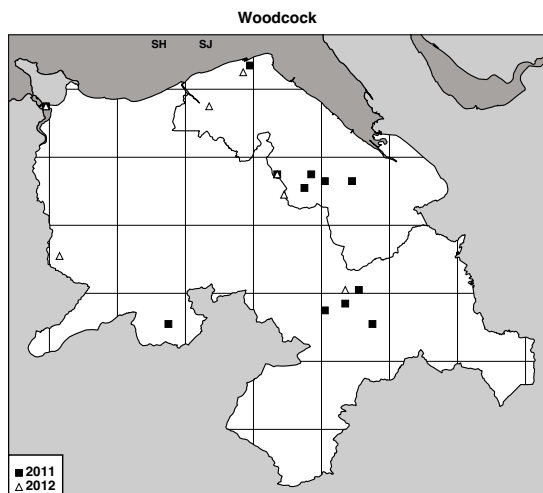
2011

Denbs. Two records in Jan were of singles from Conwy RSPB. The other records were from elsewhere. The early part of the year had counts of 1-2 with one larger count of 7 near Penycycae on 6/03, seen flying out of a roost in the evening (JAJ). There were two records at World's End on 25/04 and 2/06, with a bird displaying indicated probable breeding (KS). The first autumn record was 2 near Llangwm on 5/11 and the only other autumn record was 3 at Penycycae on 14/11, flying at dusk from a conifer plantation (JAJ).

(WK)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	10	7
	Flints	19	7
2012	Denbs	4	5
	Flints	6	2

Seen in these months:

D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D



Flints. In the early part of the year the records were of 1-3 and the last spring record was a single at Rhydymwyn on 2/04 (DHil). The first autumn record was 1+ at Cilcain on 23/10 (RWes). The largest count was 7 at Penycloddiau on 13/11 (EdW).

2012

Denbs. There was one record each month of singles, except for 5 at Capel Garmon on 22/01 (RD).

Flints. Four records were from near Rhuddlan during Jan and Feb with one each in May and Nov. The counts during Jan to May were singles and 2 were seen at Penycloddiau on 11/11 (EdW).

Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*

Rare breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Amber list.

Birds were seen at fewer sites than they have been in earlier years. The temporal distribution of records suggests that they were mainly winter visitors in Flints in 2011 (no records during May to Aug) but winter visitors and residents in Denbs. For comparisons, the mean maximum counts during 2004-10 were 60 (Denbs.) and 59 (Flints.).

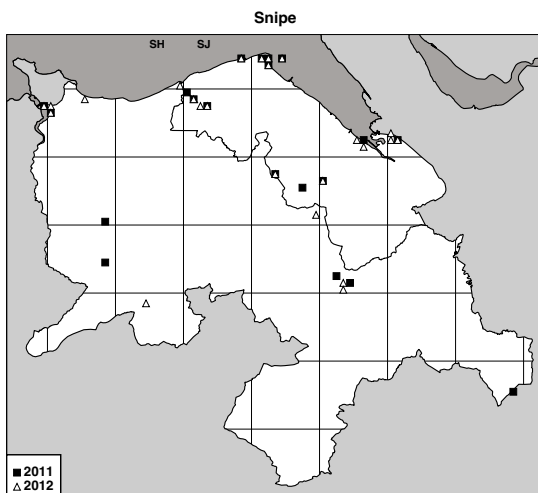
2011

Denbs. Thirty nine records were from Conwy RSPB, mainly of 1-3. The largest counts were all from there: 20 on 3/02 (SaM), c20 on 19/02 (GNR), 12 on 1/11 (JHg) and 23 on 27/12 (pJHg) seen from the Benarth hide. There were no records with any evidence of breeding.

Flints. About half of the records were of singles and the largest counts from the early part of the year were 10 at Talacre dunes on 20/01 (pJR) and 17 at Rhydymwyn on 3/03 (JVHu). The last record for the start of the year was 3 near Rhuddlan on 22/04 (SH). The

GIACH GYFFREDIN

(SN)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	44	23
	Flints	44	17
2012	Denbs	94	30
	Flints	64	134



first autumn record was a single at Cilcain on 11/09 (RWes). The largest counts in the autumn were 17 at Shotwick Fields on 24/10 (RhPi) and 12 at Talacre dunes on 15/12 (pJR).

2012

Denbs. Some eighty seven records were from Conwy RSPB throughout the year. The largest counts early in the year were there with 12 on 9/02 (RoH) and c14 on 10/03 (pJHg). The highest counts late in the year were 30 on 3/12 at Colwyn Bay (RRD) and 19 at Conwy RSPB on 5/12 (JHg). There was a record of probable breeding near Cerrigydrudion.

Flints. Many records were from near Rhuddlan or Shotwick Fields, although at different times of year. The Rhuddlan records seemed to be of winter visitors with no records there from May to Aug. In the first part of the year the largest counts were all from that area: 26 on 15/02, 21 on 22/02 and 35 on 12/03 (all SH). In contrast, most of the records from Shotwick Fields were during late Apr to late Jul. They involved only 1-15 birds but included evidence of probable breeding. In the latter part of the year the highest counts were 50 at Point of Ayr on 14/10 (GR), 54 near Rhuddlan on 27/12 (SH) and 134 there on 23/12 (SH).

Black-winged Pratincole *Glareola nordmanni*

Vagrant.

2012

Flints. One was seen hawking over Border Pool, RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 4/05, though it spent much of its short stay in England (KS). Accepted by the BBRC.

CWTIAD-WENNOL ADEINDDU

(KW)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	1	1



Black-winged Pratincole by Dermot Smith

Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus*

Uncommon passage migrant.

SGIWEN FRECH

2011

Flints. Two juveniles were at Point of Ayr on 21/10 (KS).

(PK)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	1	2
2012	Denbs	2	3
	Flints	0	

2012

Denbs. There was a single at Rhos-on-Sea on 5/01 and 3 there on 30/08 (JuW).

Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus*

Scarce passage migrant. Amber List. WBAP. RBBP.

SGIWEN Y GOGLEDD

2011

Denbs. Singletons were seen at Llandrillo-yn-Rhos on 14/09 and 22/09 (DvJ).

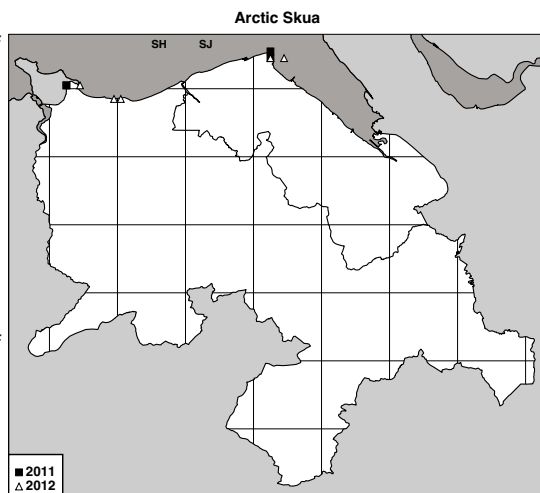
(AC)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	2	1
	Flints	2	1
2012	Denbs	7	12
	Flints	4	1

Flints. There were 3 at Talacre on 9/09 (DvJ) and a singleton at Point of Ayr on 21/10 (KS).

2012

Denbs. All records were during Aug and Sep (first 22/08 – last 12/09) from Rhos-on-Sea and Llanddulas. Five were of 1-2, but 6 were seen on 30/08 and 12 on 12/09 at Rhos-on-Sea (JuW).

Flints. Singles were seen at Point of Ayr on 4/08 (GR) and at Talacre on 9/09 (ACm), 27/09 and 16/10 (GNR).



Long-tailed Skua *Stercorarius longicaudus*

Scarce passage migrant.

SGIWEN LOSTFAIN

2011

Flints. A singleton was at Point of Ayr on 18/10 (DCR).

(OG)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	1	1
2012	Denbs	2	1
	Flints	0	

2012

Denbs. Both records were from Rhos-on-Sea, a juvenile on 30/08 and another juvenile chasing terns on 6/09 (JuW).

Great Skua *Stercorarius skua*

Uncommon passage migrant.

SGIWEN FAWR

(NX)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	1	1
2012	Denbs	3	2
	Flints	1	1

2011

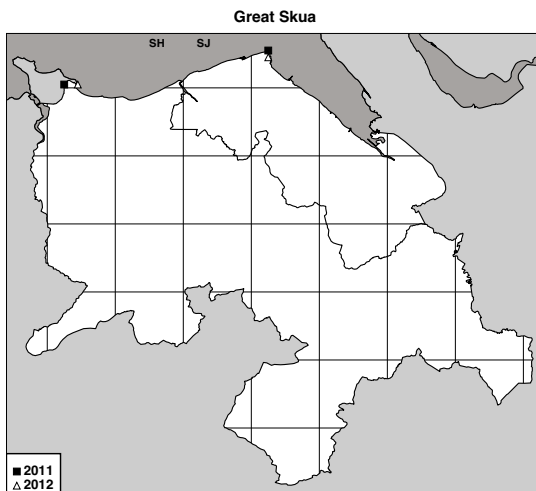
Denbs. A singleton was at Llandrillo-yn-Rhos on 22/09 (DvJ).

Flints. A single was at Point of Ayr on 21/10 (KS).

2012

Denbs. All records were from Rhos-on-Sea: 2 on 30/08 and 12/09 and a single on 19/09 (JuW).

Flints. A singleton was at Talacre on 16/10 (GNR).



Black Guillemot *Cephus grylle*

Scarce visitor.

GWYLOG DDU

(TY)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	0	

2012

Denbs. On 3/08 a single was at Rhos-on-Sea (JuW).

Razorbill *Alca torda*

Scarce visitor.

LLURS

(RA)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	11	5
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	15	5
	Flints	1	1

2011

Denbs. Recorded only in winter Jan, Feb, Mar, Nov and Dec with all but one report from the coast, mainly Colwyn Bay with a maximum of 5 on 11/03 (RoH), and Llanddulas, again 5, on 6/11 (RS). The one report from Conwy was a corpse on 13/12 (RoH).

2012

Denbs. Seen between Feb and Oct except Jun. All records were from either Rhos-on-Sea or Llanddulas, with a maximum of 3 on 11/02 from Llanddulas and again on 18/07 from Rhos-on-Sea (JuW). The last sighting was 19/10 with 2 at Llanddulas (KS).

Flints. A single was recorded at Talacre on 27/09 (GNR).

Guillemot *Uria alge*

GWYLOG

Regular visitor in small numbers to coastal waters.
Amber list.

2011

Denbs. Recorded in Jan, Mar, Aug, Sep and Oct. There was a single at Conwy RSPB on 24/10 (NM). Of the ten other reports only two were in double figures. There were 15 (maximum count) on 6/11 (RS) and 10 on 19/11 (KS).

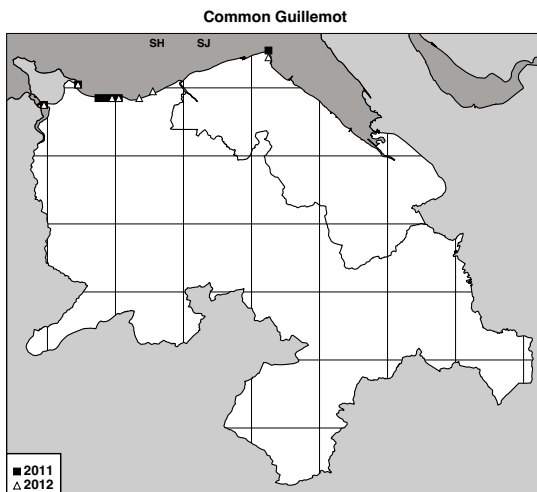
Flints. Two records, both from Point of Ayr were 6 on 18/10 (DCR) and 3 on 21/10 (KS).

2012

Denbs. Recorded in all months except Mar, Jun and Dec, again with 85% of reports from the coast. There were four from Conwy RSPB, with an exhausted bird on 8/01, a corpse on 2/09 (SaM) and singles in the estuary on 12/09 (RoH) and 16/09 (JHg). On the coast there were seven records in double figures, mainly in the autumn, with a maximum count of 22 on 12/09 from Rhos-on-Sea (JuW).

Flints. Two reports from Talacre with 2 on 27/01 and a singleton on 27/09 (GNR).

(GU)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	11	15
	Flints	2	6
2012	Denbs	28	22
	Flints	3	2



Little Tern *Sternula albifrons*

MORWENNOL FECHAN

Passage migrant and summer breeding visitor. Red list.
RBBP.

2011

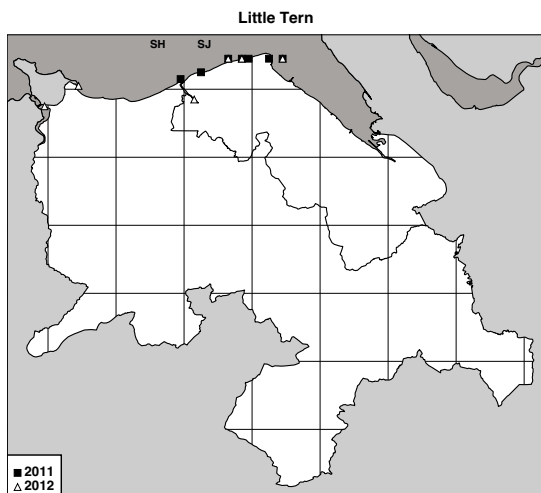
Denbs. Two reports both from Kimmel Bay, the first on 2/05 of 4 (KS) and 5/05 of 20 (RS).

(AF)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	2	20
	Flints	22	300
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	12	160

Flints. The first spring record was 50+ on 7/04 from Gronant dunes (DCR). The last was 100 on 17/08 from Talacre (RS). 70% of the records were from the nesting colony at Gronant which had maximum counts of 300 on 6/06 (RMB) and again on 1/07 (AOH). On 24/06 33 nestlings were ringed and an additional 11 on 30/06 (pBH). Four reports came from Point of Ayr, one in spring on 8/05 of 4 and three in Aug with 200 seen on 3/08 and 14/08 (GR).

2012

Flints. Records were down by about 50% both in birds and reports. The first spring record was 7 on 14/05 from Gronant (RTe). The last was 20 on 3/08 from Point of Ayr (GR). There were eight records from Gronant with a maximum count of 160 on 21/07 (SD), when the birds were reported to be on nests. At Gronant nestlings were ringed: 15 on 1/07, 13 on 5/07 and 11 on



12/07. Point of Ayr had three counts: 22 on 20/05 and 25 on 4/08 as well as the last record.

Black Tern *Chlidonias niger*

Passage migrant. Red list.

CORS-MORWENNOL DDU

(BJ)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	1	7
2012	Denbs	2	7
	Flints	0	

2011

Denbs. On 17/09 a singleton was at Conwy RSPB (pJHg).

Flints. On 12/09 there were 7 juveniles at Rhuddlan (SH).

2012

Denbs. At Rhos-on-Sea on 30/08 there were 7, and on 9/08 a singleton (JuW).

Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis*

Summer migrant. Amber list

MORWENNOL BIGDDU

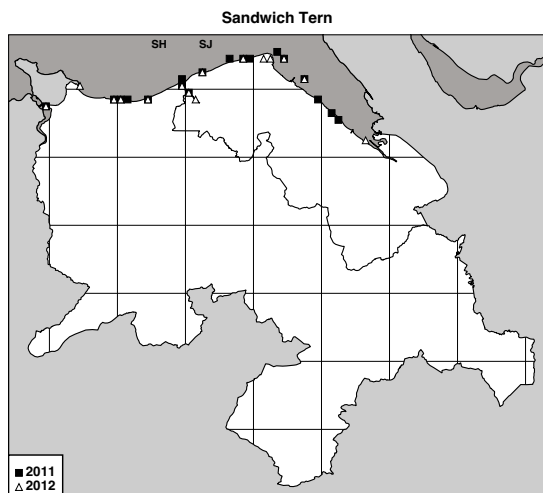
(TE)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	15	80
	Flints	46	500
2012	Denbs	34	150
	Flints	36	250

The Dee Estuary is a site of national importance in Great Britain for summer/autumn. Adults bring newly fledged chicks to feed in the mouth of the estuary though in these years numbers were relatively low. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 286.9 (Denbs.) and 685.0 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. The first spring record was 37 on 12/04 from Kimmel Bay (DCR). The last was 2 on 15/10 from Llanddulas (JVHu). There were only four counts in double figures. Three were from Kimmel Bay but the maximum of 80 came from Llanddulas on 27/09 (RMB).

Flints. The first spring record was 6 on 2/04 from S of Rhyl on the Afon Clwyd (SH). The last was 50 on the coast at Rhyl on 25/09 (RMB). Large numbers were seen along the coast with



twelve flocks over 100 plus five of 50 or more. The maximum counts were two each of 500 on 17/07 at Point of Ayr (GR) and 5/08 S of Rhyl (SH).

2012

Denbs. The first spring record was 8 on 18/04 from Conwy RSPB (pJHg). The last was 6 on 26/09 from Rhos-on-Sea (JuW). They were observed along the coast in single figures at several locations. There were six counts over 50, with three over 100 including the maximum count of 150 at Rhos-on-Sea on 30/08 (JuW). This location had all the double figure reports bar one, which was 50 at Llanddulas on 9/09 (KS).

Flints. The first spring record was 3 on 8/04 from S of Rhyl (SH). The last was 50 on 17/09 from Talacre (SD). There were several records from along the coast. There were seven counts over 50, with four over 100, including the maximum of 250 at Point of Ayr on 16/04 (GR).

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*

Passage migrant and breeding summer visitor. Red list.

2011

Denbs. A single was at Pensarn on 8/08 (VRB). On 24/09 there were 4 at Llanddulas (JBM). This last record was over a month later than any other report from either county in both years.

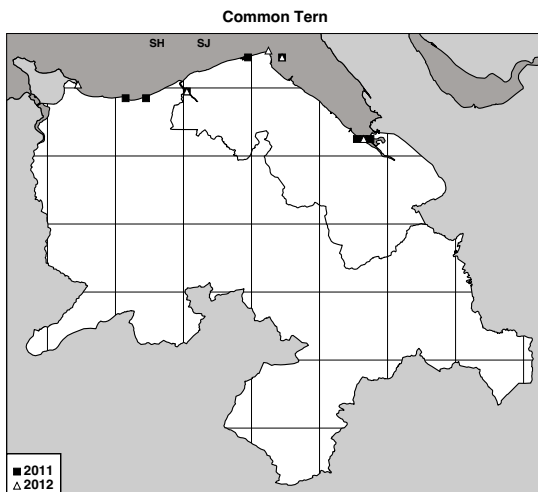
Flints. The first spring record was 3 on 2/05 from Connah's Quay NR (KS). The last was 20 on 14/08 from Point of Ayr (GR). The Dee Estuary had four counts of 50+: 50 on 8/05 at Bagillt (MaBr), a maximum count of 130 on 9/05 at White Sands (GR), 75 on 5/06 also at White Sands (JuR) and 80 on 3/08 at Point of Ayr (GR).

2012

Denbs. Both records were from Rhos-on-Sea: 5 on 9/08 and 6 on 12/08 (JuW).

MORWENNOL GYFFREDIN

(CN)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	2	4
	Flints	11	130
2012	Denbs	2	6
	Flints	23	200



Flints. The first spring record was 1 on 27/04 from Connah's Quay NR (pGEM). The last was 20 on 19/08 from Point of Ayr (GR). Connah's Quay NR produced eighteen of the twenty-two records including five of 50+, the highest being 180 on 7/05 (PSH). The records cover every month between Apr and Aug. There were three records from Point of Ayr including the maximum of 200 on 4/08 (GR). There were no records of breeding in either year.

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea*

Passage migrant. Red list.

2011

Flints. On 14/05 there was a singleton at Rhyl (SH)

2012

Denbs. On 9/08 there was a single at Rhos-on-Sea (JuW)

MORWENNOL Y GOGLEDD

(AE)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	1	1
2012	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	0	

Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*

Passage migrant. Amber list.

2011

Denbs. There were 22 on 24/06, observed offshore at Kimmel Bay (RS).

GWYLAN GOES DDU

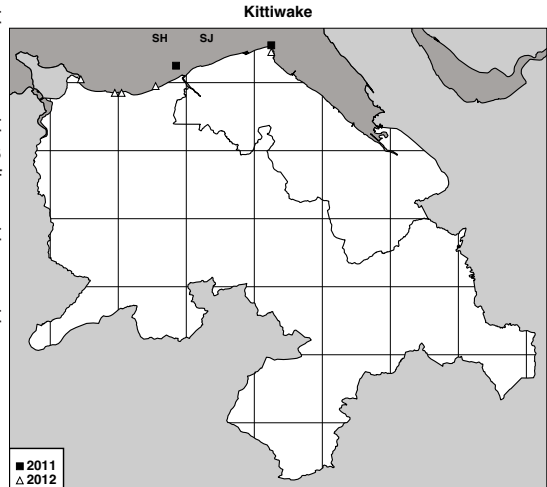
(KI)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1	22
	Flints	1	3
2012	Denbs	14	60
	Flints	1	6

Flints. On 18/10 there were 3 at Point of Ayr (DCR).

2012

Denbs. Seen in all months except Jun, Nov and Dec with three parties over 10. These were the maximum of 60 on 5/01, 20 on 30/08 at Rhos-on Sea (JuW) and 30 on 9/09 at Llandulas (KS).

Flints. There were 6 on 16/10 at Talacre (GNR).



Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*

GWYLAN BENDDU

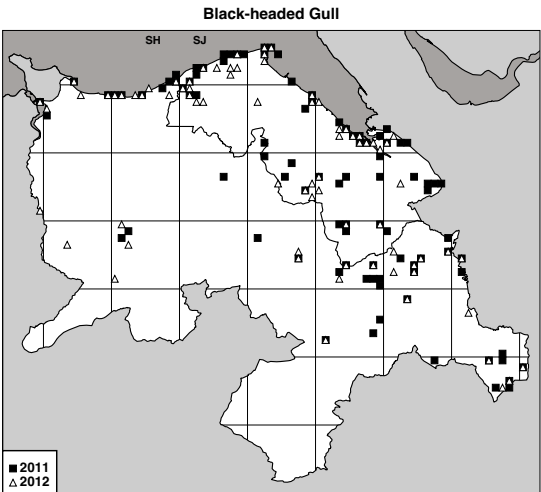
Common resident and winter visitor with small numbers breeding. Red list. WBAP.

(BH)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	163	4500
	Flints	201	1000
2012	Denbs	185	1000
	Flints	324	4000

A widely distributed bird with records following the pattern of previous years. There were records in every month from both counties, mainly from traditional locations. The mean maximum counts of 2004-10 were 1552 (Denbs.) and 2160 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. There were ten records of over 100, of which five were coastal. The largest coastal count was 500 at Kimmel Bay on 1/09 (RMB). The inland records were all in winter, at both Erddig on 26/02 and Gresford Flash on 28/12 (NHu). However the largest count was 4,500 on a flooded River Dee at Trevalyn Meadows on 16/02 (NFr), which was considerably more than the mean maximum for recent years. This location also produced 500+ on 2/12 (NHu).



Flints. There were twenty-three reports of over 100, all from the coastal area. The highest count was 1,000 on 11/02 at Rhuddlan (SH), which is less than half the mean maximum for recent years. Breeding was recorded at Shotton Paper Mill on 13/05, where six nests were seen (IMS).

Monthly maxima from selected locations:

2011 (BH)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bagillt salt marsh	114	288	215		13	1		166		46	92	38
Connah's Quay NR	200	235+	2		194	114	70		200	56	20	
Near Rhuddlan	300	1000	600	35	194		80		400			
2012												
Bagillt salt marsh	85	100	266	2	30			88		65	136	207
Connah's Quay NR		60			10	340	1000	700	200	250		115
Near Rhuddlan	250	100	200						400	2500	2500	4000

2012

Denbs. There were seven records of over 100 including one of 1,000. Four of these were inland. The largest coastal count was 400 at Kimmel Bay on 10/01 (HC). The inland records were 128 at Fenn's Bank on 29/05, where there were also young in the nest (SD). In winter 200 were at Gresford Flash on 18/12 (KS). However the largest count again was 1,000, on a flooded River Dee at Worthenbury on 30/11 (NFr).

Flints. There were forty-one reports of over 100, including six of 1,000 or over. The highest was 4,000 on 29/12 at Rhuddlan (SH). All but one were from the coastal area, it being 100 at

Fagl Lane GP on 18 Feb (KE). Breeding was confirmed from three locations: occupied nests at Oakenholt on 15/05 (RyE), at Shotwick Fields on 19/06 (CW) and Shotton Paper Mill on 11/06 (IMS).

Little Gull *Hydrocoloeus minutus*

Scarce passage migrant. Amber list

GWYLAN FECHAN

(LU)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	4	4
	Flints	2	5

2012

Denbs. There were three records of 1-3 and a maximum of 5 at Old Colwyn, all on 4/04.

Flints. On 4/04 a party of 4 was seen at Rhyl. The maximum was 5 at Connah's Quay NR on 13/07 (DCI).

Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*

Scarce but increasing visitor. Amber list. RBBP.

GWYLAN MOR Y CANOLDIR

(MU)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	17	2
	Flints	13	1+
2012	Denbs	15	6
	Flints	21	2

The temporal pattern of occurrence is unpredictable and does not seem to fit with either a winter visitor or summer migrant. Birds could be seen in any month, but without certainty.

2011

Denbs. The majority of records were single birds, but there were three sightings of 2: at Pensarn on 22/02, Kimmel Bay on 26/02 and Pensarn on 4/03 (RMB).

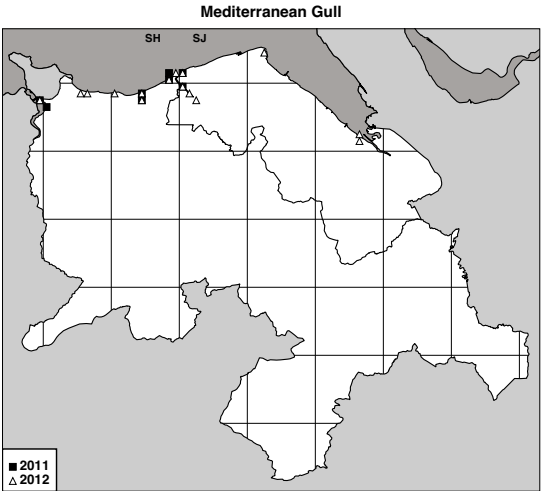
Seen in these months:													
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Flints. The majority of the records were in the second half of the year and all came from Rhyl.

2012

Denbs. The majority of the records were in the first half of the year. All bar one were for 1-2, with a maximum of 6 on 26/02 at Llanddulas (MHu).

Flints. All reports were of singletons, except for 2 at Connah's Quay NR on 5/07 (GEM). Early year records were from Rhyl, but in the second half 50% came from either Connah's Quay or Rhuddlan.



Common Gull *Larus canus*

Passage migrant and winter visitor. Red list.

The mean maximum counts in 2004-10 were 2093 (Denbs.) and 1593 (Flints.).

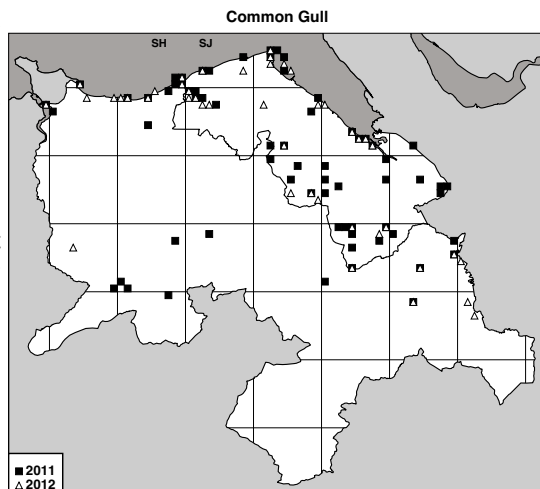
GWYLAN GWEUNYDD

(CM)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	33	3500
	Flints	110	750
2012	Denbs	42	500
	Flints	72	8000

2011

Denbs. There were fourteen reports of flocks over 25, six of which exceeded 100. All but one were in winter from dispersed locations. The exceptions were 85 at Dyserth on 29/09 (SH) and five other reports, all single figures. No birds were recorded in May, Jun and Oct. The maximum count of 3,500 occurred on 11/02 at Trevalyn Meadows on River Dee floods. This site also attracted 200 on 15/12 (NFr).

Flints. Reports covered every month. There were twenty one counts of 25+ with half of them of 100+. Seven were from inland with the remainder on the coast. The maximum was 750 on 11/02 at Rhuddlan (SH); a low count compared with recent years.



Monthly maxima in each county:

2011 (CM)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.	30	3500	110	16			1	4	85		40	200
Flints.	350	750	300	22	25	1	2	200	30	26	100	4
2012												
Denbs.	100	90	300					10	2	1	500	1
Flints.	150	450	300	350	1	2	1	4	12	45	3000	8000

2012

Denbs. No reports were received for the period Apr to Jul and only two in Aug and six in Sep, all in single figures. There were eleven reports of flocks of 25 or over with three topping 100. In the first three months all flocks, bar one, were at the coast, the exception being 50+ at Sutton Green on 7/01 (NHu). In the latter part of the year both large counts were inland with a year's maximum of 500 at Worthenbury on 30/11 on River Dee floods (NFr), a much lower count than might have been expected.

Flints. Reports again covered every month. There were thirty three counts of 25+ with half of them of 100+. Nine were from inland with the remainder on the coast. The maximum was again at Rhuddlan with 8,000 on 29/12 (SH). This was an exceptional count compared with the mean maximum for the last few years.

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*

Passage migrant and uncommon breeding resident.
Amber list.

GWYLAN GEFNDDU LEIAF

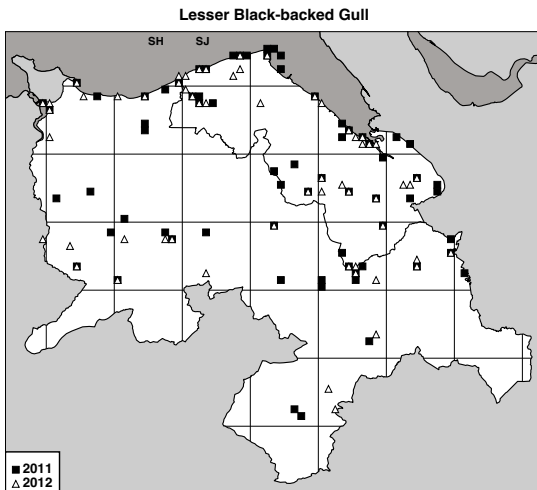
(LB)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	97	1500
	Flints	120	110
2012	Denbs	87	150+
	Flints	137	150

Records followed the pattern of previous years with most numbers occurring during migration especially in the autumn. There were records in every month of both years from both counties. The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 1164 (Denbs.) and 122 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. Widely reported both from the coast and inland usually in single figures. Nine flocks of over 25 all came from inland sites, with Gresford Flash being the only one with over 100. There were 133 on 18/01 (HN), 200 on 27/08 and 700 on 12/11 (KS) and the maximum count of 1,500 on 5/10 (HL). A flooded River Dee had 50 on 14/01 and 35 on 15/12 (NFr).

Flints. Widely reported along the coast mainly in single figures. There were eight reports (seven from Rhuddlan) of over 25, with only two over 100. The maximum was 110 at Rhuddlan on 4/05 (SH).



2012

Denbs. Though widely reported, mainly in single figures, there were only four records of over 25, three of which were over 100. On 22/05 130 were at a nesting colony at Llyn Brenig (SD). At Nebo on 11/08 150+ were in a ploughed field (DCR). This was the maximum count, which was much lower than the mean maximum for recent years. Trevalyn Meadows had 55 on 14/10 on River Dee floods (NFr) and Gresford Flash had 100 on 8/12 (KS).

Flints. Widely reported along the coast, mainly in single figures. There were twenty three reports of over 25 including five over 100. Connah's Quay NR and Rhuddlan between them produced 87% of these records with maxima respectively of 150 on 19/10 (GEM) and 50 on 1/05 and 6/07 (SH). There were 150 at Oakenholt on 17/10 (GEM).

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*

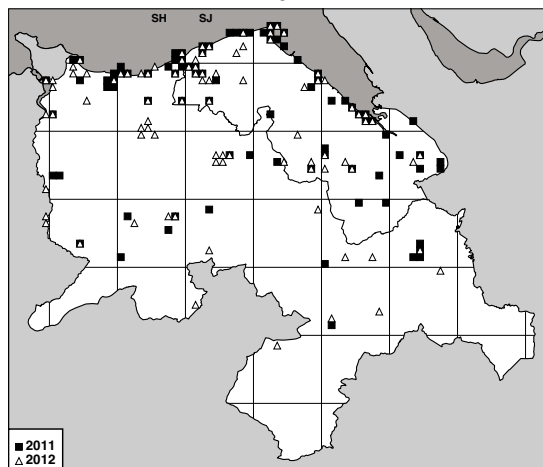
Common resident breeding on coast, mainly on roofs.
Red list. WBAP.

GWYLAN Y PENWAIG

(HG)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	237	600
	Flints	214	500
2012	Denbs	239	600
	Flints	225	1000

Records followed the pattern of previous years. There were records in every month from both counties in both years mainly from coastal locations. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 2087 (Denbs.) and 1325 (Flints.).

Herring Gull



2011

Denbs. Most of records were under 50 and from the coastal area. There were fifteen reports of flocks over 50, only five from inland. Kimmel Bay had such flocks seven months of the year with a maximum of 400 on 1/09 (RMB). Inland, Gresford Flash had three reports with 100 on 2/01 and 300 on 30/01 and 12/11 (KS). There were 70+ at Llyn Brenig on 12/11 (SD). The maximum was 600 flying NW over Wrexham on 31/07 (NH), which was considerably lower than the mean maximum for recent years.

Flints. There were twenty two records of 50 or over with eleven of 100 or more, all from the coast. Rhuddlan was a hot spot with twelve reports

covering six months: the highest was 300 on 16/09 (SH). Rhyl was also favoured with six records and the maximum was 80 on 16/01 (RMB). The highest count of 500 was from Talacre on 29/11 (RMB). This was also much lower than might have been expected.

2012.

Denbs. Thirteen reports had flocks of 50 with eight of these numbering over 100. All bar one were from the coast, with 600 at Kimmel Bay on 6/03 (JuW). This was the maximum seen but lower than the mean of recent years. There were 300 at Pensarn on 10/01 (HC). Conwy RSPB had 50 on 23/08 and 5/09 (AnH). Breeding was recorded with one nest in Denbigh on 9/05 (RG) and 120 at nesting sites at Llyn Brenig on 22/05 (SD).

Flints. Thirty reports had flocks of 50 with fourteen of these numbering over 100. All were from the coast. Those from Rhuddlan covered nine months and peaked at 500 on 21/11 (SH). November also produced the year's maximum in the Dee Estuary with 1,000 on 28/11 (GR). Connah's Quay had 200 on 18/11 (GR).

Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis*

Scarce visitor. RBBP.

GWYLAN GOES FELEN

(YM)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	9	3
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	6	1
	Flints	1	1

2011

Denbs. There were two records of singletons from Conwy RSPB on 1/07 and 6/07 (pJHg). The remainder were from Gresford Flash, which had the maximum count of 3 (probably the same birds) on 17/11 (KS) and 19/11 (HL).

2012

Denbs. Conwy RSPB had three reports, all singletons: on 4/06 (GrR), 7/08 (ADa) and 16/08

Seen in these months:												
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

(SaM). Gresford Flash had two reports (probably the same bird) on 8/12 (KS) and 9/12 (HL).

Flints. One report of a single which was at Connah's Quay NR on 11/05 (AN).

Iceland Gull *Larus glaucooides*

Irregular and scarce winter visitor.

2012.

Denbs. All records were of singletons apart from the maximum count of 2 at Conwy RSPB on 26/03 (RoH). Single reports were in Jan, Feb, Mar and Nov.

Flints. The records were at or near Rhuddlan on 4/04 and 18/05 (SH) and Rhyl on 12/05 and 19/05.

GWYLAN YR ARCTIG

(IG)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	10	2
	Flints	6	1

Glaucous Gull *Larus hyperboreus*

Scarce winter visitor.

2012.

Flints. A single bird was seen at Point of Ayr on 8/01.

GWYLAN Y GOGLEDD

(GZ)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	1	1

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*

Breeding resident and winter visitor. Red list

Most of the records were from the coast and they covered every month of both years from both counties. The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 16 (Denbs.) and 119 (Flints.).

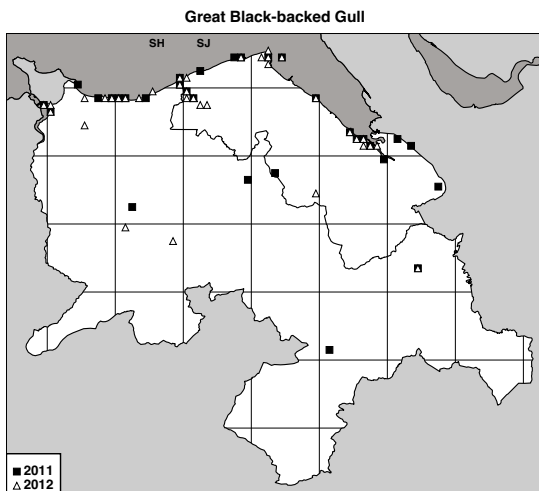
GWYLAN GEFNDDU FWYAF

(GB)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	66	10
	Flints	47	50
2012	Denbs	84	9+
	Flints	84	63

2011.

Denbs. All the records bar two were of under 5 birds. The two were 6 at Llandulas on 7/08 (JVHu) and 10 at Kimmel Bay on 1/09 (RMB).

Flints. There were twelve reports of more than 4 with Connah's Quay NR providing two thirds of them. This site held significant numbers in winter and provided the maximum count of 50 on 28/11 (GR). Other high counts there were: 35 on 21/01 (GR), 41 on 6/02 (AW) and 25 on 27/09 (GEM), Point of Ayr had 36 on 14/08 and 20 on



13/11 (GR). These are smaller numbers than might have been expected.

2012.

Denbs. There was an increase in the number of parties of over 4 seen at coastal locations. Llanddulas had the year's highest count of 9+ on 31/10 with 7 on both 10/11 and 24/12 (JVHu). Pensarn had 7 on 21/10 and 5 at Conwy RSPB (AnH). A breeding pair was noted at Llyn Brenig on 22/05 (SD) and there were two other inland records.

Flints. The number of reports of over 4 doubled to twenty eight and though Connah's Quay NR was the top site it only accounted for half of them. Again there was a winter flock of around 40 and the maximum count of 63 was seen there on 6/12 (GR). Point of Ayr had a highest count of 30 on 28/11 (GR) and Talacre had 40 on 1/11 (RyE).

Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon *Columba livia*

Common feral and domesticated species.

COLOMEN Y GRAIG

Recorded in every month in both years in both counties. The highest counts were from a traditional roost at the railway bridge between Kinmel Bay (Denbs.) and Rhyl (Flints) (DCR).

