

# North-East Wales Bird Report 2024



Clwyd Bird Recording Group  
August 2025

# 2024

# Clwyd Bird Recording Group



**Cover photos**  
**Hudsonian Godwit: Mike Pollard and Cormorants: Glenn Morris**

## NORTH-EAST WALES BIRD REPORT 2024

Glenn E Morris (text), Mike Pollard (WeBS tables) and Ian Spence (layout and maps, using DMAP by Dr AJ Morton)

The main objectives of this Report are to record unusual sightings, breeding evidence, arrival and departure dates of non-resident species and high counts for each species, and to acknowledge the efforts of people submitting data. Special thanks to the small number of people who submitted the majority of valuable records. Incomplete coverage means breeding numbers of all species are greatly underestimated, as shown by the much larger numbers of nesting Curlew, Lapwing, Black Grouse and Swift found by special 2024 surveys. It is striking that only one confirmed breeding report was received for Woodpigeon, one of our most abundant and least secretive of birds, and that few nesting sites for Swifts this year would be known without the "Swift Recovery Survey" promoted by the North Wales Wildlife Trust (NWWT).

The Report is based almost entirely on data provided in spreadsheet form by Cofnod (Aisling May), BTO (especially Birdtrack [inc. Birdguides (Bg)] but also Garden Birdwatch, BBS, WBBS and WeBS) and eBird, plus other sources that include Julian Hughes (WOS), RSPB [especially Graham Jones and Colin Wells], NWWT, Peter Coffey and the Merseyside Ringing Group, Deeside Naturalists Society Report 2024 and direct submissions. Special thanks to Julian Hughes for keeping me on the right track and always knowing where to look for information.

The number of bird records has soared in recent years to over 150,000 this year, including over 110,000 Birdtrack records, nearly 33,000 eBird records and over 7,000 from other sources.

Unusual records for 2024 include a long-staying Hudsonian Godwit (a first for Wales), American Golden Plover, Smew, Long-tailed Duck, Sabine's, Caspian and Glaucous Gulls, Roseate and Black Terns, Black Guillemot, White-tailed Sea-eagle (seen again), Woodlark, Waxwing and Lapland Bunting.

The Report this year contains the Ringing Report for both 2023 and 2024 from Lee Barber (BTO).

The old vice-counties for biological record-keeping, VC50 (Denbs) and VC51 (Flints) can be found on-line at: <https://www.cucaera.co.uk/grp/?refs=SJ26&map>

Ian Spence has produced all the maps from data collated by Cofnod and has assembled the text and figures into its final pdf format. Thanks are also due to those who have kindly provided photographs (please note that photographers retain all copyright to their images, which should not be reproduced without their permission). I am solely responsible for all errors that creep into this Report, though pleased that there are no Corrections/Additions for 2023 this year.

Glenn E Morris, Bird Recorder. ([glenmanc@hotmail.com](mailto:glenmanc@hotmail.com)).

**Abbreviations:** VC: Vice-county; Flints: Flintshire VC51; Denbs: Denbighshire VC50; CQNR-OakRSPB: Connah's Quay Nature Reserve and RSPB Oakenholt Marsh; POA: Point of Ayr; RSPB: Royal Society for the Protection of Birds; BTO: British Trust for Ornithology; BT: BTO Birdtrack; Bg: Birdguides; WeBS: Wetland Bird Survey; GBW: BTO Garden Birdwatch; BBS: BTO Breeding Bird Survey; WBBS: Waterways Breeding Bird Survey; WOS: Welsh Ornithological Society; WBRC: Welsh Bird Rarities Committee; NNR: National Nature Reserve; LNR: local nature reserve; CP: Country Park; NWWT: North Wales Wildlife Trust; Llanfair TH: Llanfair Talhaiarn; 1CY: 1<sup>st</sup> calendar year; 2CY: 2<sup>nd</sup> calendar year; 3CY: 3<sup>rd</sup> calendar year.

## Wetland Bird Survey

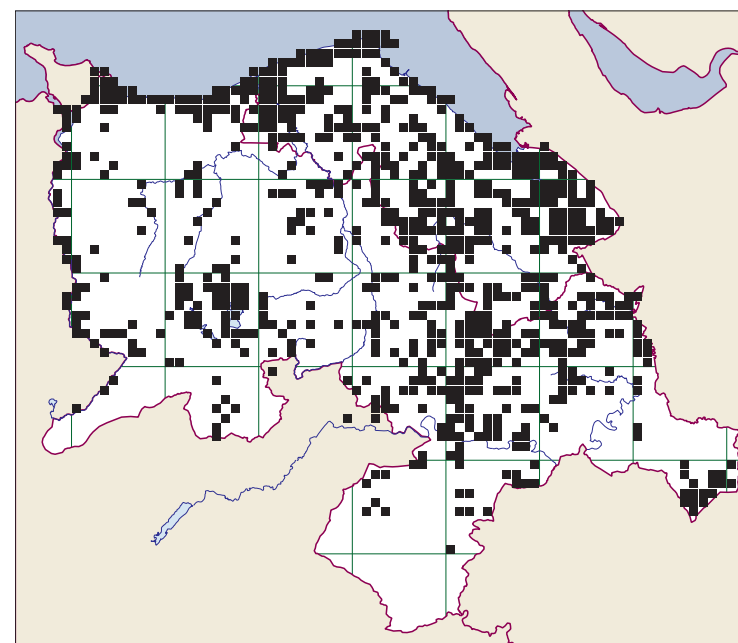
The Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS) monitors the UK's internationally important non-breeding waterbirds. Following a tradition begun in 1947, volunteers and surveyors count wetland sites once per month, providing data for population and trends in abundance and distribution. The network of sites legally protected for their importance to wintering waterbirds depends fundamentally on the WeBS counts. This report presents information for species where there is significant data available from this year's WeBS surveys. Counts are included where they equal or exceed a threshold number which is considered to be important in the context of North East Wales. We are extremely grateful to all those who carry out the counts, not least because these are amongst the most important data collected for conservation purposes. To access the wealth of data online, go to: [www.bto.org/webs-reporting](http://www.bto.org/webs-reporting)

## The Maps

This year data from Birdtrack, eBird and Cofnod have been used to create the computer-generated maps. Only observations made within 1km squares can be used; these have the format "SJ1234". Submissions in other formats, such as tetrad or 10km squares (e.g. "SJ07" or "SJ07C") cannot be included routinely in the maps. The maps are for illustrative purposes only and should not be used as evidence for either presence in or absence from a particular square.

The coverage map below shows all the 1km squares that have at least one record this year. Notable gaps in coverage are most Denbs uplands apart from the Brenig/Clocaenog area, much of the Maelor apart from Fenn's Moss and the southern Berwyns. Some spots outside Flints/Denbs have crept into the maps, but are not used in the main text.

All 1km squares with at least one record





# The Systematic Species List for 2024

## Brent Goose *Branta bernicla*

Local, but regular, winter visitor.

GŴYDD DDU

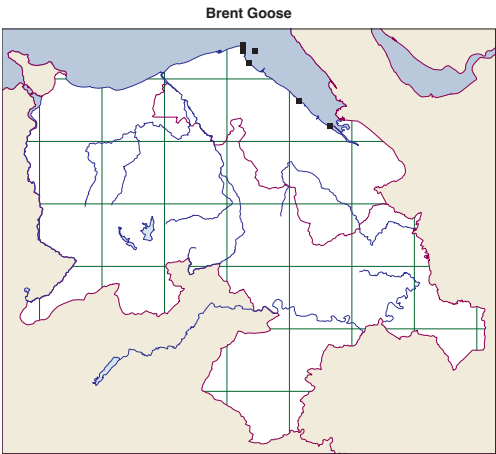
***Branta b. bernicla*** (Dark-bellied Brent Goose: Russia)

**Flints.** Two at Talacre on 11/02 (AJR, DEW).

***Branta b. hrota*** (Pale-bellied Brent Goose: Svalbard, Greenland)

**Flints.** 36 BT records from the Dee estuary, up to 25/04 and from 31/07 onwards, including 19 from Point of Ayr where the highest count was 100 on 15/02 (eBird). Max 325 at Walwen Marsh on 7/12 (WeBS). Other records from Gronant, RSPB Oakenholt, Greenfield, Bagillt and Ffynonngroyw.

**Denbs.** Horton's Nose had 11 on 31/01 (GrI) and 2 on 7/02 (SK, MP).



Sites with ≥ 30 on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Walwen	253	295	104	14						1	14	325
Point of Ayr	70	30	59	77						1	6	2
Bagillt Saltmarsh		38										

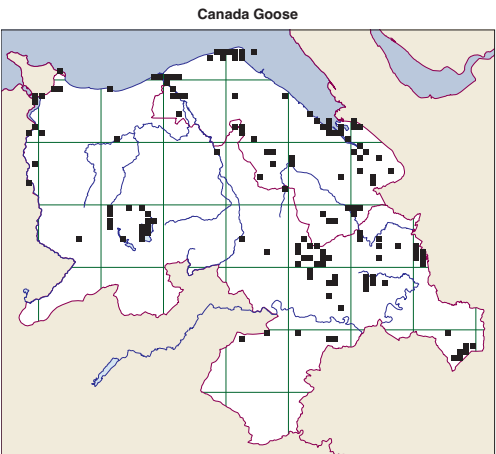
## Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*

A very common breeding resident and winter visitor.

GŴYDD CANADA

**Flints.** 570 BT records in all months (156 of which from Connah's Quay NR) with breeding confirmed at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints), Rhyl Brickworks (5y), Clwyd Estuary (5y + 2y), Gronant (2pr, 16y), Big Pool Wood, Buckley Common (3y + 2y), Nannerch Fishery (3y), Star Crossing Pool (6y), Llanfynydd and Hawarden Golf Course. Max 4000 at CQNR-OakRSPB on 3/02 (PSH), 500 at Point of Ayr on 18/09 (eBird) and 387 at Clwyd estuary on 2/02 (JHi).

**Denbs.** 832 BT records in all months (338 of which were from RSPB Conwy). Breeding was confirmed at RSPB Conwy (4 families: 4y, 4y, 2y: WRM), Llyn Brenig (1y: WRM), Llyn Aled



Isaf (WRM), Bodnant NT (VBeaney), Esclusham Mtn (NF), Acton Park-Wrexham (PaJ), Gresford Flash (JmHu) and Lower Mountain, Hope (IMS). Max 400 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 9/11 (WeBS).

Sites with ≥ 100 on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Connahs Quay NR	45	72	140	34			63	90	30			
Oakenholt Marsh	500	800	120	29			120	30	23	180	600	200
White Sands	36	500	11	6			300	21	16	450	250	550
Clwyd Est/Marine Lake	270	9	31	27	61	41	254			40	400	
Pt of Ayr incl. Fields	153	183	48							77	7	287

## Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis*

GŴYDD WYRAN

Uncommon winter visitor, probably of feral origin.

