

North-East Wales Bird Report 2014



Clwyd Bird
Recording Group
October 2015

North-East Wales Bird Report

2014

Clwyd Bird Recording Group

www.cbrg.org.uk



Published October 2015

North-East Wales Bird Report 2014	
Contents	
Clwyd Bird Recording Group	3
Introduction	4
Editorial	4
The purpose of the bird report	4
Sources of records	4
Numbers of records	5
Species names	5
The order of species	5
Information about species	5
CBRG Website	5
BirdTrack	6
Computerisation of records	6
Submission of records	6
Rarity records	8
Acknowledgements	8
Weather summary	9
Birding highlights	10
The systematic list for 2014	12
First and last dates of selected migrants	160
The status of a local Pied Flycatcher population in Denbighshire	161
Advice on grid references and the BirdTrack App	166
Ringling Report 2014	168
Nest records submitted from Denbs and Flints in 2014	178
List of contributors	179
Local groups	183
National groups	183
Index	186

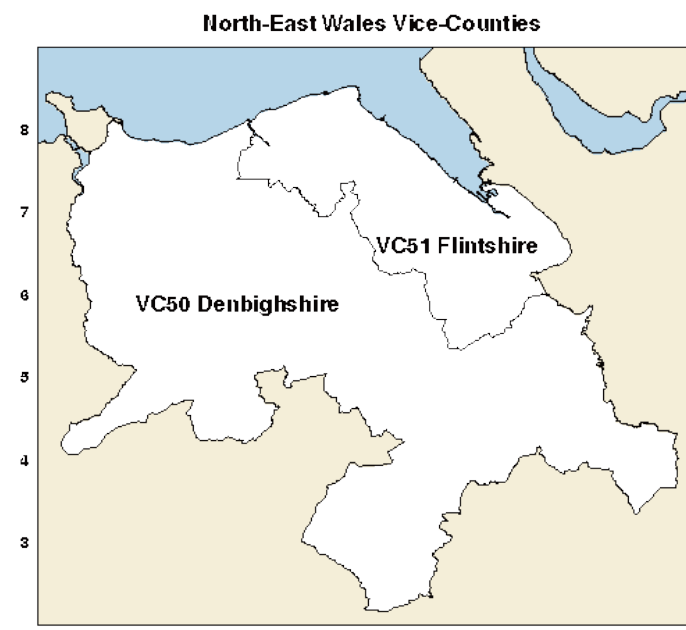
Clwyd Bird Recording Group

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:

Anne Brenchley: Chair and BTO East Clwyd representative
 Ian M Spence: Treasurer and County Recorder
 (also representing the Welsh Ornithological Society)
 Andrew Dale
 Richard Groves
 Adrian O Hibbert
 Neil Hughes (Wrexham Birdwatchers)
 Adrian Lloyd Jones (North Wales Wildlife Trust)
 Glenn Morris (Deeside Naturalists' Society)
 Giles Pepler: Secretary
 Lee Barber

www.cbrg.org.uk

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



Introduction

Editorial

The purpose of the bird report

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

Some people question why a bird report should present information about common species. For me, the problem has been to avoid a God-like approach that any of the CBRG might know which species will be common in a few years' time and those which will not be. I am very grateful to Trevor Payne for bringing my attention to a small book he purchased in a second-hand bookshop in Newport, Gwent. The book is Willett (1946) and it has the following text:

"Today the hedge is becoming itself a relic of age. With the mechanisation of farming, the little fields of mixed crops and dividing hedges, with all their apparent loveliness, will be replaced by large areas of arable land growing a planned crop. This prospect frightens some bird-lovers: yet they may rest assured that not only will the birds find new homes, as they have had to do before, on the fringes of new woods; but also by then men in a happy and prosperous countryside will value and cherish birds. And the hedges that do remain – and plenty will – will be truly a sanctuary of birds, not the hunting ground of the egg collector or the ill-nurtured child; for both are products of an epoch and will disappear."

There are some people who continue to think like this, including those who deny evidence of climate change. Luckily, there are many who are not as complacent and do have concerns about change. This has been dramatic in geographic scale, in its complexity (eg with the widespread use of new chemicals) and in the changes to and destruction of habitats. Fortunately, egg collecting is much less common than it was back in the 1940s but the quote indicates to me that we need to keep checking on the status of all species of birds to try to identify changes in conservation status and try to identify the factors that are threatening the populations of erstwhile common birds.

Reference.

Willett, W. 1946. *British Birds, series 4 Hedgerow Birds*. London: Foy Publications

Sources of records

For 2014 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 (reserve staff and volunteers)
- BHP Billiton / ENI (per Julie Rogers)

- Garden BirdWatch data
- 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
- WeBS data from the BTO website.

Numbers of records

For 2014 I received just over 80,300 records the majority of which have been imported to Recorder 6. The only records that are not imported are the WeBS data and those of some feral or escaped (Category E) 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.

The order of species

This report follows the naming and ordering of species in: Harrop, A.H.J., Collinson, J.M., Dudley, S.P., Kehoe, C. & The British Ornithologists' Union Records Committee. 2013. *The British List: A checklist of the Birds of Britain (8th edition)*. Ibis 155, 635-676.

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, R.I, 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. See other information in the introduction to the systematic list.

CBRG Website

During the year I further updated the appearance of the CBRG website and made some minor changes. I hope to be able to continue developing it in ways that may be helpful and informative and comments to help improve it will be very welcome.

Within days of the publication of this report I am expecting to have a new page in the website. This will show the distribution of all records from the CBRG that are stored with Cofnod and the Atlas tool is being prepared by Cofnod. I hope that this will be of interest to many people. Your comments on the page will be most welcome.

BirdTrack

BirdTrack is the method which I would now recommend that all observers (Individuals or organisations) use for the storage and submission of 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 1 km squares as recording units and the gazetteer is still available (and updated from time to time) from the Downloads page of the CBRG website.

I recently heard of two observers who had stored their records on spreadsheets then lost the records because of computer crashes. Another advantage of BirdTrack is that the records are stored on a safe server away from our homes. If a computer crashes, or a house burns down, the records remain safe and accessible from any computer that is web-enabled.

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

There is advice about recording the correct grid references in the BirdTrack App on page 166 of this report.

BirdTrack has now gone global and it is possible to add records from anywhere in the world. This means that from now on your holiday bird records could be available for you and for conservation work in the country you visited. In the next couple of years or so, European records will be most welcome with breeding codes to help with the second European Atlas project. This records breeding birds at a 50 km x 50 km level – rather bigger than tetrads! There is not the same level of functionality in the global portal as yet, but the BTO are working so that the global and UK parts of BirdTrack will be combined with the same functions for all places, hopefully in the relatively near future.

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 540,659 records in the database. I am very grateful to Mike Weideli who helped me to regain access to R6 after a strange error, possibly from a Windows update, made it impossible for me to open the database.

Submission of records

Records of bird sightings may be made available by:

- by using BirdTrack (www.birdtrack.net);

- using a spreadsheet available on the CBRG website;
- by using the Cofnod record submission facility (www.cofnod.org.uk).
- by using the Dee Estuary website (www.deeestuary.co.uk)

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.

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 all species apart from those with just a couple of records.

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.

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 for Meirionnydd (particularly the area of the Berwyn Mountains that was 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.

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.

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

Rarity records

Observers need to be mindful of the Welsh and national (ie UK) lists of rarities.

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

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

Acknowledgements

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, Glenn Morris and Giles Pepler. I am also grateful to Lee Barber for the Ringing Report and to Peter Coffey for the article he has written.

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 the great amount of help he continues to give.

I am very grateful to Barry Barnacal, Ashley Cohen, Joe D'Arcy, Andy Davis, John Hawkins, John Hickerton, Jim Hulse, Keith Noble and Phil Woollen for their photographs and Dermot Smith for his drawings that add significantly to the interest and attractiveness of the report.

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 am grateful to Anne Brenchley for preparing a weather summary and the review of the year.

I thank the British Trust for Ornithology for its support and assistance in making available bird records submitted to: BirdTrack, the Breeding Bird Survey, the Wetland Bird Survey and Garden BirdWatch; Carl Barimore for the Vice-county nest record totals and Nick Moran for App advice.

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 Anne Brenchley, Andrew Dale, Richard Groves, Glenn Morris and Giles Pepler for proof-reading a draft of this report and Rachael Barber, Giles Pepler, Glenn Morris, Richard Groves and Trevor Payne for proof-reading a finished copy. Any remaining errors are my responsibility. I trust that the observers and organisations think that we have made good use of the data they have provided.

Ian M Spence, Recorder
ianspence.cr1@btinternet.com

43 Blackbrook
Sychdyn
Mold
Flintshire
CH7 6LT 01352-750118 or 07943-536186

Weather Summary 2014

2014 was a more settled year than 2013. The winter was mild with little snow and a warm spring and summer made for a good year for our breeding birds. January started unsettled with high rainfall (this was the major period of floods in England, notably Somerset) and February was very similar. This was the third wettest February in Wales since 1910 with a small amount of precipitation falling as snow on 10/02. Temperatures slowly rose in March but this was a month of intermittent showers and sunny intervals (sunshine hours above average). A very mild dry spell began on 28/03 and continued until 19/04 and culminated with 20°C on 21/04. Showers and sunshine returned at the end of the month and May was mostly a dry month with warm temperatures. June was mainly settled with above average temperatures and plenty of sunshine, well above the average and July was also dry, fine and sunny with the highest temperatures of the year in the latter part of the month. August was cool and unsettled with high rainfall at the beginning of the month. High pressure returned in September. There was little rainfall and there were high daytime temperatures and above average sunshine hours. Mild, moist airflow predominated in October and November was very similar. December was typically cold and there were gales in the middle of the month. Short periods of snow occurred immediately after Christmas on 26-27/12.

2014	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Max temp °C / date	12 / 25	13 / 23	18 / 30	20 / 21	25 / 19	23 / 13	28 / 18, 23, 24 & 25	24 / 8	23 / 18	21 / 3	15 / 1, 22	14 / 17, 18 & 22
Mean temp °C	5	6	7	10	12	15	17	15	14	12	8	6
Min temp °C / date	-3 / 12	-2 / 10	-3 / 11	0 / 19	1 / 3	3 / 6	7 / 6	4 / 27	4 / 22	1 / 12	-1 / 6	-5 / 30
Rain mm	36.6	47.0	0.0	2.8	23.9	29.0	27.4	42.9	1.7	37.6	20.5	32.0

Much of this information was sourced from the website, Weather Underground (www.wunderground.com), using UK Met Office data from the Hawarden meteorological station.

Anne Brenchley

Birding Highlights 2014

This section briefly summarises the main birding highlights and events for 2014. It is based on all records received by the County Recorder and subsequently verified by the Welsh and British Birds Rarities Committee. Unfortunately it is still the case that not all records reach the County Recorder. There will be discrepancies between this report and those published in other reports and monthly magazines because many records cannot be verified by description or are just not submitted in the first instance. Such records are not included in this report. However, genuine omissions also occasionally occur and for this we offer our apologies.

2014

As usual most of the interesting bird records at the beginning of the year were of waterbirds. In January up to seven **Surf Scoter** were seen off Pensarn and Point of Ayr hosted 8,000 **Oystercatcher**, 500 **Wigeon** and 450 **Teal**. There were 10+ **Purple Sandpiper** at Rhos-on-Sea on 2/01, a **Jack Snipe** was seen at RSPB Conwy on 5/01 and an amazing 15 **Water Rail** were counted on 17/01. **Snow Bunting** were present at Kinnel Bay on 16/01. Four **Egyptian Geese** were observed at Shotwick Fields on 19/01. Inland there were large congregations of **Lapwing** (2,500) and **Pintail** (800) in the lower Dee Valley at Trevalyn Meadows. In the middle of the month an **Iceland Gull** turned up in the Wrexham area and was seen at Rossett and Ruabon. In February the winter **Twite** flock remained all month at Connah's Quay NR and did not depart for the breeding grounds until the end of March although the occasional individual stayed until 8/04. Nearby a **Black Redstart** was recorded at Flint Castle from 4/02 to 7/02. A wintering **Great Grey Shrike** stayed at World's End, Ruabon Mountain through February and March until 11/04. The excitement of the month was a sighting of four **Two-barred Crossbill** in Nercwys Forest on 17/02. Movement of winter migrants occurred on 26/02 when 1,400 **Fieldfare** were seen flying north over Penycae. Spring migration arrivals were fairly average this year but an extremely early **Ring Ouzel** on 11/03 at World's End was notable. Other early arrival dates included **Sand Martin** on 14/03, **House Martin** on 21/03 and **Whitethroat** on 30/03. Other March records included a single **Black Guillemot** at Towyn on 1/03, and a **Water Pipit** at Connah's Quay NR on 24/03. **Snow Bunting** were recorded mid-month at Pensarn. A **Black-necked Grebe** seen at a quarry pool near Afonwen stayed until mid-April. Migration was in full swing in April and on the coast at Gronant, large numbers of **White Wagtails** were seen as well as a single **Short-eared Owl**. The first **Little Tern** came back to the breeding colony on 30/04 and eventually 136 pairs nested although this was not one of the best breeding seasons due to predation by Foxes and a Kestrel. In May the occasional **Osprey** was seen on passage at RSPB Conwy and the real highlight was a **Black Stork** flying over Colwyn Bay on 20/05. **Osprey** sightings in June at Llyn Brenig may indicate the potential for breeding there in the future. Three separate **Quail** records from the uplands around the Llyn Alwen area on 22/06 indicated a minor passage of this elusive species. There was only one record of a single **Turtle Dove** in 2014 from near Dyserth on 29/06. This was the first Flintshire record since 2009 and it would now appear that this is lost as breeding species in North-East Wales. A **Honey-buzzard** at Connah's Quay NR on 16/07 was mobbed by several **Common Tern** and **Little Egret**. A single **Velvet Scoter** off Llanddulas on 17/07 was an unusual summer sighting. The **Little Tern** numbers had a boost on 25/07 when 500+ adults were recorded. It was thought that this coincided with a drop in numbers from the Isle of Man colony. A **Great White Egret** stayed at Llyn Alwen for several days in late July and 350+ **Sandwich Tern** roosted near Kinnel Bay on 27/07. August was a quiet month although wader migration was in full swing. Early in September a **Cattle Egret** at Connah's Quay NR was likely to have been the same individual that stayed around RSPB Burton Mere between September and December. Six **Little Stint** were at RSPB Conwy on 13/09 and 41 **Gadwall** at Shotton Paper Mill on 12/09. A **Corncrake** turned up in a garden in Rhyl on 16/09 but was subsequently found dead. September ended

with a **Spoonbill** at Point of Ayr which was seen from 25/09 to 3/10 and a small passage of **Curlew Sandpiper**. A maximum of 3,000 **Black-tailed Godwit** was counted at Point of Ayr on 12/10 and a **Sabine's Gull** recorded on 22/10. In general October and November were unremarkable months. The only **Yellow-browed Warbler** recorded this year was a bird ringed at Rhos-on-Sea on 29/10. A **Little Auk** seen at Pensarn on 9/11 appeared to stay in the vicinity until late December. As the end of the year approached a **Caspian Gull** delighted birdwatchers at Gresford Flash on 2/12. This was the first accepted Welsh record for this species. A peak number of 180 **Twite** were at Connah's Quay NR on 4/12 and a massive congregation of 20,000 **Common Scoter** was sighted offshore at Rhos-on-Sea and Old Colwyn between 7/12 and 20/12. Mid-month, a **Long-tailed Duck** turned up inland at Fagl Lane GP and stayed until the end of the year. The year ended with the maximum number (19) of **Bewick's Swan** sighted at Shotwick Fields on 31/12.

Anne Brenchley

The Systematic List for 2014

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 Lamacraft, D. 2012. *The state of birds in Wales 2012*: 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).

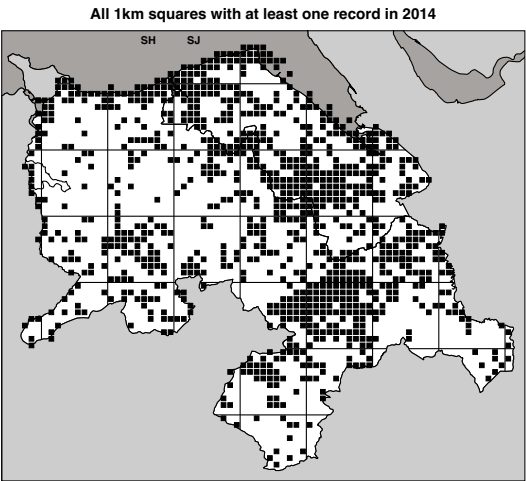
Abbreviations that appear in the report include, in tables, the BTO two letter code for the species to which the table refers, if there is one, and:

- BBS Breeding Bird Survey organised by the British Trust for Ornithology
- CP Country Park
- 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
- RBBP Breeding records of this species are of interest to the Rare Breeding Bird Panel (see www.rbbp.org.uk)
- TBBNW The Breeding Birds of North Wales

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

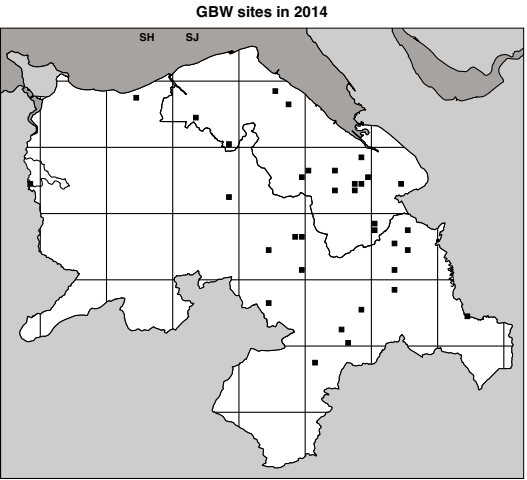
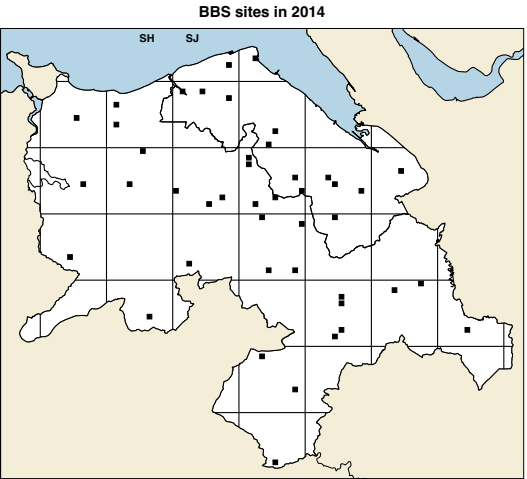
We have included maps to show the distribution of the records received for some species where we considered that maps would assist the summarising of those records. If you are aware of areas of either county where those species are present, but there are no symbols to show their presence, please send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

The maps, right and below, show the sources of records used in this report. First, there is the distribution of sites in our area from which at least one record has been received during



2014. Second, there is the map of all the BBS sites. Third, there is the map showing all the GBW sites and lastly a map showing the locations of all sites from where complete lists were recorded in BirdTrack (see next page).

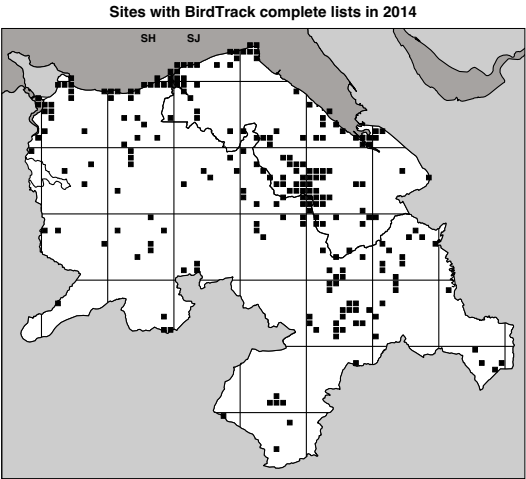
The tables introduced last year have been continued. This is an attempt to summarise the information available and to use the basic data to provide further clues about how easy it is likely to be to see any particular species in this region of Wales, but especially in the 1 km squares in which the species has been observed. To explain each of the headings:



Status. This is a statement about each species based mainly on the results of the Atlas project that led to 'The Breeding Birds of North Wales'.

- Resident
- Summer visitor
- Winter visitor
- Passage migrant
- Visitor
- Vagrant
- Escape

Occurrence. We do not have good population estimates for the majority of species in North-East Wales. Some bird reports have used words such as ‘abundant’ without any criteria for determining the use of the words. Here, we are using a formula to calculate a figure that is then used to determine the word to describe how abundant a species is. The formula is: (Average max count)/3 * (Average no of records). These average figures are taken from a database of these figures that have been published in recent bird reports.



Descriptor	Occurrence as calculated
Abundant	25,000+
Very common	>5,000 – 25,000
Common	>1,000 – 5,000
Fairly common	>500 – 1,000
Uncommon	>100 – 500
Scarce	>10 – 100
Very scarce	>5 – 10
Rare	<=5

The word chosen to describe the species is taken from the table, above.

Number of 1 km squares. This is the number of 1 km squares in which a species was recorded during the year. The numbers of 1 km squares in each county are taken from the Gazetteer which is available from the CBRG website: Denbs = 1978, Flint = 585, total = 2563.

Maximum count. This is the same figure that has been shown in the last few reports and is the maximum count for each species in each county during the year. Records come from several sources that do not, necessarily, conform to the requirements of our database. So, there may be records e.g. from WeBS sectors that span more than one 1 km square, so may be higher than the maximum count shown in the table.

Recorded in BBS squares. When a species has been recorded during a BBS survey this is the number of squares in which the species was recorded out of the number in the county. There were 30 BBS squares in Denbs in 2014 and 15 in Flint.

Number of records. As in previous reports, this shows the number of accepted records received for each county during the year.

% of records from GBW. Rather than mentioning this in the text for some, obvious, garden species this is included for all species that occurred in the Garden Bird Watch lists.

% of BirdTrack lists. This is a figure calculated using all the complete lists that have been submitted on BirdTrack during the year and provided by the BTO within the download of records for County Recorders. A species is more likely to be encountered if the percentage shown is higher than for another species. For some species this figure is much higher for relatively scarce species in Denbs because of the numbers of lists submitted for RSPB Conwy.

Density. This is an attempt to show how likely it is that a species will be encountered somewhere in North-East Wales. The figure is from a formula: (Max count) * (No of locations where recorded) / (Total no of squares in that county). The numbers of 1 km squares in each county are: 1976 in Denbs and 589 in Flint.

Map. A map is included for most species seen at a minimum of four locations. It shows the locations from where the records came this year.

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. They are listed on the Atlas page of the CBRG website.

At the end of this section Anne Branchley 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	Naturalised 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*
Breeding resident. Amber List.

One of our most regularly occurring water-birds, this semi-domesticated “royal bird” is widely distributed throughout the report area being found on most inland water bodies and many estuaries. Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. This species was recorded from forty locations, though RSPB Conwy as the most regularly recorded site in the vice-county accounted for 55% of records. Numbers were generally low with only eight records of 10 or more. As usual the biggest counts were from the lower Dee Valley during the winter periods when 17 were at Ridleywood on 2/01 and 17 at Worthenbury on 16/01 (NFr), while later in the year 18 were at Hanmer on 29/11(SD). It is notable that these maximum counts were less than 40% of the long term average maximum, possibly due to mild weather. Breeding was recorded from only three locations, Tir Prince Park, Towyn where 5 juveniles were reared (AHJ); Pentre Mawr Park, Abergele where up to 4 may have fledged from 6 eggs hatched (SM), and Stryd Las, Rhosllanerchrugog where a sitting bird was recorded on 22/04 (PLa). WeBS counts for Denbs sites were also relatively modest with maxima of 10 on the Conwy Estuary on 1/03, 21/07 and 25/08 and 11 at Hanmer Mere on 12/03.

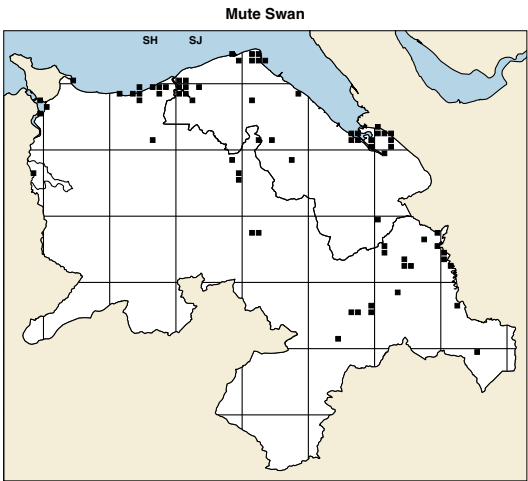
Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

(MS)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy Est		5	2	6	11	2	8	12	3	12		8
Hanmer Mere	3	4	4							3	4	2
White Sands	53	63		54	32	2		2		39	77	
Clwyd Est							5	3		11	13	18

Flints. The vast majority of sightings (98+%) were from coastal locations in or adjacent to the Dee and Clwyd Estuaries. On the Dee the largest concentrations were on White Sands where the maximum number for the year was 77 on 9/11 (GR). Other notable counts included a flock of 30 on Shotwick Fields during Jan (GR, RSm); a maximum for the year of 22 at Connah’s Quay NR on 3/04 (PSH), 37 on saltmarsh near Deeside Power Station on 12/10 (IMS), and 26 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 31/12 (MGW). On the Clwyd Estuary the largest numbers

ALARCH DOF

(MS)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Common
Number of 1 km squares	40	33
Maximum count	18	77
Av max count 2004-14	51	55
Recorded in BBS squares	1/30	1/14
Number of records	131	309
% of BirdTrack lists	27.2	24.4
Density	0.36	4.34



were during Jun when a maximum of 23 was recorded on 25/06, and again during Oct-Dec when 20 were recorded on 28/12 (AHJ).

Bewick’s Swan *Cygnus columbianus*
Winter visitor. Amber List. WBAP.

This species is an annual visitor to the Dee Estuary and surrounding areas usually in relatively small numbers, but is much more rarely recorded from Denbs, the majority of records being from the lower Dee Valley during periods of winter flooding.

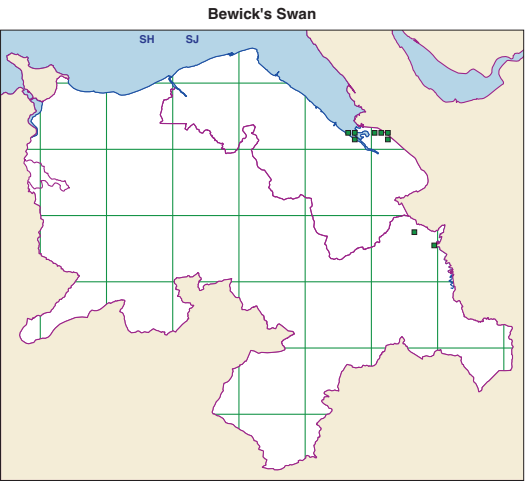
Denbs. Only two occurrences were reported, both on 2/03 when 2 adults and 2 juveniles were with Whooper Swans at Trevalyn Meadows in the lower Dee Valley (NH); and 4, possibly the same birds were also seen at Rossett.

Flints. During Jan a single was at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands from 1/01 until 19/01 (CW, GR), and 6 were on White Sands on 19/01 (GR). During Dec a single was at Shotwick on 22/12 (JMJ) and then until the end of the year small numbers were seen at various sites in the upper Dee Estuary with a maximum count of 19 at Shotwick Fields on 31/12 (GRMP).

ALARCH BEWICK

(BS)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	2	6
Maximum count	4	19
Av max count 2004-14	5	63
Number of records	2	24
% of BirdTrack lists	-	0.4
Density	0.00	0.23

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



Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*
Winter visitor.

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

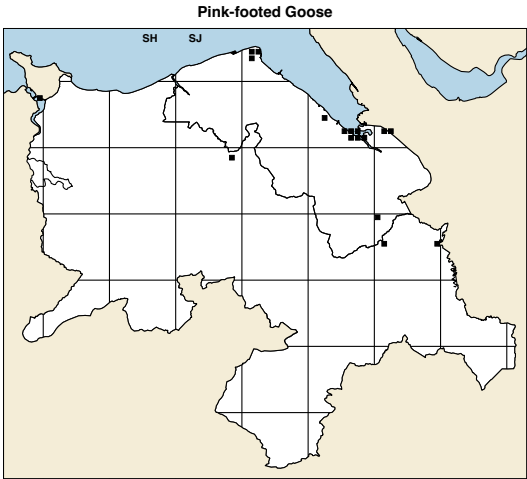
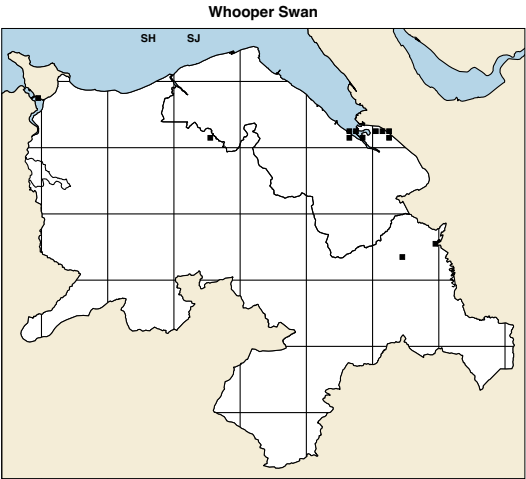
Records are primarily concentrated around the Dee Estuary, where this species is found with other swans at sites in the upper estuary. Smaller numbers are recorded less frequently from inland and coastal sites further west.

ALARCH Y GOGLEDD

(WS)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Uncommon
Number of 1km squares	4	10
Maximum count	10	42
Av max count 2004-14	7	51
Number of records	9	32
% of BirdTrack lists	0.1	1.6
Density	0.02	0.57

Denbs. During the early part of the year there were several records of small numbers at Trevalyn Meadows: 4+ on 9/02 (NHu); 10 on 21/02 and 24/02 (NFr, SD), and 3 on 2/03 (NHu). Later in the year the first of autumn were 3 at Trefnant on 8/10 (PKi), followed by 6 at RSPB Conwy on 11/10 (pRCo); 1 at Gresford Flash, Wrexham on 14/10 (HL) and 2 at RSPB Conwy on 23/12 (JHg).

Flints. Modest numbers were present on the upper Dee Estuary during Jan and the first half of Feb with records from various sites including Shotwick Fields/RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands, White Sands, Connah's Quay NR and RSPB Oakenholt Marsh. The last spring record was of 42 on White Sands on 16/02 (DaK). The first of autumn were 2 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 28/10 (PSH) followed by 19 on White Sands on 9/11 (GR), the latter being the maximum count of the autumn/winter period. Relatively small numbers remained on the upper estuary for the remainder of the year with most sightings from Shotwick Fields/RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands, the Dec maximum being 14 on 31/12.



were recorded in the Talacre area on several occasions from 7-19/03 (JuR, pJR). The last substantial numbers were 150 at Shotwick Fields on 24/03 (GR), and two very late stayers on 29/04 (CW) were the last of the spring period. The first returning birds of autumn were 24 flying over Bagillt on 24/09 (GRMP), followed by 100 at Shotwick Fields on 5/10 (GR). Thereafter numbers were recorded at various locations throughout the upper estuary for the remainder of the year, RSPB Oakenholt Marsh being the most favoured locality. Notable counts included 1,000 Oakenholt on 8/11 and 1,300 on 3/12 (PSH); 5,000 on Flint Saltmarsh on 16/12 (RBe), and 2,000 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 26/12 (PSH, ALo).

Pink-footed Goose *Anser brachyrhynchus*

Passage migrant, and winter visitor.

This species has steadily increased in numbers on the Dee Estuary since 2010. In Denbs it occurs in smaller numbers and with less regularity largely dependent on the severity of weather in its usual wintering grounds further N and E in the UK and in continental Europe.

Denbs. Singles were at Llay Pool on 13 and 16/02 (DuH, NHu, KS); Lleweni Hall, Bodfari from 9-30/03 and again in 6/04 (JPH), and at RSPB Conwy on 1/04 and 9/04 (JHg, pRCo). The only record of significant numbers was 40 at Trevalyn Meadows on 28/11 (NF).

Flints. Numbers in the Dee Estuary during the early part of the year were relatively small, the few large flocks recorded being present for no more than a few days and probably birds passing through or wandering from regular wintering sites further N. A single was in the Gwespyr/Talacre area on 19/01 (JR). Larger numbers were in the upper estuary for a few days in early Feb with 550 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 4/02 (CW); 800 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 8/02 (PSH), and 400 on White Sands on 9/02 (KS). Six hundred were observed to drop into Connah's Quay NR for half an hour on 8/03 (LJ) perhaps indicating birds on passage. Three

White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons*

Irregular winter visitor. Red List.

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

The overwhelming majority of records in the report area are of the 'European' *albifrons* race which occurs most frequently, but irregularly, and any record not specifically attributed to any race should be taken as referring to this one. The 'Greenland' *flavirostris* race is considerably rarer and more noteworthy in our area.

Denbs. One was at Trevalyn Meadows on 9/02 (NHu).

Flints. One of the Greenland race was associating with three Canada Geese on the Clwyd Estuary on 29-30/11 (AHJ, WRM).

GŴYDD DALCEN-WEN

(GJ)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	1	2
Maximum count	1	1
Av max count 2004-14	2	15
Number of records	1	4
% of BirdTrack lists	-	0.2
Density	0.00	0.00

Greylag Goose
Anser anser

Breeding resident and winter visitor.

Recorded in each month in both counties. 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 at a number of sites, notably the Dee Estuary and Gresford Flash. This population is supplemented by numbers of passage, and over-wintering birds during the winter months. When the River Dee is in flood the Trevalyn Meadows, Ridleywood and Worthenbury areas of the lower valley attract significant numbers on an almost annual basis.

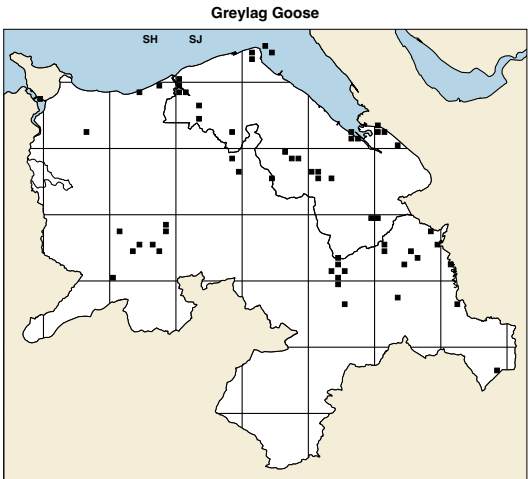
Denbs. This species occurs throughout the vice-county, though a large proportion of records are concentrated at a few favoured sites.

As usual, RSPB Conwy had 42% of records, but numbers were low with a maximum count for the year of 12 on 21/01 (pRCo). Early in the year there were records of significant numbers from the usual lower Dee Valley locations with 80 at Trevalyn Meadows on 20/01 and 100+ on 9/02 (NHu); and 120 at Worthenbury on 2/01 and 150 on 16/01 (NFr). Lleweni Hall, Bodfari had several substantial counts during the same period with 197 on 19/01 and other counts of 60+ until at least 23/03 (JPH). Breeding was recorded from only three locations with goslings or fledglings recorded at Llyn Brenig on 19/05 (JVHu), Vicarage Gorse Pool, Borrass Head on 24/05 and Nant-y-ffridd Reservoir on 26/05 (SD). As usual Llyn Brenig hosted substantial concentrations particularly during Jun and Jul when a maximum count of 140+ was recorded on 12/07 (SD). Away from the usual locations 90+ at Glasfryn in the Conwy Valley on 21/06 was a notable observation (MGW). There were no records during Sep, the only month when this occurred. This may in part be due to local migration for post-breeding moult. Later in the year there were several counts of substantial numbers near Llandrynog where a maximum of 350 were recorded on 9/11 and 130 on 7/12 (JDa). The last substantial count of the year was 200 at Ridleywood on 20/12 (NFr).

Flints. Recorded during all months of the year. The only large counts during the early part of the year were from inland locations, the Hope area being particularly favoured with 50 at Fagl Lane GP on 12/01, and 50 on 10/02 (KD), and 55+ there on 15/03 (GNR). This area also attracted large numbers later in the year with 95 at Fagl Lane GP on 6/12 and several other counts of 100+ from the Hope area during Dec culminating in a maximum of 175+ on 31/12

GŴYDD WYLLT

(GJ)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very common	Very common
Number of 1 km squares	33	27
Maximum count	350	315
Av max count 2004-14	300	366
Recorded in BBS squares	1/30	1/14
Number of records	141	82
% of BirdTrack lists	8.7	10.0
Density	5.84	14.54



(GNR). The only other record of substantial numbers at an inland location was 60+ near Y Graig NR on 3/11 (PKi). There were no records of breeding. On the coast numbers were low during the early part of the year with all counts in single figures. The largest count during the first half of the year was 15 on the Clwyd Estuary on 23/01 (DCR); and the first count of substantial numbers at a coastal location was on 12/08 when 147 were on the upper Clwyd Estuary near Rhuddlan (JHB), with 315+ on 14/08 and 215+ on 30/08 (WRM). On the Dee numbers were also low during the early months with most records in single figures, 19 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 18/05 (CW) being the maximum count during this period. The first sighting of big numbers was 154 at Talacre Dunes on 3/09 and 270 in the same area on 7/09 (pJRE). These only remained for a short period and 160 at Shotwick Fields/RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 19/12 (CW) was the only other count in three figures on the estuary for the remainder of the year.

Canada Goose
Branta canadensis

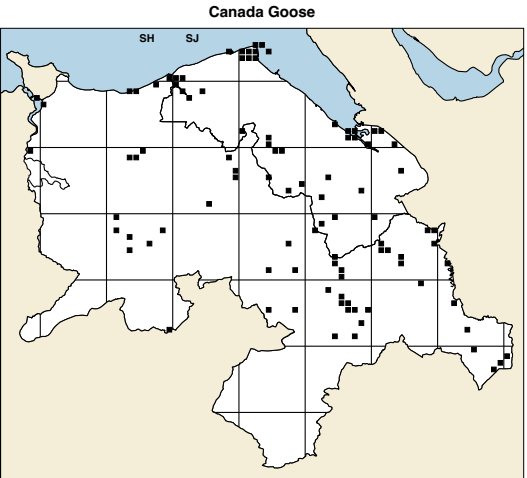
Breeding resident.

GŴYDD CANADA

(CG)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very common	Abundant
Number of 1 km squares	57	40
Maximum count	423	3000
Av max count 2004-14	383	2460
Recorded in BBS squares	9/30	6/14
Number of records	338	305
% of BirdTrack lists	26.5	22.8
Density	12.19	203.74

An ubiquitous species, certainly our commonest goose, found on most lakes, ponds and other water bodies and recorded from both vice-counties in all months of the year. Post-breeding concentrations can occur in autumn/early winter on a number of sites including the Dee Estuary, Gresford Flash and RSPB Conwy, with many birds remaining to winter.

Denbs. This species was recorded from forty nine inland squares and six coastal ones, with RSPB Conwy accounting for 57% of all records. Numbers appear broadly stable. During Jan there were several records of large flocks in the Dee Valley with 400 at Trevalyn Meadows and 250 at Worthenbury on 2/01, and then 150 at Trevalyn and 300 at Worthenbury on 16/02 (NFr). Breeding was reported from several sites including Lleweni Hall, Bodfari where two birds were sitting by 13/04 (JPH); the first juveniles of the year were noted at RSPB Conwy on 3/05 and others were seen at Trefechan, Penycae (JLR), Bryn Rhyd yr Arian (AC), Fenn's Bank (SD), and Llyn Brenig (SD). The usual Jun/Jul concentration at RSPB Conwy produced 423 on 15/06 (the maximum count of the year) and 281 on 13/07 (JHg), and there were other large counts later in the year at Hanmer with 118 on 13/11 (DaF) and Ridleywood with 170 on 17-19/12 (NFr).



Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

(CG)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Conwy	36	7	60	55	47	422	281	2				3
Hanmer Mere	17	53	25							6	118	7
Connah's Quay NR		150	48	4	28	11	13	1	54			
Oakenholt Marsh	600		25	25	25	40	200	140	140	60	200	
White Sands	1	29		8	2	6	1	23	33		200	
Talacre	183	99	85							64	86	112

Flints. Numbers rebounded after low numbers in 2013 with several counts well above the long term average maximum. The only breeding records were from Connah's Quay NR where the first chicks were noted on 9/05 (JHo). As usual the majority of records were from the Dee and Clwyd Estuaries which provided 90% of all records. The largest counts of the year were all from Flint to Connah's Quay with Connah's Quay NR and RSPB Oakenholt Marsh holding thousands of birds on several occasions. Early year counts included 1,000 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh and 1,600 at Connah's Quay NR on 26/01 (PSH) and 2,000 at Connah's Quay NR on 8/02 (PSH). Autumn counts included 3,000 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 7/09; 1,450 at Connah's Quay NR on 1/11; 2,000 at Flint on 30/11 and 2,000 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 3/12 (PSH, JPk). On the Clwyd Estuary numbers were generally low except during Aug when several counts of 200+ were recorded with a maximum of 407 near Rhuddlan on 12/08 (JHB). Rhyl Brickworks pond had one notable record of 215 on 5/10 (WRM). Inland records were received from sixteen locations accounting for less than 10% of all records, but last year's trend of low numbers away from the coast continued with very few records reaching double figures and no substantial counts from regular locations such as Fagl Lane GP.

Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis*

Vagrant, or birds of escaped/feral origin. Amber List.

Denbs. One was at RSPB Conwy from 15-19/03 (pRCo, JOHn); and one at Cefn-y-bedd 12/06 (StP).

Flints. Singles were at Connah's Quay NR on various dates from 8/09-26/10; then 11 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 16/11 (PDS) which almost certainly included some wild birds, with a single remaining until 18/12 (PSH).

(BY)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Very scarce
Number of 1 km squares	2	2
Maximum count	1	11
Av max count 2004-14	9	7
Number of records	5	6
% of BirdTrack lists	0.1	-
Density	0.00	0.04

GWYDD WYRAN

Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiaca*

GWYDD YR AIFFT

Visitor.

Flints. Four were at Shotwick Fields on 19/01(RSm, GR), and 1 on White Sands in the Dee Estuary on 16/02 (DaK).

(EG)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares		3
Maximum count		4
Number of records	0	4
% of BirdTrack lists		-
Density		0.02

Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*

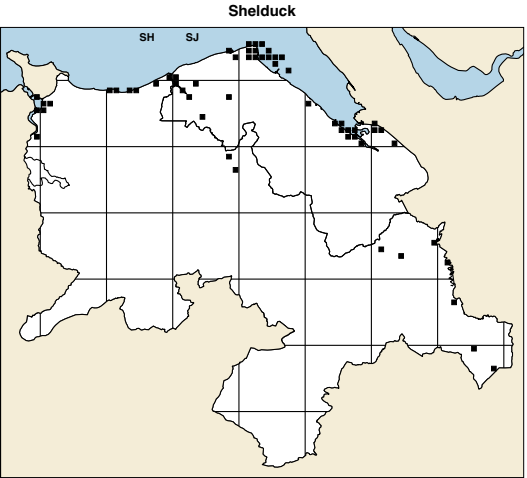
HWYADEN YR EITHIN

Breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List.

This coastal duck is found on most estuaries during all months of the year. The Dee Estuary is a site of international importance for this species.

Denbs. Numbers appeared higher than usual this year. RSPB Conwy and the adjacent estuary contributed 82% of all the records, with a maximum count of 177 on 2/05 during the usual May peak in numbers (JHg, pRCo). Other coastal sites included Kinnel Bay where 220+ were recorded on 9/03 (WRM), and Towyn where there were 50 on 15/11 (SM), Pensarn and Llanddulas. The largest inland count was 32 at Worthenbury on 21/02 (NFr). There were no records of breeding activity.

(SU)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Abundant
Number of 1 km squares	21	36
Maximum count	220	820
Av max count 2004-14	100	1543
Recorded in BBS squares	-	3/14
Number of records	270	344
% of BirdTrack lists	23.9	21.5
Density	2.34	50.46



RSPB Conwy monthly WeBS counts:

(SU)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy	15	22	83	80	108	58	3	12	64	1		17

Flints. Recorded from most squares in the Dee and Clwyd Estuaries. After last year's partial recovery numbers were again significantly lower than recent years, the maximum count being almost half the long term average. The Dee Estuary, Point of Ayr mudflats, Mostyn Bank, RSPB Oakenholt Marsh and White Sands were the most favoured locations. During Jan and Feb White Sands and RSPB Oakenholt Marsh held significant numbers with maximum counts of 145 at each site during Jan (GR, PH, JuR) and 189 on White Sands on 16/02 (DaK). After this

numbers in the upper estuary were more modest until mid-Jun when RSPB Oakenholt Marsh had 820 on 16/06 (GEM). Later in the year the outer estuary was favoured, with numbers peaking in Jul to Sep when post-breeding congregations particularly favoured mudflats at Point of Ayr and Mostyn Bank; the maximum count for this area was on 12/10 when 700 were recorded during WeBS counts at each location (GR, ToM).

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected Dee Estuary sites:

(SU)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Point of Ayr	40		85	94	30	60	100	62	400	340	205	
Mostyn Bank	22	16	64	19	15	1	606	710				
Oakenholt Marsh	145	23	54	67	53	600	150	26		88	25	
White Sands	145	189		72	60	324	172	168	21	9	16	

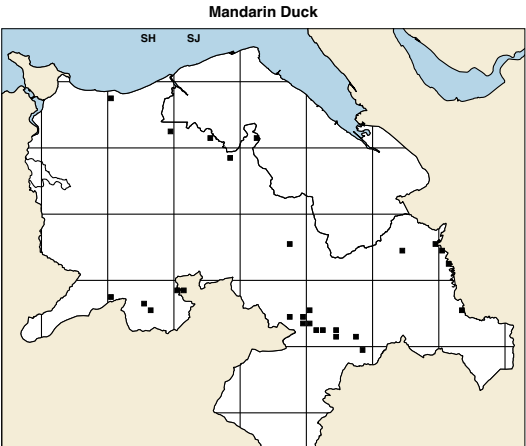
In contrast to the Dee, on the Clwyd Estuary numbers were generally higher than in recent years with 120 south of Rhyl on 5/01, 119 on 2/02 (AHJ) and later in the year 70 on 30/08 (WRM) and 180+ at Rhuddlan on 12/11 (AnRe). There were very few sightings from inland locations, the only records being 2 at St Asaph on 31/05 (PK) and 1 at Marian Cwm on 17/06 (MJ). Breeding was recorded at Oakenholt Marsh where there were three chicks on 26/05 (JHo); Rhyl where juveniles were noted on 3/07 (WRM) and Connah's Quay NR where there were six chicks on 28/07 and a flock of 25 most of which were juveniles on 12/08 (GEM).

Mandarin Duck *Aix galericulata*

Breeding resident.

The population of this showy plumaged but secretive species, introduced to the UK from its native China, appears well established in a few localities where there are quiet stretches of river close to deciduous woodland which provides suitable tree hole nesting sites. Recorded in Denbs in each month except Nov.

Denbs. Over three times as many records as in 2013 perhaps indicating that this species is increasingly established in our area. As usual the majority of sightings were from the middle Dee Valley from Rhewl down through Llangollen to Chirk. Breeding was recorded at Ddol, Froncysyllte, Llanfihangel Glyn Myfyr, Llangollen, Penraig Fawr, Threapwood and Trefor Uchaf where females with chicks or juveniles were seen (pCd, DaHu, DBy). Particularly notable counts were 11 at Lleweni Hall, Bodfari on 19/01 (JPH) and 10 at



Pentrefelin, Llangollen on 19/04 (SJHa).

Wigeon *Anas penelope*

Winter visitor. Amber List.

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

One of our commonest wintering ducks, usually seen in coastal habitats, it is present in numbers on most estuaries during the winter months, often grazing on coastal fields or inland on flooded farmland. Numbers decline in the spring as birds migrate to breeding grounds in northern Europe.

Denbs. Four coastal locations produced 87% of all records, of which RSPB Conwy provided 82%, the others being Kinmel Bay, Pensarn and Towyn. Birds were present at RSPB Conwy in all months apart from May though numbers were somewhat less than last year; numbers peaked in late Sep/early Oct, the two largest counts being 179 on 26/09 and 235 on 5/10 (WRM, pRCo). The only other substantial numbers from coastal locations was on 1/03 when 200 were at Pensarn and 200 also at Towyn (ZH, SM). As usual locations in the lower Dee Valley produced the largest inland counts with 320 at Worthenbury on 2/01, 850 at Trevalyn Meadows, 250 at Worthenbury on 16/01 and 500 at Trevalyn Meadows on 29/01 (NFr).

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

(WN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Conwy	133	41	27			1	2	2	29	248		42
Point of Ayr	500								4	40	60	
Point of Ayr Fields	160	730	60							80		
Connah's Quay NR	12	60	36	2	2		2	1		15	13	
Oakenholt Marsh	350	64	62						30	20	12	
White Sands	6	9							4		5	

Flints. The vast majority of records were from the Dee and Clwyd Estuaries. On the Dee the species was recorded during all months of the year though there were few sightings from Apr to Aug and records were usually of 1-3 during this period. Warren Farm Talacre and Point of

Ayr produced the largest counts, followed by RSPB Oakenholt Marsh. Numbers were significantly lower than in 2013 probably due to mild weather on the continent keeping migrants further N and E, and there were no counts of approaching a thousand as last year, though Point of Ayr fields at Warren Farm and Llawndy and the offshore compartments in this area did produce several counts of hundreds of birds. On 19/01 WeBS counts recorded 160 at Llawndy and the same number at Warren Farm as well as 500 in each of two offshore compartments, though it is possible that these counts referred to the same birds recorded twice having moved locations (JuR, GR). The same day 350 were at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh (PeHa) which was the maximum count for the upper estuary compartments during the early months of the year. The annual peak counts were during mid-Feb when 620 were recorded at Warren Farm on 12/02, followed by the maximum count of the spring period when 730 were at Llawndy on 17/02 (JuR). After this numbers tailed off, the last of spring being 20 at Warren Farm on 19/03 (pJR), though 2-3 were present in the Connah's Quay/RSPB Oakenholt Marsh area throughout the summer period (GEM). These apart, the first returning migrants of the autumn were 30 at Oakenholt on 7/09 (PeHa), numbers increasing to a winter maximum of 450 at Warren Farm, Talacre on 7/12 (pJRE) though numbers remained relatively modest throughout. On the Clwyd numbers were also relatively low all year with few records during the early months and a maximum of 179 on the lower estuary near Rhyl on 22/02 (AHJ), and the last of spring were 40+ on 29/03 (DCR). Small numbers of returning migrants were noted from early Sep (WRM), and the winter maximum was 169 on 24/12 (AHJ). The only records at locations away from the coast were a male at Hendre from 28/11-1/12 (MGW, GEM), and 2 at Fagl Lane GP on 6/12 (SD).

Gadwall *Anas strepera*

HWYADEN LWYD

Winter visitor and breeding resident. Amber List.

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 RSPB Conwy and on the Dee RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands (Border Pool), Shotton Paper Mill and Steelworks pools and lakes at Talacre as well as various inland localities.

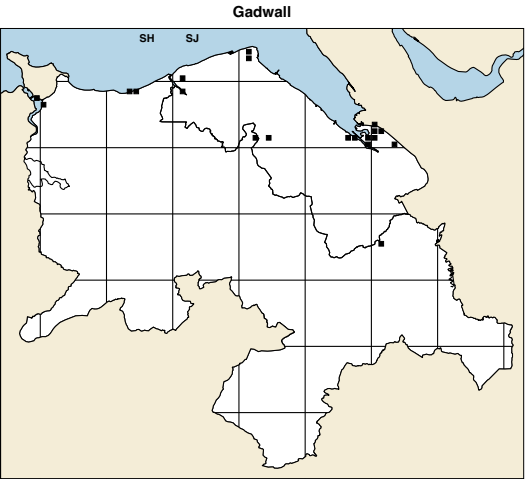
Denbs. The majority of records (92%) were from RSPB Conwy where the species was present throughout the year though only in low numbers; the only double figure records were in Nov with 17 on 14/11 the maximum count of the year, and 10 on 17/11 (WRM, pRCo). Away from RSPB Conwy the only records were 2 at Pensarn from 22-25/02 (SD, AHJ) and up to 3 on various dates from 12/11-25/12 (WRM, AHJ); 3 were also at Llay Pool on 20/03, 1 remaining until 31/03 (KS, DuH).

The monthly WeBS counts for RSPB Conwy are shown in the table below.

(GA)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Conwy		2	2	2	3	3		2				8

Flints: The majority of records were from the Dee Estuary where small numbers were recorded

during the early part of the year from a variety of sites including Connah's Quay NR, Shotwick Fields/RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands Border Pool and Talacre. The only double figure count during this period was 14 at Shotwick Fields/RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 25/01 (NGo). From late May most birds on the estuary appear to congregate at Shotton Paper Mill with a maximum count of 41 on 12/09, though up to 32 were present into Dec (IMS). There were very few sightings at estuary locations away from Shotton during the latter part of the year. Away from the Dee, there were four records of 1-6 throughout the year at Rhyl Brickworks pond (AcG, AHJ); at Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog 3-9 were recorded on 19/01, 15/03, 9/11, 1/12 and 7/12 (MD, SD), and there were also 3 on the Clwyd Estuary near Rhuddlan from 31/07-5/08 (AHJ).



Teal *Anas crecca*

CORHWYADEN

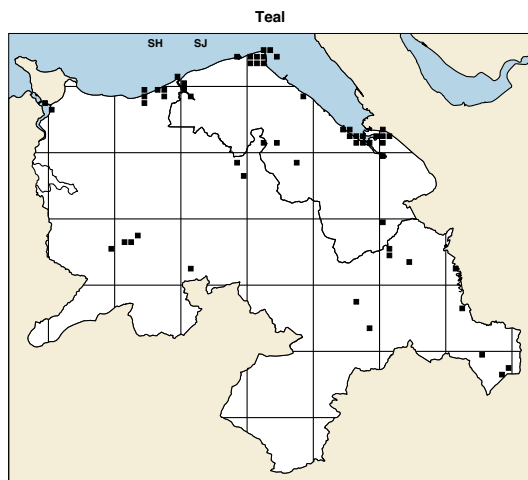
Winter visitor, and breeding resident. Amber List.

The Dee Estuary is a site of international importance for this species. It is widely distributed at both coastal and inland locations throughout both counties and may be encountered on wetland habitats of any size with suitable cover, but is probably significantly under-recorded. Recorded in each month in both counties except Jun in Flints.

Denbs. RSPB Conwy produced 81% of all the county's records; numbers were high during Jan with an early season peak of 106 on 19/01 but thereafter counts were more modest, the maxima during Feb and Mar being 22 on 17/2 and 16/03 (JHg). Numbers were low during spring and summer though there were records in all months, but it was not until late Sep that numbers increased dramatically with the first returning migrants, 320+ being recorded on 22/09

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

(T)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Conwy	106	22	22	3	2		19	24	145	263		271
Point of Ayr	450	40	57					3	100	150	150	
Oakenholt Marsh	307	103	50	2				60	100	220	300	
Connah's Quay NR	66	72	58				2	156	50	80	277	
White Sands								5	110	26	64	



(WRM), and a late season peak of 336 on 6/10 (pRCO). Numbers remained high to the end of the year with 271 on 7/12 (JHg). Away from Conwy there were records from other coastal locations including Kinnel Bay, Towyn and Pensarn though all in relatively small numbers. The only two substantial inland records were from the usual Dee Valley locations with 270 at Worthenbury on 2/01 and 50 at Ridleywood on 20/12 (NFr).