(FP)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	178	120+
	Flints	59	70
2012	Denbs	218	120+
	Flints	63	32

2011

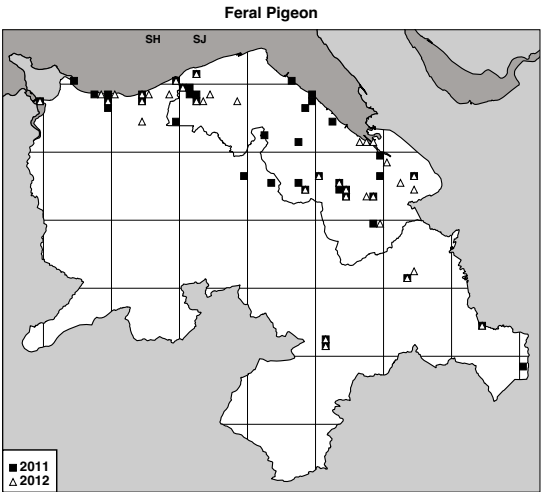
Denbs. The majority of records were of 1-10 with just nine records of larger flocks. The highest counts were all at the railway bridge near Kinmel Bay: 30+ on 26/06, 80+ on 2/01 and 120+ on 5/01 (all DCR). Unfortunately they are recorded as 'present' (=1+) at Conwy RSPB, where sometimes large numbers gather at feeders near the coffee shop. These are not the species that most visitors wish to see!

Flints. Again, most records were of 1-10. There were seven larger counts and the highest were: 34 S of Rhyl on 24/05 (DCR), 46 at Rhuddlan on 12/08 and 70 near Rhuddlan on 16/09 (SH). There was proof of breeding this year, with occupied nests at Llangwyfan, Lixwm and Holywell and fledged young at Greenfield (all from MD).

2012

Denbs. Most records were of 1-10 with seven records of larger counts and the highest were: 20 near Kinmel Bay on 7/01 (KS), 20 SE of Towyn on 11/01 (HC), 67 at the railway bridge roost near Kinmel Bay on 6/01, 72+ there on 27/03 and 120+ there on 22/01 (DCR).

Flints. Most records were of 1-10 with seven records of more than that. The largest counts were: 32 near Rhuddlan on 14/01 (SH) and 30 at Rhyl on 29/12 (DCR).



Stock Dove *Columba oenas*

Breeding resident.

COLOMEN WYLLT

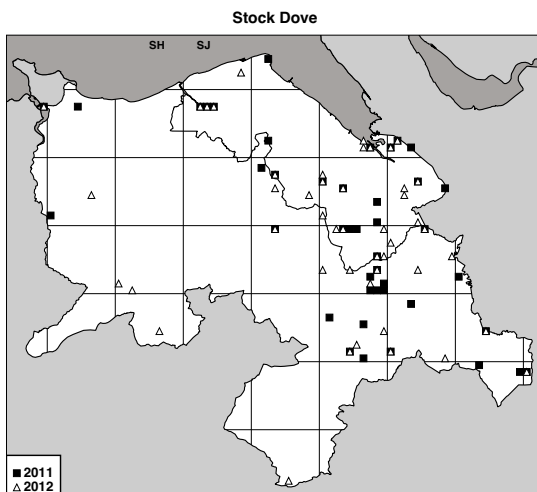
(SD)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	62	270
	Flints	28	15
2012	Denbs	63	25
	Flints	55	35

Most records are from the E of the region. Recorded in all months in Denbs. in 2011 and all except Aug in 2012. In Flints. They were recorded in Jan then Apr to Oct during 2011 and in 2012 Mar to Sep then Nov and Dec. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 65 (Denbs.) and 44 (Flints.). Recorded in 6/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 8/35 in 2012.

2011

Denbs. There was a remarkable count of 270 birds at Burton Meadows in the Alyn Valley, north of Wrexham on 6/09 (HL). Although GBW produced 45% of records, they all came from just two gardens at Sarn (MA) and Froncysyllte (JVT).

Flints. The highest count this year was of 15 at Sandycroft on 27/04 (IMS). Breeding was proven at Shotton Papermill (IMS) and Treuddyn (MD). GBW produced 7% of the records.



2012

Denbs. The highest count this year was of 25 at Burton Meadows on 21/03 (GMR). Breeding was proven at Glasfryn and Ffrith (IMS). Although GBW produced 48% of the records, nearly all of these were from a single garden near Sarn (MA).

Flints. The highest count this year was of 35 at Shotwick Fields on 31/08 (CW). Breeding was proven at Rhydymwyn (JVHu), plus Hawarden, Caergwrlle, Higher Kinnerton, Sandycroft and Shotton Papermill (all by IMS). GBW produced 7% of the records.

Breeding (JLR, IMS):

(SD)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2011					
Near Llangollen	6	10	6	6	1.00
Shotton Paper Mill	4	6	3	3	0.75
2012					
Beeches Farm	3	6	4	3	1.00
Other sites	2	4	4	4	2.00

Woodpigeon *Columba palumbus*

Common breeding resident.

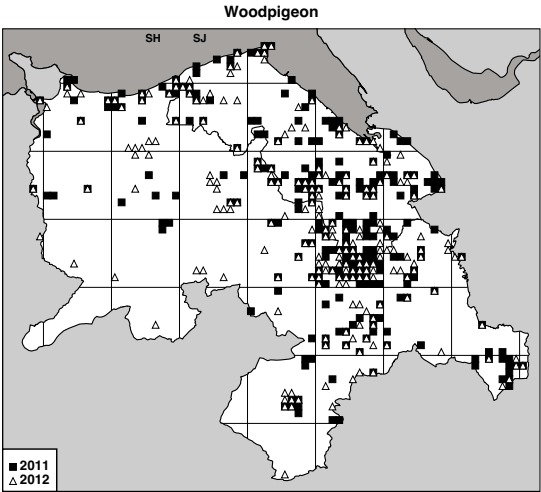
YSGUTHAN

Recorded during each month in both years in both counties. The high proportion of records from Garden Birdwatch shows that this species has now become a common garden bird throughout the region. The map confirms that the distribution of records is very similar to that of the House Sparrow. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 1,140 (Denbs.) and 351 (Flints.). Recorded in 20/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 34/35 in 2012.

(WP)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	986	600
	Flints	1113	350
2012	Denbs	1024	50
	Flints	1356	200

2011

Denbs. The highest count of 600 was at Dyserth on 6/03 (SH), but there were also three counts of 500 at Penycae on 17/01 and 24/10 (JAJ) and Dyserth on 27/02 (SH). Most high counts were of birds flying to or from roost sites. These were considerably lower than the mean maximum counts in recent years. There were 5 records of confirmed breeding and 69% of all records were from GBW.



Flints. The highest count was 350 at Shotwick Fields on 13/01 (RyE). There were 22 records of confirmed breeding and 62% of all records were from GBW.

2012

Denbs. The highest count was unusually low at only 50 at Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog on 16/05 (SD). There were no records of confirmed breeding and 68% of all records were from GBW.

Flints. The highest count was of 200+ roosting near Bodryddan Hall, Dyserth on 31/01 (DCR). There was one record of confirmed breeding and 79% of all records were from GBW.

Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*

Common breeding resident.

TURTUR DORCHOG

The distribution of this species is very similar to that of the Wood Pigeon and House Sparrow and it is also well-represented in Garden Birdwatch (GBW). The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 31 (Denbs.) and 72 (Flints.).

(CD)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	799	12
	Flints	852	23
2012	Denbs	730	11
	Flints	1045	37

2011

Denbs. The maximum count was of 12, a relatively low figure, at Acton Park, Wrexham on 28/06 (PAR). There was one record of confirmed breeding and 82% of all records were from

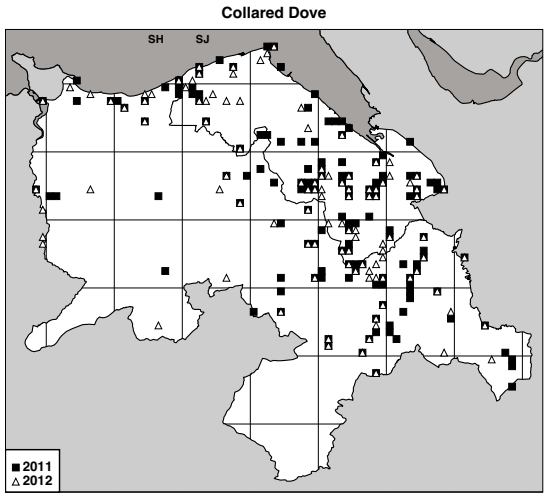
GBW.

Flints. The maximum count was of 23, again relatively low, at St. Asaph on 7/08 (DDo). There were 21 records of confirmed breeding and 64% of all records were from GBW.

2012

Denbs. The maximum count was of 11 at Acton Park, Wrexham on 29/05 (PAR). There were no records of confirmed breeding and 90% of all records were from GBW.

Flints. The maximum count was 37 at St Asaph on 2/09 (DDo). There were 5 records of confirmed breeding and 53% of all records were from GBW (another 17% were from regular counts at Rhydymwyn by JVHu).



Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*

TURTUR

Very scarce summer visitor in the eastern part of the region. Red list.

This species is not recovering from a massive decline since the 1980s.

(TD)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	5	2
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	

2011

Denbs. All records refer to a single bird, or a likely pair on one occasion near Wrexham between May and Oct (pJLR), but breeding was not proven.

Ring-necked Parakeet *Psittacula krameri*

PARACIT TORCHOG

Rare, feral species.

Records of this species have been increasing in recent years, maybe due to a small breeding colony being present in Merseyside.

(RI)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	2	1
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	1	1

2011

Flints. A single male was seen at Rhuddlan on 31/05 (SH) and probably the same bird was sighted three days later in the same area by the same observer.

2012

Flints. A single bird was seen at Rhyl on 16/05.

Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*

COG

Increasingly uncommon breeding summer visitor. Red list. WBAP.

The distribution of records is very similar to that of previous years, but it is very encouraging to note the slight increase in records. The UK-wide tagging and tracking project has raised awareness of the plight of this long distance migrant and this may be encouraging recorders to report sightings. Recorded in 4/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 4/35 in 2012.

(CK)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	48	3
	Flints	10	2
2012	Denbs	51	3
	Flints	9	5

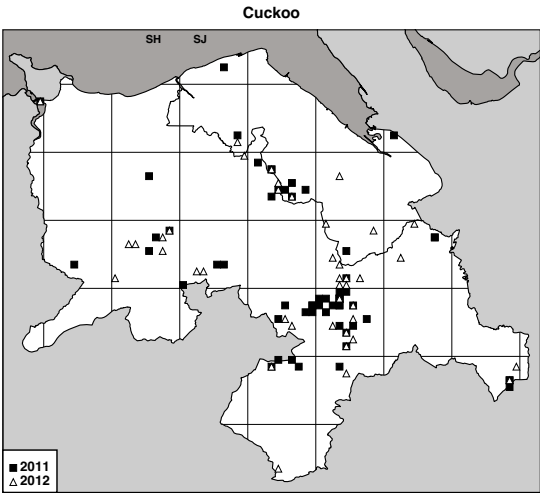
Seen in these months:												
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

2011
Denbs. The first of the year was a singing male on 8/04 at Eglwyseg (pJLR). Birds were then widely recorded in suitable habitat until the last records on 19/06; one at Bryneglwys (JLR) and another at Conwy RSPB (SCh). Three were notable at Fenn's Moss on 11/06 (JoAr).

Flints. One was heard singing at Prestatyn on 18/04 (LJ) and thereafter a few scattered records were received until the last sighting of the year was at Cilcain on 7/06 (MD).

2012
Denbs. The first of the year was a particularly early record on 1/04 at Penycae (NHu). Birds were then regularly reported throughout the season until the end of Jun. An unusually late record came from Llyn Brenig on 22/08 (MB).

Flints. Of the few records received this year the first was quite late on 3/05 from Moel Famau (LWe). The last record was at Sychdyn on 30/05 (DMH). Throughout May birds were regularly seen on Penycloddiau (EdW) where on 19/05, a pair were observed courting and a further 3 were seen in the vicinity but were thought to be passing through.



Barn Owl *Tyto alba*

TYLLUAN WEN

Scarce breeding resident. Amber list.

It would appear that the recent run of cold winters continued to take a further toll on the Barn Owl population in NE Wales, particularly in 2011. Whilst some population recovery was noted in Flints., in 2012, numbers were still low in Denbs. Prolonged periods of snow cover mean that these birds have difficulty feeding and either die of starvation or are in such poor condition that they become more vulnerable to being killed on the roads or have

(BO)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	16	1
	Flints	4	2
2012	Denbs	13	3
	Flints	13	4

poor breeding success. There were no prolonged snow periods in either of these years but still the population has dwindled. The amount of rain in 2012 may have adversely affected the owls' ability to feed.

Seen in these months:													
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

2011

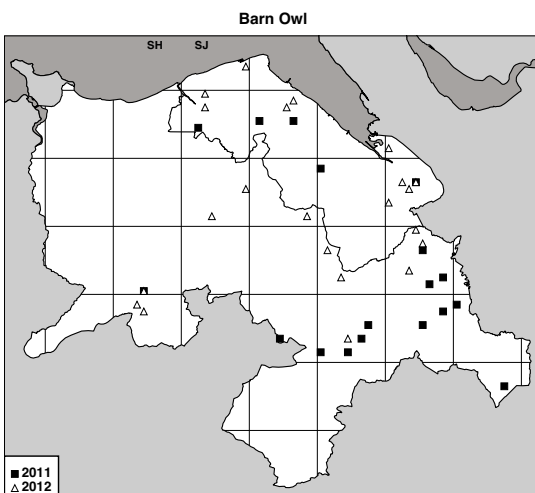
Denbs. One dead bird was noted on the A55 on 6/01 (AnCu). No breeding was noted this year.

Flints. Two nestlings were ringed at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft on 28/07 (IMS) and this was the only record in the breeding season. Other records were of singles.

2012

Denbs. Four records were of breeding attempts and three young were ringed near Cerrigydrudion on 26/06 (IMS). Other records were of singles.

Flints. The number of records increased this year. Four successful nests were noted with 4 young ringed at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft on 22/05 and near Hawarden Industrial Estate on 23/05 (IMS). Other records were of singles apart from 2 at a nest box at Shotton Paper Mill on 17/01 (IMS).



Breeding (WRBBRSG):

(BO)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2011 Denbs	17	67	44	31	1.82
Flints	3	10	8	6	2.00
2012 Denbs	20	46	32	25	1.25
Flints	3	10	10	10	3.33

Little Owl *Athene noctua*

Uncommon breeding resident.

Records of this species halved again over the two reporting years making a sighting of this species very notable now. The eastern lowlands of Denbs. are where this species is most likely to be found.

TYLLUAN FACH

(LO)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	9	2
	Flints	5	1
2012	Denbs	3	2
	Flints	1	1

Seen in these months:													
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

2011

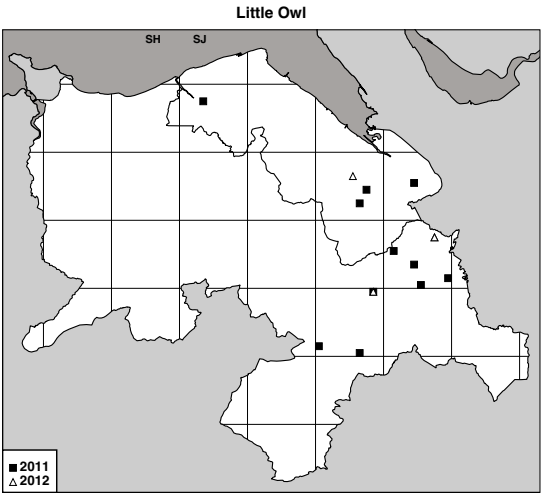
Denbs. Five records were during the breeding season: near Coedpoeth, Gresford Flash, Ridleywood, Sydalit and near Wrexham). Two

were seen near Coedpoeth on 29/03 (KS).

Flints. Records came from four locations, three of which were in the breeding season: Llong, Padeswood on 13/04, near Hawarden Airport on 17/06 (IMS) and two sightings, a week apart (2/07; 9/07) at Rhuddlan (SH). The single winter record was of a bird sitting on a garden fence in Buckley on 19/11 (GNR).

2012

Denbs. There were only three records this year from two locations. Breeding was confirmed at Rossett on 20/06 when two recently fledged young were noted (HL).



Flints. Only a single was seen on 31/07 near Sychdyn (IMS).

Tawny Owl *Strix aluco*

Widespread breeding resident.

TYLLUAN FRECH

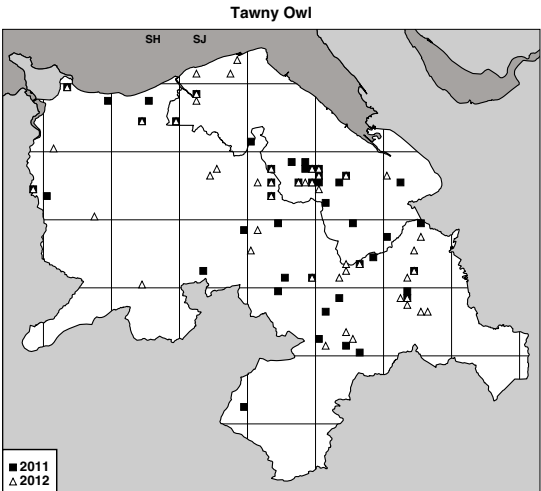
(TO)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	74	3
	Flints	82	3
2012	Denbs	68	2
	Flints	70	3

Recorded in every month in both years in both counties except Nov 2012 in Flints. Records showed a similar distribution to previous years which appears to reflect more the location of recorders than a true distribution of the species itself. This species is most readily detected in the early months of the year when it is more likely to be heard than seen.

2011

Denbs. Records early in the season came mainly from GBW sites, where birds were regularly heard calling. Breeding was confirmed at three sites: Llangwyfan (MD), World's End (KS) and Blaen-y-cwm in the Berwyns (NHu). The highest count was of 3 calling birds at Eglwyseg on 31/07 (NJS).

Flints. There was no confirmed breeding this year but regular records came from the same sites over the breeding season, notably at Rhydymwyn (JVHu), Pantymwyn (TeA), Caergwle (EMCH) and



Penycloddiau (EdW), indicating that birds were on territory. The highest counts were of 3 on several occasions at Rhydymwyn.

2012

Denbs. There was a very similar pattern to the records this year compared to 2011 with most records being of singles or occasionally two birds. Breeding was only confirmed at one site, near Gwytherin, where a single nestling was ringed on 6/06 (IMS).

Flints. Confirmed breeding occurred at Hendre where a single nestling was ringed on 8/05 (IMS). Over 54% of the records came from Rhydymwyn (MD, JVHu).

Breeding (WRBBSRG):

(TO)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2011 Denbs	8	15	10	10	1.25

Long-eared Owl *Asio otus*

TYLLUAN GORNOG

Rare breeding resident. Amber list.

For the first time in over ten years, there were no records of Long-eared Owl in the recording area. This very secretive bird may also have been affected by recent severe winters.

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*

TYLLUAN GLYSTIOG

Scarce winter visitor, passage migrant and occasional breeder. Red list.

For the first time in several years there were no records of confirmed breeding. Most records were from the winter months at coastal sites.

(SE)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	16	2
	Flints	7	3
2012	Denbs	14	1
	Flints	21	2

2011

Denbs. Records were mainly from the Kinmel Bay and Towyn area. Only two records were from potential breeding sites.

Seen in these months:													
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

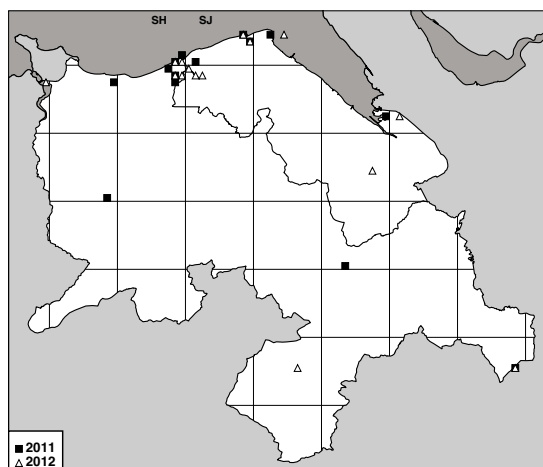
Flints. Records were from five sites: Gronant, Gronant NW, Rhyl, Shotwick and Talacre, all in either Jan or Nov. The two highest counts were of 3, both at Gronant, on 11/01 and 15/11.

2012

Denbs. Only two records were from the breeding season at inland sites. The rest were from the coast (Kinmel Bay and Towyn) during the winter.

Flints. Records came from eight coastal sites covering most months of the year. There was one unusual inland record at Buckley on 5/11 (ANB).

Short-eared Owl



Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus*

Scarce breeding summer visitor. Amber list. WBAP.

This species appears to have been severely under-recorded during these two years. There is no reason to suppose that the usual breeding sites within forestry plantation clearfells were not occupied as usual.

TROELLWR MAWR

(NJ)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	4	3
	Flints	3	3
2012	Denbs	4	3
	Flints	0	

2011

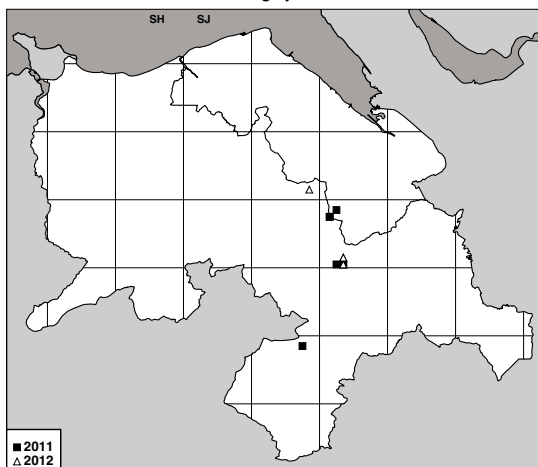
Denbs. The earliest records were of 1 churring at Ruabon Mountain on 2/06 (KS) and at Ceiriog Forest on 9/06 (NHu). The latest record, which was also the maximum count, was of 3 at Llandegla Forest on 1/07 (NHu).

Flints. The only records came late in the season on 13/08 and 16/08 at Eryrys and a remarkably late record on 6/09 at Nercwys (all StB).

2012

Denbs. The earliest record came on 9/06 from Ruabon Mountain (CrW). There were 3 displaying at Pendinas Reservoir on 13/06 (RyE) and then 3 were churring at the same site on 29/06 (SAH). The last record of the year was from Llanferres on 2/08 (JaH).

Nightjar



Swift *Apus apus*

Fairly common and widespread summer visitor. Amber list.

Recorded during Apr to Sep in Denbs. in both years and Apr to Aug in Flints. in both years. A fairly even number of records came in over the two recording years and the distribution was more scattered than in previous years, with few noticeable clusters. Recorded at 6/23 BBS sites in 2011 and 15/37 in 2012.

2011

Denbs. There was a remarkably early record of a single bird at Conwy RSPB on 13/04 (JHg). Despite the high numbers of records, only seven of these exceeded single figures. One significant flock was seen over Llanrwst on 11/07 (RS) when 60 were recorded, some of which were visiting a nesting site in the chapel on Parry Street. Southerly movements of birds were noted over Wrexham on 12/08, when 15 were counted. The last sighting of the year was of 5 flying south in a mixed flock with swallows and martins over Wrexham on 2/09 (NH).

Flints. The first of the year was on 25/04 at Cilcain (TR). They were then seen regularly throughout May, Jun and Jul from several sites but most regularly at Rhydymwyn (JVHu). Some records indicated that breeding was taking place. Large flocks were noted at Rhuddlan, where 100 were seen on 23/06 and 300 on 8/07 (SH). The last record for the year was again from this site on 29/08 (SH).

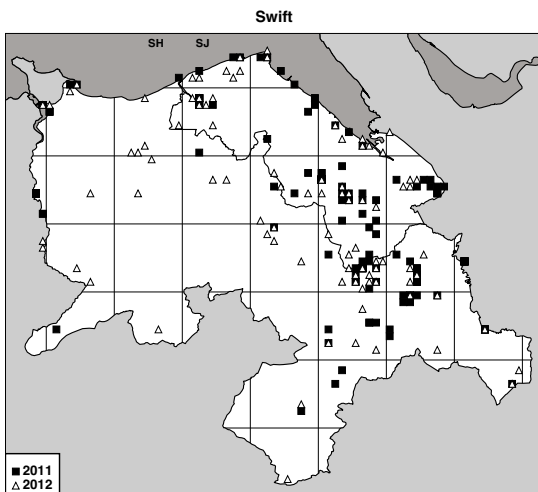
2012

Denbs. The first sighting of the year was at Conwy RSPB on 26/04. Over the next two weeks flocks of between 40 and 70 (max. on 7/05) were recorded there (JuW). Elsewhere the majority of records were in single figures from a wide range of sites. The last of the year were on 4/09: a single from Conwy RSPB (JHg) and 5 at Wrexham (PAR).

Flints. The first record of the year was on 26/04 at Rhuddlan (SH). The largest numbers were seen at coastal sites in May, when 150 were at Connah's Quay NR on 13/05 (PDS) and 80 just up the coast at Flint, Oakenholt on 15/05 (RyE). At the end of the season several flocks of between 10 and 45 were seen between 23/07 and 3/08 at Rhuddlan (SH). The last of the year was at Bagillt on 26/08 (GRMP).

GWENNOL DDU

(SI)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	122	60
	Flints	110	300
2012	Denbs	112	70
	Flints	129	150



Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

Local breeding resident. Amber list.

GLAS Y DORLAN

The number of records was more than halved in both these years and may reflect the impact of several severe winters on this vulnerable species.

(KF)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	25	2
	Flints	27	2
2012	Denbs	20	1
	Flints	44	2

2011

Denbs. The majority of records, all out of the breeding season, came from Conwy RSPB. Only one record was received in each of the months Apr-Jul. Of these the only confirmed breeding record was from Marford on 25/07 (HL), when at least one recently fledged young was observed. Later in the season 2 were seen together at Llanferres on 29/09 (NB).

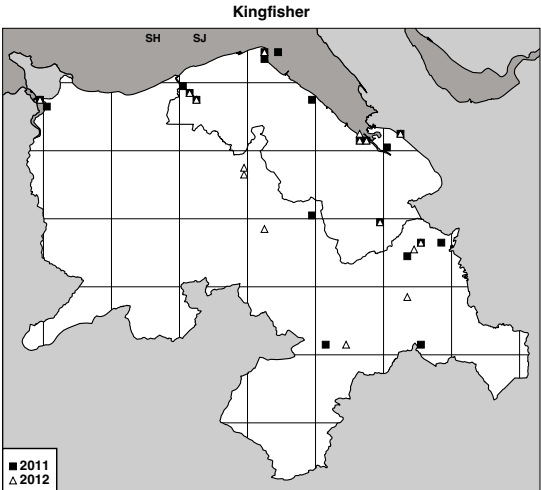
Flints. All the records this year were of singles. No records were received from the months of Apr-Jun and no breeding was observed. All the autumn and winter sightings came from coastal sites.

2012

Denbs. Surprisingly there were no early season records from Conwy RSPB. The first record from this site was on 24/07 when ADa sighted a juvenile at the reserve. This had presumably bred not too far away. There were no Apr-May records but three records from Jun indicated that breeding may have occurred on the River Dee at Trevor Uchaf (JoR) and at Llay (pCf).

Flints. Half of this year's records came from Rhuddlan when singles were seen in most months except Mar, Apr and Jun (SH). Two birds were seen at Connah's Quay NR on 14/10 (GEM) and 18/10 (BH, KLJ) and at Rhuddlan on 21/10 (SH). Despite the increase in records from 2011, this species was not seen at its usual range of coastal sites during autumn and winter.

Seen in these months:												
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N



Hoopoe *Upupa epops*

Rare migrant.

COPOG

2012

Denbs. The first record was of a single at Moel yr Accre, near Pentrecelyn on 7/05. The other records were from Bwlchgwyn on 27/05 (JC) and 30/05. It is possible that these sightings all relate to the same individual.

(HP)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	3	1
	Flints	0	

Wryneck *Jynx torquilla*

Rare migrant.

PENGAM

2012

Flints. A single was at Mostyn on 29/08 (JuR).

(WY)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	1	1

Green Woodpecker *Picus viridis*

Breeding resident. Amber list.

CNOCELL WERDD

Records of this species appear to be holding up, with a slightly broader scatter of sites in the recording period than in recent years. Most records came from sites in the river valleys of the Alun and Wheeler as well as woodland around Ruabon Mountain. There were few winter records which is surprising for such a relatively large bird. Recorded at 3/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 2/35 in 2012.

(G)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	34	3
	Flints	21	2
2012	Denbs	21	2
	Flints	18	2

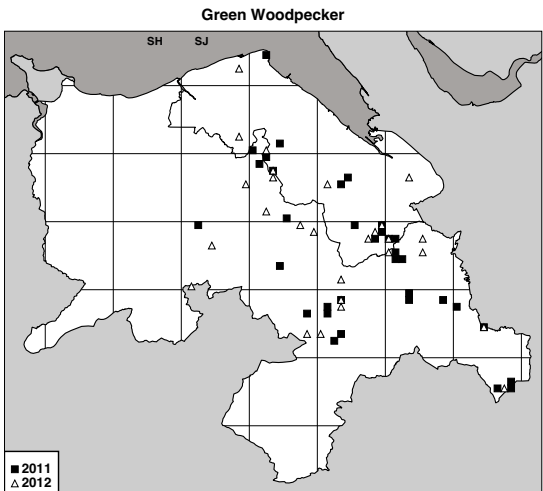
Seen in these months:

D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

2011

Denbs. Sightings were in all months except Aug. Most records were of singles but 3 were seen at Moel Ytta near Saron on 21/06, including recently fledged young (IMS).

Flints. Birds were seen in suitable habitat in the breeding season from Penycloddiau (EdW), Caergwle (SD, ECMH), Treuddyn (MD) and Waun-y-Llyn CP (SD) but no breeding was confirmed. However, a juvenile (probably a male) turned up in a garden in Sychdyn on 26/07 and was observed for more than an hour searching for, and feeding on, ants (AB, IMS). This bird is thought to have come from the adjacent Gwysaney estate where breeding has been noted in previous years.



2012

Denbs. Most of the records were in the spring and summer months. Breeding was confirmed at Burton on 16/07 (HL). Most records were of singles but 2 were seen at Fenn's Moss on 18/03 and 31/03 (RHa) and near Sydalit on 25/07 (SD).

Flints. Singles were regularly encountered on Penycloddiau in the breeding season (EdW) and 2 were seen on 7/04 and 21/04 but nowhere was breeding confirmed.

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*

Widespread breeding resident.

Records were received from much of the lowland within the recording area where suitable woodland is present, although the majority of sightings came from GBW, presumably at feeding stations. The distribution of records is very similar to that of recent years and birds were recorded in all months of both years in each county. Recorded in 12/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 19/35 in 2012.

2011

Denbs. Most of the records were of individual birds with the occasional pair. Even during the breeding season no family groups exceeded four birds. Three quarters of the records (74.7%) came from GBW. Breeding was confirmed at five sites but there were probably many more than this, as the age and sex of birds coming to GBW feeders is not recorded.

Flints. Most records were of 1-2 with eight records of 3. Some 64.9% of records were from GBW sites. They included four of the counts of 3 at a GBW site at Rhydymwyn (DMH). The others were near Mold on 19/06 during a BBS survey (IMS), near Cilcain on 5/08 (GEM), near Rhuddlan on 29/07 (SH) and 3 fullgrown were ringed at Shotton Steelworks on 6/11 (pBH).

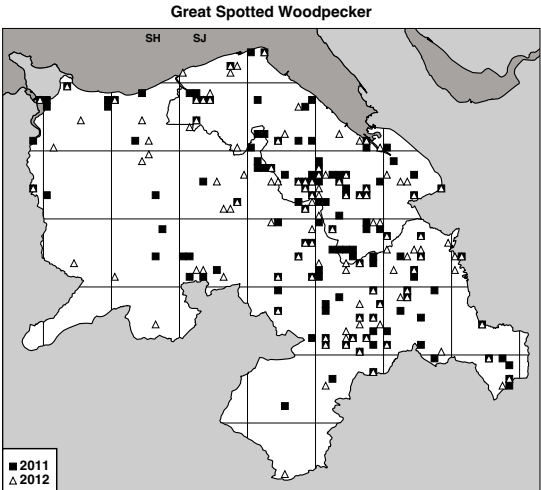
2012

Denbs. Again, most records were of 1-2 with five records of 3 and 79.1% of all records were from GBW sites. The largest count was 4+, with at least some of them drumming at Erddig, Wrexham on 13/03 (NHu).

Flints. The vast majority of records were of 1-2 with fourteen records of 3 and four of 4-5 with 62.3% of records from GBW sites. The largest counts were 4 near Cilcain on 14/07, 25/07 and 12/08 (GEM) and 5 during a BBS survey near Gronant on 26/05 (GRMP).

CNOCELL FRAITH FWYAF

(GS)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	454	4+
	Flints	388	3
2012	Denbs	501	3
	Flints	512	5



Lesser Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos minor*

Scarce breeding resident. Red list. WBAP. RBBP.

The number of records submitted continues to decline. If this is reflecting the detectability of the birds then it would seem that the population continues to decline and local extinction looms in the near future.

CNOCELL FRAITH LEIAF

(LS)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	5	1
	Flints	1	1
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	1	1

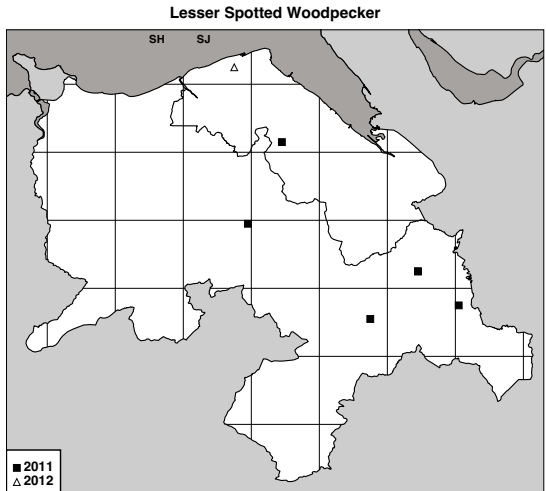
2011

Denbs. Of the few records 1 was heard drumming near Rhewl, Rhuthun on 22/03 (LJ) and there were two records from Acton Park, Wrexham in Apr (KS).

Flints. One was seen and heard calling at Ddôl Reservoir, Ysceiog on 22/01 (JVHu).

2012

Flints. One was recorded at the quarry at Prestatyn on 10/02.



Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio*

Rare visitor.

2011

Denbs. A female was at Conwy RSPB on 4/06 (MkW). Accepted by the WRP.

CIGYDD CEFNGOCH

(ED)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	

Great Grey Shrike *Lanius excubitor*

Scarce winter visitor.

2011

Denbs. The records were clustered round two discrete localities with most records from the World's End area rather than the usual Craig Bron Bannog.

CIGYDD MAWR

(SR)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	17	1
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	46	1
	Flints	0	

2012

Denbs. While only a single was ever seen, the scattering of records around the Mynydd Hiraethog area suggests there may have been more than one bird present.

Seen in these months:	
D	2011 J F M A M J J A S O N D
	2012 J F M A M J J A S O N D
F	2011 J F M A M J J A S O N D
	2012 J F M A M J J A S O N D

Chough *Pyrhocorax pyrrhocorax*

Rare breeding resident. Amber list.

2011

Denbs. The spring records were of 2 near the Horseshoe

BRAN GOESGOCH

(CF)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	10	2
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	15	2
	Flints	1	2

Pass and the autumn records were of 2 at Conwy RSPB or near Moel y Parc on several dates.

		Seen in these months:											
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

2012

Denbs. All but one record were from Conwy RSPB, usually of 2. The other record was of 1+ near Llanddulas on 26/02.

Flints. Two were seen flying E near Rhyl on 13/10 (JNW).

Magpie *Pica pica*

Common and widespread breeding resident.

PIODEN

Recorded during every month in both years in both counties. Recorded at 20/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 31/35 in 2012.

	(MG)	No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	798	21+
	Flints	836	21
2012	Denbs	858	14
	Flints	1220	16

2011

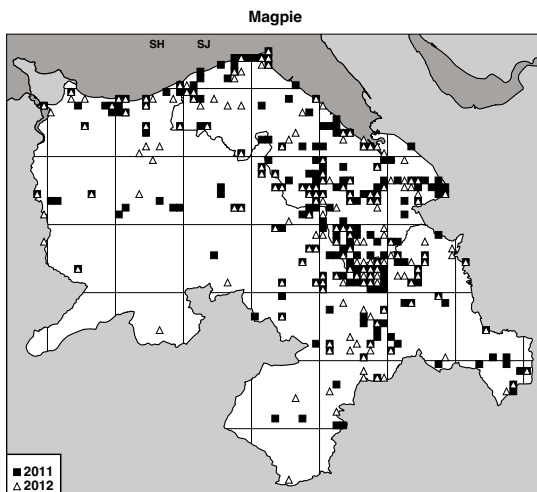
Denbs. The majority of records were of 1-9 and 62.0% were from GBW sites. There were just six larger counts: 10 near Wrexham on 15/07, which were mainly young birds fighting fiercely for food (NH); 12 at Alyn Waters CP on 21/03 (KGF); 13 at Pentre Maelor, Wrexham on 2/05 and 16 there on 14/06 (NH); 17 near Wrexham on 8/09 at a possible pre-roost gathering (NH) and 21+ near Cyffylliog on 26/02 (IMS).

Flints. Most records were of 1-10 with ten larger counts of 11-21 and 57.3% of records were from GBW sites. The largest counts were: 15 at Halkyn Mountain on 20/01 (MD); 15 near Mold during a BBS survey on 19/06 (IMS); 15 near Cilcain on 2/09 (GEM); 15 at Connah's Quay NR on 18/11 (LJ) and 21 at Point of Ayr on 22/01 (MD).

2012

Denbs. There were fewer large counts this year and most were of 1-8 with 64.8% of records from GBW sites. The three largest counts were all from BBS surveys: 10 at Pentre Maelor, Wrexham on 11/05 and 14 there on 28/06 (LWe) and 10 at Rhyd-y-Foel, near Llanddulas on 18/06 (GBH).

Flints. The majority of records were counts of 1-11 with six records of 12-16 and 51.8% of records were from GBW sites. The largest counts were: from Oakenholt Marsh where there were 12 on 6/04, 13 on 8/04, 13 on 5/10 and 14 on 16/02 (GEM), 14 during a BBS survey at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft on 30/05 (IMS) and 16 near Rhuddlan on 20/01 (SH).



Jay *Garrulus glandarius*

Fairly common breeding resident.

YSGRECH Y COED

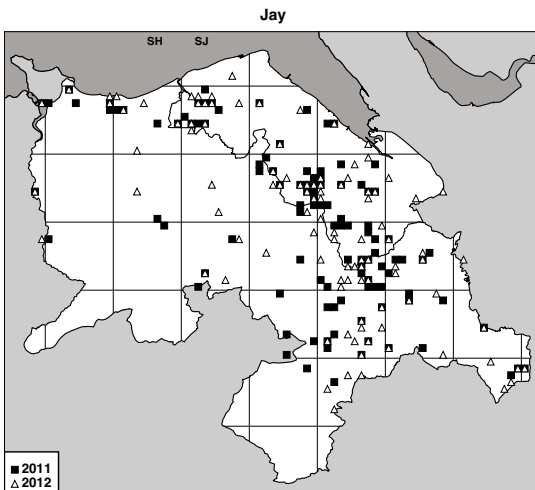
Recorded during every month of both years in both counties. Recorded in 6/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 12/35 in 2012.