**Flints.** 7 BT records. Max 4 at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) on 7/03 (CW) and 3 at Cop Hole Pool on 21/01 (AHJ) and singles at CQNR-OakRSPB on 19/02 and 14/03 (PSH), Shotwick on 19/02 (JmHu) and Fagl Lane on 10/01 (eBird).

**Denbs.** One at Holt on 25/01 (NF).

## Greylag Goose *Anser anser*

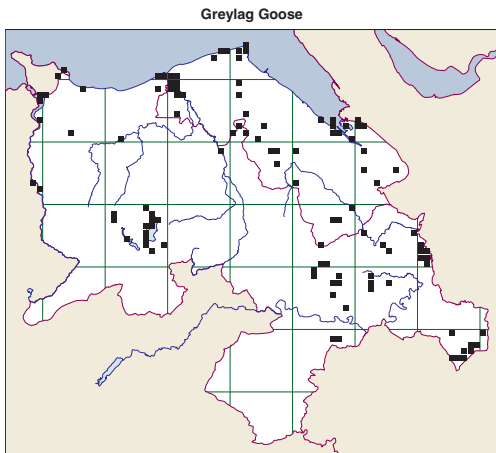
GŴYDD LWYD

A common breeding resident and winter visitor.

**Flints.** 361 BT records in all months, with breeding confirmed at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints), Gronant on 30/05 (2 pairs; WRM), Clwyd estuary on 12/05 (WRM), Fagl Lane on 15/06 (PaJ), Hawarden golfcourse on 2/06 (SD) and Star Crossing on 4/05 (pair + 6y: GEM, MP). Max 800 on Clwyd estuary on 9/11 (WeBS), 685 at Rhuddlan on 5/10 (JeN) and 470 at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) on 14/10 (CW).

Denbs

383 BT records in all months. Breeding was confirmed at RSPB Conwy on 19/07 (MAO), Nannerch Fishery on 9/06 (3y and 5y: GEM), Llewenni on 30/04 (3-4 broods: JHi), Nant-y-Ffrith on 23/06 (10y: SD), Plas-yn-fron on 3/05 and PenYcae on 6/06 (both JmHu). Max 350 at Holt on 25/01 (NF).





Sites with ≥ 50 on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Burton Mere		37	43	76			32	38	2	75	10	
River Dee at Holt	60											
Gronant	8		3	1								55
Nannerch Fishery			22	20	13	78	27				30	77
Clwyd Estuary	250				6		129			400	800	
TyMawr/Bryn Goleu Res						65						

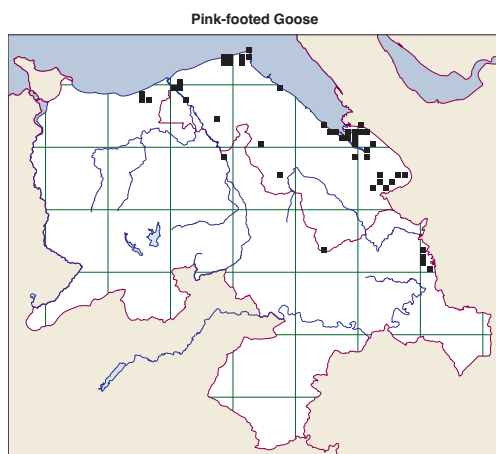
### Pink-footed Goose *Anser brachyrhynchus*

GŴYDD DROETBINC

*Abundant, but local, winter visitor in increasing numbers and becoming regular at inland sites.*

**Flints.** 179 BT records (51 from CQNR-OakRSPB), up to 4/05 and then from 13/09 onwards, apart from stray summer singles. Max 6060 at CQNR-OakRSPB on 11/02 (PSH) and 5500 at White Sands on 23/02 (GrJ). Gronant car park fields had 120 on 23/02 and 430 on 23/12 (both WRM), 300 at Rhuddlan on 23/02 (SHu) and 270 at Shotwick Lake on 14/09 (SD). 450 flew over the A55 at Rhualt on 1/11 (SuHa), 350 flew over Hawarden Ind Park on 20/01 (AHJ) and 200 flew over Gronant on 23/02 (WRM).

**Denbs.** 21 BT records, up to 25/03 and then from 22/08 onwards. Highest counts in fields behind Pensarn of 3000 on 15/02 (TGr) and 1000 on 28/01 (MSm) and 14/02 (MBo), with 164 on the Clwyd estuary on 7/01 (JHi). Modest numbers at Is-Y-Coed with max 100 on 6/01 (JmHu), 8-9 at Lleweni throughout March (JHi) and 8 at Nannerch Fishery on 16/01 (MD).



Sites with ≥ 250 in WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
White Sands	150		2200	50							2500	600
Point of Ayr			7						430		300	20
Oakenholt Marsh	3000	6060	500	40						200	62	1500
Flint Saltmarsh	27			2								1100

### White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons*

GWYDD DALCENWEN

*A scarce winter visitor.*

**Denbs.** One among Pink-feet flock in fields at Belgrano on 14/02 (MBo), 2 in a nearby area of Morfa Rhuddlan on 28/01 (MSm) and 2 in Borrass Park, Wrexham on 9/11 (eBird).

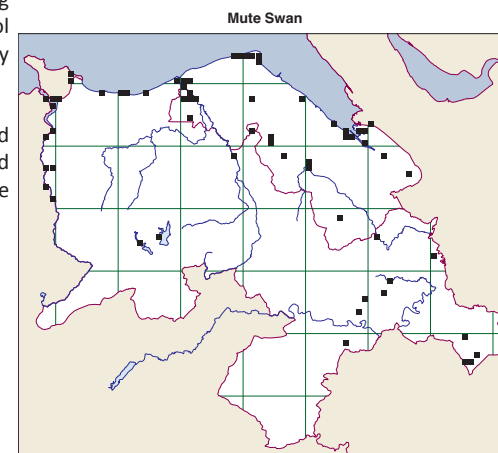
### Mute Swan *Cygnus olor*

ALARCH DOF

*Common breeding resident.*

**Flints.** 530 BT records with breeding confirmed at Gronant, Rhyl Brickworks Pool and Rhuddlan NR. Max 42 on Clwyd estuary on 18/09 (MaS).

**Denbs.** 526 BT records with confirmed breeding at Hanmer, Erddig, Rhewl and Pentre Mawr Park. Max 46 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 19/12 (AHJ).



Sites with ≥ 20 on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy Estuary	2		2			28		23	25			
Connah's Quay NR	18	2	6	28								8
Rhyl Marine Lake											20	24
Clwyd Estuary	25				30	8	5			9	2	2

### Bewick's Swan *Cygnus columbianus*

ALARCH BEWICK

*Very scarce winter visitor.*

**Flints.** One at White Sands and Cop Hole on 2/02 (GrJ) was at Shotton Pools NR on the same day (OWP).

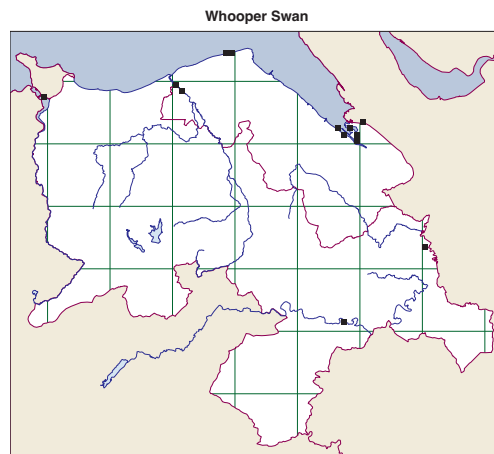
### Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*

ALARCH Y GOGLEDD

*Uncommon, but regular, winter visitor, mainly to the Dee estuary.*

**Flints.** 62 BT records with a max of 30 on 11/10 (AHJ: "Flew over R.Clwyd east towards Dyserth/Prestatyn"), 24 at Shotton Lagoons on 4/02 (eBird), 22 on the Clwyd estuary on 10/10 (RiE), 17 at White Sands on 6/12 (CW), 15 on RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) on 2/11(CW) and 13 at Burton MOD marsh on 7/01 (CW: "Flew over from roost at BMW to White Sands"). At CQNR, a bird with a damaged wing was present from 22/02 to 5/05, often with a flock of Mute Swans (PSH *et al*). One was at Gronant from 15/10 to 24/10 (many obs) and one at Fagl Lane on 10/01 (OWP).

**Denbs.** 5 BT records only. 12 on the R. Dee at Pontcysyllte on 8/01 (DaHu), 3 at Rhyl Matine Lake on 28/11 (MaS), 6 at Holt on 25/01 (NF), 10 at RSPB Conwy on 16/11 (MP) and 6 there on 13/12 (SaE).



**Egyptian Goose** *Alopochen aegyptiaca*  
*Uncommon visitor; introduced in 18<sup>th</sup>C.*

GŴYDD YR AIFFT

**Flints.** On 18/05, a family party of 7 was at both Cop Hole Pool and Burton MOD (AHJ). On 17/11, a party of 4 was at Cop Hole Pool (AHJ). Four further records in this area of 1-3 birds during Jan-Feb and Oct-Dec. One at Clwyd estuary on 30/11 (JHi).

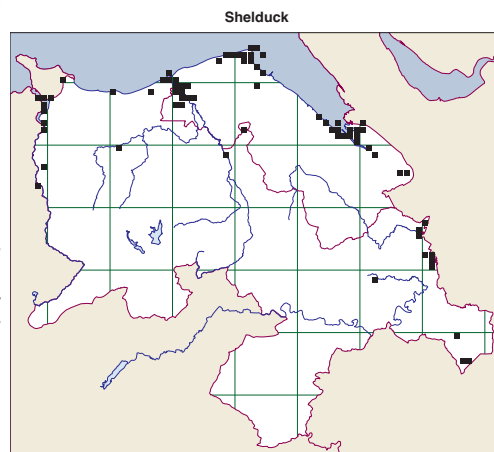
**Shelduck** *Tadorna tadorna*

HWYADEN YR EITHIN

*A fairly-common breeding resident locally and very common year-round visitor, with peak numbers during the summer moult on the Dee estuary.*

**Flints.** 552 BT records (of which 136 from CQNR-OakRSPB and 151 from Clwyd estuary) with max. 1070 at POA on 18/10 (JHg) and 430 at CQNR-OakRSPB on 28/06 (GEM). Breeding was confirmed at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) and on the Clwyd estuary on 30/06: “3prs with 5, 5 and 4 ducklings” (WRM).