Flints. As in previous years RSPB Oakenholt Marsh and Point of Ayr appear to have hosted the largest concentrations throughout the year. During Jan there were good numbers spread throughout the estuary with an early season peak count of 450 on

Point of Ayr mudflats, 100 at Talacre Gas Terminal and 307 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh all on 19/01 (GR, JuR, PeHa). Significant numbers remained until mid-Feb with counts of 100-200 at several locations. After this, numbers tailed off as migration got underway, the last counts of significant numbers being 46+ on Shotwick rifle range on 3/04 (CMJ) and 17 at Shotwick Fields on 20/04 (DTr). Small numbers were present through most of the summer months except Jun. Numbers started to increase from the start of Aug as the first migrants returned and the first substantial numbers were 156 at Connah's Quay NR on 10/08 (PHa), 800 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 3/09 (GR), and 670 on 26/09 (GEM). The peak autumn count was 3,000 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 9/10 (GR), certainly one of the largest counts of recent years. These were presumably passage birds as numbers stabilised subsequently to more normal levels though counts remained relatively high for the remainder of the year. Notable records included 440 at Connah's Quay NR on 13/11 (GEM); 700 at Flint on 30/11 (JP) and 550 on Point of Ayr mudflats on 7/12 (GR). Elsewhere on the coast small numbers were on the Clwyd Estuary, with numbers peaking during Nov and Dec when 86 on 27/12 (AHJ) was the largest count of the year for this location. There were very few records from inland locations, all of which were of small numbers; it seems likely that this rather secretive duck is somewhat under-recorded away from the coast.

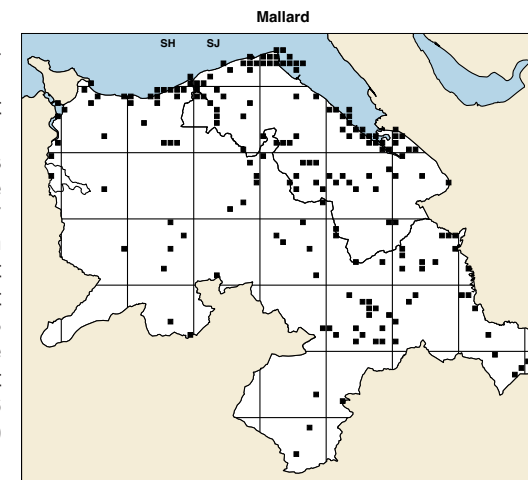
Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

Breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List.

Our commonest duck species, found on most coastal and inland water bodies. Wintering and passage migrants increase the population during the winter months especially in periods of cold weather. Recorded in each month in both counties.

(MA)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very common	Abundant
Number of 1 km squares	97	89
Maximum count	100	600
Av max count 2004-14	124	515
Recorded in BBS squares	10/30	9/14
Number of records	579	644
% records from GBW	-	0.6
% of BirdTrack lists	42.9	41.2
Density	4.90	91.28

Denbs. The species is widely distributed throughout the county both on the coast and inland, with a post-breeding peak in numbers during Jun-Aug, and counts were somewhat higher after last year's low numbers. RSPB Conwy had 41% of all records and this species was recorded there in all months with a maximum of 117 on 10/08 (JHg). Notable records from coastal locations included 80+ at Pensarn on 6/07 (WRM); 60+ at Towyn on 4/09 (SM), and 96 at RSPB Conwy on 23/09 (MaJn). There were also significant inland counts of 60 at Acton Park Lake on 11/08 (GiP); 76 at Cefn Canol on 4/12 (AIDa) and 100 at Afonwen on 24/12 (JNW). Breeding was recorded at ten locations and a particularly early breeding record was a female with 3 downy young at Acrefair on 5/04 (HN).



Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

(MA)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy RSPB	48	24	7	11	33	54	106	117	94	89		49
Point of Ayr	35	4	2	4	1	5	3	82	40	12	21	
Oakenholt Marsh	20	20	11	10	12	100	50	80	100	10	25	
Connah's Quay NR	26	28	5	4	116	151	270	80	4	6	11	
White Sands	2	2		14	12	10	20	65	50		2	

Flints: On the Dee and Clwyd Estuaries numbers were lower than in 2013 with maximum counts 50-60% less than last year's peaks in both cases. RSPB Oakenholt Marsh and Connah's Quay NR were the most favoured locations on the Dee with numbers peaking from 28/07-16/09 when 200-350 were regularly counted at these reserves and the maximum count was 600 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 3/08 (GEM). The Clwyd Estuary also attracted birds throughout all months of the year with the exception of Jan and with a maximum of 75 on 7/12 (JHB). Breeding was noted at Shotton Paper Mill, Gronant and Whitford with juveniles seen from 16/06 -20/07 (IMS, JoSi, SD).

Pintail *Anas acuta*

Winter visitor. Amber List.

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

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.

Denbs. On the coast RSPB Conwy provided virtually all records of this species, though continuing from last year, even there, numbers were extremely low with 1 and occasionally 2 present during much of Jan. An unusual summer record was 1 on 17/06, and later in the year there were intermittent records of singles or occasionally 2 from 16/09-13/12 (pRCo, JHg). The only other record from a coastal location was 2 at Pensarn on 18/02 (JMB). Inland, the lower Dee Valley sites had significant numbers during Jan and early Feb with regular counts of 35-80 from these locations during this period, and exceptional counts of 200 at Trevalyn Meadows on 2/01; 800 at Trevalyn, 280 at Worthenbury and 35 at Ridleywood all on 16/01; and 120 at Worthenbury on 21/02 (NFr). The only records from late in the year were from Ridleywood where there were 55 on 17/12 and 120 on 20/12 (NFr). Other inland records were 5 at Fenn's Moss on 28/02 and 2 at Llay Pool on 24/03 (JoAr, KS).

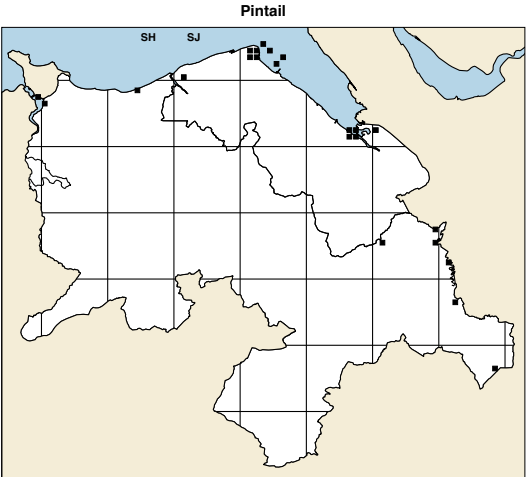
Flints. On the Dee Estuary the trend of reduced numbers continued, and during the early months of the year there were very few records of more than 20. Exceptional counts during this period were 500 on White Sands on 16/01 (GEM) and 200 at Oakenholt on 9/02 (KS). The last significant numbers of the spring were 31 on White Sands on 20/04 (DaK), though a late staying pair were at Connah's Quay NR on 14/05 (GEM). The first returning migrants of the autumn were 520 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 16/08 (GEM) and this remained a favoured location until mid-Oct with several counts of 300-520 during this period. During Dec numbers were lower, but there were several counts of 130-150 from the mudflats at Point of Ayr (GR). The only sighting away from the Dee Estuary was 2 at Rhyl Brickworks pond on 3/01 (AHJ).

Monthly maxima of WeBS counts for selected Dee Estuary sites:

(PT)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Point of Ayr	20	4							6	73	70	
White Sands				31								
RSPB Oakenholt Marsh	2	6		1					100	300		

HWYADEN LOSTFAIN

(PT)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Abundant
Number of 1 km squares	9	14
Maximum count	800	520
Av max count 2004-14	479	1841
Number of records	44	63
% of BirdTrack lists	0.8	3.0
Density	3.64	12.44



Garganey *Anas querquedula*

Summer visitor and passage migrant. Amber List.

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

Denbs. A singleton was present at RSPB Conwy from 11/09 until 2/10 (pRCo, JHg, RS).

Flints. One was at Shotwick Fields/RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 25/05 (ZH).

HWYADEN ADDRAIN

(GY)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	1	1
Maximum count	1	1
Av max count 2004-14	1	1
Number of records	24	1
% of BirdTrack lists	0.4	0.2
Density	0.00	0.00

Shoveler *Anas clypeata*

Winter visitor and breeding resident. Amber List.

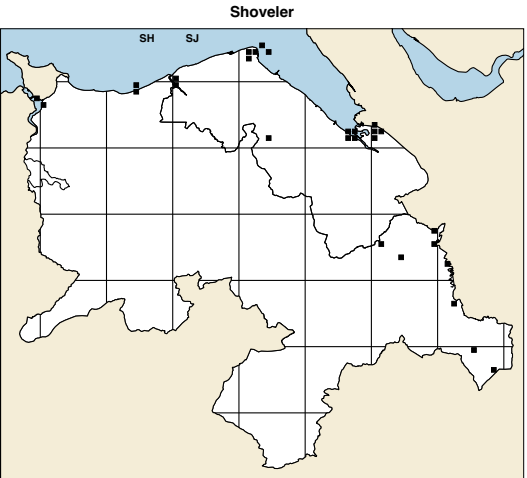
Seen in these months:											
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

Denbs. RSPB Conwy is the only location where this species is regularly recorded. Small numbers from 1-6 were recorded throughout the year with the exception of Aug; the only counts to reach double figures were during Jan when 16 were recorded on 1/01 and 10 on 11/01 (pRCo, NDU). Gresford Flash had small numbers throughout Jan and much of Feb with up to 17 present during the first week of the New Year (KS, SD, DuH); and a singleton was also there from 2-6/12 (DuH, ACla). Small numbers were recorded between Jan and Apr from Hanmer, Llay Pool and Trevallyn Meadows, and Worthenbury had 10 on 16/01 and 25 on 21/02 (NFr); 90+ at Fenn's Moss on 28/02 (JoAr) was truly exceptional. The only records from late in the year were from Gresford Flash, Pensarn where 1 was far offshore on 7/12 (MaO), and Ridleywood with 2 on 17/12 (NFr).

Flints. Regularly recorded in moderate numbers from various locations around the Dee Estuary; Connah's Quay NR, Shotton Paper Mill, Shotwick Fields/RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands and the various freshwater lakes at Talacre were the most frequently used locations. Numbers were modest during the early months of the year, 19 at Connah's Quay NR on 16/01 being the peak

HWYADEN LYDANBIG

(SV)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Fairly common	Common
Number of 1 km squares	12	16
Maximum count	90	111
Av max count 2004-14	52	54
Number of records	150	118
% of BirdTrack lists	10.6	8.1
Density	0.55	3.04



count during this period (GEM). During the summer months counts were all in single figures with none during Jun and the first record of more substantial numbers as autumn approached was 23 at Connah's Quay NR on 7/09 (PeHa). All the above sites continued to hold small numbers during the remainder of the year, 38 at Connah's Quay NR on 21/10 being particularly notable. From Oct to the end of the year Shotton Paper Mill held outstanding concentrations of this species with counts of 97 on 12/10, 111 on 9/11 and 42 on 9/12 (IMS). One reason for this may be the warm water discharges into the ponds which could provide particularly suitable feeding conditions as winter approaches. Away from the Dee, singletons were on the Clwyd Estuary S of Rhyl on 22/02 and from 4/10 to 16/11 (AHJ, WRM); and Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog had 11 on 19/01, 9 on 15/03, and 5-7 on various dates from 9/11 to 7/12 (MD, MGW, SD). The only record of breeding was juveniles among a count of 10 at Shotton Paper Mill pools on 14/08 (IMS).

Monthly WeBS counts for selected sites:

(SV)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Conwy	2	4			1					3		3
Connah's Quay NR	9			2					23	2		
Point of Ayr Fields	13	12	4						9	7		
Shotton Paper Mill										97	111	42

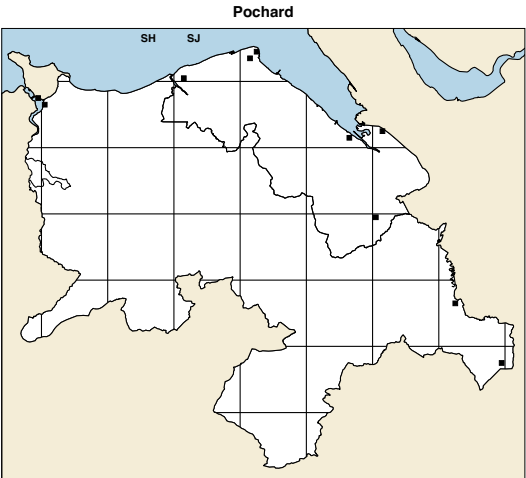
Pochard *Aythya ferina*

Winter visitor and breeding resident. Red List.

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

Denbs. The majority of records (98%) were from RSPB Conwy, the only sightings away from this location being singles at Worthenbury on 21/02 (NFr) and 4 at Fenn's Moss on 23/04 (HMB). At RSPB Conwy small numbers were present throughout Jan and Feb with a maximum of 10 on 2/01 (GaHo, pRCo, JHg); 1 on 3-5/04 was the last of spring (TGP, HMB). The first of autumn was 1 on 4/10 and small numbers usually in single figures were present for the remainder of the year with a maximum of 12 on 29/12 (ACm, pRCo, JHg).

Flints. Present in very small numbers at various sites. The maximum for the year and the only count in double figures was 16 at Shotwick Fields/RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands



HWYADEN BENGOGH

(PO)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	4	6
Maximum count	12	16
Av max count 2004-14	10	19
Number of records	100	21
% of BirdTrack lists	7.4	0.5
Density	0.02	0.16

on 11/01 (NDu). There were 1-2 at Rhyl Brickworks pond from 3/01–19/02 (AHJ, DCR, AcG); 1-2 at Talacre and Gwespyr from 15/01-17/03 (JuR, pJR, pJRE) and 2 at Connah's Quay NR on 22/04 (GRMP). The only two records from later in the year were 2 at Talacre on 3/09 (pJRE) and 1 at Fagl Lane GP on 11/11 (KD).

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*

HWYADEN GOPOG

Resident breeder and winter visitor. Amber List.

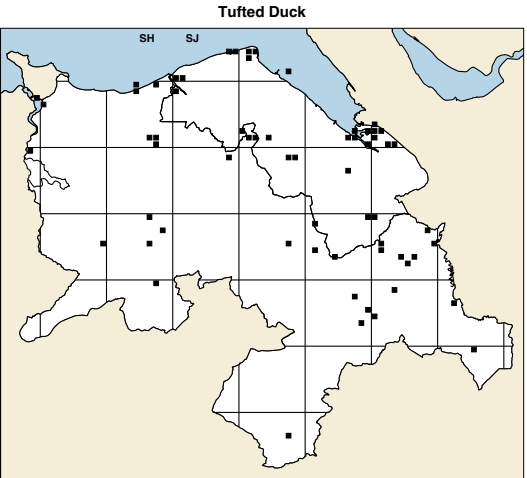
Our commonest diving duck on inland waters, this species is widely distributed on many inland and coastal water bodies though it favours freshwater habitats. It was recorded in all months of the year from both counties.

Denbs. Some 74% of records were from RSPB Conwy, this species being recorded there throughout the year where numbers were modest, with few counts into double figures, the maximum count was 17 on 13/07 (JHg). The maximum count for the county was 31 at Llyn Brenig on 12/07 (SD); and 29 at Hanmer on 13/11 (DaF) was another notable record. There were no records of breeding.

Flints. Recorded from various sites around the Dee Estuary where freshwater lakes and pools provide suitable habitat, and eleven inland locations. Numbers were somewhat greater than last year, the maximum count being 40% greater than the long term average. The most favoured sites were Shotwick and Shotton Paper Mill. At Shotwick WeBS counts were somewhat lower than in 2013 and a maximum of 88 was noted on 9/11 (AnWe); while at Shotton Paper Mill significant numbers were present from late Jul to the end of the year and a maximum of 110 was recorded on 14/08 (IMS - see table below). Other regularly used locations included the Fly ash lagoon at Connah's Quay NR though holding

Monthly maximum counts, including from WeBS, for selected sites:

(TU)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Conwy	10	6	8	7	2	9	1	1	2	5	20	4
Hanmer	13	2								12	29	1
Shotwick	19	6		23	12	19	24	23	39	66	88	
Shotton Paper Mill					26		73	110	85	79	52	64
Ddol Resvoir	44		58							37	41	38



somewhat smaller numbers (GEM). The various lakes at Talacre and on Warren Farm also held small numbers particularly during Jan-Apr and Sept-Dec (pJR, pJRE). Away from the Dee significant numbers were recorded at Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog with 44 on 19/01, 58 on 15/03 and 25-41 on various dates from 12/10 to 7/12 (MD, SD). Rhyl Brickworks had a maximum of 20+ on 19/02 and greater numbers particularly from Aug to the end of the year including a maximum of 26 on 4/12 (WRM). Fagl Lane GP at Hope had 29 on 1/04 and 21 on 31/12 (GNR, Nhu) and 40 were there on 26/03 (KD).

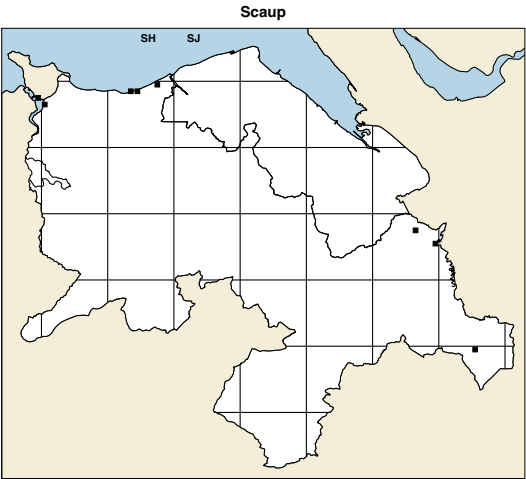
Scaup *Aythya marila*

Winter visitor. Amber List. WBAP.

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

Usually seen in small numbers on coastal waters wintering on estuaries, it also occasionally frequents inland pools and lakes.

Denbs. RSPB Conwy provided 94% of all records with 1-3 present from 1/01 to 8/03, then 2 until 17/03 and 1 until 13/06. The first record of autumn was 1 on 12/08, then 1 was present from 24/09 to 18/11 (pRCo, JHg). Away from RSPB Conwy 2 were at Pensarn from 1/01 to 13/01 and 1 until 16/02 (AHJ, KS); 2 at Rossett on 2/03; 1 at Trevalyn Meadows on 9/02 and 2 on 2/03 (NHu, StP); and in the winter 1 was at Towyn on 9/11 (SM).



Eider *Somateria mollissima*

Winter visitor. Amber List.

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

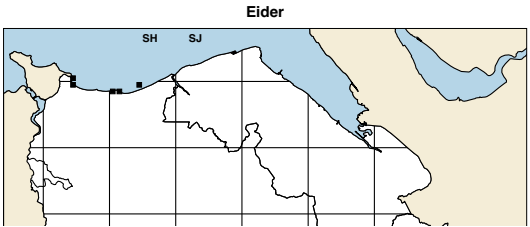
Denbs. There were records of 2-3 at various sites from Pensarn to Rhos-on-Sea

(E)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	5	
Maximum count	3	
Av max count 2004-14	2	
Number of records	6	0
% of BirdTrack lists	0.4	
Density	0.01	

HWYADEN BENDDU

(SP)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	8	
Maximum count	3	
Av max count 2004-14	7	
Number of records	221	0
% of BirdTrack lists	6.5	
Density	0.01	

on dates from 6/02 to 2/03 (RhPc, RTe) and 1 was off Llanddulas on 30/12 (JNW).



Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis*

Winter visitor and passage migrant. Amber List.

Flints. Unusually for a species that is mainly found in marine and coastal habitats a first year male was seen at Fagl Lane GP on dates between 13/12 and 31/12 (KhD, NHu, GNR)

HWYADEN GYNFFON-HIR

(LN)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares		2
Maximum count		1
Number of records	0	9
% of BirdTrack lists		0.2
Density		0.01

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*

Winter and summer visitor. Amber List. WBAP.

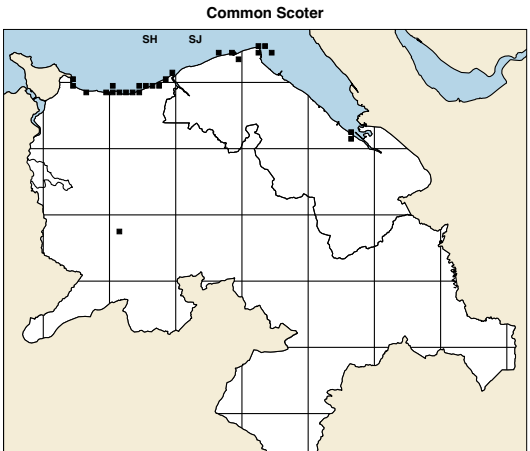
Seen in these months:											
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

Large numbers of this sea-duck winter in Liverpool Bay and substantial flocks were present off the North Wales coast throughout the winter months. Locations are dependent on weather conditions but the most favoured locations were from Old Colwyn to Pensarn with occasional records as far east as Point of Ayr. Birds seen during late spring and summer are likely to be non-breeders remaining after the main population has migrated to breeding grounds in northern Europe.

Denbs. There were sightings in all months, though few records and relatively low numbers during May and Jun. Numbers were high during Jan and Feb with several counts of 10,000+ and many of 3,000-8,000 off Llanddulas and Pensarn during this

MOR HWYADEN DDU

(CX)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Abundant	Very common
Number of 1 km squares	17	9
Maximum count	20000	12000
Av max count 2004-14	11182	2248
Number of records	120	20
% of BirdTrack lists	5.7	1.8
Density	171.89	184.62



period (NF, DCR, MTB). From Mar onwards numbers were more modest with counts of up to 3,000; these included 3,000 on 9/04 (the last count of 1,000 or more) and 600 on 18/04 both at Towyn which were the last significant numbers of the spring (SM). There were a few records during May, Jun and early Jul. However, 100 was the maximum count during this period and it was not until 14/07 when the first significant numbers of returning birds were recorded with 1,400 at Towyn on 14/07 and 2,000 on 27/07 (SM). Numbers remained at about this level until Oct when 3,800 at Pensarn on 12/10 (MaO) was the largest count of autumn. In Dec 20,000 at Rhos-on-Sea on 7/12 and again off Old Colwyn on 20/12 (HC, EQA) were the largest counts of the later months of the year.

Flints. The only record of substantial numbers was 12,000 off Point of Ayr on 19/01 (GR, JuR). Smaller numbers usually 1-8 were recorded until 25/05; 12 on 2/02, 20 on 17/03 and 200 at Gronant on 5/05 were exceptional (RE, GR, MPB). A single was at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh and later at Connah's Quay NR on several occasions from 17/02 to 23/03 and later on 11/05. Presence off Gronant on 28/07 (AHJ) was an unusual summer record for the location, and later in the year there were three records of 1-10 at locations from Point of Ayr to Prestatyn from 9/10 to 26/10 (MGW, MPS).

Surf Scoter *Melanitta perspicillata*

Winter visitor.

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

Once considered a vagrant, small numbers now appear to occur annually with the Common Scoter flocks which winter off the North Wales coast in Liverpool Bay.

Denbs. Up to 7 reported from the turn of the year until the last record of spring on 17/03 usually off the Pensarn area; up to 9 also recorded throughout the winter period from 12/09 to 30/12 usually off Llanddulas and Old Colwyn. The maximum count was 9 off Old Colwyn on 16/12.

Velvet Scoter *Melanitta fusca*

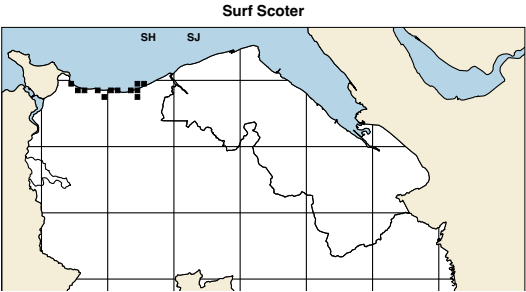
Winter visitor. Amber List.

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

Denbs. Numbers were lower this year than in 2013; up to 3 were recorded off Pensarn

MOR-HWYADEN YR EWYN

(FS)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Not known
Number of 1 km squares	12	
Maximum count	9	
Number of records	113	0
% of BirdTrack lists	1.0	
Density	0.05	



MOR-HWYADEN Y GOGLEDD

(VS)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	10	
Maximum count	8	
Number of records	38	0
% of BirdTrack lists	0.6	
Density	0.04	

and Llanddulas from 5/01 to 15/03 with a maximum of 6 off Mynydd Marian on 3/03. A single off Llanddulas on 17/07 was an unusual summer sighting. The first of autumn were 2 off Llanddulas on 28/09 after which small numbers of up to 8 were regularly recorded for the remainder of the year, usually off Old Colwyn, 8 at this location on 28/12 was the maximum for the year.

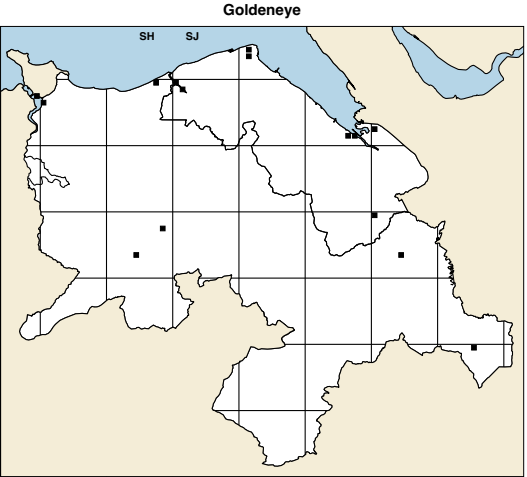
Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula*

Winter visitor.

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

During the winter months recorded in small numbers on lakes, reservoirs and occasionally on coastal waters.

Denbs. Regularly recorded at RSPB Conwy and Hanmer Mere. Numbers were generally lower than last year and well below the long term average. RSPB Conwy provided 87% of all records; birds being present throughout Jan, Feb and Mar. Numbers were modest with maximum counts of 6 on 4/01 and 17/02, the last of spring being on 30/03 (MA, JHg). Later in the year, the first of autumn was on 18/10, the majority of records being of 1 or 2 with maximum counts for the latter part of the year of 3 on 15/12 and 31/12 (pRCO). There were also records from Hanmer during Jan-Mar and Nov-Dec with a maximum of 11 on 18/02 (DFa).



HWYADEN LYGAD AUR

(GN)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	7	8
Maximum count	11	5
Av max count 2004-14	13	17
Number of records	101	46
% of BirdTrack lists	7.4	0.5
Density	0.04	0.07

Monthly WeBS counts for selected Denbs sites:

(GN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Conwy	5	6	3									2
Hanmer	7	11	4								2	2

Flints. As above, numbers were generally lower than during 2013 and below the long term average. Connah's Quay NR was the most regularly used location with 56% of all sightings, 1-3 being recorded during Jan, Feb and Mar and the last of spring was on 3/04, then from 29/10 to the end of the year. Other less frequently used locations included RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands, Llawndy and Warren Farms at Talacre and the Clwyd Estuary, the usual range of counts in all cases being 1-3; the annual maximum was 5 on the Clwyd Estuary S of Rhyl on 2/02 (AHJ). The only inland records were from Fagl Lane GP where up to 3 were present 5/11 to 25/11 (KhD).

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*

HWYADEN FRONGOCH

Winter visitor and breeding resident. Amber List.

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

This saw-billed duck favours more marine habitats than Red-breasted Merganser and is usually recorded from coastal locations.

Denbs: Widely distributed along the coast in small numbers. RSPB Conwy contributed 63% of all sightings and recorded the species in all months of the year though there were only sightings of singles during Jun and Jul. As usual the majority of counts were in single figures with very few in the lower teens and a maximum of 26 on 21/03 (pRCO). Elsewhere on the coast the species was recorded from Jan-Apr. The only notable count from this period was 20 at Pensarn on 19/01 (KS), the only record of more than 10. The first sighting of the autumn was 1 at Towyn on 8/10 (SM) with birds well distributed along the coast for the remainder of the year; numbers were somewhat higher from late Oct with several double figure counts at Kinmel Bay including 16 at Horton's Nose on 8/11; 24 near Kinmel Bay on 23/11 and 18 on 24/12 (WRM, AHJ).

Monthly WeBS counts:

(RM)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Conwy	3	5	9	9	2					4		15
Pensarn	10	6	2	3							6	

Flints. This species was recorded somewhat intermittently in small numbers at locations around the Dee and Clwyd Estuaries, particularly RSPB Oakenholt Marsh and Connah's Quay NR, and the various sites around Point of Ayr. A single was at Connah's Quay NR on dates between 20/02 and 20/03 and on 28/08, and 2 were present on 16/11; then 2 were at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 3/12 (PDS). At Talacre 4 were on the terminal pools on 4/01 (KhD), and 1 off Point of Ayr on 19/01 (GR, JuR); later in the year 1-2 were again on the terminal pools, the colliery lagoon and offshore on 8-9/11 (AHJ, GR, JuR). On the Clwyd Estuary 1-6 were present on dates during Jan-Mar, and Nov-Dec (DCR, AHJ); 12+ on the lower estuary S of Rhyl on 10/12 (JVHu) was an exceptional record. Three males and three females were on Rhyl Marine Lake on 2/01 (DCR). An interesting sighting indicative of breeding was a female with 4 juveniles on the River Clwyd just N of the A55 on 2/06 (DCR).

Goosander *Mergus merganser*

HWYADEN DDANHEDDOG

Breeding resident and winter visitor.

In contrast to the preceding species Goosander favour freshwater habitats and are usually found breeding on fast flowing rivers where there is plentiful fish prey and trees with suitable holes for nesting sites. In winter birds tend to congregate on lakes and meres. Recorded in each month in both counties apart from Oct in Denbs.

(GD)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	33	18
Maximum count	12	25
Av max count 2004-14	20	21
Recorded in BBS squares	2/30	1/14
Number of records	81	96
% of BirdTrack lists	3.3	9.9
Density	0.20	0.77

Denbs. In the early months of the year the majority of records were from lakes and reservoirs which in some cases hosted small flocks. Notable records during Jan-Mar included 12 at Llyn Gweryd, Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 20/01 (TeA); 10 on Gresford Flash, Wrexham on 30/01 (NB) and 10 at Plas Uchaf Reservoir, Llanfynydd on 1/02 (JVHu). Smaller numbers were also recorded at other sites. From mid-Mar an increasing proportion of records were from river locations with sightings throughout the River Dee/Alyn/Ceiriog system, the Afon Clwyd/Elwy/Aled system and on the Conwy. However there was only one record of breeding, a female and 3 juveniles at Trevor Uchaf on 5/08 (JoR). During Jun to Aug there were several records from Kinmel Bay with up to 7 present from 18/06 to 19/08 and two further sightings of small numbers here up to the end of the year (AHJ, WRM, HC). During the later months of the year virtually all records were of 1-2, the maximum during this period being 9 at Llyn Moelfre S of Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog on 22/11 (SD).

Flints. As in previous years the Clwyd Estuary was the most favoured location with records during all months of the year. Counts were mostly in single figures, 17 on 2/01 (SH) and 16 on 20/04 (AHJ) being exceptional during this period. From 22/06 to 5/08 there were a number of counts of from 12-25, possibly adults with well grown broods, 25 on the middle estuary on 3/08 being the maximum count of the year (AHJ), after which numbers reverted to single figures for the remainder of the year. On the Dee Estuary there were relatively few records: 2 at Connah's Quay NR on 8/03, 1 on 15/06 and 1 on 18/11 and at Point of Ayr 2 were on the colliery lagoon on 19/01, 2 offshore on 2/02, and 2 again offshore on 7-8/12. Inland, as usual there were significant numbers at both Fagl Lane GP and Hendre. At Fagl Lane there were 10 on 21/01 and 25 on 23/01; and from 5/11-12/12 several counts of 12-15 (KD, SD, GNR, MGW). At Hendre a single was present on 16/11 and 28/11, 6 on 1/12, 1 on 3/12 and 9 on 8/12 (MGW, GEM).

Ruddy Duck *Oxyura jamaicensis*

Breeding resident.

This North American introduction still appears to have been just maintaining a presence in spite of the national culling programme but may have finally succumbed.

Flints. Five were at Shotton Paper Mill on 14/08, 1 remaining until 12/10 (IMS) after which it was not seen again.

Quail *Coturnix coturnix*

Passage migrant. Amber List

Denbs. Three records on the same day (22/06) suggest a possible small passage: 2 singing males in different areas of Mynydd Hiraethog (DBY) and 3 at Alwen Reservoir.

Red-legged Partridge *Alectoris rufa*

Breeding resident.

As the table below shows most reports came during the first half of the year and then again in the final two months.

Denbs. Slightly fewer records than in 2013, but a small increase in the maximum counts which again came from Trevor Hall at the beginning and end of the year with 13 on 2/02 and 11 on 31/12 (LB) - 1 was also recorded on a GBW site there in the week beginning 23/11 (JuBa). The only other count in double figures was 10 at Ruabon Mountain on 19/04 (HN).

Flints. Recorded only in the first half of the year and only in ones and twos with a maximum of 3 at Nannerch on 25/01 (MGW).

Maximum recorded each month in each county:

(RL)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs		13	2	10	6			1	1	3	9	11
Flint	3	1		2	2	1						

HWYADEN GOCH

(RY)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares		1
Maximum count		5
Av max count 2004-14		5
Number of records	0	5
% of BirdTrack lists		0.7
Density		0.01

SOFIAR

(Q)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	3	
Maximum count	3	
Number of records	3	0
% of BirdTrack lists	-	
Density	0.00	

PETRISEN GOESGOCH

(RL)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	22	9
Maximum count	13	3
Av max count 2004-14	39	9
Recorded in BBS squares	5/30	3/14
Number of records	42	11
% records from GBW	7.1	-
% of BirdTrack lists	2.1	0.9
Density	0.14	0.05

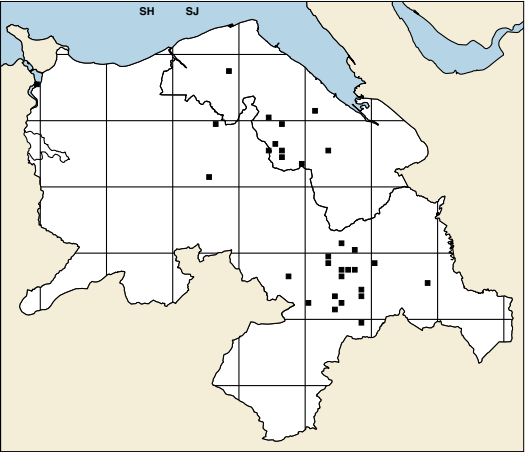
Red Grouse *Lagopus lagopus*

Breeding resident. Amber List.

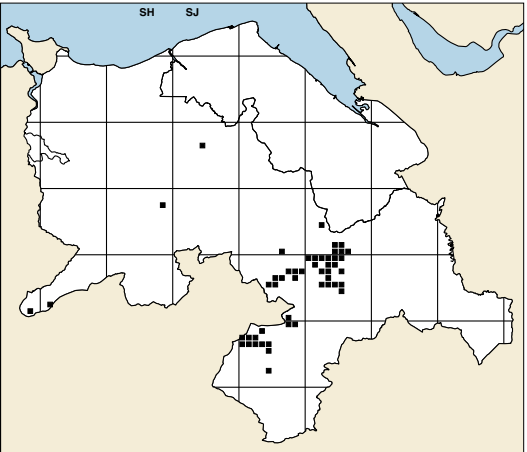
The number of records again increased this year but as in 2012 and 2013 all came from Denbs. The records were from all months except Jan, Jul, Aug and Oct.

Denbs. Almost all records were from two main areas with forty five from the Ruabon Mountain area and thirty from the Berwyn Mountain complex: all except one of the Berwyn Mountain records were from Feb or Apr, whereas the Ruabon records were spread through the year. The maximum counts from Ruabon Mountain were at least 10 on 5/04 (RSw) and 8 on 4/06 (JMJ) whilst the Berwyn Mountain area had a maximum count of 4 on several dates. There were 6 at Migneint, Cefn Coch on 4/09 (DSt), four records were from Llantysilio Mountain area and single records from Llyn Brenig on 19/04 (JNW), Migneint, Carnedd Iago on 25/04 (GTh) and Denbigh on 27/04 (JNW). There were no reports this year from the Clwydians.

Red-legged Partridge



Red Grouse



Black Grouse *Tetrao tetrix*

Breeding resident. Red List.

The number of records was slightly up from 2013, but down compared to 2012. They came from the usual areas and were mainly during Apr.

Denbs. The maximum count of 47 was recorded at Esclusham Mountain on 5/04 (RSw) and there were four further counts of 30-42 in the same area in Mar and Apr. The wider Ruabon Mountain area also produced the most records with fifty three. There were two reports from Moel Famau with 4 recorded on 23/01 (AIIA) and 4 again on 8/05 (RG).

Flints: The two records both came from the Clywdians: 3 at the N end of Moel Famau Country Park on 14/03 (GEM) and 1 displaying to the NW at Penycloddiau on 11/05 (EdW).

Maximum recorded each month in each county:

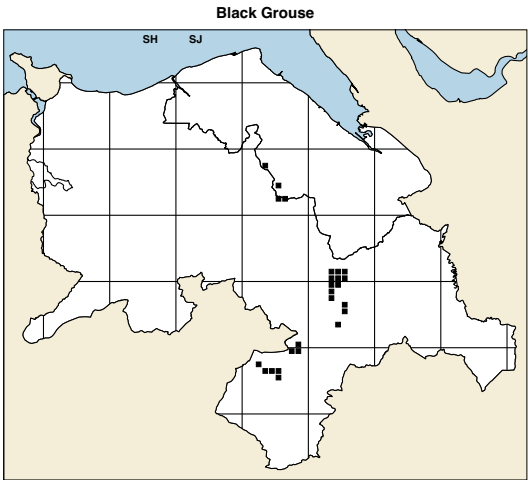
(BK)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs	4	19	42	47	30	3			10		21	
Flints			3		1							

Grey Partridge *Perdix perdix*

Breeding resident. Red List.

Denbs. The only records were 2 at Gwaenyog Bach on 16/03 (JNW), 2 at Bryneglwys, Plas-yn-Ial on 10/04 (per JLR – the observer commented that these were the first seen for many years) and 3 at Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd on 2/12 (SGD).

(BK)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	23	2
Maximum count	47	3
Av max count 2004-14	23	2
Recorded in BBS squares	2/30	-
Number of records	66	2
% of BirdTrack lists	1.7	0.2
Density	0.55	0.01



(P)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	3	
Maximum count	3	
Av max count 2004-14	4	
Number of records	3	0
% of BirdTrack lists	0.1	
Density	0.00	

Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*

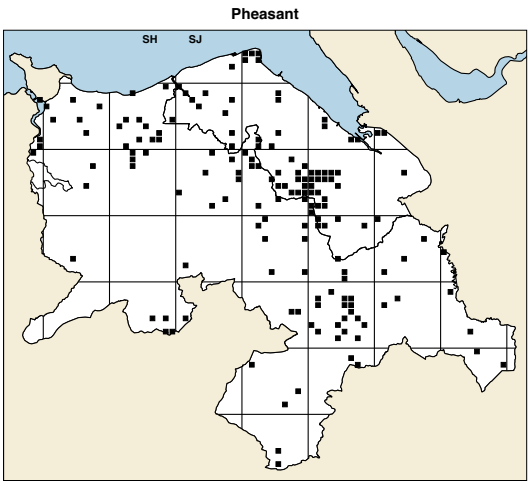
Breeding resident with annual releases in very large numbers for shooting.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. There were counts of at least 60 from Pentrefelin, Tanat Valley on 22/11 (SD) and at least 30 from Dawn on 4/05 (HC). BBS accounted for forty one reports and GBW forty two.

Flints. The highest count of 30 came from near Mold during a BBS walk on 20/04 (IMS). BBS accounted for proportionately fewer records this year (8%, as against 13% in 2013).

(PH)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Common
Number of 1 km squares	100	61
Maximum count	60	44
Av max count 2004-14	29	43
Recorded in BBS squares	23/30	12/14
Number of records	268	263
% from GBW records	16.4	31.2
% of BirdTrack lists	14.4	23.1
Density	3.03	4.59



Red-throated Diver *Gavia stellata*

Passage migrant and winter visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

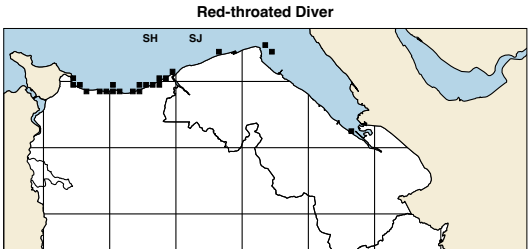
Seen in these months:											
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

Denbs. The number of records tripled from 2013. There were seven reports of 30 or more, with a dramatic maximum of at least 100 off Pensarn beach on 1/03 (HC). The Pensarn beach area accounted for twenty six of the records, with neighbouring coastal areas at Towyn providing a further eighteen. The last spring record came from Towyn with 2 seen on 27/03 (SM). The same observer and location provided the first autumn record with 3 on 9/09 (SM). Towyn also provided the highest autumn count, with at least 35 on 15/11 (SM).

Flints. There were four records this year, two in spring at Point of Ayr and an unusually late

(RH)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	19	4
Maximum count	100	1
Av max count 2004-14	52	7
Number of records	78	4
% of BirdTrack lists	4.5	0.5
Density	0.96	0.01

record of 1 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 11/05 (PDS). The only autumn record came from Prestatyn beach, with 1 during a force 8 gale on 21/10 (MGW).



Black-throated Diver *Gavia arctica*

Winter visitor. Amber List.

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

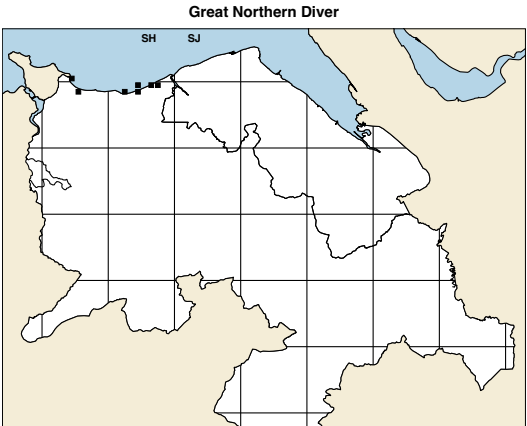
Denbs. All were from the coastal area between Colwyn Bay and Towyn and all were of singles, except for 2 at Pensarn on 3/03 and again on 9/11 (MaO).

Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer*

Winter visitor. Amber list.

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

Denbs. All were from the coastal area between Colwyn Bay and Towyn and all were of single birds, except for 2 at Pensarn on 3/03 and again on 9/11 (MaO). The last record in the early part of the year was at Towyn on 9/04 (SM) and the first in the autumn was at Llanddulas beach on 12/10 (GBH).



TROCHYDD GYDDFDDU

(BV)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	2	
Maximum count	1	
Number of records	4	0
% of BirdTrack lists	0.1	
Density	0.00	

TROCHYDD MAWR

(ND)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	7	
Maximum count	2	
Number of records	14	0
% of BirdTrack lists	0.1	
Density	0.01	

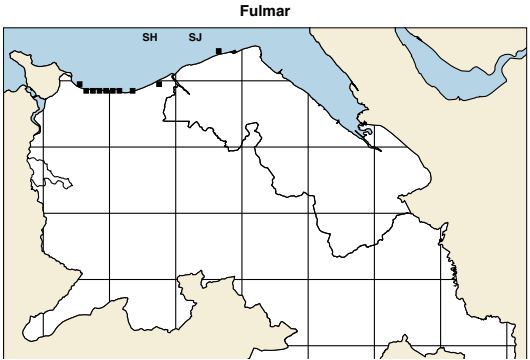
Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*

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

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

Denbs. The number of records represented a substantial increase on 2013. All were from along the coast from Colwyn Bay to Towyn. There were reports of 3-4 pairs from ledges in the quarry at Llanddulas from Apr to Jun and by the end of the year on 26/12 ten pairs were occupying ledges there (WRM). Elsewhere, reports were of 1-3, except for 7 at Colwyn Bay cliffs (with birds on eggs on 17/05 (SD)) and 8 in the same location on 20/05 (WRM). Singles were also seen on the cliffs in Sep, Nov and Dec.

Flints. A single report of 2 at Prestatyn beach on 21/10 during a force 8 gale (MGW).



(F)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	9	1
Maximum count	24	2
Av max count 2004-14	10	8
Number of records	29	1
% of BirdTrack lists	1.1	0.2
Density	0.11	0.00

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*

Migrant breeder. Amber List.

Denbs. Only a single record this year, of at least 1 at Rhos-on-Sea on 22/06 (NDR).

ADERYN-DRYCIN MANAW

(MX)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very scarce	Common
Number of 1 km squares	1	
Maximum count	1	
Av max count 2004-14	10	
Number of records	1	0
% of BirdTrack lists	-	
Density	0.00	

Gannet *Morus bassanus*

Migrant. Amber List.

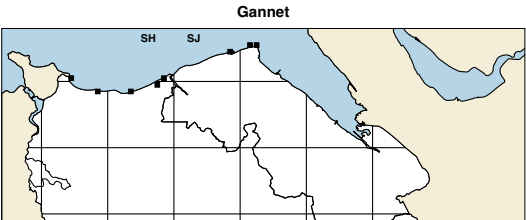
Seen in these months:												
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Denbs. Seen offshore at five sites spread from Rhos-on-Sea to Kinmel Bay from 10/03 to 20/10 with a maximum count of at least 50 at Towyn on 5/10 (SM). No other counts reached double figures.

HUGAN

(GX)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	5	3
Maximum count	50	5
Av max count 2004-14	61	80
Number of records	14	5
% of BirdTrack lists	0.9	0.5
Density	0.13	0.03

Flints. All five records came from the Point of Ayr / Gronant area, with a maximum of 5 on 9/10 (MGW).



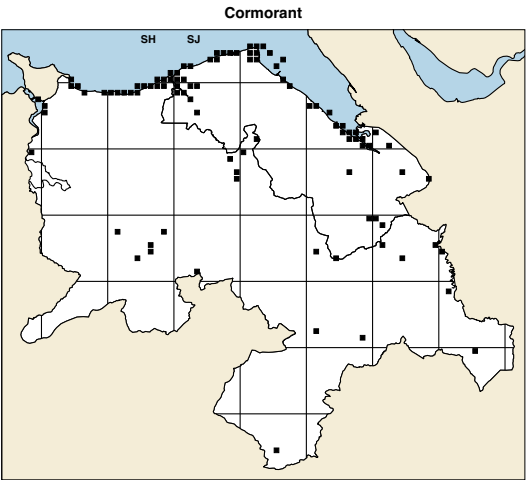
Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*
Non-breeding passage and winter visitor. Amber List.

MULFRAN

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. There was a large increase in the number of records with only c35% from RSPB Conwy. Most counts were of 1-40 and the highest counts were all at Horton's Nose: 50+ on 29/09 (SM), 110+ on 2/11, 120+ on 20/08 and 130+ on 20/09 (all WRM). Most inland sites had 1-6 but at Llyn Brenig there were 10 on 3/08 (JDa) and 12 on 12/07 (SD).

Flints. There was a large increase in the number of records for this county too. Most were of 1-90 with seventeen of 91-199. The largest counts were all from near Gronant: 206 on 7/09 (PMi), 214 on 9/11 (PMi), 250+ on 25/05 (MRH), 280 on 12/10 (ToM) and 291 on 15/05 (TP). Inland, the largest counts were from the Afon Clwyd, near Rhuddlan with 110 on 9/11 and 118 on 7/12 (JHB). A young bird photographed at Connah's Quay NR on 27/8 (GEM) had been ringed at Denny Island in the Bristol Channel on 8/06 the same year.



Monthly WeBS counts for selected sites:

(CA)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Gronant	35	182	76	26	125	112	88	130	206	280	214	
Near Rhuddlan							73	103		85	110	118
Point of Ayr	10	10	11		2	2		4	11	67	90	
Oakenholt Marsh	40	35	17	2	3	20	8	15	8	4	16	

Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*
Non-breeding visitor. Amber List

MULFRAN WERDD

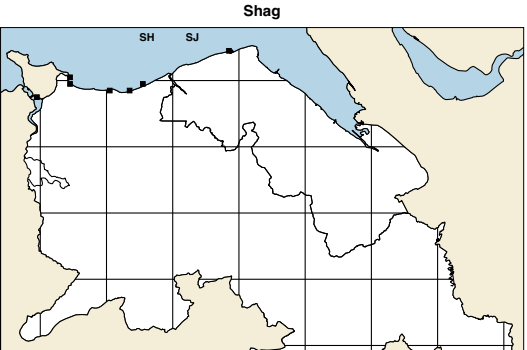
Seen in these months:
D J F M A M J J A S O N D
F J F M A M J J A S O N D

There was a slight increase in the number of records.

Denbs. The majority of records were of 1-5+ and the largest counts were 10 at Rhos-on-Sea on 28/01 (RRD) and 10 there on 6/02 (RhPc).

Flints. At least one was seen near Gronant on 27/05 and 4 were there on 3/08 (AJF).

(SA)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	6	1
Maximum count	10	4
Av max count 2004-14	4	2
Number of records	23	2
% of BirdTrack lists	1.5	0.4
Density	0.03	0.01



Cattle Egret *Bubuculus ibis*
Vagrant

CREYR Y GWARTHEG

Flints. A single had been at the English part of RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands from 3/09 to 13/12 and occasionally seen in the Welsh part (CW) but was seen at Connah's Quay NR from 5-7/09 (JDAr, RS). See colour photos. Accepted by the WRP.

(EC)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Not known	Rare
Number of 1 km squares		3
Maximum count		1
Number of records		4
% of BirdTrack lists		0.9
Density		0.01

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*
Resident and passage visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

CREYR BACH

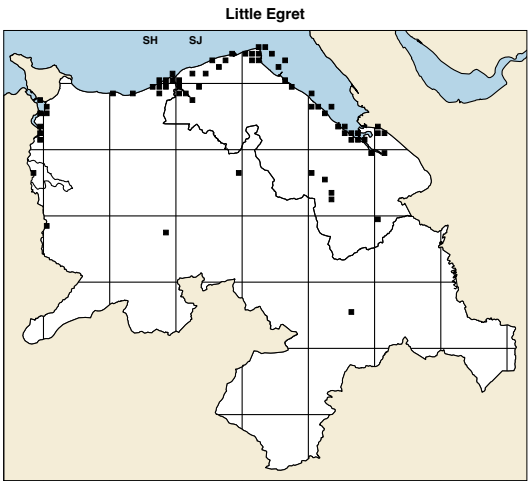
Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. The vast majority of records were from RSPB Conwy though birds have also been seen in over twice as many squares as in 2013. Most were of less than 10 with seventeen records of 11-55. The largest counts were all at RSPB Conwy with 66 on 4/08, 80 on 3/09 and 103 on 1/08 (all JHg). There was a record of confirmed breeding (occupied nest) near Bodnant Gardens on 22/04

(ET)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Common
Number of 1 km squares	22	47
Maximum count	103	53
Av max count 2004-14	44	40
Recorded in BBS squares	-	2/14
Number of records	264	371
% of BirdTrack lists	22.5	21.7
Density	1.15	4.26

(RS). This is the first known record of breeding in the county.

Flints. Seen in a few more squares this year with the maximum count slightly lower than in 2013. Most records were of 1-38 and the largest counts were all at Point of Ayr with 40 on 28/08 and 11/09 and 53 on 10/08 (GR).



Great White Egret *Ardea alba*
Vagrant.

Flints. A single was seen at Llyn Alwen from 20-25/07 (HC) and another was at White Sands on 8/09 (GR). Both accepted by the WRP.

CREYR MAWR GWYN		
(HW)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares		1
Maximum count		1
Number of records		1
% of BirdTrack lists		-
Density		0.00

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*
Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. Most records were of singles with fifty of 2-14. The largest counts were 15 at Bodfari on 10/11, 17 there on 2/12 (SGD) and 22 at a heronry with eighteen occupied nests at Mynydd-y-briw in the Tanat Valley on 10/04 (MTB).

CREYR GLAS		
(H)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Fairly common	Common
Number of 1 km squares	71	63
Maximum count	22	14
Av max count 2004-14	17	15
Recorded in BBS squares	5/30	4/14
Number of records	374	299
% records from GBW	11.8	27.4
% of BirdTrack lists	28.3	17.0
Density	0.79	1.50

Flints. Many records were of singles with one hundred and twenty six records of 2-11 (a much larger proportion than in Denbs.). The two largest counts were 12 at Greenfield on 26/12 (GRMP) and 14 at White Sands on 9/11 (GR).

Black Stork *Ciconia nigra*
Vagrant.

Denbs. A single was recorded flying over three different 1 km squares at Colwyn Bay on 20/05 (one by HC). Accepted by the BBRC.

CICONIA DU		
(OS)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Not known
Number of 1 km squares	3	
Maximum count	1	
Number of records	3	
% of BirdTrack lists	0.1	
Density	0.00	



Black Stork by Dermot Smith

Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia*

Rare winter visitor. Amber List.

Flints. All records were of a single in the Point of Ayr area between 25/09 and 3/10 (AHJ, GR, pJRE).

LLWYBIG		
(NB)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares		3
Maximum count		1
Number of records	0	8
% of BirdTrack lists		0.2
Density		0.01

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

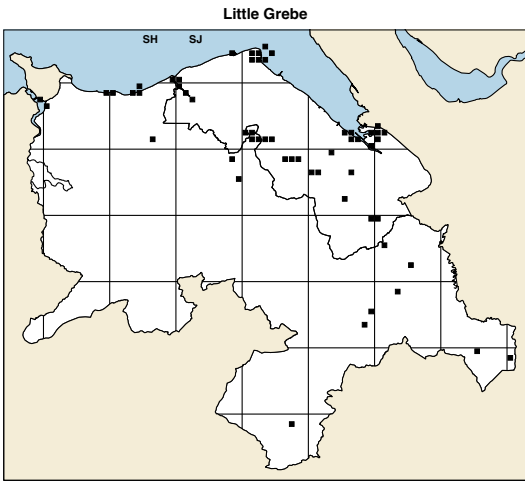
Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. About half the records were of presence only with most others being counts of 1-6. The largest counts were 7 at Stryt Las, Rhosllanerchrugog on 11/08 (PLa) and the rest at RSPB Conwy with 7 on 29/09 (WRM), 8 on 23/09 (MaJn), 8+ on 14/11 (WRM), 9 on 21/09 and 10+ on 22/10 (pRCo).

Flints. Recorded at rather more sites than in Denbs and than in 2013. Most records were of 1-11 and the largest counts were: 13 at Ddol Reservoir on 19/01, 15 there on 15/03 (MD) and 15 at Shotwick Fields on 30/12 (NF). There were records of confirmed breeding at five sites.

GWYFACH FACH		
(LG)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Fairly common
Number of 1 km squares	20	37
Maximum count	10	15
Av max count 2004-14	8	16
Recorded in BBS squares	1/30	-
Number of records	202	268
% of BirdTrack lists	15.2	12.9
Density	0.10	0.94



Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*

Breeding resident and winter visitor.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

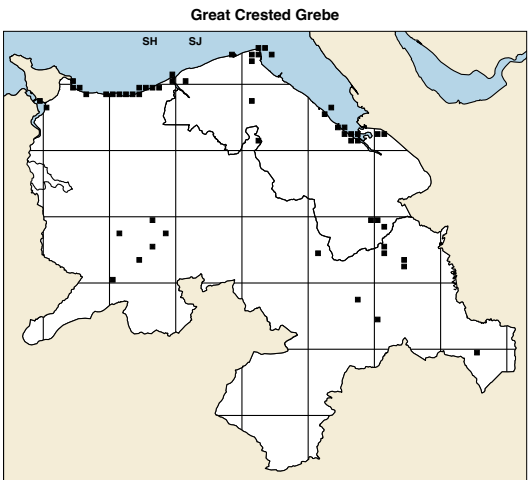
Denbs. Most records were in single figures with eighteen larger counts. Thirteen were of 10-20+ and the largest counts were 300 off Pensarn on 19/01 (KS), 40+ off Belgrano, Pensarn on

GWYACH FAWR GOPOG

10/02 and 1/03 (HC) and 50+ at Pensarn on 10/02 (MTB). There were records of breeding at three sites – at RSPB Conwy and two sites well inland.

Flints. The majority of records were counts of 1-10 and the largest were all at Connah's Quay NR with 11 on 26/10 (ABrd), 12 on 28/10 and 6/11 (PSH) and 13 on 26/10 (JHo). There was one record of probable breeding.