(J)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	137	4
	Flints	163	5
2012	Denbs	187	4
	Flints	214	6

2012

Denbs. The majority of records were counts of 1-3 and 30.7% were from GBW sites. The largest counts were 4 at Alyn Waters CP on 21/03 (KGF) and 4 near Llanddulas on 23/10 (JnG). A minimum of 3 fledged young near Moelfre on 23/06 confirmed breeding in that area.

Flints. Most records were of 1-3 and 49.7% were from GBW sites. The three largest counts were 4 at Alltami on 17/01 (IMS), 4 at Rhydymwyn on 25/03 (DHil) and 5 near Pantymwyn on 5/11 (GEM). Breeding was confirmed near Rhydymwyn and Ysceifiog.



2012

Denbs. Most records were of 1-3 and 43.5% of records were from GBW sites. The two largest counts were 4 near Black Wood, Garth on 6/09 (JoR) and 4 at Conwy RSPB on 25/10 (JHg). Fledged young were seen at Minera, confirming breeding in that area.

Flints. Most records were counts of 1-4 and 50.9% came from GBW sites. The five largest counts were: 5 during a BBS survey at Bodrhyddan Hall, Dyserth on 28/06 (PtB); 5 near Cilcain on 21/10 (GEM); 6 near Pantymwyn on 3/11 (GEM) and 6 at Bagillt on 19/11. There were no records of confirmed breeding.

Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*

Common breeding resident

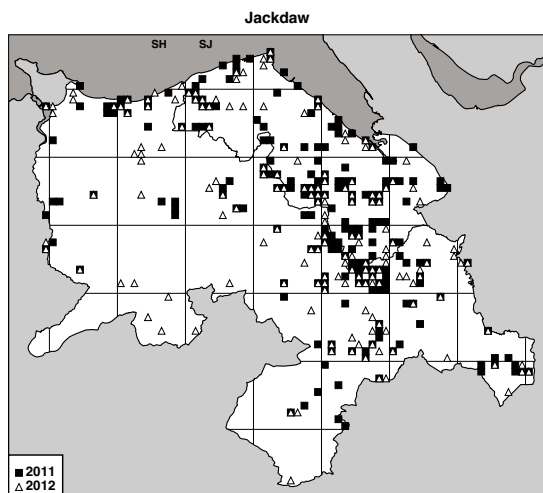
JAC-Y-DO

Recorded during every month in both years in both counties. There were considerably more records for each county and year than in recent years. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 471 (Denbs.) and 218 (Flints.). Recorded at 16/22 BBS sites in 2011 and 27/35 in 2012.

(JD)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	719	350
	Flints	600	300
2012	Denbs	693	250
	Flints	961	300

2011

Denbs. The vast majority of records were counts of 1-50 and 65.0% of records were from GBW sites and no doubt many of these were raiding garden feeders. The largest counts were all from near Rhuddlan: 130 on 28/02, 350 on 10/03 and 100 on 9/08 (SH). Breeding was



confirmed at Glyn Arthur, near Eyton, at Castell near Llangwyfan and at Pandy.

Flints. Most records were of 1-50 and 48.3% were from GBW sites. There were eighteen records of 60-300 and the largest counts were all near Rhuddlan (in a different square from the records in Denbs.): 200 on 21/03, 250 on 16/08, 250 on 21/08 and 300 on 11/08 (SH). Breeding was confirmed at Prestatyn, near Nercwys and Sychdyn, at Hendre, Bagillt, Treuddyn, Moel y Crio, Greenfield, Gwernymynydd, Northop, Holywell, Rhydymwyn, Caerwys and Halkyn. These were all valuable records for the Atlas project.

2012

Denbs. Most records were of 1-50 with eight records of 51-250 and 66.7% of records were from GBW sites. The largest counts were 81 at Bwlchgwyn on 30/09 (JC), 90+ at Llangollen on 18/03 (HN) and 250 at Llanfwrog, Rhuthun on 15/01 (RG). Breeding was confirmed near Llanfihangel Glyn Myfyr, Bwlchgwyn, near Glasfryn and near Cerrigydrudion.

Flints. Most records, again, were of 1-50 with twenty four records of 54-300 and 45.6% were from GBW sites. The largest counts were mainly from within a GBW garden at Rhydymwyn, with 200 on 14/10 and 300 on 25/11 (DMH) and 300 from near Rhuddlan on 9/11 (SH). Breeding was confirmed near Bwlchgwyn, Pandy and at Rhydymwyn.

Rook *Corvus frugilegus*

Common and widespread colonial breeding resident.

Recorded during every month in both years in both counties. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 406 (Denbs.) and 148 (Flints.). Recorded at 10/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 1/35 in 2012.

YDFRAN

(RO)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	151	100
	Flints	163	150
2012	Denbs	167	400
	Flints	230	65

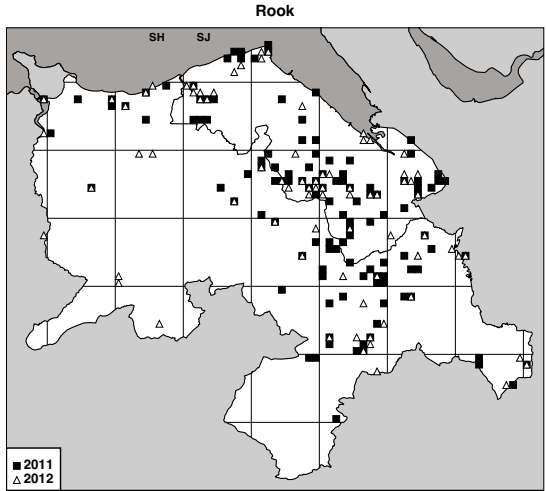
2011

Denbs. Most records were of 1-50+ with 50.3% from GBW sites. The four largest counts were 70 at Y Foel, S of Berwyn village on 23/07 (SD), 75 at St Asaph Business Park on 3/02 and 100 near Dyserth on 28/02 and 9/08 (SH). These counts are many fewer than could have been expected. There were several records of confirmed breeding.

Flints. Most records were of 1-70+ with 52.8% from GBW sites. The four largest counts were 91 at Gwernaffield on 12/10 (TP) and near Rhuddlan there were 100 on 21/08, 150 on 11/08 and 16/08 (SH). There were many records of confirmed breeding by MD.

2012

Denbs. Most records were of 1-30 and 67.5% were from GBW sites. The three largest counts were 32 at Trevor Hall, Garth during a BBS survey on 14/05 (MaEv), 33 near Llanarmon-yn-Ial also during a BBS survey on 15/04 (JaH), 50+ at Llawndy, Gwespyr on 8/03 at a rookery (DCR) and 65 at Gwernaffield on 23/01 (TP). There was just one record of confirmed breeding at the rookery already mentioned.



Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*

Common and widespread breeding resident.

Recorded in every month in both years in both counties. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 162 (Denbs.) and 96 (Flints.). Recorded in 21/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 32/35 in 2012.

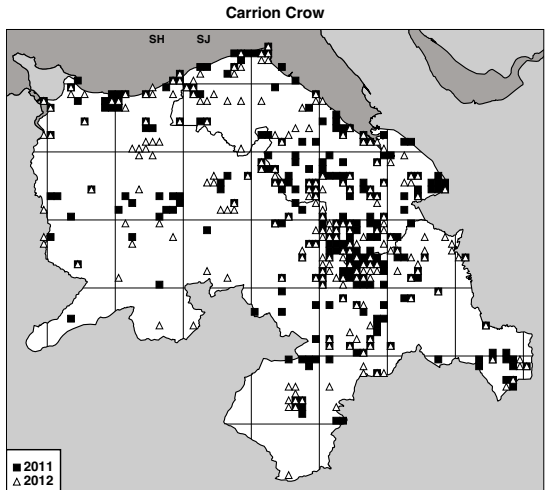
BRAN DYDDYN

(C)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	546	229
	Flints	528	43
2012	Denbs	589	33
	Flints	754	50

2011

Denbs. All but three records were of 1-20+ and 42.3% were from GBW sites. The largest counts were 80+ at Pensarn on 18/01 (DCR), 100 at Eglwyseg on 26/01 (NJS) and 229 roosting on a sandbank in the estuary at Conwy RSPB on 15/11 (RoH). Breeding was confirmed at three locations.

Flints. Again, all but three records were of 1-20 and 41.3% were from GBW sites. The largest counts were 23 at Point of Ayr on 22/01 (MD), 30+ at Greenfield marsh on 20/01 (MD) and 43 at Penbedw on 9/02 (MD). Breeding was confirmed at many locations.



2012

Denbs. Surprisingly, again, all but three records were of 1-20 and 39.9% of records were from

GBW sites. The largest counts were 22 during a BBS survey at Trevor Hall, Garth on 18/06 (MaEv), 25 at Conwy RSPB on 5/09 (AnH) and 33 during a BBS survey near Rhuthun on 12/05 (MB).

Flints. Most records were of 1-20 with thirteen records of 21-50 and 34.9% were from GBW sites. The three largest counts were 43 near Hawarden on 9/07 including fledged young (IMS), 49 during a BBS survey near Babell on 23/05 (KDf) and 50 at Connah's Quay NR on 8/07 (GEM).

Hooded Crow *Corvus cornix*

Occasional visitor. Amber list.

2011

Denbs. One was seen at Conwy RSPB on 15/05 flying E.

Flints. One was seen near Hope on 2/10 and 8/10.

2012

Denbs. One was seen twice in the vicinity of Kinmel Bay on 18/12.

BRAN LWYD			
(HC)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	2	1
2012	Denbs	2	1
	Flints	0	

Raven *Corvus corax*

Fairly common and widespread breeding resident.

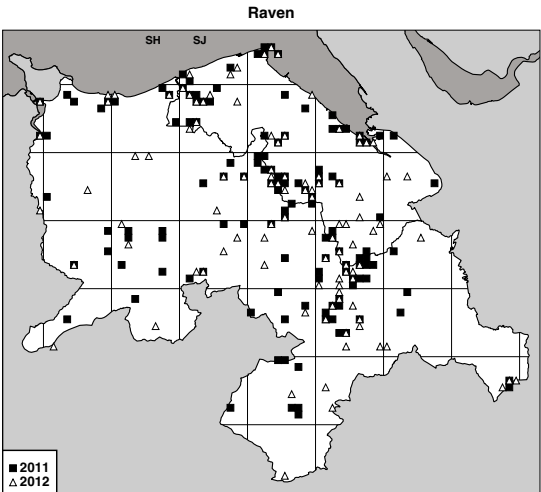
Recorded during every month in both years in both counties. The mean maximum counts for 2004-10 were 44 (Denbs.) and 8 (Flints.). Recorded in 6/23 BBS squares in 2011 and 18/37 in 2012.

CIGFRAN			
(RN)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	140	8
	Flints	146	12
2012	Denbs	117	8
	Flints	127	20

2011

Denbs. The majority of records were of 1-5 with just 2.1% from GBW sites. The four largest counts were 6+ at Glyn Arthur on 1/03 displaying (JVHu), 6 there on 16/09 and 8 there on 15/10 (GEM). These counts are many fewer than the mean maxima in recent years.

Flints. Most records were counts of 1-6 with 28.1% coming from just two GBW sites at Rhydymwyn and Cilcain. The three largest counts were 7 at Penycloddiau on 2/04 (MD), 8 at Dyserth on 23/08 (LJ) and 12 at Rhydymwyn on 11/02 (JVHu).



2012

Denbs. Most records were of 1-5 with none from GBW sites. The three largest counts were 6 near Denbigh on 4/02 (JDa), 7 from near Mynydd y Gyrt, near Llanfair Talhaiarn on 2/06 during

a BBS survey (AIC) and 8 at Pendinas Reservoir on 13/04 (JC). Again, these are lower counts than might have been expected.

Flints. Most records were of 1-7 with none from GBW sites. The five largest counts were from two places: near Rhuddlan with 8 on 14/10, 8 on 30/12 and 20 on 20/10 (SH) and at Connah's Quay NR with 8 on 6/08 (PDS) and 11 on 24/08 (GEM).

Breeding (WRBBSRG):

(RN)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2011 Denbs	17	74	43	43	2.53
2012 Denbs	14	52	42	39	2.79

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*

Common breeding resident. Amber list.

Recorded in every month in each year in both counties.

Recorded in 5/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 14/35 in 2012.

DRYW EURBEN

(GC)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	86	18
	Flints	58	3
2012	Denbs	145	20
	Flints	95	9

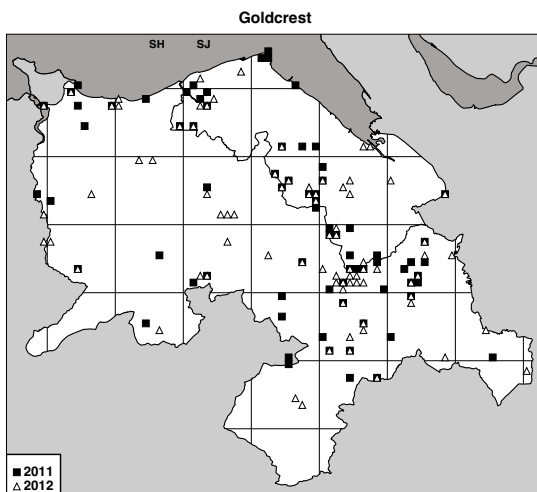
2011

Denbs. The maximum count was 18 at Llyn Brenig on 1/9 (DvJ). Breeding was proven in a garden in Wrexham (NH) and at Burton (HL). GBW produced 28% of the records.

Flints. There were several counts of 3, but this was the maximum this year. There was no confirmed breeding and 29% of records were from GBW.

2012

Denbs. The maximum count was 20 at Pendinas Reservoir on 23/08 (DCR). Breeding was proven in Jul at Clocaenog Forest (IMS) and Llanrwst (VRB) and 15% of records were from GBW.



Flints. The maximum count was 9 at Bodrhyddan Hall on 11/12 (DCR). There was no confirmed breeding and 38% of records were from GBW.

Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla*

Scarce migrant and winter visitor. Amber list. RBBP.

All records were from Conwy RSPB which has become a traditional wintering site since 1999. It may be overlooked elsewhere.

DRYW PENFFLAMMGGOCH

(FC)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	11	2
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	69	3
	Flints	0	



Firecrests by Will Miles

2011

Denbs. One was seen on two occasions in Jan and two wintering birds were seen by many observers from 30/11 onwards.

2012

Denbs. The 2 at Conwy RSPB were recorded from New Year until 2/02. Up to 3 were present the following winter, from 4/10 until the end of the year (52 of the 69 records were from this last winter).

Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*

Abundant breeding resident.

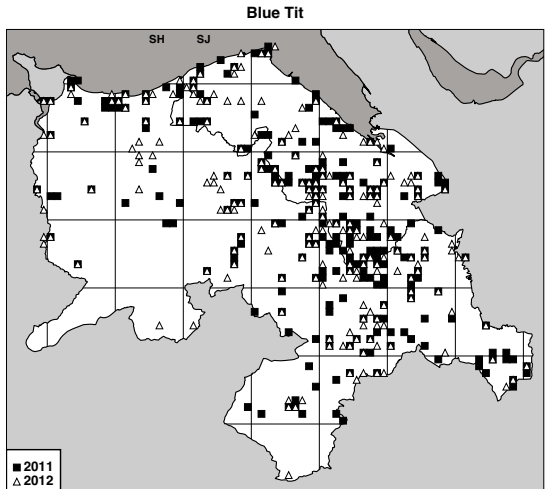
TITW TOMOS LAS

(BT)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1412	30
	Flints	1082	51
2012	Denbs	1492	38
	Flints	1457	33

Recorded during every month in both years in both counties. Despite the wet weather in 2012 the productivity of nests seems not to have been adversely affected, as seems the case with Great Tit which breed slightly earlier. Recorded in 20/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 32/35 in 2012.

2011

Denbs. Most records were of 1-10 with seventeen records of 11-20. 69% of records were from GBW and 8% from ringing. The largest counts were 21 fullgrown birds ringed at Bedwlyn on 14/11, 21 nestlings ringed at Pandy on 20/05, 23 at Castell on 10/04 (MD), 24 nestlings ringed at Prion on 29/05 (pBH), 29 nestlings ringed at Coed Nantddu, Clocaenog on 19/05 (IMS) and 30 nestlings ringed at Glyn Arthur on 15/05 (pBH).



Flints. Most records were of 1-25 with

just three higher counts and 66% of records were from GBW and 4% from ringing. The four largest counts were 30 near Rhuddlan on 1/01 (SH), 30 near Cilcain on 4/11 (GEM), 36 near Rhuddlan on 22/01 (SH) and 51 nestlings ringed at Coed y Felin, Hendre on 28/05 (IMS).

2012

Denbs. The majority of records were of 1-19 with 74% of records from GBW sites and 1% from ringing. The three largest counts were 20 from Conwy RSPB on 29/10 (GrR), 21 nestlings ringed at Coed Nantddu on 27/05 (IMS) and 38 fullgrown ringed near Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd on 19/02 (pBH).

Flints. Most records were of 1-30 with 56% of records from GBW sites and 0.5% from ringing. The two largest counts were 32 near Rhuddlan on 1/01 (SH) and 33 nestlings ringed at Coed y Felin, Hendre on 2/06 (IMS).

Breeding (MRG, IMS, JVHu):

(BT)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2011					
Glyn Arthur	24	195	168	115	4.79
Llwynmawr	2	11	11	11	5.50
Pandy	6	49	28	14	2.33
Llewesog Hall	40	329	215	177	4.43
Coed Nantddu	6	56	29	29	4.83
Coed y Felin	12	96	59	52	4.33
Rhydymwyn	30	224	178	107	3.57
Llanarmon –yn-lal	4	32	19	12	3.00
TOTALS	124	992	707	517	4.17
2012					
Glyn Arthur	18	131	111	77	4.28
Llwynmawr	1	9	7	7	7.00
Pandy	11	90	88	68	6.18
Llewesog Hall	38	345	311	223	5.87
Coed Nantddu	6	57	37	36	6.00
Coed y Felin	9	95	50	38	4.22
Rhydymwyn	29	183	128	84	2.90
Llanarmon –yn-lal	1	6	3	3	3.00
TOTALS	113	916	735	536	4.74

Great Tit *Parus major*

Abundant breeding resident.

Recorded during every month in both years in both counties. Breeding output was much lower in 2012 and this was probably related to the wet weather in that year. Recorded in 20/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 31/35 in 2012.

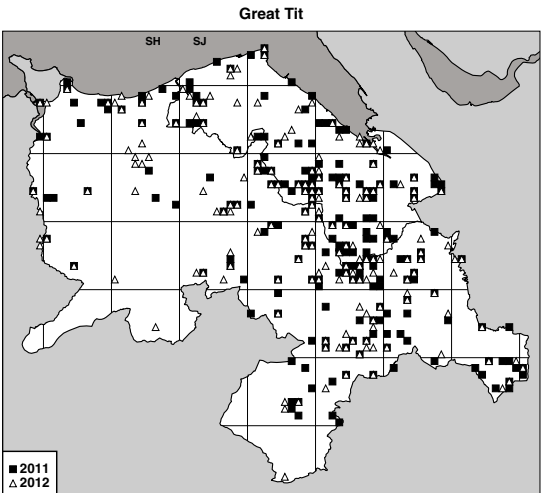
2011

Denbs. Most of the records were of 1-23 with 72% of records from GBW sites and 9% from ringing. The largest counts were 25 from Castell in the Clwydians on 29/10 (MD), 32 nestlings ringed at Glyn Arthur on 15/05 (pBH), 42 nestlings ringed at Pandy on 20/05 and 44 nestlings ringed there on 19/05 (pBH).

Flints. Most records were of 1-18 with 70% of records from GBW sites and 3% from ringing. The largest counts were 20 near Rhuddlan on 22/01 (SH), 20 at Rhydymwyn on 2/04 and

TITW MAWR

(GT)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1169	44
	Flints	941	30
2012	Denbs	1261	17
	Flints	1188	22



30 there on 25/03 (DHil).

2012

Denbs. Most of the records were of 1-12 with 77% of records from GBW sites. The three largest counts were 13 at Trevor Hall, Garth during a BBS survey on 14/05 (MaEv), 15 from Llansannan also during a BBS survey on 20/06 (GBH) and 16 nestlings ringed at Coed Nantddu, Clocaenog on 20/05 (IMS).

Flints. Most records were of 1-13 with 66% of records from GBW sites and 9% from regular counts at Rhydymwyn (JVHu). The largest counts were 16 from near Rhuddlan on 1/01 (SH) and Bodrhyddan Hall, Dyserth during a BBS survey on 20/5 (PtB), 17 nestlings ringed at Pandy on 26/05 (pBH) and 22 nestlings ringed at Coed y Felin, Hendre on 20/05 (IMS).

Breeding (MRG, IMS, JVHu):

(GT)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2011					
Glyn Arthur	15	107	85	77	5.13
Llwynmawr	1	2	2	1	1.00
Pandy	20	131	120	103	5.15
Llewesog Hall	23	171	130	108	4.70
Coed y Felin	7	43	33	21	3.00
Rhydymwyn	20	125	103	65	3.25
Llanarmon –yn-lal	3	14	12	12	4.00
TOTALS	89	593	485	387	4.35
2012					
Glyn Arthur	12	98	77	59	4.92
Pandy	28	150	107	36	1.29
Llewesog Hall	24	181	145	94	3.92
Coed Nantddu	5	36	26	25	5.00
Coed y Felin	9	42	31	29	3.22
Rhydymwyn	31	201	144	110	3.55
Llanarmon –yn-lal	4	22	14	14	3.50
TOTALS	113	730	544	367	3.25

Coal Tit *Periparus ater*

Widespread breeding resident.

TIT PENDDU

Recorded in every month of the year from both field and garden reports. More records from Denbs. than from Flints. again in both years. Recorded in 6/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 13/35 in 2012.

(CT)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	807	30
	Flints	570	4
2012	Denbs	935	8
	Flints	799	6

2011

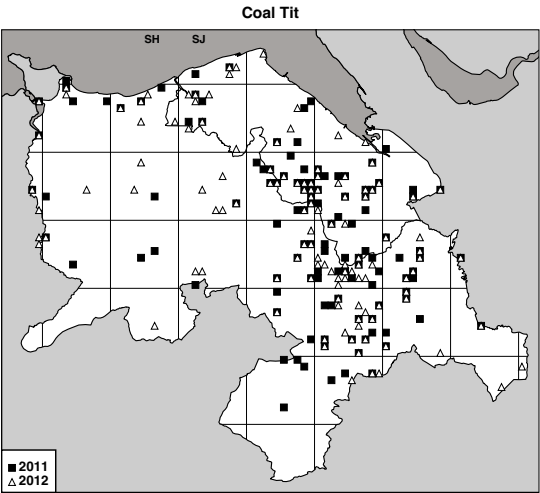
Denbs. The maximum count was recorded at Coed Tai-isaf on Mynydd Hiraethog with 30 on 20/01 (KS). Llyn Brenig had a further double figure count with 24 on 1/09 (DvJ). GBW accounted for 78% of records, with several maximum garden counts of 4 in Jun and Jul from Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd (JRob). A brood of 8 nestlings was ringed at Glyn Arthur on 21/05 (pBH).

Flints. The largest count of 4 was from Rhydymwyn on 2/04 (DHil). There were many GBW records of the same count on several dates at Nant Alyn, Pantymwyn, both early and late in the year (TeA).

2012

Denbs. Most records were of 1-6 with the maximum count of 8 recorded at two sites: Trefechan on 8/10 (JoR) and at Craig Bron Bannog during a BBS visit on 6/05 (MaO). GBW again counted for most of the records with 83%. The other large count was 7 at Trevor Hall, Garth on 3/11(LB).

Flints. Most records were of 1-5 and the highest count came from Rhydymwyn with 6 recorded on 14/11 (JVHu). GBW counted for 69% of records with a maximum of 4 recorded several times between 26/08 and end of year at Holywell (LMO).



Breeding (MRG):

(CT)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2011					
Glyn Arthur	1	8	8	8	8.00
2012					
Pandy	1	2	2	2	2.00

Willow Tit *Poecile montana*

Scarce breeding resident. Red list. WBAP. RBBP.

In the two years only six sites produced records. A similar set of records as 2010 but a rarely recorded species that may easily be overlooked.

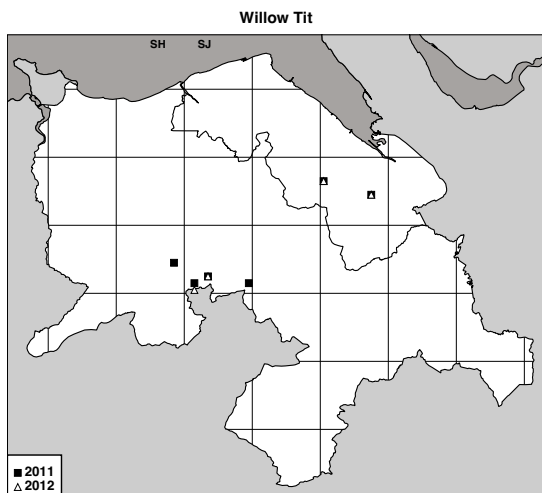
2011

Denbs. Six records from four sites with a maximum count at Craig Bron Bannog of 5 juveniles on 13/07 and 4 at same site on 9/07 (DvJ). At least 3 including fledglings were seen near Llyn Brenig on 11/06 which confirmed breeding in the area and 1 was ringed at Bronbannog on 30/07 (IMS). One was near Llanelidan on 5/03 (JVHu).

Flints. All but one record were from Rhydymwyn with a single maximum count of 2 on 27/12, but there were no records for Mar, Apr or May (JVHu). GBW had one further report from Buckley on 18/09 (CaSh, DaSh).

		TITWR HELYG	
(WT)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	6	5
	Flints	60	2
2012	Denbs	10	6
	Flints	17	2

		Seen in these months:											
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D



2012

Denbs. The records came from just two sites in the Clocaenog Forest. Recorded between Mar and Oct with a maximum of 6 from Craig Bron Bannog on 20/03 (DvJ). There were other records from Bronbannog with a maximum of 2 on 6/05 and 9/08. There were three ringing records of singles from the same site and observer, with one fledgling seen on 10/07 (IMS).

Flints. There were fewer records than in 2011 but the sites and maximum count were the same. There were sixteen records from Rhydymwyn with a maximum of 2 on 31/07 (JVHu). There were two GBW records with 1 seen at Buckley on 8/07 (DaSh) and 2 at Rhydymwyn on 22/04 (DMH).

Marsh Tit *Poecile palustris*

Scarce breeding resident. Red list. WBAP.

Recorded in 1/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 0/35 in 2012.

2011

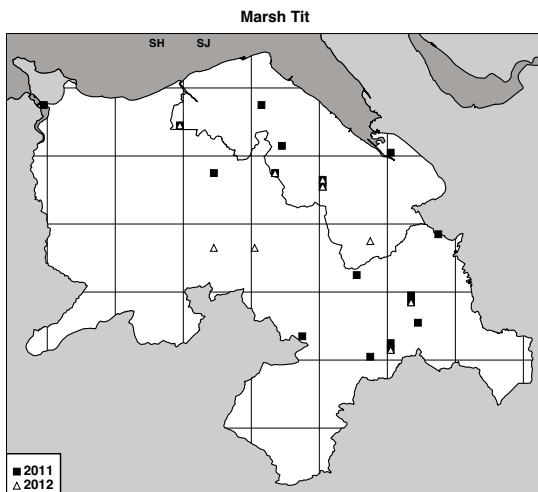
Denbs. Most of the records were of 1-2 and the two largest counts were 3 near Denbigh on 6/04 (DvJ) and at least 6 in a family party near Ruabon on 1/06 (JLR).

Flints. There were four records of 1, two records of 2 and the largest count was 4 at Rhydymwyn, where they have bred in the past, on 25/03 (DHil).

2012

Denbs. Seven of the records were of singles and the largest count of 2 was at Bodelwyddan Castle on 15/07 (AOH, CoR).

Flints. There were four records of singles, including an adult ringed at Rhydymwyn on 10/05 as well as 2 nestlings (IMS). Another 2 were seen at Penycloddiau on 7/04 (EdW). A nestling ringed at Rhydymwyn was later caught at Shotton Steelworks



TITW'R WERN

(MT)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	20	6
	Flints	7	4
2012	Denbs	8	2
	Flints	12	2

(see Ringing Report recoveries).

Seen in these months:													
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Skylark *Alauda arvensis*

Widespread though localised breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber list.

Recorded in every month in both years in both counties except for Dec 2011 and Aug, Sep 2012 in Denbs. and Aug 2011 in Flints. Recorded in 4/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 8/35 in 2012.

2011

Denbs. Most records were of 1-7 and by far the largest count of 75 came from Penycae, with several parties moving south in groups of 20-30 on 16/10 (JAJ). The next highest count was 7 at Conwy RSPB on 14/10 (SaM).

Flints. Most records were of 1-20 and the three largest counts were 25 at Connah's Quay NR on 28/11 (GR) and 30 from two sites: the mudflats at Point of Ayr on 5/01 (GR) and from a barley stubble area at Shotwick Fields on 18/11 (CW).

2012

Denbs. Records were mainly of 1-5 and the two largest counts were the modest total of 8 near Pen-plaenau in the Berwyn Mountains on 2/05 (DSt) and the maximum count of 34 from Trevalyn Meadows on 21/02 (HL).

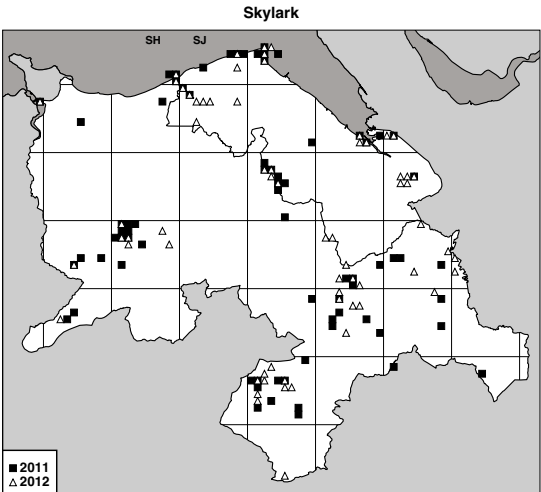
Flints. Reports were mainly of 1-22. The three largest counts were 30 at Shotwick Fields on 9/11 (CW), 40 at Connah's Quay NR on 23/01 (GR) and 60 at Shotwick Fields on 26/09 (CW).

Breeding (MRG, IMS):

(S)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2011					
Bagillt	1	3	3	3	3.00
Gwersyllt	1	4	4	4	4.00

EHEDYDD

(S)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	81	75
	Flints	58	30
2012	Denbs	58	34
	Flints	81	60



Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

Summer breeding visitor and passage migrant. Amber list.

The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 154 (Denbs.) and 58 (Flints.).

GWENNOL Y GLENNYDD

(SM)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	42	60+
	Flints	39	150
2012	Denbs	60	150
	Flints	37	45

Seen in these months:

D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

2011.

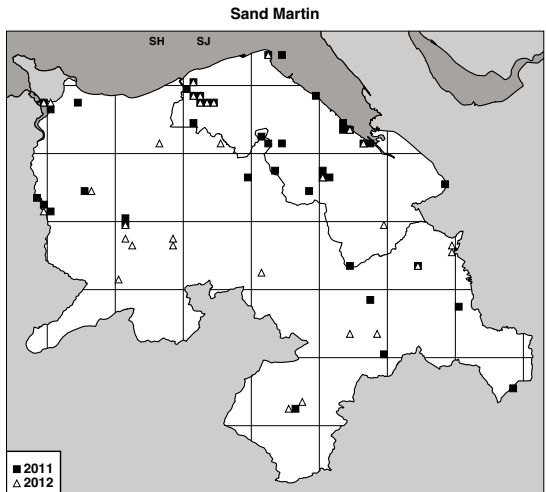
Denbs. The first and last records were from Conwy RSPB. The first was 1 on 12/03 and last 1 on 24/09 (JHg). The highest count of 60+ came from a nesting area near Afonwen on 12/06 (MD). Another 60 were recorded near River Dee bank nesting sites at Pickhill Hall on 10/04 and 50 were seen on migration moving N at Plas y Fron, Ruabon Mountain on 7/04 (JAJ). The numbers seen were fewer than might have been expected.

Flints. The first spring record was from the Brickworks, Rhyl with 2 on 16/03 (AOH). The largest count was 150 near Rhuddlan on 3/04. The last record of the year was in the same area on 12/09 (SH). The maximum was higher than the mean maxima of recent years.

2012

Denbs. The first record was from the same date and site as in 2011 with 4 at Conwy RSPB on 12/03 (pJHg). There were thirteen records of 10-100 and the largest count of 150 was at Gresford Flash on 14/04 (HL). The last record was 1 seen at Conwy RSPB on 27/09 (JMB).

Flints. The first record was at the same site as in 2011, but three days later on 15/03 with 1 at Brickworks Pool, Rhyl (AOH). The largest counts were in the Rhuddlan area with twelve records of 10-38 and the maximum count of 45 there on 14/05. The last record for the area was 4, also seen at same site on the relatively early date of 31/08 (SH).



Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

Common and widespread summer breeding visitor and passage migrant. Amber list.

GWENNOL

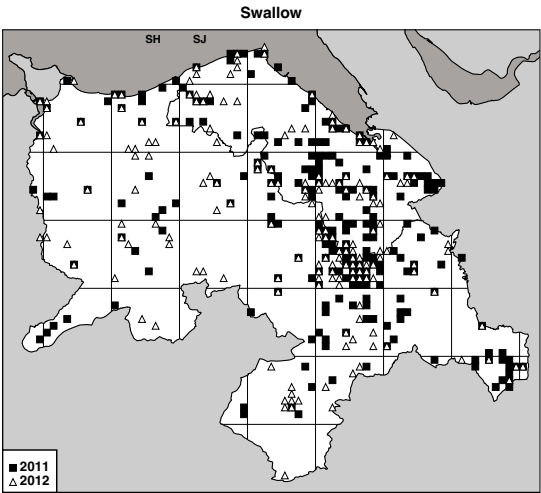
(SL)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	270	1000+
	Flints	281	75
2012	Denbs	216	1000
	Flints	276	3000

Recorded during Apr to Oct each year in both counties except present in Denbs. in Nov 2011 and absent Mar 2012 in Flints. The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 296 (Denbs.) and 421 (Flints.). The inclement weather of 2012 did not seem to drastically affect the breeding performance of this

species across all sites in each year.
Recorded at 20/23 BBS sites in 2011
and 34/37 BBS squares in 2012.

2011

Denbs. The first report of 3 at Conwy RSPB was on 25/03, which is a couple of days earlier than the first spring record in 2010 (pJHg). Also from same site came the largest counts with over 1,000 recorded at a reed-bed roost on two nights, 24/08 and 25/08 (pJHg). There were 250 seen at Plas y Fron, Ruabon Mountain, flying over water before heading N with others following on 7/04 (JAJ). Just over a quarter (25.9%) of records came from GBW with a maximum count of 10 at Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd on 19/06 (JRob). The last record came from Abergele on 15/11, which is a couple of weeks later than in 2010. The roost count was considerably higher than the mean maxima for recent years.



Flints. There was a much earlier first report than the last few years with 2 over the dunes at Talacre on 10/03, then no other reports till 24/03 (RMB). The highest count of 75 was from near Rhuddlan on 23/08 (SH). A 70+ count was also recorded with birds feeding over sewage works at Greenfield on 9/05 (MD). There were not many late counts but the last report came from Oakenholt, Flint, with 1 on 24/10 (BH). Just 17.8% of records were from GBW sites.

2012

Denbs. The first, last and maximum counts all came from Conwy RSPB. The first was on 20/03 and the last on 6/10 (JHg). There were a number of large counts in Apr/May and a maximum of 1,000 on 1/05 (JuW). There were just 3.3% of records from GBW sites in stark contrast to last year.

Flints. The first of spring were 2 seen near Rhuddlan on 3/04 (SH). There were forty nine
Breeding (MRG, IMS, JVHu, JLR):

(SL)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2011					
Pandy	20	89	74	55	2.75
Beeches Farm	16	61	47	47	2.94
Rhydymwyn	5	20	20	17	3.40
Near Llangollen	9	45	33	33	3.67
TOTALS	50	215	174	152	3.04
2012					
Pandy	13	59	44	41	3.15
Beeches Farm	14	51	34	30	2.14
Rhydymwyn	10	50	30	22	2.20
Near Llangollen	30	139	106	106	3.53
TOTALS	67	299	214	199	2.97

records of 10-500 and a number of the larger counts came from Bagillt later in season, with a maximum of 3,000 roosting in maize on 3/09 (GRMP). The last record of the year came from near St. Asaph with 1 on 9/10 (JNW). The 8.7% of records from GBW mainly came from one site in Rhydymwyn, with one record from Buckley. The large roost at Bagillt was considerably more than the mean maxima for recent years.

House Martin *Delichon urbica*

Common and widespread summer breeding visitor and passage migrant. Amber list.

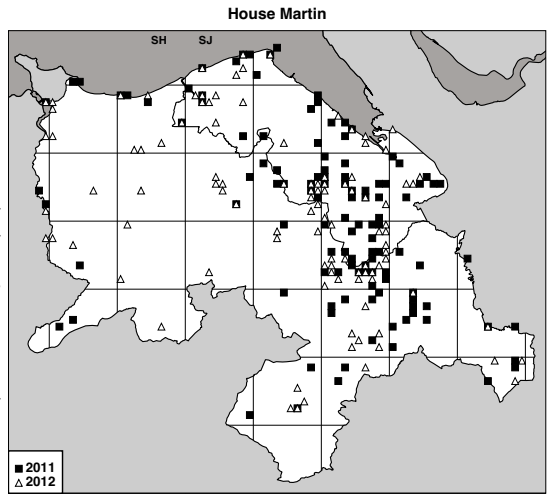
Recorded from across the area with similar first and last dates to previous year. The records were during Apr to Oct in Denbs. in both years and Apr to Sep in Flints. in both years. The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 121 (Denbs.) and 142 (Flints.). Recorded in 8/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 14/35 in 2012.

2011

Denbs. The first record of the year was 35 seen moving N near Coedpoeth on 7/04 (pJLR) and 42.3% of records came from GBW sites. There were few large concentrations, with 40 near Glyn Arthur on 16/09 (GEM) and the largest count of 100 flying over water at Plas y Fron, Ruabon Mountain on 7/04 (JAJ). The last of the year was 1 seen at Conwy RSPB on 9/10 (pJHg).

GWENNOL Y BONDO

(HM)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	163	100
	Flints	156	200+
2012	Denbs	119	250
	Flints	156	120



Flints. The first record of year was 3 near Rhuddlan on 4/04 (SH). The last record was a GBW report of 24 at Rhydymwyn on 25/09 (DMH). There were thirty four records of 10-60 and the largest count came from Greenfield Valley with about 200 on 28/05 (LJ). Twelve sites had nesting records with a similar count to 2010. Only 21.8% of records came from just two GBW sites at Rhydymwyn and near Ewloe.

2012

Denbs. The first and last record of the year and the maximum count came, again, from Conwy RSPB. The first was 1 seen among Sand Martins and Swallows on 2/04 (RoH). There were seventeen records of 10-70 and the two largest counts were 80 at Conwy RSPB on 7/05 (JuW) with 250 there on 1/05 (JuW). The last report came over a month later than previous record, with 10 on 29/10 (GrR). GBW sites accounted for just 4.2% of the records, which is very different from last year.

Flints. The first and last records and maximum count all come from the Rhuddlan area. There were 2 seen on 10/04 and forty three records were of 10-50. The two largest counts were from the same area with 100 on 17/08 and 120 on 22/08 (SH). The last record was 3 on 30/09 (SH).