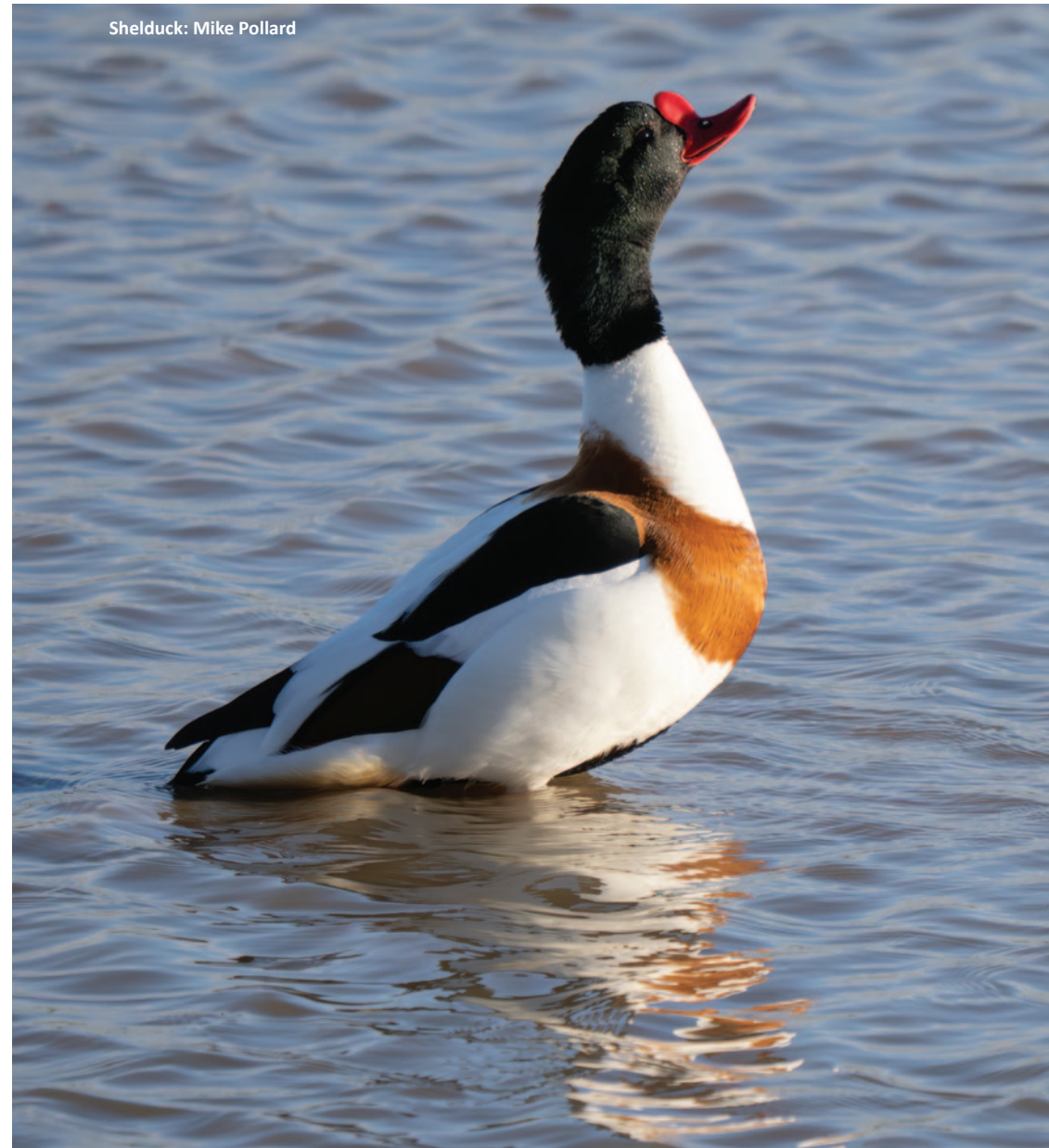
**Denbs.** 397 BT records, inc 310 at RSPB Conwy. Confirmed breeding at Bettisfield on 2/07 (RHa: pr +8y) and on the Conwy estuary with 5-7 young on 25/06, 3/07 and 14/07 (WRM JHg, ABa). Max. 65 at RSPB Conwy on 31/03 (JHg).



Sites with  $\geq 40$  on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Ffynongroyw	23	26	12	24				6	130	100	23	90
Flint Marsh	17	45	26	41			13	2	145	162	32	45
Point of Ayr	117	87	88	70			72	146	850	580	750	175
Clwyd Estuary	71	37	2	2	81	6	22			28	30	
Gronant	32	42	42	37			7		14	16	15	14
White Sands	16	72	51	58			3		55	31	10	5
Oakenholt Marsh	80	96	27	80			70	68	290	60	110	12

Shelduck: Mike Pollard



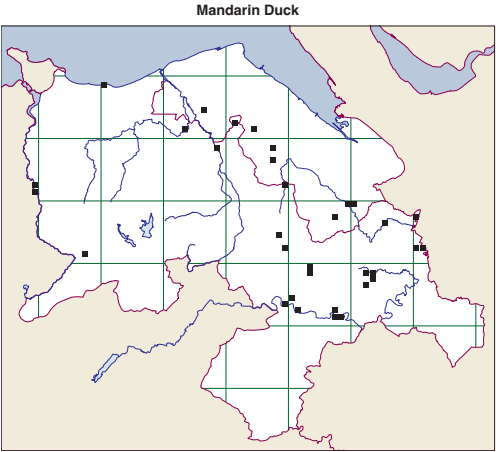
**Mandarin Duck** *Aix galericulata*

HWYADEN MANDARIN

*An uncommon, but increasing, breeding resident (introduced).*

**Flints.** Only 13 BT records in 5 locations: Max. 9 at Afonwen on 14/10 (MV), 4 at Fforest Farm-Cilcain on 1/05 (GEM), pair at Star Crossing from 3/02 to 31/03 (GEM, MP, MD), pair at Fagl Lane on 25/03 (JmHu) and a male at Y Ddol NR on 2/05 (AHJ). Breeding was confirmed near Llanfynydd on 10/06 (4y: eBird).

**Denbs.** 88 BT records in all months. Breeding was confirmed in 4 locations: Erddig, Lleweni, Pontcysyllte and Llangollen. Max 17 at Wynnstay Park on 2/06 (GBW), 14 at Maes Mynan on 16/10 (MV) and 12 on the Dee near Pontcysyllte on 2/03 (DaPh) and 7/05 (DaHu).



**Garganey** *Anas querquedula*

HWYADEN ADDFAIN

*A very scarce passage migrant.*

**Flints.** One at Connah's Quay NR on 6/05 (eBird: also near Shotwick), 5/06 (Bg) and 24/07 (MP). A breeding plumage male at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) on 6/05 and 18/05, a pair there on 7/09 (all AHJ) and max 3 on 13/08 (eBird).

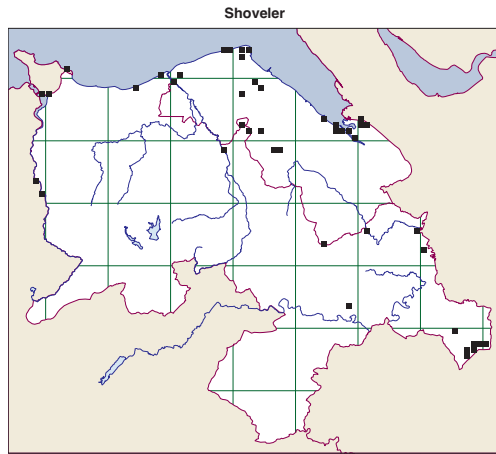
**Shoveler** *Anas clypeata*

HWYADEN LYDANBIG

*Local breeding resident and fairly common winter visitor to freshwater locations.*

**Flints.** 156 BT records (including 51 at CQNR-OakRSPB) in all months of the year. The only nesting site was RSPB Burton Mere (Flints), where 24 pairs were present though no broods were recorded (GrJ). Max 95 on flooded Burton MOD marshes on 18/10 (CW) and 43 at Cop Hole Pool on 16/08 (AHJ). Also 25 at both CQNR on 9/03 (PSH) and Llay on 30/03 (SD), 20 at Talacre on 27/02 and 16/12 (RCR) and 14 at Star Crossing on 11/03 (MP).

**Denbs.** 369 BT records (including 315 at RSPB Conwy) in all months of the year. Max 54 at both RSPB Conwy on 20/10 (JoPr) and Fenn's Moss on 8/04 (RHa). Inland, 20 at Maes Mynan on 1/01 (SK).



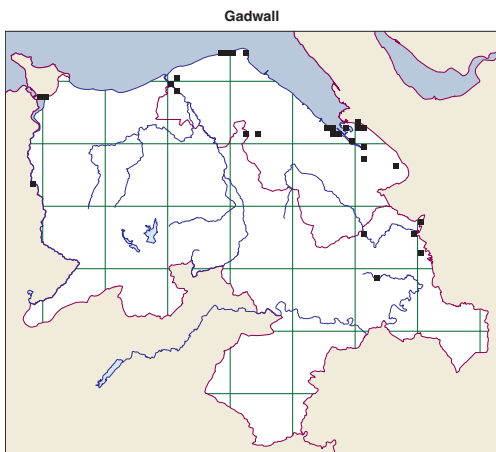
**Gadwall** *Mareca strepera*

HWYADEN LWYD

*A fairly common and increasing breeding resident and winter visitor.*

**Flints.** 168 BT records in all months of the year. Breeding was confirmed at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) with 17 pairs. The highest BT count was 34 at Cop Hole Pool on 22/10 (AHJ). Other records from CQNR, Shotwick Lake, Gronant, Afonwen, Mancot, RSPB Burton Mere (Wales), Point of Ayr, Talacre and Rhyl Brickworks. Max 61 at Shotwick Lake on 12/01 (WeBS).

**Denbs.** 417 BT records, 392 of which were from RSPB Conwy. Breeding was confirmed at RSPB Conwy with a nest with 6 young seen on 14/07 (JHg). The highest count was 60 at RSPB Conwy on 16/01 (TGr). Other records from Llay, Maes Mynan, Clwyd estuary, Trevalyn Meadows, Fagl Lane and Erddig.