(GG)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	33	23
Maximum count	50	13
Av max count 2004-14	93	20
Number of records	252	91
% of BirdTrack lists	17.3	2.7
Density	0.83	0.51

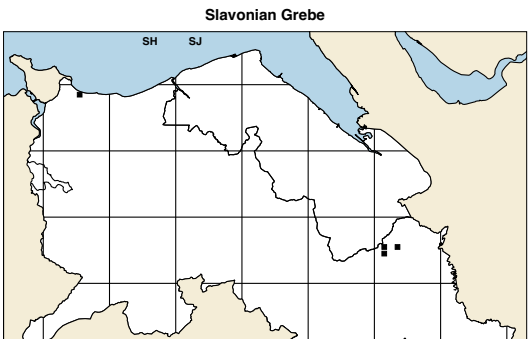


Slavonian Grebe *Podiceps auritus*

Winter visitor. Amber List.

Denbs. There were records during Feb, Mar and Dec. All records were of presence or singles in the early months and were probably the same bird which visited three sites including Llay Pool. There was one at Colwyn Bay on 6/12 which was probably a different individual.

GWYACH GORNIOG		
(SZ)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	4	
Maximum count	1	
Number of records	41	0
% of BirdTrack lists	0.9	
Density	0.00	



Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*

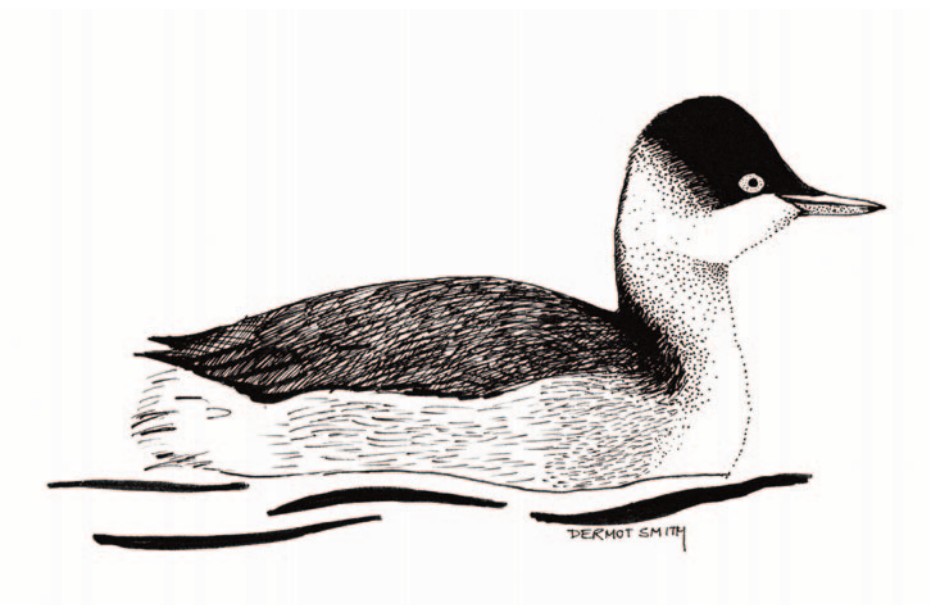
GWYFACH YDDFDDU

Vagrant. Amber List.

Denbs. A single was present at a quarry pool near Afonwen at both ends of the year, between 30/03 (AHJ) and 10/04 (PKi) then between 7/09 and 31/12 (JNW, MGW).

Flints. Rather surprisingly there were more just over the hills at the same time as the bird in Denbs. A single was at the boating pool, Shotwick on 22/12 with a maximum of 3 on 28/12 (JMj) remaining until at least 31/12 (see colour photo).

(BN)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	2	1
Maximum count	1	3
Number of records	33	11
% of BirdTrack lists	0.4	0.2
Density	0.00	0.01



Black-necked Grebe by Dermot Smith

Honey-buzzard *Pernis apivorus*

BOD Y MEL

Scarce summer visitor. Amber List.

Flints. One was seen over Connah's Quay NR on 16/07 (SS) being mobbed by Common Terns and Little Egrets.

(HZ)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence		Rare
Number of 1 km squares		1
Maximum count		1
Recorded in BBS squares		-
Number of records	0	1
% of BirdTrack lists		0.0
Density		0.00

Red Kite *Milvus milvus*

BARCUD

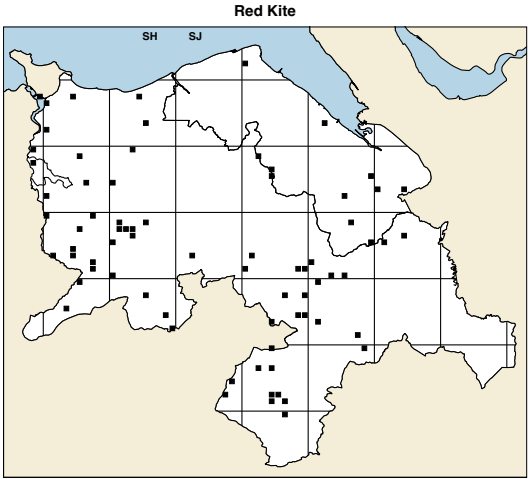
Visitor and breeding resident. Amber List. RBBP.

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

Denbs. There have been slight increases in the number of records and locations with breeding known to have occurred near Cerrigydrudion. Almost certainly there were breeding attempts elsewhere. Most records were of presence or singles with twelve records of 2-3. The largest count was 4 near Maerdy on 16/12 (SGD).

Flints. All records were of presence or singles from a slightly reduced number of locations compared with 2013. There was no evidence of breeding recorded.

(KT)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	64	10
Maximum count	4	1
Av max count 2004-14	6	1
Recorded in BBS squares	2/30	-
Number of records	84	11
% of BirdTrack lists	2.0	0.2
Density	0.13	0.02



Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*

WAOD Y GWERNI

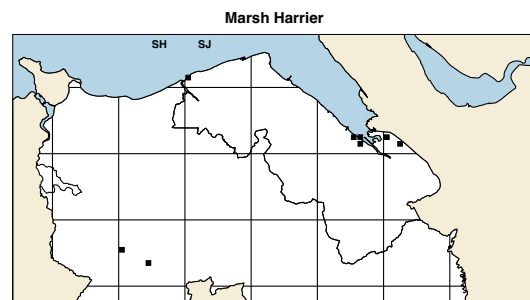
Passage migrant. Amber List.

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

Denbs. A juvenile was seen at Bwlch Gwyn, Mynydd Hiraethog on 5/08 (KaW) and presence was recorded at the Alwen Reservoir, nearby, on 14 and 15/08.

(MR)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	2	6
Maximum count	1	2
Number of records	3	7
% of BirdTrack lists	-	0.5
Density	0.00	0.02

Flints. Five of the records were singles with two of 2: at Connah's Quay NR on 7/12 (PSH) and then over RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 15/12 (PSH) when a fascinating spectacle took place. A Peregrine caught a Teal and one Marsh Harrier managed to take the Teal, the second harrier tried to rob the first and the Teal escaped!



Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*

Breeder and winter visitor. Red List. WBAP. RBBP.

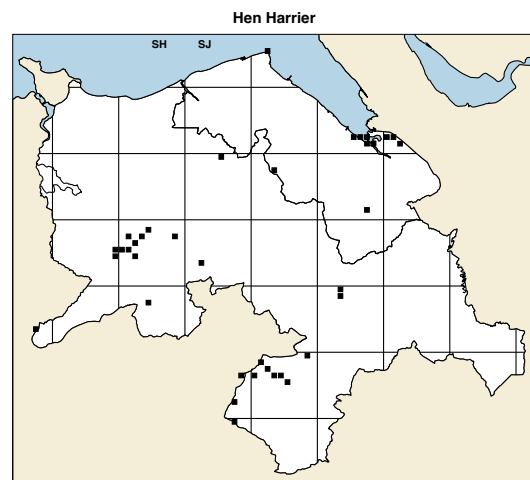
Seen in these months:											
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

Denbs. A near average number of records, mainly of singles – see details in table, below. There were two records of 2: a male and female together near Cerrig Coediog on 16/04 (KO) and another pair drifting over the moor near Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog on 24/04 (DSt).

Flints. There were no details of plumage with any of the records this year though there were twice the average number of records. There was only one record that was not a single: 2 were seen over White Sands on 7/12 (PSH).



Hen Harrier by Andy Davis



The occurrence of males, females and ringtails:

(HH)		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs	Male			1	4	1	1						
	Female			1	4		1						
	Ringtail							1	2				

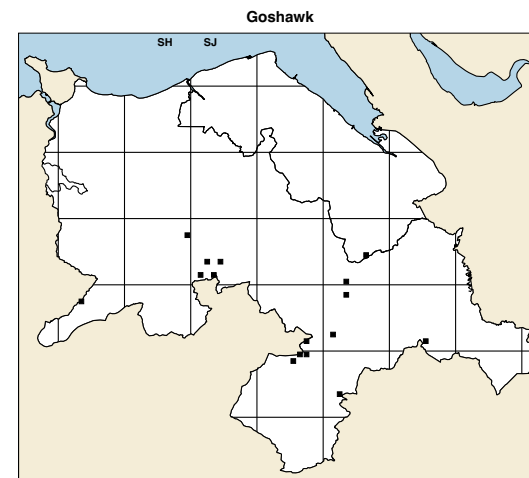
Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*

Breeding resident. RBBP.

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

Denbs. There were just over twice the average number of records. Does this mean that Goshawk were more visible or did observers go looking for them? Most records were of singles with 2 seen near Waen Uchaf, Clocaenog Forest on 22/02 (NGo) and 1/03, near Erbistock on 27/04 (PEM) and juveniles to W of Esclusham Mountain on 10/09 (MGW).

Flints. A female was seen near Bwlchgwyn on 4/02 (MGW).



GWALCH MARTH

(GI)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	15	1
Maximum count	2	1
Number of records	16	1
% of BirdTrack lists	0.2	-
Density	0.02	0.00

Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*

Breeding resident.

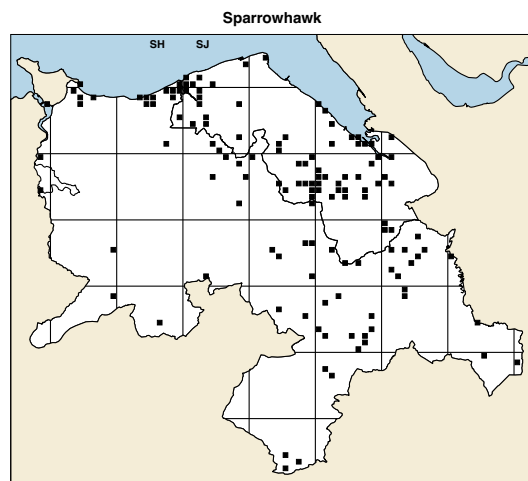
Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. There was a large increase in the number of records (more than twice the average) with a large percentage from GBW (from which there were many records just of presence). Most of the counts were of singles with fifteen of 2. The largest counts were 3 circling together, possibly two females and a male, over Towyn on 2/09 (SM) and 4 at Holt on 6/08 (NF). As in 2013 there is a large area to the W of the county with no records despite observers having been there (compare with the Buzzard map).

Flints. There were more records than the average with another large proportion from GBW (from which came many records of presence). Again, most of the counts were of singles with ten records of 2 (the maximum counts). One of these was a pair at Pantymwyn on 7/04 (GEM).

GWALCH GLAS

(SH)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Fairly common
Number of 1 km squares	74	60
Maximum count	4	2
Av max count 2004-14	3	3
Recorded in BBS squares	2/30	4/14
Number of records	463	235
% records from GBW	54.4	32.3
% of BirdTrack lists	6.5	9.0
Density	0.15	0.21



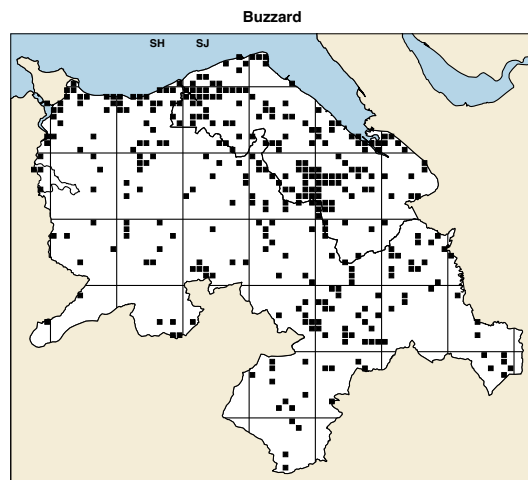
Buzzard *Buteo buteo*

Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. There was a large increase in the number of records to more than twice the average. Many were of presence only and most counts were of 1-4. There were twelve records of 5-6 and the largest counts were 7 at Berthlwyd, N of the Tanat Valley on 28/09 (WDa), 8 at Nant-y-Glyn on 4/04 with birds displaying (HC) and 8 at Pentrebychan on 15/12, worming on newly ploughed land (JLR). There were several records of probable breeding and three of confirmed breeding.

Flints. There were more records than average, some of which were only of presence. Most counts were of 1-4 with eight of 5-6. The largest counts were 7 near Bagillt on 2/02 (GRMP), 7 near Hendre on 5/10 (MGW) and 9 S of Rhyl on 2/09 (WRM). There were four records of probable breeding and one of confirmed breeding.



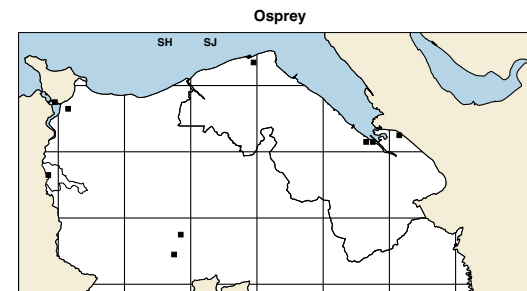
Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

Spring and autumn migrant. Amber List. RBBP.

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

Denbs. All the records for Mar to May were singles at RSPB Conwy. One was seen at Llyn Brenig on 2/06, fishing there on 15/06 (DBy) and 18/09. It is hoped that sometime soon birds will start to breed there. The largest count was 2 near RSPB Conwy on 12/09 (NDP).

Flints. The Jun record was at Gronant, the others at the inner Dee Estuary sites were in Aug. All records were of singles.



(OP)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	5	4
Maximum count	2	1
Number of records	11	5
% of BirdTrack lists	0.3	0.2
Density	0.01	0.01

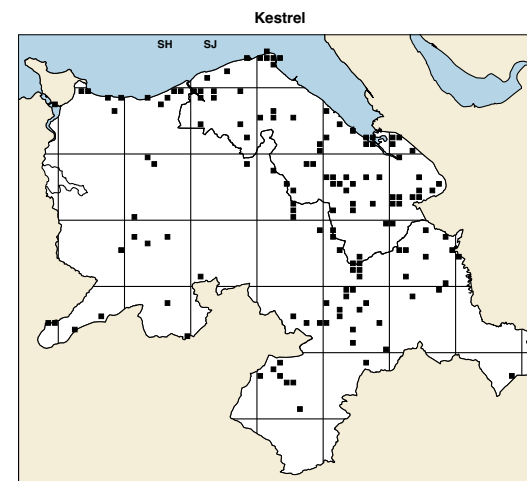
Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*

Breeding resident. Red List. WBAP.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. Nearly a 50% increase in records compared with the average number. Most were of singles and twelve were of 2, the maximum count. There were two records of confirmed breeding.

Flints. There was a slight increase in the number of records and most were of singles. There were nine records of 2 and the largest counts were 3 at Talacre dunes on 15/07 (WRM) and 6 nestlings ringed at Shotton Paper Mill on 30/05 (IMS).



CUDYLL COCH

(K)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	75	67
Maximum count	2	6
Recorded in BBS squares	4/30	2/14
Number of records	137	113
% of BirdTrack lists	3.6	8.2
Density	0.08	0.69

Merlin *Falco columbarius*

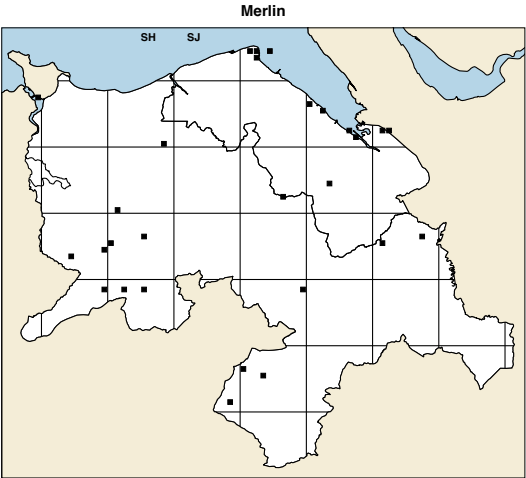
Breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

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

Denbs. Most of the inland records were during Feb to Aug and some were of birds in potential breeding habitat though there were no records with any codes of breeding behaviour. All but one record were of singles and the largest count, 2, was near Turpeg Mynydd, Mynydd Hiraethog on 15/04 (KaW).

Flints. The records at the start of the year were all singles in the Talacre area with two exceptions – one at Shotwick Fields on 11/01 (NDu) and one near Bagillt on 19/02 (GRMP). The last record of that period was at Point of Ayr on 31/03 (GR). Later in the year, the first was a female or juvenile chasing a bird near Mold on 2/08 (JVHu), then a single at Connah's Quay NR on 1/10 (CMo). There were two records of 2: at Talacre on 10/11 (GNR) and at Shotwick Fields on 28/12 during a WeBS count (GR).

(ML)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	17	11
Maximum count	2	2
Recorded in BBS squares	1/30	-
Number of records	23	16
% of BirdTrack lists	0.3	2.2
Density	0.02	0.04



Hobby *Falco subbuteo*

Passage migrant and summer breeder. Amber List. RBBP.

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

Denbs. The first record was a single at RSPB Conwy on 22/04 (pRCo). Eighteen of the records were of presence or singles and five were counts of 2. The largest count was 3 at Fenn's Moss on 31/05 (JoAr). The last record was a single at Penycae on 25/09 (JAJ).

Flints. The first record was a single (as were all but one other record) near Pengwern, near St Asaph on 13/05 (JPH). The last record was a single at Shotwick Fields on 21/09 (MGW). The highest count was 2 near Rhuddlan on 29/08 (SH).

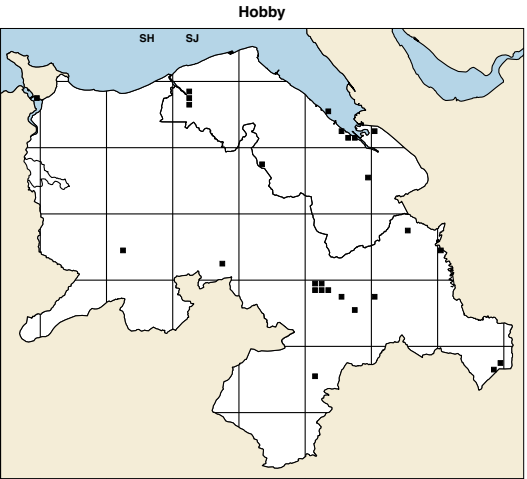
Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*

Breeding resident. RBBP.

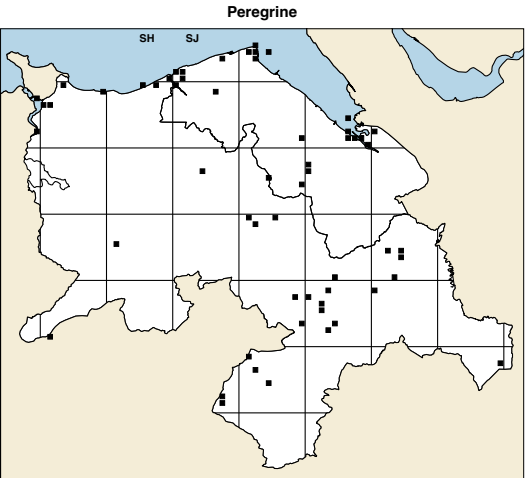
Recorded in each month in both counties except Nov in Denbs.

Denbs. Most of the records were of singles with fifteen records of 2. The maximum was 3: near Black Wood, Garth on 2/02 (LB), near Cadair Berwyn on 1/04 (PDS), near Creigiau Eglwyseg, Llangollen on 5/07 (NiSu) and at RSPB Conwy on 25/07 (pRCo). There were no records of breeding activity.

Flints. Here, too, most records were singles with eleven counts of 2, the maximum. There were two records of probable breeding at Connah's Quay NR. These were almost certainly birds using the nestbox on the chimney at the adjacent power station. Unfortunately, 4 were found dead on two dates and they were probably the adults and two fledged young. The corpses were too long dead to enable proper analysis for poisons so it is not clear if the birds died by poisoning by malevolents or accidentally by carbon monoxide from the chimney. There was later information that live pigeons baited with poison



(PE)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	36	22
Maximum count	3	2
Number of records	95	84
% of BirdTrack lists	1.6	3.4
Density	0.05	0.08



had been released in the Holywell area during the Peregrine breeding season.

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*

Breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

Seen in these months:

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

Denbs. In the early part of the year about half the records were of singles with three records of 2 with most coming from RSPB Conwy. The largest counts were all at RSPB Conwy with 4 on 2/01 (GaHo), 5 on 4/04 (pRCo) and 15 on 17/01 (pRCo). This last count is more than twice the average maximum for recent years. There were many more records during the latter part of the year and most were from RSPB Conwy and were of presence only or singles. There were two records of 2 and the maximum counts were at RSPB Conwy: 3 on 21/09 and 4 on 28/12 (pRCo). There were no records of breeding activity.

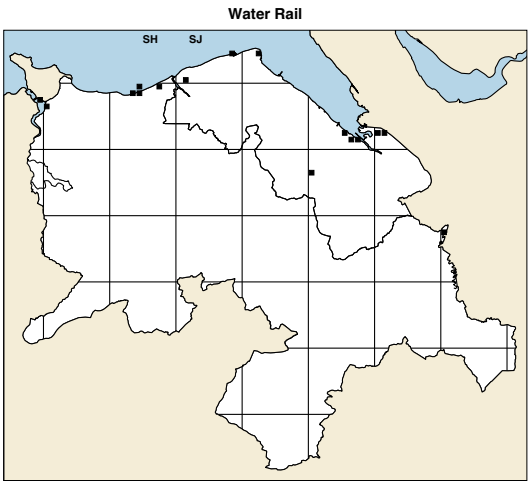
Flints. About half the records were of presence or singles and one was of a bird with material for building a nest on 22/03 at Shotwick Fields (AGJ) though there were no subsequent records there during the breeding season. Six records came from the *Typha* filled pool at Rhydymwyn where 1-2 were present from 24/06 to 8/08 (IMS) and were considered to have probably bred though no young were seen in the dense vegetation. In the latter part of the year the maximum count was 2: at Shotwick rifle range on 9/11 and at the Brickworks Pool, Rhyl on 28/12 (WRM).

Corncrake *Crex crex*
Vagrant.

Flints. A single was found in a garden in Rhyl and later found dead on 16/09. The body was photographed (JPH). Accepted by the WRP. The last record was also a corpse, in 2010.

RHEGEN Y DWR

(WA)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	7	9
Maximum count	15	2
Av max count 2004-14	6	2
Number of records	100	16
% of BirdTrack lists	2.6	2.7
Density	0.05	0.03



Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. They were recorded in mainly lowland areas where there are more likely to be well vegetated ponds. Most records were of 1-10 with thirty four of 11-30. The highest counts were all from Pentre Mawr Park, Abergele with 31 on 5/01 and 33 on 24/12 (AHJ), 39+ on 12/11 (WRM) and 41 on 9/11 (MaO). There were records of confirmed breeding at just one location.

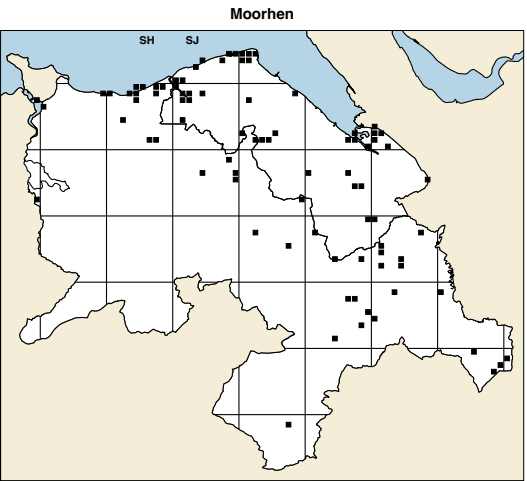
Flints. Here, too, most records were of 1-10 with thirty two records of 11-28. The maximum count was 52 near Llanerch-y-Mor on 19/01 during a WeBS count (MaBr). There were records of confirmed breeding at eight locations.

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

(MH)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Conwy	3	3	4	5	4	6	5	18	16	16		16
Gronant	5	3	5	7	4	11	6	3	5	10	4	
Connah's Quay NR	10	4	6	4	2	1	5	12	6	3	12	

IAR DWR

(MH)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Fairly common	Fairly common
Number of 1 km squares	46	41
Maximum count	41	52
Av max count 2004-14	20	20
Recorded in BBS squares	2/30	1/14
Number of records	461	283
% records from GBW	-	2.5
% of BirdTrack lists	33.3	27.2
Density	0.95	3.64



Coot *Fulica atra*

Breeding resident and winter visitor.

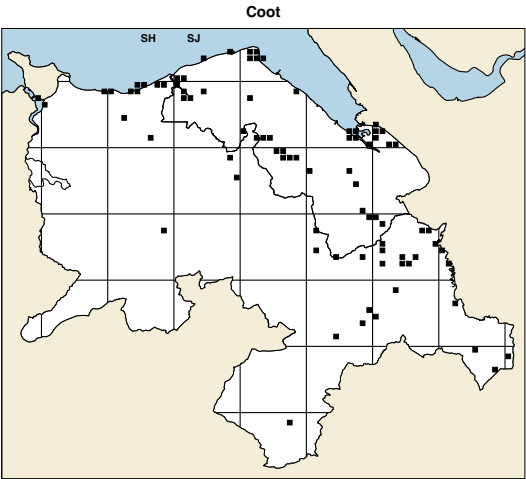
Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. It seems that Coot are rarely seen alone in Denbs. There were a few counts of singles and most records were of 2 to 38. The largest counts were: 40+ at Llay Pool on 11/02 (MTB) and 55+ at Pentre Mawr Park, Abergele on 25/08 (WRM). There were records of probable breeding at six sites and confirmed breeding at ten.

CWTIAR

(CO)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Very common
Number of 1 km squares	41	43
Maximum count	55	100
Av max count 2004-14	58	143
Recorded in BBS squares	1/30	2/14
Number of records	437	314
% of BirdTrack lists	33.8	26.7
Density	1.14	7.35

Flints. Most records were of more than 1 and were counts of 2-60. The maximum counts were: 65+ at Brickworks Pool, Rhyl on 16/11 (WRM), 71 there on 13/09 and 76 there on 3/01 (AHJ) and 100+ at Ddol Reservoir, Ysceifiog on 1/12 (SD). Probable breeding was recorded at two locations and confirmed breeding at ten.



Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

(CO)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Conwy	3	4	3	7	8	7	4	16	1	2		2
Connah's Quay NR	45	30	22	14	8	21	47	42	30	20	30	
Hanmer Mere	8	4	3						12	18	10	

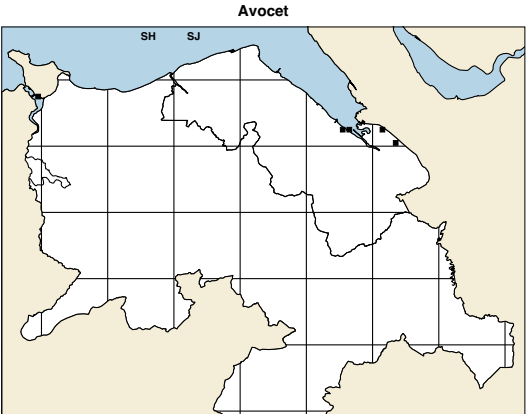
Avocet *Recuvirostra avosetta*

Visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

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

Denbs. The only record was 5 at RSPB Conwy on 10/08 (pRCO).

Flints. There were two records of presence, all the others being 1 with a single exception, a record of 2 at Flint saltmarsh on 31/07 (AGJ).



Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*

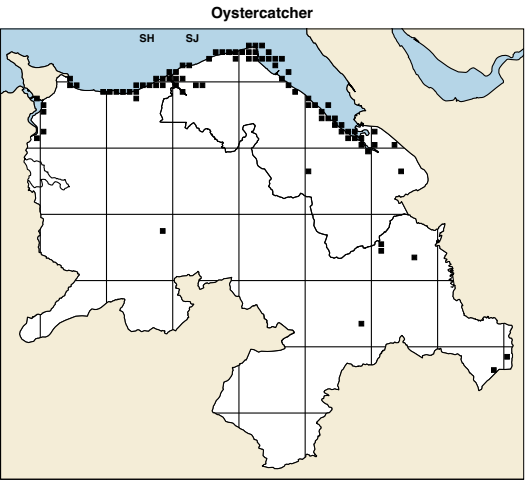
PIODEN Y MOR

Winter visitor and breeding resident. Amber List.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. Many of the records (55.1%), but fewer than 2013, were of presence, mainly at RSPB Conwy. Looking at the records with counts, there were 1-200 during the early part of the year with maxima of 230 at Rhos-on-Sea on 10/02 and 20/02, 211 there on 13/02 (all RRD), 500+ at Llanddulas on 19/01 (JVHu) and the last main count in the early months was 288 at RSPB Conwy on 20/04 (pRCO). Between 21/04 and 1/09 the counts were 1-42 then on 2/09 there were 100 at Llanddulas beach (AGJ). During the latter months the counts were 1-450+ and the maximum counts were 500+ at Llanddulas on 30/08 (JVHu) and 810 at Rhos-on-Sea on 7/12 (HC).

(OC)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Abundant	Abundant
Number of 1 km squares	31	56
Maximum count	810	8500
Av max count 2004-14	571	8191
Recorded in BBS squares	-	1/14
Number of records	430	418
% of BirdTrack lists	32.6	25.3
Density	12.69	813.68



Flints. There were large numbers present during the early months (ie from Jan to mid-Jun) with many counts of 1-3,000 and maxima of 4,000 at Point of Ayr on 17/03 (GR), 5,000+ at Talacre on 19/01 (DCR), 5,700 near Mostyn on 19/01 (MaBr) and 8,000 at Point of Ayr on 19/01 (JuR). The last fairly large count in the first part of the year was 700 at Point of Ayr on 15/06 (GR). From 16/06 to 12/07 most counts were 2-20 with the exception of 250+ S of Rhyl on 18/06 (AHJ). On 12/07 300+ were near Gronant (WRM) and from then on larger numbers appeared at different sites down the Dee Estuary and the largest counts were 6,000 at Point of Ayr on 12/10 (ToM), 7,000 there on 9/11 (JuR) and 8,500 there on 7/12 (GR). This last count was just higher than the average for the years since 2004. There were records of probable breeding at three sites and confirmed breeding at four.

Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites from W to E (some counts seem not to have been recorded for Dec):

(OC)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Conwy	69	20	33	288	54	10	114	179	134	147		52
Gronant	236	1500	475	550	96	360	120	600	112	270	92	
Point of Ayr	8000	1450	3000	2400	1000	700	500	4000	1500	6000	7000	
Mostyn Dock	2000		900	1500	1800	450	1700	4000	4500	5000	3000	
Walwen Fields	1050		180	70	21	5	100	250	700	680	445	
RSPB Oakenholt Marsh	160	60	200	8	100	12	130	420	200	3400	300	

Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*

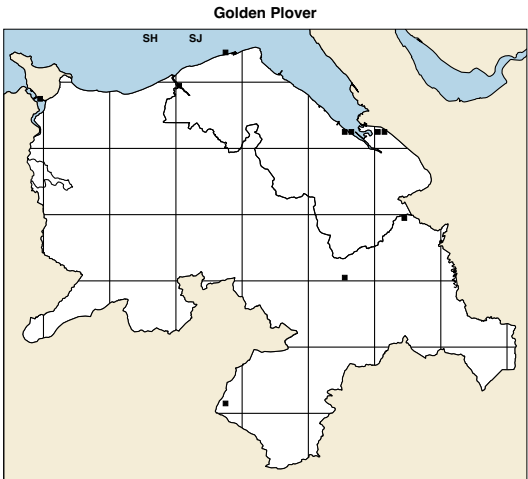
Breeding resident and winter visitor. Red List. WBAP.

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

Denbs. There were 35+ at RSPB Conwy on 18/03 (JoHn), the maximum count for the year. A single was seen near Llyn Lluncaws, Berwyn Mountains on 11/06 (WDa) then 4 near Burton on 22/10 (HL) and the last record was presence at Esclusham Mountain on 2/11 (ANHk).

Flints. There were considerably fewer records than in 2013 during fewer months. The first record of 146 at Shotwick Fields was the maximum for the year – all other counts were in single figures. Of these later counts the highest was 6 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 21 and 22/12 (PSH, JPI).

(GP)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Fairly common
Number of 1 km squares	5	6
Maximum count	35	146
Av max count 2004-14	25	147
Number of records	4	12
% of BirdTrack lists	0.2	1.1
Density	0.07	1.50



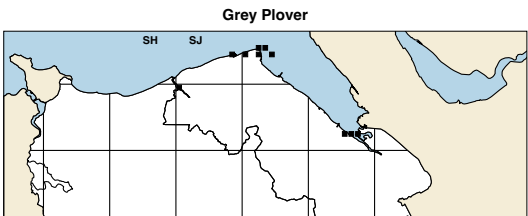
Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*

Winter visitor and passage migrant. Red List.

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

Flints. The maximum count in the early months was 3 near Gronant on 19/01 (PMi) and the last record of that period was 3 at Talacre on 30/03 (AHJ). The first 'autumn' record was a single at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 25/08 (PSH). There were no more than 8 until a count of 56 at Talacre on 8/10 (GNR). This maximum count was well below the average maximum for recent years. There were 50 at Point of Ayr on 12/10 (GR) and for the rest of the year the highest count was 30 at

(GV)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Common
Number of 1 km squares		10
Maximum count		56
Av max count 2004-14		162
Number of records	0	25
% of BirdTrack lists		1.3
Density		0.96



CWTIAD AUR

Point of Ayr on 9/11 (GR). The last count of the year was a single S of Rhyl on 27/12 (AHJ).

Monthly maxima at selected sites:

(GV)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Talacre		1	3						8	56		
Point of Ayr	2	1								50	30	14

Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*

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

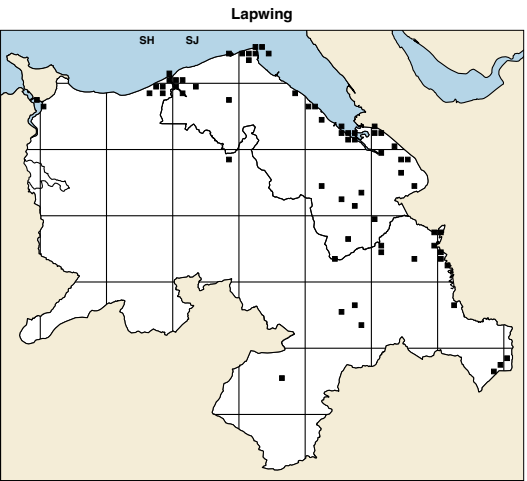
CORNCHWIGLEN

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. The majority of records (63.6%) were of presence at RSPB Conwy, in every month. Most of the counts were of 1-200, with eleven counts of 200-750. The largest counts were during the early months with 800 at Trevalyn Meadows on 25/01 (NF), 1070+ at Horton's Nose on 11/02 (AHJ) and 2,500 at Trevalyn Meadows on 16/01 (NFr). During the latter part of the year the maximum counts were much lower, all near Kinmel Bay with 200+ on 2/09, 220+ on 2/11 and 600+ on 16/11 (all WRM).

Flints. All the large counts were during the first seven weeks of the year with eight records of 1-9, thirty eight counts of 38-2,400+ and the largest counts were: 2,500+ S of Rhyl on 23/01 (DCR), 2,500 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 16/02 (DTr) and 3,000 there on 18/02 (CW). Between 19/02 and 22/10 the largest counts were mainly less than 150 with 220 at Connah's Quay NR on 10/08 (GEM) and 200 there on 19/08 (Eck). From 24/10 to the end of the year most counts were of 1-1,160 and the largest counts were 1,500 at

(L)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Abundant	Abundant
Number of 1 km squares	27	39
Maximum count	2500	3000
Av max count 2004-14	1775	2407
Recorded in BBS squares	-	4/14
Number of records	316	291
% of BirdTrack lists	23.5	18.8
Density	34.13	200.00



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

(L)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Conwy	66		7	10	8	7	15	20	31	8		102
Gronant		9									45	
Point of Ayr							3			30		
White Sands	1100	920					1			41	850	
RSPB Oakenholt Marsh	1000	40	1							4	200	

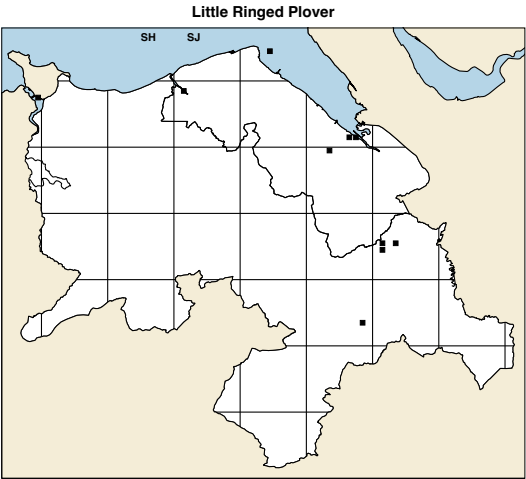
RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 16/11 (GR), 2,000 at Connah's Quay NR on 23/11 (GEM) and 1,200+ S of Rhyl also on 23/11 (WRM). During Apr to Jun there were 45 pairs breeding at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands (pCW). Breeding was also confirmed near Padeswood.

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius* CWTIAD TORCHOG BACH
Summer breeding visitor and passage migrant. Scarce breeder. RBBP.

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

Denbs. The first was a single at RSPB Conwy on 29/03 (pRCO) and the maximum counts of 3 were all at Llay Pool on 10/04 (StP), 13/04 (NHu), 18/04 (DuH) and 6/05 (MTB). There were no records of confirmed breeding. The last record was of presence at RSPB Conwy on 16/08.

Flints. The first was a single at Connah's Quay NR on 3/04 (KJ, BH). This site produced the majority of records with a maximum of 2 on several dates. The highest count was 3 NW of Rhuddlan on 20/04 (AHJ) from where came the only record of confirmed breeding, which was also the last record – a single on 5/08 (AHJ).



(LP)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	5	5
Maximum count	3	3
Av max count 2004-14	3	4
Number of records	25	22
% of BirdTrack lists	0.6	0.9
Density	0.01	0.03

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula* CWTIAD TORCHOG
Breeding resident and passage migrant. Amber List. WBAP.

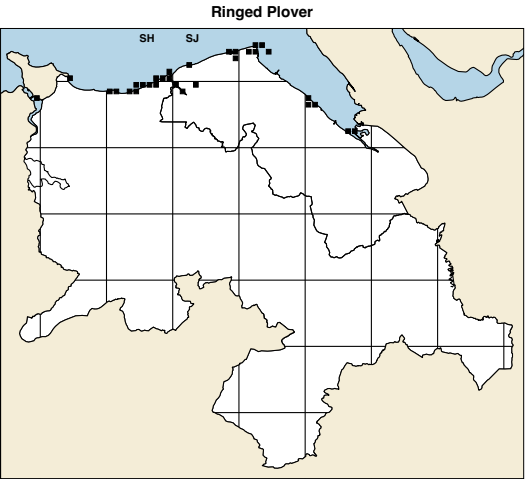
Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. About 36% of records were of presence, mainly at RSPB Conwy but including other sites along the coast. Most counts were of 1-10 with ten of 11-45. The largest counts were all at Kinmel Bay: 50+ on 25/11 (SM), 65 on 29/09 (SM) and 90+ on 9/12 (WRM). There were four records of confirmed breeding near Kinmel Bay and at

(RP)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Fairly common	Common
Number of 1 km squares	14	17
Maximum count	90	200
Av max count 2004-14	51	199
Number of records	69	99
% of BirdTrack lists	4.0	8.4
Density	0.64	5.77

Pensarn.

Flints. A small proportion of records was of presence and the counts in the first five months were mainly 1-35 with 38 near Gronant on 24/04 (GNR) and 19/05 (PMi) with a maximum of 140 on 28/05 (AJF). There were then counts of 1-32 until a maximum of 200 on 10/08 at Point of Ayr (GR). From then until the end of the year most counts were of 1-105 with a high count of 150+ S of Rhyl on 19/08 (AHJ) and 150 at Point of Ayr on 28/08 (GR). There were records of confirmed breeding from near Gronant and Talacre with a single nestling ringed on 10/07 near Gronant (pBH).



Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at selected sites:

(RP)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Gronant		35	32		38	8	32	60	4		11	
Point of Ayr	10			4		4		200	50	80		

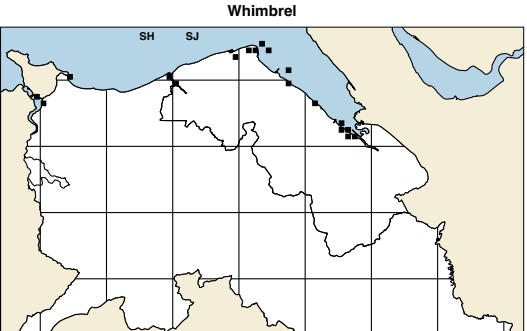
Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* COEGLFINIR
Passage migrant and summer visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

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

Denbs. The first of many records from RSPB Conwy (from where 93.6% of records originated) was a single on 4/04 (pRCO). There were 1-3 seen there until 7 were counted on 30/04 (pRCO). The largest counts were within very tight time periods. There were 16 recorded on 2-3/05 and 29 on 2/05. Numbers dropped to a maximum of 6 on 10/05 then 21 were seen on 2/06 (ZH) after which there were 1-5 until the last record of a single on 11/09 (pRCO). The most recorded at other sites was 2.

Flints. Whereas the Whimbrel was mainly a spring migrant in Denbs the

(WM)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	4	104
Maximum count	29	18
Av max count 2004-14	22	25
Number of records	79	34
% of BirdTrack lists	2.3	0.7
Density	0.06	0.43



'large' numbers here were in autumn. The first record was of presence at Gronant on 17/04 and totals of 1-5 were counted until 10/08 when 18 were at Point of Ayr (GR). After that there were five records of 1-4 and the last was a single at Talacre on 10/09 (MGW).

Curlew *Numenius arquata*

GYLFINIR

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

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. There was an increase in actual counts this year as the proportion of records of presence at RSPB Conwy dropped from 56.1% in 2013 to 45.5% in 2014. There were a few records of presence elsewhere. The larger counts were in the early months compared with 2013 – most records from the start of the year until 13/03 were 1-33 with 100 at RSPB Conwy on 2/01 (GaHo). There were 114 there on 16/03 and records of 1-7 with occasional increases to 65+ (JoHu) on 18/03 and 80+ on 12/04 (EdDJ) then 1-12 until 26/06 with occasional counts of up to 55. There were 130+ at RSPB Conwy on 27/06 (WRM) and the maximum count for the year was 410 on 23/07 (pRCO) after which there was a period with counts of 1-200+ until 28/10 with maxima of 200+ on 1/09, 300+ on 13/09 (pRCO) and 260+ on 16/09 (WRM). There were 134 at RSPB Conwy on 29/10 after which numbers dropped to 1-60 until the end of the year. Other coastal sites recorded up to 70+ (at Towyn on 30/10 by SM) and most inland records were just 1-8. There were seven records of probable breeding but only two of confirmed breeding: near Llyn Brenig and Fenn's Moss.

Flints. The early months (Jan to May) had eighty two records of 1-20, seventy two of 21-400 and the largest counts were all at Point of Ayr with 500 on 17/03, 550 on 31/03 and 700 on 16/03 (all GR). Between mid-Apr and mid-Jul there were 1-220 then on 13/07 there were 1,000 at Point of Ayr (GR) followed by 1,500 there on 10/08 (GR), the maximum for the year though

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

(CU)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Conwy	96	62	114	18	1	33	342	419	351	329		25
Point of Ayr	400	350	700	220	109	200	1000	1500	1000	1500	700	
RSPB Oakenholt Marsh	80	30	30	2	2	3	24	30	60	20	40	

there were other counts of 1,000 on 28/08, 7/09 and 11/09, all at Point of Ayr (GR). There was then a quiet month with 1-90 until 12/10 when 1,500 were again at Point of Ayr (GR). From mid-Oct to the end of the year counts were mainly less than 100 but ranging from 1-400. There was one record of possible breeding near Trelawnyd.

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*

RHOSTOG GYNFFONDDU

Resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. All but five records were from RSPB Conwy. During Jan to May most records were of presence or 1-19 with maxima of 50 on 2/01 (GaHo) and 45 on 24/04 (pRCO). Jun to 18/07 produced counts of 1-7 then on 19/07 there were 33. From mid-Jul to 22/09 most counts were 1-36 with 42 on 25/07 (pRCO). The maximum for the year was 90 on 23/09 (MaJn) followed by counts of 1-43 until the end of the year. Nearby Llansanffraid Glan Conwy had 20+ on 27/09 (DCR) and other sites had just 1-3.

Flints. Numbers were much lower than in 2013. During Jan to Jun there were fifty three records of 1-250 with a maximum of 410 near Llanerch-y-Mor on 19/01 (MaBr). There was no clear period without the species in the summer with 1-120 during Jul and Aug with a maximum of 223 on 31/07 at Flint (AGJ). Numbers increased during Sep to Nov with most counts of 1-1,000 and the highest counts were 3,000 at Point of Ayr on 12/10 (GR), 1,200 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 7/11 (GEM) and on 20/11 (RBe) and 2,500 at Point of Ayr on 9/11 (GR). There were records of 1-150 during Dec with a high count of 500 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 26/12 (PSH).

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

(BW)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Conwy	9	6	8	5	2		1	10	19	25		23
Point of Ayr			2					7	82	3000	2500	
RSPB Oakenholt Marsh		6		15	15			46	40	80	450	

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*
Passage migrant and winter visitor. Red List. WBAP.

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

Denbs. The maximum count was during the early months – 6+ at Kinmel Bay on 9/03 (WRM) and the last spring record was a single at RSPB Conwy on 2/04 (pRCo). There were two other records of a single (the same?) there during Feb. The first ‘autumn’ record, and all others later in the year were of one or more singles at RSPB Conwy from 16/08 (pRCo).

Flints. Records during the first half of the year were mainly of 1-6 with 15 at Point of Ayr on 19/01 (GR) and then 10 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 24/05 (JPI). There were just two records of 3 and 6 during Jun and Jul at Point of Ayr, so a quiet period, then 10 there on 10/08 (GR). There were few records until mid-Oct with 16 at Point of Ayr on 12/10 (GR), 25 at Talacre on 26/10 (MPS) and 50 at Point of Ayr on 9/11 (GR). Records for the rest of the year were counts of 1-6 at Point of Ayr or S of Rhyl.

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

(BA)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Conwy								1	5			
Point of Ayr	15			5		6	3	10	5	16	50	

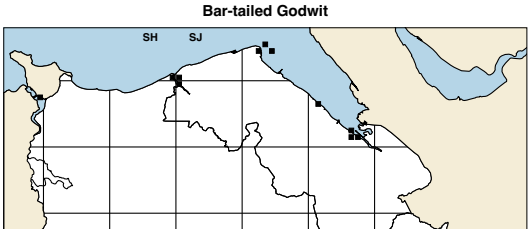
Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*
Winter visitor and passage migrant. Amber List.

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

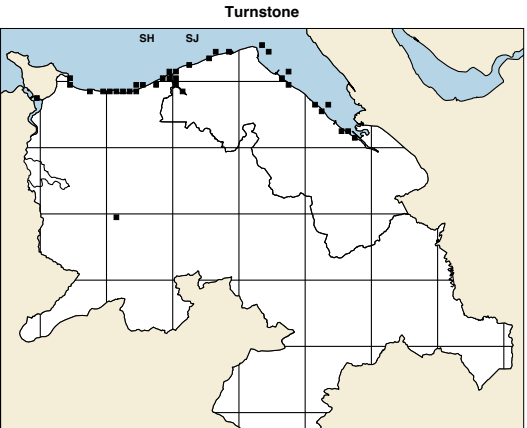
Denbs. During the first half of the year most records were of 1-40+ at sites along the north coast with the two high counts being 50+ at Rhos-on-Sea on 2/03 (WRM) and 111 there on 15/03 (JDa). There was one inland record of a single at Llyn Aled Isaf on 13/05 (JVHu). During May until the end of Jul the highest count was the 40+ referred to above at Horton’s Nose on 18/06 (AHJ). Otherwise counts were of 1-20+. The first larger ‘autumn’ count was 170+ near Kinmel Bay on 27/07 (WRM). During the second half of the year there were counts of at least 130 each month and the highest counts were 300+ near Kinmel Bay on 20/08 and 215+ there on 2/09 (WRM).

RHOSTOG GYNFFRONFRITH

(BA)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Common
Number of 1 km squares	2	9
Maximum count	6	50
Av max count 2004-14	28	87
Number of records	13	40
% of BirdTrack lists	0.4	2.3
Density	0.01	0.76



Flints. Jan to Apr produced counts that were mainly 1-24. The highest counts were 30 near Rhyl on 1/01 (DCR) and 45 at Mostyn on 16/03 (MaBr). The last record of the early months was 15 at Mostyn on 20/04 (MaBr). There were no records during three months from 20/04 to 26/07 when 3 were seen near Gronant (SD). From then until late Sep most records were of 1-8 with 25 at Bagillt on 10/08 (MaBr). There were 23 near Mostyn on 25/09 (pSd) and 1-31 thereafter with maximum counts of 42 near Prestatyn on 26/09 (AOH) and 34 at Mostyn on 12/10 (GR).



Knot *Calidris canutus*
Passage migrant and winter visitor. Amber List.

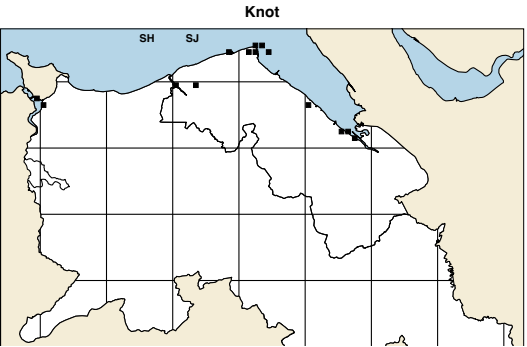
PIBYDD YR ABER

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

Denbs. All records were from RSPB Conwy with one of presence on 4/04 then presence again on 16/08. Most counts were of a single but 2 were seen on 22/09 and 26/09 (WRM).

(KN)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Abundant
Number of 1 km squares	2	12
Maximum count	2	700
Av max count 2004-14	10	5882
Number of records	21	46
% of BirdTrack lists	0.4	2.2
Density	0.00	14.26

Flints. The maximum count was very low compared with the average for recent years and the astounding 34,000 in 2012. During Jun to Mar most counts were of 1-50 with just two that were greater: 200 were at Point of Ayr on 19/01 and 100 were there on 31/03 (GR). Apart from 20+ near Gronant on 5/05 there were no records during Apr to Jul. The first ‘autumn’ record was a single, still in summer plumage, at Connah’s Quay NR on 2/08 (SS). Counts were low, 1-22, until mid-Oct with 500 at Point of Ayr on 12/10 (GR). From then counts were of 2-300 with maxima of 600 at Point of Ayr on 22/12 and 700 there on 9/11 (GR).



Monthly maxima from WeBS counts at a selected site:

(KN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Point of Ayr	200	40	50						22	500		

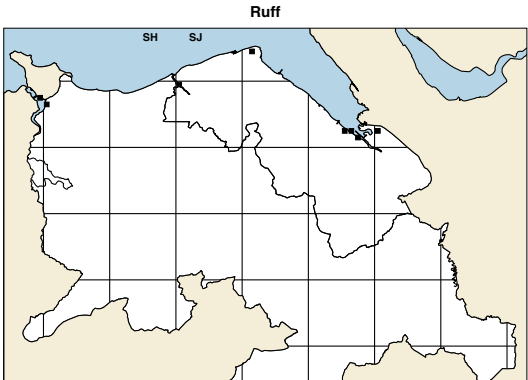
Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*

Passage migrant. Amber List. RBBP.

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

Denbs. There was a single, presumably the same bird, between 29/03 and 6/04 at RSPB Conwy (pRCo). All records were from this site and the first autumn record was another single on 25/08 (pRCo). During the remaining months most counts were 1-2 with 3 on 8/10 (pRCo).

Flints. The first ‘autumn’ record was 5 at Flint saltmarsh on 31/07 (AGJ) and there were mainly 1-4 until the end of Sep with a maximum of 6 on 17/09 at Shotwick rifle range (CMJ). The last autumn record was a single S of Rhyl on 21/09 (WRM). There was a very late record of 2 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 22/12 (JPI).



Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

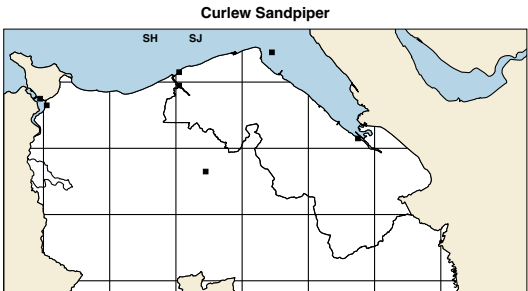
Passage migrant. WBAP.

Despite a considerable increase in the overall number of records used for this report there were fewer for this species and they were more concentrated in time. Maybe the autumn migration was much quicker and with fewer birds.

Denbs. All but one record were from RSPB Conwy. There was one record of a single on 27/04 then the first ‘autumn’ record was a single there on 9/08 (pRCo). Most records were 1-2 with maximum counts shown in the table, below. There was one inland record near Denbigh on 14/09 (JNW) and the last record was a single on

Monthly maxima in each county:

(CV)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.				1				1	3	1		
Flints.									4	2		



PIBYDD TORCHOG

(RU)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very scarce	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	2	6
Maximum count	3	6
Av max count 2004-14	2	5
Number of records	23	13
% of BirdTrack lists	0.4	2.5
Density	0.00	0.06

10/10 (pRCo).

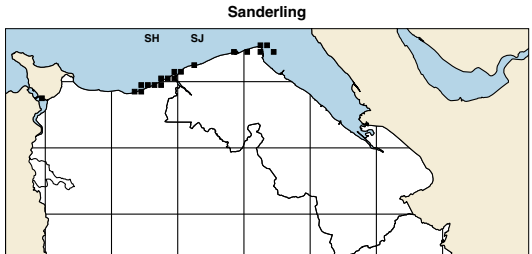
Flints. The first record was a single S of Rhyl on 9/09 (AHJ) and most records were of 1-3 with 4 in the same area on 21/09 (WRM). The last record was a single there on 5/10 (WRM).

Sanderling *Calidris alba*

Passage migrant and winter visitor. Amber List.

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

Denbs. During the first three months there were few birds present, generally 1-63 with the largest count of 600+ near Towyn on 16/02 (SM). The flock was seen in flight on a sunny day after having been disturbed from a pebble bank. The last record in Mar was 2 at Horton’s Nose on 29/03 (AHJ). The first ‘autumn’ sighting was 3 near Kinnel Bay on 20/07 (HC). Numbers were fairly low, 1-62+, until late Nov when 200+ were seen at Kinnel Bay on 25/11 (SM), 290+ there on 9/12 (WRM) and the last record of the year was 73+ at Towyn on 28/12 (SM).



(SS)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Common
Number of 1 km squares	11	8
Maximum count	600	300
Av max count 2004-14	157	156
Number of records	32	31
% of BirdTrack lists	1.3	2.0
Density	3.34	4.07

Flints. The first five months had records of 10-100+ with three larger counts: 200+ near Gronant on 30/04 (RTE), 300 at Point of Ayr on 31/03 and 2/05 (GR). The last spring record was 4 at Point of Ayr on 15/05 (RyE). There was an absence of records for two months and the first of ‘autumn’ was 70+ near Gronant on 26/07 (SD). For the rest of the year counts were mainly 3-90 with two larger counts: 100+ near Gronant on 28/07 (AHJ) and 141 at Point of Ayr on 22/11 (AHJ).