There were nesting records from only two sites, Padeswood and Rhydymwyn, with a maximum GBW count of 50 from latter on 9/09 (DMH). Only 10.3% of records were from GBW, essentially just one site at Rhydymwyn.

Red-rumped Swallow *Hirundo daurica*
Vagrant.

2012

Denbs. The previous record was from Flints. when 1 was with a large flock of hirundines over arable fields on the border of Inner Marsh Farm on 9/08/2002. This record came from the estuary at Conwy RSPB with 1 flying with House Martins on 3/09 (RoH). Accepted by the WRP.

GWENNOL Y BOND

(VR)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	0	



Red-rumped Swallow by Dermot Smith

Cetti's Warbler *Cettia cetti*
Scarce visitor.

2012

Denbs. Three reports from Conwy RSPB: 1 recorded on 13/01 (RoH), 17/01 (WM) and 30/11 (RoH).

TELOR CETTI

(CW)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	3	1
	Flints	1	1

Flints. A single male recorded at the rifle range, Shotwick on 20/05 (BKH).

Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*

Common breeding resident

Recorded in every month in both years in both counties.

Recorded in 9/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 16/35 in 2012.

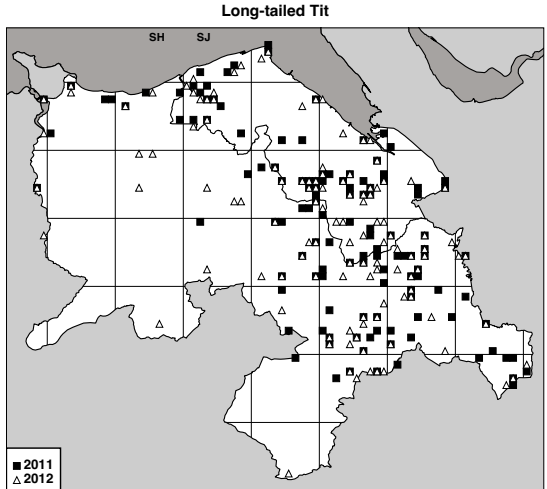
TITW GYNFFON HIR

(LT)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	308	16
	Flints	295	16
2012	Denbs	380	19
	Flints	370	30+

2011

Denbs. Most records were of 1-12 and 62.3% come from GBW sites, a similar percentage to 2010. The maximum GBW counts of 8 were on a couple of days in Jan at Llangollen (HN). The four largest counts were 15 at Bodelwyddan Castle on 2/01 (RS), near Wrexham on 3/02 (NH) and at Llandyrnog on 25/10 and 16 at Dyserth on 8/09 (SH).

Flints. Again, most records were of 1-12 with 44.4% of records from GBW sites. The highest GBW count was 12 from the Connah's Quay area on 12/06 (MSt). The two largest counts were 14 at Oakenholt on 18/10 (pGEM) and 16 near Rhuddlan on 31/08 (SH).



2012

Denbs. Nearly all the records were of 1-11 with 64.6% from GBW sites. The two largest counts were 14 at Erddig on 10/12 (seen as two groups of 8 and 6, NHu) and 19 from Bwlchgwyn on 19/02 (JC).

Flints. Most records were of 1-20 with 66.5% coming from GBW sites. The maximum of 18 came from the same garden at Connah's Quay as last year on 12/08 (MSt). The three largest counts were 24 at Connah's Quay NR on 23/09 and near Cilcain on 19/10 (GEM) and 30+ at Bodrhyddan Hall, Dyserth on 23/09 (DCR).

Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus*

Scarce autumn passage migrant.

TELOR AELFELYN

(YB)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	3	1
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	

2011

Denbs. The three reports were probably of the same bird at Conwy RSPB. First seen on 28/11 and a few days later on 1/12 (RS). It was reported to have stayed in the same area till 7/12 (RoH).

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*

Scarce, localised breeding summer visitor. Red list.

Most records came in 2011 from the Llangollen area.
Recorded in 0/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 1/35 in 2012.

TELOR Y COED

(WO)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	23	8
	Flints	2	1+
2012	Denbs	5	3
	Flints	1	1

2011

Denbs. The first bird of spring was 1 at World's End on 15/04 (KS). The maximum count came from Foel, Eglwyseg with 8 (four pairs) on 17/05. Most of the other records also came from the Eglwyseg area near Llangollen (JLR). The last report came from Black Wood, Garth with a single singing male on 25/06 (JLR). The only other report away from the main reporting area was a singing male at Hen Graig, above the Ceiriog Valley on 6/06 (NHu).

Flint. The first record was 1 at Penycloddiau on 24/04 (EdW) and the last record came from near Moel Plas-yw, near Llangwyfan with 1+ on 2/06 (MHa).

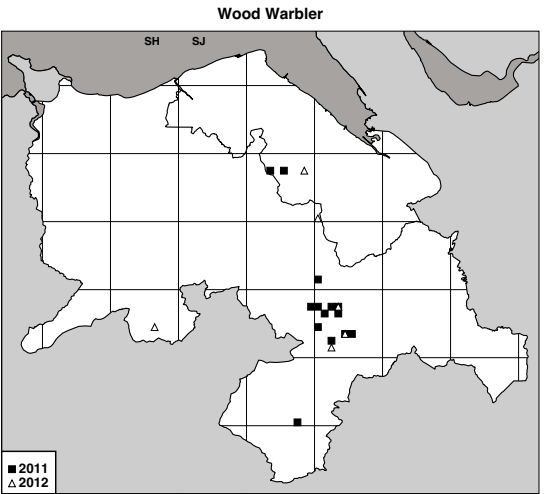
2012

Denbs. The first record was 1+ at Plas Newydd, Llangollen on 6/05. One singing male was at World's End on 7/05 (KS) and 1 near Moel Findeg

on 14/05 (SD). A BBS record from Llangwm, was a single on 17/06 (MaO). The last record was from Black Wood, Garth with 3 seen including fledged young on 25/06 (NS).

Flint. A single was recorded at Coed y Felin, Hendre on 4/05 (AB).

Seen in these months:													
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D



Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*

Common and widespread summer visitor with some birds overwintering.

There is an increasing number of reports of overwintering birds, particularly at the end of the year, in both counties.
Recorded in 16/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 29/35 in 2012.

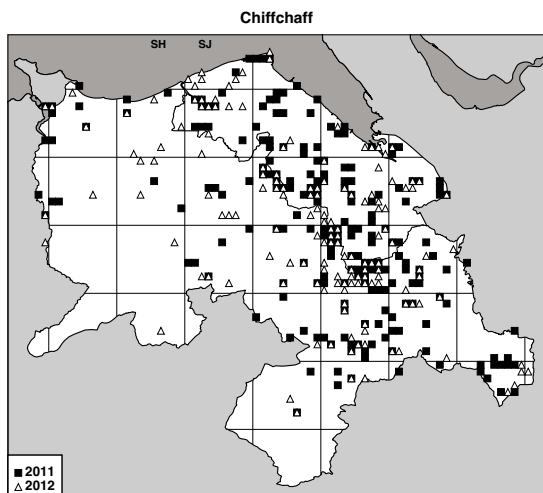
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(CC)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	238	13
	Flints	233	14
2012	Denbs	257	12
	Flints	222	15

Seen in these months:													
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

2011

Denbs. Jan was the only month without a record but the first singing record came from Pentrefelin, Llangollen with 1 on 17/03 (HN). Birds were present at Conwy RSPB on 5/03. The first GBW



report was at least one present near Froncysyllte on 13/03 (JVT) and 19.3% of all records were from GBW sites. Most records were of 1-10. The largest counts were 11 near Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 26/06 during a BBS survey (JaH), 11 at Plassey Craft Centre, Eyton on 26/06 (NHu), 13 at Hill Farm near Bettisfield Park on 28/05 (NHu) and 13 at Pentre Maelor, Wrexham during a BBS count on 14/06 (NH). Overwintering birds were mostly reported from Conwy RSPB, with 2 as the last record of the year on 28/12 (ACm).

Flints. The first record was 1 from the quarry, Prestatyn on 14/03 (LJ). Most records were of 1-10 and 26.6% of records were from GBW sites. The

three largest counts were all during BBS surveys with 11 near Pantymwyn on 26/06 (NRT), 12 near Mold on 23/04 (IMS) and 14 from Cilcain on 21/04 (HJ). Over 80 were ringed at Shotton Steelworks during the year and the last record was 2 fullgrown ringed on 4/12 (pBH).

2012

Denbs. Singles were reported on several dates in Jan from Conwy RSPB, then no record till Mar (pJHg, RoH). Most records were of 1-10 with 11.3% from GBW sites. At least one was at Gresford Flash on 1/03 (HL) but the first singing record was from Llandrillo-yn-Rhos on 17/03 (SKT). The first GBW report was from Llandegla with at least one on 18/03 (JRo). The largest counts were 11 at Trefechan, Penycae on 17/04 (NHu), at Erddig pool on 22/04 during a BBS survey (NHu), at Conwy RSPB on 22/04 and 12 at Penynant on 22/05 (JoR). Most late records come from Conwy RSPB with the last report on 15/12 (JuW). There were five records of the tristis subspecies, four of which were probably a single bird at Conwy RSPB on 23-24/01 (RoH) and another on 15/03 (WM).

Flints. The first records of the year came from two sites on 11/03, near Rhuddlan (SH) and a GBW sighting of 3 near Connah's Quay (MSt). Most records were of 1-10 and GBW accounted for 25.2% of the records. The largest counts were 11 near Gronant during a BBS survey on 26/05 (GRMP) and 15 at Penycloddiau on 31/03 and 21/04 (EdW). Nov had only two records, one of which was the last GBW sighting of 3 in Buckley on 11/11 (DaSh). Singles were reported in Dec at Talacre on 12/12 (DvJ) and at Rhyl (DCR) and areas near Rhuddlan had the last two records on 21/12 and 28/12 (SH). There was one record of a tristis at Talacre on 12/12 (DvJ).

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*

Common and widespread summer breeding visitor. Red list.

Recorded in 15/23 BBS squares in 2011 and 28/35 in 2012.

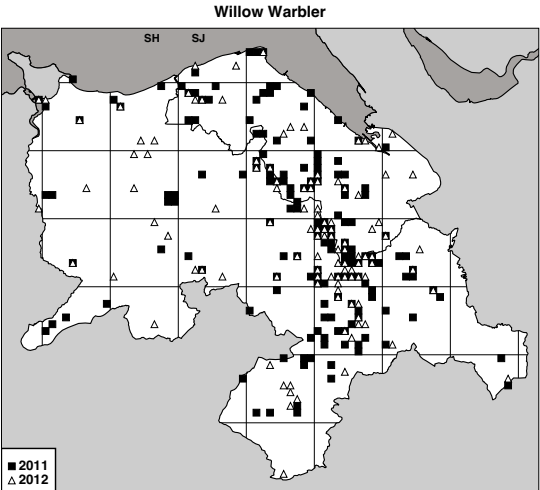
TELOR YR HELYG			
(WW)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	166	15
	Flints	93	30
2012	Denbs	162	60
	Flints	70	30

2011

Denbs. The first spring record was at Conwy RSPB on 25/03 (RS). Most records were of 1-10 and only four GBW records (2.4%) came from the same garden near Llandegla (JRo). The largest counts were from BBS surveys, 11 at Llanrmonyn-lal on 24/04 (JaH), 11 at Capel Siloam on 14/05 (MaO) and 13 at Moel Truan, W of Bryneglwys on 26/04 (SSt) and from ringing at Bronbannog, 12 fullgrown on 1/07 and 15 fullgrown on 30/07 (IMS). The last report came with at least one seen near Llangollen on 13/09.

Flints. The first of spring was recorded at Shotton Steelworks with 2 birds ringed on 1/04 (pBH). Most records were of 1-8 with 10.8% of records from GBW sites. The four largest counts were 20 at Penycloddiau on 22/04, 25/04 and 2/05 with 30 there on 9/04 (EdW). Garden reports come from Apr until the last area record from a garden in Buckley on 25/09 (CaSh, DaSh).

Seen in these months:												
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N



2012

Denbs. This year's pattern of records was similar to last year with the first report of spring from Conwy RSPB on 4/04 (RoH). Most records were of 1-30 with none from GBW sites. The largest counts came from Bronbannog with 38 on 26/07, including 31 ringed, and 60 on 21/07, 58 of which were also ringed. The last report was a late bird from Conwy RSPB on 6/10 (JHg).

Flints. The first record was from Penycloddiau with 6 there on 7/04 (EdW). Most records were of 1-20 and only 1.6% came from GBW sites. The largest counts were 25 at Penycloddiau on 19/05 and 30 there on 21/04 (EdW). The last record was 2 at Talacre on 17/09 (DM).

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*

Common breeding summer visitor and small numbers overwinter.

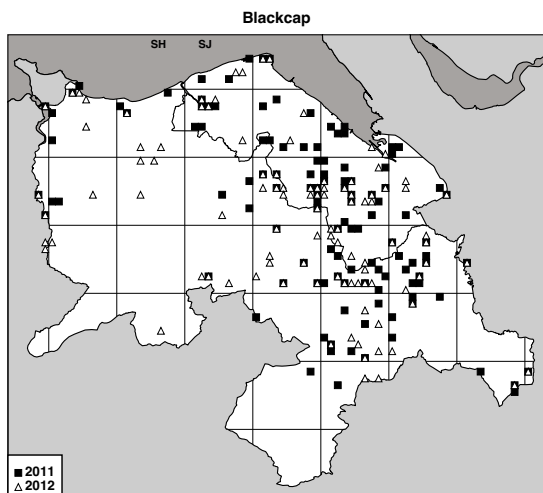
A widespread distribution of records is similar to previous years and again recorded in every month in both years in both counties. Peak records again in Apr and May but it is difficult to identify first spring records. Recorded in 14/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 23/35 in 2012.

TELOR PENDDU

(BC)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	170	5
	Flints	156	7
2012	Denbs	180	12
	Flints	152	11

2011

Denbs. Most records were of 1-4 and 31.8% of records come from GBW sites. The first record



of singing came from a Wrexham garden with 3 on 7/03, one of which was a singing male (NH). The largest counts were 5 recorded at Erddig on 8/04 (NHu), 5 at Pentre Maelor, Wrexham on 2/05 during a BBS survey (NH), 5 males at Johnstown on 18/05 (NHu) and 5 males were seen in a hawthorn at Conwy RSPB on 14/10 (RS).

Flint. Most records were of 1-4 and 44.9% of records were from GBW sites. They accounted for nearly all of the records in Jan, Feb and Mar and all the records in Nov and Dec. In winter gardens are good places to see Blackcap and they may be there preferentially because of food stations and berry bearing plants. Ringing

records came from Shotton Steelworks. The largest counts were 5 on Penycloddiau on 9/04 (EdW), then three records from BBS surveys, 5 near Mold on 24/04 (GEM), 6 near Pantymwyn on 14/05 (NRT) and 7 near Mold on 23/04 (IMS) and lastly, 7 ringed at Shotton Steelworks on 10/07 (pBH).

2012

Denbs. The first spring singing record came from Llandrillo-yn-Rhos on 31/03 (SzC). Most records were of 1-5 and 29.1% were from GBW sites. The two largest counts were 6 at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest on 9/08, of which 5 were ringed (IMS) and 12 seen on a BBS count near Prion on 11/05 (AIWb).

Flint. Most records were of 1-5 and 37.2% of records came from GBW sites. The lowest number of records were in Mar, Oct and Nov. The largest counts were 6 at Penycloddiau on 5/05 (EdW). During during BBS surveys at Gronant there were 7 on 26/06 and 11 on 26/05 (GRMP).



Blackcap by Dermot Smith

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin*

Breeding summer visitor mainly recorded in spring.
Amber list.

Recorded in 6/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 7/35 in 2012.

2011

Denbs. The first and last records came from Conwy RSPB. The first spring record was 1 on 14/04 and the last on 21/08 (RS). The maximum counts of 3 came from Erddig on 1/05 (NH) and 3 the next day at Fenn's Moss. Most records were of 1-2 and 4 fullgrown birds were ringed at Bronbannog between 3/06 and 31/07 (IMS).

Flint. The first of spring was a single at Talacre on 14/04 (DCR). Again Penycloddiau had birds present on several days with six counts in all and maximum counts of 7 on 25/04 and 8 on 2/05 (EdW). The last report came from Padeswood with 1 juvenile on 23/08 (GNR).

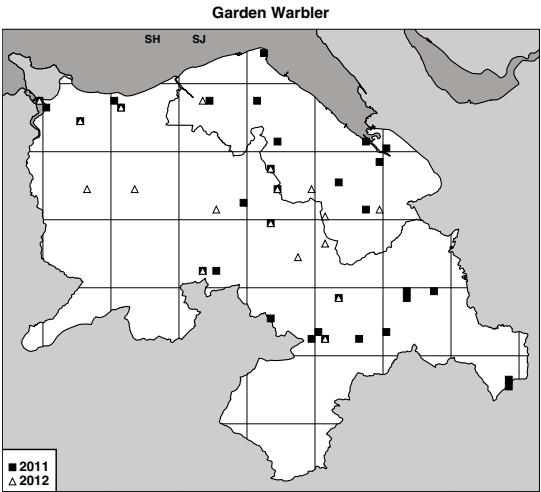
2012

Denbs. The first of spring was from Rhyd-y-Foel, a BBS count of 1, on 5/05 (GBH). Nearly half the reports were from Bronbannog with records from six dates, 16/05 to 10/07, and the maximum of 4, of which 3 were ringed, on 16/05 (IMS). The last record of the year was from Conwy RSPB on 23/08 (JHg). There were two records (8.7%) from a GBW site at Llangollen.

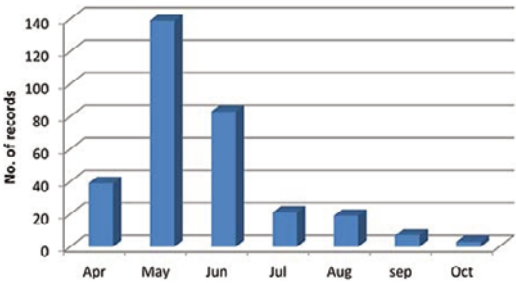
Flint. The first of the year was on 5/05 and five of the records came from Penycloddiau with a maximum count of 6 on 26/05 ((EdW). The last report of the year, and only one outside of May, came from Penyffordd with at least 1 singing on 30/06 (IMS).

TELOR YR ARDD

(GW)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	34	3
	Flints	13	8
2012	Denbs	23	4
	Flints	9	6



Records of Garden Warbler 2004-12



Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca*

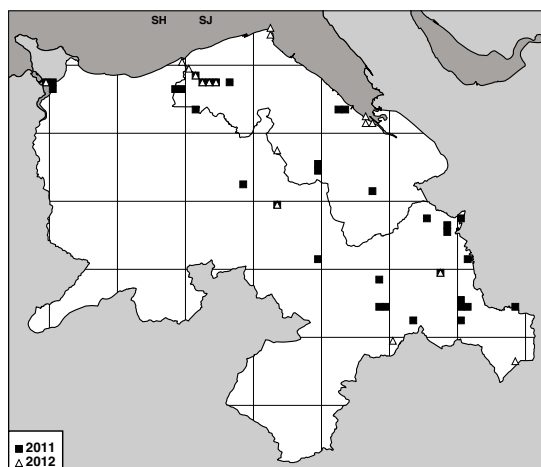
Scarce breeding summer visitor.

Recorded in 2/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 3/35 in 2012.

LLWYDFRON FACH

(LW)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	45	5
	Flints	13	2
2012	Denbs	17	4
	Flints	20	4

Lesser Whitethroat



2011

Denbs. The first record in spring came from the Pulford Brook area of Trevalyn on 19/04. Most records were of 1-2. The two largest counts were 4 juveniles near Dyserth on 14/07 and 5 there on 3/08 (SH). There was one report (2.2%) from a GBW site at Llandegla on 10/07 (JRo). The last report was from Conwy RSPB on 18/09 (JHg).

Flint. The Rhuddlan area had eight of the records, the first on 9/04 and maxima of 2 on 26/04 and 5/05, as well as the last report on 28/08 (SH). All other records were of singles and there was one record (7.8%) from a GBW site near Pantymwyn on 1/05 (MB).

2012.

Denbs. There were fewer reports this year and most records came from just two areas, three at Dyserth and nine from Conwy. The first spring record was 4 near Dyserth on 2/05 then 3 males plus 1 female on 12/05 (SH). The last record came from Conwy RSPB on an earlier date than in previous years, with at least 1 seen on 7/07 (pJHg).

Flint. The first of the year was a single at Talacre on 24/04 (GR). Most records were of 1-2 and more than half of the reports came from the Rhuddlan area. The largest counts were 4 on 2/05 and the last record was 3 there on 5/08 (SH).

Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*

Common breeding summer visitor. Amber list.

There were fewer reports in 2012 than in 2011 and they were also later, with most 2012 reports coming in May, with very few in Apr. Recorded in 12/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 16/35 in 2012.

2011

Denbs. First records of the year occurred at three sites on 19/04: 1 at Conwy RSPB (pJHg), 2 at Pulford Brook and 1 male near Dyserth (SH). Most records were of 1-6 and the largest counts were 7 at Mountain Lodge, Ruabon Mountain on 9/06 (JLR), 7 ringed at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest on 1/07 (IMS) and 10 at World's End on 27/04 (KS). There was a single GBW report of 1 (1.5%) from Llandegla on 8/05 (JRo). The last record was from Conwy RSPB on 20/09 (pJHg).

Flint. The first spring record was a single male singing at a coastal field site at Point of Ayr on 14/04 (DCR). Most records were of 1-6 and the maximum counts were during BBS surveys at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft with 11 on 27/04 and 13 on 26/06 (IMS). A total of 22 fully grown

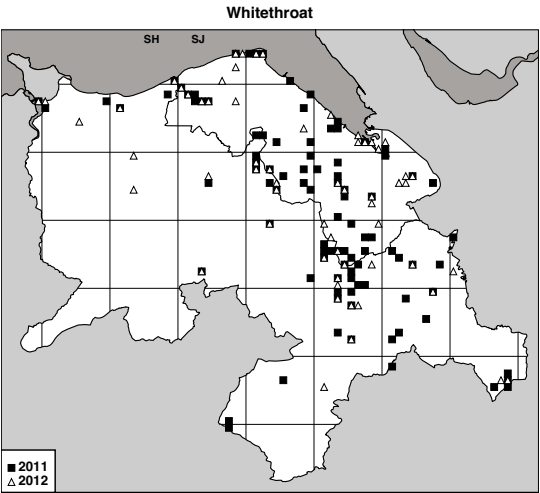
LLWYDFRON

(WH)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	81	10
	Flints	67	13
2012	Denbs	68	7
	Flints	53	8

birds were ringed at Shotton Steelworks site between 24/04 with the last report (of 4 ringed) on 21/08 (pBH)

2012
Denbs. Records were mainly distributed across the E of the area and most records were in May. The first and last reports came from Conwy RSPB, the first on 16/04 and the last on 1/09 (JuW). Most records were of 1-4 and the maximum counts were from Glyn Arthur with 7 on 9/05 and 5 on 25/05 (GEM). Bronbannog had 4 fully grown birds ringed between 16/05 and 9/08 (IMS).

Flint. Rhuddlan produced the first and last records; the first on 24/04 and the last on 25/08 (SH). Most records were of 1-7 and the maximum counts were 8 on a BBS survey at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft on 30/05 (IMS) and 13 including fledged young at Hawarden Industrial Estate on 9/07 (IMS).



Darford Warbler *Sylvia undata*

Rare vagrant. Amber list.

Although breeding was not proven, this is an interesting set of records, hopefully indicating that the species is increasing its range in Wales.

2011

Denbs. A single was recorded in the World’s End area between 4/03 and 2/05, during which it was photographed many times.

2012

Denbs. A single record was from World’s End on 20/03 (KS).

TELOR DARTFORD			
(DW)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	9	1
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	0	

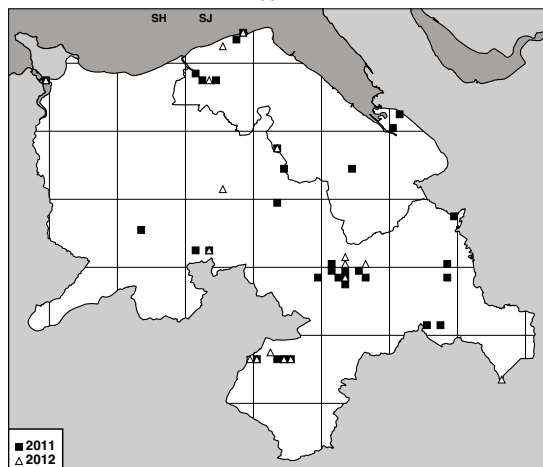
Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*

Localised summer breeding visitor. Red list.

As with other summer visitors there were fewer sightings in 2012 than 2011, no doubt due to the terrible wet weather during the summer of 2012. Recorded in 2/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 1/35 in 2012.

TROELLWR BACH			
(GH)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	38	4
	Flints	17	4
2012	Denbs	17	1+
	Flints	4	2

Grasshopper Warbler



The last record was from near Gronant on the early date of 2/07 (ACm).

2012

Denbs. The first of spring was a single recorded at Conwy RSPB on 22/04 (SaM). All records were singles this year and the last report was 1 ringed at Bronbannog on 26/07 (IMS).

Flint. The first, a single, was near Rhuddlan on 2/05 (SH). There were 2 near Gronant on 3/05 (JuW) and 1 at Penycloddiau on 5/05 (EdW). The last record came from near Prestatyn with at least 1 on 21/05 (LaC).

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

Breeding summer visitor.

The numbers of records and sites are lower in 2012 in Denbs. The Flints. records are also down in 2012, as there are no reports of ringing at Shotton Steelworks. Recorded in 5/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 4/35 in 2012.

2011

Denbs. The first spring report was at least 1 at Conwy RSPB on 5/04 (JoWa). This location provided nearly half of all the reports. Most counts were of 1-3 and the largest counts were 4 at Erddig pool on 1/05 and 11/06 during BBS surveys (NH), 4 at Conwy RSPB on 24/06 and 5 seen or heard at Wrexham Industrial Estate on 24/04 (NHu). The last report was 2 from the Erddig area of Wrexham on 14/08 (NH).

Flint. The first spring report was at least 1 near Point of Ayr on 11/04. Nearly half of the records came from ringing at Shotton Steelworks, with 40 adults ringed. The last of the year was a single ringed there on 28/08 (pBH). Most records were of 1-4, with 5 ringed at Shotton Steelworks on 15/05 and 3/07 (pBH), 6 near Cilcain during a BBS survey on 1/06 (HJ) and 6

2011

Denbs. The first of spring were at Conwy RSPB and World's End on 10/04 (SaM, KS). Almost all records were of singles, but the maximum count was 4 singing at the Firestone site, Wrexham Industrial Estate on 24/04 (NHu). Two fully grown were ringed at Bronbannog on 19/05 and 1 on 1/07 (IMS). The last record was a single at Erbistock on 11/07 (JoR).

Flint. The first of spring was on 10/04, the same date as Denbs., with a fullgrown bird ringed at Shotton Steelworks. Most records were of singles and the two largest counts were 3 at Penycloddiau on 22/04 (EdW) and 4 fullgrown birds ringed at Shotton Steelworks on 26/06 (pBH).

TELOR YR HESG

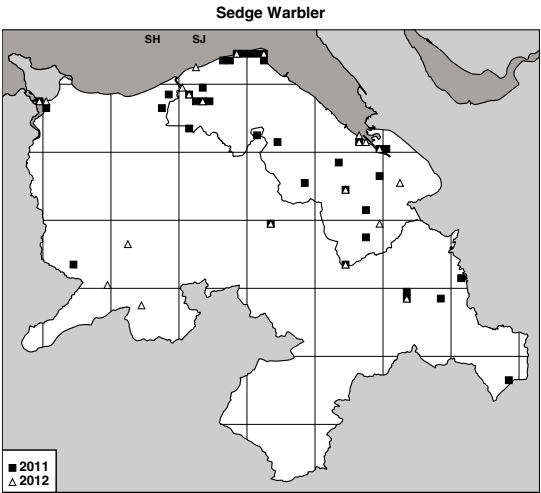
(SW)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	41	5
	Flints	56	6
2012	Denbs	34	3
	FlintS	32	6

at Gronant dunes a few days later on 6/06 (RMB).

2012

Denbs. The first record, maximum count, last report and over two thirds of all reports were from Conwy RSPB. The first record was 2 on 17/04 (SaM). Most records were of 1-2 and the largest counts were 3 on 2/05 and 5/05 (JuW). The last record was of the only bird ringed at the site on 4/08 (IMS).

Flint. The first record of spring was a single from near Rhuddlan on 30/04 (SH). Most records were of 1-2 and the largest counts were 3 near Gronant on 22/05 (JuW), 4 ringed at Shotton Steelworks on 13/05 (pBH) and 6 there on 15/05 (RyE). The last report was a single at Oakenholt on 16/07 (PSH).



Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

Localised breeding summer visitor.

TELOR Y CYRS

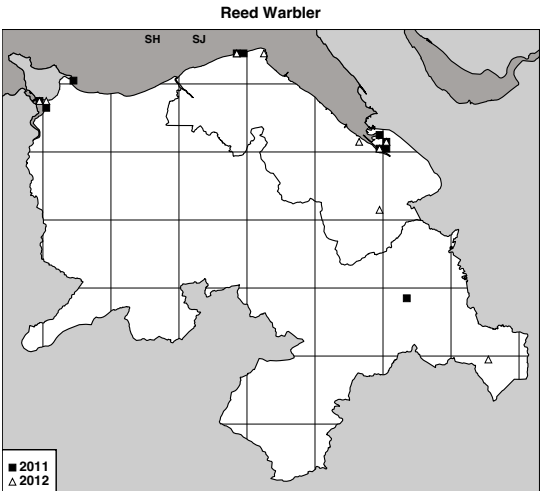
Locations were restricted to a few sites as in previous years with a number of records from a couple of sites. Recorded in 1/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 1/35 in 2012.

(RW)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	15	5
	Flints	37	21
2012	Denbs	27	2
	FlintS	30	13

2011

Denbs. All but two records came from Conwy RSPB. They were first reported with 3 on 8/04 (RS) and the last report was at least one on 23/07 (JHg). The maximum count of 5 included 4 chicks in a nest on 9/06 (RS). At the other sites, 2 were at Erddig during a BBS count on 1/05 (NH) and 1 singing in a Rhos-on-Sea garden on 9/05 (SKT).

Flint. All but four records come from ringing at Shotton Steelworks with a total of 182 ringed during the summer. The first record was a single ringed on 10/04 and the last another single ringed on 2/10. Most records were of 1-11, with the two largest counts of 13 ringed on 19/06 and 21 ringed on 10/07 (pBH). Shotton Paper Mill had a record of at least 2



on 13/05 (IMS). A single was at Broken Bank, Shotwick on 19/05 (RyE). Two sites near Gronant in Jun provided records of singles (DGi, MHa).

2012

Denbs. All but one record came from Conwy RSPB with the first report of spring on 19/04 and maxima of 2 on 7/07 (JuW) and when 2 fullgrown birds were ringed on 4/08 (IMS). The only other report came from Hanmer with a single on 25/08 (SD). The last record was a single at Conwy RSPB on 6/10.

Flint. There were more recording sites with six this year and the first record of 2 was from Talacre during a BBS count on 24/04 (GR). Most records were of 1-8 and the largest counts were all birds ringed at Shotton Steelworks: 9 on 19/08, 10 on 26/08 and 13 on 29/07 (pBH). There were seven records from Oakenholt and the last of the year was there on 30/07 (GEM).

Waxwing *Bombycilla garrulus*

Scarce and irregular winter visitor. RBBP.

CYNFFON SIDAN

(WX)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	4	13
	Flints	4	24
2012	Denbs	119	200+
	Flints	74	200

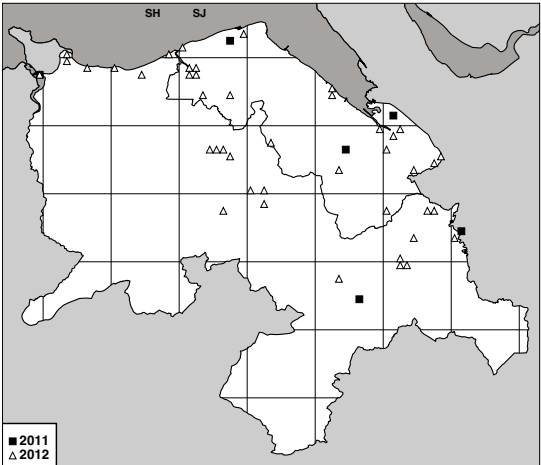
A small influx in 2011 was followed in 2012 by a large increase in records and numbers across the recording area. Previous maxima were 150 in Denbs. in 2004 and 2010 with 150 recorded in Flints. in 2005. The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 90 (Denbs.) and 91 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. Recorded only in Jan with four sightings: 13 at a GBW site near Holt in week beginning 9/01 (KeW); 3 near Pen-y-Cae on 21/01 (AB); 8 at Conwy RSPB on 25/01 (pjHg) with 3 there on 28/01 (DvD).

Flints. Recorded in Jan and Mar. The first was 1 near Prestatyn on 23/01 and again on 24/01 (EdG). This was followed by 24 at a GBW site at Sychdyn in week beginning 30/01 (AB, IMS). The last record of the early winter period was 3 at Deeside Industrial Park on 27/03 (KS).

Waxwing



2012

Denbs. Recorded in Mar (one record), Nov (seventy one records) and Dec (forty seven records). The Mar record was 2 at World's End on 14/03. In the late winter period numbers peaked in Nov with the first being 9 at Denbigh on 10/11. Thirty records were of 100-200+ and the highest numbers were 200+ at Wrexham on 20/11 (HL), and 200+ at Denbigh on 24/11 (DvJ). There was still a strong presence in Dec with, for example, 200+ at Denbigh on 10/12 (DvJ). The last record of the year was of 9 at Rhuthun on 28/12. Flycatching was recorded in

a flock of 30 at Felin Puleston, Wrexham on 18/11 (KS) and by one bird in the tops of trees at Conwy RSPB on 28/11 (pJHg).

Flints. Recorded in Nov (forty-seven records) and Dec (twenty-seven records). The first of the year was 10 at Connah's Quay on 8/11. In Nov the highest counts were 200 at Rhuddlan on 27/11, 29/11 and 30/11. In Dec the highest counts were 180 near Rhuddlan on 2/12 and 130 at Connah's Quay on 3/12. The last record of the year was of 12 at St Asaph on 28/12.



Waxwings, Sychdyn by Ian M Spence

Nuthatch *Sitta europaea*

Common and widespread breeding resident.

The maximum counts for this species were similar to those recorded between 2004-10. Seen in every month in both years in both counties. Recorded in 9/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 14/35 in 2012.

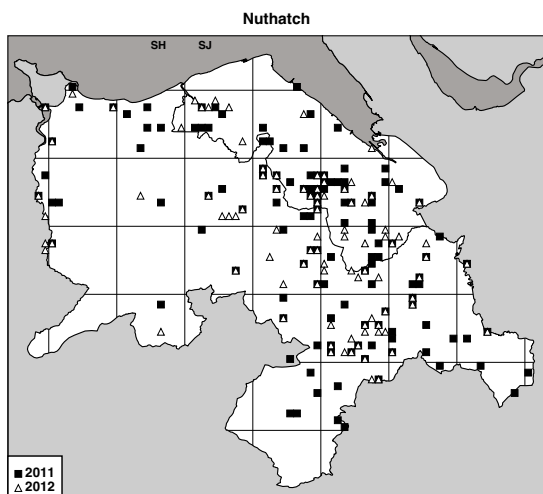
DELOR Y CNAU

(NH)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	513	7
	Flints	324	6
2012	Denbs	476	7
	Flints	335	6

2011

Denbs. Most records (77%) were from GBW sites. In the first and second winter periods the great majority of records were of 1-2 and twelve records of 3-7. The largest count was 7 nestlings ringed at Coed Nantddu, Clocaenog (IMS) which was one of ten records of confirmed breeding. The first was of an adult carrying a faecal sac or food at Bodnant on 24/05 (NDR) and the last was of a fledgling at Lavister on 26/07 (HL).

Flints. Most records (58.3%) were from GBW sites. In the first winter period all records were of 1-2. There were 5 recorded during a BBS walk at Pantymwyn on 26/06 (NRT). There were



seven records of confirmed breeding. The first was an adult carrying a faecal sac or food at Nercwys on 1/06 (MD) and the last was a fledgling at Rhydymwyn on 27/06 (MD). In the second winter period there were 6 at Pantymwyn on 5/11 (GEM).

2012

Denbs. Most records (84.5%) were from GBW sites. In the first and second winter periods all records were of 1-2. There were 5 recorded during a BBS walk at Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 20/06 (TeA). There were four records of confirmed breeding including an occupied nest at Betws-y-Coed on 9/05 (ACC), 6 nestlings ringed at Coed Nantddu, Clocaenog on 20/05 (IMS) and 7 nestlings ringed at Pandy on 12/05 (pBH).

Flints. Most records (72.2%) were from GBW sites. All counts were of 1-3 in the first winter period. There was only one confirmed breeding record: 6 nestlings ringed at Coed y Felin, Hendre on 20/05 (IMS). The highest late winter count was 6 at Cilcain on 24/11 (GEM). One was noted eating mealworms near Hawarden on 21/07 (HJ). One near Rhydymwyn on 9/09 was seen collecting and hiding sunflower seeds (JVHu).

Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris*

Widespread breeding resident.

Seen in nearly every month in both years with the exceptions of, in Denbs. Sep 2011 and 2012 and Dec 2012, and in Flints. Sep 2011. Recorded in 4/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 6/35 in 2012.

DRINGWR BACH

(TC)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	55	6
	Flints	58	3
2012	Denbs	46	5
	Flints	73	3

2011

Denbs. GBW sites provided 29.1% of the total records received. In the first winter period records were mainly of 1-2. There were three records of confirmed breeding. The first was of an occupied nest at Glyn Arthur, Llangwyfan on 18/05 (MD) and the last was 3+ fledglings at Moel Ytta on 21/06 (IMS). The highest count in the second winter period was 5 at Bodnant Gardens on 14/11 (RS). Otherwise records were mainly of 1-2.

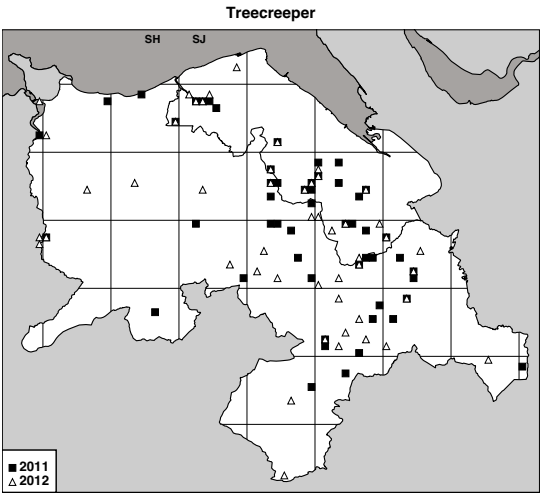
Flints. GBW sites provided 46.6% of the total records received. The maximum counts in the first and second winter periods were of 2 and the highest in the year as a whole did not exceed 3. There were no records of confirmed breeding.