Sites with ≥ 25 on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Burton Mere	20	21	8	38				4	24		7	14
Conwy RSPB	35		33			26		31	1		6	
Shotwick Lake and	61	49	44	19					5		4	8
Shotton Lagoons	16		3				10					41

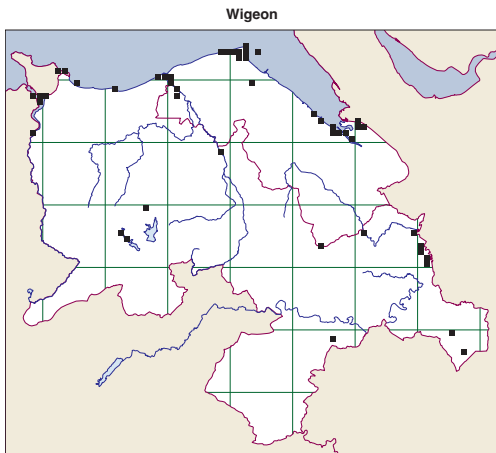
**Wigeon** *Mareca penelope*

CHWIWELL

*An abundant winter visitor to estuaries and wetlands.*

**Flints.** 362 BT records (143 of them from CQNR-OakRSPB) in all months, inc 6 that summered at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints). Max. 2500 at Burton MOD marshes on 21/10 (CW) and 2000 at CQNR-OakRSPB on 17/01 and 20/01 (PSH), 500 at Talacre on 15/12 (RCR) and 387 at Clwyd estuary on 20/01 (JHi). Inland, 35 at Whitford Lodge pool on 7/01(ShN).

**Denbs.** 309 BT records (257 from RSPB Conwy). Max 220 at Holt on 12/01 (WeBS), 160 at RSPB Conwy on 30/01 (TGr), 71 at Hanmer on 14/01 (DaHa) and 68 on Rhyl Marine Lake on 15/12 (JHi).





Sites with ≥ 100 on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Connaught Quay NR	160	162	146	6			1	1		30	80	310
Oakenholt Marsh	1000	300	80	12						400	336	140
White Sands	220	123	62							700		25
Point of Ayr incl. Fields	237	610	404						46	154	130	685
Pulford Brook	130	20	120									
River Dee - Holt	220	60										
Clwyd Estuary	350	230								25	130	68
Conwy Estuary	122		104						26		145	



Wigeon: Mike Pollard

**American Wigeon** *Mareca americana*  
Vagrant.

CHWIWELL AMERICA PHOTO

**Flints.** “Storm” variant at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 21/01 and a “non-variant” there on 12/02 (PSH). One “storm” variant at Clwyd Estuary on 10/11 to 11/11 (WRM, AHJ).



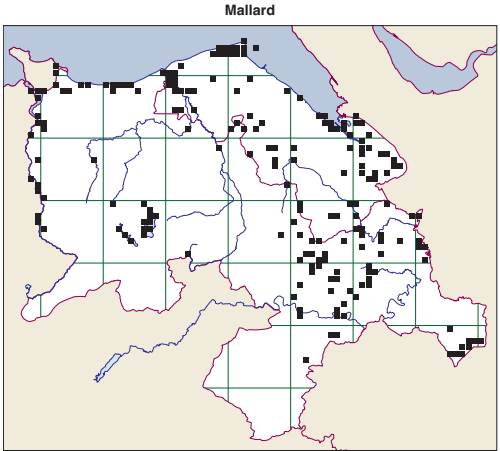
American Wigeon: Alex Humphreys-Jones

**Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos*  
An abundant breeding resident and winter visitor.

HWYADEN WYLLT

**Flints.** 957 BT records with breeding confirmed at 10 locations (Clwyd estuary, Gronant, Rhyl Brickworks, Deeside Ind. Estate, Rhuddlan NR, R. Elwy at St Asaph, Saltney Ferry, Cop Hole Pool, Hawarden, Nercwys Forest and Star Crossing). Max 527 at CQNR-OakRSPB on 18/08 (PSH), 400 there on 8/06 (PSH) and 385 there on 10/07 (GEM) and 118 at Rhyl Brickworks on 18/12 (AHJ).

**Denbs.** 968 BT records throughout the year. Successful breeding at 13 locations (RSPB Conwy, Pensarn, Pentre Mawr Park, Bodnant, Maes Ffynnon Pool-Rhuthun, Acton Park-Wrexham, Llanddulas, Sontley, Erddig, Llyn Brenig, Pulford Brook, Bangor-on-Dee, Pen-y-Cae, Acrefair, Moss Valley CP and Maes Mynan). Max. 90 at Erddig on 10/08 (WeBS), 63 at Maes Ffynnon Pool-Rhuthun on 6/06 (GoP) and 60 at Hanmer on 19/11 (DaHa).



#### Sites with ≥ 50 on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Connahs Quay NR	16	18	3	13			190	60	27	30	25	22
Gronant incl. Fields	73	47	85	26			16	7	84	16	54	74
Point of Ayr incl. Fields	62	46	40	13			45	75	82	90	33	81
Cop Hole and Marsh		12	4	2				75	20	5		2
Ffynongroyw			2	1				120	76		7	15
Oakenholt Marsh	23		8	5			87	527	15	11	18	6
Acton Park Lake	42	22	5	11	14	11	50	14	22	11	18	14
Erddig Park Lake	7		7	1	5	28	26	90	12	17	8	16
Hanmer Mere	16	16	9	11	17	3		16	31	5	60	8
Rhyl Brickworks Pond	60	47	30	26	33	51		67	52	95	91	118
Clwyd Estuary	21				32	14		56	3	17	7	
Conwy Estuary	47		11			48		79	40		23	

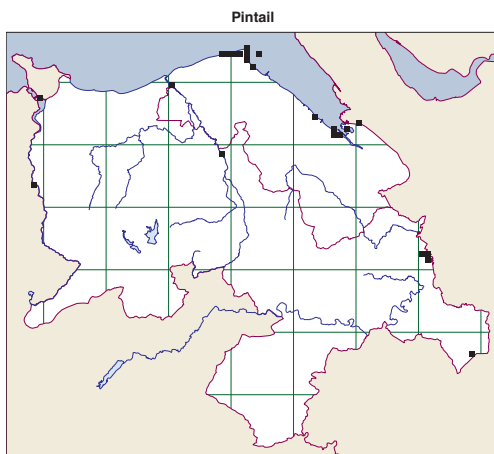
#### Pintail *Anas acuta*

HWYADEN LOSTFAIN

*A very rare breeding resident and an abundant winter visitor to estuaries and wetlands.*

**Flints.** 86 BT records (26 from CQNR-OakRSPB) up to 31/03 and again from 7/09 onwards (apart from 2 summering birds). Pair plus 1M summered at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) but no broods recorded (GrJ). Max 400 at Point of Ayr on 9/11 (WeBS).

**Denbs.** 26 BT records (inc 15 from RSPB Conwy), up to 21/03 and again from 19/09 onwards (apart from 2 summering birds). Max 350 at Holt on 12/01 (WeBS) and 107 at Lleweni on 12/02 (JHi).



#### Sites with ≥ 40 on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Point of Ayr	260	102	5						104	21	400	132
Pulford Brook	200	40	10									
River Dee at Holt	350	140										
White Sands	2	91	4	25						8		
Oakenholt Marsh		40	41							5	38	

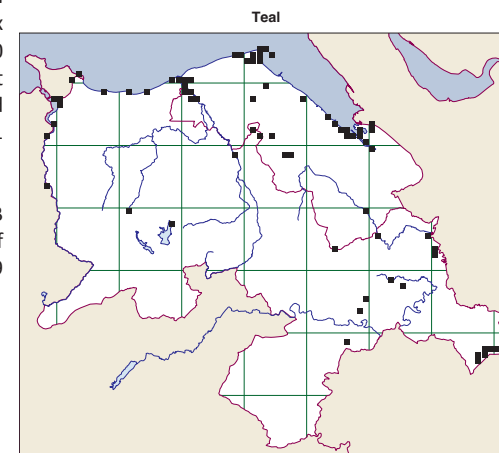
#### Teal *Anas crecca*

CORHWYADEN

*A rare breeding resident and an abundant winter visitor to estuaries and wetlands.*

**Flints.** 485 BT records (177 of which from CQNR-OakRSPB) throughout the year. Max 2000 at CQNR-OakRSPB on 7/09 (WeBS), 500 at Burton MOD marsh on 21/10 (CW), 320 at Talacre on 22/10 (RCR), 150+ on flooded fields at Llanrhaeadr on 22/01 (GoP) and 151 at Point of Ayr on 27/01 (MaS).

**Denbs.** 454 BT records (inc 346 from RSPB Conwy) throughout the year. No evidence of breeding. Max. 299 at RSPB Conwy on 7/09 (WeBS).



#### Sites with ≥ 100 on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Connahs Quay NR	26	190	79	44			22	130	465	560	105	65
Oakenholt Marsh	21	140	30	39			12	600	2000	100	125	240
Burton Mere (Flints)			19	8				14	125		15	24
Point of Ayr incl. Fields	369	245	109	22					50	115	128	461
Pulford Brook	180	20	250									
Flint Marsh	200	110	45	20					30	5	110	90
Gronant	146	122	82	12			16	16	80	1	45	55
Conwy Estuary	130		62					46	299		128	

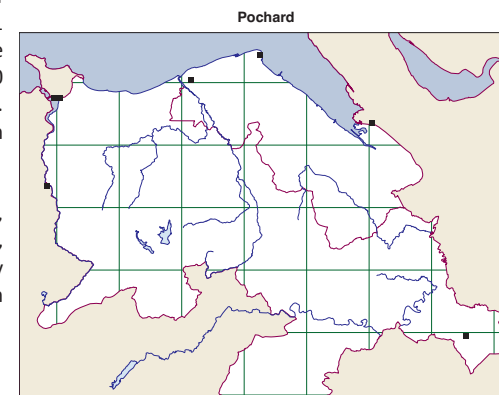
#### Pochard *Aythya ferina*

HWYADEN BENGGOCH MAP

*Uncommon winter visitor, but more records than usual this year.*

**Flints.** 17 BT records, including 14 records of 1-3 birds at Rhyl Brickworks from 6/11-25/11 (AHJ, RiE, JHi, MP). Two at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) on 15/03 (GrJ) and at POA on 5/10 (MaS) and 1 at Fagl Lane on 10/01 (OwP). Max 5 at RSPB Burton Mere Border Pool on 4/02 (eBird).

**Denbs.** 170 BT records (ALL at RSPB Conwy, except a single at Hanmer on 22/09 [DaHa]), throughout the year, mainly 1-2 birds (many obs), but max 12 on 12/02 (MAO) and 11 on 17/02 (AtG, KBr).