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*

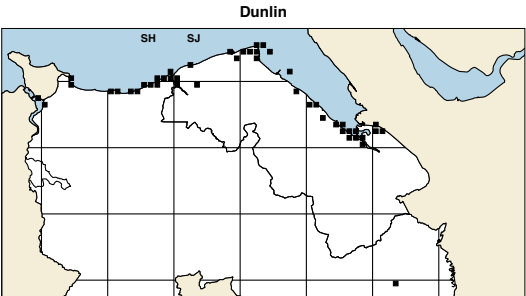
Passage migrant and winter visitor. Red List.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. The biggest counts were during the first four months of the year, mainly of 1-200+, with the largest counts: 240+ at Horton’s Nose on 11/02 (AHJ), 400+ near Towyn on 16/02 (SM) when the flock merged with the flock of Sanderlings (they must have been a splendid sight!), 230+ at Horton’s Nose on 22/02 and 830+ there on 25/02,

(DN)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Abundant
Number of 1 km squares	16	30
Maximum count	830	10000
Av max count 2004-14	334	4682
Number of records	141	205
% of BirdTrack lists	7.7	13.1
Density	6.72	509.34

then 620 near Kinmel Bay on 27/02 (AHJ). During May, Jun and much of Jul numbers were 1-6 then on 23/07 there were 27 at RSPB Conwy. From then until late Sep there were 2-33 and on 29/09 there were 50+ at Kinmel Bay (SM). From then to the end of the year there were 1-100+ and larger counts were: 150+ at Towyn on 8/10 (SM), 251 at RSPB Conwy on 24/11 (pRCo), 450+ at Kinmel Bay on 25/11 (SM), 400+ there on 9/12 (WRM) and 350+ at Towyn on 25/12 (SM). One was recorded in the centre of Wrexham, presumably flying over, on 22/02 (NHu).



Flints. Unlike in Denbs, the larger counts were later in the year. During Jan to May most counts were of 1-450. The highest counts during these months were in Jan: 1,000 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 1/01 and 800 there on 30/01 (PSH), 1,000+ at Talacre on 19/01 (DCR) and 500+ at Connah's Quay NR on 20/01 (RTE). The other large counts were 500 at Point of Ayr on 31/03 and 2/05 (GR). The last 'high', spring record was 140 near Gronant on 28/05 (AJF). During Jun to mid-Aug only 1-100 were seen, then on 17/08 there were 225+ S of Rhyl and on 30/08 there were 320+ there (WRM). For the rest of Aug to mid-Oct counts were 1-300 then larger numbers appeared. For the rest of the year most counts were 1-2,000 and the largest counts were mainly not on WeBS count days: 3,000 at Point of Ayr on 7/12 (GR), 3,000 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 21/12 (PSH), 5,000 at Point of Ayr on 22/12 (GR), and the rest at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh with 7,500 on 23/10 (PDS), 8,000 on 7/12 (PeHa) and 10,000 on 8/12 (GR). These counts were considerably larger than in 2013.

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

(DN)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Conwy			4	13	1			10	20	16		1
Gronant	420	250	29	1	28		14	75		80	189	
Point of Ayr	300			2			20	100	200	350	500	
RSPB Oakenholt Marsh	90	100	1				1	7	15	30	70	8000

Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima*

Winter visitor.

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

Denbs. All the records were from Rhos-on-Sea during Jan and Mar with 10+ on 2/01 (JDa). The higher of two counts in Mar was 2 on 15/03 (JDa).

Flints. Surprisingly there was one record of presence on 24/01 at Rhyl (StPe). For such an unusual record it is a pity it was not a count.

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*

Passage migrant.

Denbs. All the records were at RSPB Conwy and mainly counts of 1-5 with 6 on 13/09 (pRCo). The first record was a single on 6/09 and the last was a single on 8/10 (pRCo).

Flints. The records were from Rhyl or on the Afon Clwyd, S of Rhyl: a single on 4/10, 3 on 7/10 and lastly 2 on 19/10 (all AHJ).

Monthly maxima in each county:

(LX)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.									6	1		
Flints.										3		

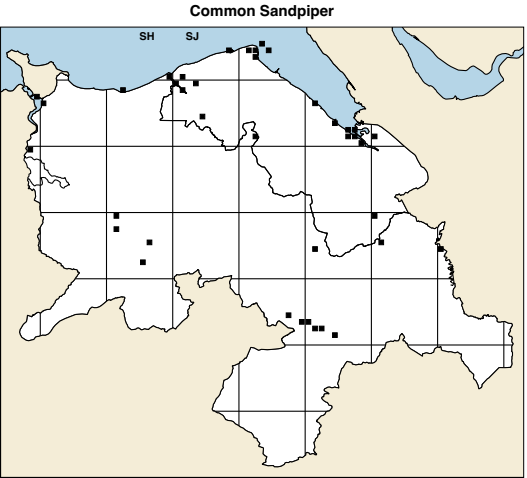
Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

Passage migrant and breeding visitor. Amber List.

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

Denbs. The first record was a single at RSPB Conwy on 31/03. This was the site from which most records (75.7%) originated. Most records were of presence or 1, with twenty one records of 2-4. The highest counts were 5 at Pentrefelin, Llangollen on 19/04 (SJHa) and the rest at RSPB Conwy: 5 on 23/04, 13/07 and 6/08 and 12 on 25/07. There were no records of confirmed breeding. The last autumn record was a single near Afonwen on 28/10 (IMS). There were three records of a single at RSPB Conwy on 6-9/12 (pRCo).

Flints. The first record was 3 near Rhuddlan on 17/04 during a BBS survey (RoE). From then until the last autumn record of a single S of Rhyl on 4/10 (AHJ) most counts were 1-4. The largest count was 5 near Talacre on 13/07 (GR) and the last record was a single near Rhuddlan on 28/12 (AHJ).



Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*

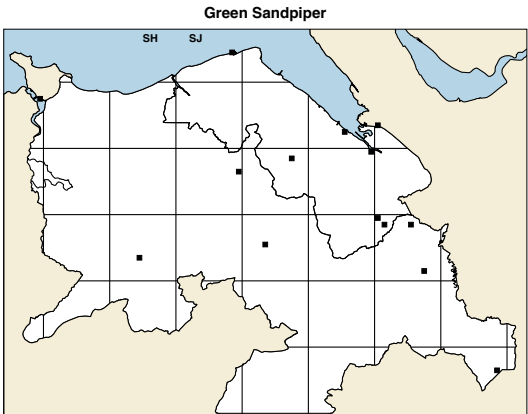
Passage migrant and winter visitor. RBBP.

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

Denbs. Most of the records (71.8%) were from RSPB Conwy where the majority of counts were 1-2 with 3 on 29/07 (pRCO). The last of the five early year records was a single at Fenn's Moss on 17/03 (JoAr) and the first 'autumn' record was presence, very early, on 18/06 at RSPB Conwy (JHg). The inland sightings were mainly singles with 2 near Llandymnog on 12/10, 29/11 and 7/12 (JDa).

Flints. A single was at Fagl Lane between 21/01 and 10/02 (KhD). The first, early 'autumn' record was a single near Gronant on 17/07 (WRM) and the others were singles apart from 2 at Connah's Quay on 30/11 (JPK) and 2 at Flint saltmarsh on 16/12 (RBe).

(GE)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	7	7
Maximum count	3	2
Av max count 2004-14	4	3
Number of records	39	11
% of BirdTrack lists	1.4	0.5
Density	0.01	0.02



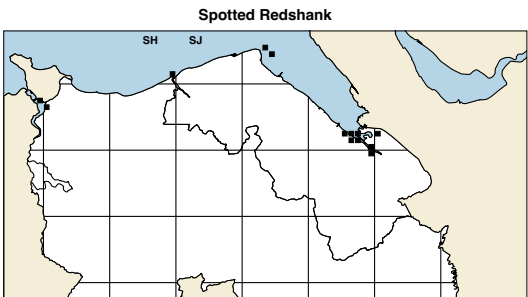
Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*

Passage migrant and winter visitor. Amber List.

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

Denbs. All records were from RSPB Conwy. The first autumn record was a single on 8/09 and there were counts of 1-2 until the last record of a single on 26/10 (GEM).

Flints. During Jan to Apr counts were 1-4, mainly at Connah's Quay NR where the last spring record was a single on 22/04 (GRMP). The first 'autumn' record was 2 there on 13/07. From then until the end of the year most counts were 1-11 with the highest counts of 12 on 16/11, 13 on 19/10 and 17 on 2/11 (all PSH).



PIBYDD COESGOCH MANNOG

(DR)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	3	10
Maximum count	2	17
Av max count 2004-14	6	13
Number of records	32	159
% of BirdTrack lists	0.4	2.0
Density	0.00	0.29

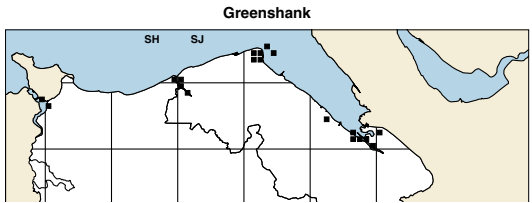
PIBYDD GWYRDD

Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

Passage migrant and winter visitor. RBBP.

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

Denbs. All but one of the records were from RSPB Conwy where the first of the year was a single on 13/04 (pRCO). There were just two records of 2 there and presence on 5-6/05 then a break of two months until a single on 3/07 near Kinmel Bay (WRM). The first back at RSPB Conwy was a single on 23/07. From then until 12/10 most counts were 1-6 with 9 on 27/09 (WRM) and 11 on 20/09 (AuTh). The last record was a single on 24/12 (pRCO).



(GK)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Common
Number of 1 km squares	3	16
Maximum count	11	14
Av max count 2004-14	5	24
Number of records	56	158
% of BirdTrack lists	1.5	3.4
Density	0.02	0.38

Flints. Most of the records (80.4%) were from Connah's Quay NR. In Jan to Apr most counts were 1-4 with 5 there on 8/03 (CA). During Jun and Jul the highest count was 8 at the same place on 28/07 (GEM). From Aug to Dec there were small numbers at sites other than Connah's Quay NR but all the highest counts were there: 13 on 25/08 and 19/10 (PSH) and again on 23/10 and 27/10 (KJ, BH), on 31/10 (GEM) and 14 on 28/10 (PSH).

Redshank *Tringa totanus*

Breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

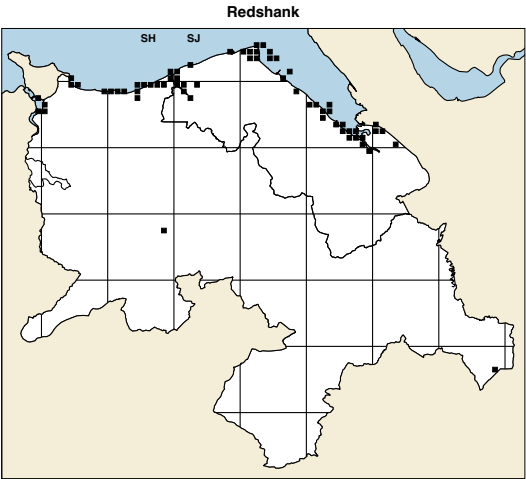
Denbs. Most of the records (73.0%) were from RSPB Conwy and most of them were of presence only. The counts during Jan to Apr were mainly 1-105 and the largest were 150 near Kinmel Bay on 16/02 (JNW), 295 at RSPB Conwy on 16/03 (pRCO) and 500+ there on 19/01 (MJW). During May, Jun and Jul the few counts were 1-40+ with three larger counts of 140-152. Through Aug towards the end of Sep the highest count was 200+ but from 21/09 there were bigger numbers and the highest counts were all at RSPB Conwy: 410 on 29/09, 460 on 6/10, 500+ on 9/10, 500+ on 29/11 and 520 on 22/11 (WRM, DCR, pRCO).

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

(RK)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Conwy	395	153	295	103		7	71	517	613	625		692
Point of Ayr	200	46	250	2		6	150	50	350	700	700	
Mostyn Dock	92		670	260			550	500	1400	1060	575	
RSPB Oakenholt Marsh	120	220	200	4	4		2	200	200	300	600	
Connah's Quay NR	29	28	83			2	550	650	800	93	100	

PIBYDD COESGOCH

Flints. In the early months, Jan to Apr, there were many counts of 1-400+ and the highest counts were 450 near Talacre on 19/01 (GR) and 670 at Mostyn on 16/03 (MaBr). Between 22/04 and 9/07 counts were just 1-60 and larger numbers started with 234 at Connah's Quay NR on 10/07 (BH) with further counts of 2-750 until 1,230 at Connah's Quay NR on 28/07 (GEM). During Aug to Dec at Point of Ayr there were counts of 10-700; at Mostyn there were 150-1,400 and the largest counts were from the inner Dee Estuary. At Connah's Quay NR counts were mainly 1-1,100 with 1,500 on 12/08 and 1,800 on 10/08 (GEM). At RSPB Oakenholt Marsh there were counts of 30-600 with highest counts of 1,500 on 9/09, 1,600 on 21/09 (GEM) and 2,835 on 9/10 (GR). All other sites had smaller numbers present. There were eleven pairs known to breed on RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands during Apr to Jun (pCW).



Jack Snipe *Limnocryptes minimus*
Winter visitor. Amber List.

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

This was a very poor year for records – were birds more elusive than usual or were there very few present?

Denbs. There was a single at RSPB Conwy on 5/01 2 at Llyn Brenig on 9/10 (DBY) and a single at RSPB Conwy on 9/12 (pRCO).

Flints. A single was S of Rhyl on 3/01 and again on 22/02 (AHJ).

Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola*
Breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List.

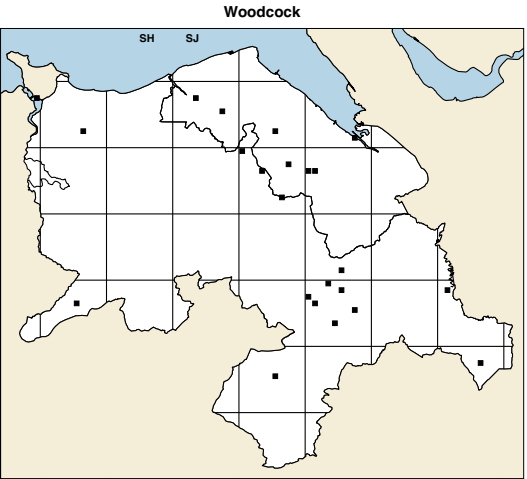
Seen in these months:												
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Denbs. During the first five months all but one record were of singles with a cluster of

(JS)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very scarce	Very scarce
Number of 1 km squares	2	1
Maximum count	2	1
Av max count 2004-14	2	2
Number of records	3	2
% of BirdTrack lists	-	0.2
Density	0.00	0.00

records SW of Wrexham. The other count was 2 near Black Wood, Garth on 4/03 (JoR). The last spring record was a single by the car park at Bettisfield Park on 5/05 (JoAr). The first winter record was a single at Penycae on 18/11 (JAJ) and the other records were also singles apart from a count of 9 at RSPB Conwy on 25/11 (JoG). There was one record of breeding activity – a single was roding near Esclusham Mountain on 30/03 (HN, JLR).

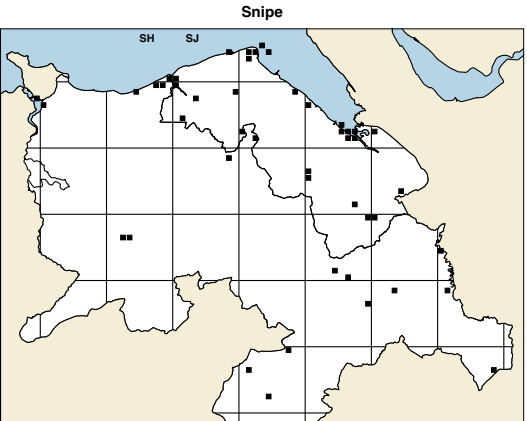
Flints. There were few records this year with 2 at Rhydymwyn on 8/01, the 'high' count of the early months. One was heard calling there in Jul (GRMP) so may have been been breeding nearby. A single was recorded at Connah's Quay NR on 24/12 (RRS), the first there since 1986. In Dec 2 were seen near Hendre on 6/12 (KhD).



Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*
Breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Amber List.

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

Denbs. The majority of the records (84.2%) were from RSPB Conwy and about half of them were of presence. Most of the counts during Jan to Apr were of 1-48. The largest counts were all from RSPB Conwy: 50 on 14/01, 50+ on 16/01 and 19/01 (GrR), 52 on 1/01 and 73 on 20/01 (pRCO). The last record of this period was a single, drumming, near Gwynfryn on 25/04 (ChMe). There was a quiet period with only singles seen during May to Jul then 8 on 1/08 and 9 on 2/08 at RSPB Conwy which suggested that some migration had recommenced. There were small numbers for the rest of the year with small peaks of 30+ on 19/09 (pRCO), 20+ at Erddig pool on 24/12 (NHu) and 20 at RSPB Conwy on 31/12 (pRCO).



Flints. The largest count of the year was early with 28 S of Rhyl on 3/01 (AHJ). All but one of the other records from Jan to Apr were of 1-11 with 17 S of Rhyl on 22/02 (AHJ). The last record of that early period was a single at the same area on 19/04 (AHJ). There was a gap of two and a half months then the first ‘autumn’ record was a single near Gronant on 26/07 (SD). During the later months there were generally 1-12 with 16 at Point of Ayr on 10/08 (GR) and 21 S of Rhyl on 22/11 (AHJ).

Black Guillemot *Cephus grylle*

Winter visitor.

Denbs. The only record was a single at Towyn on 1/03 (SM) quite close to the shore at first, but diving and moving to N as it swam out to sea.

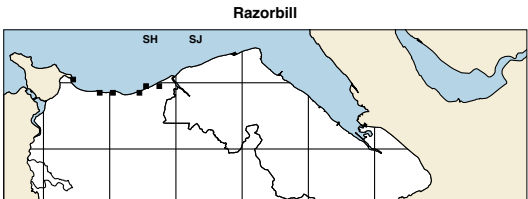
(TY)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	2	
Maximum count	1	
Number of records	1	0
% of BirdTrack lists	-	
Density	0.00	

Razorbill *Alca torda*

Winter visitor.

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

Denbs. The records during Feb and Mar were mainly of 1-2 with 3 on 16/02 at Pensarn (JoAL). The last of the early year records was a single at Belgrano on 1/03 (HC). The only record late in the year was 2 near Colwyn Bay on 21/12 (RoH).



Little Auk *Alle alle*

Vagrant.

Denbs. First recorded on 9/11 at Pensarn (RoH) and one was present until 21/12 when it was last seen near Colwyn Bay (RoH).

(LK)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	3	
Maximum count	1	
Number of records	4	0
% of BirdTrack lists	-	
Density	0.00	

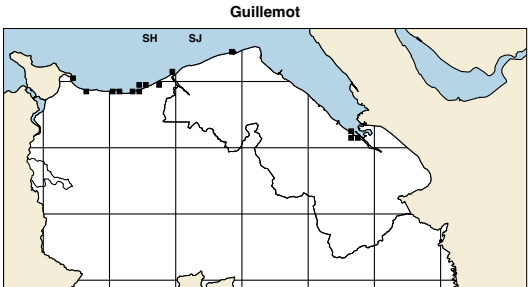
Guillemot *Uria allge*

Winter visitor. Amber List.

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

Denbs. Most of the records were early in the year with counts of 1-4. The maximum counts, 5, were at Rhos-on-Sea (RRD) on 28/01 and on 9/02 at Pensarn (MTB). The last of the early year records was a single at Pensarn on 14/03 (TMK) and the first record later in the year was presence at Rhos-on-Sea on 23/09 (JNW). The remaining counts were of 1-2.

Flints. The four records were on the same date, 16/02, of four singles at different locations as shown in the map.



LittleTern *Sternula albifrons*

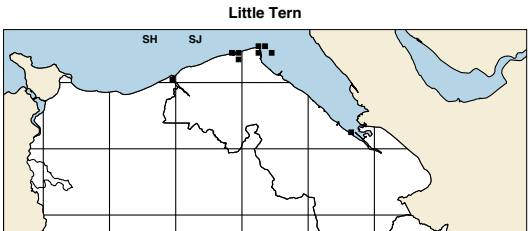
Passage migrant and summer breeding visitor. Red List. RBBP.

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

Denbs. The only record was a single near Kinmel Bay on 27/07 (WRM).

Flints. The first record was 12 near Gronant on 30/04 (RTe) and the last was 4 at Point of Ayr on 28/08 (MGW). Most of the records came from the area of the breeding colony near Gronant where counts ranged from 5 to 310 with several of presence only. Breeding was confirmed with about 136 pairs creating 229 nests from which there was predation of eggs by at least one Fox and at least 77 young fledged.

Some birds (an adult, 22 chicks and 2 fledglings were predated by a Kestrel – from Gronant Little Tern Report 2014, AOH) and only a few chicks were ringed: 11 on 3/07, 1 on 10/07 and 2 on 15/07 (pBH). At other sites counts were low, with mainly 1-4 though 10 were seen at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 11/05 (PSH).



GWYLOG

(GU)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	10	4
Maximum count	5	1
Av max count 2004-14	34	21
Number of records	25	4
% of BirdTrack lists	1.9	0.4
Density	0.03	0.01

MÔRWENNOL FECHAN

(AF)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Common
Number of 1 km squares	1	8
Maximum count	1	310
Av max count 2004-14	3	256
Number of records	1	36
% of BirdTrack lists	0.1	4.3
Density	0.00	4.21

Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis*

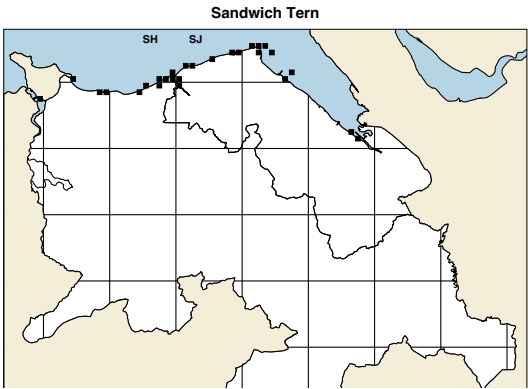
Summer migrant. Amber List

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

Denbs. The first record was a single at RSPB Conwy on 12/04 (pRCo) and the last was 3 at Towyn on 8/10 flying W (SM). During Apr to Jul most counts were low, 1-25+, but on 27/07 there were 350+ roosting on mud to the S of the Foryd Bridge by Kinmel Bay (WRM). The flock included juveniles – it would be interesting to know where these birds had been reared as the nearest colonies are on Anglesey and near Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria. Later, numbers were lower, mainly less than 100 with 150+ at Horton’s Nose on 5/08 (WRM).

Flints. The first record was 2 at Talacre on 5/04 (RSw) and the last was 22 near Prestatyn on 10/10 (DCR). During Apr to mid-Jul counts were of 2-98 and on 13/07 there were 200 near Gronant (PMi) during a WeBS count. From then until the last record most counts were 2-195 and the maxima were 500 at Point of Ayr on 10/08 (GR) and 595 ner Gronant on 13/08 (AJF).

MÔRWENNOL BIGDDU		
(TE)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Very common
Number of 1 km squares	11	16
Maximum count	350	595
Av max count 2004-14	247	603
Number of records	45	63
% of BirdTrack lists	2.2	6.1
Density	1.95	16.16



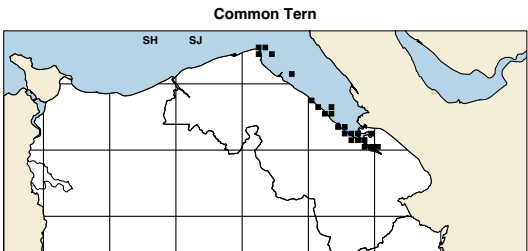
Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*

Passage migrant and breeding summer visitor. Red List.

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

Flints. The first record was 4 at Connah’s Quay NR on 15/04 (RRS) and last was 4 at Bagillt on 7/09 (MaBr) during a WeBS count. These were the only Apr and Sep records. The colony at Shotton Steelworks was occupied again, but with fewer birds than before the crash in 2009 that is now thought to have occurred because of a collapse in fish stocks within the Dee Estuary. There were 180 there on 7/06 (RyE) with birds carrying nest material. At RSPB Oakenholt Marsh 100 were seen on 11/06 (GR) and thereafter generally

MÔRWENNOL GYFFREDIN		
(CN)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Very common
Number of 1 km squares		22
Maximum count		180
Av max count 2004-14		524
Number of records	0	70
% of BirdTrack lists		1.8
Density		6.72



2-50 with small peaks of 60 at Shotton Steelworks on 28/06 when occupied nests were seen. At the colony 60 were counted on 24/07 (RyE) and birds were seen carrying food for young. The colony was successful as nestlings were ringed in reasonable numbers: 172 on 6/07, 178 on 9/07, 92 on 20/07 and 44 on 9/08 (pBH). The total is just 43% of the 1,126 ringed there in 2006 but it is good that the birds have returned and of these 445 fledged. Fish stocks in the estuary appear to have recovered so, hopefully, this is a promise of a return to a regularly thriving colony.

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea*

Passage migrant. Red List.

Denbs. A single was at RSPB Conwy on 20/04 (pRCo).

Flints. A single was at Point of Ayr on 28/08 (MGW).

MÔRWENNOL Y GOGLEDD		
(AE)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	1	1
Maximum count	1	1
Number of records	2	1
% of BirdTrack lists	-	-
Density	0.00	0.00

Sabine’s Gull *Xema sabini*

Passage migrant.

Flints. Presence was recorded at Point of Ayr on 22/10.

GWYLAN SABINE		
(AB)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares		1
Maximum count		1
Number of records	0	1
% of BirdTrack lists		-
Density		0.00

Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*

Passage migrant. Amber List.

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

Denbs. The first record was a single at Belgrano, Pensarn on 10/02 (HC). There were 1-12+ in the early months and the last record of that period was 6 at RSPB Conwy on 18/04 (JNW). The only record later in the year was 4 near Rhos-on-Sea on 7/12 (HC). The highest count, 12+, was at Pensarn on 16/02 (JoAL).

Flints. On 9/10 there were 6 at Point

GWYLAN GOES DDU		
(KI)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	4	2
Maximum count	12	60
Av max count 2004-14	21	10
Number of records	5	2
% of BirdTrack lists	0.3	-
Density	0.02	0.20



of Ayr and on 21/10 there were 60+ by the beach at Prestatyn (MGW).

Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*

GWYLAN BENDDU

Breeding resident and winter visitor. Red List. WBAP.

Recorded in each month in both counties. In Denbs the highest count was only about 50% of the average but in Flints it was considerably higher than the average.

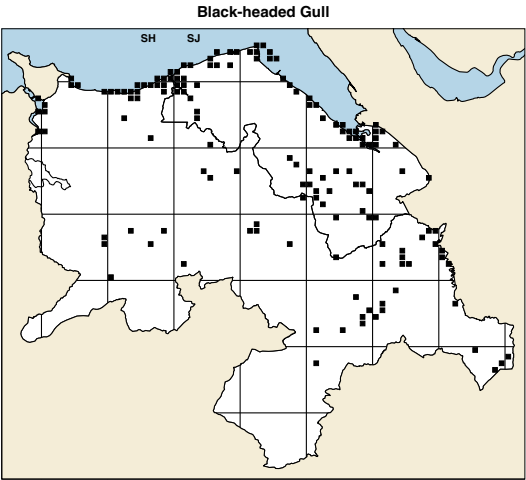
Denbs. The highest counts were in the first two months: 650 near Holt on 15/01 (ABr) and 800 at Trevalyn Meadows on 21/02 (NFr). During Mar to Jun numbers were much lower, 1-60+, then in Jul there was an increase with 470 at RSPB Conwy on 15/07 (pRCo). There were relatively low counts for the rest of the year even though after the breeding season larger numbers would have been anticipated. The monthly maxima for the last months of the year were: 250+ at Towyn on 3/09 (SM), 300 near Llandrnmog on 12/10 (JDa), 100+ S of Kinmel Bay on 2/11 (SM) and 450 near Ridleywood on 17/12 (NFr).

Flints. The pattern of counts was similar to that in Denbs but the counts at the start of the year were much higher. The maxima for the first two months were 3,000: near Rhuddlan on 2/01 (SH) and at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 21/02 (GEM). Again, during Mar to Jun counts were much lower with 1-200 and a late year peak of 1,000 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 13/07 (PeHa). The maxima for the last months of the year were: 280 at Flint on 8/09 (ChMo), 163 near Rhuddlan on 9/10 (JHB), 400 at White Sands, Dee Estuary on 9/11 (GR) and 700 near Rhuddlan on 7/12 (JHB).

Monthly maxima from selected locations:

(BH)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Conwy	50	127	55	50	14	20	470	1	25	12	12	25
Near Rhuddlan	3000	1				6	420	459		163	279	700
RSPB Oakenholt Marsh	20	3000	24	24	24	150	1000	300	200	30	100	70
Connah's Quay NR	10	20	30	22	10	40	300	150	20	25	2	2

(BH)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Abundant	Abundant
Number of 1 km squares	75	72
Maximum count	800	3000
Av max count 2004-14	1615	2193
Recorded in BBS squares	2/30	3/14
Number of records	510	394
% records from GBW	0.4	0.8
% of BirdTrack lists	35.9	42.1
Density	30.36	366.72



Little Gull *Hydrocoloeus minutus*

GWYLAN FECHAN

Passage migrant. Amber List.

Denbs. The only record was of presence at RSPB Conwy on 6/09.

(LU)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	1	
Maximum count	1	
Number of records	1	0
% of BirdTrack lists	-	
Density	0.00	

Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*

GWYLAN MOR Y CANOLDIR

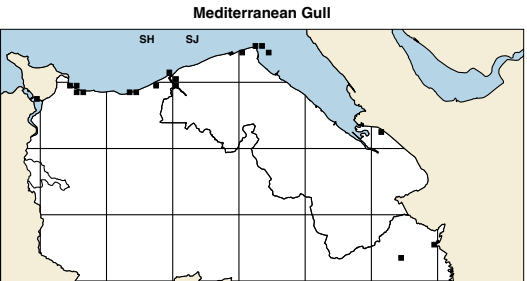
Visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

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

Denbs. All but one record were of singles or presence and 2 were W of Pensarn on 9/03 (KS). The two inland records were interesting with one at Gresford Flash on 5/01 (the first there since 2010) 1/02 (KS) and 17/02 (HL).

Flints. Again, all but one record were of singles with 2 seen S of Rhyl on 22/02 (AHJ). On 31/07 a French colour-ringed bird, Green R58S was seen on the Afon Clwyd near Rhyl (AHJ, see Ringing Report for further details).

(MU)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Very scarce
Number of 1 km squares	11	7
Maximum count	2	2
Av max count 2004-14	5	3
Number of records	17	8
% of BirdTrack lists	0.5	1.1
Density	0.01	0.02



Common Gull *Larus canus*

GWYLAN GWEUNYDD

Passage migrant and winter visitor. Red List.

Recorded in each month in both counties except May in Denbs. As with Black-headed Gull, the largest counts of the year were in Jan and Feb, at least, in Flints.

Denbs. The maximum count for the year was in Jan when 600 were seen at Worthenbury and near Ridleywood on 16/01 (NFr). NFr thinks these were two different groups so, together, they would be the largest assemblage for the year. The Feb maximum was much lower at 65 on 21/02 at Worthenbury (NFr) but higher again in Mar with 300+ near Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd on 8/03 (RG). During Apr to Oct the counts were just 1-10

(CM)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Abundant	Abundant
Number of 1 km squares	44	41
Maximum count	600	2500
Av max count 2004-14	2114	2173
Recorded in BBS squares	-	1/14
Number of records	135	179
% of BirdTrack lists	8.9	26.0
Density	13.36	174.02

while most birds would be at their breeding grounds well N of here then in Nov there was a modest increase with 170 near Afonwen on 30/11 (GEM) and 420 by the River Dee near Ridleywood on 20/12 (NFr).

Flints. The maximum for the year was in Jan with 2,500 near Rhuddlan on 2/01 (SH). Most counts for Feb were 1-400 but there were 1,200 near Gronant on 16/02 (PMi) followed by a fairly low maximum of 200+ for Mar at Rhydymwyn on 2/03 (DMH). During Apr to Aug numbers were low with counts of 1-60+. The monthly maxima for the rest of the year were low: 100+ at Talacre on 10/09 (MGW), 160 near Gronant on 12/10 (ToM), 161 there on 9/11 (PMi) and 200 at Point of Ayr on 22/12 (GR).

Monthly maxima recorded:

(CM)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Denbs.	600	70	300	2		10	2	1	10	2	170	420
Flints.	2500	1200	200	60	1	20	1	40	100	160	161	200

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*

Passage migrant and breeding resident. Amber List.

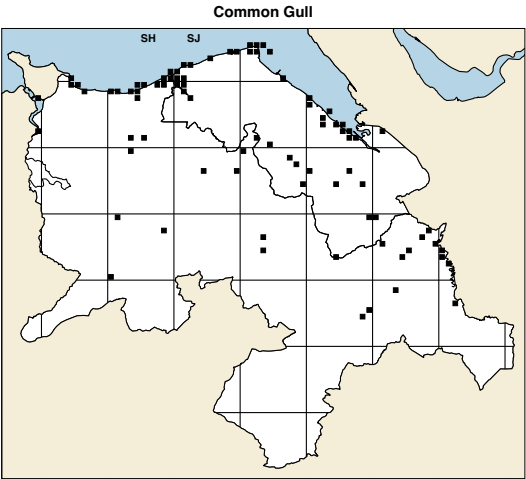
Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. Although there was a considerable increase in the number of records the maximum count, 120, was the same as in 2013 and much lower than the average for the previous ten years. What has happened? Some maximum counts for each month were very low, eg 3 in Sep and 5 in Feb. The maximum count was from near Ridleywood on 17/12 (NFr).

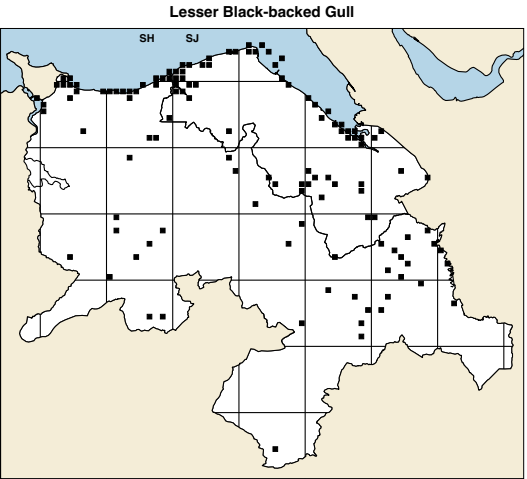
Flints. Here, too, there was an increase in the number of records but the maximum count, 100, was the same as in 2013 but much closer to the average. There was a more expected pattern with the largest counts in Aug and Sep as presumably many juveniles drift S on their way to

Maximum monthly counts

(LB)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RSPB Oakenholt	40	35	27	12	12	50	12	100	90	60	70	70



Iberia and beyond for their first winter. The highest counts were at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh with 100 on 10/08 (PeHa) and 90 on 21/09 (GEM) and 92 near Gronant on 7/09 (PMi).



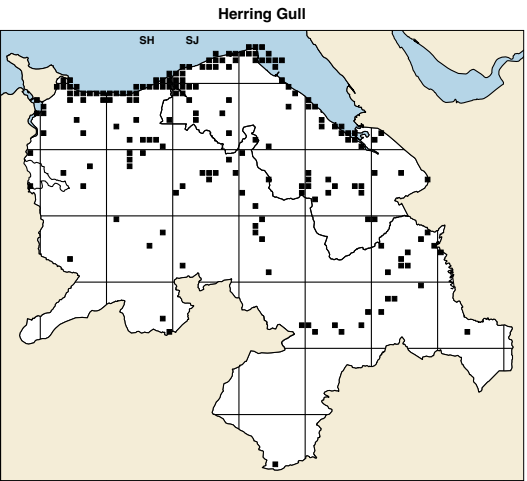
Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*

Breeding resident and winter visitor. Red List. WBAP.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. The number of records doubled yet for this species, too, the maximum count was much lower than might have been expected at about one third of the average. This species featured in many BirdTrack lists (though many of them were from RSPB Conwy) which suggests that it was not overlooked, especially along the coast. Maybe there were larger flocks on pasture, inland? The species was seen in modest numbers throughout the year with the maximum count, 600+, at Towyn on 12/03 (SM). These birds flew from inland to roost on the beach in the late afternoon.

Flints. There was an increase in the number of records and counts showed that Herring Gull vastly outnumbered Lesser Black-backed Gull in five months. The maximum counts were 2,500 near Gronant on 16/02 (PMi), 1,200 at Point of Ayr on 15/06 (GR), 1,200 there on 13/07 (GR) all during WeBS counts, 1,500



GWYLAN Y PENWAIG

(HG)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Abundant	Abundant
Number of 1 km squares	105	79
Maximum count	600	2500
Av max count 2004-14	1721	1752
Recorded in BBS squares	13/30	9/14
Number of records	1000	377
% records from GBW	0.1	0.8
% of BirdTrack lists	64.8	44.8
Density	31.88	335.31

at Talacre on 22/10 and 900 there on 22/12 (pJRE).

Monthly max counts for selected locations:

(HG)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Towyn	120	100	600	100	430	150	60	100	50	70	60	20
Talacre	1	5	220	1	2	600	15		20	1500	160	900
Point of Ayr		1600	19		37	1200	1200	200	60	40	50	400
Rhuddlan	50	1		28		3	56	160		200	152	52

Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellisi*

GWYLAN GOES FELEN

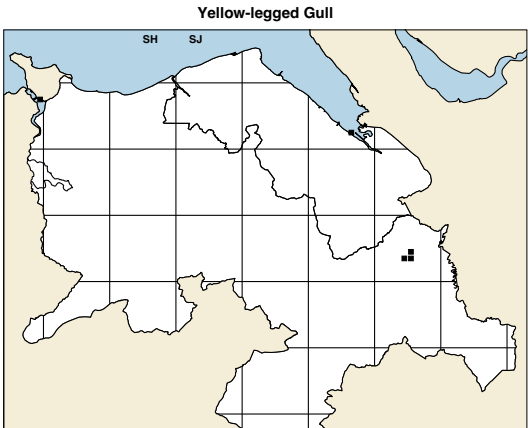
Visitor. RBBP.

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

Denbs. All records were singles or presence at three sites for certain and possibly a fourth. This last was an anonymous record from BirdGuides which cannot, therefore, be checked. The record was for Gresford (=SJ3554) but it is suspected that it was a single at Gresford Flash (=SJ3453) on the same day, 16/08. The other records were at Gresford Flash on 17/01 (DuH), 22/02 (HL), at RSPB Conwy on 16/08 and 19/11 (pRCo) and near Borrass, Wrexham on 7/12 (NF).

Flints. Both records were singles from RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 17/09 and 22/09 (PSH) so may have been the same bird.

(YG)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very scarce	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	4	1
Maximum count	1	1
Number of records	7	2
% of BirdTrack lists	-	-
Density	0.00	0.00



Caspian Gull *Larus cachinnans*

Vagrant.

Denbs. The first accepted Welsh record for this species was a first winter seen at Gresford Flash on 2/12 and photographed - see colour photos (DuH). The record was accepted by the WRP.

(C)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Not known
Number of 1 km squares	1	
Maximum count	1	
Number of records	1	0
% of BirdTrack lists	-	
Density	0.00	

Iceland Gull *Larus glaucoideus*

Winter visitor.

GWYLAN YR ARCTIG

Denbs. All the records were of presence or a single in the Wrexham area from 14/01 at Rossett to 24/01 at New Hall, Ruabon so these may have involved just the same bird.

(IG)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	5	
Maximum count	1	
Number of records	6	0
% of BirdTrack lists	0.1	
Density	0.00	

Glaucous Gull *Larus hyperboreus*

Winter visitor.

GWYLAN Y GOGLEDD

Denbs. Presence only was recorded at Llanddulas on 9/02 (MTB).

(GZ)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	1	
Maximum count	1	
Number of records	1	0
% of BirdTrack lists	0.1	
Density	0.00	

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*

Breeding resident and winter visitor. Red List.

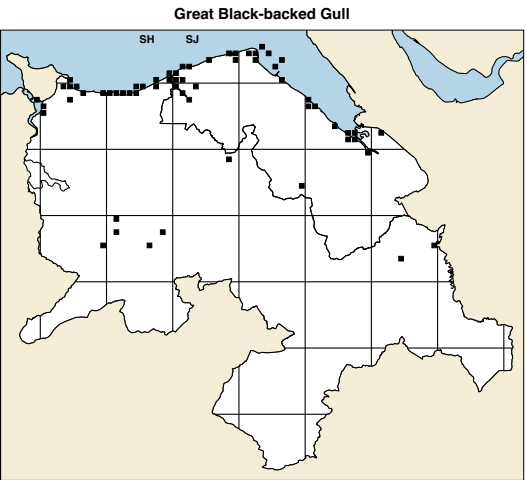
GWYLAN GEFNDDU FWYAF

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. The majority of records were of presence at sites on or near the coast. The maximum counts were at Llanddulas with 10 on 30/01 and 10+ on 3/10 (JVHu). There was a record of confirmed breeding at the BT Openreach building roof at Mochdre with nests of other species nearby.

Flints. The larger counts were later in the year and all but one were at or near the coast. One at Pantymwyn on 6/02 was flying over. The maximum count, 120, was at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 16/11 (GR).

(GB)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Common
Number of 1 km squares	29	32
Maximum count	10	120
Av max count 2004-14	14	103
Number of records	166	163
% of BirdTrack lists	13.1	16.7
Density	0.15	6.52



Maximum counts recorded:

(GB)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Flints.	4	16	28	9	2	20	13	40	52	21	120	23
Oakenholt	2	10	4	9		20	8	16	30	6	120	13

Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon *Columba livia*

COLOMEN Y GRAIG

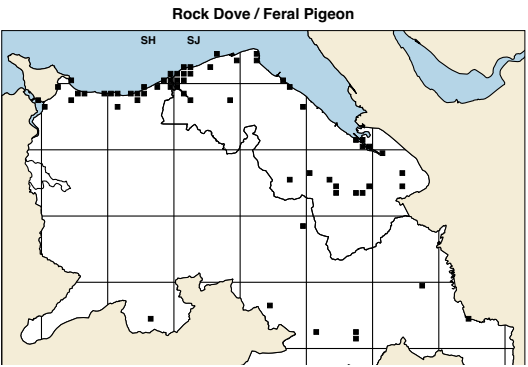
Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties. The highest counts were from the River Clwyd estuary on the border between Denbs and Flints. The road bridge over the Afon Clwyd at Kinnel Bay is a well-established nesting site for this species. The map illustrates the concentration of records along the coast, especially near the Clwyd estuary, and in urban sites, such as the Mold-Buckley area.

(FP)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very common	Fairly common
Number of 1 km squares	29	34
Maximum count	80	60
Av max count 2004-14	111	41
Recorded in BBS squares	4/30	6/14
Number of records	463	132
% records from GBW	9.5	29.5
% of BirdTrack lists	21.8	14.0
Density	1.17	3.46

Denbs. The highest count was 80+ in Kinnel Bay on 9/02 (DCR).

Flints. The highest count was 60+ in Rhyl on 10/01 (DCR).



Stock Dove *Columba oenas*

COLOMEN WYLLT

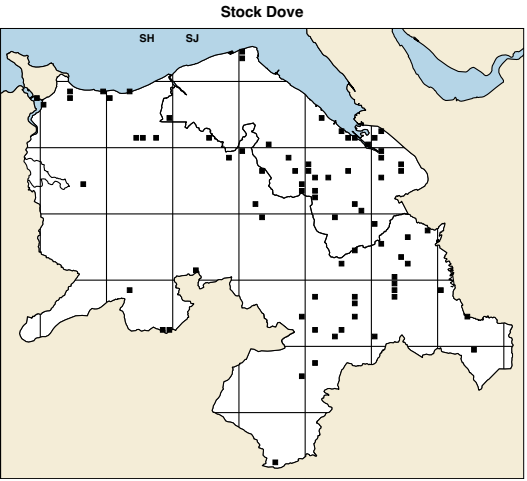
Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties. Comparison of the distribution map for this species with the coverage map (page 12) shows a concentration in the eastern parts of both Denbs and Flints.

Denbs. The highest count was 40 at Gresford Flash (KS). Breeding was confirmed by ringing at nests in Pandry, Mynydd y Glyn and Cerrigydrudion.

(SD)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	48	30
Maximum count	40	16
Av max count 2004-14	74	35
Recorded in BBS squares	6/30	4/14
Number of records	121	69
% records from GBW	29.8	10.1
% of BirdTrack lists	4.8	6.1
Density	0.97	0.81

Flints. The highest count was 16 at Sandycroft (IMS). Breeding was confirmed by ringing at nests in Sandycroft, Shotton and Rhydymwyn.



Breeding (IMS, JVHu):

(SD)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Beeches Farm	2	4	2	2	1.00
Rhydymwyn	3	6	5	5	1.67
Shotton Paper	5	10	4	2	0.40
TOTALS	10	20	11	9	0.90

Woodpigeon *Columba palumbus*

YSGUTHAN

Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties. The distribution map for this species follows the coverage map (page 12) closely, except for an understandable scarcity of records from the treeless western moors of Denbs. Although the number of records of proven breeding is very small (one of nestlings and two of occupied nests), this is clearly a widespread nesting bird in parks and gardens, as well as in woods and forests.

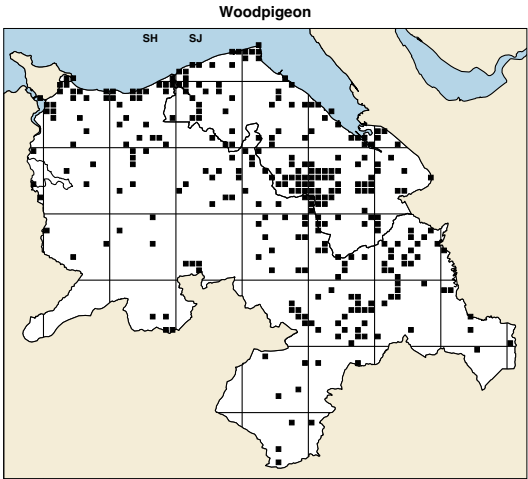
(WP)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Abundant	Abundant
Number of 1 km squares	187	123
Maximum count	2000	98
Av max count 2004-14	985	296
Recorded in BBS squares	27/30	14/14
Number of records	1383	1142
% records from GBW	44.5	57.1
% of BirdTrack lists	53.6	75.1
Density	189.27	20.47

Denbs. The highest counts were 2,000 at RSPB Conwy on 14/11 (pRCO), 1,600+ at Penycae on 6/11 (JAJ) and 500+ at Pensarn on 13/12 (WRM).

Flints. The highest count was 98, when a regular stream in groups of 5-20 heading SE was Breeding (JLR):

(WP)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Denbs	11	21	8	7	0.64

observed over Pantymwyn on 14/11 (GEM). This is the same date as the very high count at RSPB Conwy, suggesting that a large-scale movement may have been in progress. Occupied nests were recorded at Rhyl Brickworks and Rhydymwyn.

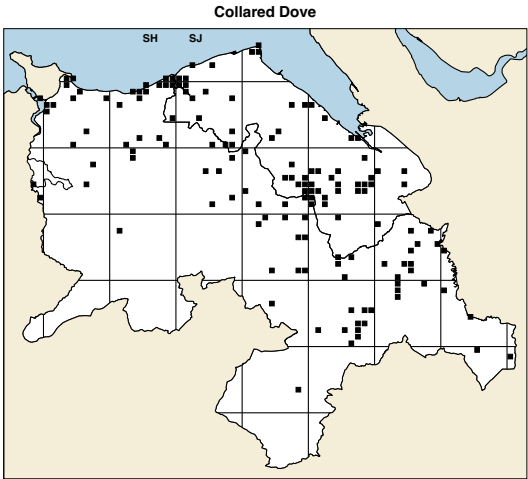


Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*
Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties. The distribution map tends to follow the pattern of human population, with concentrations around Wrexham, Mold and the coastal towns, where the birds commonly perch on telephone posts and wires.

Denbs. The highest regular counts were of up to 17 throughout the year and came from a garden in Towyn, where at least one was taken by a Sparrowhawk and another by a domestic cat (SM). Breeding was confirmed in the same location by a mating pair and by sightings of juveniles (SM).

Flints. The highest regular counts of up to 36 throughout the year came from a garden in St Asaph (DD). Breeding was confirmed by fledged young at Talacre on 26/07 (WRM) and Rhydymwyn on the late date of 17/11 (JVHu).



Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*
Summer visitor. Red List.

Flints. The only record this year was of a single near Bodrhyddan Hall, Dyserth on 29/06 (PtB), the first Flints record since 2009.

(TD)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares		1
Maximum count		1
Recorded in BBS squares		1/14
Number of records	0	1
% of BirdTrack lists	-	-
Density		0.00

Ring-necked Parakeet *Psittacula krameri*
Occasional visitor.

Denbs. Singles were seen in the Gwersyllt/Moss Valley area on Wrexham on 22/06 (DH) and 9/07 (KD), probably the same bird.

(RI)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	2	2
Maximum count	1	1
Number of records	2	3
% of BirdTrack lists	-	-
Density	0.00	0.00

Flints. A female was seen on a garden bird feeder near the Old London Road cemetery in Flint on 8/11 (pCd) and 16/11 (DuH).

Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*
Breeding summer visitor. Red List. WBAP.

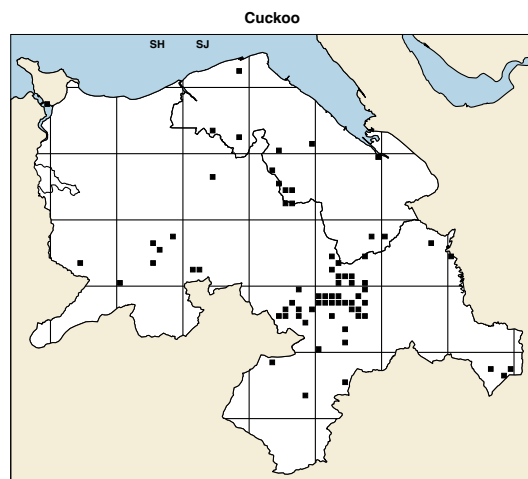
Seen in these months:											
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

There was no proof of breeding this year. The distribution map follows the upland distribution of nesting Meadow Pipits quite closely.

(CK)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Very scarce
Number of 1 km squares	61	11
Maximum count	5	2
Recorded in BBS squares	8/30	2/14
Number of records	81	17
% of BirdTrack lists	0.8	1.3
Density	0.15	0.04

Denbs. The highest count was 5 at both Llyn Brenig on 25/06 (HC) and Craig Bronbannog on 12/06 (RS). At the latter site on 11/06 12 were attracted as a loose grouping by a sound lure (of song) and going into the same general area of the forest to roost at nightfall. This is an unusual and rarely recorded (if ever) element of behaviour by Cuckoo. The first record of the year was at RSPB Conwy on 14/04 (pRCo) and the last was a hepatic phase bird at Nant y Ffrith on 27/06 (MGW).

Flints. The highest counts were of 2 along the Clwydian Range at Afonwen on 5/05 (GRMP), Cilcain on 15/05 (WAO) and Penycloddiau on 26/05 (EdW). The first record was on 29/04 at Penycloddiau (WAO) and the last on 13/06 at St. Asaph (JOHn).



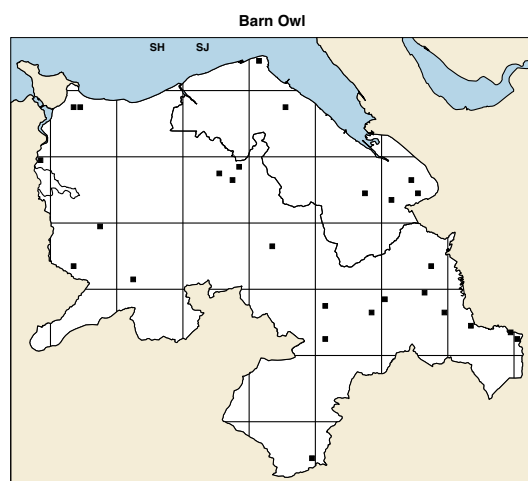
Barn Owl *Tyto alba*

Breeding resident. Amber List.

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

A much better year than 2013, though about average for the past 10 years.

Denbs. Breeding was proven at three localities by ringing of 3-5 nestlings: Llangedwyn in the Tanat Valley on 14/06 (MkH) and two localities on Mynydd Hiraethog, near Gwytherin and Glasfryn, on 18/06 (IMS). Furthermore, more than half the localities on the map refer to records during May-Jul. There were four records of 2 birds together: twice near Whitchurch on 23/05 and 28/05 (pJLR), at Llangollen on 15/06 (DH) and at Bangor-is-y-Coed on 5/08 (pJLR). There were also records of birds roosting in buildings at Capel Siloam in the Conwy Valley on 2/10 (pCd) and at Rhosllanerchrugog on 16/11 (pJLR). A road casualty was reported on the A470 near Talybont in the Conwy Valley on 1/09 (KaW).



TYLLUAN WEN

(BO)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Very scarce
Number of 1 km squares	21	6
Maximum count	5	7
Number of records	24	7
% of BirdTrack lists	0.1	0.4
Density	0.05	0.07

Flints. Breeding was proven at Sandycroft with 6 nestlings ringed on 19/05 (IMS) and still at the nest on 14/06 (TP), with a further sighting of a single at nearby Hawarden airport on 24/10 (HJ). Additional sightings in winter were of 2 near Holywell on 5/11 (IMS) and singles at Dobshell on 15/02 (HJ) and Buckley on 18/03 (GNR).

Breeding (IMS):

(BO)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Denbs.	2	7	7	7	3.50
Flints.	1	6	6	6	6.00

Little Owl *Athene noctua*

Breeding resident.

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

Little Owls are often seen in daylight on prominent and exposed perches, so the steady decline in records over the past 20-30 years is a cause for concern, especially in Flints. There was no proof of breeding this year and there were no records in May-Jun.

Denbs. In the Marford/Burton area, 2 were seen on 2/03 (KJS) and singles on 8/03 (KJS) and 13/07 (HL). There was 1 near the River Dee at Sutton Green, E of Wrexham, on 16/03 (NHu) and another near the Chirk Marina on 12/04 (DaHu).

Flints. No proof of breeding but one bird was seen at Flint on both 31/07 and 2/12 (TGJ). These were the only records.

TYLLUAN FACH

(LO)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very scarce	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	4	1
Maximum count	2	1
Number of records	5	2
% records from GBW	20.0	-
% of BirdTrack lists	0.1	0.5
Density	0.00	0.00



Little Owl by Barry Barnacal

Tawny Owl *Strix aluco*

Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties. In both Denbs and Flints, the numbers of records were 50% above the average for the past 10 years. For an owl, the % of records from GBW was very high, partly because its call is so well-known, but also because its wide distribution includes populated areas. Records from BBS and BirdTrack were few, since these surveys are usually performed when Tawny Owls are silent and inactive.

Denbs. Breeding was proven at Clocaenog Forest by ringing 2 nestlings on 15/05 (IMS). The highest count of 4 was in the Dee Valley near Rhewl on 1/12 (JDG).

Flints. Breeding was proven at Rhydymwyn by ringing a nestling on 23/04 (IMS) and by hearing juveniles on 29/07 (GRMP), near Mold by ringing 4 nestlings on 24/04 (IMS) and at Devil's Gorge, Pantymwyn where a daytime roost of 2 juveniles was attracting mobbing passerines on 18/07 (GEM). The highest count of 4 was at Rhydymwyn on 27/02 and 8/09 (JVHu).