2012

Denbs. GBW sites provided only 6.7% of the total records received. In the first winter period

the maximum count was 5 at Bodelwyddan on 6/02 (RTe). The only record of confirmed breeding was an adult carrying a faecal sac or food at Penycae, Trefechan on 12/05 (NHu). In the second winter period there were only two records, both of single birds.

Flints. GBW sites provided 48% of all records received. In the first and second winter periods the maximum counts were 2. The maximum count for the year was 3 during a BBS walk near Gronant on 26/06 (GRMP). There were no records of confirmed breeding. One was found in a bat box at Rhydymwyn on 20/03 (JVHu).



Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*

A common breeding resident and winter visitor.

DRYW

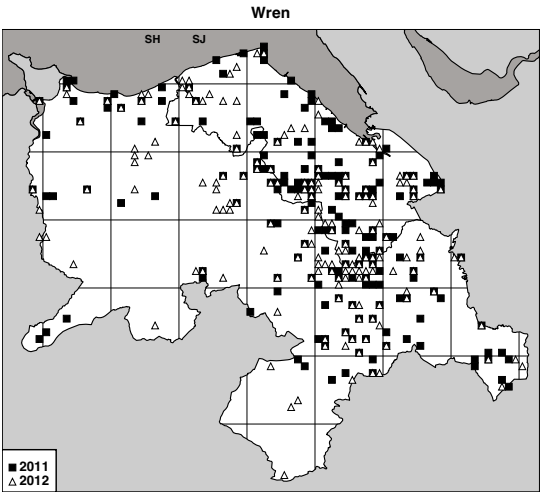
The maximum counts for 2011 are at the lower end of the range for the period 2004-10. Seen in every month in both years in both counties. Recorded in 18/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 35/35 in 2012.

(WR)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	402	12
	Flints	326	13
2012	Denbs	629	17
	Flints	349	15

2011

Denbs. GBW sites provided 60% of the records received. In the first winter period all records were of 1 or 1+. BBS surveys produced counts of 12 at Rhuthun on 9/05 (MB) and 11 at Wrexham on 11/06 (NHu). There were four records of confirmed breeding, the first of which was a nest with young at Bryn Pen-y-lan on 4/06 (NHu). The last was a fledgling at Erbistock on 11/07 (JoR). In the second winter period all counts were of 1-2.

Flints. GBW sites provided 52.5% of the records received. In the first winter period most records were of single birds but there were 6 at Rhuddlan on 8/01 (SH). BBS walks produced 13 at Mold on 22/04 (IMS), and a similar number at another site near Mold on 24/04 (GEM). There were eight records of confirmed breeding, the first an occupied nest at Lixwm on 5/04 (MD) and the last a fledgling at Greenfield on 6/07 (MD). Counts in the second winter period were of 1-4. One



nest recorded on 8/04 at Lixwm was built in a disused Swallow's nest in a stable box (MD).

2012

Denbs. GBW sites provided 62.6% of the total records. In the first winter period the records were of 1 or 1+. There were 14 at Pendinas Reservoir on 19/04 (SAH). The highest BBS count was 17 during a walk at Trevor Hall, Garth on 18/06 (MaEv). There were six confirmed breeding records. The first was a fledgling at Nant-y-Ffrith Reservoir on 26/05 (SD) and the last was a fledgling at Wrexham on 25/07 (SD). In the second winter period counts were of 1-4.

Flints. GBW sites provided 51.6% of the records received. In the first winter period counts were of 1-4. The highest BBS count was 15 at Mold on 27/05 (IMS). There were five confirmed breeding records: the first was of 6 nestlings ringed at Rhydymwyn on 1/06 (IMS) and the last was a fledgling at Cilcain on 5/08 (GEM). In the second winter period counts were of 1-3. One was watched nest-building on 20/03 in a lock box on a steel door at Rhydymwyn (JVHu).

Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

Common and widespread breeding resident. Red list. WBAP.

DRUDWEN

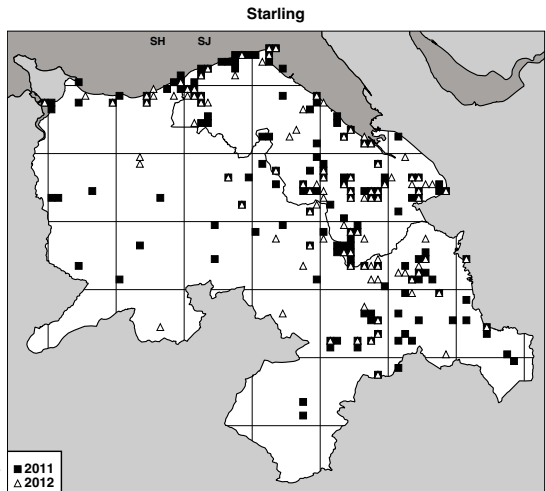
(SG)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	525	5000
	Flints	677	7500
2012	Denbs	482	30000
	Flints	656	2000

The map shows that the main distribution is along the coast and on the E side of the recording area. Maximum counts (which refer to the winter population) vary widely from year to year but those for 2011 and 2012 are close to the range recorded between 2004-10. The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 14,357 (Denbs.) and 3,886 (Flints.). Seen in every month in both years in both counties. Recorded in 7/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 8/35 in 2012.

2011

Denbs. GBW sites provided 62% of the records received with most records being of 1-5. In the first winter period the largest count was of 5,000 in the roost at Conwy RSPB on 20/01 (JHg), a considerable decrease from the figure of 45,000 in 2010. Most of the other records for this period were

of 1-20, the exceptions being at coastal sites, e.g. Towyn, where there were regular counts in double figures (SM). BBS surveys provided two counts of 8, one on 15/04 and the other on 22/06, both at Pandy Tudur (GEHB). There were fourteen records of confirmed breeding: the first was of an adult dropping an eggshell at Towyn on 29/04 and the last was of a fledgling at Eytton on 26/06 (NHu). In the post-breeding period and in the second winter period, numbers were similar to those at the start of the year, but the roost at Conwy RSPB did not build up until late Dec, when there were 1,000 there on 19/12 (JHg).



Flints. GBW sites contributed 39.4% of the records received. In the first winter period the largest counts were of 5,000 at Rhuddlan on 2/01 with a similar number there on 30/01. In both cases it was thought that the flocks were heading N to roost (SH). The 7,500 heading inland at dawn at Rhuddlan on 8/02 would appear to have been birds making the opposite journey from the roost at Conwy RSPB. There were several flocks of 100-1,000 during this period, mostly from coastal sites. The highest BBS count was 59 at Buckley on 16/04 (JVHu). There were twenty two records of confirmed breeding. The first was of an occupied nest at Rhydymwyn on 9/04 (MD) and the last was of a fledgling at Gwernymynydd on 7/07 (MD). In the post breeding period most counts were of 1-10. In the second winter period the largest flock was 1,500 at Shotwick Fields on 4/11 (CW).

2012

Denbs. GBW sites provided 67% of the records received. In the first winter period the highest count was of 45 at Kinmel Bay on 22/01 (DCR). The highest BBS count was 5 during a walk at Wrexham on 11/05 (LWe). There were only two records of confirmed breeding: the first was of a nest with young in the roof of a house in Rhuthun on 3/05 (RG) and the second was of a fledgling at Nant-y-Ffrith Reservoir on 7/07 (SD). In the post breeding and second winter periods the highest counts were 10,000 at the Conwy RSPB roost on 24/10 (JHg) and 30,000 there on 18/12 (JHg).

Flints. GBW sites provided 46% of the records received. In the first winter period the highest count was 600 at Rhyl on 13/01 (SH). Generally the largest counts during this period were on or near the coast. During the breeding season most counts were of 1-10, but 80 were seen during a BBS walk at Buckley on 16/04 (GNR) and 73 were counted on the repeat visit on 20/05 (GNR). There were nine confirmed breeding records: the first was of an adult carrying a faecal sac or food at Rhydymwyn on 30/04 (JVHu) and the last was of an occupied nest at Rhydymwyn on 16/06 (JVHu). There was a post-breeding flock of 2,000 at Flint on 7/07 and on 10/07 (GEM). Subsequently, most records were of 1-50, until the second winter period when the largest count was 1,000 at Rhuddlan on 11/12 (SH).

Dipper *Cinclus cinclus*

Widespread localised breeding resident. Amber List.

The maximum counts are in the range recorded from 2004-10. Recorded in 2/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 1/35 in 2012.

BRONWEN Y DWR

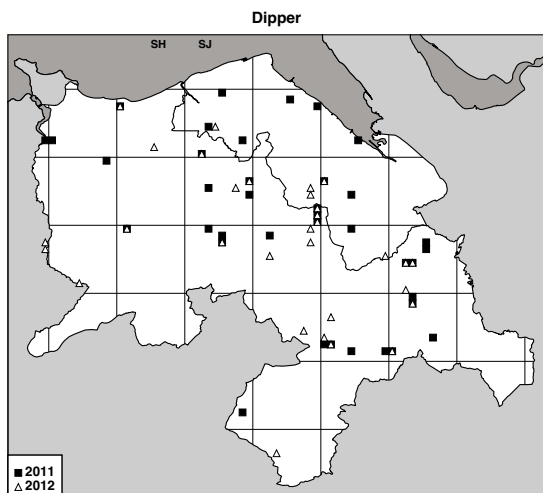
(DI)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	48	3
	Flints	9	2
2012	Denbs	40	3
	Flints	11	2

2011

Denbs. Seen in all months of the year and all sightings were of 1-3 birds. One was seen carrying nesting material at Wrexham on 11/03 (NHu). There were two records of confirmed

Breeding (MRG):

(DI)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2011					
Pontfadog	1	3	0	0	0.00
2012					
Llanarmon DC	2	8	6	6	3.00
Pandy	1	4	0	0	0.00



breeding: a fledgling at Wrexham on 1/06 (NHu) and an adult carrying a faecal sac or food at Llandyrnog on 16/06 (MD).

Flints. Seen in Jan, Mar, Apr, Jun, Aug and Oct. All records were of 1-2 birds.

2012

Denbs. Not seen in Jun or Dec. All records were of 1-3 birds. One was seen carrying nesting material at Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 8/03 (NB). There were six records of confirmed breeding: an occupied nestbox under a bridge on the River Iwrch, near Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant on 6/05, fledglings being fed by the River Llugwy at Betws-y-Coed on 9/05 (RWS), a fledgling N of Betws-y-

Coed on the same day (ACC), an adult carrying a faecal sac or food at Penynant on 22/05 (JoR), 3 nestlings ringed at Llanarmon DyffrynCeiriog on 20/04 and 6/06 (pBH).

Flints. Not recorded in Jan, Mar, Apr, Sep or Oct. All records were of 1-2 birds and were from known sites for the species with Rhydymwyn providing seven of the eleven records received.

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*

Passage migrant and breeding summer visitor in small numbers to upland areas. Red list. WBAP.

Records received mainly from the uplands. Probably under-recorded as a passage migrant both in the uplands and on Deeside. The maximum counts are similar to those recorded between 2004-10.

WYALCHEN Y MYNYDD

(RZ)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	3	8
	Flints	7	10
2012	Denbs	12	4
	Flints	11	5

2011

Denbs. Seen only in Apr. The first was at Ruabon Mountain on 9/04 (JLR). This was followed by 8 at Castell on 10/04 (MD). The last record of the spring and of the year was 1 at Eglwyseg on 15/04 (MSJ, JLR).

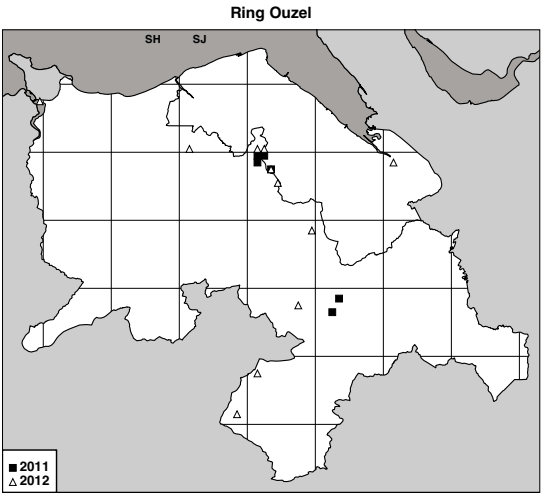
Flints. Seen in Apr and May. The first record was of 7 at Penycloddiau on 2/04 where there were also 1 on 9/04, 2 on 22/04 and 2 on 24/04 (EdW). Elsewhere, there were 3 at Nant Coed-y-Mynydd on 10/04 and 10, the highest count of the year, at Moel y Parc on 20/04 (KS). The last record of the year was of 3 at Penycloddiau on 2/05 (EdW).

2012

Denbs. Seen in Mar, Apr and May. The first record was of 3 males at Bryneglwys on 28/03 (HN) and the last was 1 at Glyn Arthur, Llangwyfan on 9/05 (GEM). There were no records of

confirmed breeding but 1+ at Llyn Lluncaws, Berwyn Mountains on 23/05 was a late date for a passage migrant and may have been a bird or birds on territory. Of the remaining eight records, four were of 1-4 birds in the Clwydian Range, two related to a single bird at Conwy RSPB on 15/04 and two were of 1 male and 2 females respectively at Bontnewydd on 29/03 (DvJ).

Flints. Seen in Mar, Apr and May. The first record was of a male and female at Afonwen on 30/03 (DvJ). Penycloddiau produced the most records: 3 (1 male and two females) on 31/03 and 5 (2 males and 3 females) on 15/04. The last record of spring passage and of the year was 1 heard near Penycloddiau on 5/05 (EdW). Less expected was the record of 1 at Queensferry on 28/04, although records of spring and autumn passage on the Wirral side of the Dee estuary are not uncommon.



Blackbird *Turdus merula*

Common and widespread breeding resident and winter visitor.

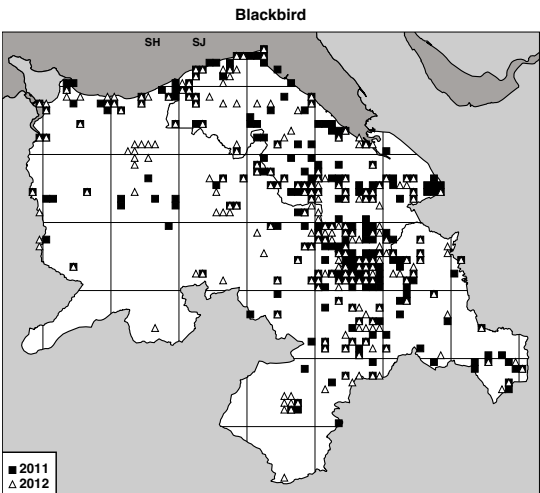
The maximum counts are within the range recorded between 2004-10. Seen in every month in both years in both counties. Recorded in 22/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 34/35 in 2012.

2011

Denbs. GBW sites provided 70.2% of the records received. The highest early winter count was of 30 in a Burton garden on 30/01 (HL). BBS walks recorded 22 at Rhyd-y-Foel on 24/04 (GBH) and 29 at Wrexham on 1/05 (NH). There were six records of confirmed breeding. The earliest evidence was of a broken egg found in a Wrexham garden on 4/04 (NH), whilst the latest was of a fledgling calling from cover in a Rhuthun garden on 13/08 (RG). In the autumn there were 30 in a Rowan near Holt on 10/09 (NH). In the late winter

MWYALCHEN

(B)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1374	30
	Flints	1244	35
2012	Denbs	1464	21
	Flints	1353	48



period the highest count was of 17 at Mynydd Marian, Llanddulas on 24/12 (JnG). On 18/04 a pair were noted mobbing a Magpie causing it to drop a dead Blackbird fledgling (NH).

Flints. GBW sites provided 57.4% of the records received. The highest early winter count was 30 at Buckley on 2/01 (CaSH, DaSH). BBS walks recorded: 29 at Buckley on 16/04 (GNR), 35 at Mold on 23/04 (IMS) and 27 at another Mold site on 11/06 (GEM). There were thirty two records of confirmed breeding. The first was of an occupied nest at Nant Mawr, Buckley on 27/04 (MD) and the last was of a fledgling at Greenfield on 6/07 (MD). In the late winter period there were 18 at Cilcain on 18/11 (GEM).

2012

Denbs. GBW sites provided 70.7% of the records received. In the early winter period the highest counts were of 12 at Denbigh on 25/01 (JDa), with a similar number in the week beginning 5/02 from GBW sites at Tallarn Green (MA) and at Bwlchgwyn (JC). In the breeding season the highest counts were from BBS walks: 21 at Wrexham on 22/04 (NHu), 17 at Pentre Llanrhaeadr on 4/05 (GJK), 16 at Rhyd-y-Foel on 5/05 (GBH) and 21 at Trevor Hall, Garth on 14/05 (MaEv). There were ten records of confirmed breeding. The first was of an occupied nest at Llangollen on 3/04 (HN) and the last was of a fledgling at Gwynfryn on 26/06 (SD). In the late winter period the maximum count was 11 at a GBW site at Burton in week beginning 9/12 (HL).

Flints. GBW sites provided 58.4% of the records received. In the early winter period there were 30 at Hawarden on 9/02 (HJ). The highest BBS counts were: 42 at Buckley on 16/04 with 48 there on 20/05 (GNR), 25 at Mold on 22/04 (IMS), and 42 at a second Mold site on 7/07 (GEM). There were seven records of confirmed breeding. The first was of an adult carrying a faecal sac or food at Hawarden on 25/05 (IMS) and the last was of a similar record at Dyserth on 21/07 (GEM). In the autumn the two highest counts were both at Cilcain: 26 on 10/10 and 18 on 27/10 (GEM). In the late winter period there were 22 at Cilcain on 24/11 (GEM) and a similar number at Rhuddlan on 15/12 (SH). One at Sychdyn on 12/04 was caught by a female Sparrowhawk and carried off screaming (IMS).

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*

SOCAN EIRA

Common passage migrant and winter visitor. Red list.

(FF)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	59	180
	Flints	37	150
2012	Denbs	48	400
	Flints	65	100

Numbers vary widely from year to year and the maxima reported here are at the lower end of the range recorded between 2004-10. The highest count in recent years was of 2,600 in Flints in 2009. The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 1,007 (Denbs.) and 594 (Flints.).

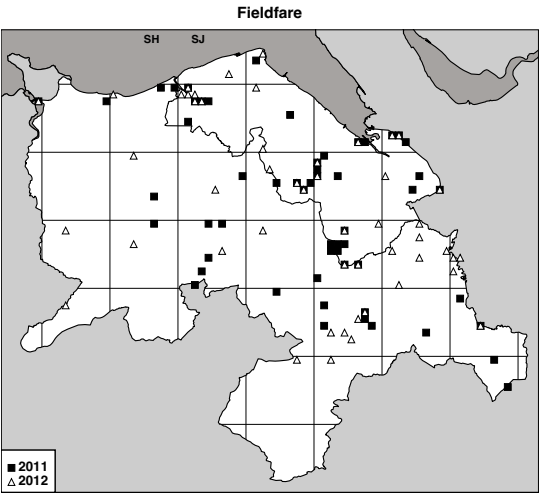
2011

Denbs. GBW sites provided 18.6% of the records received. The first of the year were on 2/01: 1+ at Nant-y-Ffrith Reservoir (SD) and 1+ from a GBW site at Moel Grugoer, Mynydd Hiraethog (GJn). The majority of records were of 1-2 until mid-Feb. The highest figure in this period was 150 flying SSW over Penycae on 9/01 (JAJ). From 26/02 to 26/03 there were six records from Dyserth of 45-130 (SH). In the same period there was a flock of 80+ at Hanmer on 26/03 (NHu). The last record was 20+ at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest on 6/04 (IMS). In the autumn the first record was 6 at Penycae on 9/10 (JAJ).

Seen in these months:													
D	2011												
	2012												
F	2011												
	2012												

There was a higher proportion of larger flocks in this period and just over half of the records were in the range 10-180. The latter figure referred to a flock flying S near Penycae on 20/11 (JAJ). The last record of the year was of 100+ at Sutton Green on 28/12 (NHu).

Flints. GBW sites provided 24.3% of the records. The first was 4 at Shotwick Fields on 3/01 (KS). Compared with Denbs. there were fewer single birds in the first winter period. Of the six flocks of over 10, five were in the range of 20-38. The largest count was 120 at Rhydtalog on 4/01 (SD). In the second half of the year the first record was 25 at Rhosesmor on 12/10 (JtH). The majority of records in this period were of 1-2. The highest figure was 150+ in a mixed flock with Redwing at Naid-y-march on 19/12. The last of the year was 1+ at Sandycroft on 22/12 (StB).



2012

Denbs. GBW sites provided 27.1% of the records. The first of the year was 1+ at Nant-y-Ffrith Reservoir on 2/01 (SD). The highest numbers were 150 feeding on a manured field near Llangollen on 3/02 (HN) and 80 at Burton Meadows on 21/03 (GNR). All other records for this period were of less than 20. The last spring record was 2 from a GBW site near Bwlchgwyn in week beginning 8/04 (JC). The first record of the autumn was 1 at Mynydd Hiraethog on 12/09 (DSt). Flocks in the range of 20-50 became more common at the end of Oct, coinciding with the peak migration period for this species. The largest count was 400 at Trevalyn Meadows on 23/12, at a time when the Dee was flooding (NFr).

Flints. GBW sites provided 23.1% of the records. The first record of the year was 8 at Rhuddlan on 1/01 (SH). Flocks increased in size towards the end of the period with a majority of the records between 23/02 and 28/03 being in the range of 11-56. Several of these records came from the Rhuddlan area (SH). The last record was 6 at Afonwen on 15/04 (DvJ). The first autumn record was 1 at Rhuddlan on 26/10 (SH). Numbers ranged widely during this period with the highest being three records of 100: at Shotwick Fields on 5/11 (GR) and at Rhuddlan on 1/12 and 21/12 (SH). The last of the year were 48 at Rhuddlan on 30/12 (SH).

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*

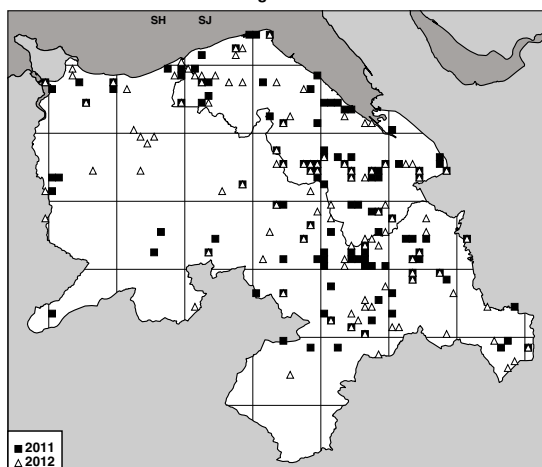
BRONFRAITH

Widespread breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber list. WBAP.

The maximum counts compare closely with the records from 2004-10. Seen in every month in both years in both counties. Recorded in 15/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 24/35 in 2012.

(ST)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	159	8
	Flints	250	20
2012	Denbs	207	10
	Flints	221	9

Song Thrush



2011

Denbs. GBW sites provided 36.5% of the records. In the first winter period all counts were of 1-2 birds. BBS walks produced the highest numbers: 7 at Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 24/04, with 8 recorded on the second visit on 26/06 (JaH) and 7 at Rhuthun on 9/05 (MB). There were two records of confirmed breeding, both involving an adult carrying a faecal sac or food: 1 at Lower Wych on 2/06 (NHu) and 1 at Llyn Brenig on 11/06 (IMS). All records after 26/06 were of 1-2 birds. The first song of the year was heard at Wrexham on 3/02 (NHu). One at Wrexham was singing during the day and night on 16/06 (NH). Song was also noted at Llangollen on 27/12 (JLR).

Flints. GBW sites provided 59.2% of the records. In the first winter period the majority of records were of 1-2 birds, the highest figure recorded being 5 at Rhuddlan on 2/01 (SH). The highest count of the year was in the early spring, when c.20 were noted at Llyn Helyg on 1/03 (LJ). There were 4 counted during a BBS walk at Mold on 23/04, with 6 recorded on the second visit on 19/06 (IMS). The highest BBS count of the year was of 8 at Pantymwyn on 26/06 (NRT), after which numbers recorded did not exceed 2 for the rest of the year. There were thirteen records of confirmed breeding all of which involved adults carrying a faecal sac or food. The first was at Ysceifiog on 3/05 (MD) and the last was at Greenfield on 6/07 (MD). The first song of the year was noted at Rhydymwyn on 9/02 (JVHu).

2012

Denbs. GBW sites provided 30.4% of the records. In the first winter period there were 8 at Kinmel Bay on 1/01 (JuW). Thereafter, numbers remained at 1-2 until the spring. There were 5 counted during a BBS walk at Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 15/04, with 10 recorded on the second visit on 26/05 (JaH). There was one confirmed breeding record, a fledgling at Ffrith on 25/06 (SD). The majority of records were of 1-2 (with a maximum of 4) until the end of the year. The first song of the year was at Wrexham on 15/01 (KS)

Flints. GBW sites provided 53.8% of the records. In the first winter and early spring periods most records were of 1-2, with a maximum of 3. Some of the highest figures were provided by BBS walks: 4 at Mold on 22/04 with 6 on the second visit on 27/05 (IMS) and 6 at Dyserth on 20/05 with 5 on the second visit on 28/06 (PtB). There was one record of confirmed breeding with 9 seen including fledged young at Hawarden on 9/07 (IMS). Numbers were mostly of 1-2 until the end of the year, with the exception being a count of 8 at Connah's Quay on 14/10 (GEM). The first song of the year was heard at Rhydymwyn on 28/02 (JVHu).

Redwing *Turdus iliacus*

Common passage migrant and winter visitor throughout the area. Amber list. RBBP.

COCH DAN ADEN

(RE)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	67	600
	Flints	58	256
2012	Denbs	65	105
	Flints	91	150

Numbers fluctuate widely between years and the above figures are within the range recorded between 2004-10, but well below the mean maxima for that time span. The highest figure in this period was of 5,000 in Flints in 2005. The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 1,167 (Denbs.) and 996 (Flints.).

Seen in these months:	
D	2011 J F M A M J J A S O N D
	2012 J F M A M J J A S O N D
F	2011 J F M A M J J A S O N D
	2012 J F M A M J J A S O N D

2011

Denbs. GBW sites provided 19.4% of the records. In the first winter period there were 150 flying SSW at Penycae on 9/01 (JAJ) and 40 at St Asaph Business Park on 25/01 (SH). Otherwise numbers were of 1-25 from Jan to Apr. The final record of this period was 20+ at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest on 6/04 (IMS). The first record in the autumn was 2 flying E at Penycae on 7/10 (JAJ). The largest flocks were 600 flying SSW at Penycae on 14/10 (JAJ) and 100+ at Conwy RSPB on the same day (JHg). The remaining counts between Oct and Dec did not exceed 30.

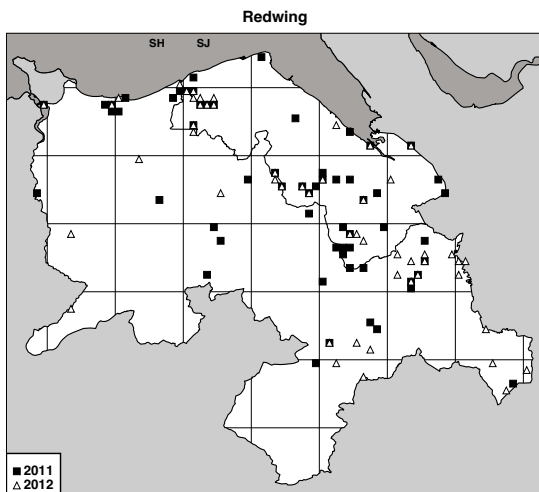
Flints. GBW sites provided 22.4% of the records. In the first winter period

the highest count was 30 at Deeside Industrial Park on 30/01 (MD). In the early spring there were 30 at Rhydymwyn on 13/03 (DMH). The first record in the autumn was 36 at Cilcain on 16/10 (GEM). There were 256 at Cilcain on 1/11 (GEM), and 150 with Fieldfares at Naid-y-March on 19/12. All other counts for the period from Oct to Dec were of 1-58.

2012

Denbs. GBW sites provided 7.7% of the records. In the first winter period there were 40 at Holt on 8/01 (KS) and 44 at St Asaph Business Park on 25/01 (SH). In the early spring there were 50 at Dyserth on 25/02 and 50 at the St Asaph Business Park on 29/02. The first record in the autumn was 4 at Conwy RSPB on 14/10 (JHg). There were 105 flying N at Llangwyfan on 25/10 (RG) and 80 there on 26/10 (SH). In the second winter period the highest count was 30 at Llangollen on 12/11 (HN).

Flints. GBW records provided 22.2% of the records. In the first winter period there were 40 at a GBW site at Rhydymwyn in week beginning 29/01 and in the early spring there were 150 at the same site on 12/2 (DMH). Numbers declined after that date and the final record was 1 at Rhuddlan on 10/04 (SH). The first autumn record was 5 at Cilcain on 10/10 (GEM). The largest flocks during this period were 60 at Rhyl on 13/10 (JNW) and 85 at Cilcain on 27/10 (GEM). In the second winter period there were several large counts at Rhuddlan: 100 on 9/11, 70 on



11/11; 80 on 14/11 and 12 on 30/12, the last record of the year (SH).

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*

Fairly common breeding resident.

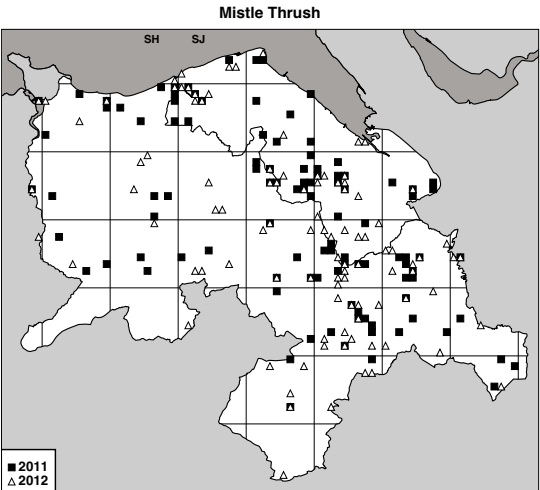
BRYCH Y COED

(M)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	136	9
	Flints	97	9
2012	Denbs	114	9
	Flints	119	18

The maximum counts for this species are similar to those recorded between 2004-10. They were seen in every month in both years in both counties. Recorded in 11/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 19/35 in 2012. The majority of the records were from the uplands.

2011

Denbs. GBW sites provided 26.5% of the records. In the first winter period the largest count was 5 at Rhydtalog on 21/01 (SD). The majority of records during the year, including those from ten BBS walks, were of 1-2 birds. There were six records of confirmed breeding: the first was of an adult carrying a faecal sac or food at Wallington on 1/05 (NHu) and the last was of a fledgling at Eytton on 26/06 (NHu). There were post-breeding flocks of 9 at Graianrhyd on 4/07 (SD) and 100 moving SW at 09.30 at Penycae on 14/9 (JAJ).The highest number up to the end of the year was 4.



Flints. GBW sites provided 27.8% of the records. In the first winter period numbers were of 1-2. There were 4 at a GBW site at Rhydymwyn in week beginning 6/02 (DMH) and a similar number was recorded during a BBS walk at Mold on 19/06 (IMS). There were four records of confirmed breeding. The first was an adult carrying a faecal sac or food at Nercwys on 1/06 (MD) and the last was of similar evidence at Rhydymwyn on 18/06 (MD). Post-breeding flocks (possibly the same birds) were seen at Cilcain on several days: 9 on 27/08; 8 on 11/09 and 9 on 17/09. The highest count in the second winter period was 7 at Greenfield on 2/12 (TeA).

2012

Denbs. GBW sites provided 20.2% of the records. In the early part of the year there were records of 1-3. There were 6 recorded at Trevor Uchaf during a BBS walk on 4/05 (JoR). There were four records of confirmed breeding: the first was a fledgling at Glyn Arthur, Llangwyfan on 28/04 (RHa) and the last was an adult carrying a faecal sac or food at Pendinas Reservoir on 27/06 (SD). The largest post-breeding flocks were: 9 recorded during a BBS walk at Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 20/06 (TeA) and 8 at Nant-y-Ffrith Reservoir on 28/07 (SD). In the second winter period numbers were of 1-2.

Flints. GBW sites provided 25.2% of the records. In the first winter period numbers were 1-3

and did not exceed 4 in the first half of the year. The only confirmed breeding record was of an adult carrying a faecal sac or food at Connah's Quay on 15/07 and 17/07 (DMH). The largest post-breeding flocks were: 10 at Mold on 3/07 (DMH) and 16 at Rhuddlan on 27/09, with 18 there on 10/10 (SH). Thereafter numbers were 1-6 until the end of the year.

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*

Uncommon breeding summer visitor. Red list. WBAP.

The map shows an interesting distribution where the majority of records appear to be in or near the area designated as the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB.

The maximum counts for 2011 and 2012 are at the lowest end of the range recorded for 2004-10. Most records in 2011 and 2012 were for May and Jun. Recorded in 1/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 3/35 in 2012.

GWYBEDOG MANNOG

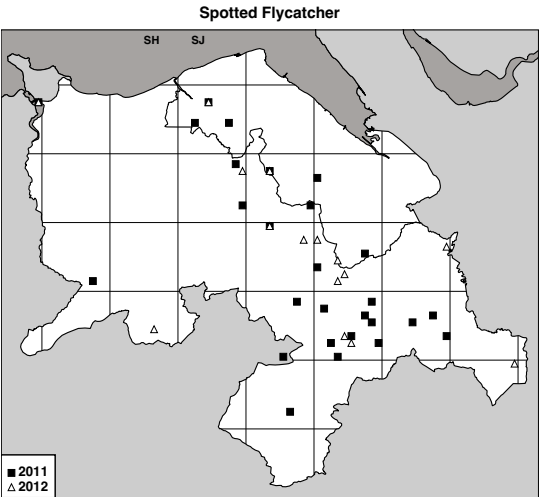
(SF)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	31	3
	Flints	7	2
2012	Denbs	19	3
	Flints	1	3

Seen in these months:												
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

2011

Denbs. There were no records from any GBW sites. The first of the year was 1+ at Mold on 8/05 (MiP). Most records were 1-2 but there were 3 at Tainant, Penycae on 21/05 (JLR). There were two records of confirmed breeding: a fledgling at Eyton on 26/06 (NHu) and a fledgling being fed by an adult in the grounds of Ruthin School on 7/07 (RG). There were only six records after Jun, the last of the year being 2 at Rhosllanynchrugog on 30/08 (SuLo).

Flints. Four records were from GBW sites. The first of the year was 1 from a GBW site at Rhydymwyn in week beginning 8/05 (DMH). The same site provided the last record of the year with 1 in week beginning 11/09 (DMH).



2012

Denbs. No records were received from GBW sites. The first of the year was 2 at Gwynfryn on 13/05 (HeC). Recorded on three BBS walks: 1 at Rhuthun on 14/06 (MB), 2 at Llangwm on 17/06 (MaO) and 1 at Trevor Hall, Garth on 18/06 (MaEv). Three nestlings ringed at Llanarmon-y-lal on 7/07 provided the only record of confirmed breeding (IMS). The last of the year was of 1 at Trevalyn Meadows on 1/09 (SD).

Flints. The only record this year was 3 at Penycloddiau on 26/05 (EdW).

Robin *Erithacus rubecula*

Common and widespread breeding resident.

ROBIN GOCH

The maximum counts are at the lower end of the range recorded between 2004-10, possibly as a result of the recent cold winters. Seen in every month in both years in the recording area. The majority of records were from GBW sites and were of less than 5 birds. Recorded in 21/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 33/35 in 2012.

(R)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1198	31
	Flints	946	10
2012	Denbs	1333	13
	Flints	1141	11

2011

Denbs. GBW sites provided 72.3% of the records received. In the early winter period 6 were ringed at Trevor Hall on 3/01 (LB) and a similar number were ringed at Bedwlwyn on 3/02 (pBH). A total of 31 singing Robins were counted in Rhuthun on 16/01, during a one hour walk at dusk and in a spell of mild weather. There were seven BBS counts in double figures in 2010 but only two in 2011: 15 at Wrexham on 1/05 (NH), with 11 on the second visit on 11/06 (NH).

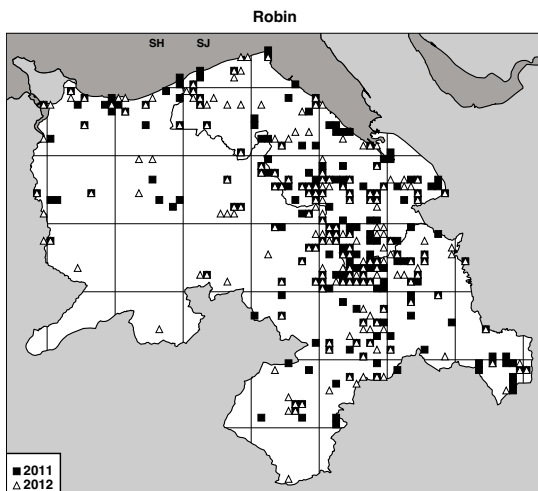
Courtship feeding was recorded at Wrexham on 12/01 (NH). There were seven records of confirmed breeding, the earliest being a nest with five eggs in a shed at Bwlchgwyn on 14/04 (SD) and the last, two fledglings at Votty in the Berwyns, on 6/06 (NHu). In the late winter period there were 5 at Llysfaen on 27/11 (JnG). Disputes with Dunnocks are common but, unusually, one at Llangollen on 16/02 left the Dunnock injured (HN).

Flints. GBW sites provided 65% of the records received. In the early winter period there were 6 at Rhuddlan on 2/01 (SH), and 7 at Cilcain on 8/02 (GEM). There was only one record in double figures compared with two in 2010: 10 were recorded at Mold during a BBS walk on 24/04 (GEM). There were twenty three records of confirmed breeding: the first was a nest with eggs at Rhydymwyn on 27/04 (JVHu) and the last was a fledgling being fed by an adult at Rhydymwyn on 9/08 (JVHu).

2012

Denbs. GBW sites provided 71.4% of the records received. In the first winter period and during a period of cold weather, there were 5 at GBW sites at Llandegla (JRo) and Tallarn Green, Sarn (MA), both in week beginning 29/01. BBS walks recorded 11 at Rhyd-y-Foel on 5/05 (GBH) and 13 at Erddig, Wrexham on 27/05 (NHu). There were seventeen records of confirmed breeding. The first was of an occupied nest at Glyn Arthur, Llangwyfan on 28/04 (RHa) and the last was a fledgling at Bedwlwyn on 11/08 (SD).

Flints. GBW sites provided 63.1% of the records received. In the first winter period and during a period of cold weather, there were 6 at a GBW site at Saltney (NB) and 7 at a GBW site at Pantymwyn (TeA), both in week beginning 29/01. BBS walks recorded 10 at Gronant on 26/05 (GRMP) and 11 at Mold on 27/05 (IMS). There were nine records of confirmed breeding: the



first was 2 nestlings ringed at Rhydymwyn on 27/04 (IMS), and the last was a fledgling at Gwnaffield on 26/07 (TP). In the second winter period there were 8 at Cilcaïn on 2/12 (GEM).

Breeding (JVHu):

(R)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2011					
Rhydymwyn	2	10	9	9	4.50
2012					
Rhydymwyn	4	21	20	12	3.00

Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca*

Breeding summer visitor. Red list. WBAP.