**Ring-necked Duck** *Aythya collaris*  
*Vagrant.*

HWYADEN DORCHOG

**Denbs.** A male at Llyn Brenig from 11/05 to 23/06 and then at Llyn Bran from 14/07 to 4/08 (many obs).

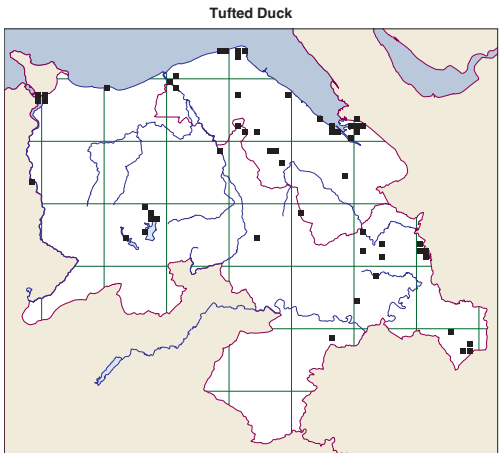
**Tufted Duck** *Aythya fuligula*

HWYADEN GOPOG MAP

*Common freshwater breeding resident and winter visitor.*

**Flints.** 442 BT records (192 from Rhyl Brickworks and 88 from CQNR-OakRSPB) with breeding confirmed at CQNR on 18/08 (AHJ: 6y ). Two pairs at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints), but no broods recorded (GrJ). Max 110 at Shotwick Lake on 7/09 (WeBS), 72 at Rhyl Brickworks on 21/10 and 65 at Cop Hole pool on 26/08 (all AHJ).

**Denbs.** 606 BT records (inc 469 at RSPB Conwy) and breeding was confirmed at RSPB Conwy by 3 family parties with 8y, 5y and 5y on 19/07 (WRM), Maes Mynan on 5/07 (MV), Nannerch Fishery on 21/07 (GEM: 8y), Hanmer on 13/07 (SD: 7y) and Llyn Brenig on 17/07 and 3/08 (3y: WRM, SD). The highest counts were 85 at Hanmer on 14/01 (DaHa), 48 at Hanmer on 10/03 (DaHa) and 48 at Llyn Brenig on 5/09 (WRM).



Sites with ≥ 50 on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Shotwick Lake and Res	39	57	50	69			18	12	110	106	73	42
Shotton Lagoons	30		41				52					23
Hanmer Mere	85	77	48	43				7	35	11	12	7
Rhyl Brickworks Pond	40	35	24	21	6	1		7	28	72	25	22

**Scaup** *Aythya marila*

HWYADEN BENDDU

*A very scarce winter visitor to coastal areas.*

**Flints.** A single female at Rhyl Brickworks on 21/10, 6/11 and 7/11 (JHi, AHJ, RiE) and Point of Ayr on 17/10 (JM) and 21/10 (Bg). Another at Shotwick Lake 26/03 to 4/04 (AHJ).

**Denbs.** Two females at Colwyn Bay on 11/11 (WRM) and 21/11 (TGr). One at Llyn Brenig from 20/05 (RiE) to 27/05 (Bg).

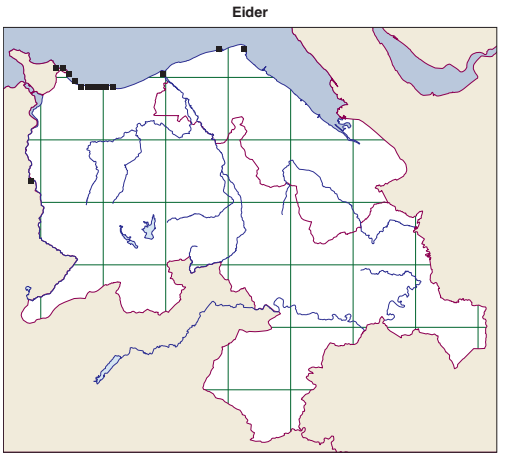
**Eider** *Somateria mollissima*

HWYADEN FWYTHBLU

*A scarce winter visitor on the coast.*

**Flints.** A female at Gronant on 26/11 (WRM). Max 5 at Point of Ayr on 14/12 (HeCa) and a single there on 23/04 (SK).

**Denbs.** 17 BT records up to 23/03 and again from 18/10, all of 1-2 birds along the coast from Llanddulas to Horton's Nose. Max 25 at Colwyn Bay on 30/10 (eBird) and 5 at Llanddulas on 20/03 (MiWa).



**Surf Scoter** *Melanitta perspicillata*

MÔR-HWYADEN YR EWYN

*A rare, but regular, component of the offshore Scoter flocks.*

**Denbs.** 118 BT records. Usually 2 adult males at Llanddulas from 7/02 to 30/03 (many obs). A male at Colwyn Bay from 3/10 to 27/11 (many obs). Then, 2-4 birds at Llanddulas from 25/12 to 30/12. Max 4 at Llanddulas on 26/12 (Bg).

**Velvet Scoter** *Melanitta fusca*

MÔR-HWYADEN Y GOGLEDD

*A rare, but regular, component of the offshore Scoter flocks.*

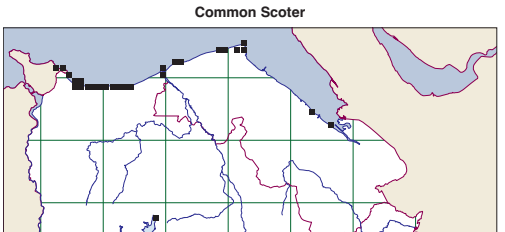
**Denbs.** 40 BT records of 1-7 birds with the Common Scoter flock at Llanddulas from 7/02 to 12/04 (many obs) and max 8 on 25/12 (MBo: 6M, 2F). Singles at Colwyn Bay on 22/10 (MP) and 24/12 (WRM).

**Common Scoter** *Melanitta nigra*

MÔR-HWYADEN DDU MAP

*An abundant offshore winter visitor on the north coast.*

**Flints.** 34 BT records in all months except May, off-shore from Rhyl to POA (mainly Gronant). Max 200 at Gronant on 9/05 (eBird) and 150 there on 21/10 (WRM). Unusual inland records of a female at CQNR on 9/04 (MP), a single at Flint/Bagillt on 20/01 (SK) and a female/imm at Shotwick Lake on 25/03 (AHJ).





**Denbs.** 172 BT records in all months except May and Jun, with high counts of 7000 at Colwyn Bay on 12/11 (TGr), 6200 at Porth Eirias-Colwyn Bay on 6/11 (TGr) and 5000 at Llanddulas on 12/01 (DWin). Unusual inland records of 2 at Llyn Brenig on 16/07 (Bg) and 6 there on 17/07 (WRM, Bg).

**Long-tailed Duck** *Clangula hyemalis*  
A rare winter visitor to coast and estuary.

HWYADEN GYNFFONHIR

**Flints.** One at Gronant on 25/12 (JHi).

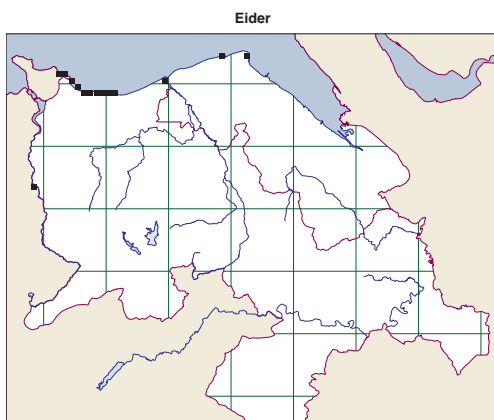
**Denbs.** Two at Llanddulas on 30/12 (TWo, LeC) and a female at Colwyn Bay on 25/11 (eBird).

**Goldeneye** *Bucephala clangula*  
A rather scarce winter visitor that was once more common.

HWYADEN LYGAD-AUR

**Flints.** 9 BT records of single birds from 1/01 to 29/03 and again from 15/11 to 29/12, at Rhyl Brickworks on 29/03 (JHi, RiE) and 25/11 (AHJ), CQNR on 11/02 (AHJ,PSH), Clwyd estuary on 4 occasions and Fagl Lane on 10/01 (OWP).

**Denbs.** 26 BT records, with max 9 at Hanmer on 14/01 (DaHa), 6 at Llyn Brenig on 21/03 (WRM), 4 at Llyn Bran on 1/01 (GrJ) and 9/02 (eBird) and 3 eclipse males at Llyn Aled on 24/04 (GEM). Present from 1/01 to 24/04 and again from 24/10 to 26/12. Singles at Llyn Gweryd (19/04), Llanddulas (31/01), RSPB Conwy (13/01, 2/02 and 1/12) and Rhyl Marine Lake (4/12 and 15/12).



**Smew** *Mergellus albellus*  
Rare winter visitor.

LLEIAN WEN

**Flints.** 36 BT records of an adult male on the railway pools at Talacre/Point of Ayr from 10/01 to 6/02 (many obs).

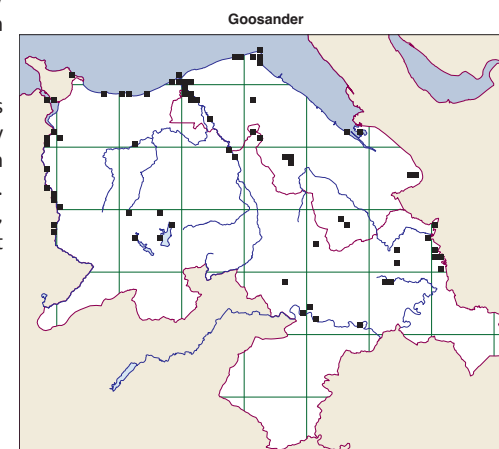
**Goosander** *Mergus merganser*  
Fairly common winter visitor and breeding resident, often seen inland.

HWYADEN DDANHEDDOG

**Flints.** 325 BT records (inc 137 from Clwyd estuary and 105 from Rhyl Brickworks). Breeding was confirmed on the R. Clwyd near Rhuddlan on 25/04 (AHJ) and by a female with 3y on the Clwyd estuary

on 12/05 (WRM). Max 36 at Clwyd estuary on 24/07 (JHi) and 35 at Rhyl Brickworks on 25/10 (AHJ).

**Denbs.** 167 BT records. Breeding was confirmed by 7 fledged young at RSPB Conwy on 28/07 (JHg), 4y at Rhyl Marine Lake on 14/06 (JHi) and 3y at Llanrwst on 11/06 (SdC). Max 28 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 16/11 (JHi), 23 at Ridleywood on 13/02 (JmHu) and 20 at Llyn Gweryd on 4/01 (GoP).