Breeding (IMS, JVHu)

(TO)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Denbs.	3	11	6	6	2.00
Flints.	1	2	1	1	1.00

Long-eared Owl *Asio otus*

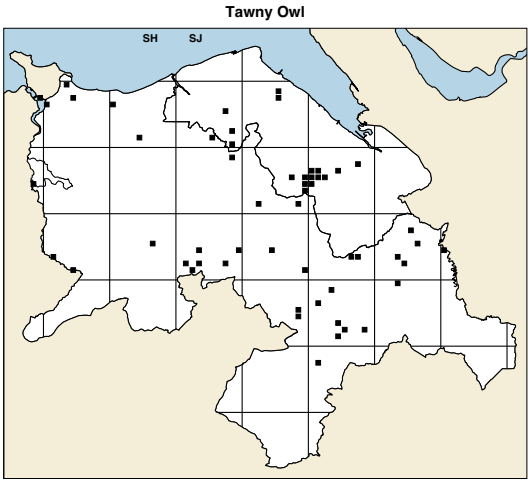
Breeding resident. Amber List.

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

This species is certainly under-recorded compared with other owls, since it is more strictly nocturnal and nests in more remote areas. There is no evidence of any recent change in numbers, although it shares its habitat with a known predator, the Goshawk, which has grown in numbers.

TYLLUAN FRECH

(TO)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	40	16
Maximum count	4	4
Recorded in BBS squares	1/30	1/14
Number of records	127	91
% records from GBW	60.6	24.2
% of BirdTrack lists	1.0	1.4
Density	0.08	0.11



TYLLUAN GORNOG

(LE)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	3	
Maximum count	1	
Number of records	3	0
% of BirdTrack lists	-	
Density	0.00	

Denbs. A male calling at World's End on 30/03 (HN, JLR), possibly with a female present, suggests nesting in the area. This was later confirmed by a photo of a nestling in a nest on 30/05 (DeS). See colour photo on inside back cover. Other breeding season records were at nearby Pendinas on 25/04 (ChMe) and one seen in the Ceiriog Forest of the northern Berwyns on 14/05 (WyJ). Not a bad year for this rarely-recorded species.

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*

Winter visitor, passage migrant and occasional breeder. Red List.

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

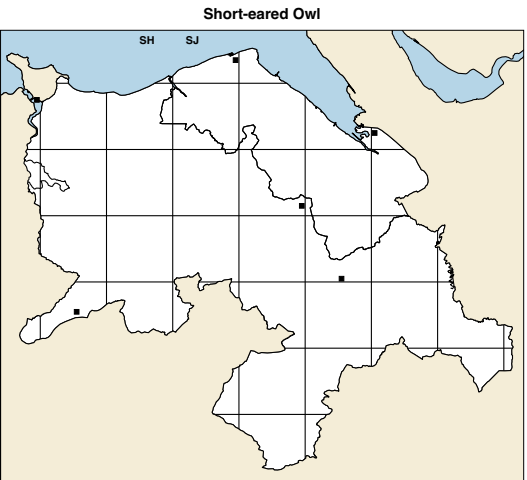
There were fewer records overall than in recent years and only one in the nesting season. It seems that we may no longer be getting the large fluctuations in vole numbers that encourage breeding at the peak of the 4-5 year cycle.

Denbs. Passage birds were seen at RSPB Conwy on 4/04 and also as late as 10/05 (pRCo). The presence of 2 near Llanferres on 28/05 (AO) suggests a possible breeding attempt in the Clwydian Range. The absence of records from western parts, even though this owl flies in daylight, suggests that it is under-recorded in the breeding season. Not all birds go to the coast in winter, since 2 were flushed from heather on the Migneint uplands on 15/12 (pCd) and one was seen in car headlights on Ruabon Mountain on 23/12 (pJLR).

Flints. Winter records came only from the Welsh part of RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 7/02 (TeA) and the coast at Gronant on 17/04.

TYLLUAN GLYSTIOG

(SE)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Very scarce
Number of 1 km squares	4	2
Maximum count	2	1
Number of records	7	2
% of BirdTrack lists	-	0.5
Density	0.00	0.00



Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus*

Breeding summer visitor. Amber List. WBAP.

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

The four records received do not reflect the

TROELLWR MAWR

(NJ)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	3	
Maximum count	3	
Number of records	4	0
% of BirdTrack lists	0.3	
Density	0.00	

true distribution of Nightjars, since late night visits are required to find them. In the absence of lowland heath, Nightjars use actively-managed conifer plantations with rotational clearfell, after ground cover has developed, but before trees reach 10-15 years of age.

Denbs. The only records were near Craig Bron Bannog on 11/06 and 12/06 (ZH) and 3 (2 of which were ringed) near Pont-yr-Alwen on 13/06 (RS), plus a further record near Pont-yr-Alwen on 15/08 (pCd).

Swift *Apus apus*

Summer visitor. Amber List.

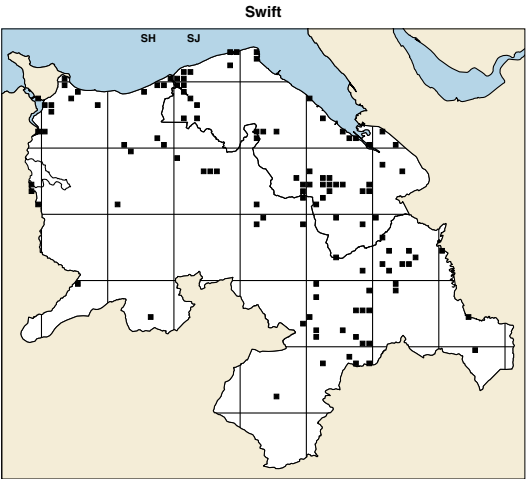
Seen in these months:											
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

Swifts are still a fairly common sight over large towns and other areas with older buildings suitable for nesting, but very few records of birds entering nest sites were received. One colony at Caergwrle was lost a few years ago when an old church was replaced by an unsuitable modern building and unsympathetic rebuilding will continue to affect Swift numbers.

Denbs. The first of the year was a single at Ysbyty Ifan on 18/04 (RuC) and the last record was on 31/08 at RSPB Conwy (pRCo). The main arrival period was early May with 20+ at RSPB Conwy on 3/05. The highest counts of 100+ were at RSPB Conwy on 9/05 (pRCo) and at Nant-y-Glyn (above Colwyn Bay) on 26/06 (HC). Another notable count was 60 near Chirk on 19/07 (JAJ). The only report of nesting activity was at Penycae.

Flints. The first record was at Gronant on 5/05 (NHu) and the last was at Rhuddlan on 29/08 (SH). Another notable count was 65 at Bagillt on 4/07 (GRMP). The only report of nesting activity was at Rhydymwyn.

GWENNOL DDU		
(SI)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Common
Number of 1 km squares	70	48
Maximum count	100	65
Av max count 2004-14	121	112
Recorded in BBS squares	5/30	9/14
Number of records	203	143
% records from GBW	10.8	9.8
% of BirdTrack lists	9.4	10.0
Density	3.54	5.30



Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

Breeding resident. Amber List.

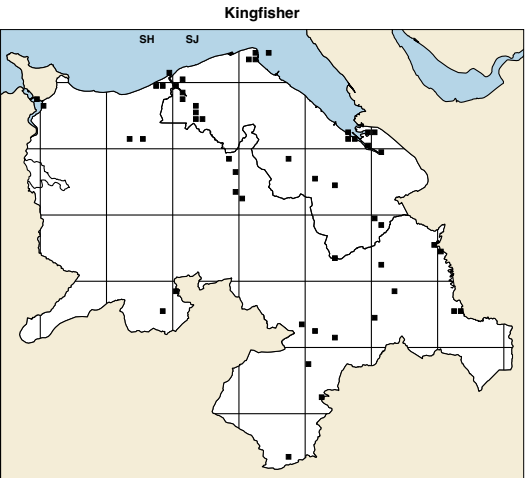
Seen in these months:											
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

Although no direct evidence of breeding was submitted, there were numerous records of singles during the breeding season. Outside the breeding season, many move to the coast and there were eighty five records from RSPB Conwy (Denbs) and 60 from Connah's Quay NR /RSPB Oakenholt (Flints); these two locations accounted for 65% of all records.

Denbs. There were singles in the breeding season (Apr-Jul) along the River Dee near Trevor Uchaf (JoR) and Holt (NF), on the Afon Clwyd at Lleweli Hall (JPH) and on the Afon Alwen at Llanfihangel GM (DBY). On the Afon Tanat, 5 were trapped and ringed during Jul-Aug (MkH) and there was a possible pair at St Asaph on 17/07 (DCR).

Flints. There were singles in the breeding season (Apr-Jul) along the River Alyn at Rhydymwyn (KM), Mold (GEM) and Fagl Lane GP (KhD), as well as at Shotton Steelworks (RyE).

GLAS Y DORLAN		
(KF)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	27	24
Maximum count	2	2
Recorded in BBS squares	1/30	1/14
Number of records	117	106
% of BirdTrack lists	1.9	2.3
Density	0.03	0.08



Green Woodpecker *Picus viridis*

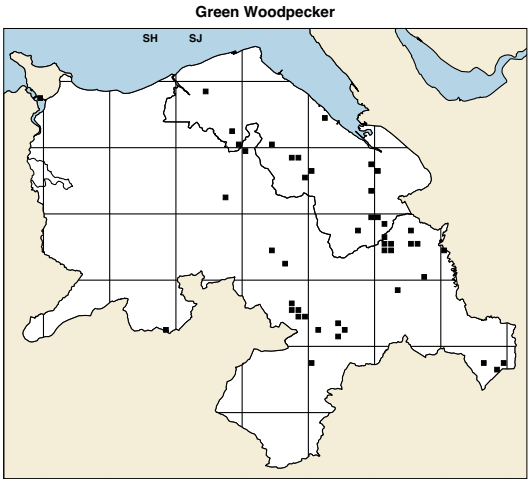
Breeding resident. Amber List.

Recorded each month in both counties except Sep in Flints. As the map illustrates, there is an interesting concentration of records close to river valleys; along the Dee at both Llangollen and N of Wrexham, and along the Wheeler valley between Mold and Denbigh. Some 41% of the eighty records were during Mar-Apr when the species is most vocal.

Denbs. The highest count of 3 near Trevor Uchaf on 5/08 included 2 juveniles (JoR) and this was the only direct evidence of successful breeding, although 2 were seen at Pentre Llanrhaeadr in the Vale of Clwyd on 6/04 (RoE).

CNOCELL WERDD		
(G)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Very scarce
Number of 1 km squares	30	16
Maximum count	3	2
Recorded in BBS squares	3/30	2/14
Number of records	54	26
% records from GBW	3.7	-
% of BirdTrack lists	2.0	0.9
Density	0.05	0.05

Flints. There was no direct evidence of breeding, though 2 were seen at Llanfynydd in the Cegidog valley on 1/04 (GNR).



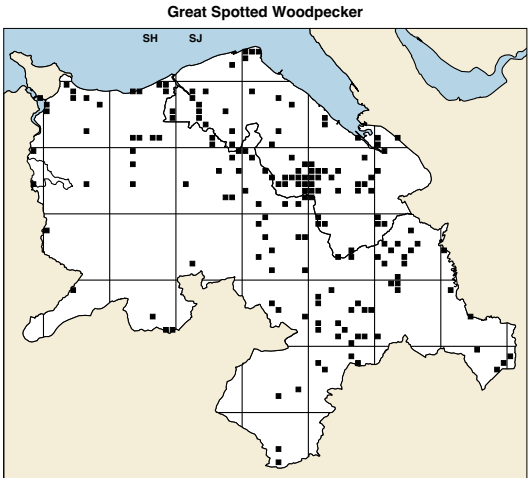
Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*

CNOCELL FRAITH FWYAF

Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties. This species seems to be common and increasing in all wooded areas with at least a few mature trees. That the 'occurrence' formula should determine it to be 'fairly common' or 'uncommon' is surprising. It is a frequent visitor to garden bird-feeders, as the high percentage of GBW records shows.

(GS)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Fairly common	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	110	65
Maximum count	5	9
Recorded in BBS squares	14/30	7/14
Number of records	672	506
% records from GBW	67.1	57.9
% of BirdTrack lists	12.3	25.8
Density	0.28	0.99



Denbs. The highest count was 5 at Talygarth on 9/03 (DCg). There were four records with proof of breeding, whether occupied nests or recently-fledged juvenile birds.

Flints. The highest counts were of 9 near Afonwen on 21/06 (GRMP) and 5 at Sychdyn in the week beginning 6/07 (IMS). There were four records with proof of breeding, whether occupied nests or recently-fledged juvenile birds.

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos minor*

CNOCELL FRAITH LEIAF

Breeding resident. Red List. WBAP. RBBP.

(LS)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares		1
Maximum count		1
Number of records	0	1
% of BirdTrack lists		-
Density		0.00

Flints. There was only one record of a female near Rhydymwyn on 29/10 (MGW).

Great Grey Shrike *Lanius excubitor*

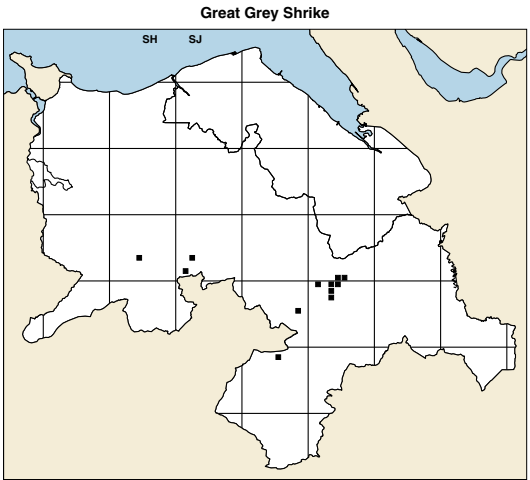
CIGYDD MAWR

Winter visitor.

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

(SR)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	12	
Maximum count	2	
Number of records	31	0
% of BirdTrack lists	0.2	
Density	0.01	

Denbs. There were twenty five records of a single that spent the winter on Ruabon Mountain between 2/02 and 11/04 (many obs). One report identified it as a male (leB). It was heard singing on 25/03 (GMB) and it chased and caught a Meadow Pipit on 15/03 (GrJ). In the later part of the year, 2 birds appeared at Craig Bron Bannog on 5/11 (WAO) and one was chased by a Kestrel on 18/11 (WAO). The third and last record at Clocaenog Forest was on 13/12, but there were also singles at Ceiriog Forest on 12/11 (pJLR) and at Llantysilio Mountain on 3/12 (JoG).



Chough *Pyrhcorax pyrrhcorax*

BRAN GOESGOCH

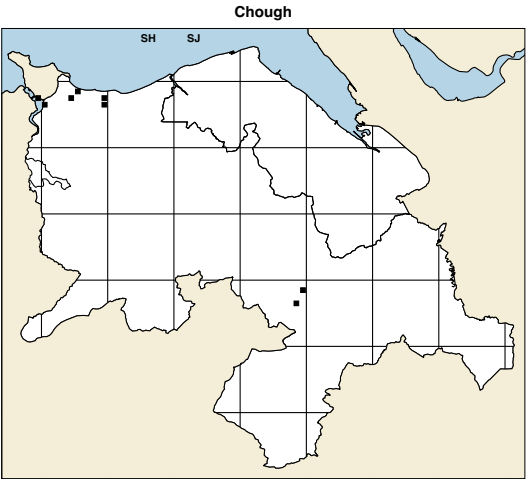
Breeding resident. Amber List.

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

(CF)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very scarce	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	8	
Maximum count	9	
Number of records	20	0
% of BirdTrack lists	0.4	
Density	0.04	

Denbs. The majority of records were from outside the breeding season at coastal sites. Four sightings during Mar were from

Nant-y-Glyn, Llanddulas, Llysfaen and Colwyn Bay. Autumn and winter records all came from RSPB Conwy with numbers building up to a maximum of 9 on 30/12 (pRCo). Breeding was possible at one inland site.

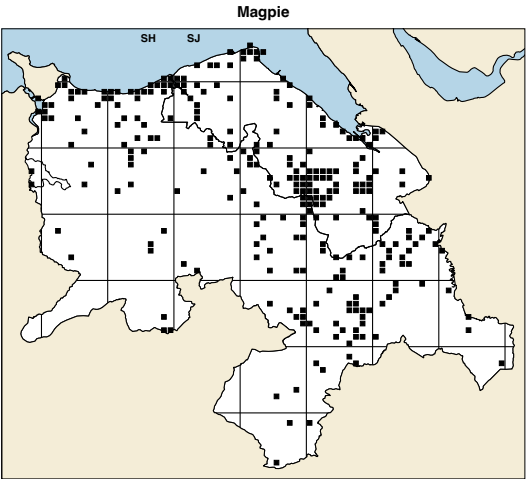


Magpie *Pica pica*
Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties. This is a widespread species of all lowland habitats.

Denbs. The majority of records were of 1-9 but there were nine larger counts with the most notable being 17+ at Kinmel Bay on 2/11 and 18 at Towyn on 8/01 (SM) and the maximum of 33 seen at Holt on 7/01 (NF).

Flints. Most records were of 1-9 with thirty eight records of 10 or more. As in 2013, around half of the records came from GBW sites. Many of the larger counts were accumulative counts from BirdTrack lists or BBS surveys but one notable record of 17 birds seen all together was at Rhydymwyn on 17/10 (JVHu) where this large flock was seeking food scraps on a village wall. The largest counts were 20 at Rhydymwyn on 26/11 (JVHu), 22 at Buckley on 17/05 (GNR) and the maximum count of 27 at Bagillt on 7/02 (GRMP).

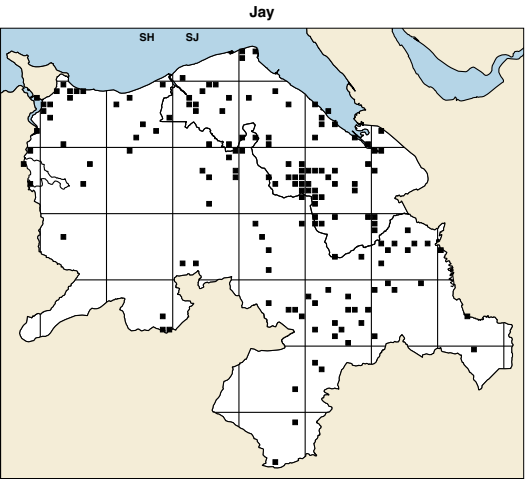


Jay *Garrulus glandarius*
Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. The vast majority of records were counts of 1-3 with ten records of 4-14 spread between Apr and Oct. Jays are woodland birds and during the breeding season this is not surprisingly the habitat where birds were recorded. However, in autumn Jays travel further afield to forage and a count of 7 was noted from Moel Arthur on 22/09 (GEM) and the highest count of 14 was particularly notable as a flock of Jays flew due W at around 30m at Penycae on 29/09 (JAJ).

Flints. Most records were of 1-3 with breeding season records coming from woodland habitats although there was one notable record of 2 seen on coastal fields at Point of Ayr on 20/04 (NHu). Twenty one records of 4-13 and 4-9 birds were seen on several occasions at Bagillt (GRMP) and similar numbers were regularly recorded at Pantymwyn (GEM). Four juveniles were seen on a wall at Rhydymwyn feeding on scraps on 27/06 (JVHu) and again on several occasions in Jul. The maximum count of 13 was seen on 4/01 at Halkyn where a flock was noted calling loudly (GRMP).



Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*
Breeding resident

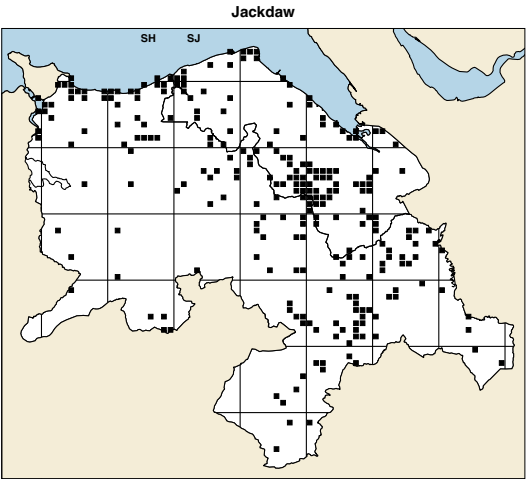
Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. The majority of records were of counts less than 20. There were thirty five records of between 20 and 100 but the most notable records were of larger flocks. At Llandrillo-yn-Rhos 140 were seen on 7/01 by RRD and 150+ were seen at Bodelwyddan Castle on 2/04 (WRM). However, a good total of 800+ was recorded at Bodfari on 19/01 (JPH). A total of 25 nestlings was ringed at Pandy on 25/05 (pBH).

YSGRECH Y COED		
(J)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	90	64
Maximum count	14	13
Av max count 2004-14	5	7
Recorded in BBS squares	8/30	8/14
Number of records	342	276
% records from GBW	40.9	27.2
% of BirdTrack lists	10.1	20.1
Density	0.64	1.41

JAC-Y-DO		
(JD)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Abundant	Abundant
Number of 1 km squares	159	95
Maximum count	800	300
Av max count 2004-14	458	257
Recorded in BBS squares	23/30	12/14
Number of records	1121	770
% records from GBW	30.0	52.1
% of BirdTrack lists	44.7	55.2
Density	64.37	48.39

Flints. Most records were of 1-49 and half of all the records were from GBW sites. There were forty records of 50 or more of which twelve records were of flocks of 100 or more. Numbers were regularly counted at Bagillt, Cilcain, Gwernaffield, Mold and Rhydymwyn. The maximum count of 300+ was from Rhuddlan on 2/07 (WRM).



Breeding (MRG, JVHu):

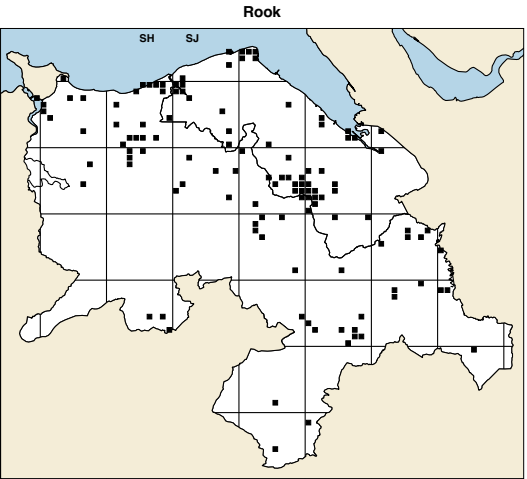
(JD)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Various	2	7	6	4	2.00
Pandy	8	28	28	28	3.50

Rook *Corvus frugilegus*
Colonial breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties. Unfortunately it seems that flocks of Rooks are such an everyday sight that few birdwatchers think to record sightings or numbers. This year, however, some new rookery locations and colony counts have been provided. As a local study of rookeries is planned for 2015 and beyond we would encourage more records like these. Observers are encouraged to make annual counts of their local rookeries, particularly during the months of Mar and early Apr when the rookeries are highly visible and the number of nests can be easily counted.

Denbs. Most records were in single figures with twenty seven records of 11-49 and eleven records of 50-100. The largest count was of 209 at Gellifor on 30/01 (TP).

Flints. Most records were in single figures with twenty seven records of 10-49. As in 2013 a high percentage of records came from GBW sites, where three gardens in particular, in Cilcain (RWes), Gwernaffield (TP) and Holywell (LMo) had visits from Rooks in most months of the year. There were only six counts of 50 or more and the maximum of 80 was at Gwernaffield on 20/01 (TP).

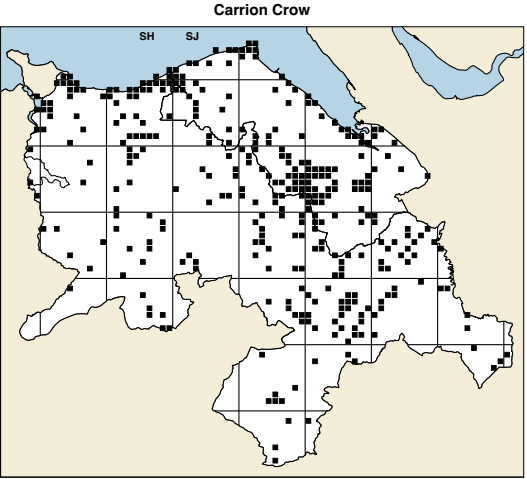


Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*
Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties. This is an exceedingly common bird found in the majority of BirdTrack lists and from most habitats

Denbs. The majority of records were in single figures with forty three records of 10-30. Two records exceeded 30. There were 35+ seen at Nant-y-Frith Reservoir on 26/05 (SD) and at Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd on 30/03 JD noted 80+ birds mobbing a Sparrowhawk on Woodpigeon prey.

Flints. All records were either in single figures (the majority) with forty three records of 10-30. The two maximum counts were 34 recorded at Marian Cwm on 17/06 (MrJ) and 40 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 16/06 (GEM).



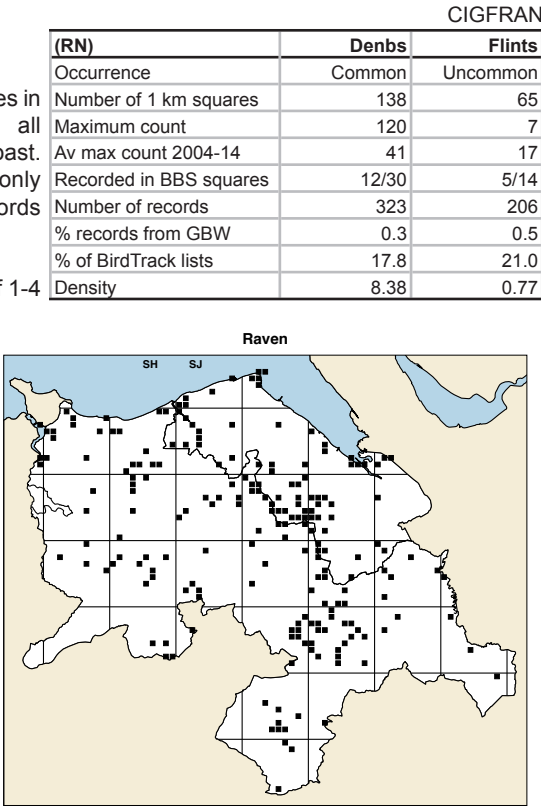
Raven *Corvus corax*

Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties in a wide scattering of locations at all elevations from the mountains to the coast. This is now becoming a very commonly sighted bird and the numbers of records almost doubled from 2013.

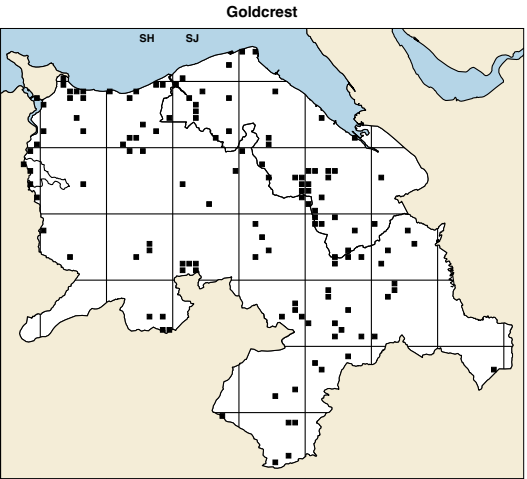
Denbs. The majority of records were of 1-4 with eleven records of 5-9 and six records of 11-22. One record came from a garden at Burton (HL). The maximum count was a very notable 120 at Llyn Alwen, Mynydd Hiraethog on 22/06 (DBy). Breeding display behaviour, particularly the distinctive tumbling flight, was noted at several sites.

Flints. Most records were in single figures with nine records of 5-9. The maximum count of 9 was seen on a BBS survey at Marian Cwm on 10/04 (MrJ). Breeding was confirmed at several locations. Ravens breed early in the season and one interesting breeding record was of 2 adults and 4 young about to fledge in Rhyl on 1/04 (JPH).



tree at the North Wales Wildlife Trust reserve at Y Graig on 17/05, whilst taking part in the NWWT Bird Race.

Flints. Most records were of 1-4 and there were eight counts of 5+. The maximum counts of 10 and 13 both came from BirdTrack lists at Nercwys Mountain on 18/04 (GEM) and Rhydyddauddwr Farm, near Rhuddlan on 29/10 (FiW).



Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla*

Migrant and winter visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

Seen in these months:

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

All records were from RSPB Conwy where this species is regularly seen each winter. It is still surprising that records are not received from other suitable sites along the coast in winter.

(FC)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	2	
Maximum count	2	
Number of records	55	0
% of BirdTrack lists	0.9	
Density	0.00	

Denbs. A single was first recorded on 22/01 and it was probably the same bird that was still present on 2/02 (pRCo). The next sightings were on 10/03 and 13/03. There were no more records until the autumn when another single was seen on 6/09 (pRCo). Unlike 2013 there were no Oct sightings but on 19/11 2 were recorded and again it was likely that these were the same 2 that stayed for the remaining part of the winter until 30/12.

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*

Breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List.

Recorded in each month in both counties. This, our smallest bird, is often overlooked maybe due to its size, propensity for remaining hidden within conifer trees or dense ivy and its high pitched calls and song. The number of records increased this year.

Denbs. Most records were of 1-4 with four records of 5-8. A large number of birds were ringed during the late summer and autumn migration. IMS ringed 101 birds at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest between 27/07 and 23/09 with 47 individuals on 2/09 alone. M&H ringed 26 between 26/07 and 30/09 at sites in the Tanat Valley. Breeding was noted at several sites. One particular breeding record was when AB saw a pair taking food to a nest located in an ivy-clad

EURBEN

(GC)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	93	39
Maximum count	47	13
Av max count 2004-14	39	8
Recorded in BBS squares	10/30	7/14
Number of records	243	124
% records from GBW	5.8	13.7
% of BirdTrack lists	12.7	13.1
Density	2.21	0.86

Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*

Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties. The number of records received and the number of locations where this species was seen increased in 2014 but this still did not reflect the distribution as shown in TBBNW. As in previous years very few winter flocks of any reasonable size were recorded. Observers are encouraged to submit more winter flock counts.

TITW TOMOS LAS

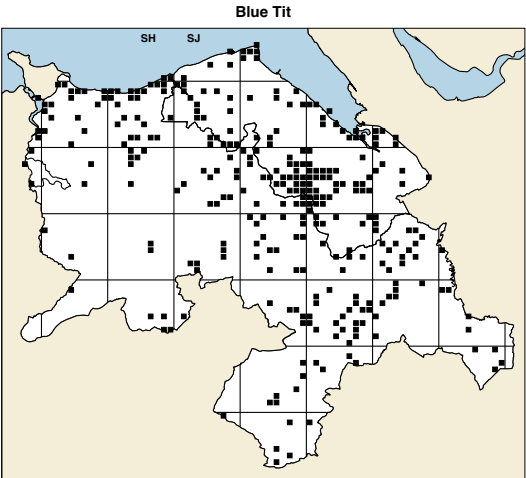
Denbs. Most records were of 1-10 with only sixty four records of 11-30. The largest counts were 27 seen on a BBS survey at Betws-yn-Rhos on 14/06 (AnWi), 27 seen on a GBW survey at Talygarth in week beginning 17/08 (DCg), a winter flock of 30+ seen at Erddig on 24/12 (NHu) and the maximum was of 43 nestlings ringed at Coed Nantddu, Clocaenog on 21/05 (IMS).

Flints. Most records were of 1-10 with ninety eight records of higher counts of 11-30. A few higher counts were mainly of winter flocks of 30-50 regularly counted at Bagillt (GRMP) with the maximum of 124 seen on 15/11. The most notable ringing records were from IMS who ringed 57 nestlings at Rhydymwyn on 24/05, 65 fullgrown at Bagillt on 12/11 and 70 nestlings at Coed y Felin, Hendre on 21/05.

Breeding (MRG, IMS, JLR, JVHu):

(BT)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Glyn Arthur	37	329	296	293	7.92
Pandy	12	77	65	48	4.00
Llewesog Hall	28	300	224	195	6.96
Llwynmawr	2	12	8	7	3.50
Dinbren Isaf	22	190	136	122	5.55
Coed Nantddu	6	67	46	43	7.17
Coed y Felin	14	134	111	108	7.71
Rhydymwyn	25	306	256	139	5.56
TOTALS	146	1415	1142	955	6.54

(BT)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very common	Very common
Number of 1 km squares	195	115
Maximum count	43	124
Av max count 2004-14	53	78
Recorded in BBS squares	26/30	14/14
Number of records	1944	1198
% records from GBW	49.1	55.5
% of BirdTrack lists	61.3	62.2
Density	4.24	24.21



Great Tit *Parus major*

Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

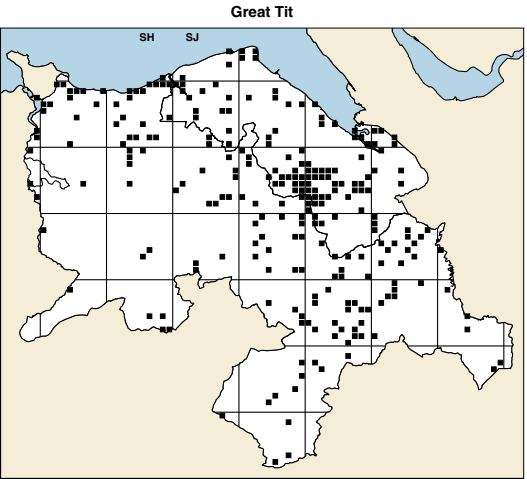
Denbs. Most records were of 1-10 with only nineteen larger counts, the five largest of which all related to ringing activities. These five records were of ringed nestlings: 19 at Coed Nantddu, Clocaenog on 15/05 (IMS), 22 at Llewini Hall, Bodfari on 22/05 (IMS) and then at Pandy: 22 on 15/06, 30 on 24/05 and 58 on 18/05 (pBH).

Flints. The majority of records were of 1-10 with thirty records of between 11 and 54. Between 27 and 37 were regularly seen in the winter months at Bagillt (GRMP). The two largest counts came from ringing. 53 nestlings were were ringed at Coed y Felin, Hendre on 14/05 and another 54 nestlings were ringed at Rhydymwyn on 15/05 (IMS).

Breeding (MRG, IMS, JVHu):

(GT)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Glyn Arthur	16	122	110	110	6.88
Pandy	32	225	187	134	4.19
Llewesog Hall	21	105	170	145	6.90
Coed Nantddu	3	25	22	22	7.33
Coed y Felin	12	86	79	70	5.83
Rhydymwyn	32	234	202	137	4.28
Dinbren Isaf	10	87	77	59	5.90
Near Llangollen	5	43	20	14	2.80
TOTALS	131	927	867	691	5.27

(GT)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very common	Very common
Number of 1 km squares	159	97
Maximum count	58	54
Av max count 2004-14	56	37
Recorded in BBS squares	24/30	14/14
Number of records	1488	961
% records from GBW	57.7	60.9
% of BirdTrack lists	37.0	45.9
Density	4.67	8.89



Coal Tit *Periparus ater*

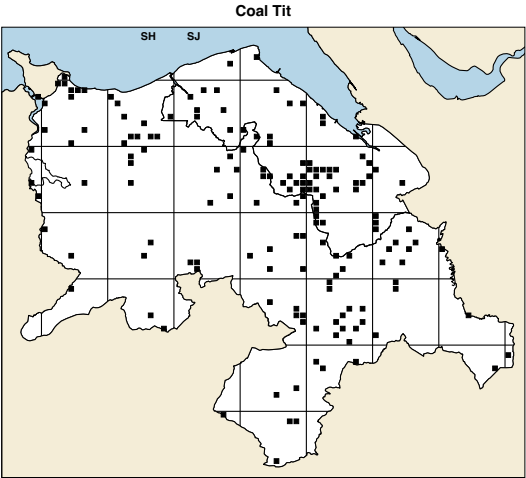
Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month of the year from both counties.

Denbs. All records were in single figures with the exception of the maximum of 17 seen at Brynhyfryd, Clocaenog Forest on 4/02 (RRD).

Flints. All counts were in single figures (the majority were of 1-2) with the largest count of 8 seen on four occasions at four different locations: Gronant on 1/06 (GRMP), Pantymwyn on 22/10 (GEM), Rhydyddauddwr Farm near Rhuddlan on 29/10 (FiW) and Nercwys Mountain on 2/11 (GEM).

TIT PENDDU		
(CT)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Common
Number of 1 km squares	104	55
Maximum count	17	8
Recorded in BBS squares	12/30	5/14
Number of records	747	554
% records from GBW	72.8	69.5
% of BirdTrack lists	11.1	22.9
Density	0.89	0.75



Breeding (MRG):

(CT)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Glyn Arthur	2	18	16	16	8.00

Willow Tit *Poecile montana*

Breeding resident. Red List. WBAP. RBBP.

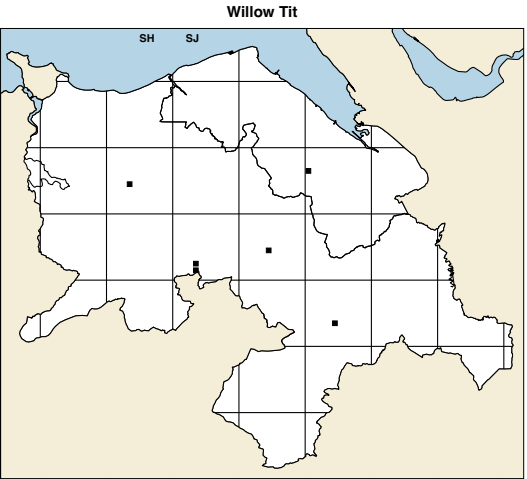
Seen in these months:											
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

Whilst the number of records appears to have increased this year, many sightings were probably of the same birds at the same site. Sightings came from six sites this year. Although some were seen in the breeding season no indications of breeding were provided. Field identification can be difficult and this, maybe, prevents observers from making a definitive record.

TITWR HELYG		
(WT)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	5	1
Maximum count	3	1
Recorded in BBS squares	1/30	-
Number of records	28	1
% records from GBW	67.9	-
% of BirdTrack lists	0.4	0.2
Density	0.01	0.00

Denbs. Most counts were of 1-2 with a maximum count of 3 in a garden at Graigfechan were counted on 4/05, 8/06 and 15/06 (Mal). Two fullgrown birds were ringed at Bronbannog, Clocaenog on 26/07 and 2 were ringed at the same site on 2/09 and 4/09 (IMS).

Flints. There was only one record of a single at Rhydymwyn on 26/05 (IMS).



Marsh Tit *Poecile palustris*

Breeding resident. Red List. WBAP.

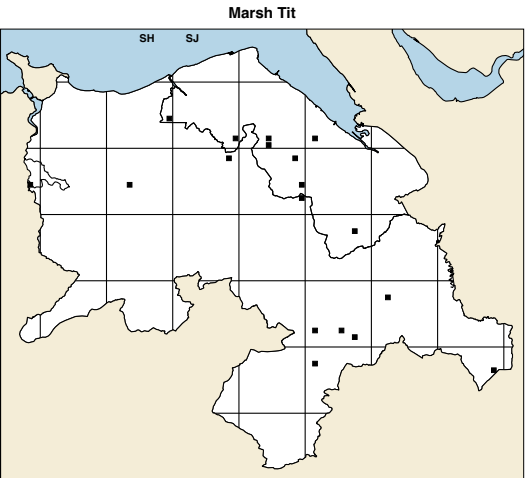
Seen in these months:											
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

The number of records for this species increased this year.

Denbs. There were eleven records of singles and thirteen records of 1+ to 2. Records of 2 came from Trefriw, Talygarth, Lleweli Hall, Bodfari, Erddig, Llansannan and Bodelwyddan Castle. Although breeding was not recorded, one record came from a BBS survey and eight other records were during the breeding season.

Flints. Records of 2 came from Halkyn, Glust, Bodfari, Afonwen (on a BBS survey on 21/06 GRMP), Llanfynydd and the largest count was 3 at Pantymwyn on 30/07 (GEM).

TITWR WERN		
(MT)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	11	7
Maximum count	2	3
Recorded in BBS squares	1/30	1/14
Number of records	25	8
% records from GBW	40.0	-
% of BirdTrack lists	0.6	0.4
Density	0.01	0.04



Skylark *Alauda arvensis*

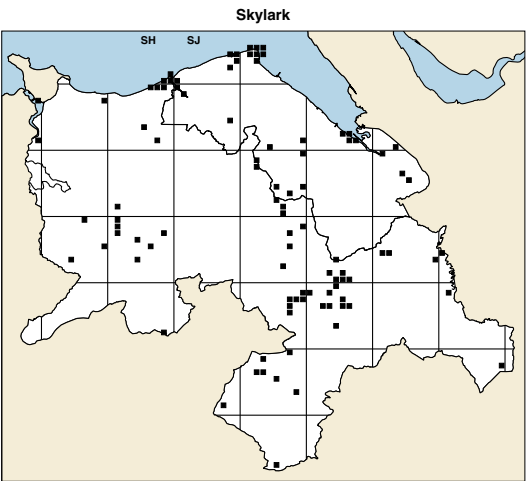
Breeding resident and winter visitor. Amber List.

Recorded in each month in both counties except Dec in Denbs. Although there were no three figure counts in either vice-county this year, both reported increased numbers of records, particularly in Denbs.

Denbs. Records were mainly of 1-5 and the only counts in double figures were of 12 at Moel Gydia on 25/04 (BI) and 15 flying over Towyn on 29/10 (SM).

Flints. Most reports were in single figures but there were counts of at least 12 at Talacre gas terminal on 14/01 (KhD), 12 at Talacre on 10/09 (MGW), 10 at Talacre gas terminal two days later (GEM), at least 20 at Rhyl on 20/09 (WRM), 12 again at Talacre on 26/10 (MPS) and at least 40 on a recently sown winter wheat field at Rhuddlan on 24/11 (WRM). In addition to these double figure reports there were high numbers on two BBS sites: 31 at Rhuddlan on 17/04 (RoE), with 18 there on the second visit on 26/06 and 17 at Sandycroft on 27/04 (IMS) with 19 on the second count on 14/06.

(S)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Very common
Number of 1 km squares	65	31
Maximum count	15	40
Av max count 2004-14	58	358
Recorded in BBS squares	7/30	5/14
Number of records	144	114
% of BirdTrack lists	4.8	18.1
Density	0.49	2.11



Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

Summer breeding visitor and passage migrant. Amber List.

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

There were plenty of records during Mar this year: eighteen in Denbs. and thirteen in Flints. Last records were even earlier than in 2013, with only two Sep records in Denbs. and none at all in Flints.

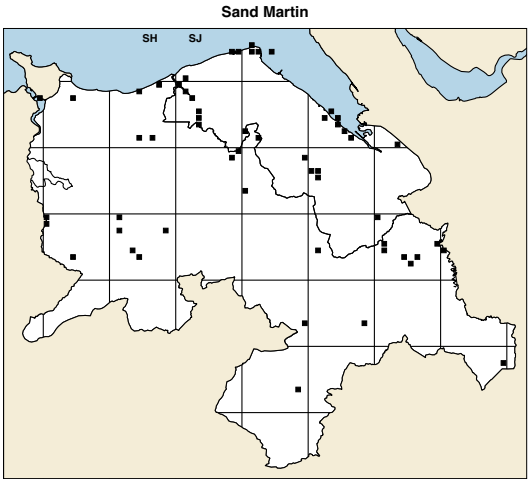
Denbs. Almost twice as many reports as in 2013. The earliest records again came from RSPB Conwy with the first, presence only, on 14/03, rising to 20 on 22/03. Llay Pool also produced a run of early records, with 6 seen on 20/03 (KS), rising to 10 on 23/03 (KS). There was heavy passage recorded through RSPB Conwy in the first ten days of Apr, starting with 44 on 2/04 and peaking at at least 300 on 4/04,

(SM)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Fairly common
Number of 1 km squares	30	26
Maximum count	500	70
Av max count 2004-14	164	70
Recorded in BBS squares	2/30	1/14
Number of records	101	64
% records from GBW	2.0	-
% of BirdTrack lists	5.4	7.3
Density	7.59	3.09

EHEDYDD

7/04 and 8/04 – these were the only three figure counts in 2014. Inland, there were 4 near Bodfari on 23/03 (JPH) and reports from Llanefydd from 29/03 (JVHu), peaking at at least 50 on 6/07. The only Sep reports were from Llay Pool, with 1 on 6/09 (SD) and presence at RSPB Conwy on 13/09.

Flints. The first record was at the same site as in the previous three years with 1 at Rhyl brickworks pool (AOH) on 18/03. Five days later 7 were there and numbers rose to 20+ by 28/03 (AHJ). There was an overall increase in the number of reports, though not as great as in Denbs. Substantial post-fledging dispersal was noted at Bagillt on 8/07, with 70 passing through and migration continued through Aug, with the last reports being 35 at Connah's Quay NR on 27/08 (GEM) and the final record of 2+ at Flint on 30/08 (SD).



Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

Summer breeding visitor and passage migrant. Amber List.

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

As with Sand Martin, the first arrivals were back to normal dates, with an early single at Penycae on 9/03 (JAJ) and subsequent records trickling in from 21/03. Autumn departures were largely completed by the beginning of Oct, but there was a late single at RSPB Conwy on 30/11.

Denbs. The first two were at RSPB Conwy on 22/03 and the earliest inland reports came from Bodfari with 2 on 30/03 (JPH) and 1 at Berwyn Mountains on 31/03 (RPP). Spring passage was notable on 12/04 with 30 in a flock of hirundines at Ruabon Mountain (JAJ) and at least 40 at RSPB Conwy (EdDJ). Autumn passage gatherings were first noted on 25/07 with 23 at Moel Arthur (GEM) and the maximum count was 900 feeding and then departing S at Penycae on 4/09 (JAJ). Twenty or more were moving at Towyn on several dates to the end of the third week in Sep (SM) and RSPB Conwy recorded the last regular passage on 5/10, with a late straggler logged there on 30/11.

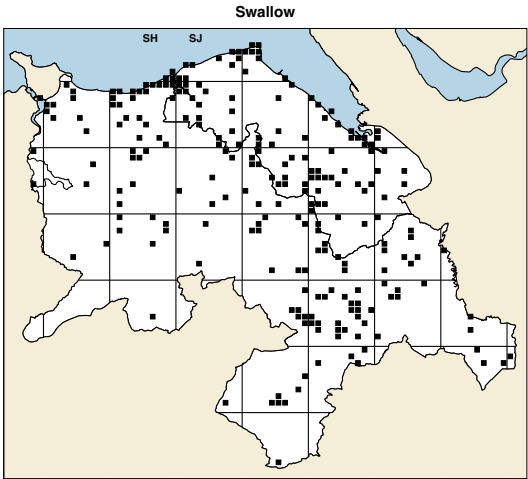
Flints. The first of spring was a single at Fagl Lane GP on 21/03 (KhD) and nest sites were being occupied from 8/04 at Bagillt (GRMP). The only double figure reports of spring passage came from Connah's Quay NR with 16 on 12/04 (GEM) and at least 30 at Gronant on 23/04

(SL)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Abundant	Abundant
Number of 1 km squares	149	87
Maximum count	900	500
Av max count 2004-14	467	604
Recorded in BBS squares	24/30	13/14
Number of records	484	290
% records from GBW	9.5	6.9
% of BirdTrack lists	21.3	29.4
Density	67.86	73.85

GWENNOL

GWENNOL Y GLENNYDD

(AHJ). There were only three three figure counts: an early roost in Jul in *Typha* at Rhydymwyn, with at least 300 on 8/07 and peaking at more than 500 on 16/07 (IMS) after which the roost was abandoned. The other large count in autumn was of at least 300 gathering in the sky at Hawarden on 3/09 (HJ) and the last of the year was a single recorded there on 2/10 (HJ).



Breeding (MRG, JLR, JVHu):

(SL)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Pandy	23	106	88	81	3.52
Eglwyseg	20	91	62	47	2.35
Llangollen area	40	177	132	104	2.60
Penycae	2	8	7	4	2.00
Rhydymwyn	11	53	47	43	3.91
TOTALS	96	435	336	279	2.91

House Martin *Delichon urbicum*

GWENNOL Y BONDO

Summer breeding visitor and passage migrant. Amber List.

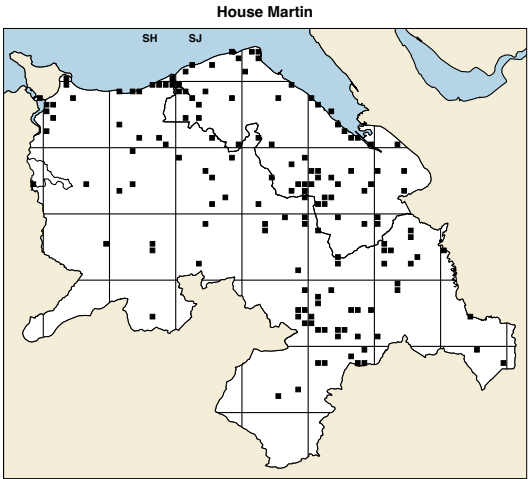
Seen in these months:											
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

The main arrivals in both vice-counties started in the second week of Apr and continued through until the end of May.

Denbs. Although there was a 35% increase in reports this year, there were only three counts of 40 or more, with 40 at Holt on 5/08 (NF), 60 at Froncsyllite on 29/08 (DaHu) and the highest count of the year for Denbs, 100, at Penycae on 4/09 (JAJ). The last record of the autumn was presence at RSPB Conwy on 30/09.

Flints. The first report was of 1 near Hope on 21/03 (KhD). In contrast to Denbs there were eleven counts of 40 or more, five of them at Rhydymwyn between 13/07 and 31/08 (JVHu, DMH), peaking with at least 100 on 19/07 just before a storm (JVHu). The highest single count

was 250 at Connah's Quay NR on 25/08 (PSH) and the week beginning 24/08 also produced counts of at least 100 at Gronant on 24/08 (WRM), 40 at Rhyl on 25/08 (JNW) and 50 at Connah's Quay NR on 27/08 (GEM). The last double figure count was 50 at Hendre on 20/09 (GEM). After the end of Sep there were two late records, one at Hawarden on 15/10 (HJ) and a very late bird from a GBW count at Hope in week beginning 23/11 (ECMH) which beat the newly established 2013 record by a further week.



Cetti's Warbler *Cettia cetti*

TELOR CETTI

Rare visitor and potential breeding resident.

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

Although confined to one site in each vice-county – RSPB Conwy and Shotton Steelworks – the total number of reports increased dramatically from seven in 2013.

(CW)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	2	2
Maximum count	2	2
Number of records	43	7
% of BirdTrack lists	0.3	0.9
Density	0.00	0.01

Denbs. All the RSPB Conwy records were from Sep to Dec and all were singles, except for 2 on 18/11 and 19/11.

Flints. None reported from Rhyl this year, but recorded at Shotton Steelworks throughout the breeding season from Apr to Jul, with a total of 3 ringed at the end of Jun and in early Jul (pBH). Breeding was confirmed at this site for the first county breeding record.

Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*

TITW GYNFFON HIR

Breeding resident

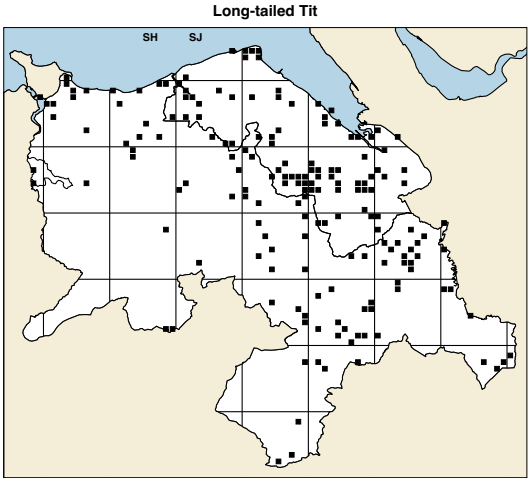
Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. Only seven of the records (1.7%) were of flocks of 10 or more birds with a large proportion of all records from GBW sites.

Flints. Twenty four of the records (8.4%) were of flocks of 10 or more birds, with 28 at Bagillt

on 22/11 the largest (GRMP). Not quite as large a proportion of records came from GBW as in Denbs.

(LT)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Common
Number of 1 km squares	104	74
Maximum count	35	28
Av max count 2004-14	30	25
Recorded in BBS squares	7/30	9/14
Number of records	477	287
% records from GBW	52.2	46.7
% of BirdTrack lists	14.2	17.7
Density	1.84	3.52



Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus*

Passage migrant.

Denbs. One was ringed at Rhos-on-Sea on 29/10 (SKT). It is perhaps surprising that this was the only report, given the record numbers that got to Spain and SW Europe which may have passed through the UK.

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*

Summer visitor. Red List.

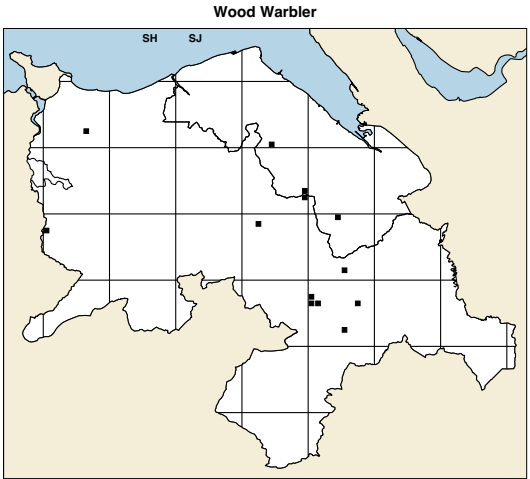
Seen in these months:											
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

Denbs. The first record was 1 at Coed Hafod on 26/04 (JMJ). All reports were of

(WO)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	10	3
Maximum count	2	1
Recorded in BBS squares	1/30	3/14
Number of records	15	5
% of BirdTrack lists	0.1	0.2
Density	0.01	0.01

singles, except for 2 on a BBS count at Garth, Trevor Hall on 27/05 (MaEv) – this was the only BBS square with a record. The last record was a male at Eglwyseg, Foel on 20/06 (JLR).

Flints. The first record was from a BBS count at Pantymwyn on 5/05 (NRT) and the last was 1 singing at Afonwen on 21/06 in the same place as 2013 (GRMP).



Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*

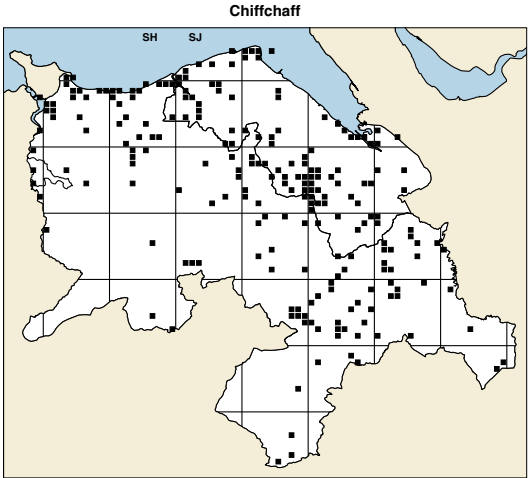
Breeding summer visitor and winter visitor.

Recorded in each month in both counties except Jan in Flints. Overwintering birds were again recorded in both vice-counties, but with fewer in Jan and Feb than in Nov and Dec. There were no reports of the *tristis* subspecies.

Denbs. There were more than twice as many reports as the previous year (595 in 2014; 293 in 2013). A single at RSPB Conwy on 18/01 was the first of the year and the only Jan record, with 1 at Llandyrnog on 27/02 (JDa) the only Feb report. From 6/03 there were reports almost daily until 6/12 with further records of one or two up to 29/12. The first noted males in song were at Nant-y-Glyn with four on 12/03 (HC) and 13 were recorded there on 8/04 (HC). Ten counts reached double figures, mostly from ringing sessions in Clocaenog Forest (IMS) and at Ty-nant (MkH), with the highest total being 19 ringed at Ty-nant on 12/09.

Flints. The first record (and also the

(CC)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Fairly common	Fairly common
Number of 1 km squares	138	84
Maximum count	19	17
Recorded in BBS squares	24/30	11/14
Number of records	595	335
% records from GBW	8.9	9.3
% of BirdTrack lists	33.2	30.1
Density	1.33	2.42



first singing male) was at Flint sewage farm on 22/02 (GRMP). There were almost daily records from 9/03, when 1 was ringed at Shotton Steelworks (pBH) to 3/10, with a sprinkling through to 31/12: 4 were at Pantymwyn on 28/12 (TP). There were three reports of double figures, with the highest counts being 15 on a BBS survey at Talacre gas terminal on 9/04 (PMi) and 17 at Nercwys Mountain on 18/04 (GEM).