GWYBEDOG BRITH

(PF)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	97	71
	Flints	7	28
2012	Denbs	85	48
	Flints	6	8

The maximum counts are close to the average figures for the period 2004-10, but the figure of 8 for Flints in 2012 is the lowest on record. The table of breeding information

shows that there was considerable variation in productivity between sites, but between years the overall productivity was almost exactly the same in both years. Recorded in 2/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 3/35 in 2012.

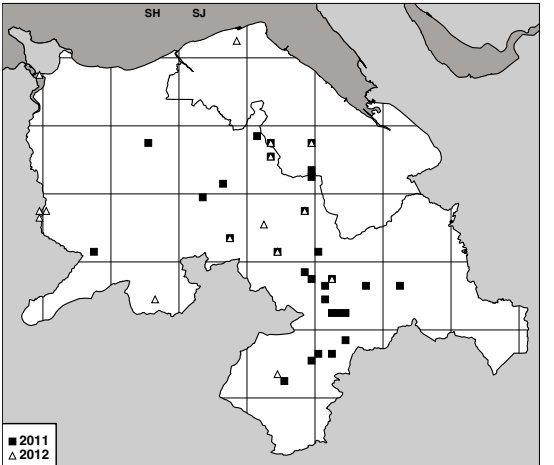
Seen in these months:													
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

2011

Denbs. Apart from the ringing figures the numbers seen were in the range 1-6. The first of the year was of a pair at Eglwyseg on 4/04 (pJLR). The first evidence of breeding was of a nestling ringed at Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 17/05 (IMS). There were four sites where 20 or more nestlings were ringed: 22 at Pandy on 3/06, 25 at Ddol-Hir, Glyn Ceiriog on 30/05, 57 at Glyn Arthur on 28/05 and 71 near Prion on 29/05 (pBH). The last record of the year was 4 nestlings ringed near Prion on 30/06 (pBH).

Flints. The first of the year was of 1 at Penycloddiau on 9/04, followed by 4 there on 25/04 (EdW). There was 1 recorded during a BBS walk at Pantymwyn on 14/05 (NRT). A total of 28 nestlings was ringed at Coed y Felin, Hendre on 28/05 (IMS). The last of the year was 1 at Penycloddiau on 29/05 (EdW).

Pied Flycatcher



2012

Denbs. The first of the year was 1+ at Coed Hafod on 20/04 (RAC). Apart from the ringing data the highest count of the year was 9 at Glyn Arthur, Llangwyfan on 21/04 (RH_a). The first record of confirmed breeding was of 1+ at an occupied nest at Betws-y-Coed on 9/05 (ACC).

Later in the season there were several records of 12-25 nestlings ringed and the largest counts were 27 at Coed Nantddu, Clocaenog on 12/06 (IMS), 28 at Ddol-Hir on 13/06 and 48 at Pandy on 12/06 (pBH). The last of the year was 1 juvenile at Conwy RSPB on 26/07 (ADa).

Flints. The first record of the year was 1 singing at Penycloddiau on 5/05, with singles there on 12/05 and 19/05 (EdW). There were 2 recorded during a BBS walk at Gronant on 26/05 (GRMP). The only record of breeding was of 8 nestlings ringed at Coed y Felin, Hendre on 2/06 (IMS). This was also the last record of the year.

Breeding (MRG, IMS, JVHu, JLR):

(PF)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2011					
Ddol-hir	8	57	55	26	3.25
Glyn Arthur	17	120	95	92	5.41
Llwynmawr	11	79	75	59	5.36
Pandy	10	76	70	40	4.00
Pontfadog	2	14	14	8	4.00
Llewesog Hall	28	206	182	95	3.39
Coed Nantddu	9	59	33	10	0.90
Coed y Felin	4	29	28	28	7.00
Llanarmon-yn-lal	1	8	7	7	7.00
Near Llangollen	15	107	43	43	2.87
TOTALS	105	755	602	408	3.89
2012					
Ddol-hir	7	50	37	24	3.43
Glyn Arthur	21	140	126	97	4.62
Llwynmawr	13	83	73	53	4.08
Pandy	18	123	96	65	3.61
Pontfadog	2	13	6	3	1.50
Llewesog Hall	30	193	117	95	3.17
Coed Nantddu	7	49	46	45	6.43
Coed y Felin	2	10	8	8	4.00
Llanarmon-yn-lal	1	6	5	4	4.00
Near Llangollen	13	87	51	51	3.92
TOTALS	114	754	565	445	3.90

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*

Scarce migrant. Amber list. RBBP.

2010

Flints. A male was seen and photographed at Broken Bank, Shotwick, near the rifle range on 31/10 (DeS).

2011

Flints. There was 1 at Gronant on 8/08 (CMo).

2012

Denbs. The first record was 2 at Rhos-on-Sea on 27/11. Later, there were two records for

TINGOCH DU

(BX)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	1	1
2012	Denbs	4	3
	Flints	0	

11/12: 1+ at Old Colwyn and 1 at Colwyn Bay cliffs (RoH), which could have been the same bird. There was a record that 3 nestlings were reared at an inland site.

Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

Summer breeding visitor mainly in wooded upland areas.
Amber list.

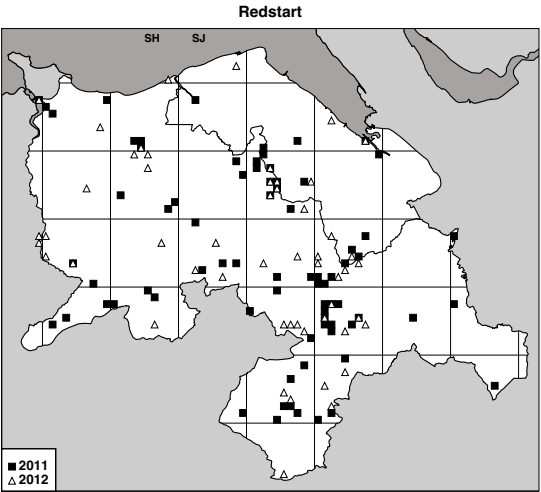
The maximum counts are within the range recorded from 2004-10. Seen from Apr to Aug in both years in both counties. The table of breeding information below, shows that despite fewer nests in 2012 and the wet weather, the nests found performed much better, with productivity improved by more than one nestling per nest. Recorded in 6/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 9/35 in 2012.

2011

Denbs. There was something of an influx on 8/04 with nine records, all from the uplands. Numbers throughout the spring and summer were generally of 1-2, but 13 were counted during a Waterways BBS walk along the Afon Iwrch near Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant on 1/05 (RG). There were seven records of confirmed breeding: the first was 7 nestlings ringed at Glyn Arthur,

TINGOCH

(RT)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	137	13
	Flints	19	8
2012	Denbs	77	10
	Flints	13	16



Redstart by Dermot Smith

Llangwyfan on 21/05 (pBH) and the last was 2 fledglings at Godor, Berwyn Mountains on 2/07 (NHu). There were several records in the post-breeding season from Conwy RSPB. The last of the year was of 2 (a male and a female or juvenile) at Pontfadog on 31/08 (NB).

Flints. The first of the year were 3 near Penycloddiau on 9/04 (EdW). The highest count was 8 near Penycloddiau on 2/05 (EdW). There were no records of confirmed breeding. The last of the year was a female near Rhuddlan on 5/08 (SH).

2012

Denbs. The first of the year was 1 at Glyn Arthur, Llangwyfan on 14/04. The highest count of the year was 10, during a BBS walk at Mynydd y Glyn on 5/05 (MkH). There were four records of confirmed breeding: the first was of a nest with eggs at Glyn Arthur, Llangwyfan on 28/04 (RHa) and the last was a nest with young at Llanferres on 2/08 (JaH). The last of the year was of 1 bathing in a puddle at Conwy RSPB on 20/08 (JHg).

Flints. The first of the year was a male singing at Graianrhyd on 17/04 (GMR). The highest counts of the year were from Penycloddiau, where walks round the area produced 13 singing males on 5/05 and 16 birds (12 males and 4 females) on 6/05 (EdW). Near the coast there was 1 at Gronant during BBS walks on 26/05 and 26/06 (GRMP). There were no confirmed breeding records. The last of the year was 1 at Connah's Quay on 24/08 (GEM).

Breeding (JLR, MRG):

(RT)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2011					
Near Llangollen	5	32	15	15	3.00
Glyn Arthur	5	31	21	17	3.40
TOTALS	10	63	36	32	3.20
2012					
Glyn Arthur	3	19	19	19	6.33
Pandy	3	15	15	9	3.00
Llewesog Hall	1	7	6	4	4.00
TOTALS	7	41	40	32	4.57

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*

Breeding summer visitor in small numbers, mainly in upland areas.

The maximum counts are close to the range recorded between 2004-10. Recorded in 2/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 3/35 in 2012.

CREC YR EITHIN

(WC)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	42	10
	Flints	9	16
2012	Denbs	25	10
	Flints	15	2

Seen in these months:

		2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
D		2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
		2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F		2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
		2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

2011

Denbs. Most of sites where they were recorded were on Ruabon Mountain or the Berwyn Mountains. The first of the year was 1 at World's End, Ruabon Mountain on 9/04 (RS). A minimum of 2 (a male and a female) were seen at Conwy RSPB on three dates between 2/05 and 10/05. The highest count was of 10 during a BBS walk at Mountain Lodge, Ruabon Mountain on 9/06 (JLR). There was one confirmed breeding record of 8+ including fledglings at Llyn Brenig on 11/06 (IMS). The last of the year

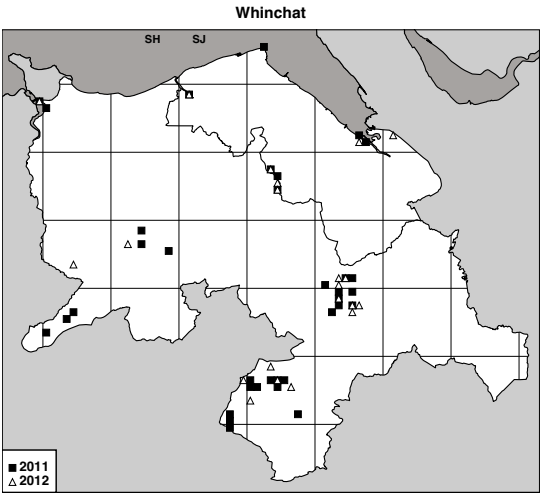
were seen on 11/07 at three sites: 1 at Taipellaf, Mynydd Hiraethog (DvJ), 1 male, 1 female and 5 juveniles at Cefngwyn, Migneint and 1 male, 1 female and 3 juveniles at Pen Ffriddsarn (WAO).

Flints. The first of the year was 1+ at Connah's Quay on 11/04. Records were from the Clwydian Range and from Deeside, the latter probably referring only to passage birds. The highest count was 16 at Point of Ayr on 2/05. There were no confirmed breeding records. The last of the year was 4 at Penycloddiau on 29/05 (EdW).

2012

Denbs. The first record of the year was of 2 singing at World's End, Ruabon Mountain on 4/05 (KS). The highest count was 10 at Mountain Lodge, Ruabon Mountain on 25/06, which included the only confirmed breeding record of the year, a pair with recently fledged young (NS). The last of the year was 1 near Bryn Du, Berwyn Mountains on 11/07 (DSt).

Flints. The first of the year was 2 at Shotwick Fields on 3/05 (CW). Of 2 at Penycloddiau on 5/05, one was considered to be on territory whilst the second was thought to be on passage with 3 Greenland Wheatears (EdW). All counts were of 1-2 and the last of the year was 1 at Oakenholt, Flint on 22/07 (GEM).



Stonechat *Saxicola torquata*

Scarce breeder and irregular winter visitor.

The map shows the coastal and upland areas where this species may be found, but it would appear to be confined to the uplands as a breeding bird. The maximum counts are within the range recorded from 2004-10. Recorded in 3/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 3/35 in 2012.

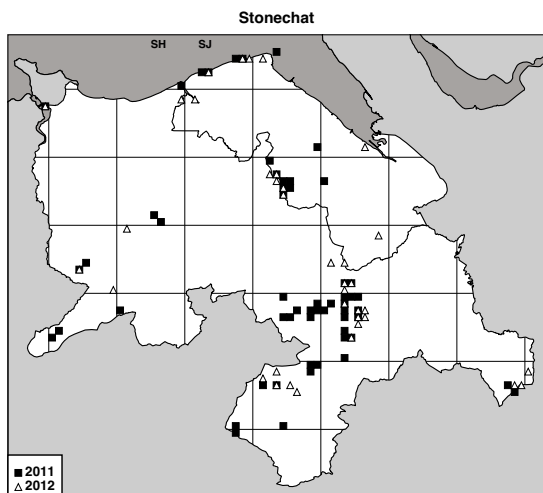
2011

Denbs. Seen in all months of the year and the first record of the year was 1 at Kinmel Bay on 2/01 (RS). The largest counts of the year were 8 at Moel Famau on 5/06 (EdW) and 12 (three family parties of 3-5 birds) at Glyn Arthur, Llangwyfan on 16/09 (GEM). There was only one record of confirmed breeding: 2 fledglings at Llidiart-cae-hir, Berwyn Mountains. The highest counts in the second winter period were 2 on 12/11 at Glyn Arthur, Llangwyfan (GEM) and 2 at World's End, Ruabon Mountain on 4/12.

Flints. Seen in all months of the year except Sep and Dec. The majority of records, twelve out of twenty one, came from the coast between Rhyl and Gronant, with a handful of records from

CLOCHDAR Y CERRIG

(SC)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	80	12
	Flints	22	2
2012	Denbs	43	4
	Flints	16	5



a faecal sac or food at Fenn's Moss on 29/05 (SD). There was only one record in the second winter period, 1 at Penycloddiau on 27/11 (RG).

Flints. Not seen in Feb or from Oct to Dec. There were three records submitted from the first winter period and the highest count was 3 at Talacre dunes on 6/01 (TeA). During the year as a whole most of the records came from the coast and from Penycloddiau. One exception was a record of 4, with evidence of display and courtship, at Top-yn-Rhos Farm, near Waun-y-llyn, on 30/04 (KGF). There were no records of confirmed breeding. The highest counts of the year were 5 at Penycloddiau on 24/03 (EdW), with a similar number at the same site on 8/09 (JDa). This latter record was also the last sighting of the year.

Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe oenanthe*

Breeding summer visitor and passage migrant. Amber list.

Records were generally restricted to the coast (passage birds) and the uplands. The maximum counts compare favourably with the range recorded between 2004-10. The figure of 65 for Flints in 2011 is the highest count for the entire period. Recorded in 1/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 1/35 in 2012.

2011

Denbs. The first of the year was 1 at Conwy RSPB on 13/03 (SaM). Most records from the entire year were in single figures. During the spring passage the highest figures were: 16 at Dyserth on 2/04 (SH), 12 at Castell on 10/04 (MD) and 18 at Conwy RSPB on 19/04 (JHg). There was one record of confirmed breeding, 2 fledglings at Cadair Berwyn, Berwyn Mountains on 2/07 (NHu). The last record of the year was 1 at Conwy RSPB on 4/10 (pJHg).

the uplands. The only record in the first winter period was 1 male at Gronant on 7/01 (DCR). All records during the year were of 1-2. There were no records of confirmed breeding, although there was evidence of possible or probable breeding from a number of suitable sites. There was just one record in the second winter period: 2 near Nant Coed-y-mynydd on 21/11 (MD).

2012

Denbs. Not seen in Feb, Sep, Oct or Dec. The highest count in the first winter period was 2 at Kinmel Bay on 21/01 (KS). The highest count of the year was 4 at Moel Famau on 13/05 (EdW). There was one record of confirmed breeding, an adult carrying

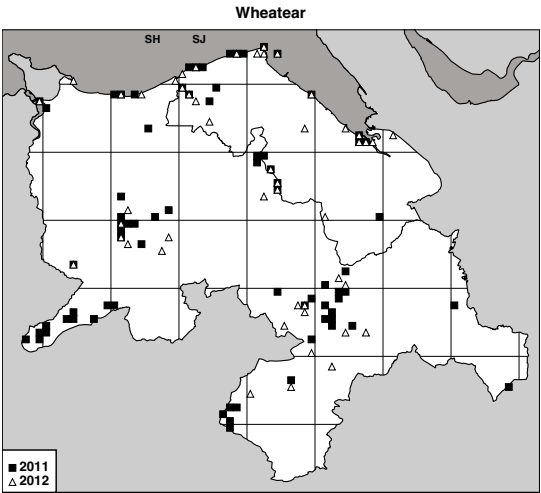
TINWEN Y GARN

(W)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	89	18
	Flints	55	65
2012	Denbs	51	15
	Flints	81	20

Seen in these months:

D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Flints. Records were received from around the coast, including Deeside and from Penycloddiau. The first of the year was 1 female at Rhyl on 25/03 (DCR). There were several high counts of birds on spring passage: 44 at Point of Ayr on 2/04, 25 at Penycloddiau on 9/04 (EdW) and 65 at Point of Ayr on 2/05. There was no record of any breeding activity and there was only one sighting in June with two in July. Records increased in the autumn and peaked at 8 at Rhuddlan on 10/09 (SH). The last of the year was 1 at Oakenholt, Flint on 5/10 (JHo).



2012

Denbs. The first of the year was 1 at Conwy RSPB on 12/03. During the spring passage period there were 10 at Conwy RSPB on 17/04 (SaM), 12 (all males) at Acrefair on 28/04 (HN) and 15 at Capel Siloam during a BBS walk on 12/05 (MaO). A total of 12 at Craig-y-Rhos on 14/05 were considered to be in good breeding habitat (NB). No confirmed breeding records were received. The last record of the year was 1 at Conwy RSPB on 19/09 (pJHg).

Flints. The first of the year was 1 male at Rhuddlan on 18/03 (SH). During the spring passage period the highest counts were 20 at Point of Ayr on 5/05 (ARo), 18 at Penycloddiau on 6/05, with 15 there on 12/05 (EdW) and 14 at Point of Ayr on 16/05 (GR). There were no confirmed breeding records. The last record of the year was 1+ at Rhyl on 23/11.

Greenland Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe leucorhoa*

TINWEN Y GARN

Passage migrant.

2011

Flints. All the records were between Rhuddlan and Rhyl of singles on 21/04 and 7/05 and 2 on 14/05 (SH).

(W)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	3	2
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	11	16

2012

Flints. All records were from the same area as in 2011 with 1-12. The largest counts were 14 near Rhuddlan on 18/05 and 16 just S of Rhyl on 19/05 (SH).

Desert Wheatear *Oenanthe deserti*

Vagrant.

2012

Flints. The bird was first recorded on the coast to the E of Rhyl on 24/11 (DvJ) and last seen on 30/11 (DvJ). Accepted by the BBRC. See colour photo pages.

TINWEN Y DIFEITHWCH

()		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	7	1

Dunnock *Prunella modularis*

LLWYD Y GWRYCH

Common breeding resident and garden visitor. WBAP.

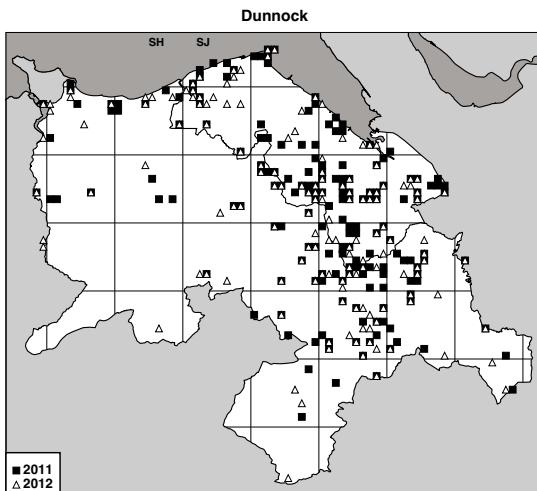
The number of records remains high for this species, with sightings in each month of both years in both counties. Recorded in 16/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 28/35 in 2012.

(D)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1042	10
	Flints	1002	14
2012	Denbs	1109	9
	Flints	1263	12

2011

Denbs. Most records (78.3%) came from GBW sites and most records were of 1-5, with thirty one records of 6-8. The three largest counts, of 10, were all seen at Tallarn Green in weeks beginning 10/07, 14/08 and 27/11 (MA).

Flints. Again, most records (64.3%) were from GBW sites and were counts of 1-5. There were sixteen records of 6-9. The three largest counts were 14 during a BBS survey near Mold on 23/04, 10 during the second visit on 19/06 (IMS) and 11 at Rhydymwyn on 16/07 (JVHu).



2012

Denbs. The GBW continued to give good numbers of records with 80.9% coming from these sites. The majority of records were of 1-5 with twenty seven records of 6-8. The maximum count was 9 seen at Conwy RSPB on 22/04 (RiH).

Flints. All but 4 records, actually a slight increase on the past several years, had counts of 1-9 and 60.4% of records were from GBW sites. The highest counts were 11 at Talacre, during a BBS survey on 24/04 (GR), 11 near Cilcain on 26/02 (GEM), 12 near Mold during a BBS walk on 27/05 and 12 S of Rhyl on 13/10 (JNW).

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

ADERYN Y TO

Common breeding resident. Amber list. WBAP.

This is a widespread and common breeding species, recorded across the region throughout the year. The number of records by participants has remained similar since 2008. The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 89 (Denbs.) and 100 (Flints.). Recorded in 18/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 24/35 in 2012.

(HS)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1180	80+
	Flints	1072	250
2012	Denbs	1139	121
	Flints	1224	97

2011

Denbs. Commonly seen in small flocks, there were many counts of 1-10. There were ninety records of 11-40+ and the four largest counts were 41 at Rhyd-y-foel, near Llanddulas during a BBS survey on 24/04 (GBH), 50 at Wrexham on 6/08 (NH), 70+ at Towyn on 11/02 and 80+

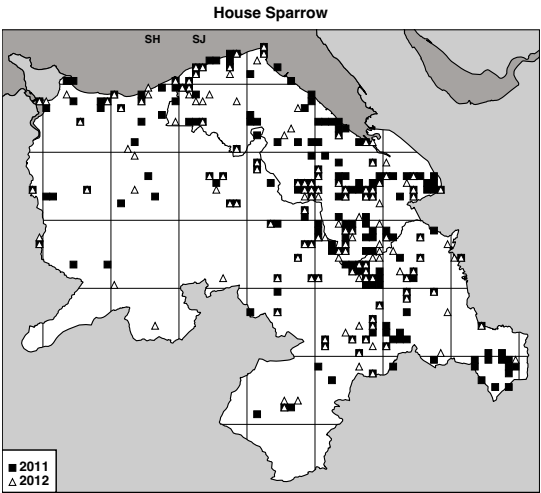
there on 21/02 (SM).

Flints. The majority of records were of 1-50 and 53.4% were from GBW sites with many more from Rhydymwyn by JVHu. The four largest counts included two during BBS surveys near Buckley, with 128 on 16/04 and 132 on 19/05 (GNR). On two occasions a flock of 250 were seen at Rhyl, on 30/07 in bushes at the edge of a field of wheat and on 7/08 (SH). These are the highest counts of House Sparrow we have received in the recording area over the last 10 years.

2012

Denbs. Most of the records (79.2%) came from GBW sites and were mainly counts of 1-20, with counts of over 20 at 14 sites widely distributed across the area. Only one record was greater than 30, with a flock of 121 seen at Bwlchgwyn on 28/10 (JC).

Flints. Over half the records (57.3%) were from GBW sites and there were many more from Rhydymwyn by JVHu. Most records were of 1-30 with twenty two records of 31-50. The three largest counts were all during BBS surveys: 59 at Talacre on 24/04 (GR), 97 at Buckley on 16/04 and 94 there 20/05 (GNR), both the last two counts were fewer than last year.



Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*

A scarce localised breeding resident. Red list. WBAP.

Sightings were made in every month in both counties in both years except Aug 2012 in Denbs. Young were only recorded at one site, at Sandycroft, where they were ringed as nestlings. As can be seen in the table below, the wet breeding season in 2012 seems not to have benefitted this species, with a drop of nearly one nestling per nest in productivity. Recorded in 2/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 2/35 in 2012.

GOLFAN Y MYNYDD

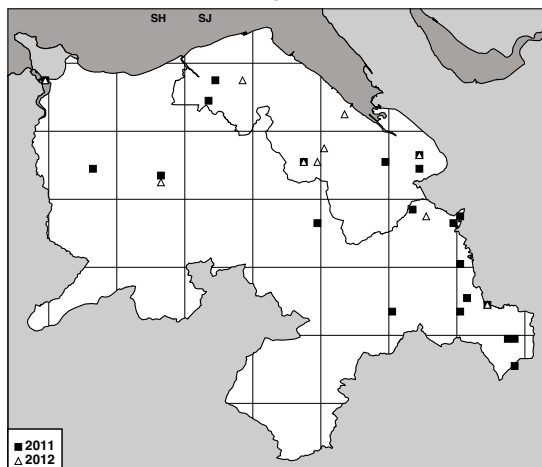
(TS)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	47	6
	Flints	67	42
2012	Denbs	32	6
	Flints	74	34

2011

Denbs. The majority of records were of 1-4 and 59.6% were from GBW sites. One of those at Tallarn Green provided most of those and the largest counts, with 5 in weeks beginning 25/09, 6/11 and 25/12 and 6 there in week beginning 27/11 (MA). The other larger count was 5 near Bronington on 9/04 (NHu).

Flints. Some 77.6% of records were from one GBW site at Cilcain, where they were only recorded as 'present' (= 1+). The larger counts all came from Beeches Farm, Sandycroft, during BBS surveys and ringing. The largest counts were 36 nestlings ringed on 31/07 and 42 ringed on 13/05 (IMS).

Tree Sparrow



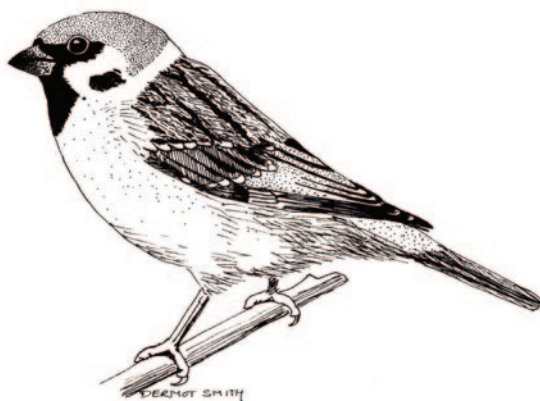
2012

Denbs. The GBW site at Tallarn Green again provided the majority of records (nearly 90.6%), with just three records from elsewhere. Most records were of 1-5 and a count of 6 was recorded at Moel Grugoer, Mynydd Hiraethog on 29/12 (DvJ).

Flints. GBW sites accounted for 74.3% of the records, mainly from Cilcain (RWes), but with 1 seen at a garden in Pantymwyn in week beginning 26/02 (TeA) and 1 was seen in weeks beginning 11/11 and 2/12 near Rhydymwyn (PPr). Again, most records were from BBS survey or ringing at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft. The highest counts were 30 nestlings ringed on 8/07 and 34 nestlings ringed on 26/05 (IMS).

Breeding (IMS):

(TS)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
2011					
Beeches Farm	52	265	207	203	3.90
2012					
Beeches Farm	50	258	175	149	2.98



Tree Sparrow by Dermot Smith

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

Passage migrant and localised breeder in small numbers. Red list. WBAP.

2011

Denbs. All records were from Conwy RSPB and mainly of

1-4. The first record was 2 on 1/05 (JHg) and the last was a single on 30/07 (JHg). The largest counts were 5 on 3/05 (RS) and 6 the same day (pJHg). Recorded in 1/22 BBS square in 2011 and 1/35 in 2012.

Flints. The first record was a single at Talacre on 9/04, seen in a tree 'escaping from the crowds', presumably of birdwatchers (NH). Most records were of 1-4 and the largest count was 5 at Point of Ayr on 2/05. The only inland record was a juvenile seen at Rhuddlan on 5/08 (SH). This was also the last record of the year. Birds were seen at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft during a BBS survey and suspected to have been breeding there.

2012

Denbs. Most records came from Conwy RSPB, with the earliest sighting of 2 on 27/04 (pJHg). The last record at this site was a single on 12/08 (RoH). There were also

sightings at Acrefair on 7/05 with 3 the maximum count (NHu, KS).

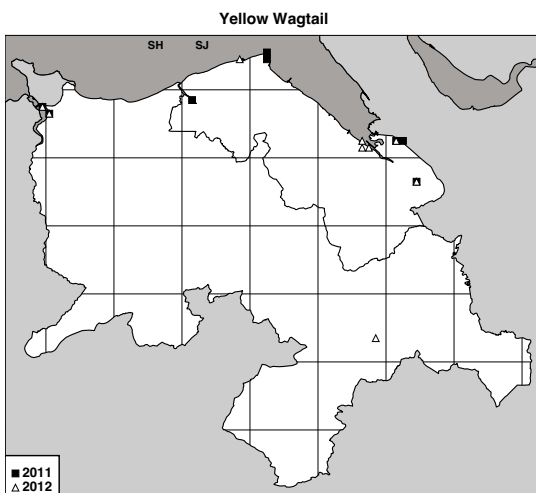
Flints. The first record was a single seen during a BBS survey at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft on 28/04 (IMS). All records were found near to the coast at five different locations. The largest counts were all from an area close to the River Dee with 6 at Beeches Farm during a BBS survey on 30/05 (IMS) and then at Shotwick Fields. At the latter site 7 were seen on 29/05 and 30 on 17/08, feeding on a wet grassland area, with many juveniles included (CW).

SIGLEN FELEN

(YW)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	20	6
	Flints	11	5
2012	Denbs	13	3
	Flints	11	30

Seen in these months:

D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D



Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola*

Rare vagrant.

2011

Denbs. Three sightings of a single bird were recorded at Conwy RSPB between 15/05 and 16/05. Accepted by the BBRC. See colour photo pages.

SIGLEN SITRAIDD

()		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	3	1
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

Fairly common breeding resident.

SIGLEN LWYD

Fewer records were received than in 2010 but from similar locations. Recorded in 3/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 2/35 in 2012.

(GL)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	49	4
	Flints	31	5
2012	Denbs	59	5
	Flints	51	2

2011

Denbs. Most records were of 1-2 and the largest counts were 3 at Erddig pool on 11/06 during a BBS survey (NH), 3 near the centre of Wrexham, also on 11/06 (NH), 3 at Conwy RSPB on 17/09 (JHg) and 4 (two pairs) at Burton on 31/12 (NHu).

Flints. Most records were of 1-2 and the largest counts were 4 on 2/04 and 5 on 25/03 (DHil). Three GBW sites accounted for 12.9% of the records.

2012

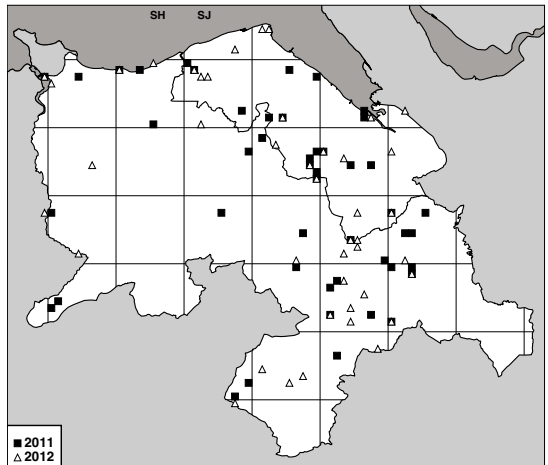
Denbs. Most records were counts of 1-2 and the largest counts were 4 (two pairs) at Erddig pool on 27/03 (NHu), 4 at Llangollen on 27/05, 5 at RSPB on 11/07 (pJHg) and 5 nestlings ringed at Pandy on 6/06 (pBH).

Flints. All records were of just 1-2 and a GBW site at Gwaenysgor accounted for two (3.9%) of the records.

Seen in these months:

D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Grey Wagtail



White Wagtail *Motacilla alba alba*

Passage migrant. RBBP.

SIGLEN WEN

Some anomalies have led to the need for a review of all White Wagtail records, the results of which will be published in the next bird report.

(WB)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	16	17
	Flints	15	42
2012	Denbs	23	40
	Flints	10	3

Seen in these months:

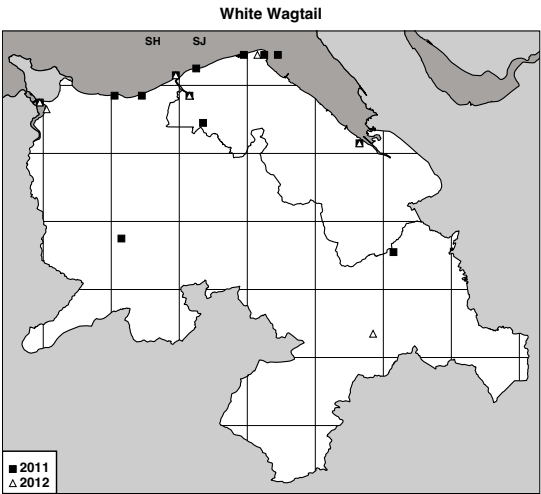
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

2011

Denbs. The first record was 2 at Conwy RSPB on 20/03 (JHg). The majority of records came from that site which also had the maximum count of 17 on 23/04 (SaM). Most other records were of 1-8, with two other larger counts of 14 on 25/04 (JHg) and 15 on 10/04 (SaM). The last record was a single at Llanddulas on 27/09 (RMB).

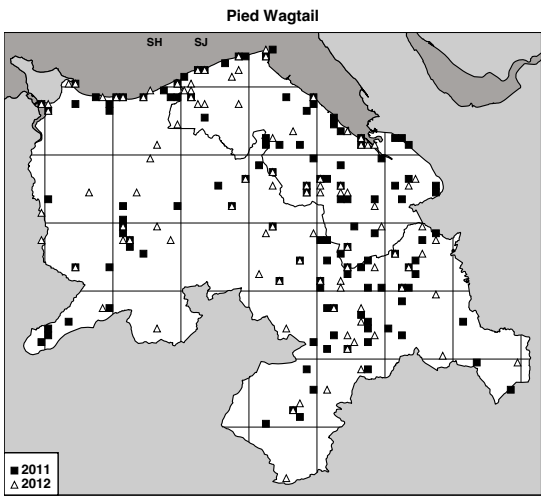
Flints. The first record was a large count of 42 at Oakenholt on 3/03 (LJ). There were several records between 3/04 and 23/04 from near Rhuddlan, with the highest count of 5 on 21/04 (SH). A single was seen at Point of Ayr on 25/08 (GR) and the last record was 7 near Rhyl on 25/09 (RMB).

2012
Denbs. All but one record came from Conwy RSPB, the other site being Acrefair with a pair seen on 13/04 (HN). Most counts were of 1-12 with six records of 20-30+. The first and last records came from the RSPB reserve with a single on 9/04 (JuW) and a single on 8/10 (JHg). The highest count of 40 was at the reserve on 28/04 (JuW).



Flints. Most records came from near Rhuddlan where the highest count of 3 was on 9/05 (SH). Two other sites had sightings with a single at Talacre on 20/04 and 1 was seen at Oakenholt on 4/09 (GEM).

Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba yarrellii*
Common breeding resident.



SIGLEN FRAITH			
(PW)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	158	85
	Flints	104	40
2012	Denbs	170	80
	Flints	167	14

Recorded in every month in both years in both counties. There were no GBW records from either county. The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 180 (Denbs.) and 33 (Flints.). Recorded in 10/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 22/35 in 2012.

2011
Denbs. Most records were 1-20 and the six larger counts were 50+ arriving at an evening roost in the Alyn Valley, Wrexham on 1/01 (NHu), 31 at Conwy RSPB on 24/03 (RS), 50 moving W over Penycae on 26/03 (JAJ), 32 on a roof near Towyn before going to roost on 14/11 (RS) and the largest count was 85 moving SSW

over Penycae on 14/10 (JAJ).

Flints. Most records were of 1-5 and the two larger counts were 10+ at Gronant dunes on 7/04 (DCR) and 40 at Shotwick Fields on 23/11 (GR).

2012

Denbs. Most records were of 1-9 and the three larger counts were 35 at Burton Meadows on 21/03 (GNR), 80 near Rossett on 13/10 (HL) and 100+ at a roost in the Alyn Valley, Wrexham on an unspecified date in Nov (NHu).

Flints. Most records were 1-8 and the three larger counts were 9 at Connah's Quay NR on 17/06 (GEM), 9 near Rhuddlan on 10/09 (SH) and 14 at Greenfield marsh on 22/10 (SD).

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*

Scarce summer breeding visitor and passage migrant.
Amber list. WBAP.

CORHEDYDD Y COED

Recorded in 0/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 3/35 in 2012.

(TP)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	20	7
	Flints	3	2
2012	Denbs	29	6
	Flints	3	4

2011

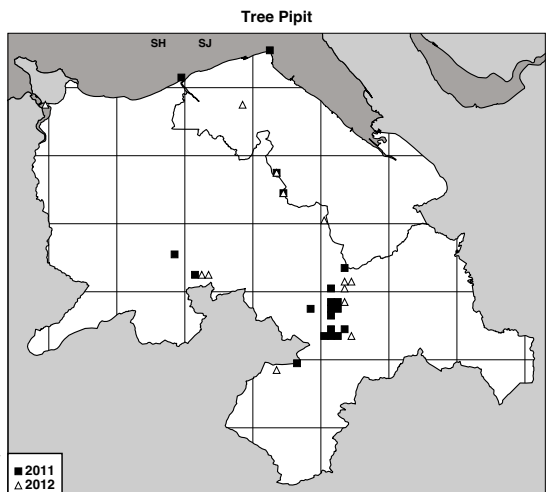
Denbs. The first of the year was a male near Cynr-y-Brain, Ruabon Mountain on 9/04 (JLR). Most records were of 1-2 with 3 near Moel Famau on 5/06 (EdW) and 7 at Vivod, Berwyn Mountains on 9/06 including birds taking food or faecal sacs, so confirmation of breeding there (NHu). The last record was a single at Craig Bron Bannog on 9/07 (DvJ).

Flints. Birds were seen on just two days: a single at Penycloddiau on 25/04 with 2 there on 2/05 (EdW). On the latter day another 2 were seen at Point of Ayr.

2012

Denbs. The first of the year was a single at the W of Esclusham Mountain on 15/04(JC). Most of the records were of 1-4 and the two higher counts were 5 during a BBS survey at Craig Bron Bannog on 6/05 (MaO) and 6 at Pendinas Reservoir on 27/05 (RbL). The last record was 1 over Conwy RSPB on 20/08 (pJHg).

		Seen in these months:											
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D



Flints. The first record was 4 seen during a BBS survey near Marian Cwm, just S of Trelawnyd on 20/04 (MrJ). There were two records at Penycloddiau with 1 on 21/04 and 3 on 5/05 (EdW). Of the 3, 2 flew over and 1 landed and settled in bushes and sang briefly then disappeared.

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*

Common breeding resident and both passage and winter visitor. Amber list.

Recorded during every month in both years on both counties except Feb and Aug 2011 in Flints. The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 106 (Denbs.) and 67 (Flints.). Recorded in 5/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 8/35 in 2012.

2011

Denbs. Most records were of 1-20 with twelve of 21-50 and the five largest counts were 200 at Nant-y-Glyn on 28/03 (HC), 100 moving NNE over Penycae on 28/03 (JAJ), 130 near Dyserth on 29/03 (SH), 55 near Penycae on 22/04 (JAJ) and 80 at Bryn-Adda, Garth on 11/04 (JLR) in a field well off the moor. Surprisingly, none of the large counts were in the autumn.

Flints. The majority of records were of 1-32 and the three largest counts were 40 at Penycloddiau on 2/04 (EdW), 250 near Rhuddlan on 3/04 and 50 there on 16/04 (SH). Again, all the high counts were in spring.