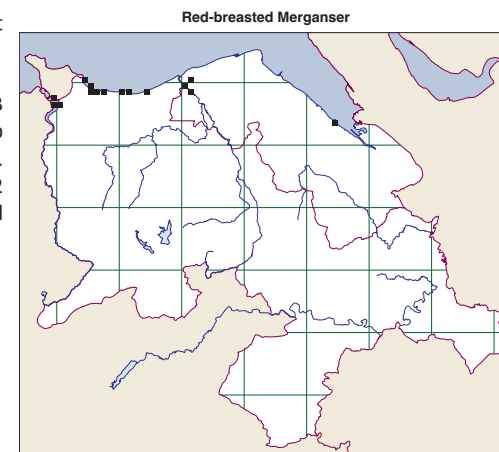


**Red-breasted Merganser** *Mergus serrator*  
A regular winter visitor to coastal areas, often on the sea.

HWYADEN FRONGOCH

**Flints.** 7 BT records in winter. Max. 2, a pair at Flint Castle on 18/12 (IMcG). 1 inland at Rhuddlan on 5/10 (JeN).

**Denbs.** 201 BT records (inc 109 at RSPB Conwy and 62 in the sea at Llanddulas), up to 27/04 and then again from 7/07 onwards. Max 32 on the sea at Colwyn Bay on 27/12 (WRM), 26 at RSPB Conwy on 9/04 (TGr) and 15 at Llanddulas on 20/03 (MiWa).

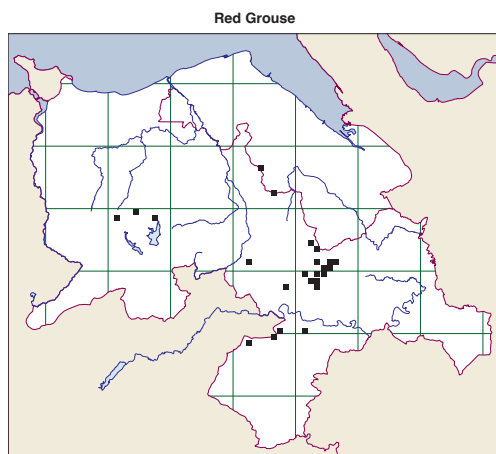


**Red Grouse** *Lagopus lagopus*  
Uncommon resident of upland heather moors.

GRUGIAR GOCH

**Denbs.** 97 BT records, 85 of which came from the Esclusham-Worlds End region of the Ruabon Moors. Breeding was confirmed at Esclusham Mtn with fledged young on 1/06 (AW) and max count of 80 there on 27/01 (JJo). Singles at Llyn Brenig on 20/04 (GrJ) and 5/05 (KBr, GEM), 5 at Llantysilio Mtn on 16/02 (DWin) and 4 in the north Berwyns on 23/04 (Any). In the Clwydians, 2 at Moel Arthur on

10/01 (DWin) and 1 at Moel Famau on 14/11 (MP).



Red Grouse: John Hawkins

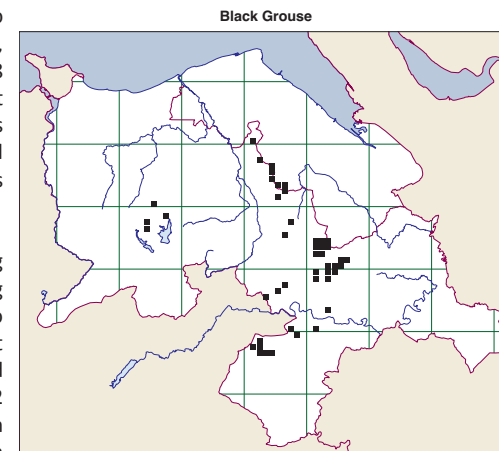
## Black Grouse *Lyrurus tetrix*

GRUGIAR DDU

*Uncommon resident of upland heather moors.*

**Flints.** The only BT records were in the Fauxdegla/Moel Garegog area adjacent to Ruabon Moors with 12 on 21/03 (MP), singles on 8/05 and 11/07 (MP) and 14/08 (JaSh). Up to 12 lekking males were present there on 18/04 (Any). A survey of Flints moorland near Moel Famau on 25/04 found up to 9 lekking males (Cofnod) and 6 males were seen there on 2/02 (JaP).

**Denbs.** 66 BT records, with breeding evidence limited to lekking males, including 57 BT records from Esclusham Mountain to Worlds End, where the highest overall count was 48 on 1/05 (NF). One lek site here had 15 males and another had 2 males on 16/02 (DWin) while a 3rd lek site had max 12 on 13/04 (ARow) and a 4th lek had 11 males on 20/04 (MP). On 11/02, 10 lekking males were dispersed by a Hen Harrier (HaL). In the north Berwyns, there were 3 above Llangollen on 23/06 (KaD). In the Clwydians, there were 3 at Moel Famau on 14/11 (MP). Surveys of Denbs moorland near Moel Famau on 25/04 found up to 7 lekking males and in the Berwyns on 23/04 found up to 7 lekking males (Cofnod). On Mynydd Hiraethog, there were only 2 BT records on 12/04 (AS) and 13/05 (DWin).



## Grey Partridge *Perdix perdix*

PETRISEN

*Rare breeding resident.*

**Flints.** Singles at CQNR on 18/10 (GEM) and 19/10 (SD) and at Rhydymwyn Reserve on 31/05 (IMo). No breeding evidence.

**Denbs.** Three at Pont-y-Blew near Chirk on 27/06 (eBird).

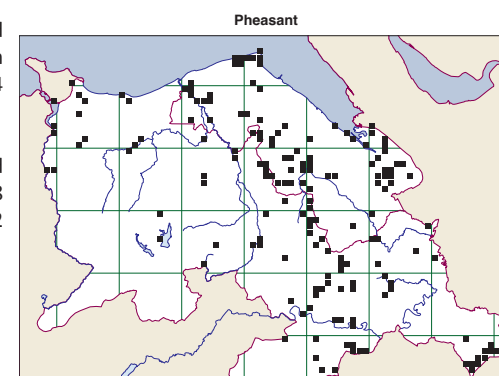
## Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*

FFESANT

*Very common because of releases by shooting interests.*

**Flints.** 312 BT records. Breeding in the wild confirmed by fledged young at Rhydymwyn on 13/06 (MD) and max 18 there on 26/04 (IMo).

**Denbs.** 331 BT records. Breeding in the wild at RSPb Conwy with 4 fledged young on 2/08 (WRM). Max 44 at Eglwyseg on 16/02 (DWin).



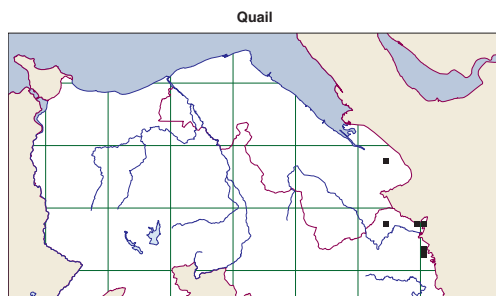
### Quail *Coturnix coturnix*

*Very scarce migrant.*

SOFLIAR

**Flints.** One at Deeside Lane, Sealand on 13/07 (AHJ, Bg) and 1 at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) on 27/06 (GrJ).

**Denbs.** One at Holt from 4/08-14/08 (JuWi, NF, JmHu, JJo) and another at Bettisfield on 9/05 (Bg).



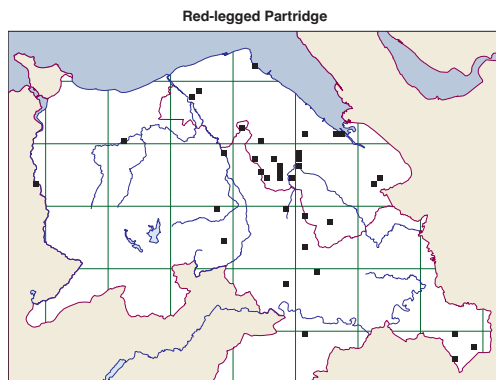
### Red-legged Partridge *Alectoris rufa*

*Introduced and locally common because of releases by shooting interests.*

PETRISSEN GOESGOCH

**Flints.** 43 BT records (31 from CQNR-OakRSPB) of a bird widely-released for shooting. Throughout the year but no evidence of breeding in the wild. Max. 13 in the Chwiler valley on 3/11 (SK) and 10 at Fforest Farm, Cilcain on 25/11 (GEM).

**Denbs.** 26 BT records this year and no evidence of breeding in the wild. Max 5 at Glyn Arthur on 13/04 (RHa).



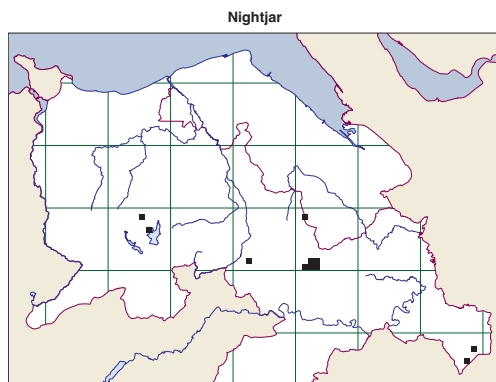
### Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus*

*Scarce breeding summer visitor, often near conifer plantations.*

TROELLWR MAWR

**Flints.** The only records were from Nercwys Forest with 2 on both 18/05 (ToP) and 18/06 (DWin).

**Denbs.** 20 BT records from 18/06 to 30/07, inc. 15 records from Llandegla Forest with highest count of 9 there on 9/07 (NoWi). Singles in two different areas around Llyn Brenig (JHi, MAO) and at least 3 with courtship display on 24/06 at Fenn's Moss (MaG).



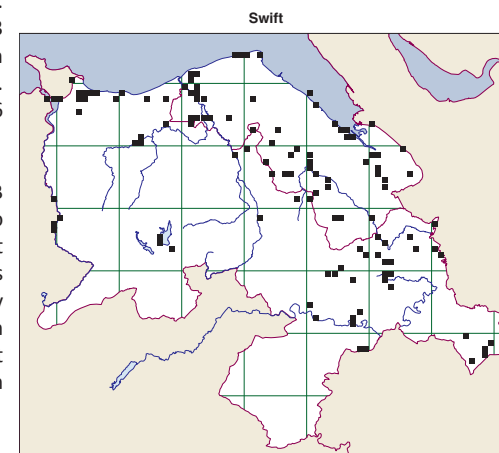
### Swift *Apus apus*

*Common but decreasing summer visitor.*

GWENNOL DDU MAP

**Flints.** 147 BT records from 22/04 to 29/08. No confirmed breeding by BT or eBird, but 13 occupied nests were found at 4 Flints sites in the NWWT Swift Recovery survey (see Map). "Probable" breeding at Cilcain on 26/06 (MP). Max. 70 at Gronant on 13/06 (TGr).

**Denbs.** 186 BT records (inc 78 from RSPB Conwy) between 23/04 and 15/09. No confirmed breeding by BT or eBird, but at least 24 occupied nests at 14 Denbs sites were found in the NWWT Swift Recovery survey (see Map). "Probable" breeding in Wrexham on 3/06 (JmHu). Max 100+ at Minera on 24/07 (CBo) and 40 at Abergele on 14/07 (SHu).