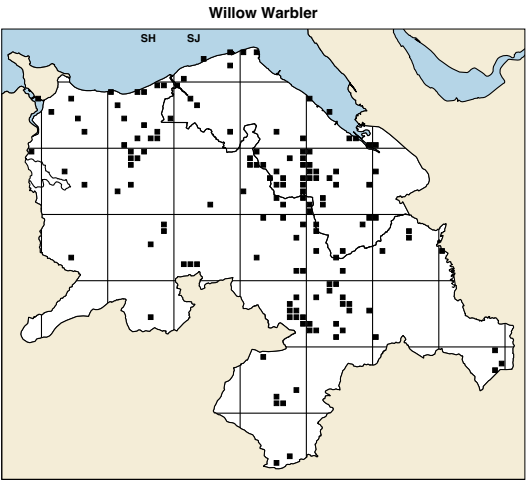
Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*

Summer breeding visitor and passage migrant. Red List.

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

Both vice-counties produced Mar records this year, at two sites in Denbs and one in Flints. There was a substantial increase in reports from Flints with 106, as against 69 in 2013. Whilst there were no records in Flints after the end of Aug, some lingered in Denbs into Oct.

Denbs. The first records came from Llanfair Talhairn (AIC) and from a GBW count at Llangollen (HN) in week beginning 30/03, with the first male in song at Bodelwyddan on 2/04 (WRM). With some ringing resumed at Bronbannog during the year, the maximum count was much higher than in 2013, with 45 ringed there on 26/07 (IMS). Overall, there were again only six double figure counts, with a notable 28 at Fenn's Moss on 23/04 (HMB) and 11-15 on three BBS squares. After the last inland record of 1 at Llangollen on 14/09 (HN) there were four reports of singles at RSPB Conwy in Oct, with the last on 14/10.



Flints. The earliest was a single at Rhuddlan on 26/03 (JHB) and the first male in song was recorded near Hope on 1/04 (GNR). Although there was an overall increase in records only three reports reached double figures, with 25 at Penycloddiau on 29/04 (EdW) being the highest count. The final record for the year was a single ringed at Rhydymwyn on 31/08 (IMS).

TELOR YR HELYG

(WW)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	96	50
Maximum count	45	25
Recorded in BBS squares	21/30	4/14
Number of records	275	107
% records from GBW	2.9	2.8
% of BirdTrack lists	14.4	9.5
Density	2.19	2.12

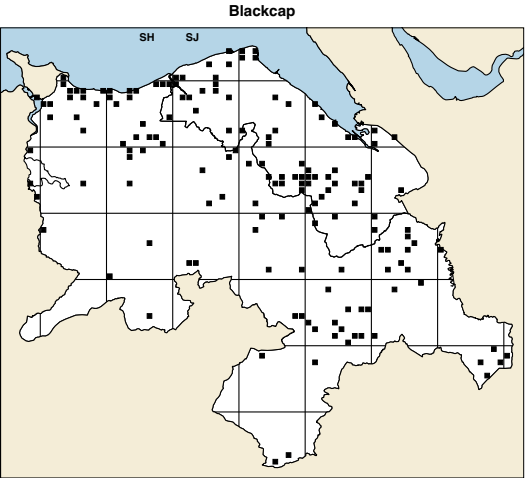
Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*

Breeding summer visitor and winter visitor.

Recorded in each month in both counties except Oct in Denbs. There was more evidence of wintering birds from Jan to Mar than in Nov and Dec. Lower proportions were recorded from GBW sites in both vice-counties than in 2013.

Denbs. The first male in song was recorded at Nant-y-Glyn on 26/03 (HC). Reports increased by 50% on 2013 (322, as against 210) but there was only one double figure count – 10 ringed at Bronbannog on 5/09 (IMS).

Flint. There was little change in the number of records in Flints this year. Most Jan to Mar records were single and the first male recorded in song was at Bagillt on 28/03 (GRMP). There were no counts in double figures, with the highest daily score of 8 ringed at Shotton Steelworks on 13/04 (pBH).



(BC)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Fairly common	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	96	64
Maximum count	10	12
Recorded in BBS squares	17/30	12/14
Number of records	322	206
% records from GBW	20.8	22.2
% of BirdTrack lists	15.1	12.2
Density	0.49	1.30

TELOR PENDDU

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin*

Breeding summer visitor. Amber List.

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

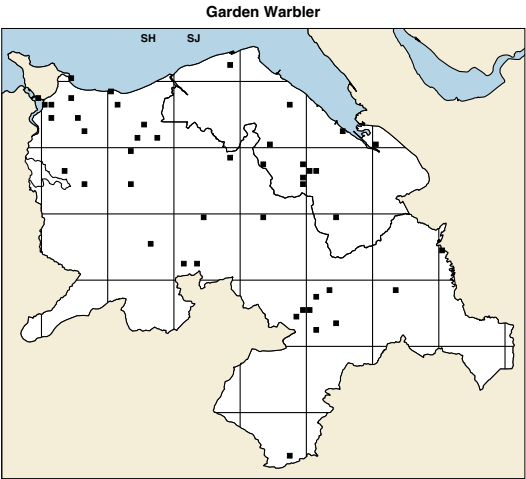
Although this is still not a commonly reported species, there was a 43.6% increase in records across the two vice-counties, with similar increases in both. There was a well reported arrival during the last week in Apr, but departures were early, with only one Sep record in Denbs and none after 31/07 in Flints.

Denbs. All records were of 1-3, except for two reports of 4: on a BBS survey at Pandy Tudur on 21/05 (HC) and ringed at Ty-nant on 26/07 (MkH). Reported almost daily from the earliest on 23/04 during a BBS survey at Rhyd-y-Foel (GBH) to 6/08, but only four subsequent records, with the last at RSPB Conwy on 13/09.

(GW)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	33	12
Maximum count	4	4
Recorded in BBS squares	6/30	3/14
Number of records	77	28
% records from GBW	2.6	7.1
% of BirdTrack lists	3.5	2.2
Density	0.07	0.08

TELOR YR ARDD

Flint. The first of the year was a male singing at Penycloddiau on 20/04 (EdW) and 4 were at the same site on 29/04 (EdW) which was the highest count of the year. All other reports were of 1-2, except for two records of 3: one on a BBS survey at Afonwen on 5/05 (GRMP) and the final report of the year at Flint saltmarsh on 31/07 (AGJ).

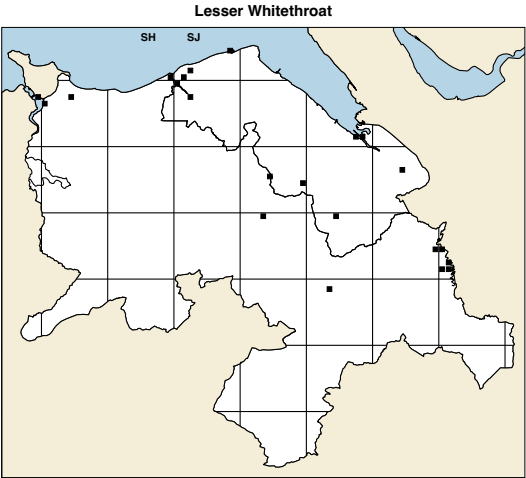


Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca*
Breeding summer visitor.

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

Denbs. There was a wider distribution of records than in 2013, with the first two coming from Holt (1: NF) and RSPB Conwy (2) on 13/04. All reports were of 1-2, except for 3 at Nant-y-Glyn on 30/04 (HC) and 6 at Holt on 7/05 (NF). Reports were regular up to 17/06 but thereafter there was only one in Jul, two in Aug and two in Sep, with the final bird on 3/09 at RSPB Conwy (JHg). Recorded on one BBS square at Rhuthun (MB) with 1 on the first May visit and 2 on the second in Jun.

Flint. The first of the year was a single at Rhyl Brickworks on 19/04 (AHJ) and reports of 1-2 continued steadily until 14/06. Subsequently, 1 was at Rhyl on 23/06 (AHJ), none were recorded in Jul and there were five Aug reports, the last being 2 at Connah's Quay NR on 16/08 (PSH).



Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*
Breeding summer visitor. Amber List.

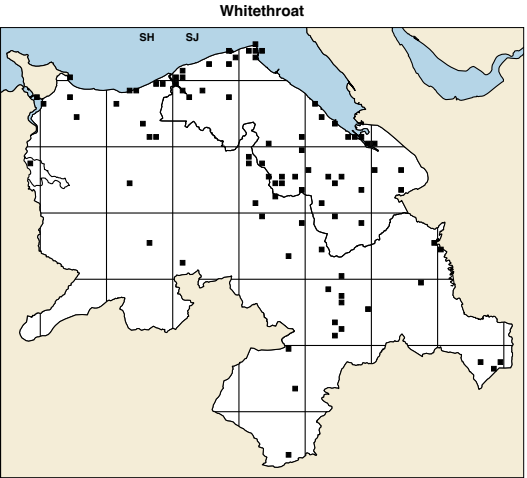
Seen in these months:												
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Another substantial increase, most notably in Denbs where there was a 50% increase in reports – almost 45% of the records came from RSPB Conwy. There was a good arrival in Apr and after the last run of records to mid-Sep there were late records in Flints on 29/09 and Denbs on 10/10.

Denbs. The first report came from RSPB Conwy on 16/04 and the last of the year came from Bod Hyfryd on 10/10. Most records were of 1-5 and the maximum counts were from near Wrexham with 8 on a BBS survey on 15/05 (LWe) and a remarkable 16 on another BBS survey on the same day on Ruabon Mountain (HN).

Flint. Bagillt again produced the first record: this was a very early male in song on 30/03 (GRMP). The next record came from the nature trail at Connah's Quay NR on 15/04 (RRS) and this presaged the main arrival over the next two weeks. Reports came from twelve BBS squares (as against nine the previous year), with 9 on the BBS square at Talacre gas terminal on 8/06 the highest count for the year. Most other reports were of 1-5. After the third week in Aug there were only three more records, the last being a single at Connah's Quay NR on 29/09 (KJ, BH).

LLWYDFRON		
(WH)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	43	45
Maximum count	16	9
Recorded in BBS squares	13/30	12/14
Number of records	163	107
% of BirdTrack lists	10.9	12.4
Density	0.35	0.69



Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*
Breeding summer visitor. Red List.

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

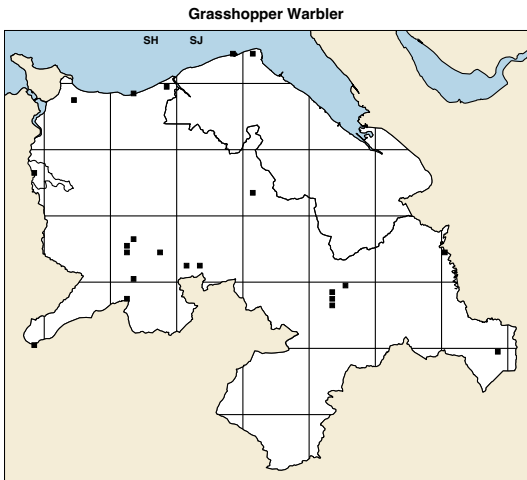
More records from Denbs than in 2013, but fewer from Flints and still low numbers. This year there was a run of records in Jul and Sep from Denbs at least partly due to the resumption of ringing at Bronbannog but none after the first week of Jun in Flints, probably due to the elusive nature of the species when not reeling.

TROELLWR BACH		
(GH)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Very scarce
Number of 1 km squares	20	2
Maximum count	5	1
Number of records	28	6
% of BirdTrack lists	0.8	0.7
Density	0.05	0.00

Denbs. The first spring record was on 15/04, with a male singing near World's End, Ruabon

Mountain (HC). Six of the records came from there and a further six from Bronbannog, with 5 ringed on 5/09 the largest total and 1 ringed on 23/09 the final bird.

Flint. All the records came from the Gronant / Talacre dunes area, with the first on 30/04 (LWe) and the last recorded on 7/06 (DCR).



Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

TELOR HESG

Breeding summer visitor.

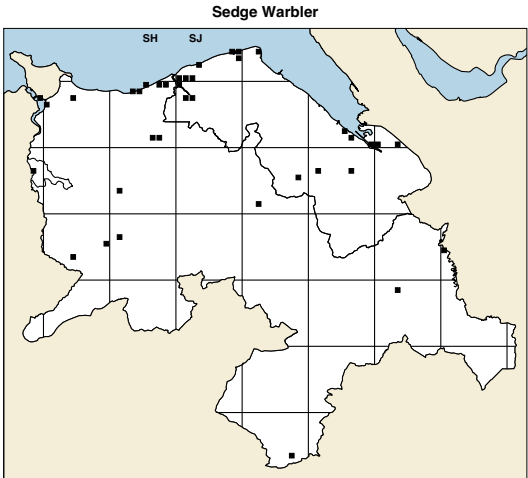
Seen in these months:												
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

The numbers of records were higher than 2013 in both vice-counties, but with a limited number of well watched sites involved, this may not reflect any genuine change in abundance. Arrivals and departures were on normal dates.

Denbs. As has become the norm RSPB Conwy dominated the records again, with two thirds of all reports and the first of the spring was reported there on 15/04. In terms of numbers Pensarn was the most productive site, with 7 on 30/04 and 7/05 and the highest count of 9 on 18/05 (WRM). After 21/08 there was only one further record – at RSPB Conwy on 13/09.

Flint. The first of the year was a male in song at Talacre on 12/04 (GRMP) and the dunes areas between Talacre and Gronant accounted for the majority of the records. Breeding was proved at three sites:

(SW)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	19	19
Maximum count	9	9
Recorded in BBS squares	3/30	1/14
Number of records	116	51
% of BirdTrack lists	9.1	5.9
Density	0.09	0.29



Rhuddlan, Rhyl and Gronant. The highest total of the year was 9 at Cilcain on 11/06 (HJ). None were ringed at Shotton Steelworks after 6/07 (pBH) and the last record of the year was a single at Gronant on 24/08 (WRM).

Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

TELOR Y CYRS

Breeding summer visitor.

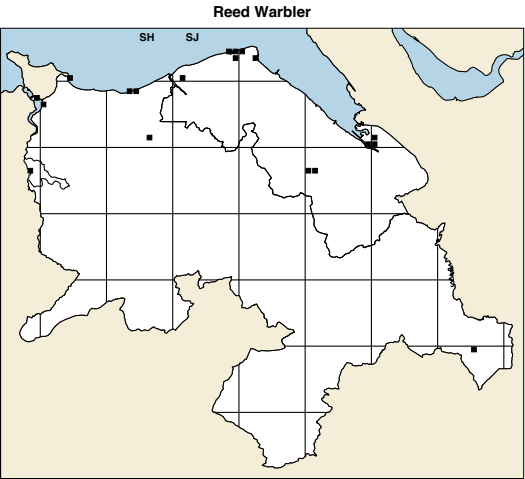
Seen in these months:												
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

A large increase in reports from Denbs whilst reports from Flints stayed the same. All were between Apr and Sep with no Oct records this year.

(RW)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	8	11
Maximum count	8	6
Number of records	83	31
% of BirdTrack lists	6.9	5.0
Density	0.03	0.11

Denbs. The large majority (77%) of records came from RSPB Conwy, with the first of the year on 15/04 and the maximum of 7 on 13/06 (WRM). A further 14% came from the Pensarn area, with the highest count of the year at 8 on 4/07 (WRM). The four Sep records all came from RSPB Conwy, with the last single on 22/09.

Flint. The first record was a male singing at Talacre gas terminal on 19/04 (SD). Reports came from only four areas: Talacre / Gronant, Rhyl Brickworks, Shotton and Rhydymwyn. Breeding was proved at Rhyl Brickworks on 2/07 (WRM) and ringing records came from Shotton Steelworks, with a maximum of 6 on 13/07 (pBH), and a single at Rhydymwyn on 16/07 (IMS). After mid-Aug there was only one further report: a single at Shotton Paper Mill on 12/09 (IMS).



Nuthatch *Sitta europaea*

DELOR Y CNAU

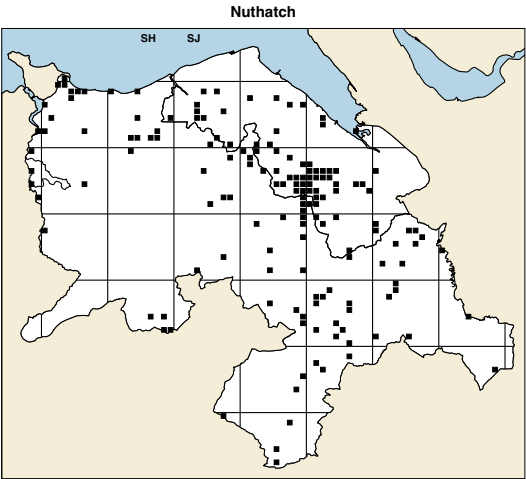
Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties. Most records were of 1-2. The maxima for 2014 were similar to the average maxima for 2004 to 2013.

Denbs. Records during the first winter period were mostly of 1-2. Exceptions were:

(NH)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Fairly common
Number of 1 km squares	98	59
Maximum count	8	6
Recorded in BBS squares	13/30	8/14
Number of records	614	395
% records from GBW	69.2	46.8
% of BirdTrack lists	10.6	23.8
Density	0.40	0.60

4 at Talygarth on 12/01 (DCg); a minimum of 3 at Loggerheads Country Park on 23/01 (AIIA); 3 at Pensarn on 4/02 (DCR) and 3 at Brynhyfryd, Clocaenog Forest on the same day (RRD). The highest count on a BBS walk was 4 at Llangwm on 16 April (MaO). There were four records of confirmed breeding: 6 nestlings ringed at Pandy on 11/05 (pBH); 6 nestlings ringed at Coed Nantddu, Clocaenog on 15/05 (IMS); a nest in an Oak at Llanrwst (about 75 cm above ground level where an adult was watched adding mud to the entrance on 18/04 and where a trail of droppings was found below the entrance on 21/06; WRM), and fledged young with adults at Plas Maenan on 23/06 (WRM). The maximum count in the second winter period was a minimum of 6 at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 30/11 (SM).



Flints. The counts in the first winter period were all of 1-2. The highest count on a BBS walk was 5 at Afonwen on 21/06 (GRMP). There were 3 records of confirmed breeding: 3 nestlings ringed at Coed y Felin on 14/05 (IMS); 6 nestlings ringed there on 21/05 (IMS), and a fledgling at Moel Hiraddug, Dyserth on 26/06 (DJH). The highest count in the second winter period was 6 at Gwernymynydd on 25/11 (TP).

Breeding (IMS):

(NH)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Coed Nantddu	1	6	6	6	6.00
Coed y Felin	3	10	10	9	3.00

Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris*

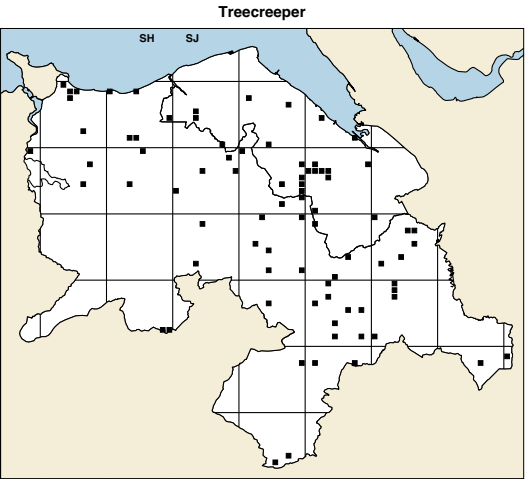
Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties. Most records were of singles. The maxima for 2014 were similar to the average maxima for 2004 to 2013.

Denbs. All of the records in the first winter period were of singles. The highest count on a BBS walk was 6 at Pandy Tudur on 20/06 (HC). There were no records of confirmed breeding. The highest count in the second winter period was a minimum of 4 at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 30/11 (SM).

(TC)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	59	23
Maximum count	6	3
Recorded in BBS squares	7/30	2/14
Number of records	95	62
% records from GBW	15.8	24.2
% of BirdTrack lists	4.0	4.8
Density	0.18	0.12

Flints. The maximum count in the first winter period was 2 at Rhydymwyn on 28/01 (JVHu). The highest count on a BBS walk was 3 at Afonwen on 21/06 (GRMP). There was one record of confirmed breeding: a bird carrying a faecal sac or food at St Asaph on 25/04 (AHJ). All of the records in the second winter period were of singletons.



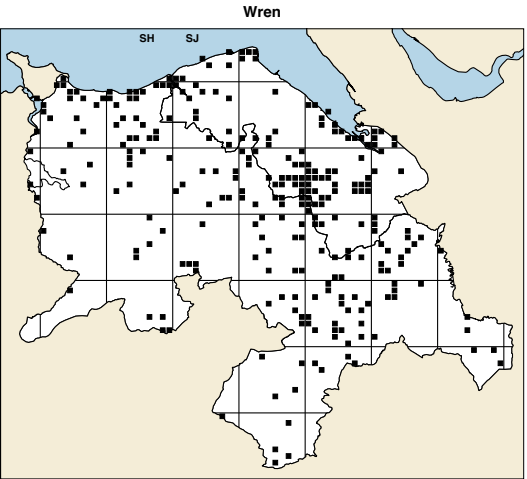
Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*

Breeding resident and winter visitor.

Recorded in each month in both counties. Most counts were of 1-2. The maxima for 2014 were similar to the average maxima for 2004 to 2013.

Denbs. The maximum count in the first winter period was 10 at RSPB Conwy on 2/01 (GaHo). The highest counts on BBS walks were: 30 at Pandy Tudur on 20/06 with 23 there on 21/05 (both HC), and 19 at Craig Bron Bannog, Clocaenog Forest on 4/04 (MaO). There were three records of confirmed breeding: 4 juveniles at Bryn Cocyn on 1/07 (pCd); a family party, including at least 3 juveniles, at Kinmel Bay on 27/07 (WRM), and a family party of 5 at World's End, Ruabon Mountain on 14/08 (GEM). The highest count in the second winter period was 4 at RSPB Conwy on 24/11 (MPB).

Flints. The maximum counts in the first winter period were: 4 at Rhuddlan on 2/01, 4/01 and 5/01 (all SH). The highest counts on BBS walks were:



18 at Afonwen on 21/06 (GRMP), and 17 at Mold on 20/04 and on 15/06 (IMS). There were eleven records of confirmed breeding. The first was of 6 nestlings ringed at Rhydymwyn on 12/05 (IMS) and the last was of a minimum of 3 fledglings at Nercwys Mountain on 9/08 (SD). The remaining confirmed breeding records included seven from Rhydymwyn (IMS, JVHu), one from Rhyl (AHJ) and one from Connah's Quay NR (GEM). In the second winter period the maximum counts were: 5 at Talacre on 2/11 (SAH); 5 at Gwernymynydd on 25/11 (TP), and 5 at Little Mountain, Buckley on 2/12 (NDg).

Breeding (JVHu):

(WR)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Rhydymwyn	7	40	33	31	4.43

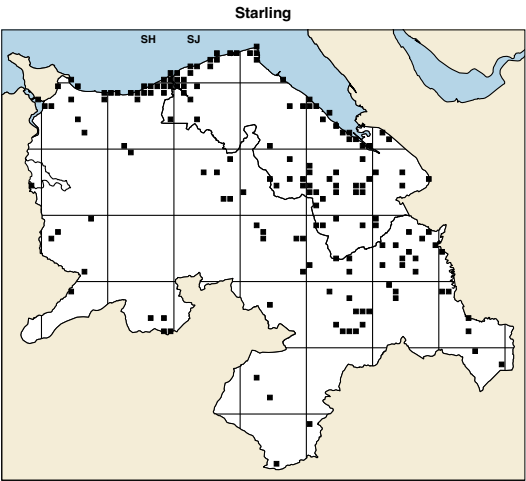
Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

Breeding resident and winter visitor. Red List. WBAP.

Recorded in each month in both counties. The majority of records were of 1-10. The Denbs maximum count of 3,000 and the Flints maximum of 2,000 were two of the smallest maximum counts in the period 2004 to 2014.

Denbs. In the first winter period the largest count was 140 at Holt on 7/01 (NF). In the early spring there were two large counts: 1,000 at Pen-yr-eryr, Berwyn Mountains on 18/02 (DSt), and 3,000 at Pant, Llandegla on 26/02 (KS). The highest count on a BBS walk was 20 at Mynydd y Glyn on 10/06 (MkH). There were three records of confirmed breeding: 2 fledglings left a nest under the roof tiles of a house at Rhuthun on 15/05. The adult male began advertising the nest again within the hour and the sole fledgling from the second brood left the nest prematurely on 22/06 (RG). Elsewhere, a nest in the soffits of a café at Pensarn was in use on 18/05 (WRM), and newly fledged young were recorded at Towyn on 18/05 and 19/05 (SM). Post-breeding flocks increased in size during the autumn

and peaked at a minimum of 200 in Towyn on 31/08 (SM). Late autumn saw the first of the larger flocks with 1,000+ at RSPB Conwy on 10/10 (NDP). This roost increased to 3,000 on 28/10 but reduced to 2,000 on 30/10, a figure which was maintained until 9/12 (pRCO). Away from RSPB Conwy the largest record was of 900+ at the roost on Colwyn Bay pier on 1/12 where birds were arriving from 15.20 hrs to 16.10 hrs (WRM).



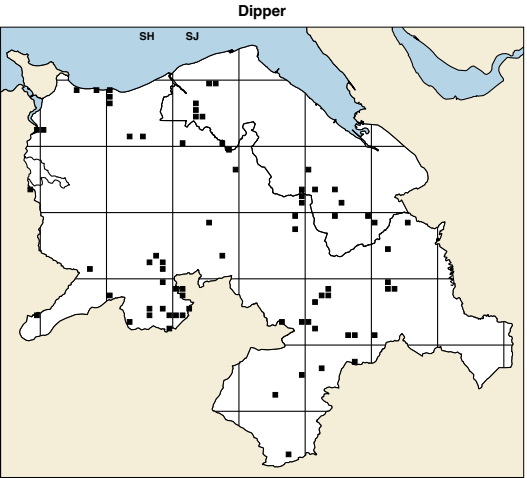
Flints. The maximum count in the first winter period was 180 at Connah's Quay NR on 8/02 (PSH). The highest count on a BBS walk was 68 at Buckley on 17/05 (GNR), otherwise most BBS counts were in single figures. There were six records of confirmed breeding: an adult carrying a faecal sac or food at Rhydymwyn on 1/05 (JVHu); an adult carrying a faecal sac or food at Talacre on 15/05 (RyE); 6 fledglings at Gwernaffield on 23/05 (TP); a minimum of 30 fledglings at Rhyl Brickworks on 11/06 (WRM); 3 fledglings at Rhydymwyn on 12/06, and 4 nestlings ringed at Sychdyn on 15/06 (IMS). There was a post-breeding flock of 300 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 1/06 (PSH). The largest count in the second half of the year was 2,000 at Connah's Quay NR on 2/09 (PSH). In the second winter period the largest count was 300 at Rhuddlan on 16/11 (NoWi).

Dipper *Cinclus cinclus*

Breeding resident. Amber List.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. The maximum count in the first winter period was 4 at Loggerheads CP on 23/01 when nest building was also observed (AIIA). Later, on 22/02, 1 was observed visiting a probable nest-site at Llangollen. There was a minimum of 12 confirmed breeding records. Some of the records submitted appear to relate to the same nest and in these cases the latest record has been included in the following list: nestlings being fed at Llangollen on 5/04 (RSw); newly-hatched young being fed at Llangollen on 27/04 (DaHu); nestlings being fed at Llanddulas on 30/04 (WRM); 4 nestlings ringed at Pandy on 4/05 with a further 3 on 24/05 (pBH); 1 fledgling at Colwyn Bay on 13/05 (PJW); 1 fledgling at Pentrellyncymmer, Clocaenog Forest on 14/05 (DBY); 2 fledglings at World's End, Ruabon Mountain on 25/05 (HC); 4 nestlings ringed at Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog on 25/05 (pBH); a fledgling feeding at Llangollen on 26/05 (DaHu), and single fledglings at Betws Gwerfil Goch on 3/06, E of Pentrellyncymmer on 28/06 and W of Pentrellyncymmer on 5/07 (all DBY). All of the records to the end of the year were of 1-2.



Breeding (MRG):

(DI)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Denbs	4	18	12	11	2.75

Flints. Numbers throughout the year were of 1-2. The first record of the year was 1 at St Asaph on 24/01 (JDa). Recorded on two BBS walks: 1 was seen at Pentre on 25/04, and again at the same survey site on 12/06 (DeD). There was only 1 record of confirmed breeding: an adult carrying a faecal sac or food at St Asaph on 25/04 (AHJ).

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*

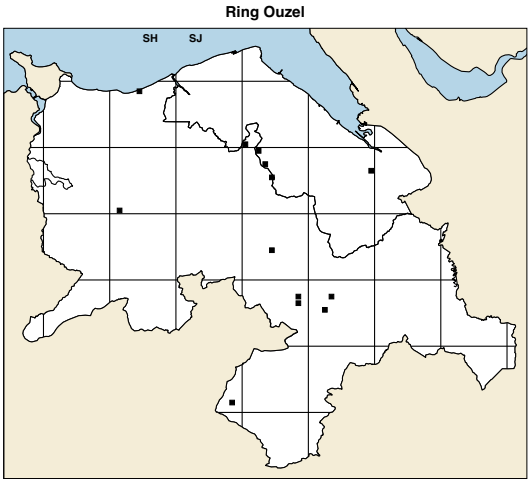
Passage migrant and probable breeder. Red List. WBAP.

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

There were no records of confirmed breeding. The maxima for 2014 were similar to the average maxima for 2004 to 2013.

Denbs. The first of the year was 1 at World's End, Ruabon Mountain on 11/03. There were a further seven spring records: 2 at Moel Arthur on 26/03 (GEM); 1 at the Horseshoe Pass on 4/04 (MiSJ); a party of 3 at Creigiau Eglwyseg, Llangollen on 10/04 (JLR); 1 at Pensarn on 11/04 (ZH); 1 male at Llyn Aled Isaf, Mynydd Hiraethog on 15/04 (WAO); 2 at Bodfari on 19/04 (OPJ), and a pair at Llyn Lluncaws, Berwyn Mountains on 23/05, which, judging by the late date, may well have been breeding there. There were two autumn records: 1 at Oernant, Horseshoe Pass on 5/10 (JLR) and 1 male at Graigfechan on 22/10 (Mal).

Flints. The first record of the year was of 2 males at Penycloddiau on 23/03 (EdW). There were a further four spring records: 4 males and 1 female at Nant Coed-y-mynydd on 25/03 (WAD); 1 at Ewloe on 4/04 (EdJ); 1 at Penycloddiau on 11/04 (EdW), and 2 flying over Penycloddiau on 29/04 (EdW). There were no autumn records.



WYALCHEN Y MYNYDD

(RZ)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very scarce	Very scarce
Number of 1 km squares	10	3
Maximum count	3	4
Number of records	11	6
% of BirdTrack lists	0.1	-
Density	0.02	0.02

Blackbird *Turdus merula*

Breeding resident and winter visitor.

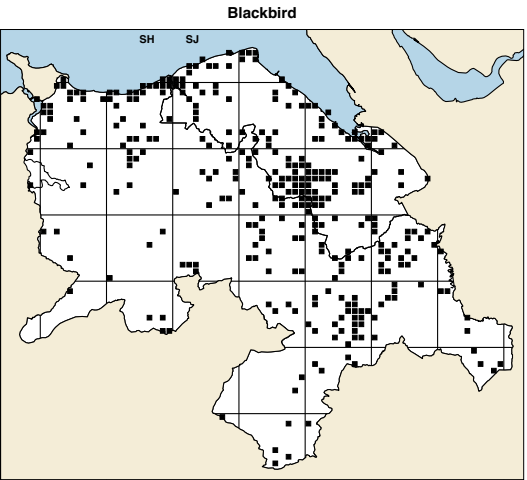
Recorded in each month in both counties. Most records were of less than 10. The maxima for 2014 were similar to the average maxima for 2004 to 2013.

Denbs. The highest counts in the first winter period were 21 at Rhos, Gellifor on 30/01 (TP) and 13 at Towyn on 2/02 (AHJ). The highest BBS count was 27 at Rhos, Gellifor on 21/05 (TP) with a similar number at Garth, Trevor Hall on 27/05 (MaEv). There were forty-one records of confirmed breeding. The first was of an adult carrying a faecal sac or food at Denbigh on 2/03 (RG) and the last was of a nest with young at Pwllcrochan Woods on 26/07 (HC). There were two counts in the autumn which stood out: a minimum of 30 at RSPB Conwy on 10/08 (pRCo), and 24 ringed at Ty-nant on 16/08 (MkH). In the second winter period there was a minimum of 50 at Kinmel Bay on 16/12, "some in hawthorns and some on the ground feeding" (SM), the majority of which are likely to have been winter visitors.

Flints. The highest count in the first winter period was 28 at Halkyn on 4/01 (GRMP). The highest BBS count was 30 at Buckley on 17/05 (GNR). Independently of the BBS, 32 were recorded at Gronant on 1/06 (GRMP). There were eight records of confirmed breeding. The first was of 4 nestlings ringed at Rhydymwyn on 23/04 (IMS) and the last was of a fledgling at Rhyl on 16/08 (WRM). The highest counts in the remainder of the year were: 21 at Pantymwyn on 22/10 (GEM), and 25 at Pantymwyn on 5/11 (GEM) both of which were in the main autumn passage period for this species.

Breeding (MRG, JLR, JVHu):

(B)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Llangollen area	10	37	21	10	1.00
Penycae	2	9	8	8	4.00
Glyn Ceiriog	4	17	15	14	3.50
Rhydymwyn	4	22	15	14	3.50
TOTALS	20	85	59	46	2.30



MWYALCHEN

(B)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very common	Very common
Number of 1 km squares	202	123
Maximum count	50	32
Av max count 2004-14	36	43
Recorded in BBS squares	28/30	14/14
Number of records	1994	1135
% records from GBW	44.6	54.8
% of BirdTrack lists	68.4	69.7
Density	5.11	6.68

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*

Passage migrant and winter visitor. Red List.

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

The largest flocks were recorded in the first winter period and early spring. In the autumn and the second winter period the majority of records were of less than 10. Denbs' maximum of 1,400 was the third highest count in the period 2004 to 2013. On the other hand, Flints' maximum of 80 was the county's lowest maximum count in the same period.

Denbs. The first record of the calendar year was 600 at Trevalyn Meadows on 2/01 (NFr). The largest count in the first half of the year was a minimum of 1,400 which were moving N at Penycæ on 26/02 with a minimum of 700 heading N there on the following day (JAJ). The last record in the spring was 5 at Penycæ, Trefechan on 1/04 (JoR). In the autumn the first arrivals were 8 at Garth, Trevor Hall on 17/09 (LB). The highest count in the second winter period was a minimum of 80 at Nebo on 20/12 (RTe).

Flints. The first record of the year was 5 at Bagillt on 5/01 (GRMP). The highest count in the first winter period was 57 at Bagillt on 9/01 (GRMP). In the spring there were 80 at St Asaph on 24/03 (JoG) and the last were 2 at Bagillt on 30/03 when song was heard (GRMP). In the autumn the first record was 3 near Rhuddlan on 29/10 (FiW). The largest record of the autumn and second winter period was 21 at Rhosesmor on 8/12 (MGW). The last of the calendar year was a minimum of 3 at Hope on 28/12 (KhD).

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*

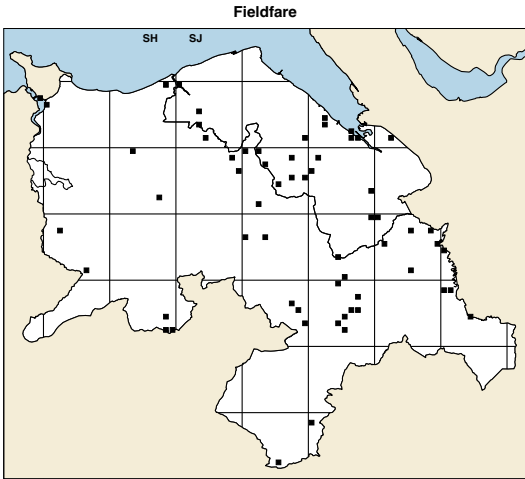
Breeding resident and winter visitor. Red List. WBAP.

Recorded in each month in both counties. Most records were of 1-2. Denbs' maximum of 40 was the highest count in the period 2004 to 2013. Flints' maximum of 10 was similar to the county average for this period.

Denbs. In the first winter period the highest count was 4 at Talgarth on 12/01 (DCg). The first song of the year was at Pentrefelin, Llangollen on 7/02 (JLR). Later in the spring there were 6

SOCAN EIRA

(FF)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very common	Very common
Number of 1 km squares	40	21
Maximum count	1400	80
Av max count 2004-14	848	472
Number of records	65	37
% records from GBW	12.3	8.1
% of BirdTrack lists	2.6	2.7
Density	28.34	2.85



at Lleweni Hall, Bodfari on 16/03 (JPH). The highest BBS count was 8 at Rhos, Gellifor on 21/04 (TP). There were four records of confirmed breeding. The first was of a Magpie taking at least one egg from a nest at Llandrillo-yn-Rhos on 22/04 (WRM), and there were three sets of nestlings ringed: 1 nestling at Pandy on 18/05; 3 at Prion on the same date, and 4 at Pandy on 22/06 (pBH). The highest autumn count by far was a minimum of 40 at RSPB Conwy on 1/11 (pRCO). This date is in the main autumn migration period for this species. Numbers in the remainder of the year were mostly of 1-2.

Flints. The highest count in the first winter period was 6 at Rhyl on 2/02 (AHJ). The first song of the year was heard on 3/02 at Rhydymwyn (JVHu). Thereafter, the largest count before the breeding season commenced was 10 at Nercwys Mountain on 19/02 (TP). The highest BBS count was 7 at Mold on 15/06 (IMS). There were no records of confirmed breeding. In the autumn the highest counts came from Connah's Quay NR where there were 6 on 11/10, and 6 on 24/10 (PSH), and 5 on 19/11 (GEM). As with the Denbs maximum count for the autumn these dates are also within the main migration period for the species. Numbers recorded in the county in the remainder of the year were mostly of 1-2.

Breeding (MRG):

(ST)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Pandy	2	8	8	8	4.00
Llewesog Hall	1	4	3	3	3.00

Redwing *Turdus iliacus*

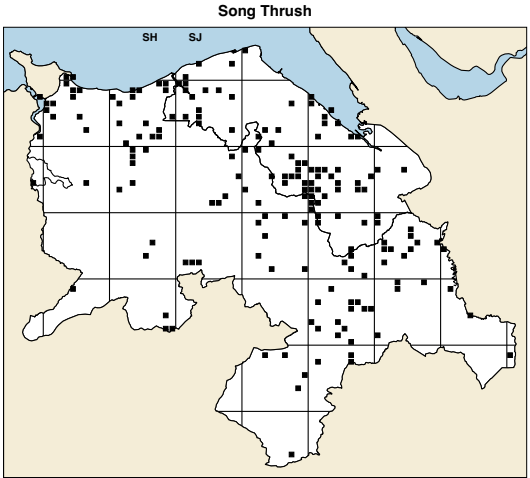
Passage migrant and winter visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

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

Most records were of less than 10. Denbs' maximum of 260 and Flints' of 62 were the lowest for the respective counties in the period 2004 to 2013. Numbers were considerably down on last year with only two three-figure counts recorded.

Denbs. In the first winter period there were 80 at Holt on 29/01 (NF). Flock sizes began to

(ST)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Fairly common	Fairly common
Number of 1 km squares	112	66
Maximum count	40	10
Av max count 2004-14	11	13
Recorded in BBS squares	19/30	12/14
Number of records	423	267
% records from GBW	14.7	21.7
% of BirdTrack lists	26.0	25.1
Density	2.27	1.12



increase in the early spring and there were a minimum of 100 moving N with Fieldfares at Penycae on 26/02 and a minimum of 80 moving N there on the following day (both JAJ). A flock of 63 in poplars at Llewenni Hall, Bodfari on 23/03 (JPH) was probably also on passage. The last of the spring was a minimum of 1 at RSPB Conwy on 4/04 (pRCo). The first record of the autumn was presence at Wenallt on 14/10 (SGD). The highest counts of that period were: 80 moving NW at Penycae on 15/10 and 260, also at Penycae, moving S, on 16/10 (JAJ). In the second winter period the highest count was a minimum of 85 at Kinnel Bay on 16/12 which were feeding on haws (SM). The last of the calendar year were 60+ at Llanfair Talhaiarn (AIC) on 31/12.

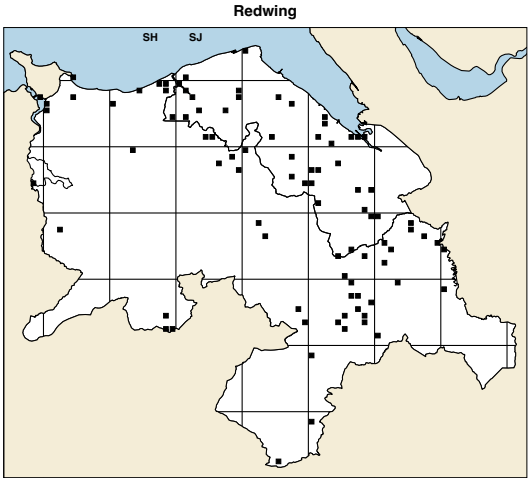
Flints. The highest count in the first winter period was 24 at Bagillt on 9/01 (GRMP). Flock sizes grew in the early spring with: 50 flying over Gwernaffield on 8/03 (GEM); 53 near Pant-y-dulath, Rhualt on 12/03 (GRMP), and 40 flying over Pantymwyn on 19/03 (GEM). There was 1 feeding on Ivy berries at Point of Ayr on 21/03 (MrHu). The last of the spring was 1 at Bagillt on 28/03 (GRMP). The first record in the autumn was 5 at Sychdyn on 12/10 (MGW). The highest count of that month was 25 at Pantymwyn on 15/10 (GEM). Larger flocks were not seen regularly until Nov but even then the maximum for the whole of the second winter period was just 62 at Pantymwyn on 5/11 (GEM). A smaller flock of 24 was observed feeding on haws at Pantymwyn on 14/11 (GEM).

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*
Breeding resident. Amber List

Recorded in each month in both counties. Most records were of 1-2 with several post-breeding flocks noted. The maxima in 2014 were similar to the average maxima for 2004 to 2013.

Denbs. Numbers remained at 1-2 throughout the first winter period with larger numbers not recorded until the early spring

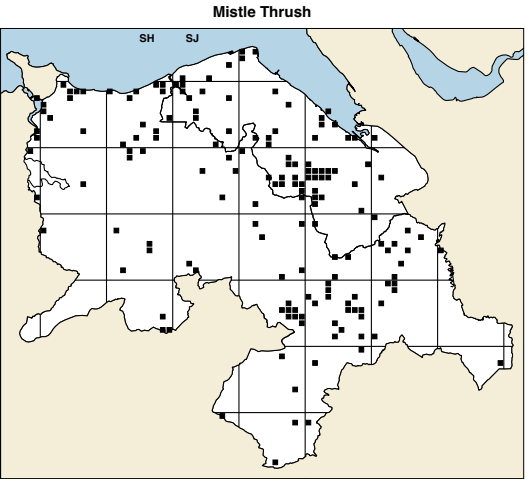
(RE)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Abundant	Very common
Number of 1 km squares	55	33
Maximum count	260	62
Av max count 2004-14	1047	706
Number of records	145	88
% records from GBW	7.6	12.5
% of BirdTrack lists	7.4	8.8
Density	7.24	3.47



BRYCH Y COED

(M)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Fairly common
Number of 1 km squares	104	58
Maximum count	30	17
Av max count 2004-14	40	23
Recorded in BBS squares	10/30	8/14
Number of records	205	185
% records from GBW	9.3	13.0
% of BirdTrack lists	10.2	17.7
Density	1.58	1.67

when there were 6 at Llewenni Hall, Bodfari on 9/03 (JPH). Most BBS sites produced counts of just 2 but there were 4 at a Tregeiriog survey site on 25/06 (JO). There were no records of confirmed breeding but there were at least 2 juveniles with adults at Llandrillo-yn-Rhos on 2/06 (WRM). There were also two records of post-breeding flocks: 14 in a field cut for silage at Dedwyddfa on 11/06 (JVHu), and 30 flying NW over Penycae on 27/08 (JAJ) both of which would, no doubt, have included juveniles. There was no obvious record of autumn passage and the records to the end of the year were all of 1-2. Song was noted at Parc Eirias, Colwyn Bay on 29/11 (WRM).



Flints. During the first winter period there were 16 at Halkyn on 4/01 (GRMP), otherwise numbers were of less than 4 until 19/02 when 11 were recorded at Bagillt (GRMP). Song was noted at several sites and the first of the year was at Connah's Quay NR on 16/02 (GEM). The highest BBS count was of 4 at Gronant on 1/06 (GRMP). There were no records of confirmed breeding but there were several records of post-breeding flocks which would have included juveniles. The largest were: 16 at Cilcain on 20/07 (GEM); 13 at Rhydymwyn on 31/07 (JVHu); 15 at Connah's Quay NR on 10/08 (GEM); 17 at Pantymwyn on 25/08 (GEM), and 13 at Pant on 22/10 (GEM). Thereafter all records during the second winter period were of 1-2.

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*
Breeding summer visitor. Red List. WBAP.

GWYBEDOG MANNOG

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

Most records were of 1-2. There was an increase in the number of confirmed breeding records from Denbs, four last year and nine this year, but a decrease in Flints where the figures were two and one.

(SF)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Very scarce
Number of 1 km squares	21	10
Maximum count	5	5
Recorded in BBS squares	4/30	2/14
Number of records	26	16
% records from GBW	3.8	12.5
% of BirdTrack lists	0.4	0.7
Density	0.05	0.08

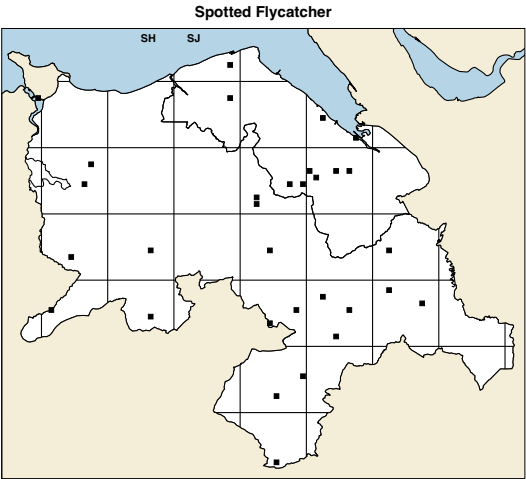
Denbs. The first of the year was presence at Rhewl on 15/04 (JoG). The highest count on a BBS walk was 4 at Pandy Tudur on 20/06 (HC). There were nine records of confirmed breeding: a nest with eggs at Eglwyseg on 31/05 which was later predated (JLR); an adult carrying food or a faecal sac at Penycae on 16/06 (JAJ); a nest with eggs at Glyndyfrdwy on 19/06 (JLR); 2 nestlings ringed at Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog on 20/06; broods of 5 and 3 nestlings ringed at Pandy on 20/06; 3 nestlings ringed at Pandy on 4/07; 3 nestlings ringed at Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog on 5/07; 2 nestlings ringed at Pandy on 20/07 (the last five records all pBH), and an adult with 4 juveniles at Trevor Uchaf on 5/08 (JoR). The last record of the year was of 1 ringed

at Mynydd y Glyn on 2/09 (MkH).

Flints. The first of the year was 1 at Rhydymwyn on 18/05 (DMH) considerably later than the first Denbs record. However, the first nestlings to be ringed were 5 at Rhydymwyn on 17/06 (IMS) suggesting that the species' arrival date would have been similar in both counties. The highest BBS count was of 2 at Gronant on 1/06 (GRMP). The last record of the year was 1 at Connah's Quay NR on 31/08 (ENx).

Breeding (MRG):

(SF)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Denbs	6	23	15	15	2.50
Flints	1	5	5	5	5.00



Robin *Erithacus rubecula*

Breeding resident.

ROBIN GOCH

Recorded in each month in both counties. The maxima in 2014 were similar to the average maxima for 2004 to 2013.

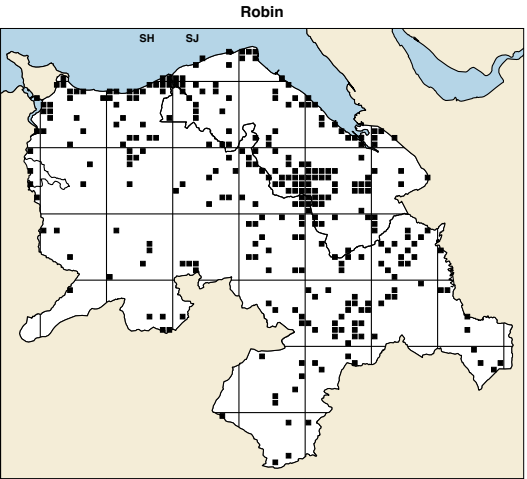
Denbs. In the first winter period the highest count was 12 at RSPB Conwy on 2/01 (GaHo), with a similar number at Rhos, Gellifor on 30/01 (TP). There was evidence of pairing with 2 "together feeding in the same small area" at Towyn on 7/02 (SM). Numbers recorded remained low into the spring but the species was widely reported. The highest count away from BBS was 14 at Bryn Euryn, Llandrillo yn Rhos on 13/04 (MiB). There were several counts in double figures from BBS walks, the highest being: 16 at Pandy Tudur on 21/05, with 14 there on 20/06 (both HC), and 15 at Rhuthun on 6/05 (MB). There were five records of confirmed breeding. The first was of 3 nestlings in a nest in tree roots at Llangwyfan on 24/04 (RG), and the last was of a fledgling at Towyn on 28/06 (SM). Numbers were on average slightly higher in the post-breeding period, but the highest counts came only from ringing efforts eg 12 ringed at Brobannog, Clocaenog Forest on 26/07 (IMS). Presence became easier to demonstrate later in the autumn when birds came out of moult and song peaked as winter territories began to be established eg 12 singing and 1 non-singing at Llansanffraid, Glan Conwy on 12/09 (NDP). Records were mostly of 1-2 for the rest of the year. The highest count was 10 at RSPB Conwy on 7/11 (SD).

Flints. In the first winter period the highest count was 9 at Pentre on 7/01 (TP), otherwise

records were of 1-2. Numbers picked up in the spring as song became more regular and there were several counts in double figures: 14 at Nercwys Mountain on 19/02 (TP), with 14 at Bagillt on the same day (GRMP), and 17 at Nercwys Mountain on 18/04 (GEM). The highest counts from BBS walks were slightly smaller but were from later in the season when song output can be variable; there were 12 at Mold on 20/04 (IMS), 12 at Pentre on 25/04 (DeD), and 14 at Afonwen on 5/05 (GRMP). There were 11 records of confirmed breeding. The first was of 4 nestlings ringed at Sychdyn on 21/04 (IMS), and the last was of 3 fledglings at Ffrith Mountain on 15/07 (GEM). In early Sep, post moult, there was a small increase in numbers recorded but these were generally of less than 10. During the last three months of the year there were only three records in double figures: 10 at Pantymwyn on 14/10 (GEM); 11 at Fagl Lane GP on 28/10 (IMS), and 10 at Gwernymynydd on 25/11 (TP).

Breeding (IMS, JVHu):

(R)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Sychdyn	1	4	4	3	3.00
Rhydymwyn	1	5	5	5	5.00



Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca*

Breeding summer visitor. Red List. WBAP.

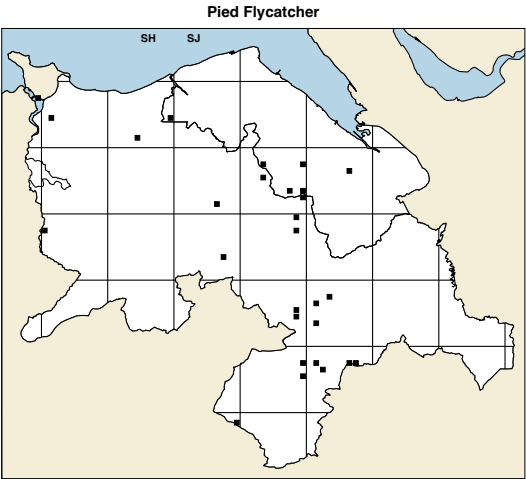
GWYBEDOG BRITH

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

Most records were of 1-2 apart from ringing records.

Denbs. The first of the year was a male singing at Dinbren Hall, Llangollen on 11/04 (HN, JLR). The highest spring counts were 10 at Mynydd Bodrochwyn on 22/04 (HC), and a minimum of 12 at Cribin, Eglwyseg on 25/05 (NiSu). The highest count on a BBS walk was 9 at Mynydd y Glyn on 10/06 (MkH). Aside from ringing records there were two records of confirmed breeding: a pair feeding fledglings at Bronygarth on 3/06 (BL), and 4 fledglings at Cribin, Eglwyseg on 30/06 (NiSu). The largest counts were nestlings ringed: at Prion, 43 on 3/06, 46 on 30/05 and 59 on 1/06 and at Glyn Arthur, 58 on 8/06 (all pBH). The last record of the year was of 4 nestlings ringed at Prion on 1/07 (pBH).

Flints. The first of the year were 3, with song heard, near Penycloddiau on 29/04 (EdW). The only record from a BBS walk was 1 near Pantymwyn on 5/05 (NRT). The largest counts were small with just 6 nestlings ringed at Coed y Felin on 30/05 and 23/06 (IMS). There was only one other record of confirmed breeding: a female feeding a fledgling at Ffrith Mountain on 15/07 (GEM). This was also the last record of the year.



Breeding (MRG, JLR, IMS):

(PF)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Glyn Arthur	22	144	105	102	4.64
Llwynmawr	17	117	106	91	5.35
Pandy	11	69	62	60	5.45
Llewesog Hall	35	250	231	215	6.14
Dinbren Isaf	17	113	95	76	4.47
Llangollen area	5	32	25	25	5.00
Coed Nantddu	9	62	55	53	5.89
Coed y Felin	2	13	12	12	6.00
TOTALS	118	800	691	634	5.37

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*
Migrant and breeding visitor. Amber List. RBBP.

TINGOCH DU

On average 1-2 of this species have been seen in the recording area in every year since 2009.

Denbs. In the second winter period there were 2 at Llandrillo-yn-Rhos on 8/11 and 1 there on 9/11. A pair bred in the county.

Flints. There were six records of a singleton between 4/02 and 7/02 near Flint which may all relate to the same bird (MBu, RBc, RRD).

(BX)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	1	2
Maximum count	2	1
Number of records	2	6
% of BirdTrack lists	-	-
Density	0.00	0.00

Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

TINGOCH

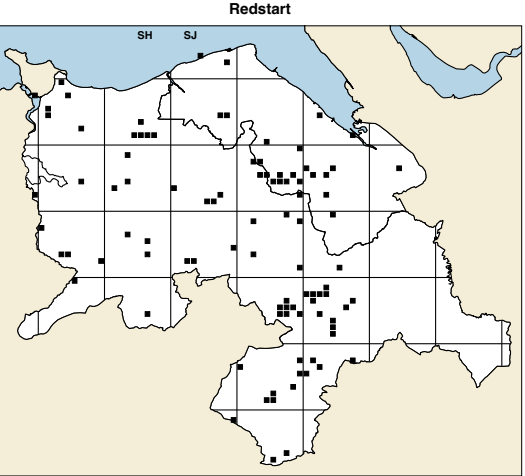
Summer breeding visitor. Amber List.

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

Most records were of 1-2. The maxima for 2014 were similar to the average maxima for 2004 to 2013.

Denbs. The first of the year were 2 males singing at Eglwyseg on 10/04 (JLR). The highest count of the year was 9 on a BBS walk at Mynydd y Glyn on 10/06 (MkH). Aside from the ringing records there were three records of confirmed breeding: a pair visiting a nest with a minimum of 2 young in a tree stump at Bwlch y Garnedd, Rhewl on 11/06 (NB); a pair with a minimum of 5 young in a hollow tree trunk, also at Bwlch y Garnedd, on 17/06 (NB), and 3 fledglings at Gors Nug on 7/08 (WAO). The broods of young were less synchronised than with Pied Flycatcher and the largest numbers of nestlings ringed were 6 at Pandy on 2/06 and 9/06 (pBH). The last bird of the year was 1 ringed at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest on 5/09 (IMS).