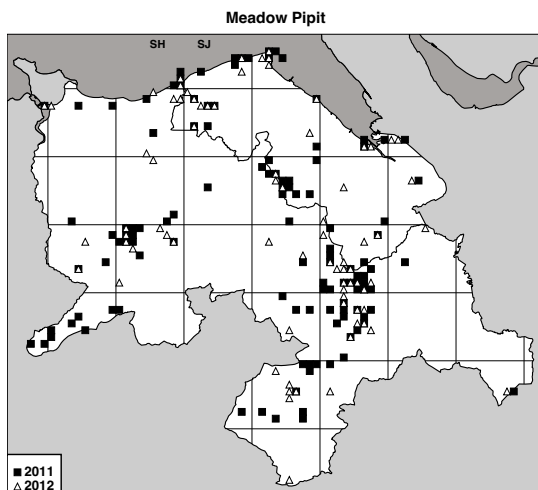
2012

Denbs. All but two records were of 1-30 and the other counts were 45 near Dyserth on 27/03 (SH) and 58 during a BBS survey near Cerrig-duon, in the Berwyns S of Glyndyfrdwy on 2/05 (DJS).

Flints. All but three records were of 1-30 and the three largest counts were 80 near Rhuddlan on 21/03 (SH), 150 at Shotwick Fields on 26/09 (CW) and 45 near Rhuddlan on 1/10 (SH).

CORHEDYDD Y WAEN

(MP)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	137	200
	Flints	55	250
2012	Denbs	143	58
	Flints	70	150



Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus*

Scarce, mainly winter and passage, visitor on the coast.

2011

Denbs. All records were of 1-2 from Conwy RSPB, with one record from Rhos-on-Sea on 9/01 (MtG).

Flints. One was at Connah's Quay NR on 18/02 (GR) and 3 at Oakenholt on 24/11 (BH).

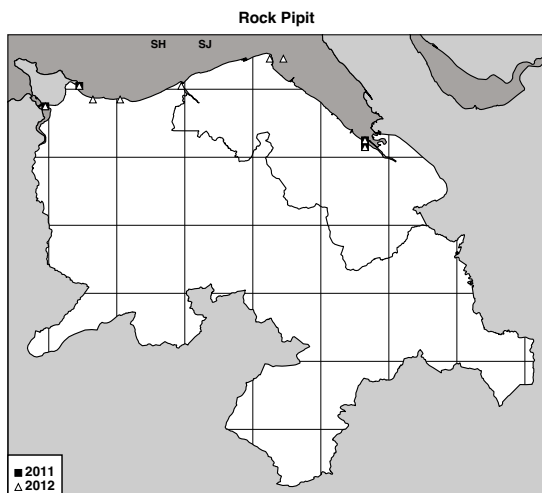
2012

Denbs. Most records were of 1-2 with 3 at Conwy

CORHEDYDD Y GRAIG

(RC)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	7	2
	Flints	2	3
2012	Denbs	18	3
	Flints	7	3

Seen in these months:													
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D



RSPB on 27/09 (JuW) and 3 there on 3/12 (RoH).

Flints. Six of the records were of 1-2 with 3 at Oakenholt on 5/02 (GEM).

Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta*

Scarce winter visitor.

2011

Denbs. At least one bird was present at Conwy RSPB on 19/02 and 11/06 (JHg).

2012

Denbs. At least one was present at Conwy RSPB on 19/02 (JHg).

Flints. One was seen at Rhyl and E of Kinmel Bay on 11/01 (HC). These records may have been of the same bird. Another was seen just SE of Flint football ground on 9/03 (GRMP).

CORHEDYDD Y DWR

(WI)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	2	1+
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	1	1
	Flints	3	1

Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*

Common and widespread breeding resident.

Recorded during every month in both years in both counties. Many sightings are of individuals or small groups, until the winter months when they readily come together into larger flocks. The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 418 (Denbs.) and 214 (Flints.). Recorded in 22/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 34/35 in 2012.

2011

Denbs. GBW sites accounted for 72.7% of all records, most of which were of 1-30. The two largest counts were 38 at Castell on 10/04 (MD) and 75 moving N over Penycae on 8/04 (JAJ). The large counts were much lower than might have been expected.

Flints. There were many records from Rhydymwyn by JVHu and 57.1% of records came from GBW sites. Most records were of 1-30 and the five largest counts were 33 at Rhydymwyn on

JI-BINC

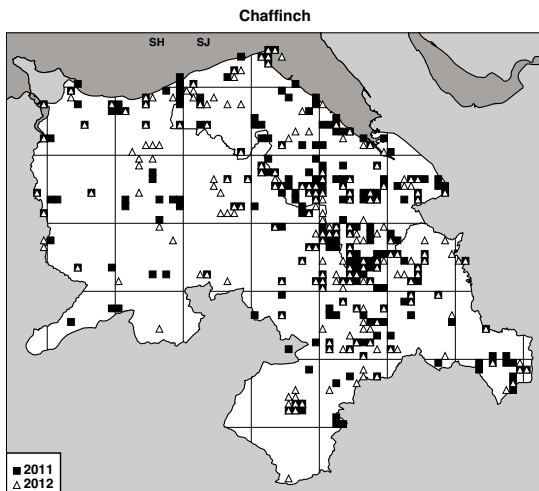
(CH)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1294	75
	Flints	1147	75
2012	Denbs	1339	50
	Flints	1390	1000

1/01 (MD), 50 near Rhuddlan on 8/01, 45 there on 26/02, 75 there on 5/03 (SH) and 50 at the Gas Terminal, Talacre on 12/12 (KS).

2012

Denbs. GBW sites provided 71.3% of the records, most of which were of 1-25. The two largest counts were 45 near Darland on 6/01 and 50 at Valle Crucis, Llangollen on 23/09 (HN). Again, these counts are much smaller than might have been expected.

Flints. Again there were a good number of records from Rhydymwyn by JVHu and 53.6% from GBW sites. Most of the records were counts of 1-30. The five largest counts were 40 at Talacre dunes on 6/01 (TeA), 35 near Rhuddlan on 21/01 (SH), and from Oakenholt 120 on 28/11, 200 on 1/12 and 1,000 on 5/12 (GEM), the last of which is by far the biggest number recorded since 2004.



Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*

Localised winter visitor in variable numbers. RBBP.

The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 73 (Denbs.) and 22 (Flints.).

PINC Y MYNYDD

(BL)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	147	600
	Flints	67	42
2012	Denbs	66	28
	Flints	29	30

2011

Denbs. The majority of the records were gathered in the first part of the year when most records were of 1-25. However, there were two records of much larger numbers: 600 near Moel Garegog on 9/04 and 600+ a couple of kilometres away, on the S side of Landegla Forest on the same day (RS). This was a very large count for this area. Most (63.3%) records during the year were from GBW sites and the last spring record was 1 in a GBW garden near Bwlchgwyn in the week beginning 17/04 (MaT). There were only five records in the autumn, the first of which was of birds present near Waen Uchaf, Clocaenog Forest on 2/09. The largest count in autumn was a modest 3 at Penycae on 14/10 (JAJ).

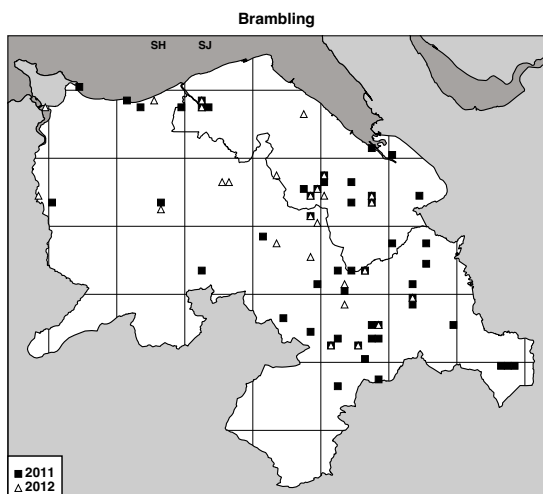
Seen in these months:

		J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
D	2011												
	2012												
F	2011												
	2012												

Flints. All but two records were of 1-8, with the largest counts both near Cilcain with 15 on 4/03 and 28 on 6/03. GBW sites provided 59.7% of the records and the last of spring was 1 at a Caergwrle GBW garden in week beginning 10/04 (ECMH).

2012

Denbs. Many of the records were from the first part of the year and were counts of 1-8. The largest counts were at a Bwlchgwyn GBW site with 12 during weeks beginning 1/04 and 15/04 and 28 in the week beginning 8/04 (MaT) Overall GBW sites accounted for 75.8% of records.



The first bird in the autumn was at least one present at another GBW site at Trefriw in the week beginning 28/10 and the largest count in autumn was at another GBW garden at Llangollen with 5 in the week beginning 9/12 (HN).

Flints. Just 39.3% of the records were from GBW sites and the last of spring was a single near Cilcain on 24/04, where the largest spring count of 5 had been on 20/03 (GEM). The first record in the autumn was 1 at Holway, Holywell on 14/10 (LMO). In the autumn most records were of 1-3 and the maximum was 30 near Rhuddlan on 27/10 (SH).

Greenfinch *Chloris chloris*

Common breeding resident.

Seen during every month in both years in both counties.
Recorded in 11/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 20/35 in 2012.

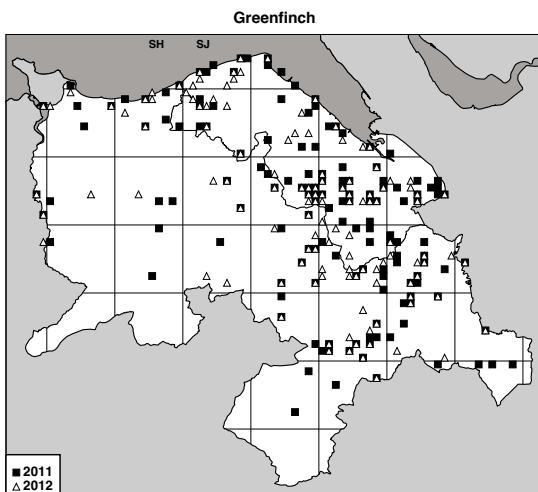
LLINOS WERDD

(GR)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	745	30
	Flints	679	15
2012	Denbs	801	23
	Flints	1014	80+

2011

Denbs. GBW sites provided 77.4% of records and all but three records were counts of 1-20. The largest counts were 25 in a garden near the centre of Wrexham on 12/01 and 7/03 and 30 there on 15/02 (NH). There were no records of sick-looking birds.

Flints. GBW sites accounted for 60.2% of records and most counts were 1-14. The largest counts were 18 at St Asaph on 25/12 (DDo), 19 at Buckley on 25/11 (GNR) and from Shotton Steelworks where 20 were ringed on 30/10 and 23 ringed on 6/11 (pBH). Sick birds were seen at Rhydymwyn, where 1 was ill on 19/10 and possibly the same bird was found dead on 3/11 with a report of another sick bird on 19/11 (JVHu).



2012

Denbs. More records came from GBW sites this year (80.0%) and most records were of 1-10.

The largest counts all came from GBW gardens with 12 at Bwlchgwyn in the week beginning 2/09 (JC), 12 at Trevor Hall, Garth in weeks beginning 23/09 and 28/10 (JeBa) with 15 there in the week beginning 3/11 (LB).

Flints. Most records were counts of 1-15 and 53.6% were from GBW sites with many other records from Rhydymwyn (JVHu). The largest counts were 17 at Bagillt on 18/11 (GRMP), 25 near Rhuddlan on 9/09 (SH) and 80+ in the trees at Rhyl Marine Lake on 12/01 (DCR). There were two records of sick-looking birds, both at Rhydymwyn on 22/01 and 18/03 (JVHu).

Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*

Common breeding resident.

NICO

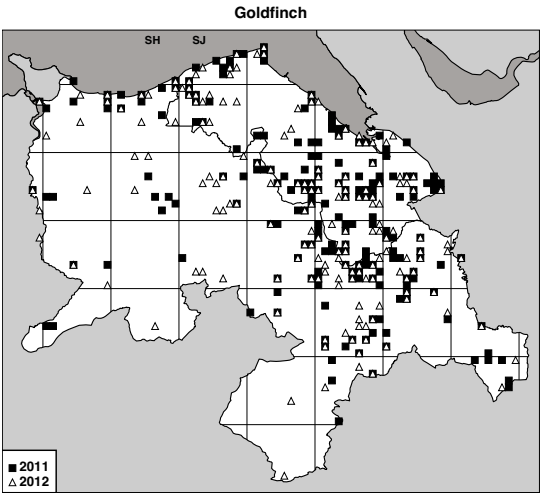
Seen in every month in both years in both counties. The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 76 (Denbs.) and 193 (Flints.). Recorded in 16/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 31/35 in 2012.

(GO)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	846	70
	Flints	1049	45
2012	Denbs	908	40
	Flints	1286	120

2011

Denbs. GBW sites provided 68.4% of records and most were counts of 1-35. The largest counts were 50 near Kinmel Bay on 28/07 (RMB), 50+ near Eglwyseg on 31/07 (NJS) and 70 by Brymbo pool, Wrexham on 18/01 (SD).

Flints. All except three records were of 1-32 and 51.2% were from GBW sites, with many from Rhydymwyn by JVHu. The largest counts were 37 at Oakenholt on 23/09 (pGEM), 40 near Rhuddlan on 15/09 and 45 at Rhuddlan on 9/03 (SH). The flocks were much smaller than might have been expected.



2012

Denbs. Most records were counts of 1-26 and 74.2% were from GBW sites. The largest counts were 30 near Bedwlyn on 11/08 (SD) and the remainder were from Conwy RSPB, with 30 on 1/09 and 12/09 (JuW), 30 on 1/10 (JHg) and 40 there on 12/10 (PeK).

Flints. GBW sites accounted for 49.8% of the records, with many from Rhydymwyn by JVHu. Most records were of 1-50 and the three largest counts were 60+ at Rhydymwyn on 22/09 (JVHu), 70 at Connah's Quay NR on 3/08, including juveniles (GEM) and 120 at Oakenholt on 28/09 (GEM).

Siskin *Carduelis spinus*

Breeding resident in forests and winter visitor.

PILA GWYRDD

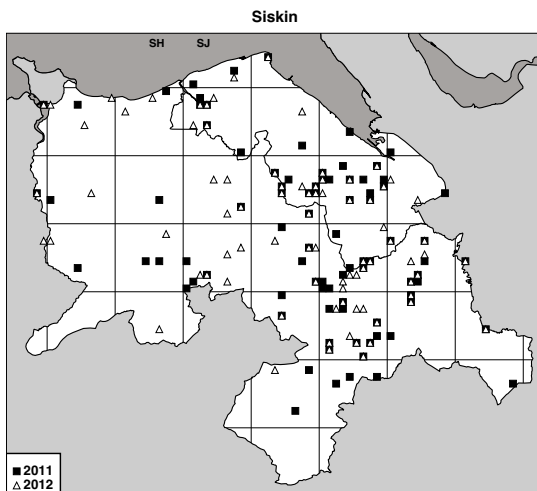
Recorded in every month in both years in both counties with numbers counted much lower than in recent years. The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 333 (Denbs.) and 185 (Flints.). Recorded in 2/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 7/35 in 2012.

(SK)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	407	80
	Flints	399	50+
2012	Denbs	468	47
	Flints	460	12

2011

Denbs. Most of the records were from either GBW sites (55.3%) or from ringing at Bedwlwyn and were counts of 1-38. The largest counts were 40+ at Ty-nant, Clocaenog Forest on 26/04 (IMS), 46 ringed at Bedwlwyn on 24/06, 62 ringed there on 15/03 (pBH) and 80 at Fenn's Moss on 3/01 (JoAr).

Flints. GBW sites only accounted for 26.6% of records and there were many from Rhydymwyn by JVHu. Most records were of 1-40 and the largest counts were 50+ at Rhydymwyn on 15/02 and 45+ there on 3/03 (JVHu).



2012

Denbs. A greater proportion of records were from GBW sites this year (63.7%) and most records were counts of 1-30. The five largest counts were four of 40, at Llangollen in weeks beginning 4/03, 11/03 and 18/03(HN) and near Bontuchel on 28/02 (KS) and 47 fullgrown ringed at Bedwlwyn (the Llwynmawr site in the recoveries section of the Ringing Report) on 10/04 (pBH).

Flints. This year 27.1% of records were from GBW sites and many were from Rhydymwyn and counts were much lower than last year with most 1-9. The two largest counts were modest totals of 10 at Penycloddiau on 24/03 (EdW) and 12 near Rhuddlan on 27/10 (SH).

Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*

Widespread breeding resident. Red list. WBAP.

LLINOS

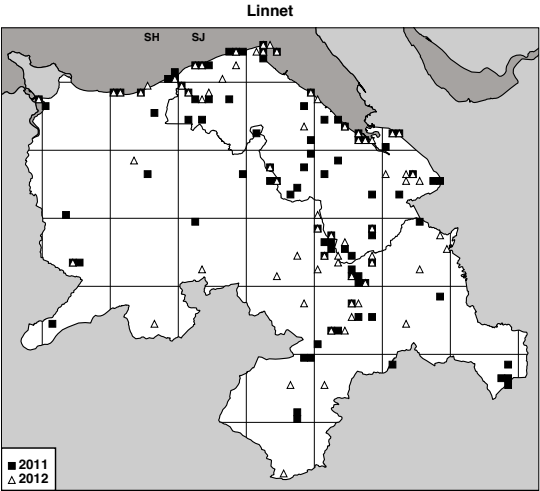
Recorded in nearly every month in both years in both counties, the exceptions being in Denbs. during Feb and Mar 2011 and Feb and Nov 2012. The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 181 (Denbs.) and 386 (Flints.). Recorded in 4/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 9/35 in 2012.

(LI)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	65	50
	Flints	97	200
2012	Denbs	61	530
	Flints	102	150

2011

Denbs. There were no records from GBW sites and most records were counts of 1-18 and the three largest were 30 near Kinnel Bay on 28/07 and 1/09 (RMB) and 50 near Dyserth on 25/09 (SH).

Flints. There was just one record from a GBW site (1.0%) at St Asaph in week beginning 25/09. Many of the records were of 1-20, but there were also twenty six records of 24-100 and the two largest counts were 120 near Rhuddlan along the estuary, with juveniles on 17/07 (SH) and 200 at Connah's Quay NR on 17/10 (GR).



2012

Denbs. There were no records from GBW sites and most records were of 1-12 and the three largest counts were 24 at Glyn Arthur on 6/09 (GEM), 40 near Gyfelia, near Johnstown on 28/03 (GNR) and an exceptional 530 near Darland on 6/01 in an un-harvested crop of rape.

Flints. There were no records from GBW sites and many records were counts of 1-20 with seventeen records of 23-60. The largest count was 150 near Rhuddlan on 10/09 (SH), which is rather less than the mean maximum for recent years.

Twite *Carduelis flavirostris*

Winter visitor to coastal areas. Red list. WBAP.

LLINOS Y MYNYDD

2011

Denbs. The Jan records were 5 at Pensarn on 7/01 and 1 near Kinnel Bay. The Mar records were 2 seen at Conwy RSPB.

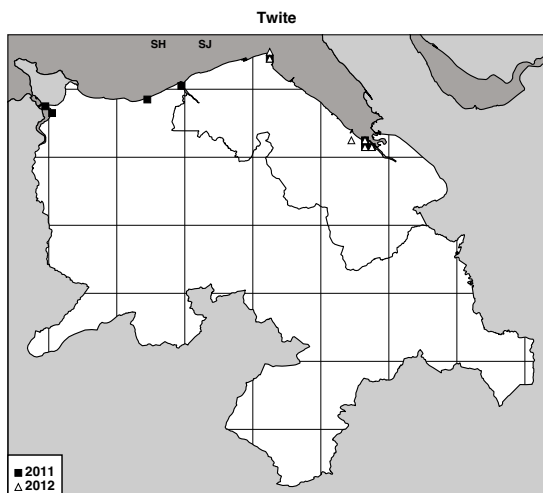
(TW)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	5	5
	Flints	22	90
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	15	80

Flints. The Feb records were from Connah's Quay NR with a maximum of 51 on 18/02 (GR). The last early year record was 28 there on 23/02 (DvJ). The first record in autumn was 3 at Oakenholt on 20/09 (pGEM).Numbers built up to a maximum of 90 at Oakenholt on 24/11 (BH), after which numbers varied from 2-75 in Nov to 30-83 in Dec, most having been seen at Connah's Quay NR / Oakenholt and some at Talacre.

Seen in these months:													
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

2012

Flints. Most of the records were during the first two months and the maximum was 80 at Oakenholt on 15/01 with other counts of 3-60. At the end of the year the four records were from the same area with a maximum of 80 at Oakenholt on 16/11 (DeS).



Lesser Redpoll *Carduelis cabaret*

Breeding resident. Red list. WBAP.

LLINOS BENGGOCH LEIAF

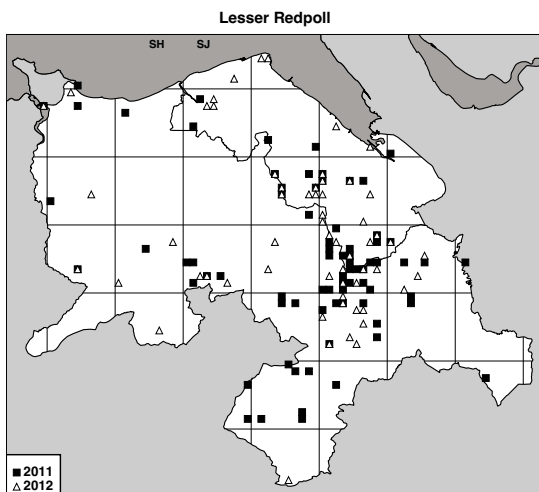
(LR)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	167	60
	Flints	143	30
2012	Denbs	112	45
	Flints	257	40

Seen in nearly every month in both years in both counties, the exceptions being Sep 2012 in Denbs. with Aug and Sep 2011 and Sep 2012 in Flints. The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 47 (Denbs.) and 15 (Flints.). Recorded in 3/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 8/35 in 2012.

2011

Denbs. Most records were counts of 1-12 and 49.7% of records were from GBW sites. The largest counts were 20 at Craig Bron Bannog on 18/01 (KS), 30 at Nant-y-Glyn, Colwyn Bay on 28/03 (HC) and 60 S of Llandegla Forest on 9/04 (RS).

Flints. Most counts were of 1-10 and 26.6% of records came from GBW sites with probably as many, again, from Rhydymwyn by JVHu. The three modest, largest counts were 11 at a GBW garden at Nant Alyn, Pantymwyn in the week beginning 13/02 (TeA), 15 at Rhydymwyn on 2/04 (DHil) and 30 at Penycloddiau on 9/04 (EdW).



2012

Denbs. Only 28.6% of records were from GBW sites and most records were of 1-12. The largest counts were 15 at Marford Quarry on 14/02 (KE), 15 at Pendinas Reservoir on 15/04 (SAH), 30 at Glyn Arthur on 9/05 (GEM) and 45 near Eglwyseg on 16/04 (HN).

Flints. Most counts were 1-10 and 26.8% of records were from GBW sites with many others from Rhydymwyn by JVHu. The largest counts were all from Penycloddiau, with 40 on 24/03, 25 on 31/03, 20 on 21/04 and 30 on 6/05 (EdW).

Common Redpoll *Carduelis flammea*

LLINOS BENGGOCH

Rare migrant.

2008

Denbs. One was seen, and photographed, with many Lesser Redpoll in a garden at Bwlchgwyn on 8/04 (JC). Accepted by the WRP.

2011-12

There were sixteen records of this species for Apr to Jun 2012 in a relatively small area near Llandegla Forest but it seems that none of them has been submitted to the WRP. One record of 50 almost certainly was a flock of Lesser Redpoll but as none of these records has been accepted by the WRP a table has not been included because the records have not been verified.

Common Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra*

GYLFIN GROES

Scarce breeding resident.

(CR)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	80	200
	Flints	1	2
2012	Denbs	51	100
	Flints	2	4

The mean maximum counts 2004-10 were 215 (Denbs.) and 12 (Flints.).

2011

Denbs. Most records were 1-30 and the six largest records were 40 at Black Wood, Garth on 25/06 (pJLR), 50 at Llyn Brenig reserve on 30/01 (RTe), 50 at Coed Tai-isaf, Mynydd Hiraethog on 20/02 (KS) and 200 at Waen Uchaf, Clocaenog Forest on 23/01, at Hafotty Hendre, Clocaenog Forest on 8/02 and just S of Llandegla Forest on 9/04 (RS).

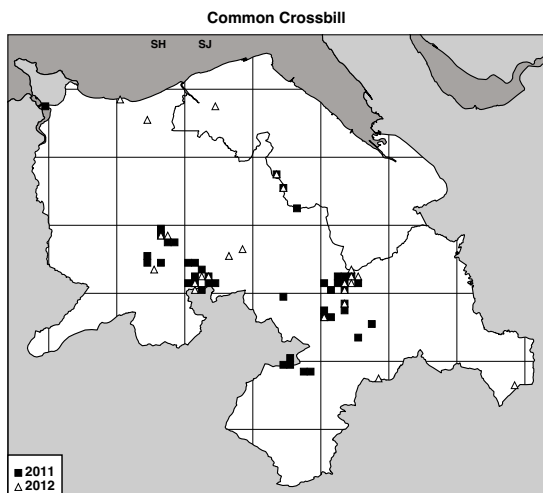
Seen in these months:												
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

Flints. Two were seen at Penycloddiau on 25/04 (EdW).

2012

Denbs. Most records were 1-50 and the four largest counts were 60 near Gwynfryn on 5/05 (RoL), 60 at Pendinas Reservoir on 12/05 (MkR), 70+ at Hafod-y-Llan Isaf, Mynydd Hiraethog on 23/01 (DvJ) and 100 at Pendinas Reservoir on 21/04 (HeC).

Flints. Both records were from Penycloddiau with 2 on 21/04 and 4 on 26/05 (EdW).



Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

Breeding resident. Red list. WBAP.

Recorded in every month in both years in both counties.

Recorded in 6/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 14/35 in 2012.

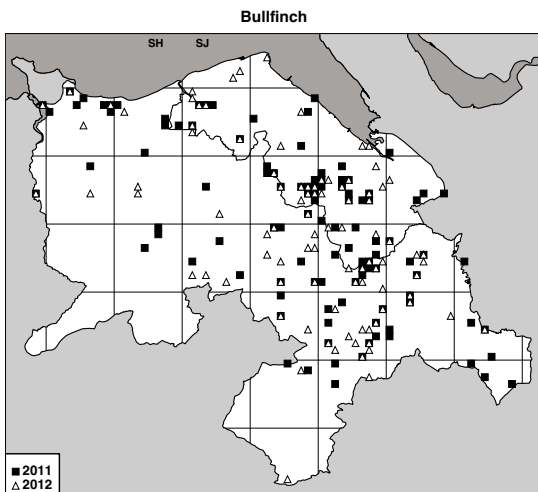
COCH Y BERLLAN

(BF)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	231	12
	Flints	301	8
2012	Denbs	262	9
	Flints	459	10

2011

Denbs. GBW sites provided 47.2% of all the records which were mainly counts of 1-8. The three largest counts were 9 at Conwy RSPB on 5/01 (JHg), 9 there on 11/12 (RS) and 12 near Llyn Bran, Mynydd Hiraethog on 5/09 (DvJ).

Flints. Here, gardens were more favoured with 70.4% of records from GBW sites and most records were of 1-6. The three largest counts were 7 from a GBW garden at Buckley in weeks beginning 2/01 and 13/03 (CaSh, DaSh) and 8 near Mold during a BBS survey on 11/06 (GEM). There were six records of confirmed breeding (FL).



2012

Denbs. GBW sites accounted for 57.3% of records and most records were counts of 1-5. The two largest counts were 6 in a GBW garden near Rhosllanerchrugog in week beginning 15/01 (GAM) and 9 at Craig Bron Bannog on 19/02 (DvJ).

Flints. Rather fewer records were from GBW sites this year (59.3%) and there were others from Rhydymwyn by JVHu. Most records were of 1-6 and the largest count was 10 at a GBW garden in Buckley in week beginning 29/01 (DaSh).

Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

Scarce winter visitor and possible breeding resident.
Amber list.

2011

Denbs. There were 3 moving N at Penycae on 9/10 (JAJ).

2012

Denbs. There were 2 at Capel Garmon on 12/12.

GYLFINBRAFF

(HF)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	1	3
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	1	2
	Flints	0	

Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis*

Regular winter visitor in small numbers, mainly coastal.
Amber list.

2011

Denbs. Nearly all records were from the traditional site at Horton's Nose, Kinmel Bay and the maximum count there was 12 on 17/11 (DvJ) and 24/12 (RS). Other sightings were from coastal sites to the W as far as Conwy RSPB. The last spring record was 2 at Horton's Nose on 20/03 (RS) and the first of autumn was 1+ there on 14/11 (RS). The 6 birds ringed at Horton's Nose on 24/12 were of the Icelandic *insulae* race (RS). A single at Moel Famau in the Clwydians on 3/12 was an unusual inland record.

Flints. All records were 1-2 at Gronant, except an inland record of 7 at the Rhyl Brickworks Pool on 17/11 (RMB), which was the first record in the autumn.

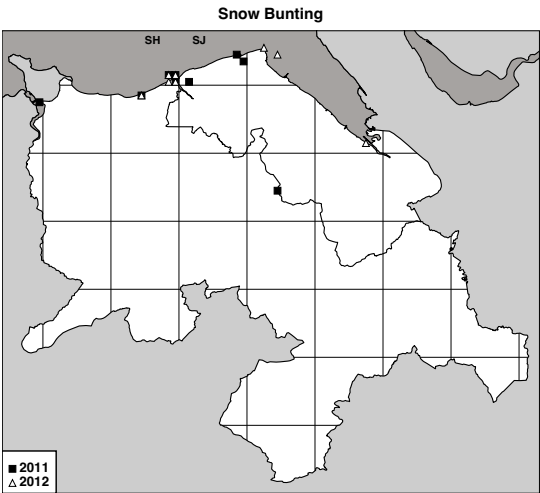
2012

Denbs. There were a few records of 1-9 but most counts were of 10-21 and the maximum count was 26 at Horton's Nose on 10/12. The last spring record was 1 at Pensarn on 7/04 and the first of autumn was quite late with 20 at Kinmel Bay on 6/12.

BRAS YR EIRA

(SB)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	25	12
	Flints	4	7
2012	Denbs	64	26
	Flints	4	5

Seen in these months:												
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N



Flints. There were 5 at Point of Ayr on 28/11 (GR), 3 there on 1/12 and 2 at Connah's Quay NR on 26/12.

Lapland Bunting *Calcaeus lapponicus*

Rare winter visitor.

BRAS Y GOGLEDD

(LA)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	7	2

2012

Flints. There were at least 2 at Connah's Quay NR between 9/02 and 11/02 (GR, DMH). Although there were brave attempts to get a photographic record, none was successful. There was also a single recorded at Rhyl on 28/11.

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*

Breeding resident, fairly common locally. Red list.

BRAS MELYN

(Y)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	30	9
	Flints	48	7
2012	Denbs	26	14
	Flints	68	25

As the map illustrates very well, most records came from the Clwydian Range, especially in spring and summer.

2011

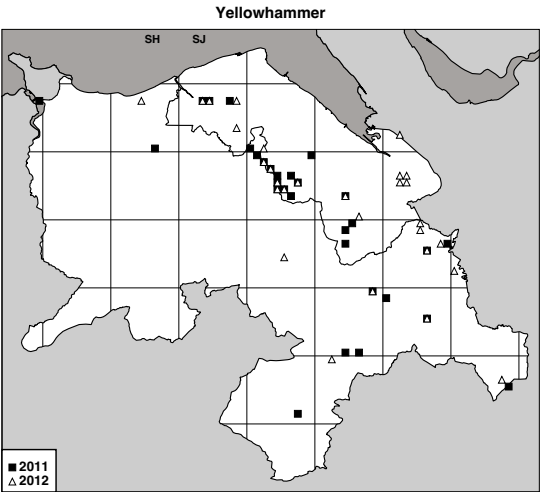
Denbs. Out of the 78 records this year, 57 (73%) were from the Clwydian Range, which spans the Denbs/Flints border. There was just one record (3.3%) from a GBW site near Froncysyllte. Most records were 1-4 and the highest count of 9 was from Bodfari on 4/11 (OPJ).

Seen in these months:													
D	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	2011	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	2012	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Flints. One GBW site at Cilcain accounted for all but one of the twenty such records (41.7%) and most records were 1-3. The highest counts were 6 at Penycloddiau on 25/04 and 2/05 (EdW) and 7+ at Moel Arthur on 25/08 (JVHu).

2012

Denbs. Out of 93 records this year, 66 (71%) were from the Clwydian Range, which spans the Denbs/Flints border. There was one record from a GBW site (4.0%) at Abergele and most counts were 1-4. The highest counts were 5 at Moel Famau on 13/05 (EdW) and 14 feeding on stubble at Llanfair DC (JH). Breeding was confirmed at Trevalyn Meadows, near Rossett (HL).



Flints. The same GBW site at Cilcain accounted for most of the 29.4% of GBW records. Breeding was confirmed at Hawarden and Rhuddlan. Most records were of 1-7 and the highest

counts were 9 at Penycloddiau on 24/03 (EdW). A winter flock of 25 on a stubble field at Leeswood on 23/01 and 8/03 (GNR) is encouraging.

Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*

Breeding Resident. Amber list.

BRAS Y CYRS

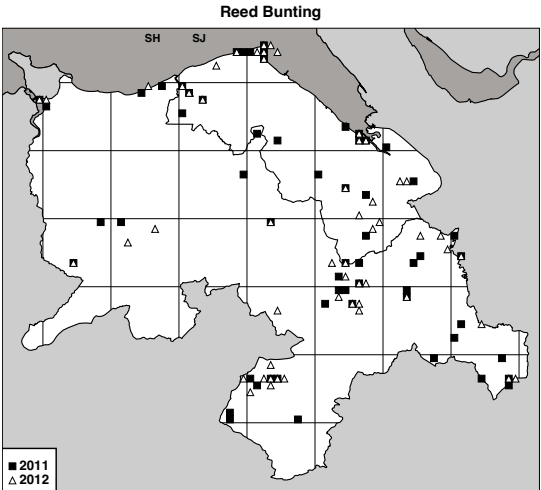
Recorded in almost every month in both years in both counties with the exceptions: Sep to Nov 2011 in Denbs. and Aug-Sep 2012 in Flints. Recorded in 5/22 BBS squares in 2011 and 6/35 in 2012.

(RB)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	99	12+
	Flints	59	10
2012	Denbs	100	5
	Flints	70	12

2011

Denbs. Most records were of 1-5 with 25.3% of records from GBW sites. The largest counts were 6 at Pensarn on 12/03 (RS), 6 at Mountain Lodge, Ruabon Mountain on 9/06 (JLR) and 12 on 7/01 was at Conwy RSPB B (RBM), where two broods with separate males were also confirmed on 9/06 (RS).

Flints. There was one record (1.7%) from a GBW site at Buckley and most records were 1-6. The highest counts were 7 ringed at Shotton Steelworks on 2/01 and 13/03 (pBH) and 10 during the breeding season at Erddig on 11/06 (PSu).



2012

Denbs. GBW sites provided 23.0% of records, most of which were 1-4. The highest count of 5 was at Llyn Bran on 5/11 (DvJ).

Flints. There were no records from GBW sites and most records were of 1-7. The largest counts were 10 at Leeswood on 8/03 in a mixed flock on wheat stubble, 10 at Point of Ayr on 26/01 (GR) and 12 at Talacre dunes on 6/01 (TeA). Nest building was observed at Padeswood on 30/06 (IMS).

Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra*

Scarce visitor; once a scarce and localised breeder. Red list.

BRAS YR YD

2011

Flints. A single on 19/06 (GR) was the only record for the two years. It was from the Shotwick Fields near the English border where the species once bred.

(CB)		No of records	Max count
2011	Denbs	0	
	Flints	1	1
2012	Denbs	0	
	Flints	0	

Category E species

Black Swan *Cygnus atratus*

ALARCH DU

2011

Denbs. There were two records of 1+ at Conwy RSPB on 18/06 and 25/06.

Flints. There were twenty two records of a single, twenty of which were from the Rhyl, Rhuddlan, Dyserth area during Feb, Mar, Aug and Sep; a single at Trevalyn Meadows on 14/10; and another at White Sands, Dee Estuary on 20/12.

Bar-headed Goose *Anser indicus*

GŴYDD BENRHESOG

2011

Denbs. Four records of 1 or 1+ at Conwy RSPB in Feb and May and at Burton Meadows in Aug.

Flints. There were eleven records of 1 between S of Rhyl and Rhuddlan during Jan, Feb, Mar and May. Later there was one record of 1 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 2/09.

2012

Denbs. There were two records of 1 at Gresford Flash on 16/09.

Ross's Goose *Anser rossii*

GŴYDD ROSS

2011

Denbs. There were eight records of a single at Gresford Flash between 5/10 and 21/10.

Flints. There were four records of a single at Fagl Lane GP, Hope in Jan, May and Aug. This could have been the same bird later seen in Denbs.

2012

Denbs. A single was recorded six times at Gresford Flash between 28/09 and 3/11.

Flints. There were five records of a single at Fagl Lane between 6/01 and 8/05.

Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens*

GŴYDD YR EIRA

2011

Denbs. Two records from Conwy RSPB of 1 on 13/05.

Flints. Eight records of 1 between S of Rhyl and S of Rhuddlan during Jan, Apr, May, Jul, Aug and Sep.

2012

Denbs. Just one record of 1+ at Conwy RSPB on 13/05.

Swan Goose *Anser cygnoides*

ALARCH WYDD

2012

Flints. There were sixteen records of a single near Rhuddlan during Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Oct, Nov and Dec.

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*

HWYADEN GOCH YR EITHIN

2011

Flints. Two records of 1 at Connah's Quay NR on 18/06 and 29/12.

Cape Shelduck *Tadorna cana*

HWYADEN GNAPIOG Y PENRHYN

2012

Flints. There were two records of a single at Connah's Quay NR on 23/01 and 17/10.

Red-crested Pochard *Netta rufina*

HWYADEN GRIBGOCH

2011

Denbs. There was a hybrid at Conwy RSPB on 8/01.

Golden Pheasant *Chrysolophus pictus*

FFESANT EURAID

2011

Denbs. There was a record of a single at a GBW site at Sarn, Tallarn Green in week beginning 11/12.

Reeves's Pheasant *Syrnaticus reevesii*

FFESANT REEVES

2012

Flints. A female was recorded at Connah's Quay NR on 14/10.

Indian Peafowl *Pavo cristatus*

PAUN

2011

Flints. Three records: two were singles during BBS surveys near Cilcain on 21/04 and 1/06 and the other was of birds at Y Graig, Tremeirchion on 3/01.

2012

Flints. There was one record each from a BBS survey near Cilcain on 26/05 and another at Y Graig on 1/03.