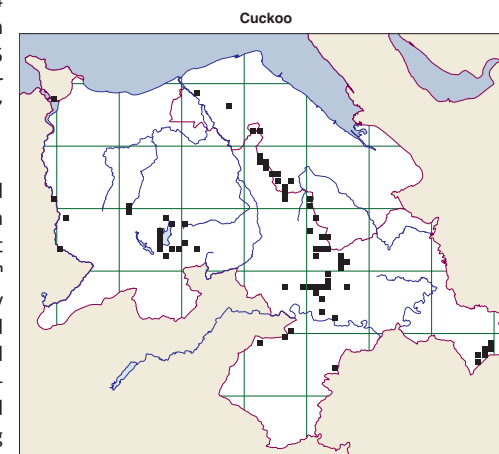
### Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*

*Fairly common summer visitor to upland areas.*

COG

**Flints.** 11 records at 8 locations from 18/04 to 24/06, with max 4 at Penycloddiau on 15/05 (eBird) and 3 at Moel Garegog on 8/05 (MP). "Permanent territory" at Moel Arthur (GEM) was the only evidence of "probable" breeding.

**Denbs.** 117 BT records between 12/04 and 26/07, plus a late juvenile at Llyn Bran on 2/10 (per JHg). Breeding was confirmed at Llyn Brenig by "nestling discovered on 27<sup>th</sup> June, left the nest area around the 12<sup>th</sup> July and still flying about between a woodland and fence posts being tended by pipits until about the 30<sup>th</sup> July" (DPar). Near Nant-y-Rhiw, "2 juveniles appeared in our yard and have remained for a couple of days feeding on caterpillars from the ragwort" on 13/07 (NE). "Probable" breeding at Gors Maen Llwyd (WRM). Max. 4 at Gors Maen Llwyd on 5/05 (KBr).



Cuckoo nestling: Dave Parry





Cuckoo nestling in Meadow Pipit nest: Dave Parry



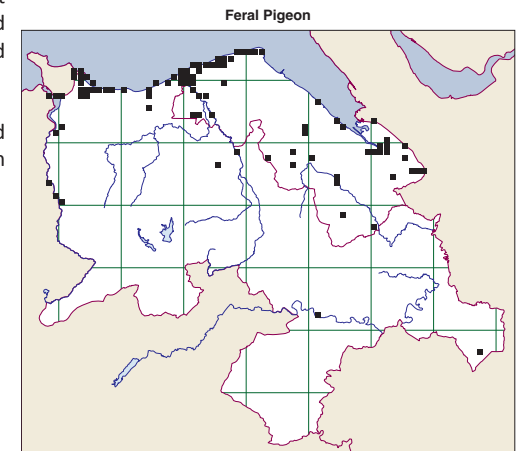
Cuckoo fledgling being fed by Meadow Pipit: Dave Parry

**Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon** *Columba livia*  
*Locally common breeding resident.*

COLOMEN Y GRAIG

**Flints.** 445 BT records. Max. 135 at Queensferry Blue Bridge on 9/03 (DWin) and 200 on 14/12 (eBird). Breeding confirmed there (nest with young) on 25/02 (DWin).

**Denbs.** 309 BT records with no confirmed breeding and max. 148 at Clwyd estuary on 7/02 and 3/03 (JHi).

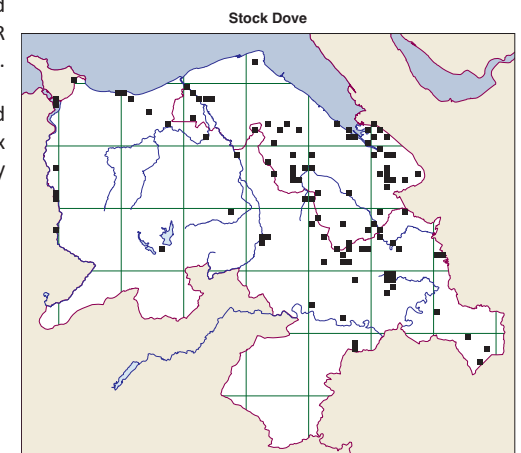


**Stock Dove** *Columba oenas*  
*Common breeding resident.*

COLOMEN WYLLT

**Flints.** 222 BT records, but no confirmed breeding. The highest counts were at CQNR with max. 110 in Dec and 72 on 21/02 (PSH).

**Denbs.** 131 BT records, but no confirmed breeding but “probable” in 5 locations. Max 42 at Mancot on 30/11 (eBird) and 41 at Llay on 4/02 (AHJ).

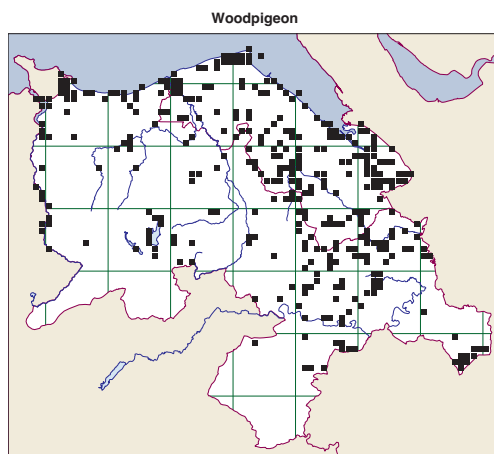


**Woodpigeon** *Columba palumbus*  
*Abundant breeding resident.*

YSGUTHAN MAP

**Flints.** 1108 BT records with breeding confirmed at Rhydymwyn Reserve (MD) and “probable” at 2 other locations. Max 320 at CQNR in Dec (PSH) and 125 on Clwyd estuary on 19/02 (AHJ).

**Denbs.** 1076 BT records, with breeding confirmed at one undisclosed location and “probable” at 2 other locations. Max 300 at Marchwiell near Wrexham on 17/10 (GoP) and 200 at Eglwyseg on 7/07 (PhE).

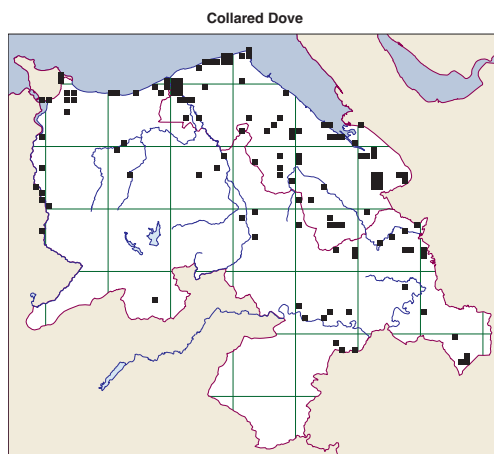


**Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decaocto*  
Common breeding resident in towns and villages.

TURTUR DORCHOG

**Flints.** 446 BT records (inc. 147 from Rhyl Brickworks and 89 from adjacent R. Clwyd), with “probable” breeding only at Brynford, Gronant and Queensferry. Max 164 in fields around Ynys Farm, Rhyl on 31/10 (JHi); other counts here of 140 on 3/11 (WRM) and 140 on 4/12 (RiE). This is the only site in NE Wales that reached even double figures.

**Denbs.** 171 BT records, with the only “probable breeding” reported at Pentre Mawr, Abergele on 26/04 (MBo). Max 8+ at Brymbo Cemetery on 28/01 (SD).

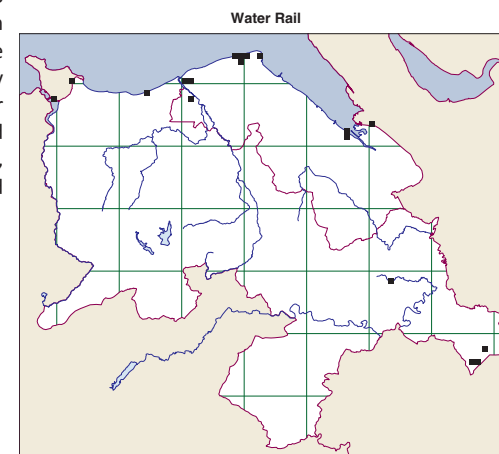


**Water Rail** *Rallus aquaticus*  
A scarce breeding resident and winter visitor.

RHEGEN Y DWR

**Flints.** 97 BT records, 44 of which were from Gronant. No confirmed breeding. Max 8 at Gronant on 20/05 (WRM). Summer records at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints), Rhyl Brickworks (JHi) and Gronant (WRM). Singles outside the breeding season at Big Pool Wood, Talacre, Cop Hole pool, Deeside Ind Estate, Clwyd estuary, St Asaph and Rhuddlan NR. CQNR had 1-2 birds on the fly-ash lagoon from 2/01 to 11/04 (PSH, AB, GrJ) and 1 there on 19/08 (PSH).

**Denbs.** 92 BT records, inc 85 from RSPB Conwy from 3/01 to 28/04 and then again from 5/07 to 27/12 (many obs). No evidence of breeding recorded. Max 5 at RSPB Conwy on 28/10 (WRM) and 5/11 (SaE). Summer records at Bettisfield on 28/06 (RyA) and 4/07 (RHa). Also singles at Pentre Mawr Park, Abergele on 4/01 and 19/01 (MBo) and Erddig on 2/11 (HeCa).

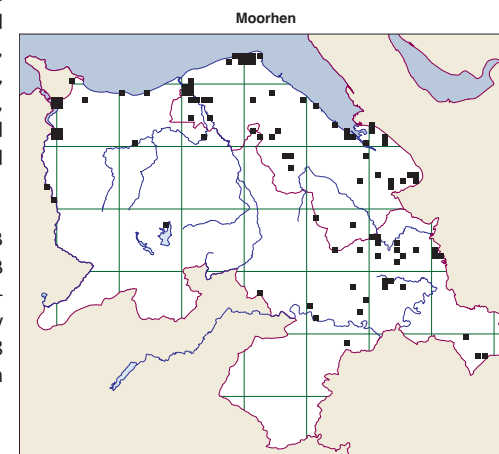


**Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus*  
A common resident in all wetland locations.

IAR DWR

**Flints.** 612 BT records, including 192 at Rhyl Brickworks. Breeding was confirmed at Rhyl Brickworks, Clwyd estuary, Rhuddlan, Gronant, Bettisfield Beacon (Dee), CQNR, Deeside Ind. Estate, Star Crossing pool, Fforest Farm-Cilcain, Buckley Heritage Trail and St Asaph Business Park. Max. 20 at Rhyl Brickworks on 13/12 (AHJ).

**Denbs.** 700 BT records, including 484 at RSPB Conwy. Breeding was confirmed at RSPB Conwy, Llanddulas, Maes Fynnon Pool-Rhuthun, Moss Valley, Acton Park, Sontley and Erddig. Max 37 at RSPB Conwy on 4/08 (JHg) and 35 at Acton Park, Wrexham on 11/02 (PaJ).