(RT)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	74	23
Maximum count	9	12
Recorded in BBS squares	12/30	6/14
Number of records	132	50
% records from GBW	1.5	4.0
% of BirdTrack lists	3.2	3.4
Density	0.3.4	0.47



Flints. The first of the year was 1 at Penycloddiau on 16/04 (JDa). The highest counts on BBS walks were: 2 at Gronant on 1/06 (GRMP); 2 at Pentre on 12/06 (DeD), and 2 at Afonwen on 21/06 (GRMP). The highest count of the year was 12 at Penycloddiau on 26/05 (EdW). Apart from the ringing records there were two records of confirmed breeding: a male carrying a faecal sac or food at Rhydymwyn on 6/06 (JVHu); and 3 fledglings at Garth, Cilcain on 20/07 (GEM). Although only 1 nestling was ringed at Rhydymwyn on 6/06, 6 were mist-netted and ringed there on 17/06 (IMS). The last of the year were: 1 at Bagillt on 22/09 (GRMP) and a very late bird at Connah's Quay NR on 26/10 (RTe).

Breeding (MRG, JLR):

(RT)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Near Llangollen	7	27	22	15	2.14
Glyn Arthur	1	5	5	5	5.00
Pandy	4	21	21	16	4.00
Llewesog Hall	1	5	5	5	5.00
TOTALS	13	58	53	41	3.15

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*

Summer breeding visitor.

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

Most records were of 1-2. Denbs' and Flints' maxima were both half their respective average maxima for the period 2004 to 2013.

Denbs. The first of the year was 1 singing at Bryneglwys on 24/04 (JLR). The highest count on a BBS walk was 3 at Cerrig-duon on 6/05 (DeS). Otherwise the highest count was 4 (2 pairs) at Marial Gwyn, Mynydd Hiraethog on 21/06 with evidence of probable breeding (DBY). There were two records of confirmed breeding: a fledgling with a pair in attendance giving alarm calls at Marial Gwyn, Mynydd Hiraethog on 2/07 (DBY), and a fledgling at Rhydtalog on 9/08 (SD). There were several records of probable breeding from the Mynydd Hiraethog area. The last record of the year was of 2 juveniles at Moel Arthur on 1/09 (WAO).

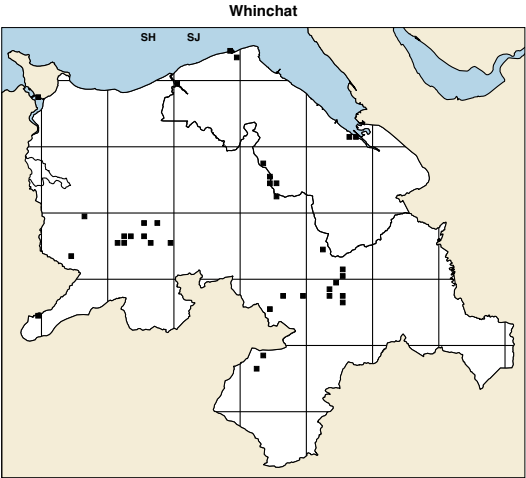
Flints. The first of the year was a male at Gronant on 23/04 (AHJ). The species was not recorded on any BBS walks. The highest count of the year was 4 at Penycloddiau on 26/05 (EdW). There were no records of confirmed breeding. The last record of the year was of 1 at Rhyl on 4/09 (AOH) which is likely to have been a bird on passage.



Whinchat by Dermot Smith

CREC YR EITHIN

(WC)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	29	7
Maximum count	5	4
Recorded in BBS squares	5/30	-
Number of records	43	12
% of BirdTrack lists	0.7	0.9
Density	0.07	0.05



Stonechat *Saxicola torquata*

Resident breeder and winter visitor.

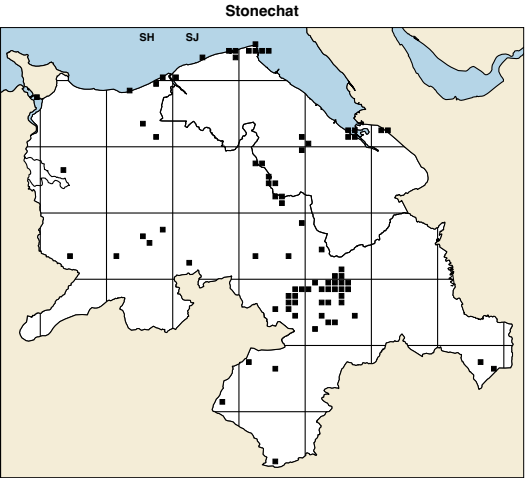
Recorded in each month in both counties. Most records were of 1-2. The maxima for 2014 were similar to the average maxima for 2004 to 2013.

Denbs. The first record of the year was 1 at Moel Famau on 23/01 (AIIA). The highest count in the first winter period was of 2, a pair, at Dolydd Ceiriog, Berwyn Mountains on 4/02 (DSt). In the early spring there were 4 at Moel Arthur on 26/03 (GEM). The highest count on a BBS walk was 9 at Capel Siloam on 8/05 (MaO). There were eleven records of probable breeding (all birds showing agitated behaviour) from Ruabon Mountain and the Horseshoe Pass (JLR). However, there were only two records of confirmed breeding: 2 fledglings at Moel y Waun on 14/07 (WAO), and a fledgling at Rhydtalog on 9/08 (SD). The highest counts in the autumn were 9 at Moel Arthur on 22/09 (GEM), and 4 at RSPB Conwy on 8/10 (PeK). Thereafter, numbers to the end of the year were all of 1-2 with records either from the coast, between RSPB Conwy and Towyn, or from Ruabon Mountain.

Flints. The first record in the first winter period was of 3 at Talacre dunes on 27/01 (GRMP) followed by a handful of records from the coast. The first inland record was 4 at Garth, Cilcain on 14/03 (GEM). There were five records of confirmed breeding with the first being a female carrying a faecal sac or food, at Penycloddiau on 6/05 (RG). Fledglings were recorded at: Point of Ayr on 26/05 (MRH), Talacre dunes on 15/07 (WRM), at Garth, Cilcain on 20/07 (GEM) and at Gronant on 28/07 (AHJ). Post-breeding, the last inland record was 1 at Penycloddiau on 30/08 (JDa). Thereafter, fourteen records were submitted up to 30/12 which were all from the coast between Rhyl and Burton Mere Wetlands/Shotwick Fields.

CLOCHDAR Y CERRIG

(SC)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	60	22
Maximum count	10	10
Recorded in BBS squares	6/30	-
Number of records	151	44
% of BirdTrack lists	4.3	5.9
Density	0.30	0.37



Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe oenanthe*

Breeding summer visitor and passage migrant. Amber List.

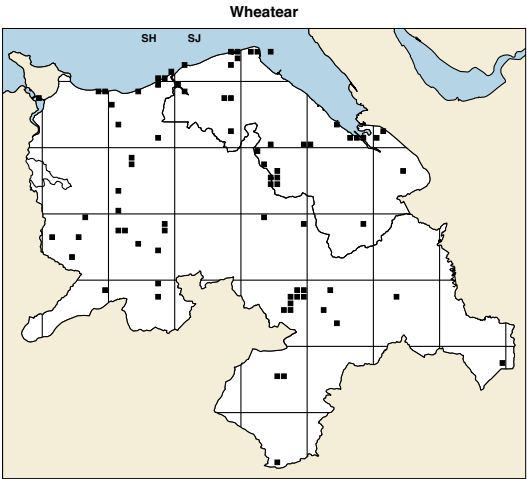
Seen in these months:											
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

Most records were of less than 6.

TINWEN Y GARN

(W)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Fairly common
Number of 1 km squares	49	28
Maximum count	8	26
Recorded in BBS squares	5/30	5/14
Number of records	136	75
% of BirdTrack lists	4.0	4.3
Density	0.20	1.24

Denbs. The first of the year was 1 male at Hafod-yr-Abod, Bryneglwys on 17/03 (MiSJ, JLR). Numbers recorded began to increase during Apr when the highest counts were: 8 at Llyn Aled Isaf, Mynydd Hiraethog on 16/04 (MaO); 8 at RSPB Conwy on 23/04 (pRCo), and 8 on a BBS walk at Betws yn Rhos on 29/04 (AnWi). Smaller numbers were recorded in May and Jun and there were only two records for the latter month. There were two records of confirmed breeding: 2 fledglings at Llanfihangel Glyn Myfr and 2 fledglings at Cerrigydrudion on 15/07 (both DBy). Thereafter, all records were of 1-2 from the traditional upland and coastal sites and the last record was a single at Towyn on 20/10 (SM). It was on the sea wall chasing insects.



Flints. The first was at Flint on 15/03 (GRMP). The majority of the records received were from Mar and Apr with three counts in double figures: 18 at Talacre on 30/03 (AHJ); 26 at Penycloddiau on 11/04 (EdW), which were considered by the observer to be on migration, and 10 at Connah’s Quay NR on 26/04 (PSH). The highest count on a BBS walk was 5 at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft on 27/04 (IMS). Records were received from the Clwydian Range and the Flints coast during the breeding season but a pair at Penycloddiau provided the only evidence of probable breeding on 26/05 (EdW). There was only one record for Jun and this was of 3 near Waun Fawr CP, near Leeswood on 6/06 (TP). All of the remaining seventeen records were of 1-4 and came from the Flints coastline. The last record of the year was 3 at Talacre on 8/10 (GNR) one of which was considered to have the size and colouring of a “Greenland” Wheatear. The late date would also support this notion.

Dunnock *Prunella modularis*
Breeding resident. WBAP.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. Previously under-recorded, but improvement since 2008 has continued with the highest number of records for Denbs. BirdTrack (43.3%) is increasingly used, records mainly from RSPB Conwy and Towyn. Some 73.8% of records were of Breeding (JLR):

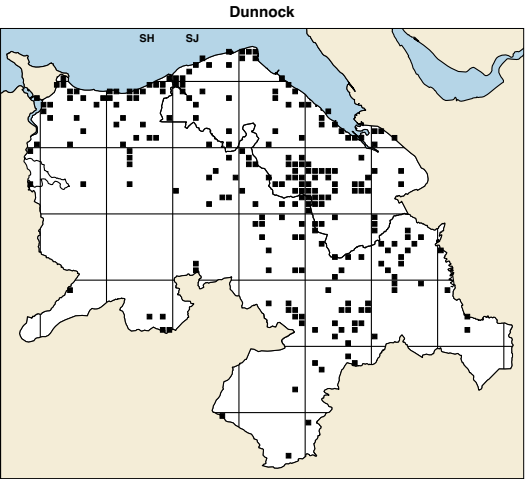
(D)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Near Lllangollen	5	18	9	9	1.80

LLWYD Y GWYRCH

(D)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Common
Number of 1 km squares	144	96
Maximum count	16	19
Recorded in BBS squares	20/30	12/14
Number of records	1473	910
% records from GBW	53.7	60.8
% of BirdTrack lists	43.3	48.2
Density	1.17	3.10

1-4 with forty four records of 5-9. The largest counts were 12 at Talygarth in week beginning 13/07 (DCg), 15 at RSPB Conwy on 2/01 (GaHo), 16 near Gellifor on 21/04 (TP) and 21 at Trevor Hall, Garth in week beginning 7/09 (JuBa)

Flints. The majority of sightings are small in number with 1-4 accounting for 92.6% of all recorded. Most records (60.8%) were from GBW sites. BirdTrack records are increasing with seventy two sightings from Pantymwyn (GEM, TP). A maximum count of 19 individuals was near Mold on 20/04 during a BBS walk (IMS).

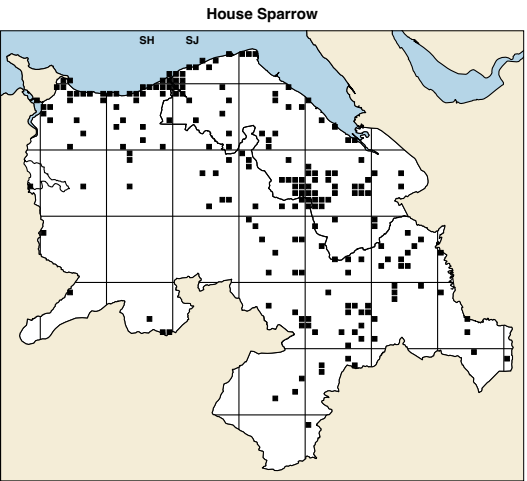


House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*
Breeding resident. Amber List. WBAP.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. Commonly recorded (76.0%) for presence or mainly of 1-10, but larger flocks can be seen throughout the year. The maximum count was 160 at Towyn on 26/01 (SM). Use of BirdTrack (50.3%) has increased, providing the majority of records. A single leucistic sparrow was seen with others near Llanddulas on 29/08 (JVHu). See colour photo.

Flints. The GBW sites still provide the majority of records with seventy nine records from Pantymwyn from two recorders (TeA/MB). Individuals, presence and small flocks of 1-10 are most often recorded (75.1%). The maximum count of 220 was at Rhuddlan on 14/08 (WRM).



Breeding (MRG, JVHu):

(HS)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Pandy	7	21	20	19	2.71
Glyn Ceiriog	3	12	10	10	3.33
Rhydymwyn	2	11	6	3	1.50

Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*
Breeding resident. Red List. WBAP.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. The majority of records (61.3%) came from a single GBW site at Tallarn Green (MA). Breeding evidence was found at Marford, with the largest record being 14 (7 pairs) on 8/07 (MiSJ, JLR).

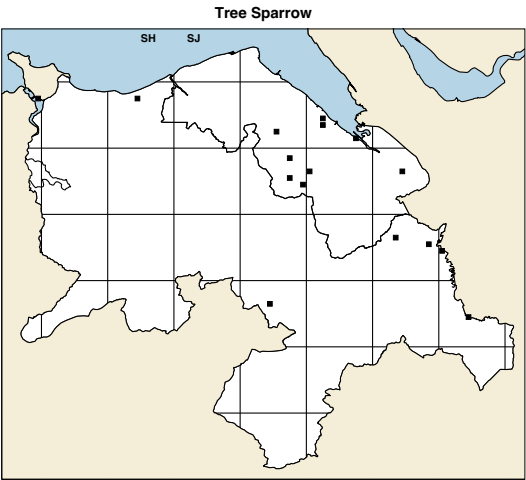
Flints. All but one of the GBW records were from Cilcain (RWS) with a single record at Rhydymwyn (DMH). Sightings at Bagillt over the period of a month were unusual, with the first record of 2 seen on 2/01 also the highest (GRMP). At Sandycroft, 2 adults and 51 nestlings were ringed between 14/05 and 23/07 (IMS). The maximum winter count was a group of 6 at Holt on 20/12 (NF).

Breeding (IMS, JLR):

(TS)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Beeches Farm	22	107	69	64	2.91
Hem House Farm	5	23	8	7	1.40

GOLFAN Y MYNYDD

(TS)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Fairly common
Number of 1 km squares	7	9
Maximum count	14	14
Recorded in BBS squares	-	1/14
Number of records	31	73
% records from GBW	67.7	72.6
% of BirdTrack lists	0.2	1.4
Density	0.05	0.21



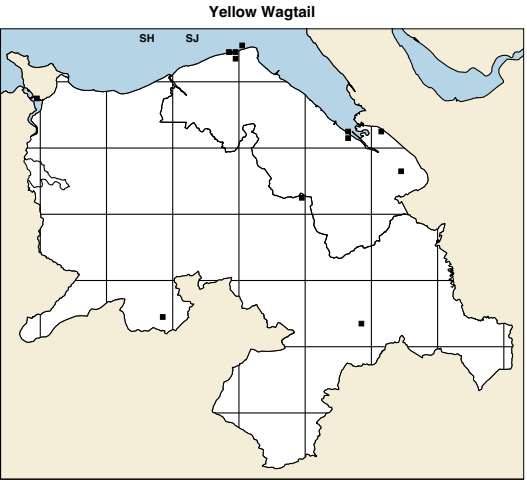
Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

Passage migrant and breeding summer visitor. Red List. WBAP.

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

Denbs. The majority of records were from RSPB Conwy and three other sightings were from inland locations. The first spring record was a single at Acrefair on 5/04 (HN). A single near Llangwm on 14/08 (DBy) was the last, and also the only, autumn record.

Flints. Most sightings were at coastal sites. The maximum count was 15 at The Warren, Talacre on 26/04 (StP). The first spring records were both seen at Gronant with 3 on 24/04 (GNR). There was a late autumn sighting at Connah's Quay NR on 26/09 (PSH). A single was seen at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft during a BBS walk on 14/06 (IMS) and 4 pairs bred at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands during Apr to Jul (pCW).



Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. The majority of records were of presence or singles with thirty six of counts of 2-4. There were five records of 5 which included two broods ringed in the Ceiriog Valley (pBH) and the largest count was 8 (four pairs) on a stretch of river near Bryn Glas on the Migneint (RhPc). Breeding was confirmed near Colwyn Bay, near Eglwyseg and

Breeding (JLR, MRG, JVHu):

(GL)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Pandy	3	9	5	5	1.67
Rhydymwyn	1	5	4	0	0.00
Near Llangollen	6	23	13	13	2.17

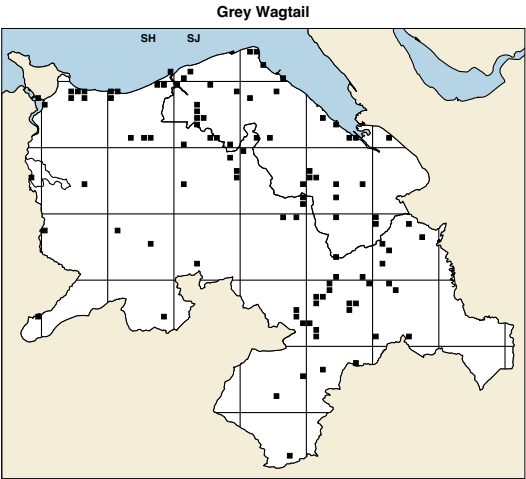
SIGLEN FELEN

SIGLEN LLWYD

(GL)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Scarce
Number of 1 km squares	70	32
Maximum count	8	4
Recorded in BBS squares	2/30	1/14
Number of records	184	111
% records from GBW	0.5	8.1
% of BirdTrack lists	7.6	6.8
Density	0.28	0.22

at Plas Buckley, Wrexham.

Flints. Again, most of the records were of presence or singles with twenty records of 2 and one of 3. The highest counts were 4 near Trelawnyd on 12/03 (GRMP) and a brood of 4 ringed at Rhydymwyn on 27/04 (IMS). Breeding was confirmed near St Asaph.

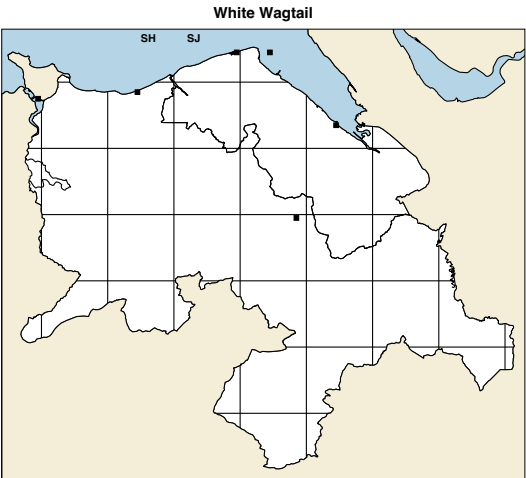


White Wagtail *Motacilla alba alba*
Passage migrant. RBBP.

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

Denbs. All but two records were from RSPB Conwy. The first was from there – 6 on 10/04 (JHg). There were other records of 3-14 during Apr with the highest counts of 20 on 21/04 (JHg) and 20+ on 22/04 (pRCO). In May numbers had dropped to 1-3 and the last spring record was a single at RSPB Conwy on 19/05. The first ‘autumn’ sighting was presence at RSPB Conwy on 25/08 and only 1-3 were seen until the last record, a single there on 14/10.

Flints. The first record was 2 at Flint on 15/03 (GRMP) and the last was 12 at Point of Ayr on 2/05 (GR). The highest count of 48 was at Gronant dunes on 12/04 (GRMP) when they were seen feeding on the shore at the edge of the dunes.



SIGLEN WEN

(WB)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	3	3
Maximum count	20	48
Number of records	34	4
% of BirdTrack lists	1.3	-
Density	0.03	0.24

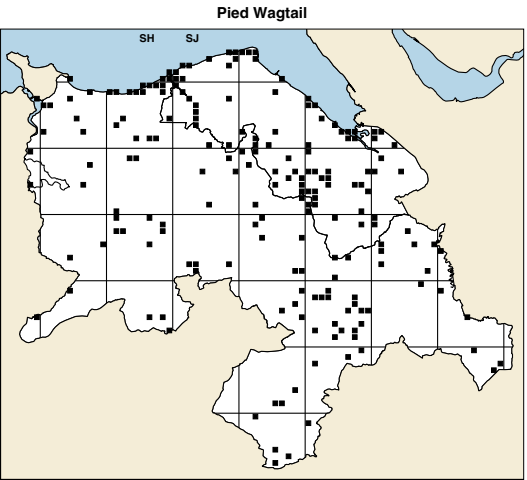
Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba yarrellii*

Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. The majority of records were of presence or 1-22. The largest counts were 29 at the W end of the beach at Pensarn on 23/03 (AHJ), 36 at Llay Pool on 11/02 (MTB) and 50 at RSPB Conwy on 22/04. Breeding was confirmed at only one location, Llyn Aled Isaf, Mynydd Hiraethog.

Flints. Most records were of presence or 1-28 and the largest counts were 32 near Rhuddlan during an early BBS walk on 17/04 (RoE), 34 in the same area on 20/04 (AHJ) and 125+ on the beach at Gronant on 24/04 (GNR). Confirmed breeding was recorded at Connah’s Quay NR and Garth, Cilcain.



SIGLEN FRAITH

(PW)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very common	Common
Number of 1 km squares	120	75
Maximum count	50	125
Av max count 2004-14	135	42
Recorded in BBS squares	14/30	8/14
Number of records	560	245
% records from GBW	7.5	5.7
% of BirdTrack lists	29.5	22.8
Density	3.04	15.92

Breeding (MRG, JLR):

(PW)	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Pandy	1	1	1	1	1.00
Near Llangollen	6	32	30	18	3.00

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*

Summer breeding visitor and passage migrant. Amber List. WBAP.

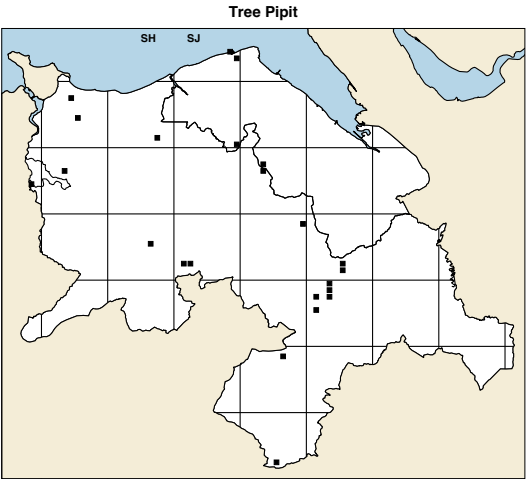
Seen in these months:											
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

Denbs. The first was a single at Gwynfryn on 19/04 (MiSJ, JLR) and most records were of 1-3. The highest count was 5 near Trefriw on 20/04. The last record was 2 near Eglwyseg on 5/07 (NiSu). There were just three records of singing (possible breeding).

(TP)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Scarce	Very scarce
Number of 1 km squares	20	4
Maximum count	5	5
Recorded in BBS squares	4/30	-
Number of records	24	6
% of BirdTrack lists	0.5	0.2
Density	0.05	0.03

CORHEDYDD Y COED

Flints. The first record was 2 at Bodfari on 18/04 (RS). The last was presence near Gronant on 30/04. The largest counts were 5 at Gronant on 24/04 and 5+ near Gronant on the same date (GNR).

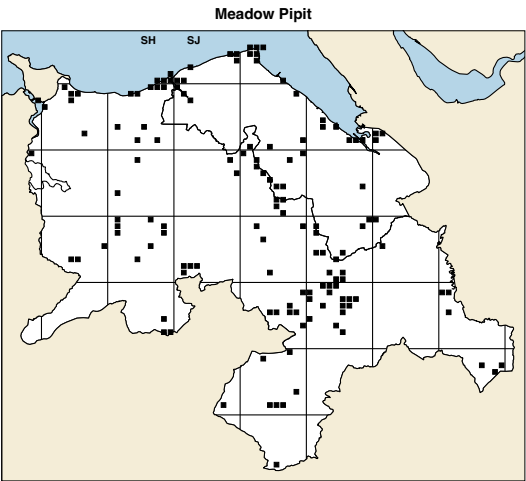


Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*

Breeding resident and both passage and winter visitor. Amber List.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. During Jan to Mar most records were of presence or 1-25+ with two larger counts: 48 at Lleweni Hall, Bodfari on 9/03 (JPH) and 50+ at Nant-y-Glyn, Colwyn Bay on 31/03 (HC). During Apr most records were 1-24 and the larger counts were 26 near Moel Famau on 18/04 (IW) and 100+ at World's End on 15/04 (HC) which was the maximum for the year. During May to Aug there were several records of presence or single figures but there were twenty records of 10-51 and the highest counts were 54 near Moel Famau on 8/06 (IW) and 68 near Cerrig-duon, near Ceiriog Forest on 6/06 (DeS). During Sep there was clear evidence of migration from ringing records: the best single day total was 84 ringed at Mynydd y Glyn on 5/09 (MkH) and during the month a total of 325 was ringed there. For the rest of the year most counts were 1-11 and the two larger counts were 13+ at Towyn on 15/11 and 20+ there on 8/10 (SM). The latter group



CORHEDYDD Y WAEN

(MP)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Common
Number of 1 km squares	102	40
Maximum count	100	100
Av max count 2004-14	106	94
Recorded in BBS squares	10/30	1/14
Number of records	293	123
% of BirdTrack lists	18.8	20.6
Density	5.16	6.79

was disturbed when a Kestrel started to hunt the area.

Flints. During Jan to Apr most counts were in single figures and the two largest were 21 near Bagillt on 2/02 (GRMP) and 25+ near Gronant on 24/04 (GNR). During May to Aug most records were presence or counts of 1-10+. The two larger counts were 24 near Cilcain on 20/07 (GEM) and the maximum for the year, 100+, at Penycloddiau on 30/08 (JDa) suggesting some migration was happening. There was no marked migration during Sep (perhaps just nobody was targeting Meadow Pipit for ringing in Flints) and for the last four months most records were presence or counts of 1-17 and the two larger counts were 22 at Talacre on 3/12 (pJRE) and 34 near Hendre on 30/11 (GEM).

Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus*

Winter and passage visitor.

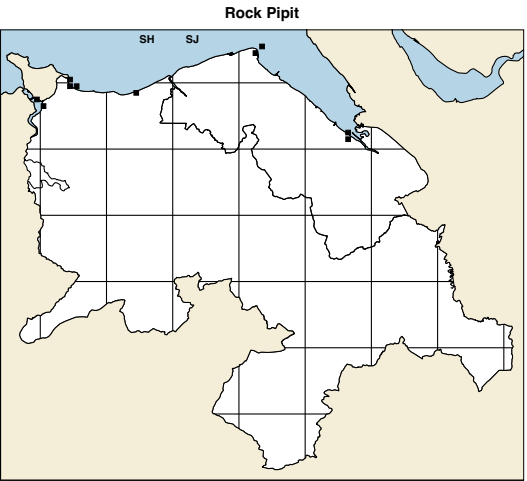
Seen in these months:											
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

Denbs. During the early months there were records of 1-2 and the last record was presence at Pensarn on 14/03 (TMK). The birds were absent during the breeding season and the first autumn record was 1 at RSPB Conwy on 27/09 (pRCO). Most records for the rest of the year were just 1-2 with a high count of 5 on 6/12 at RSPB Conwy (pRCO).

Flints. There were just two records early in the year with a 'high' count of 2 at Connah's Quay NR on 6/01 (PSH). The other was presence at Point of Ayr on 2/02 (JDa). The first autumn record was a single at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 9/10 (GR) and there were just 1-2 recorded until the end of the year with a maximum of 3 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 23/10 (PDS).

CORHEDYDD Y GRAIG

(RC)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very scarce	Very scarce
Number of 1 km squares	6	4
Maximum count	5	3
Number of records	20	12
% of BirdTrack lists	0.4	0.5
Density	0.02	0.02



Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta*

Winter visitor.

Flints. One was recorded at Connah's Quay NR on 24/03 (SS) and presence there on 26/03.

CORHEDYDD Y DWR

(WI)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares		2
Maximum count		1
Number of records	-	2
% of BirdTrack lists		-
Density		0.00

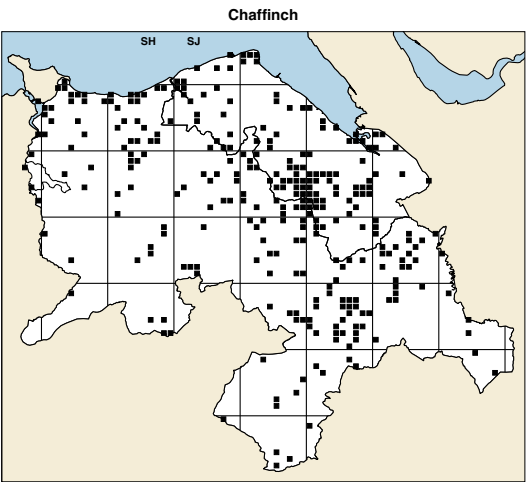
Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*

Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. The majority of records (94.1%) were of presence or counts of 1-9. Ninety four records were counts of 10-30 and the largest counts were 32 near Gellifor during a BBS walk on 21/04 (TP) and 55 at Trevalyn Meadows on 21/02 (NFr). There were one hundred and five records with breeding codes from across the county with confirmed breeding at six locations.

Flints. As in Denbs, most of the records (90.2%) were of presence or counts of 1-9. Eighty eight records were counts of 10-30. The largest counts were 32 at Pantymwyn on 24/11 (GEM), 37 at Bagillt on 28/03 and 42 there on 9/01 (GRMP) and 50+ at Leeswood on 5/03 (GMR). There were just forty four records with breeding codes, none of which were of confirmed breeding.



JI-BINC

(CH)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Abundant	Abundant
Number of 1 km squares	195	105
Maximum count	55	50
Av max count 2004-14	287	248
Recorded in BBS squares	29/30	13/14
Number of records	1679	943
% records from GBW	51.6	54.8
% of BirdTrack lists	50.8	54.7
Density	5.43	8.91

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*

Winter visitor. RBBP.

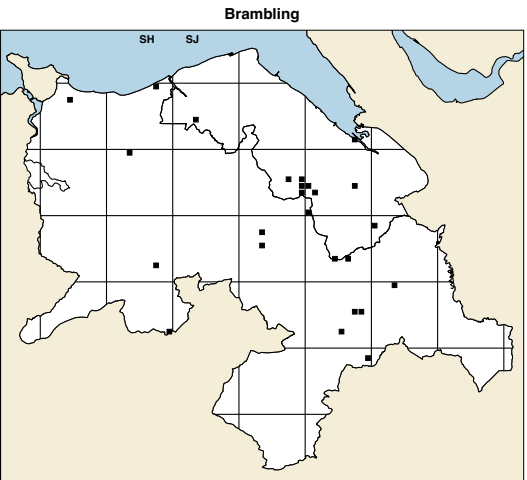
Seen in these months:											
D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
F	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

Denbs. During the early months there were records of 1-6 with the larger counts of 7 at Trevor Hall, Garth on 6/04 (JuBa) and 10 at Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd on 10/02 where they were present for a week (JoH). The last record in spring was 1 at Nant-y-Ffrith reservoir on 13/04 (SD). Later in the year there were just two records of presence, the first at Penycae on 29/10 (JAJ). Clearly, neither end of the year was a good winter for Brambling with the maximum count being much lower than the ten year average.

Flints. In Jan to Apr most records were of 1-9 with three larger counts: 14 at Pantymwyn on 12/03, 18 on 9/03 and 20 on 25/03 (GEM). Again, there were just two records at the end of the year and the first of these was presence at a GBW site in Caergwrle in week beginning 23/11 (ECMH).

PINC Y MYNYDD

(BL)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	15	10
Maximum count	10	20
Av max count 2004-14	107	25
Number of records	22	23
% records from GBW	30.4	
% of BirdTrack lists	0.3	2.5
Density	0.08	0.34



Greenfinch *Chloris chloris*

Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

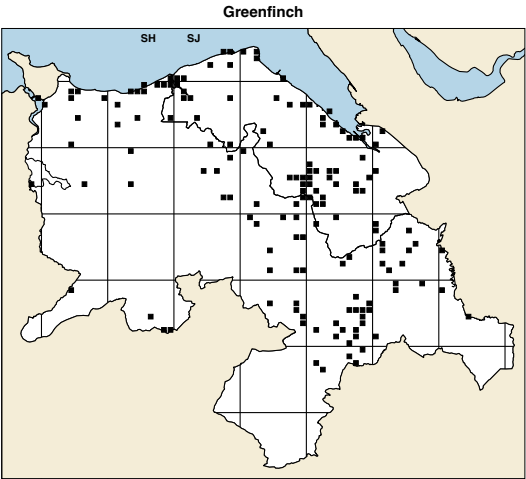
Denbs. Some 99.5% of records were of presence or counts of 1-10. There were four records of 11-14 and the largest counts were: 15 at Nant-y-Glyn, Colwyn Bay on 30/12 (HC), 17 at Llewini Hall, Bodfari on 13/04 (JPH) and 20+ at Pensarn on 13/12 (WRM). The last was a flock near the sea-front. Clearly, there were no large flocks anywhere in the county. There were forty six records of breeding activity and of these breeding was confirmed at four locations. There was only one record of a bird that appeared to be unhealthy from Towyn on 15/07.

Flints. Here, 97.1% of records were of 1-10 with sixteen records of 11-30. The highest counts were all at Bagillt: 33 on 3/11, 45 on 12/10 and 51 on 15/11 (GRMP). There were thirty one records with breeding codes and breeding was confirmed at seven locations. There was one

LLINOS WERDD

(GR)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very common	Very common
Number of 1 km squares	91	60
Maximum count	20	51
Av max count 2004-14	95	56
Recorded in BBS squares	12/30	11/14
Number of records	1000	690
% records from GBW	51.9	50.1
% of BirdTrack lists	30.4	32.1
Density	0.92	5.20

record of a bird looking very ill from Rhydymwyn on 4/09.

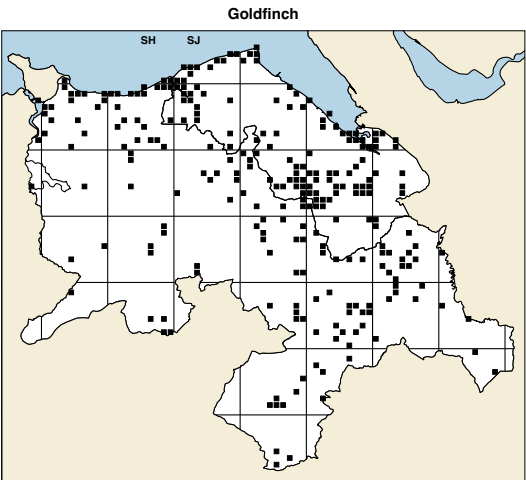


Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*
Breeding resident.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. The majority of records (97.3%) were of presence or counts of 1-10+ with thirty two of 11-50 and the highest counts were 55 near the Horseshoe Pass on 5/10 feeding on Gorse on moorland (JLR) and 60 near Moel Arthur on 28/09 (GEM). There were sixty records with breeding codes and breeding was confirmed at eight locations.

Flints. Most records (92.2%) were of presence or counts of 1-10+ and there were seventy three records of 11-50. The two largest counts were 80+ S of Rhyl on 17/08 and 250+ near Rhuddlanon 30/08 (WRM). There were just twenty one records of breeding activity with confirmed breeding at eight locations.

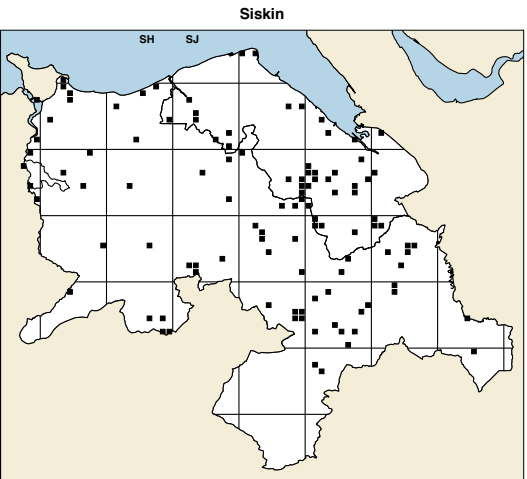


Siskin *Carduelis spinus*
Breeding resident and winter visitor.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. Most records (94.2%) were of presence or counts of 1-10 and there were twenty six records of 11-50+. The largest count was 70 at Alyn Waters CP, Gwersyllt on 3/01 (DuH). Between 18/02 and 26/06 a total of 290 was ringed at Bedwlwyn in the Ceriog Valley (pBH). There was only one record with a 'possible breeding' code.

Flints. Here, 98.8% of records were of presence or counts of 1-10. The other records were 12 at Gwernaffield on 2/03 (TP), 27 near Hawarden on 21/01 (HJ) and 100+ seen in two 1 km squares at Fagl Lane GP on 21/01 (KhD), possibly the same flock. There were five records with breeding codes and three of confirmed breeding (code FL) at Rhydymwyn from early Jul, so may well have bred nearby.



Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*
Breeding resident. Red List. WBAP.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

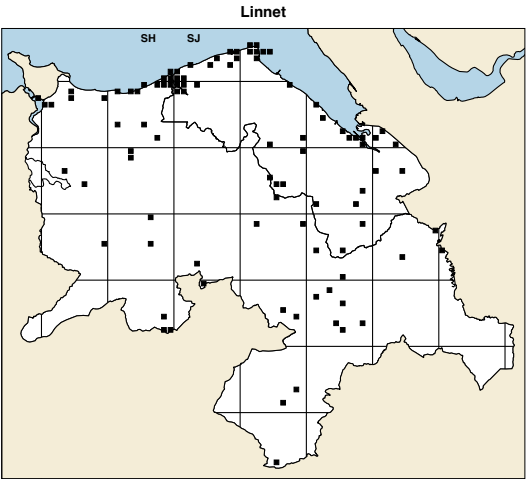
Denbs. This is another finch that is most commonly seen in small numbers: 94.5% of records were of presence on counts of 1-10. Nine records were counts of 11-50 and the maximum was 60 at Trevalyn Meadows on 21/02 (NFr). Apart from this highest count the maxima in the first half of the year were 10 or less, with a slight increase in the latter half of the year with monthly maxima of 35 in Sep and 50 in Oct. There were forty one records with breeding codes and breeding was confirmed in four squares, two near Pensarn and two in the Mynydd Hiraethog area.

Flints. Here, there were more, larger counts with 78.3% of records being of presence or counts of 1-10. There were twenty two records of 11-30 and ten of 31-80. The largest counts were

PILA GWYRDD		
(SK)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very common	Common
Number of 1 km squares	74	36
Maximum count	70	100
Av max count 2004-14	236	45
Recorded in BBS squares	5/30	1/14
Number of records	451	323
% records from GBW	56.3	23.8
% of BirdTrack lists	8.7	8.8
Density	2.62	6.11

LLINOS		
(LI)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very common	Very common
Number of 1 km squares	52	44
Maximum count	60	182
Av max count 2004-14	183	307
Recorded in BBS squares	7/30	5/14
Number of records	181	157
% of BirdTrack lists	11.9	22.6
Density	1.58	13.60

100 at Point of Ayr on 11/09 (GR), at Connah's Quay NR on 11/12 (KJ, BH) and at White Sands on 16/12 (RBe) and 182 at Connah's Quay NR on 15/10 (PSH). In the first half of the year the highest monthly count was 70 in Mar and the others were 23 or less. In the second half there were four monthly maxima of 80 or more: 80 in Jul, 100 in Sep, 182 in Oct and 100 in Dec. There were only twenty records with breeding codes but it was confirmed at seven locations, all at about sea level.



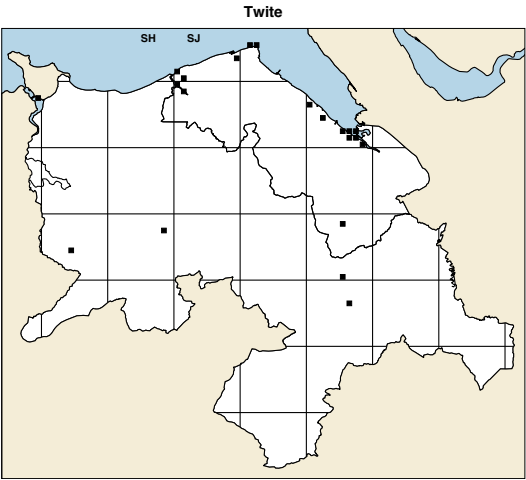
Twite *Carduelis flavirostris*
Winter visitor. Red List. WBAP.

Seen in these months:

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

Denbs. The Apr records were all of presence or singles between 5/04 and 8/04 at RSPB Conwy with a single near Penycæ on 10/04 (JoR). At the end of the year there was presence at Esclusham Mountain on 2/11 (ANHk) and the maximum for the year, 120, near Moel yr Iwrch, near Pentrefoelas on 11/12 (JoG).

Flints. Twite and Connah's Quay NR are now closely linked with large numbers present over winter periods. The table shows the monthly maximum counts that occurred in Flints. Only 29.6% of records were of presence or counts of 1-10 with sixty nine of 11-50 and thirty eight of 52-100. The largest counts were 103 at White Sands on 18/11 (RBe) and at Connah's Quay NR: 107 on 10/12 (PSH), 108 on 10/12, 115 on 22/11



(TW)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Very scarce	Fairly common
Number of 1 km squares	5	16
Maximum count	120	180
Av max count 2004-14	16	75
Number of records	11	142
% of BirdTrack lists	0.1	1.6
Density	0.30	4.89

LLINOS Y MYNYDD

and 180 on 4/12 (RBe). The last spring record was a single at Connah's Quay NR on 8/04 and the first of autumn was 1 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 7/09 (RBe). There was a modest start to ringing at Connah's Quay NR with 8 ringed and colour-ringed on 13/03 and 6 on 25/03 (IMS).

Monthly maxima at Connah's Quay NR and RSPB Oakenholt Marsh:

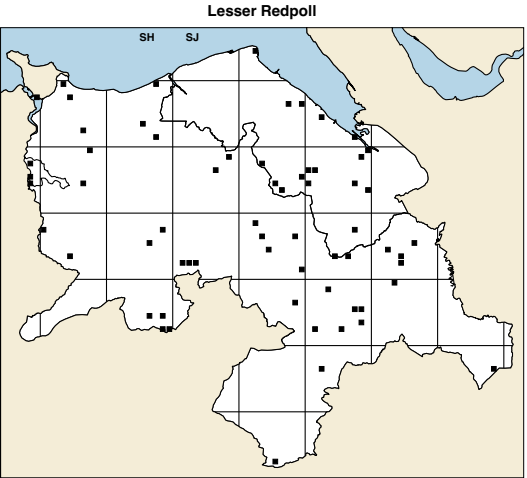
(TW)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Connah's Quay NR	90	60	70	1						30	115	180
Oakenholt Marsh		50	14						1		25	
Elsewhere		57	3							2	103	16

Lesser Redpoll *Carduelis cabaret*
Breeding resident. Red List. WBAP.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. This species is usually seen in much smaller numbers than Twite and 96.8% of records were of presence or counts of 1-10. There were four records of 12-19 and the highest counts were 20 at Alyn Waters CP on 3/01 (DuH), 23 at Penycæ on 16/02 (JoR) and 50+ at Tai Mawr, near Maerdy, on 16/12 (SGD). A total of 36 was ringed at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest between 26/07 and 23/09 (IMS). There were ten records with breeding codes and breeding was confirmed at Llyn Brenig and Bronbannog, in or near Clocaenog Forest.

Flints. Recorded much less in Flints with 96.1% of records of presence or counts of 1-6. The two highest counts were 11 near Penycloddiau on 23/03 (EdW) and 12 at Connah's Quay on 15/01. There were five records of breeding activity and it was confirmed near Moel Famau, another forested upland area.



(LR)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Common	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	47	17
Maximum count	50	12
Av max count 2004-14	46	19
Recorded in BBS squares	5/30	-
Number of records	190	51
% records from GBW	50.5	51.0
% of BirdTrack lists	3.7	2.5
Density	1.19	0.35

LLINOS BENGOC H LEIAF

Two-barred Crossbill *Loxia leucoptera*

Vagrant.

Flints. Four, a male, two females and an unknown, were seen in Nercwys Forest on 17/02 (GM). Accepted by the BBRC.



Two-barred Crossbill by Dermot Smith

Common Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra*

Breeding resident and winter visitor.

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

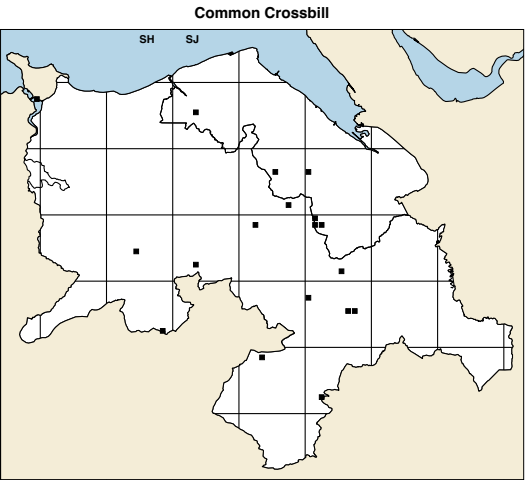
Denbs. The first record was also the year's maximum: 50+ in a tight flock seen near Penycae on 2/02 (JAJ). From then until the last record of the first half of the year, a single near Cerrig-duon, by Ceiriog Forest

(PD)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Not known	Rare
Number of 1 km squares		1
Maximum count		4
Number of records	0	1
% of BirdTrack lists		-
Density		0.00

GYLFINGROES ADEINWEN

on 6/06 (DeS), numbers counted were just 1-6. There were several records of presence at Bronbannog during Aug and Sep which was very frustrating as the birds flew high over the mist-nets, 'chipping' cheerfully! The only count late in the year was 3 near Cefn Canol, near Oswestry on 4/12 (AIDa).

Flints. There was a cluster of records from Nercwys Forest in Feb, presumably from observers looking for the Two-barred Crossbills. On 18/02 and 19/02 there were counts of 2-9 from different parts of the forest. During Apr, May and Oct the highest count was 3 and the last record of the year, of 20 at Nercwys Mountain on 2/11 (GEM), was the highest count.



Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

Breeding resident. Red List. WBAP.

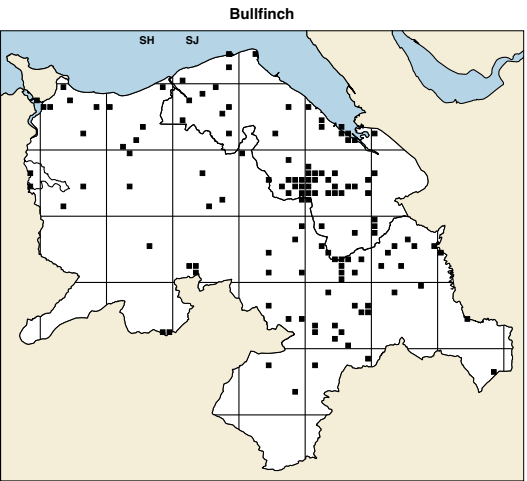
COCH Y BERLLAN

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. The monthly maxima were 2-8 and 99.2% of records were presence or counts of 1-5. The three largest counts were 6 at Fenn's Moss on 17/03 (JoAr) and 8 at RSPB Conwy on 30/12 (JHg, pRCo). There were thirty eight records with breeding codes and breeding was confirmed at three locations: Nant-y-Glyn, Llandrillo-yn-Rhos and Bronbannog.

(BF)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Fairly common	Fairly common
Number of 1 km squares	76	56
Maximum count	8	8
Recorded in BBS squares	11/30	6/14
Number of records	356	487
% records from GBW	32.3	36.6
% of BirdTrack lists	15.2	15.9
Density	0.31	0.76

Flints. Here, the monthly maxima were very similar at 3-8 and 97.5% of records were of presence or counts of 1-5. There were nine records of 6-7 and the highest counts were 8 at Rhydymwyn on 8/01 (KaW), at Pantymwyn on 25/03 (GEM) and at Connah's Quay NR on 17/12 (PSH). There were twenty seven records of breeding activity and it was confirmed at three locations: Connah's Quay NR, Pantymwyn and near Dyserth.



Hawfinch *Coccothraustes*

coccothraustes
GYLFINBRAFF

Winter visitor and possible breeding resident. Amber List.

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

Denbs. During Feb there were several counts of 1-14 at a location in the Vale of Clwyd and 4 were at Llanellidan on 15/02 (JPI). The only other record was 2 seen flying between trees at the edge of a playing field at Betws-y-Coed on 23/08 (BSm).

Flints. The only record was a single at Nannerch on 26/12.

(HF)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Rare	Rare
Number of 1 km squares	3	1
Maximum count	14	1
Number of records	13	1
% of BirdTrack lists	0.1	-
Density	0.02	0.00

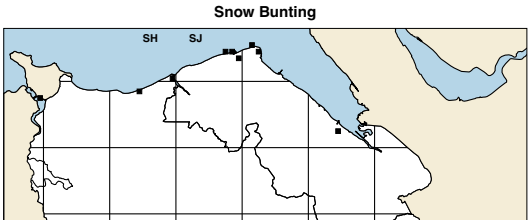
Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis*

Winter visitor. Amber List.

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

Denbs. The first record was a female near Kinnel Bay on 16/01 (DCR) followed by presence at Pensarn on 16/03. The other records were 1-2 at RSPB Conwy from 10/11 to 24/11.

Flints. A single was near Flint on 1/03 then there was a long wait until a single was seen at Talacre on 8/11. There were 1-2 in that area from then until 10/12.



Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*

Breeding resident. Red List.

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

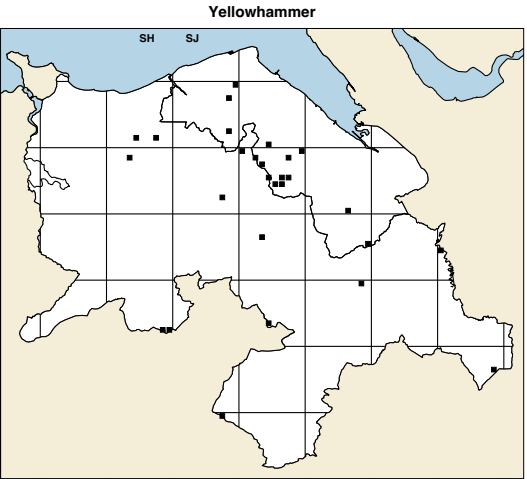
Denbs. Thirty of the records were of presence or counts of 1-5. The two highest counts were 9 at Wenallt, near Maerdy on 3/11 and 30 near Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd on 16/12 (SGD). The only record of breeding was a male carrying food or a faecal sac (code FF) near Coedpoeth.

(Y)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	14	14
Maximum count	30	20
Av max count 2004-14	16	13
Recorded in BBS squares	1/30	2/14
Number of records	32	41
% records from GBW	-	43.9
% of BirdTrack lists	2.8	1.8
Density	0.21	0.48

BRAS YR EIRA

MELYN YR EITHIN

Flints. Thirty nine of these records were of presence or counts of 1-4. The two highest counts were 6 near Penycloddiau on 29/04 (EdW) and 20+ at Leeswood on 5/03 (GNR). Birds were regularly present in a garden at Cilcain between weeks beginning 5/01 and 15/06 (RWes). There were eight records with breeding codes but none of confirmed breeding.



Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*

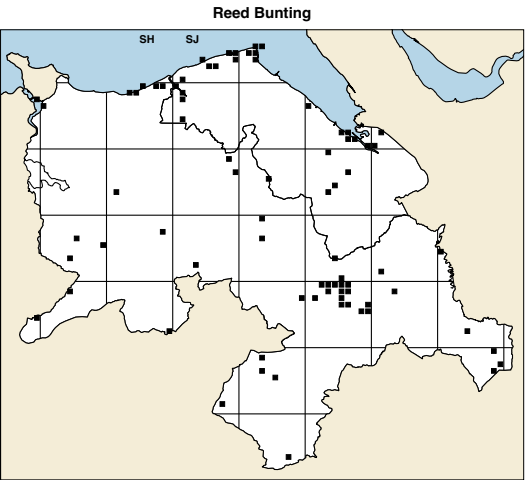
Breeding Resident. Amber List.

Recorded in each month in both counties.

Denbs. Presence was recorded at RSPB Conwy throughout the year and 99.1% of records were of presence or counts of 1-8. The two high counts for the year were 15 at Holt on 19/06 (NF) and 23 near Fenn's Moss on 23/04 (HMB). There were just four records of breeding activity, though this was not confirmed, from three locations on Ruabon Mountain.

Flints. Here, 96.4% of records were of presence or counts of 1-7. The three highest counts were 11 at Connah's Quay NR on 18/11 (RBe), 12 near Gronant on 23/04 (AHJ) and 20+ at Point of Ayr on 2/02 (JDa). There were fifteen records with breeding codes and breeding was confirmed at Shotton Steelworks and near Gronant.

(RB)	Denbs	Flints
Occurrence	Uncommon	Uncommon
Number of 1 km squares	52	27
Maximum count	23	20
Recorded in BBS squares	7/30	2/14
Number of records	212	84
% records from GBW	1.9	-
% of BirdTrack lists	13.1	10.4
Density	0.61	0.92



Category E species

Indian Peafowl *Pavo cristatus*

PAUN

Flints. Singles were recorded during BBS walks near Marian Cwm on 10/04 and near Cilcain on 11/06.

Golden Pheasant *Chrysolophus pictus*

FFESANT EURAID

Denbs. A single record of 1 at Talarn Green, Sarn on 21/12.

Black Swan *Cygnus atratus*

ALARCH DU

Flints. A single was first seen at Shotwick Fields on 11/01 to 7/02 then at Connah's Quay NR on 31/03 and on the saltmarsh at Flint on 2/08. Possibly the same bird was at Shotwick Fields from 23/12 to 31/12.

Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens*

GŴYDD YR EIRA

Denbs. A singleton of unknown origin was present at RSPB Conwy on various dates from 14/06-5/07 (pRCO).

Flints. One was at Hope on 17/03 and another, a 'blue phase' bird was at Connah's Quay NR and RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 15-16/06. It is possible that this was the same bird seen at RSPB Conwy over the same period (see above).

Ross's Goose *Anser rossii*

GŴYDD ROSS

Denbs. One, presumably the same bird, was seen at Llay Pool on 16/02 and Fagl Lane GP on 28/02 and 15/03. The same, or another, was at Gresford Flash on 20/10 for its fifth successive year and at Fagl Lane GP on 29-31/12.

Bar-headed Goose *Anser indicus*

GŴYDD BENRHESOG

Denbs. There were thirty seven records of a single at RSPB Conwy from 16/03 to 18/07.

Flints. A single was at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 9/01 and then at Connah's Quay NR on 17/01.

Swan Goose *Anser cygnoides*

ALARCH WYDD

Flints. A single was near Rhuddlan from 5/01 to 16/03.

Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata*

HWYADEN FWSG

Denbs. One was at Gresford Flash on 6/12.

Wood Duck *Aix sponsa*

HWYADEN GRIBOG Y COED

Denbs. A male and female were seen together near Penycae on 16/04.

Chilean Flamingo *Phaenicopterus chilensis*

FFLAMINGO CHILE

Denbs. A single, presumed escape, was at Trevalyn Meadows on 28/11.

BTO
Looking out for birds.

A gift in your Will provides a legacy of knowledge...

Our successes in bird conservation are often made possible by the generosity of people who share our passion and choose to leave us a gift in their Will.

Our datasets are our legacy to conservation; please help secure this legacy of knowledge for the future with a gift in your Will.