2012

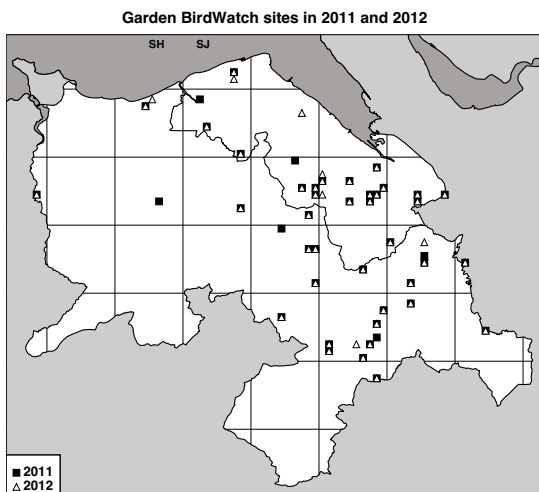
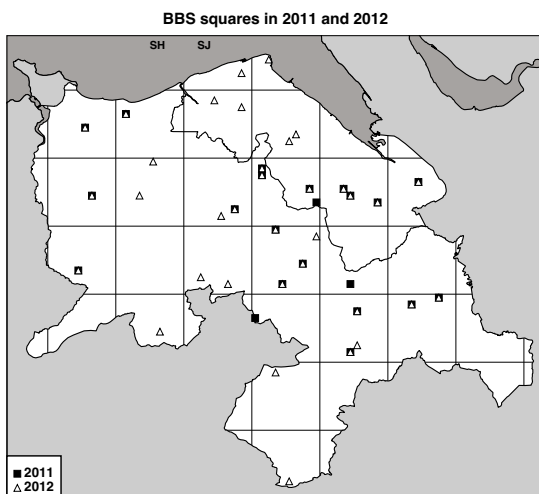
Flints. There were two records of 1 near Rhuddlan on 8/07 and 2 at Rhuddlan on 14/07.

Diamond Dove *Geopelia cuneata*

COLOMEN DDEIMWNT

2012

Flints. Two records of a single at Oakenholt and Connah's Quay NR on 3/08.



First and last dates of selected migrants

	2011		2012	
	First dates	Last dates	First dates	Last dates
Osprey	27/03	5/08	30/03	26/10
Hobby	16/05	14/09	5/05	20/09
Little Tern	7/04	17/08	8/04	17/09
Sandwich Tern	2/04	15/10	8/04	26/09
Common Tern	2/05	24/09	27/04	19/08
Cuckoo	8/04	19/06	1/04	22/08
Nightjar	2/06	6/09	9/06	2/08
Swift	13/04	2/09	26/04	4/09
Sand Martin	12/03	24/09	12/03	27/09
Swallow	10/03	15/11	20/03	9/10
House Martin	4/04	9/10	2/04	29/10
Tree Pipit	9/04	9/07	15/04	20/08
Yellow Wagtail	9/04	5/08	27/04	12/08
Redstart	8/04	31/08	14/04	24/08
Whinchat	9/04	11/07	3/05	22/07
Wheatear	13/03	5/10	12/03	23/11
Ring Ouzel	2/04	2/05	28/03	9/05
Fieldfare	9/10	6/04	12/09	8/04
Redwing	7/10	6/04	10/10	10/04
Grasshopper Warbler	10/04	11/07	22/04	26/07
Sedge Warbler	5/04	28/08	17/04	4/08
Reed Warbler	8/04	2/10	19/04	6/10
Garden Warbler	14/04	23/08	5/05	23/08
Lesser Whitethroat	9/04	18/09	24/04	5/08
Whitethroat	14/04	20/09	16/04	1/09
Wood Warbler	15/04	25/06	4/05	25/06
Willow Warbler	25/03	25/09	4/04	6/10
Spotted Flycatcher	8/05	11/09	13/05	1/09
Pied Flycatcher	4/04	30/06	20/04	26/07

This table shows the recorded first and last dates for most of the species regarded as migrants in north-east Wales. Osprey has been added to this list as it now occurs more regularly in our area.

2011

Most migrant passerines arrived in the first two weeks of April. Many species (Little Tern, Swift, Swallow, Sedge Warbler, Reed Warbler, Lesser Whitethroat, Wood Warbler and Pied Flycatcher) recorded the earliest arrival dates since these were first recorded on a regular basis in 2004. However, the arrival of Hobby was the latest recorded since 2004. Little Terns appeared around two weeks earlier than in previous years but in contrast the late arrival of Common Tern in May was very unusual. Unlike in 2010 when the last sighting of Common Tern was in early August, birds did hang around until the end of September before departing. Sandwich Terns too stayed around into October when the more usual departure date is in September.

2012

Little Tern arrival was again very early this year but in general spring migrant arrivals were a week or so later than in 2011. However, the first Cuckoo of the year was recorded on 1/04 almost a week earlier than known previously. For the past three years it would seem that Ring Ouzels have only been recorded as they pass through our area en route to breeding grounds further west. This species seems to miss us on its return passage. The first sighting of a Fieldfare in mid-September was exceptionally early.

Anne Brenchley

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker and potential habitat in North-East Wales

Records received by the CBRG in recent years have been declining and they have come from fewer 1km squares. The reason for this decline has not yet been identified. One possibility is that the habitat required by Lesser Spotted Woodpecker has also become less widely available and that the species is being 'forced' to retreat to ever smaller pockets of suitable habitat.

Recently, a means of testing this hypothesis has become available that does not have huge technical requirements. The Land Cover Dataset has been compiled by the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology based on the broad UK Biodiversity Action Plan habitats. These are available for the whole of the UK at several levels, but here, I have examined the dataset available at the 1km level. I was introduced to this dataset by Dr John Wilkinson of Amphibian and Reptile Conservation, whom I met at a recent Welsh Biodiversity Partnership conference in Bangor after his fascinating talk about Great Crested Newts in North-East Wales.

Firstly, it is necessary to identify the 1km squares in which the species of interest is currently known to occur. To do this, I used the records provided for this bird report (ie records from 2011 and 2012) and 1km squares from tetrads with confirmed breeding in the recently published 'The Breeding Birds of North Wales', where identified by the observer. Secondly, it is necessary to extract the habitat data for just those squares. Thirdly, it is necessary to try to identify those habitat variables for which the actual distribution of the species shows relatively limited variation and select all the squares in the area of concern that fall within those variables.

I initially looked at the 'broad-leaved woodland' variable and found that the squares in which the Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers had been seen showed a variation of 2.6%-39.2% of land cover within each square. Selecting just the squares within this range was a very large number, so I then tried all the other variables that had some variation and narrowed down each remaining set of squares. The variables selected and in their order are shown in the table on the next page.

It is not immediately clear why habitat variables like 'improved grassland' or 'semi-natural rough grassland' should be important to Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers. However, by removing large amounts of land outside the scope of the variables listed in the table, below, squares with unsuitable habitat were removed and greatly narrowed down the number of potential squares within which the species could potentially be found. This suggests that the amounts of these habitat types within the variation listed above are not likely to be an impediment to Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers being present.

In total, 307 1km squares were identified as being within the parameters of where the species had been recorded in the last couple of years. These squares are shown in pink in the map (see inside back cover of the report).

Order	Variable	Range
1	Broad-leaved woodland	2.6 – 39.2
2	Average annual rainfall	2.19 – 3.65
3	Mean summer temperature	13.31 – 14.18
4	Improved grassland	10.6 – 74.3
5	Semi-natural rough grassland	1.6 – 28.8
6	Horticultural	0 – 43.5
7	Built up gardens	0 – 70.4
8	Coniferous woodland	0 – 8.9
9	Open water	0 – 1.6
10	Upland	0 – 2.4
11	Mean winter temperature	3.84 – 5.05
12	Altitude	13 - 210

Discussion

It would appear that potential habitat for Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers occurs much more widely than any of our recent records. I think it is highly unlikely that Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers have been overlooked in all of these squares, though for much of the year they do not make themselves immediately obvious so are difficult to study. One problem may be that the habitat details available for each 1km square do not include those that are important for Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers. Another is that the 1km scale is too large and that there are other habitat features that would be difficult to measure at that large scale that are more important. Among habitat factors found to be relevant in Europe are the presence of dead trees, with snags, high tree species diversity and a high density of dead trees and forests largely of softwoods at small distances from lakes or rivers (Charman et al. 2010). Within England, occupied woods have an open structure, at least to a height of 2.4m within a heavily wooded landscape, oak dominated and with a high abundance of dead limbs (Charman et al. 2010).

It may be that Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers are being identified where they occur but their actual range is severely restricted, but not by habitat factors. One possibility is that they lose their nest sites in competition with other species, probably including Great Spotted Woodpeckers which seem to be expanding their range in North Wales. Another possibility is competition or predation by Grey Squirrels.

To check if the identified squares are really not suitable, observers would need to visit each of those squares at the start of the breeding season when the woodpeckers are most likely to be drumming or otherwise vocal, essentially in the early part of the breeding season that may be from mid-February to mid-April. The birds would be easier to see when feeding in the canopy at this time of year as there would be no leaves.

Are we all missing seeing Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers? It seems that we need to check if there are more in the squares identified as being of suitable habitat. We are unlikely to be able to check all the 1km squares, but would any readers be willing to target the 1km squares in say, SJ26, to check them in the late winter and early spring for occupancy by this dainty species of woodpecker? If you are so willing, please let me know so that I can coordinate effort between squares rather than everyone go to the same square.

Ian M Spence

Charman, E.C., Smith, K.W., Gruar, D.J., Dodd, S. & Grice, P.V. 2010. *Characteristics of woods used recently and historically by Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers Dendrocopos minor in England*. **Ibis** **152** (3): 543-555.

Ringling report

The ringling totals for both years were lower than in 2010, with a considerable drop in 2012 because of the wet weather which probably reduced some ringling activity and also because it caused reduced productivity of young birds. This reflected in the total of pulli ringed in 2012.

Year	Full grown	Pulli	Totals
2012	3449	1881	5330
2011	4448	2137	6585
2010	3908	2776	6684
2009	2385	2229	4614
2008	2127	3703	5830
2007	2740	4745	7485
2006	3179	4575	7754
2005	2967	4793	7760
2004	3769	4430	8199
2003	3202	3756	6958
2002	2202	3216	5418
2001	1313	2410	3723
2000	1130	1066	2196

I have used the 'facility' of the BTO website for the ringling totals and recoveries. The same two drawbacks as last year still applied: use of pre-1996 political boundaries and no list of contributors. The ringers I understand were active during the years were: Merseyside Ringling Group (per Bob Harris), SCAN Ringling Group, John Lawton Roberts, the Spence and Brenchley partnership, Stuart K Thomas, Lee Barber and Mike Haigh.

As before, most nestlings (pulli) will have been ringed by those who sent nest records to the BTO electronically using the program IPMR. These contributions, the raw results of which are seen in tables at the end of some species accounts in the systematic list, came from: Merseyside Ringling Group (per David Norman), Jim Hulse, Ian Spence and the Welsh Rare Breeding Bird and Raptor Study Group - North-East Wales.

The poor productivity of Hen Harriers continued in both of the years reported here and none were ringed. A significant event in July 2011 was that John Lawton Roberts fell from a tree and burst a vertebra. He was in Walton Hospital for a while and is still, slowly recovering over two years later, though his recovery is unlikely to be complete. This, of course, has severely affected his studies of Buzzards and Barn Owls as he is unable to climb trees and even a ladder. I hope and trust that he will be able to continue his bird studies in some way or other, even if he does need some assistance. A change in focus is likely.

Members of the Merseyside RG have again been busy. Though the Little Tern ringling totals are down on 2010 the Siskin totals are much higher than 2010's and the effort is reflected in the useful information obtained from recoveries and controls, some of which are detailed below.

The list of recoveries is long, as it covers two years, but there are thirteen records of birds moving to or from overseas. SCAN Ringling Group's incursion into North-East Wales resulted in Turnstone from Norway and another Common Gull from Norway has been seen on the coast. With the demise of the Common Tern colony at Shotton Steelworks there are only two overseas movements and both are within Europe rather than to Africa. However, the Steelworks proved

to be an interesting hub of movements of Chiffchaff from Spain, Sedge Warbler from France and a Reed Warbler from Portugal. As usual, there were Blackbirds involved in movements from overseas and though Stuart Thomas did not have all the good fortune, a bird from Finland was certainly a good catch in the back garden! More ringers should move to Rhos-on-Sea and establish a network of gardens as an observatory. I'm sure Lee Barber would have been delighted when he caught a Goldfinch from Belgium – they had both travelled a long way west in order to meet (Lee works with the BTO in Thetford). I can't imagine the amount of peanuts and / or niger consumed at Llwynmawr, but the recoveries and controls listed seem to make it all worthwhile. The Ceiriog Valley must have been buzzing with Siskins in early 2012.

There is a very good crop of within Britain recoveries listed and I hope that you find them of interest, especially the Siskins going to and from the Highland Region in Scotland.

All of us ringers are dependent for much of the information about ringed birds on members of the public who find dead birds or sometimes read rings through telescopes. If you locate a ring please take the basic information: species (if you can identify it), ring number and address (to identify the country of origin), the place of finding and the date. You may write to the address on the ring, or use a website to log the information – see www.ring.ac.uk If you do submit the information, you will eventually receive a sheet of paper telling you where and when the bird was ringed. I thank the members of the public who have sent in the details of ringed birds.

Ian M Spence

Species	2011			2012		
	FG	Pull.	Totals	FG	Pull.	Totals
Mute Swan	3		3	1		1
Mallard (A)	2		2		3	3
Sparrowhawk	2		2	3		3
Buzzard		55	55			
Kestrel (R)		24	24		16	16
Peregrine		3	3		1	1
Coot				5		5
Oystercatcher				37	2	39
Little Ringed Plover		4	4		3	3
Ringed Plover (A)		3	3		4	4
Lapwing (R)		3	3			
Sanderling	61		61			
Dunlin (R)	17		17	1		1
Purple Sandpiper				1		1
Redshank (A)				2		2
Turnstone (A)	32		32	9		9
Black-headed Gull (R)	1		1	2		2
Herring Gull (R)	4		4		1	1
Little Tern (R)		39	39		36	36
Common Tern (R)						
Stock Dove	1	3	4	2	9	11
Woodpigeon	5		5	6		6
Collared Dove				1		1

Species	2011			2012		
	FG	Pull.	Totals	FG	Pull.	Totals
Barn Owl (A)		11	11	1	10	11
Tawny Owl	1	7	8	1	2	3
Swift (A)	1		1			
Kingfisher (A)	3		3			
Great Spotted Woodpecker	31		31	14		14
Maggie	7		7			
Jay	6		6	4		4
Jackdaw	24	18	42	5	45	50
Rook	1		1	1		1
Carriion Crow				2		2
Raven		42	42			
Goldcrest	13		13	28		28
Blue Tit	670	650	1320	446	477	923
Great Tit	310	366	676	252	264	516
Coal Tit	95	8	103	92		92
Willow Tit (R)	2		2	4		4
Marsh Tit (R)	2	8	10	4	2	6
Skylark		7	7			
Swallow (A)	3	193	196	1	212	213
House Martin (A)	8		8			
Long-tailed Tit	56		56	66		66
Wood Warbler (R)	1		1			
Chiffchaff	137		137	103		103
Willow Warbler (R)	79	1	80	157		157
Blackcap	156		156	112		112
Garden Warbler (A)	10		10	12		12
Lesser Whitethroat				1		1
Whitethroat (A)	32		32	9		9
Grasshopper Warbler (R)	13		13	1		1
Sedge Warbler	42		42	15		15
Reed Warbler	153		153	76		76
Waxwing				1		1
Nuthatch	13	19	32	20	23	43
Treecreeper	3	6	9	6		6
Wren	47		47	44	11	55
Starling (R)	11	8	19	9		9
Dipper (A)		4	4		6	6
Blackbird	148		148	227	13	240
Song Thrush (A)	14		14	7		7
Redwing (A)	2		2	18		18
Mistle Thrush	1		1			
Spotted Flycatcher (R)		1	1	1	3	4
Robin	108	6	114	84	17	101
Pied Flycatcher (R)	83	421	504	97	484	581
Redstart (A)	10	18	28	10	50	60

Species	2011			2012		
	FG	Pull.	Totals	FG	Pull.	Totals
Wheatear	1		1			
Duncock	95		95	84		84
House Sparrow (A)	105	12	117	14	8	22
Tree Sparrow (R)	1	192	193	2	148	150
Grey Wagtail	3		3	3	11	14
Pied Wagtail	2	5	7		17	17
Tree Pipit				1		1
Meadow Pipit				112		112
Chaffinch	249		249	211		211
Brambling	39		39	2		2
Greenfinch	220		220	114		114
Goldfinch	280		280	280		280
Siskin	900		900	521		521
Linnet (R)	1		1		3	3
Lesser Redpoll (R)	46		46	63		63
Bullfinch (R)	27		27	25		25
Snow Bunting	6		6			
Yellowhammer (R)				3		3
Reed Bunting (A)	49		49	13		13
TOTALS	4448	2137	6585	3449	1881	5330

In the table, above, R indicates the species is on the Red list of conservation concern and A indicates it is on the Amber list (see the reference to Johnstone, Thorpe and Noble, 2010 at the start of the systematic list). The ringing totals and the recoveries, below, are derived from Robinson, RA & Clark, JA (2011) *The online Ringing Report: Bird ringing in Britain and Ireland in 2010*. BTO: Thetford.

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

2011-12 Selected recoveries

W31244 Mute Swan 3
25 01 2011 River Clwyd, near Rhuddlan, Clwyd
02 07 2011 Severn Canal, Llandrinio, Powys
68km 157° 0y 5m 7d Freshly dead

1410148	Gannet Pull. 08 07 2005 Ailsa Craig, Strathclyde 26 09 2011 Talacre, Clwyd 241km 157° 6y 2m 18d	Freshly dead
5264347	Cormorant Pull. 09 06 2011 Stack Moor, Isle of Man 13 09 2011 near River Dee, Llandrillo, Clwyd 165km 157° 0y 3m 4d	Freshly dead
5231912	Cormorant Pull. 14 04 2003 Wheldrake Ings, East Cottingham, North Yorkshire 03 07 2011 Bangor-on-Dee, Clwyd 164km 225° 8y2m19d	Long dead
5267312	Cormorant Pull. 10 07 2011 Stack Moor, Isle of Man 07 10 2011 Rhyl, Clwyd 124km 157° 0y 2m 27d	Freshly dead
1396325	Shag Pull. 19 05 2011 Bardsey Island, Gynedd 31 12 2011 Talacre, Clwyd 120km 67° 0y 7m 12d	Freshly dead
1420710	Shag Pull. 14 06 2011 St Tudwal's Island West, Gwynedd 08 01 2012 Point of Ayr, Clwyd 99km 45° 0y 6m 25d	Freshly dead
GR47605	Little Egret Pull. 25 06 2012 Penrhyn Castle, Bangor, Gwynedd 15 11 2012 Warren Farm, Talacre, Clwyd 54km 67° 0y 4m 21d	Alive, colour rings seen
GR19891	Red Kite Pull. 02 07 2011 Site confidential, Shropshire 24 08 2011 Llantysilio Hall, Llangollen, Clwyd 58km 337° 0y 1m 22d	Sick, natural causes
ER93707	Kestrel Pull. 05 07 2005 Milton Brook Lodge, near Stamford Bridge, Cheshire 30 06 2007 Site confidential, Clwyd 46km 247° 1y 11m 25d	Dead (bird of prey)
GN08861	Coot 4 25 08 2010 Marton Mere, Blackpool, Lancashire 31 05 2011 Ffrith Beach, Prestatyn, Clwyd 62km 203° 0y 9m 6d	Freshly dead
FH14933	Oystercatcher 5 10 01 2009 Rhos-on-Sea, Clwyd 20 10 2012 Whiteford Sands, Gower, Glamorgan 189km 203° 3y 9m 10d	Controlled

7268858	Turnstone	3	
07 09 2002	Naerland, Rogaland, NORWAY , 58°40'N 05°34'E		
20 03 2011	Kinmel Bay, Clwyd		
	819km 225° 8y 6m 13d	Controlled	
EG41185	Black-headed Gull	Pull.	
30 05 2001	Hamford Water, near Little Oakley, Essex		
26 11 2011	Abergele, Clwyd		
	360km 292° 10y 5m 27d	Alive, ring read in field	
EG43734	Black-headed Gull	6	
12 03 2011	Rainham Tip, Greater London		
26 11 2011	Abergele, Clwyd		
	325km 315° 0y 8m 14d	Alive, ring read in field	
5132781	Common Gull	6	
22 06 2005	Rost Island, Nordland, NORWAY , 67°31'N 12°06'E		
18 02 2012	Llanddulas beach, near Colwyn Bay, Clwyd		
	1794km 203° 6y 7m 27d	Alive, colour rings seen	
GR06133	Herring Gull	5	
24 04 2010	near Hempsted, Gloucester, Gloucestershire		
30 01 2011	Gresford, Wrexham, Clwyd		
	144km 337° 0y 9m 6d	Alive, colour marks seen	
SV82892	Common Tern	Pull.	
22 06 2003	Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd		
15 07 2011	South Gare, Cleveland		
	201km 45° 8y 0m 23d	Dead	
SV92284	Common Tern	Pull.	
22 06 2003	Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd		
17 05 2011	Ynys Feirig, Rhosneigr, Anglesey		
	100km 270° 7y 10m 25d	Freshly dead (wild mammal)	
SR65517	Common Tern	Pull.	
29 06 2008	Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd		
10 09 2010	Parque Nacional Marismas del Odiel, Huelva, SPAIN , 37°16'N 06°55'W		
	1798km 180° 2y 2m 12d	Controlled	
SR24984	Common Tern	Pull.	
10 07 2005	Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd		
21 07 2012	Wervershoof, de Kreupel, Noord-Holland, THE NETHERLANDS , 52°47'N 05°13'E		
	555km 90° 7y 0m 11d	Controlled	
HT83485	Raven	Pull.	
11 04 2011	Tyddyn Uchaf, Penycae, Wrexham, Clwyd		
05 11 2012	Frodsham Marshes, Cheshire		
	41km 45° 1y 6m 25d	Alive, colour rings seen	
DHK864	Goldcrest	3 M	
17 10 2010	Sandwich Bay Estate, Kent		
11 05 2011	near Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Clwyd		
	385km 292° 0y 6m 24d	Controlled	

8A0038	Goldcrest 3J M	
	12 07 1983 Llangernyw, Clwyd	
	31 08 1983 Bardsey Island, Gwynedd	
	89km 247° 0y 1m 19d	Controlled
DVE307	Goldcrest 3 M	
	06 11 2011 Embley Wood, Hampshire	
	30 03 2012 Glyceriog South, Clwyd	
	244km 337° 0y 4m 24d	Freshly dead (cat)
L356025	Marsh Tit Pull.	
	14 05 2011 near Rhydymwyn, near Mold, Clwyd	
	19 06 2011 Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd	
	12km 67° 0y 1m 5d	Controlled
L338999	Swallow Pull.	
	18 06 2012 Beeches Farm, Sandycroft, Clwyd	
	21 08 2012 Gibraltar Point, Skegness, Lincolnshire	
	221km 90° 0y 2m 3d	Controlled
Y625423	Swallow Pull.	
	19 06 2012 Gresford, Wrexham, Clwyd	
	30 07 2012 Fleetwood Marsh, Fleetwood, Lancashire	
	93km 0° 0y 1m 11d	Controlled
KG9696	Chiffchaff 3	
	13 10 2010 Manecorro, Parque Nacional de Donaña, Huelva, SPAIN , 37°05'N 06°32'W	
	06 04 2011 Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd	
	1813km 0° 0y 5m 24d	Controlled
L867378	Blackcap 3	
	30 07 2011 Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd	
	14 05 2012 RAF Scampton, Lincolnshire	
	166km 90° 0y 9m 14d	Long dead
6534019	Sedge Warbler 3	
	03 08 2010 Conchemarche, Mortagne-sur-Gironde, Charente Maritime, FRANCE , 45°29'N 00°47'W	
	22 04 2011 Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd	
	875km 0° 0y 8m 19d	Controlled
A287919	Reed Warbler 3	
	10 09 2009 Paul da Tornada, Leiria, Estremadura, PORTUGAL , 39°27'N 09°03'W	
	24 07 2010 Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd	
	1597km 22° 0y 10m 14d	Controlled
LC70676	Blackbird 3 F	
	06 01 2011 Rhos-on-Sea, Clwyd	
	17 12 2011 Ormesby St Margaret, Norfolk	
	371km 112° 0y 11m 11d	Controlled
7861180	Blackbird 3	
	03 03 2009 Helgoland, Germany	
	15 02 2011 Hope, Clwyd	
	731km 270° 1y 11m 12d	Freshly dead (cold weather)

4621061	Blackbird 4 M		
08 11 2011	Nidingen, Halland, SWEDEN , 57°18'N 11°54'E		
10 12 2011	Rhos-on-Sea, Clwyd		
	1084km 247° 0y 1m 2d	Controlled	
LC33559	Blackbird 3 M		
13 11 2011	Gibraltar Point, Skegness, Lincolnshire		
10 12 2012	Rhos-on-Sea, Clwyd		
	271km 270° 1y 0m 27d	Freshly dead (cat)	
A683670	Blackbird 3 M		
09 10 2010	Tuulos, Hame, FINLAND , 61°10'N 24°48'E		
12 12 2012	Rhos-on-Sea, Clwyd		
	1919km 247° 2y 2m 3d	Controlled	
7525545	Blackbird 3 M		
14 10 2011	Store Faerder, Tjorne, Vestfold, NORWAY , 59°04'N 10°31'E		
29 01 2012	Prestatyn, Clwyd		
	1068km 225° 0y 3m 15d	Freshly dead (hit glass)	
X932417	Pied Flycatcher Pull.		
04 06 2010	Llewesog Hall, Prion, Clwyd		
19 05 2012	Lees, near Chipping, Lancashire		
	102km 45° 1y 11m 15d	Controlled = F	
KP91762	Pied Wagtail 3		
13 10 2005	Slapton Ley, Devon		
03 04 2010	Dinbren Isaf, Clwyd		
	302km 0° 4y 5m 21d	Alive, colour rings seen	
X455642	Pied Wagtail 3 M		
14 11 2008	Slapton Ley, Devon		
17 02 2010	Pensarn, Abergelle, Clwyd		
	334km 0° 1y 3m 3d	Alive, colour rings seen	
X455595	Pied Wagtail 3		
24 10 2008	Slapton Ley, Devon		
13 04 2010	Vivod, Llangollen, Clwyd		
	300km 0° 1y 5m 20d	Alive, colour rings seen	
V619686	Chaffinch 3J		
04 07 2010	Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire		
22 10 2011	Penrycae, Wrexham, Clwyd		
	176km 203° 1y 3m 18d	Freshly dead (cat)	
L004290	Brambling 3 F		
07 01 2010	near Culmaily Farm, Golspie, Highland Region		
30 01 2011	Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd		
	530km 180° 1y 0m 23d	Controlled	
X065709	Brambling 6 M		
08 03 2009	Llwynmawr, Clwyd		
06 02 2011	Bursheart Hill, near Edwinstoe, Nottinghamshire		
	145km 67° 1y 10m 29d	Controlled	

TP08948	Greenfinch 3 M	
	04 12 2011 Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd	
	06 04 2012 Leswalt, Dumfries & Galloway	
	233km 337° 0y 4m 2d	Controlled
L498923	Goldfinch 5 F	
	22 03 2011 Hornell's Corner, Essex	
	31 01 2012 Rhuthun, Clwyd	
	294km 292° 0y 10m 9d	Freshly dead
11300397	Goldfinch 3 M	
	09 10 2009 Ethe, Luxembourg, BELGIUM , 49°35'N 05°35'E	
	05 06 2012 Garth, Llangollen, Clwyd	
	712km 292° 2y 7m 27d	Controlled
L266395	Siskin 6 F	
	15 05 2010 Shebster, Highland Region	
	28 01 2011 Garth, Llangollen, Clwyd	
	622km 180° 0y 8m 13d	Controlled
X571357	Siskin 6 M	
	02 05 2010 Llwynmawr, Clwyd	
	29 01 2011 Balchrish, Ardgay, Highland Region	
	558km 0° 0y 8m 27d	Freshly dead
L867948	Siskin 3J M	
	25 05 2011 Llwynmawr, Clwyd	
	22 08 2011 Dukes Warren, Surrey	
	273km 135° 0y 2m 28d	Controlled
T580346	Siskin 3 M	
	01 10 2005 Brandon, Suffolk	
	23 01 2011 Llwynmawr, Clwyd	
	260km 292° 5y 3m 22d	Controlled
Z48527	Siskin 5 M	
	15 04 2009 Lezo, Guipuzcoa, SPAIN , 43°17'N 01°56'W	
	29 04 2009 Llwynmawr, Clwyd	
	1075km 0° 0y 0m 14d	Controlled
CN30864	Siskin 3 F	
	05 10 2010 Bingsmarken, Skurup, Malmohus, SWEDEN , 55°23'N 13°30'E	
	16 03 2011 Saron, Denbigh, Clwyd	
	1129km 247° 0y 5m 11d	Freshly dead
L869236	Siskin 3J F	
	11 06 2011 Llwynmawr, Clwyd	
	19 04 2012 Shebster, Highland Region	
	627km 0° 0y 10m 8d	Controlled
L869163	Siskin 3J F	
	07 06 2011 Llwynmawr, Clwyd	
	17 05 2012 Shebster, Highland Region	
	627km 0° 0y 11m 10d	Controlled

L869456	Siskin 3J			
	03 07 2011	Llwynmawr, Clwyd		
	27 04 2012	Ardross, Highland Region		
		540km 0° 0y 9m 24d		Freshly dead
X065904	Siskin 5 M			
	23 04 2009	Llwynmawr, Clwyd		
	17 02 2011	New Laithe Farm, Lancashire		
		123km 22° 1y 9m 25d		Controlled
Y346144	Siskin 3 F			
	2812 2011	Llangorse Lake, Powys		
	10 04 2012	Llwynmawr, Clwyd		
		112km 0° 0y 3m 13d		Controlled
R120951	Lesser Redpoll 3J			
	19 08 2010	near Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Clwyd		
	12 02 2011	Hatfield Moors, near Doncaster, South Yorkshire		
		176km 67° 0y 5m 24d		Controlled
R964541	Lesser Redpoll 5			
	12 04 2009	Hams Hall, Whitacre Heath, Warwickshire		
	01 04 2011	Shotton Steelworks, Clwyd		
		121km 315° 1y 11m 20d		Controlled
L587279	Lesser Redpoll 3 M			
	29 11 2010	Eversley Common, Hampshire		
	21 07 2012	near Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Clwyd		
		261km 315° 1y 7m 22d		Controlled
Y244775	Lesser Redpoll 3			
	05 11 2011	Stanford Reservoir, Northamptonshire		
	10 04 2012	Llwynmawr, Clwyd		
		149km 292° 0y 5m 5d		Controlled
Y493788	Lesser Redpoll 4 M			
	13 11 2011	Castlemorton Common, Hereford & Worcester		
	14 04 2012	Llwynmawr, Clwyd		
		113km 337° 0y 5m 1d		Controlled
L582317	Reed Bunting 3 M			
	27 12 2010	near Venusbank, Coumd, Shropshire		
	06 04 2011	Padewood, near Buckley, Clwyd		
		61km 337° 0y 3m 10d		Freshly dead (cat)



Coal Tit by Ashley Cohen

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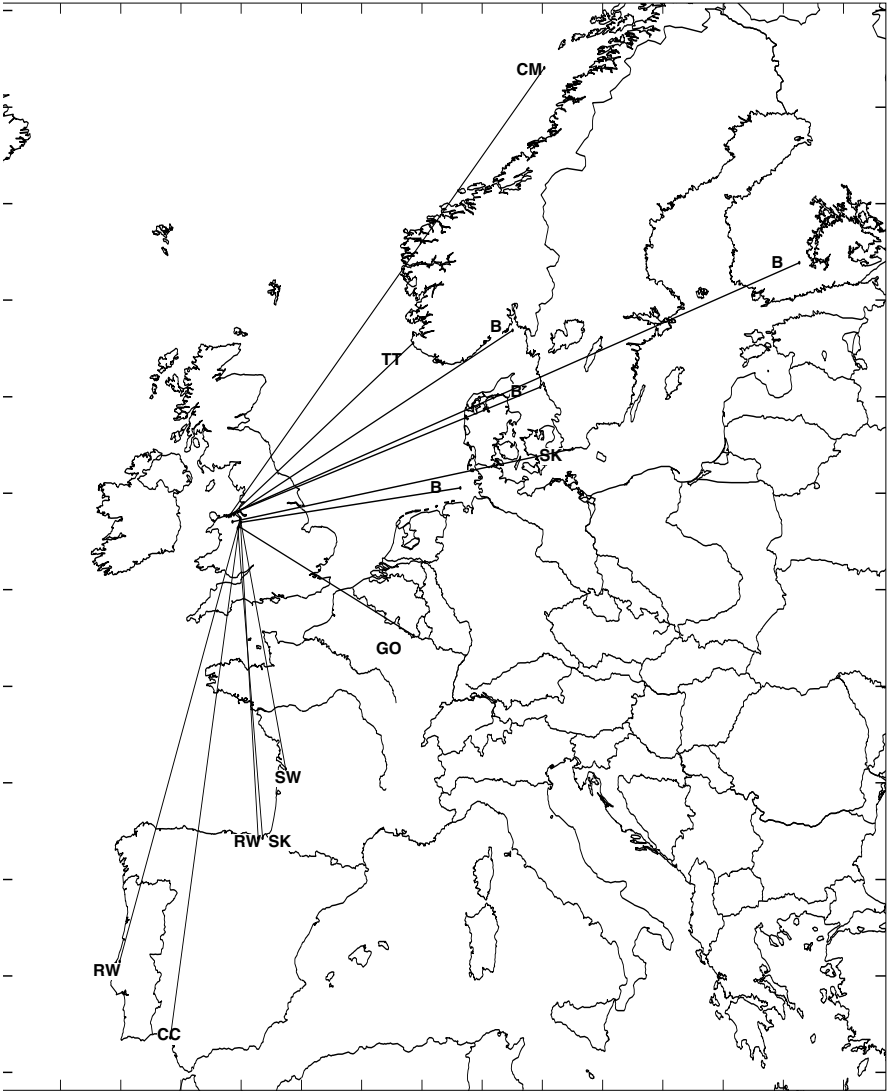


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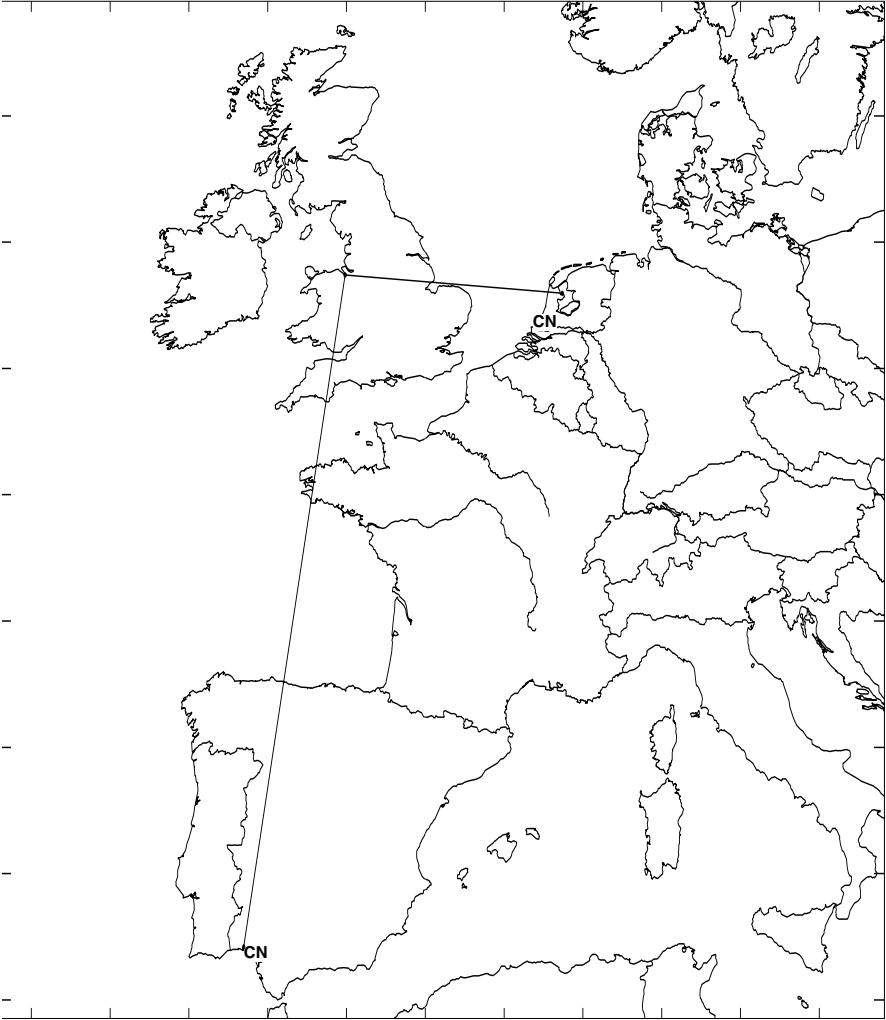
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Birds ringed abroad recovered in NE Wales



The codes used in these two maps, on this and the next page, are: CM Common Gull, B Blackbird, SK Siskin, TT Turnstone, GO Goldfinch, SW Sedge Warbler, RW Reed Warbler, CC Chiffchaff, CN Common Tern.

Birds ringed in NE Wales recovered abroad 2011-12





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Judith Smith	JuS	Paul Wren	PIW
Kevin Smith	KS		
Ian M Spence	IMS		
Michelle Stachowski	MSt		

Local groups

Clwyd Ornithological Society

Secretary: Angela Ross. Telephone: 01745-338493.

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: David Ross. Telephone 0151-348-0597

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.

The Welsh Rare Breeding Bird and Raptor Study Group – North-East Wales

The Welsh Rare Breeding Bird and Raptor Study Group – North-East Wales is a branch of a sub-group of the Welsh Ornithological Society. It 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.

The group aims to publish results of each year's work.

Ian M Spence, Coordinator (to be succeeded imminently)

National groups

British Trust for Ornithology (BTO)

BTO Cymru - Development Officer, Kelvin Jones; Senior Ecologist, Rachel Taylor

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North Wales Wildlife Trust

Head Office: 376 High Street, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 1YE. Telephone: 01248-351541.

North East Office: The Long Barn, Pistyll Farm, Nercwys, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 4EW. Telephone: 01352-755472.

Contact: Adrian Lloyd Jones, Conservation Officer (East).

North Wales Wildlife Trust local groups:

Clwydian: Jan Miller. Telephone: 01352-711198

Wrexham: Steve Palin. Telephone: 01244-577987 or 07876-501014

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)

North Wales Office: RSPB Cymru, Uned 14, Llys Castan, Ffordd y Parc, Parc Menai, Bangor Gwynedd, LL57 4FD. Telephone: 01248-672850.

RSPB Members' groups:

Chester: Liz McClure. Telephone: 01244-409414.

North Wales: John Jones. Telephone: 01492-330562 or 07979-754710

Welsh Ornithological Society (WOS)

Membership Secretary: Alan Williams, 30 Fairfield, Penperlleni, Pontypool, Gwent, NP4 0AQ. Email: mochdreboy@waitrose.com

www.birdsinwales.org.uk

Honorary Secretary: Ian M Spence



The Clwyd Bird Recording Group is affiliated to the Welsh Ornithological Society. Together we intend to work for the conservation of birds in Wales and we need your records to achieve this.

A benefit of this affiliation is that anyone who contributes bird records to the CBRG is eligible to a discount of £2.00 on a subscription to the Welsh Ornithological Society.

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Send your cheque (made out to the 'Welsh Ornithological Society') to:

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NP4 0AQ

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