Contact:
Emma Douglas
01842 750050
emma.douglas@bto.org
www.bto.org

British Trust for Ornithology
The Nunnery, Thetford, Norfolk IP24 2PU
Registered Charity No. 216652 (England & Wales)
No. SC039193 (Scotland)

First and last dates of selected migrants 2014

	First dates		Last dates
Summer migrants	2014		2014
Hobby	22/04		25/09
Little Tern	30/04		28/08
Sandwich Tern	5/04		10/10
Common Tern	15/04		7/09
Arctic Tern	20/04		28/08
Cuckoo	14/04		27/06
Nightjar	11/06		15/08
Swift	18/04		29/08
Sand Martin	14/03		13/09
Swallow	21/03		30/11
House Martin	21/03		23/11
Tree Pipit	18/04		5/07
Yellow Wagtail	5/04		14/08
Redstart	10/04		26/10
Whinchat	23/04		4/09
Wheatear	15/03		20/10
Ring Ouzel	11/03		22/10
Grasshopper Warbler	15/04		23/09
Sedge Warbler	12/04		13/09
Reed Warbler	15/04		22/09
Garden Warbler	20/04		13/09
Lesser Whitethroat	13/04		3/09
Whitethroat	30/03		10/10
Wood Warbler	26/04		21/06
Willow Warbler	26/03		14/10
Spotted Flycatcher	15/04		2/09
Pied Flycatcher	11/04		15/07
	Last dates		First dates
Winter migrants			
Fieldfare	1/04		17/09
Redwing	4/04		12/10

This table shows the recorded first and last dates for most of the species regarded as migrants in North-East Wales.

Spring migration arrival times were fairly average (over the past ten years) this year although the first House Martin on 21/03 was the earliest recorded since 2004 by seven days and the first Whitethroat on 30/03 was the earliest by ten days. Ring Ouzel arrival was two to three

weeks earlier than is usual for North-East Wales.

Departure dates are always difficult to record because few observers note the late records of the year compared to the annual enthusiasm to see the first spring and summer arrivals. However, there were some notable late departures. The last House Martin was seen in late November, a week later than any previous record. Also surprising was a late Swallow seen on the last day in November, five days later than the last latest record in 2005. A Ring Ouzel in late October was also notable.

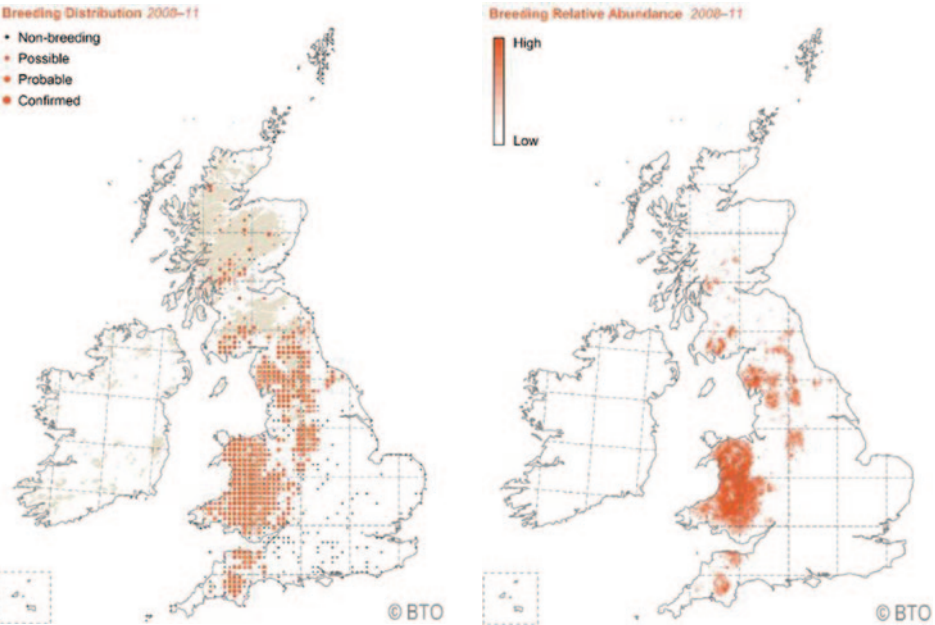
For our winter visitors, the arrival and leaving dates for Fieldfare and Redwing were reasonably consistent with dates over the past ten years.

Anne Brenchley

The status of a local Pied Flycatcher population in Denbighshire

The current Population Status of Birds in Wales report changed the classification for Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca* from Green List (in 2002) to Red list (2009) because of a decline of at least 50% in the breeding population over the 25 years 1981-2006. The potential causes for the decline could be any or all of the following: a deterioration in the environment in their wintering quarters in West Africa; destruction of habitat along their migration routes, particularly in key stopover areas such as the cork oak groves in Portugal; and changing conditions in breeding areas.

A glance at the BTO Atlas 2007-11 breeding distribution and abundance maps (below) shows just how important Wales is for the continued survival of this species.



Monitoring the local population

Merseyside Ringing Group has been monitoring Pied Flycatchers in Flintshire and Denbighshire since 1968. I have monitored a site in Denbighshire since 1986 and this analysis relates to that site. The study site was not visited in 2001 because of the foot-and-mouth outbreak and data on egg-laying dates are not available for 1987.

My study area is located in a 2.3 km section of a deep valley running approximately west to east towards the Vale of Clwyd. The habitat changes from open, exposed hillsides in the upper valley to narrow, steeply sloping, sheltered valleys in the lower section. The woodland is predominantly sessile oak although there are areas of mixed deciduous woodland and some areas of coniferous trees. Parts of the upper valley are grazed. Most woodland has low ground cover – predominantly grasses, brambles, bluebells and other woodland flowers – but rhododendron, holly and laurel colonise some areas. Altitude varies from 80 – 205 metres above ordnance datum (AOD).

So what has been happening to my local population of Pied Flycatchers over the last 29 years? The remainder of this report will examine the possible impact of the advancement of spring, trends in breeding activity and rates of success, causes of failure, the overall status of the local population and its prospects for the future.

Advancement of egg-laying

Let's start by looking at the impact of the widely-recognised advancement of seasonal events in spring over the last few decades. Pied Flycatchers are long-distance migrants so the timing of their departure for breeding grounds is triggered by day-length rather than conditions in the breeding area. Their arrival may be delayed if they encounter adverse weather conditions but once they arrive here local conditions such as temperature, stage of leaf-burst and availability of prey items will influence the timing of breeding. In a mild spring when leaf-burst and caterpillar emergence occurs early, birds will need to start breeding relatively quickly if they are to benefit from the peak availability of food.

Evidence suggests that Pied Flycatchers have responded by laying their eggs earlier. No records of egg-laying in April occurred until 2002 and then in the period 2002-10 a total of eleven first eggs were recorded, all laid on 29/30 April. More recently there has been a rapid acceleration, with 34 records of first eggs in April between 2011 and 2014, the earliest on 24

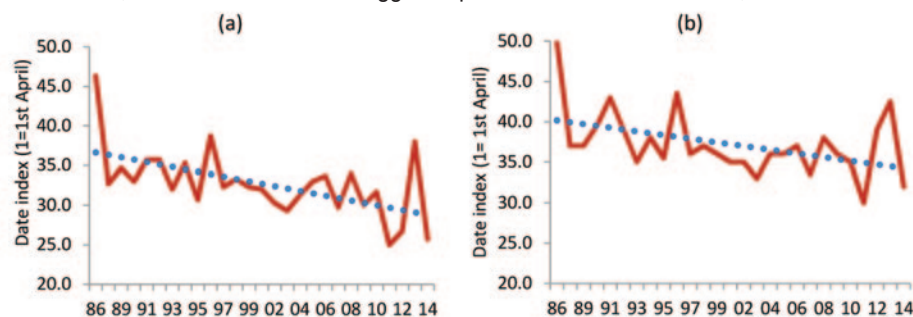


Figure 1: Advancement of first egg dates 1986-2014: (a) Earliest first egg dates (based on the average of the three first eggs for each year); (b) Median first egg dates.

April in both 2011 and 2014. And in 2011, more than half of all my Pied Flycatcher nests were started in April. For comparison, another monitored site in Denbighshire at higher altitude (150-305m AOD) did not record its first egg in April until 2008 and has only recorded five in total.

The cumulative effect in the period 1986-2014 has been the advancement of the earliest first egg dates by eight days and median first egg dates by six days (see Figure 1). However a glance at the last four years shows how volatile nesting dates can be, with first egg dates in 2011 thirteen days earlier than in 2013.

Egg productivity

The average size of clutches increased from 7.05 to 7.20 over the study period (see Figure 2a), suggesting that the fitness for breeding of females has not deteriorated despite the shorter period for recuperation on arrival in Welsh woods. The proportion of eggs that hatch declined only marginally from 86% to 84% (Figure 2b) and the combined effect is that the average number of hatched young per nest (6.11) has not changed over the study period.

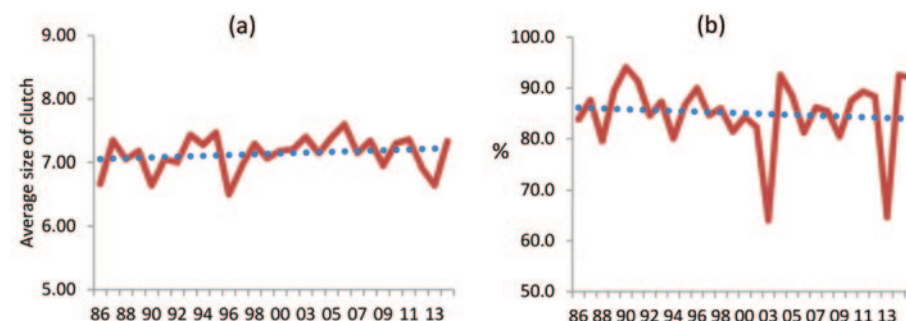


Figure 2: Egg productivity 1986-2014: (a) Average size of clutches per year; (b) Proportion of eggs that hatched each year.

Fledging rates

It's a very different story for fledged young. Looking at the success rate of chicks that manage to fledge, the overall trend-line has fallen by 11% and, as Figure 3 shows, the period between 1998 and 2011 was very volatile, with success rates of less than 50% on two occasions. So what has caused this decline?

Several factors can lead to the death of chicks. Nests may be predated by Weasel, Stoat, squirrel, Wood Mouse or Great Spotted Woodpecker, an event that usually results in the total loss of a brood. The incidence of predation is unpredictable; it accounted for less than 5.5% of chick deaths but spikes in predator activity in some years could cause up to 25% of deaths. But there is no discernible trend over the study period.

The commonest cause of chick death is starvation or sickness. The abundance of the caterpillar crop is one of the key factors; in years of high abundance most adult Pied Flycatchers will find enough food to feed all of their chicks but in poor years they will struggle. Weather is another

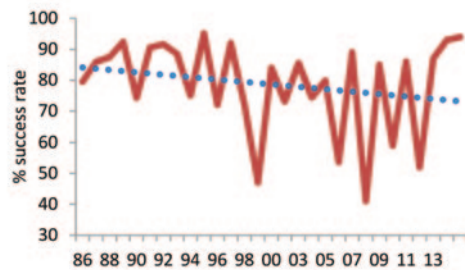


Figure 3: Success rates of chicks fledging, 1986-2014

factor; periods of wet cold weather can temporarily make it harder for parents to find food even in good years. Conditions in the nest box can become cold and damp and whole broods in the first few days of life, weakened by a lack of food, often perish. Prolonged spells of wet weather may cause the death of older chicks, even those close to fledging. Third, but least common, the death or absence of a parent leads to reduced provisioning of growing chicks. If the female dies, the male initially continues to feed chicks but invariably fails to provide enough food, leading to the total failure of the brood.

Females cope much better with the absence of a male and can raise a full brood successfully but more commonly have partial success with one or more runts dying.

Altogether chick death through starvation or sickness averages 14.5% but there is wide variation between years: maximum and minimum values are 52.2% in 2007 and 2.1% in 1988 and the average during the period 1998-2011 was 23.5%.

Size and status of the local population

In the early years of the study, 21-23 breeding pairs used nest boxes. In 1992 the number of boxes and area of woodland covered were expanded. The number of breeding pairs increased to an average of 32 in 1992-1998 but this was followed by a collapse in 1999 to just 18 pairs. A partial recovery in 2000-2006 resulted in the average rising to 22, still far short of the previous level. In 2007 the number of boxes was increased again, although the area covered remained unchanged; breeding pairs rose to 31 in 2007 but fell back to 22 by 2013. Finally in 2014 thirty three breeding pairs were recorded, back to the level of the 1990s.

As stated earlier, in Wales the breeding population declined by at least 50% over the 25 years between 1981 and 2006; the study site recorded a population decline of 30% from 1992-2006. Competition for nest sites from other species, predominantly tits, is one potential cause for the decline. Most Great Tits and Blue Tits will be defending nest boxes when the Pied Flycatchers start prospecting and, from my observations over the years, both will drive away Pied Flycatchers. However the number of boxes occupied by other species remained remarkably consistent between 1992 and 2006, averaging 24 nests per year, and is unlikely to have been the cause of the decline in Pied Flycatcher numbers after 1998.

Analysis of breeding success rates, represented by the average number of fledged chicks per nest, shows that, in general, for years with an average of less than 4.5, the breeding population fell in the following year; conversely, for years with an average greater than 4.5, the breeding population increased in the following year. A very poor season in 1998, when only 2.7 chicks fledged per nest, was followed by the collapse to just 18 breeding pairs in 1999, the lowest total recorded.

A high breeding success rate in 2006 (5.8 fledged chicks per nest) led to a surge in the number of breeding pairs (31) in 2007, coinciding with an increase in the number of boxes in the same

geographical area. Unfortunately 2007 turned out to be the worst season recorded in this study, with breeding success a miserable 2.6 fledged chicks per nest. However the fall in breeding pairs in 2008 (29 pairs) was only marginal, perhaps reflecting the increase in nest box availability in 2007/2008.

More recently, breeding success rates of 3.4 and 3.8 in 2011 and 2012 respectively saw a fall in the number of nests from 28 in 2011 to 25 (2012) and 22 (2013). The 2013 breeding season got off to a very late start with the earliest first egg date of 8 May and median first egg date of 13 May. The late start meant clutch sizes were smaller (6.6 eggs per nest) but thankfully conditions were perfect: no predation, abundant caterpillar crop and no adverse weather, resulting in a fledging rate of 5.7 chicks per nest. This success was reflected in a surge in the number of breeding pairs in 2014 to 33 and another good breeding season (6.3 fledged chicks per nest) offers hope that 2015 will see at least this number of breeding pairs.

However, to put this total in perspective, the number of nest boxes currently available is 68% higher than in the 1990s. It is impossible to gauge how many more pairs of Pied Flycatchers might have used extra boxes in those earlier years but vacant boxes were available in suitable habitat, so perhaps the number would have been relatively small. The large increase in nest box numbers in 2007/08 may have been a factor in minimising the reduction in breeding pairs in 2008 but the size of the breeding population since then is more aligned to breeding success than to the number of boxes available.

Prospects for the future

Key indicators suggest that there is no intrinsic reason why the Pied Flycatcher population at the study site should not continue to prosper. Clutch size and hatching success rates have been stable throughout the study period, even in the last decade when the advancement of egg-laying has accelerated. Competition from other species for nest boxes has not been an issue and the woodland habitat remains largely unchanged.

The two years with the lowest rates of breeding success (1998 and 2007) coincided with very wet weather at a crucial time in the season. In 1998, heavy rain fell continuously during 1-2 June and during the month rainfall totals were more than double the average for 1981-2010. In 2007, prolonged rainfall over a three-day period 26-28 May, combined with daytime maximum temperatures below 15°C, had a devastating effect. Such events are likely to be repeated in the future so the Pied Flycatcher populations will suffer more setbacks.

However it is encouraging to observe the speed of recovery when conditions are favourable. From a low point of only 22 breeding pairs in the unusually late 2013 season, almost perfect breeding conditions made it a very successful year. The reward was a surge to 33 breeding pairs in 2014 and, with favourable conditions again, they produced the highest annual total of fledged young during the whole of the study period. So I'm looking forward with optimism!

Peter Coffey

Advice on grid references and the BirdTrack App

During 2014 there was a very welcome increase in the number of records that were logged via BirdTrack. This is of great benefit to the observers, as the records are safe and regularly backed-up; to the BTO for conservation purposes and for using data from complete lists to create and update the phenology graphs that are available on the homepage; and lastly for Recorders because we are able to download the records in our areas for use in bird reports. 2014 was the first year that a significant proportion of records were entered using the BirdTrack App on iPhone or Android smartphones. Many people seem to find this method of keeping records satisfying, easy and time-saving. However, there has been a downside in that this year I found evidence that records were being stored with incorrect grid references. Sometimes this has been only one or two kilometres out but because of the species I knew that the bird had not been present in those squares. In one case, a rare bird seen in Yorkshire was recorded as being in VC Denbighshire. How can this happen? In theory, the App expects the smartphone's location system (its internal GPS) to be switched on and working. There are at least three possible ways a location error can occur:

1. The observer starts recording birds for place X while the 'phone is still showing and using the grid reference for a previous place Y.
2. The observer did not turn on the location system until after leaving the site and the 'phone registers somewhere different.
3. The observer, perhaps, remembered the records and entered them later while at a different place which has its grid reference stored, not that of the place where the birds were seen.

What can be done to try to avoid erroneous locations entering BirdTrack? Essentially, there are two checks that can, and should, be made. At the time, check the grid reference that the App has picked up for the site where you are. Does it look sensible i.e. is it in the correct 100 km square, for example SJ rather than say, TQ? If not, please restart the App with your device's GPS left on all the while. This should populate the correct grid reference. Even if you are not familiar with the grid reference of the place where you are, turning the App off and on again is good practice if you are in any doubt that it has not correctly registered your location.

The second check is to ground truth the records when they have been uploaded to your BirdTrack account. Go into your list of sites and edit the new places. You can check the grid reference is correct by clicking on it, which will reveal a map of the central 1 km square the App chose. Alternatively, you can check using an Ordnance Survey map or an online mapping tool such as the excellent Grab a Grid, which has a link in the CBRG website at the bottom of the 'Submit Records?' page.

Two other things will greatly help detect and minimise App-generated location errors. First, if using the App to log a sighting at a new place, please ensure that you give the place a meaningful name. In the Android version, click 'Or new location?' then type the nearest recognisable place / feature into the 'Site name' box. In the iPhone version, click the arrow at the right hand side of the 'Place name' row. If you don't give new places a name, the app will simply populate the name in the format 'Mobile-TL8782', with a grid reference TL8782 (which happens to be the Nunnery, Thetford – the default grid reference used if your device has been unable to generate a grid reference at all!). Places that are 'autonamed' like this are clearly much harder to follow up because there is nothing in the name to indicate a potential error in the grid reference.

Second, please use the 'existing nearby site' option whenever possible. If you are birding at a place where you've logged sightings in BirdTrack before, selecting your previously-created site will ensure that the name of the site remains constant (and correct!). If you use this option when adding a species list, the App will also overwrite any grid reference already populated with the existing grid reference for the site in question, ensuring consistency. If you use this option when adding casual records, you will still need to enter a grid reference, either manually or via the device's GPS, but the name will be kept constant.

One final tip is to increase the 'location distance' to 50 miles via your preferences in the app. This will mean that even with your smartphone's battery-saving location mode enabled (WiFi and mobile networks only), the App should offer you all your relevant sites when you are out in the field. If you do most of your birding at a network of local hotspots, this is by far the easiest way to ensure that the App is using correct, consistently-named locations.

I do hope we can help to reduce the number of incorrect grid references and thank you in anticipation of your cooperation.

**Ian M Spence
(and Nick Moran)**

Ringling Report

It was good to see the number of birds ringed in Clwyd in 2014 increase to the totals last seen in 2011. The increase was in both pulli and full grown birds which is potentially due to a good breeding season and young recruiting to the population. Large increases in several species contributed greatly to this increase, particularly Common Tern and Blue Tit but also Black-headed Gull, Great Tit, Pied Flycatcher and Greenfinch. In contrast Meadow Pipit decreased by 147 birds compared to 2013.

Total number of birds ringed per year for the last 10 years			
Year	Full grown	Pulli	Total
2014	3082	3500	6582
2013	2562	2240	4802
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

Catching birds that already have rings on or reading colour rings (recapture/sighting) is vitally important for learning more about bird demographics, like life span, movements and population size. Overall there was a decrease in the number of birds re-encountered during 2014 particularly some of the larger waders but this was due to fewer birds being caught overall. Goldfinch and Siskin however, had similar numbers caught compared to 2013 but fewer were recaptured indicating birds were moving through the area.

One interesting recapture was of a Willow Warbler ringed in 2011 by the Spence and Brenchley Partnership near Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Denbighshire, which was caught several times during the 2012 breeding season and caught again at the same site in 2014. While this

Number of recaptures per year		
Species	2013	2014
Oystercatcher	44	1
Ringed Plover	0	2
Sanderling	15	8
Dunlin	0	5
Redshank	18	2
Turnstone	82	9
Little Tern	8	0
Stock Dove	0	1
Barn Owl	0	3
Nightjar	0	2
Great Spotted Woodpecker	4	2

Number of recaptures per year		
Species	2013	2014
Magpie	0	1
Jay	0	0
Jackdaw	0	1
Goldcrest	1	2
Blue Tit	49	94
Great Tit	23	44
Coal Tit	24	10
Willow Tit	0	1
Marsh Tit	1	1
Cetti's Warbler	1	5
Long-tailed Tit	4	4
Chiffchaff	14	4
Willow Warbler	0	4
Blackcap	10	3
Garden Warbler	4	1
Whitethroat	2	4
Reed Warbler	4	2
Nuthatch	10	9
Wren	0	6
Starling	0	0
Dipper	0	0
Blackbird	24	8
Song Thrush	2	0
Mistle Thrush	1	0
Robin	36	11
Pied Flycatcher	40	84
Redstart	1	3
Dunnoek	26	13
House Sparrow	4	4
Grey Wagtail	0	4
Meadow Pipit	1	0
Chaffinch	7	7
Greenfinch	0	8
Goldfinch	53	8
Siskin	108	39
Twite	0	6
Lesser Redpoll	3	3
Bullfinch	3	1
Total	627	430

may look like this bird has not moved any great distance, of course we know it has presumably covered more than 25,000 km to and from its wintering grounds.

The number of ringers in Wales generally is relatively low so I am grateful to the contributions of the active ringers in the area. Listed in relation to the number of birds ringed these are: Merseyside Ringing Group, the Spence and Brenchley Partnership, Lee and Rachael Barber, SCAN Ringing Group, Stuart Thomas, John Lawton Roberts, D G Cotgrave, Tony Cross, Kelvin Jones and Steve Dodd.

Nightjar numbers ringed in North-East Wales have increased dramatically in 2014 due to the efforts of Tony Cross who has focussed on the species with the aim of increasing the data gained by fitting geolocators in 2015. Good work also continues with the nest records and ringing of Pied Flycatcher by Merseyside Ringing Group, Spence and Brenchley Partnership and John Lawton Roberts, which provided an increase of 140 pulli ringed compared with 2013.

Of the recoveries reported in 2014, four birds were encountered in North-East Wales that were originally ringed abroad and one that was ringed in North-East Wales and seen abroad. Further foreign recoveries are awaiting ringing data. A Kestrel originally ringed in Sweden in 2010 and found 1194 km away in Ruabon, Wrexham was the 49th Kestrel from Sweden to be discovered in Britain or Ireland. Alan Robinson (Merseyside Ringing Group) would have been very pleased with his French ringed Goldfinch being the 45th from France for our Ringing Scheme (compared to 238 BTO ringed Goldfinches found in France).

There were several interesting recoveries from Shotton Steel Works this year including a Blue Tit found at Loggerheads, Denbighshire (15 km) and a Greenfinch found dead in Craven Arms, Shropshire (89 km). Another relatively long distance recovery from Shotton was of a Great Spotted Woodpecker that hit a window across the border in Prees Higher Heath, Shropshire. The finder was able to correctly identify and sex this individual.

Colour ringing again provided a few good reports of the movements of birds including; a Coot from Pennington Flash Leigh, Manchester to Abergale; a Herring Gull from Hempstead, Gloucester to Colwyn Bay eight years later; and a Little Egret from Penryn Castle to Connah's Quay via Goldcliff Pools, Newport (minimum distance of 380 km).

Ringers are reliant on members of the public reporting ringed birds that they find. Rings can also be read on live birds by members of the public, helping to 'fill in the gap' of the birds life history. To report a ringed bird go to **www.ring.ac** enter the finding details and you will be sent information about the bird including where and when the bird was ringed.

Lee Barber

Number of birds ringed per species (unfortunately still based on the area that was Clwyd)							
Ringing totals	2013			2014			Year total difference
Species	FG	Pull.	Total	FG	Pull.	Total	
Mute Swan	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Red Kite (A)	0	2	2	0	2	2	0
Sparrowhawk	5	0	5	4	0	4	-1
Kestrel (A)	0	14	14	0	10	10	-4
Peregrine (S)	0	5	5	0	2	2	-3

Number of birds ringed per species							
Ringing totals	2013			2014			Year total difference
Species	FG	Pull.	Total	FG	Pull.	Total	
Moorhen	2	0	2	0	0	0	-2
Oystercatcher (A)	0	0	0	7	1	8	8
Ringed Plover (A)	35	3	38	1	1	2	-36
Sanderling	152	0	152	55	0	55	-97
Dunlin (R)	2	0	2	22	0	22	20
Redshank (A)	0	0	0	5	0	5	5
Turnstone (A)	0	0	0	30	0	30	30
Black-headed Gull (A)	0	0	0	0	123	123	123
Herring Gull (R)	1	0	1	0	0	0	-1
Little Tern (A) (S)	0	55	55	0	14	14	-41
Common Tern (A)	0	2	2	0	494	494	492
Stock Dove (A)	0	11	11	0	12	12	1
Woodpigeon	4	1	5	4	2	6	1
Cuckoo (R)	0	0	0	2	0	2	2
Barn Owl (A) (S)	2	6	8	1	34	35	27
Little Owl	0	2	2	0	0	0	-2
Tawny Owl	1	1	2	4	7	11	9
Nightjar (R)	0	0	0	26	8	34	34
Kingfisher (S) (A)	0	0	0	2	0	2	2
Green Woodpecker (A)	1	0	1	0	0	0	-1
Great Spotted Woodpecker	13	0	13	13	0	13	0
Chough (S) (A)	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
Maggie	2	0	2	4	0	4	2
Jay	3	0	3	5	0	5	2
Jackdaw	2	38	40	4	25	29	-11
Rook	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Yellow-browed Warbler	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Goldcrest	16	0	16	112	0	112	96
Blue Tit	291	598	889	528	820	1348	459
Great Tit	151	443	594	208	578	786	192
Coal Tit	59	0	59	34	16	50	-9
Willow Tit (R)	0	0	0	4	0	4	4
Marsh Tit (R)	3	0	3	0	0	0	-3
Swallow (A)	0	247	247	34	235	269	22
Cetti's Warbler (S)	3	0	3	7	0	7	4
Long-tailed Tit	54	0	54	58	0	58	4
Chiffchaff	94	0	94	119	0	119	25
Willow Warbler (A)	60	0	60	104	5	109	49
Blackcap	121	1	122	126	0	126	4

Number of birds ringed per species							
Ringed totals	2013			2014			Year total difference
Species	FG	Pull.	Total	FG	Pull.	Total	
Garden Warbler	24	2	26	11	0	11	-15
Whitethroat (A)	20	0	20	17	0	17	-3
Grasshopper Warbler (R)	1	0	1	10	0	10	9
Sedge Warbler	12	0	12	4	0	4	-8
Reed Warbler	34	0	34	36	0	36	2
Waxwing	14	0	14	0	0	0	-14
Nuthatch	10	14	24	13	30	43	19
Treecreeper	8	0	8	2	0	2	-6
Wren	26	0	26	72	31	103	77
Starling (R)	2	5	7	5	4	9	2
Dipper	1	6	7	1	23	24	17
Blackbird	118	22	140	151	42	193	53
Fieldfare (R) (S)	3	0	3	0	0	0	-3
Song Thrush (R)	7	6	13	9	16	25	12
Redwing (R) (S)	14	0	14	2	0	2	-12
Mistle Thrush (A)	1	0	1	1	0	1	0
Spotted Flycatcher (R)	0	13	13	1	20	21	8
Robin	89	6	95	98	16	114	19
Pied Flycatcher (A)	96	574	670	99	714	813	143
Redstart (A)	37	89	126	19	63	82	-44
Whinchat (A)	0	6	6	0	0	0	-6
Dunnock (A)	45	5	50	51	5	56	6
House Sparrow (R)	6	16	22	13	40	53	31
Tree Sparrow (R)	0	23	23	2	51	53	30
Grey Wagtail (A)	2	7	9	1	30	31	22
Pied Wagtail	0	11	11	0	12	12	1
Tree Pipit (R)	6	0	6	0	0	0	-6
Meadow Pipit (A)	152	0	152	1	4	5	-147
Chaffinch	154	19	173	132	6	138	-35
Brambling (S)	4	0	4	0	0	0	-4
Greenfinch	26	0	26	151	0	151	125
Goldfinch	181	0	181	230	1	231	50
Siskin	325	0	325	305	0	305	-20
Linnet (R)	0	0	0	2	0	2	2
Twite (R)	5	0	5	14	0	14	9
Lesser Redpoll (R)	31	0	31	57	0	57	26
Bullfinch (A)	14	0	14	41	0	41	27
Yellowhammer (R)	10	0	10	0	0	0	-10
Reed Bunting (A)	9	0	9	5	0	5	-4
TOTALS	2564	2,253	4817	3082	3500	6582	1763

In the table, on the previous pages, 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). Species that a Schedule 1 licence is required during the breeding season, are indicated with S. The ringing totals are derived from the online Ringing Report: www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/ringing/publications/online-ringing-reports.

Codes used in the recoveries:

M Male
F Female
Pull. Ringed as a pullus (nestling)
2 Fully Grown, year of hatching unknown
3 (3J) Hatched during the current calendar year (in juvenile plumage)
4 Hatched before the current calendar year, exact year unknown
5 Hatched during the previous calendar year
6 Hatched before the previous calendar year, exact year unknown

2014 Selected recoveries

R31708 Barn Owl Pull. F
08 07 2014 Site Confidential, near Lower Berse
16 11 2014 Whitchurch, Shrewsbury
24km 109° 131d Freshly dead (vehicle collision)

7536692 Blackbird 3 M
29 10 2013 Jomfrulund O-Runden, **NORWAY**, 58°52'N 09°36'E
04 01 2014 Rhos-on-Sea, Denbighshire
1029km 234° 67d Controlled

LE92199 Blackbird 4 M
26 12 2012 Rhos-on-sea, Denbighshire
25 02 2014 High House, Matfen, Northumberland
225km 32° 426d Released alive from building

EY43840 Black-headed Gull Pull.
20 07 2014 Shotton Steel Works, Flintshire
26 12 2014 Cavado Estuary, Esposende, **PORTUGAL**, 41°32'N 08°47'W
1368km 199° 159d Freshly dead (hunted)

L409446 Blue Tit 3
12 12 2010 Shotton Steel Works, Flintshire
15 05 2014 Loggerheads, Denbighshire
15km 239° 1250d Controlled

5272696 Canada Goose 4
02 07 2013 Bowness-on-Windermere
09 08 2014 near Flint
127km 187° 464d Freshly dead

BRT643 Chiffchaff 3
22 09 2013 Chilling, Warsash, Southampton, Hampshire
26 05 2014 Rhydymwyn, near Mold, Flintshire
293km 334° 246d Controlled

GC22271	Coot 2		
	08 10 2012	Pennington Flash Leigh, Manchester	
	23 02 2013	Abergele, Conwy	
	23 02 2014	Abergele, Conwy 72km 253° 503d	Colour ring sighting
8L05024	Dunlin 3		
	10 08 2013	Makkevika, Giske, NORWAY , 62°30'N 06°02'E	
	20 12 2014	Rhos-on-Sea, Denbighshire	
		1172km 210° 497d	Controlled
7091559	Goldfinch 2 M		
	03 02 2013	Maison, St. Venant, FRANCE , 50°37'N 2°32'E	
	20 04 2014	Llwynmawr, Wrexham	
		468km 304° 441d	Controlled
RJ64567	Great Spotted Woodpecker 4 F		
	23 12 2012	Shotton Steel Works, Flintshire	
	14 03 2014	Prees Higher Heath, Shropshire	
		43km 142° 446d	Freshly dead (window)
TR06928	Greenfinch 3 M		
	23 12 2012	Shotton Steel Works, Flintshire	
	26 11 2014	Craven Arms, Shropshire	
		89km 171° 703d	Freshly dead (injured)
Y879703	Grey Wagtail Pull.		
	18 05 2013	River Ithon, Esgairdraenllwyn, Powys	
	27 07 2014	Arddwyfaen, Cerrigydrudion, Denbighshire	
		65km 348° 435d	Controlled
GC22804	Herring Gull 5		
	13 01 2007	Near Hempsted, Gloucester	
	16 01 2007	Near Hempsted, Gloucester	
	21 12 2014	Colwyn Bay, Conway 186km 330° 2899d	Colour ring sighting
GF03724	Herring Gull 3		
	2210 1994	Moss Side Farm, Risley, Warrington, Cheshire	
	10 07 2014	Prestatyn, Flintshire	
		63km 258° 7201d	Ring read sighting
EX54555	Jackdaw Pull.		
	28 05 2013	Pwll Pridd, Bryneglwys, Denbighshire	
	18 08 2014	Gwyddelwern, Meirionnydd	
		4km 242° 447d	Freshly dead (Vehicle collision)
7199546	Kestrel Pull.		
	22 06 2010	Kymbo, Falkoping, SWEDEN , 58°05'N 13°45'E	
	05 06 2014	Ruabon, Wrexham	
		1197km 242° 1444d	Dying (Vehicle collision)

L378444	Lesser Redpoll 3		
	27 11 2010	Chobham Common, Surrey	
	18 05 2014	Trofarth, Abergele, Denbighshire	
		296km 314° 1268d	Dying (Magpie)
Y467574	Lesser Redpoll 3		
	21 10 2011	Newent Woods, Glasshouse, Gloucestershire	
	24 03 2014	Llwynmawr, Denbighshire	
		124km 337° 885d	Controlled
GR47585	Little Egret Pull.		
	05 07 2013	Penrhyn Castle, Bangor, Gwynedd	
	29 03 2014	Goldcliff Pools, Newport	
	19 04 2014	Goldcliff Pools, Newport	
NV38137	Little Tern Pull.		
	08 07 2002	Near Gronant, Flintshire	
	11 07 2014	Near Gronant, Flintshire	
		0km 0° 4386d	Freshly dead
FS72676	Mediterranean Gull Pull. (Green R58S)		
	11 06 2010	Conchil le Temple, Pas de Calais, FRANCE , 50°22'N 01°04'E	
	02 12 2010	Seaforth NR, Liverpool, Merseyside	
	08 07 2013	Seaforth NR, Liverpool, Merseyside	
FH24727	Oystercatcher Pull.		
	08 06 2012	University, Hillhead, Aberdeen	
	18 07 2014	Talacre, Flintshire	
		431km 191° 770d	Ring only found
X184925	Pied Flycatcher Pull.		
	15 06 2012	Linnell Hill, near Hexham, Northumberland	
	09 06 2014	Pandy, near Glyn Ceiriog, Denbighshire	
		236km 199° 724d	Controlled (nest box)
L409485	Reed Bunting 3 M		
	12 12 2010	Shotton Steel Works, Flintshire	
	29 03 2014	Caughall Manor, Chester	
		12km 91° 1203d	Metal ring sighting
L638592	Redstart Pull.		
	25 05 2014	Glyn Arthur, near Llangwyfan, Denbighshire	
	30 08 2014	Aztec Business Park, Bristol	
		188km 165° 97d	Freshly dead (window)
D570285	Siskin 5 M		
	01 03 2014	Sway, New Forest, Hampshire	
	05 04 2014	Pentre Llanrhaeadr, Denbighshire	
		290km 336° 35d	Freshly dead (window)

Y550842	Siskin 5 M	
	11 05 2012 Torwood Lodge, Lockerbie	
	05 04 2014 Llwynmawr, Denbighshire	Controlled
245km 177° 694d		
D441047	Swallow 3J	
	02 09 2013 Dyfi-Aber Leri NR, near Borth, Ceredigion	
	17 08 2014 Ty Canol, Eglwyseg, Denbighshire	Freshly dead
84km 45° 349d		
L848268	Twite 5 M	
	13 04 2012 Blaen-Y-Nant, Gwynedd	
	15 02 2013 Irb Station, Flint, Flintshire	Colour ring sighting
	02 01 2014 Connah's Quay, Flintshire	Colour ring sighting
	25 03 2014 Connah's Quay, Flintshire	Controlled
64km 79° 711d		
BBH946	Willow Warbler 3J	
	01 07 2011 Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Denbighshire	
	06 05 2012 Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Denbighshire	
	16 05 2012 Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Denbighshire	
	12 06 2012 Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Denbighshire	
	19 06 2012 Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Denbighshire	
	26 07 2014 Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest, Denbighshire	Retrapped
0km 0° 1121d		



Birds ringed or found in NE Wales involving movements abroad in 2014. The codes used in this map relate to birds that were originally ringed abroad are: B - Blackbird, DN – Dunlin, GO - Goldfinch, K - Kestrel, MU - Mediterranean Gull. The code for a bird originally ringed in NE Wales is: BH - Black-headed Gull.

Nest records submitted from Denbs and Flints in 2014

	Denbs	Flints
Species	Totals	Totals
Mute Swan		1
Greylag Goose	1	
Mandarin Duck	1	
Mallard	4	
Buzzard	1	
Kestrel	1	1
Peregrine	1	
Ringed Plover		1
Little Tern		3
Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon	1	
Stock Dove	6	10
Woodpigeon	13	
Collared Dove	1	
Barn Owl	3	4
Tawny Owl	3	2
Great Spotted Woodpecker	1	
Jackdaw	18	1
Raven	12	
Blue Tit	131	56
Great Tit	91	49
Coal Tit	3	
Willow Tit	1	
Swallow	87	11
Wood Warbler	1	
Willow Warbler	2	
Nuthatch	3	3
Treecreeper	1	
Wren	5	7
Starling		1
Dipper	6	
Blackbird	35	4
Song Thrush	7	
Spotted Flycatcher	9	1
Robin	7	2
Pied Flycatcher	124	2
Redstart	16	
Dunnock	11	
House Sparrow	15	3
Tree Sparrow	5	22

	Denbs	Flints
Species	Totals	Totals
Grey Wagtail	10	1
Pied Wagtail	7	1
Meadow Pipit	3	
Chaffinch	3	
Goldfinch	1	
Linnet	2	
Lesser Redpoll	1	
Reed Bunting	2	
TOTALS	656	186

Robinson, R.A., Leech, D.I. & Clark, J.A.(2015) The Online Demography Report: Bird ringing and nest recording in Britain & Ireland in 2014. BTO, Thetford (<http://www.bto.org/ringing-report>, created on 1-September-2015).

Contributors to the bird report for 2014

Anne Brenchley	AB	Annette Williams	AnWi
A Biggs	ABg	Alyn Owens	AO
A Bourne	ABou	Adrian Owen Hibbert	AOH
Anthony Britner	ABr	Alan Rowley	AR
Alec George	AcG	Arfon Hughes	ArHu
AC Irving	ACI	Anne Rogers	ARo
Andrew Clarke	ACla	Tony S Perry	ASP
Alyn Chambers	ACm	Anthony Gallon	AtG
Aled Ellis Davies	AED	Babette Daniels	BaD
A Garden	AGa	Bethan Beech	BB
Tony G Jackson	AGJ	Bob Hayes	BH
A Gibson	AGn	Brian Iddon	BI
Alex Humphreys-Jones	AHJ	Betty Lee	BL
A James Farrell	AJF	Barry Lynes	Bly
Alison Craig	AIC	Brenda M Gough	BMG
Allan P Dawes	AlDa	BR Hinchliffe	BRH
Allan P Dawes	AlDa	Ben Stammers	BSm
Alan Kydd	AlK	Cliff Aincham	CA
Allan Archer	AllA	CE Trollope	CETr
Tony Lovatt	ALo	C Griffiths	CGf
Alison Webb	AlWe	Craig Reed	CgR
per Anon Birdguides	ANB	Coral Hansom	CHa
Andrew Godson	AnGo	Chris Butterworth	ChBu
Annie N Haycock	ANHk	Chris Cant	ChCa
Tony Revill	AnRe	Charles Farrell	ChF
Andy Thomas	AnTh	Chris Mellanchip	ChMe
Anon WeBS	AnWe	Chris Morley	ChMo

Ceri M Jones	CMJ	E Quinto-Ashman	EQA	Julian P Hughes	JHg	Mair Evans	MaEv
Christopher Moore	CMo	F Tony E Murray	FAEM	Joan Hotchkiss	JHo	MA Hayes	MAH
CR Jones	CRJ	Findlay Wilde	FiW	James Keegan	JKee	Margaret Hurt	MaHu
CS Backshall	CSB	Graham Berry	GaBe	JK Ogden	JKO	Malcolm Ingham	Mal
Colin Wells	CW	Gary Honey	GaHo	Jillian Cloves	JIC	Malcolm Johnson	MaJn
Chris Walters	CWa	Gareth Morris	GaMo	John Lawton Roberts	JLR	Margaret A Jones	MAJo
Darren C Coombs	DaCC	Glenn B Heaton	GBH	Julian M Breeze	JMB	MA McLellan	MAM
David Farncombe	DaF	Gemma Charles	GeCh	J Martin Jones	JMJ	Mandy Marsh	MaMa
Dave Hunter	DaHu	GEH Brown	GEHB	JM White	JMWh	Mel ab Owain	MaO
David Knass	DaK	Glenn E Morris	GEM	Jonathan D Groom	JnG	Mark Archer	MArc
David Nussbaumer	DaNu	Gill Pritchard	GiP	Joseph Nicholas Williams	JNW	Marina Thomas	MaT
David Parker	DaPa	Geoff Morgan	GM	Jeffrey Olstead	JO	Mick Brummage	MB
D Archer	DArc	Gareth M Blockley	GMB	Jon A Lowes	JoAL	M Buckley	MBu
Dave Stevenson	DaS	Graham M Waterman	GMW	John Arrowsmith	JoAr	Malcolm Down	MD
David Shone	DaSh	Glyn Neville Roberts	GNR	John Bratton	JoBr	Mark Evans	MEv
Dave Shiel	DaSi	Geoffrey Robinson	GR	John D Gambles	JoG	Martin G Williams	MGW
David Boyle	DBy	Graham Jones	GrJ	John Harrop	JoH	Mark I Avery	MIA
D Cogan	DCg	Giles RM Pepler	GRMP	Joe O'Hanlon	JOHn	Mike Baron	MIB
Carol Richardson;David Richardson	DCR	Graham Ramshaw	GrR	John Rushton	JoR	Michael Pittaway	MiP
Des Cave	DCv	Graham Uney	GrU	John Smith	JoSm	Mike S Jones	MiSJ
D Dowell	DDo	Gareth Thomas	GTh	John P Hickerton	JPH	MJ Wheeler	MJW
Dawn E Balmer	DEB	Henry RA Cook	HC	J Parker	JPk	Mike Haigh	MkH
Denise Deegan	DeD	Howard Davies	HD	J Platt	JPI	Mark P Burgess	MPB
Dermot J Smith	DeS	Heledd Wyn-Jones	HeJo	John Roberts	JR	Mike P Shurmer	MPS
DF Dennis	DFD	Hazel Jones	HJ	Janet Robinson	JRo	Malcolm R Hopton	MRH
David G Holland	DGH	Hugh Linn	HL	June Barber	JuBa	Mark R Hipkin	MRHp
DJ Humphries	DJH	Hilary MacBean	HMB	Julie Rogers	JuR	Mark Hughes	MrHu
Dave Mayfield	DM	Hilary Nash	HN	Jim Hulse;Val Hulse	JVHu	Martin James	MrJ
David M Hytch	DMH	H Simpson	HSi	JV Thomson	JVTh	Mark R Peers	MRP
DM Pritchard	DMPr	Harvey T Dearden	HTD	Jazz Beattie	JzB	M Short	MSh
David Roberts	DRo	H Taylor	HTy	K Ashton	KAs	Michelle Stachowski	MSt
Darryl Skidmore	DrS	Ian Roberts	IaR	Kate Wilson	KaW	Mark T Breaks	MTB
Deborah Sainsbury	DS	I Tony Stachnicki	IAS	KA Walker	KAWa	Natalie Webb	NaW
David Smith	DSt	Ieuan Bryn	IeB	Kieron Duff	KDf	Nicholas Barton	NB
David Thompson	DTm	Ivor Harris	IH	Keith Davies	KhD	Nigel Douglas	NDg
Dan Trotman	DTr	Ian M Spence	IMS	Keith Jones	KJ	ND Pierce	NDP
Duncan Halpin	DuH	Ian R Peters	IRP	Karl Martin	KM	ND Rawlings	NDR
David Prime	DvP	Ian Williams	IW	Keith Offord	KO	Neil D Stratton	NDS
David J Shaw	DvS	Jonathan A Clarke	JAC	Kevin J Smith	KS	N Duggan	NDu
EA Lewis	EAL	Joe A Fleming	JAF	Laurence Clark	LaC	Nick French	NF
Emma Broad	EB	Jane Hemming	JaH	Lindsay A Finch	LAF	Neil Friswell	NFr
E Cocker	ECK	JA Jackson	JAJ	Lee Barber	LB	N Godden	NGo
E Celia M Hughes	ECMH	Julie Chicken	JC	Lee GR Evans	LGRE	N Howard	NHo
Edward D Jackson	EdDJ	JC Le Gassick	JCLG	Liam Langley	LIL	Neil Hughes	NHu
Edward Jones	EdJ	Jack Davies	JDa	Louise Jones	LJ	Nichola Hyde	NHy
Eddie Williams	EdW	Joe D'Arcy	JDAr	Lloyd Jones	LIJ	Nick Critchley	NiCr
Eryl Jones	EJ	Jenny Briggs	JeBr	L Moore	LMO	Nigel Melsom	NiM
EM Nottage	EMN	Jennie Geddes	JeG	Lizzy Webster	LWe	Nicholas Suckling	NiSu
EM Shilland	EMS	Jenny Thomas	JeT	M Arnold	MA	Norma Williams	NoWi
E Nixon	ENx	Jenny Vaughan	JeVa	Mark Brockley	MaBr	Nick R Thomas	NRT
E Pettit	EPe	John H Briggs	JHB	Malcolm Edge	MaEd	Nigel S Burns	NSB

Oliver E Prys-Jones	OPJ	Robin Sandham	RS
P Antrobus	PA	Richard Smith	RSm
Paul Martin	PaMa	Rob Swift	RSw
Patricia Ann Roberts	PAR	Ray Teesdale	RTe
Paul Reay	PaRa	Ruth Cresswell	RuC
per Bob Harris MRG	pBH	R Weston	RWes
per BirdTrack	pBT	Ray Eades	RyE
per Cofnod	pCd	Shelagh A Halsey	SAH
P Chambers	PCh	Stephen Bladwell	SBw
Pat Clarke	PCI	Steven Davies	SD
per Colin Wells	pCW	S Gibson	SGb
Paul David Shenton	PDS	Steve G Dodd	SGD
Peter Haslem	PeHa	Simon T Hughes	SH
Peter Kirk	PeK	Simon Hugheston-Roberts	SHR
Paul E Miller	PEM	Sheila Ryde	ShRy
Philip Oliver	PhO	SJ Hall	SJHa
Peter J Haveland	PJH	Stuart K Thomas	SKT
per John Lawton Roberts	pJLR	Susan J Morris	SM
Julie Rogers per BHP	pJR	S Patmore	SPa
Julie Rogers per ENI	pJRE	Steven Robert Astley	SRA
Peter J Wood	PJW	Steve Skelton	SS
Peter J York	PJY	Sarah Slater	SSr
Paul King	PKi	Stuart Blundell	StB
Peter Lawton	PLa	Stuart Foster	StF
Paul M Carter	PMC	Steve Jones	StJo
Peter John Milner	PMi	Steve Palin	StP
per RSPB Conwy	pRCo	Stuart Pedley	StPe
P Squire	PSq	Steve Robinson	StRo
Peter Brownsword	PtB	Susan Loose	SuLo
Phil Townsend	PTo	Suzanne Coleman	SzC
Phil S Woollen	PWo	Trevor B Taylor	TBT
Pete W Yendle	PWY	TD Jones	TDJ
Raymond Ashcroft	RaAs	Tessa Anning	TeA
Richard Beckett	RBe	Thomas Giles	TG
Bob Harris	RbHa	Tony J Witts	TJW
Becky Clews-Roberts	RCR	Tom Knight	TK
Richard L Groves	RG	Tom Mckinney	TMK
Richard Gallon	RGa	Tom Green	ToG
Rhun Jones	RhJ	Tony Jaques	ToJ
Rhion Pritchard	RhPc	Tom Mawdsley	ToM
Richard May	RiMa	Trevor G Payne	TP
RM Daw	RMDa	Trevor Britton	TrB
Robin Crompton	RoCr	Vince R Beaney	VRB
Robert Edwards	RoE	Bill Owens	WAO
Robert D Hughes	RoH	W Davies	WDa
Roger Halsey	RoHl	Bill R Myerscough	WRM
Rob S Murray	RoSM	Wyn Jones	WyJ
Roy Tapping	RoTa	Zac Hinchcliffe	ZH
RP Jones	RPJ		
R Piper	RPp		
Ron Rees Davies	RRD		
R&R Schofield	RRS		

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 450 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.

National groups

British Trust for Ornithology (BTO)

BTO Cymru - Development Officer, Kelvin Jones; Senior Ecologist, Rachel Taylor

BTO Cymru, Thoday Building, Deiniol Road, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 2UW

Tel: 01248-383285

BTO regional representatives:

Clwyd East: Anne Brenchley, Tŷ'r Fawnog, 43 Blackbrook, Sychdyn, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6LT. Telephone: 01352-750118.
Email: anne.brenchley1@btinternet.com

Clwyd West: Mel ab Owain, 31 Coed Bedw, Abergelle, Conwy, LL22 7EU.
Telephone: 01745-826528. Email: melabowain@btinternet.com

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.

Individual subscription (before discount):	£15.00
Family subscription (before discount):	£18.00

Send your cheque (made out to the 'Welsh Ornithological Society') to:

Alan Williams
30 Fairfield
Penperlleni
Pontypool
NP4 0AQ

Index of species accounts

Auk, Little	80	Goosander	39
Avocet	62	Goose, Bar-headed	158
Blackbird	129	Goose, Barnacle	22
Blackcap	119	Goose, Canada	21
Brambling	149	Goose, Egyptian	23
Bullfinch	155	Goose, Greylag	20
Bunting, Reed	157	Goose, Pink-footed	18
Bunting, Snow	156	Goose, Ross's	158
Buzzard	56	Goose, Snow	158
Chaffinch	148	Goose, Swan	159
Chiffchaff	117	Goose, White-fronted	19
Chough	101	Goshawk	55
Coot	61	Grebe, Black-necked	52
Cormorant	46	Grebe, Great Crested	50
Corncrake	60	Grebe, Little	50
Crossbill, Common	154	Grebe, Slavonian	51
Crossbill, Two-barred	154	Greenfinch	149
Crow, Carrion	105	Greenshank	77
Cuckoo	93	Grouse, Black	42
Curlew	68	Grouse, Red	41
Dipper	127	Guillemot	81
Diver, Black-throated	44	Guillemot, Black	80
Diver, Great Northern	44	Gull, Black-headed	84
Diver, Red-throated	43	Gull, Caspian	88
Dove, Collared	92	Gull, Common	85
Dove, Stock	90	Gull, Glaucous	89
Dove, Turtle	93	Gull, Great Black-backed	89
Duck, Long-tailed	35	Gull, Herring	87
Duck, Mandarin	24	Gull, Iceland	89
Duck, Muscovy	159	Gull, Lesser Black-backed	86
Duck, Ruddy	40	Gull, Little	85
Duck, Tufted	33	Gull, Mediterranean	85
Duck, Wood	159	Gull, Sabine's	83
Dunlin	73	Gull, Yellow-legged	88
Dunnock	140	Harrier, Marsh	53
Egret, Cattle	47	Harrier, Hen	54
Egret, Great White	48	Hawfinch	156
Egret, Little	47	Heron, Grey	48
Eider	34	Hobby	58
Fieldfare	130	Honey-buzzard	52
Firecrest	107	Jackdaw	103
Flamingo, Chilean	159	Jay	103
Flycatcher, Pied	135	Kestrel	57
Flycatcher, Spotted	133	Kingfisher	199
Fulmar	44	Kite, Red	53
Gadwall	26	Kittiwake	83
Gannet	45	Knot	71
Garganey	31	Lapwing	65
Godwit, Bar-tailed	70	Linnet	151
Godwit, Black-tailed	69	Magpie	102
Goldcrest	106	Mallard	28
Goldeneye	37	Martin, House	114
Goldfinch	150	Martin, Sand	112

Merganser, Red-breasted	38	Shelduck	23
Merlin	58	Shoveler	31
Moorhen	61	Shrike, Great Grey	101
Nightjar	97	Siskin	151
Nuthatch	123	Skylark	112
Osprey	57	Snipe	79
Ouzel, Ring	128	Snipe, Jack	78
Owl, Barn	94	Sparrow, House	141
Owl, Little	95	Sparrow, Tree	142
Owl, Long-eared	96	Sparrowhawk	55
Owl, Short-eared	97	Spoonbill	50
Owl, Tawny	96	Starling	126
Oystercatcher	63	Stint, Little	75
Parakeet, Ring-necked	93	Stonechat	139
Partridge, Grey	42	Stork, Black	49
Partridge, Red-legged	40	Swallow	113
Peafowl, Indian	158	Swan, Black	158
Peregrine	59	Swan, Mute	16
Pheasant	43	Swan, Bewick's	17
Pheasant, Golden	158	Swan, Whooper	17
Pigeon, Feral	90	Swift	98
Pintail	30	Teal	27
Pipit, Meadow	146	Tern, Arctic	83
Pipit, Rock	147	Tern, Common	83
Pipit, Tree	145	Tern, Little	81
Pipit, Water	148	Tern, Sandwich	82
Plover, Golden	64	Thrush, Mistle	132
Plover, Grey	64	Thrush, Song	130
Plover, Little Ringed	66	Tit, Blue	107
Plover, Ringed	66	Tit, Coal	110
Pochard	32	Tit, Great	109
Quail	40	Tit, Long-tailed	115
Rail, Water	60	Tit, Marsh	111
Raven	106	Tit, Willow	110
Razorbill	80	Treecreeper	124
Redpoll, Lesser	153	Turnstone	70
Redshank	77	Twite	152
Redshank, Spotted	76	Wagtail, Grey	143
Redstart	137	Wagtail, Pied	145
Redstart, Black	136	Wagtail, White	144
Redwing	131	Wagtail, Yellow	143
Robin	134	Warbler, Cetti's	115
Rook	104	Warbler, Garden	119
Ruff	72	Warbler, Grasshopper	121
Sanderling	73	Warbler, Reed	123
Sandpiper, Common	75	Warbler, Sedge	122
Sandpiper, Curlew	72	Warbler, Willow	118
Sandpiper, Green	76	Warbler, Wood	116
Sandpiper, Purple	74	Warbler, Yellow-browed	116
Scaup	34	Wheatear	139
Scoter, Common	35	Whimbrel	67
Scoter, Surf	36	Whinchat	138
Scoter, Velvet	36	Whitethroat	121
Shag	47	Whitethroat, Lesser	120
Shearwater, Manx	45	Wigeon	25

Woodcock	78
Woodpecker, Great Spotted	100
Woodpecker, Green	99
Woodpecker, Lesser Spotted	101
Woodpigeon	91
Wren	125
Yellowhammer	156



The Birds of Connah's Quay Nature Reserve and Oakenholt Marsh

by Glenn Morris

(order for £5 + £1.20 P&P from
glennmanc@hotmail.com)

A new 70-page paperback guide to all 233 species of bird seen on the Reserve over the past 40 years (9x6 inch with full colour cover photos). Reserve Map, a brief history of the Reserve and list of mammals.