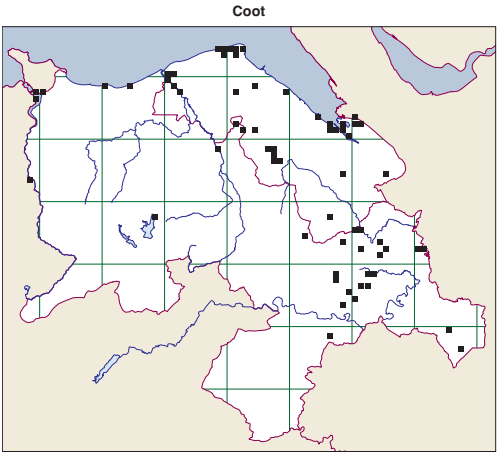
**Coot** *Fulica atra*  
A common resident in wetland locations with open shallow water.

CWTIAR MAP

**Flints.** 504 BT records (inc 184 from Rhyl Brickworks). Breeding was confirmed at 7 locations: Rhyl Brickworks (20y), Clwyd Estuary, Buckley Common (4y), CQNR (9y), Cop Hole pool, Star Crossing pool and Gronant, where 1 chick was eaten whole by a Grey Heron on 12/06 (WRM). Max 163 at Shotwick Lake on 7/09 (WeBS).



**Denbs.** 708 BT records (inc 466 from RSPB Conwy). Breeding was confirmed at 9 locations: RSPB Conwy (2prs, 4y on 6/06: WRM), Pentre Mawr Park (MBo), Llanddulas Quarry (3 pairs on 1/07: WRM), Nannerch Fishery (12/07: GEM), Erddig (from 12/05: PaJ), Brymbo (5y on 28/04: SD), Acrefair (on 29/03: SD), Acton Park, Llay (4 prs on 6/05: SD) and Moss Valley CP on 29/06 (SD: 4A, 6y). Max 75 at Chirk Castle on 17/10 and 16/11 (CTw).



Sites with ≥ 50 on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Shotwick Lake and Res	51	22	10	9			62	120	163	35	43	28
Shotton Lagoons	17		7				68					21
Rhyl Brickworks Pond	50	30	24	5	28	24		43	30	50	56	63

**Common Crane** *Grus grus*  
*Rare non-breeding visitor.*

GARAN

**Flints.** A party of 4 that visited RSPB Burton Mere on 19/04 (GrJ) was also seen on the Welsh side of the border and probably part of the growing English breeding population of 80 pairs (RSPB, 2024). The previous occurrence in Flints was in 1986 at Shotton lagoons.

**Denbs.** A party of 4 at Fenn’s Moss on 15/04 (RHa) was almost certainly the same group that arrived at RSPB Burton Mere 4 days later.

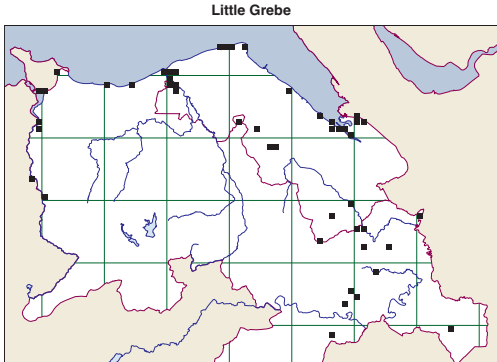
**Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

GWYACH FACH

*A common breeding resident on freshwater bodies of all sizes.*

**Flints.** 382 BT records inc. 133 from CQNR. Breeding was confirmed at CQNR (4 obs from 15/06: 9y), Gronant on 19/08 (WRM), Cop Hole Pool on 14/06 (AHJ) and Shotwick Lake on 13/06 (AHJ). Max 15 at Shotwick Lake on 6/01 (eBird).

**Denbs.** 578 BT records, inc. 454 from RSPB Conwy. Breeding was confirmed at Acrefair on 16/08 (SD), Bodnant on 19/04 (StHa), Erddig on 9/06 (HeCa), RSPB Conwy on 19/07



(2prs:WRM), Llanddulas Quarries on 1/07 (WRM: 3-5 pairs), Maes Mynan on 14/06 (MV), Nannerch Fishery on 21/07 (GEM) and Llay on 6/05 (SD). Max 40 at Conwy RSPB on 6/09 (JHg) and highest inland count of 10 at Hanmer on 15/12 (DaHa).

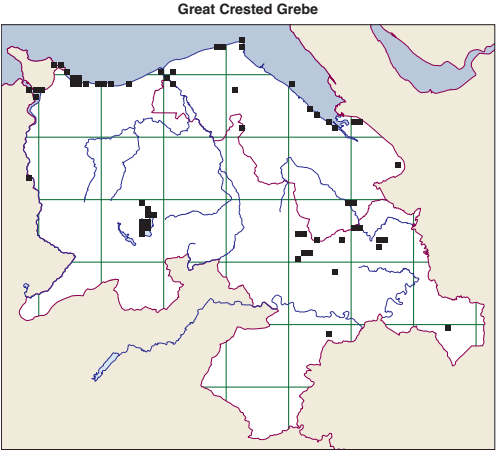
**Great Crested Grebe** *Podiceps cristatus*

GWYACH FAWR GOPOG

*An uncommon nesting bird on larger freshwater bodies and common winter visitor to sea and tidal waters. More records this year.*

**Flints.** 235 BT records (inc. 161 were from Rhyl Brickworks). Breeding was confirmed at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) on 5/06 (CW: “Pair on Border Pool, with brood of 3 - 4 chicks being carried on their backs” but all chicks were lost to predation (GrJ), Rhyl Brickworks on 18/06 (AHJ: “at least 2 on back of parent”), Llyn Helyg (ShN: 1y) and Fauxdegla on 11/07 (MP: pr + 4y). “Probable” breeding at Fagl Lane on 15/06 (PaJ). Max 12 at CQNR-OakRSPB on 4/05 (PSH).

**Denbs.** 520 BT records (inc 305 from RSPB Conwy) with breeding confirmed at RSPB Conwy on 24/05 (WRM “3 pairs appear to be breeding on the deep lagoon. 2 birds were sitting on raised mounds of vegetation and another pair were working to feed one small chick tucked in the back feathers of one of the adults.”), Llyn Brenig (WRM: 2y on 3/08) and Llyn Bran (WRM: 2y on 14/08). “Probable” breeding at Gresford Flash on 20/04 (JmHu) and Ty Mawr Res on 3/05 and 11/05 (KiN). The highest counts were on the sea in winter with max 84 at Llanddulas on 18/10 (JHg).



**Slavonian Grebe** *Podiceps auritus*

GWYACH GORNIOG

*Scarce winter visitor.*

**Flints.** One on the Dee estuary: at Walwen on 22/01 (Bg), on the river at CQNR-OakRSPB on 24/01 (PSH) and at Flint Castle on 18/10 (eBird).

**Denbs.** One at Llanddulas on 13/01 (MBo, Bg) and 14/01 (eBird).

**Oystercatcher** *Haematopus ostralegus*

PIODEN FÔR

*A scarce breeding resident and abundant winter visitor.*

**Flints.** 541 BT records, inc 136 (25%) from CQNR-OakRSPB. Breeding was confirmed at CQNR on 28/06 (pair guarding 3y: GEM, MP, PSH), Point of Ayr Gas Terminal on 24/06 (2y: MaWi) and Gronant on 20/06 (pair with 3y: WRM). 3 pairs nested at RSPB Point of Ayr (GrJ). Max 8500 at Point of Ayr on 7/12

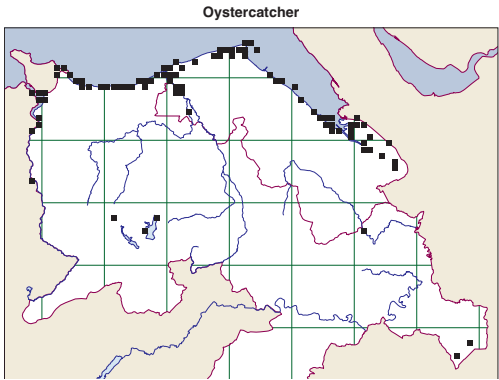


and 5877 at Walwen on 7/12 (WeBS).

**Denbs.** 634 BT records, inc 443 (70%) from RSPB Conwy. Breeding confirmed at Llyn Brenig on 17/07 (WRM: pair with 1y). RSPB Conwy had 3 unsuccessful nesting attempts. Max 300 at RSPB Conwy on 10/08 (TGr).

Sites with  $\geq 500$  on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Ffynongroyw	1500	2000	1200	700			1210	3000	3000	2000	2000	1500
White Sands	150	500	12	160			38			3000	2500	
Walwen	2660	290	320	145			1947	3292	3486	2812	975	5877
Bagillt Fields	92	539	632	342						85	3	36
Flint Marsh		30	40	17			25	770			10	20
Point of Ayr	6000	5000	3000	2000			300	2500	7000	8000	8000	8500
Gronant inc fields	459	670	57	537			97	89	341	430	602	1205
Oakenholt Marsh	240	100	100	320			51	160	125	300	800	70



Oystercatcher at nest: Mike Pollard

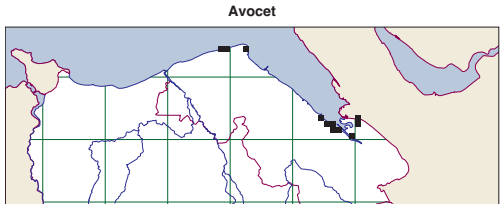
**Avocet** *Recurvirostra avosetta*

CAMBIG

*A local breeding resident and scarce passage migrant.*

**Flints.** 176 BT records from 22/02 to 17/11, 135 of which were from CQNR-OakRSPB, with max. 49 there on 12/07 (MP). At RSPB Burton Mere (Flints), only 18 pairs nested but ALL young lost to predation, as were a further 10 pairs on the English side (GrJ). Three pairs nested on the MOD marsh south of Burton Point, 2 pairs with chicks and one pair on the nest on 15/06 (CW). At CQNR, 4 pairs raised 6 chicks on the fly ash lagoon (PSH). A pair nested again at Gronant Little Tern colony and raised a chick on 20/06 (WRM). At Cop Hole pool, 1-2 birds were present from 1/04 to 29/04 (AHJ). POA-Talacre had 1-4 winter birds on 18/10 (JHg), 15/11 (PEM) and 17/11 (AJR). Max 70 at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) on 9/04 (eBird).

**Denbs.** Two at RSPB Conwy on 9/11 was the only record (AtG).



Avocet: Mike Pollard

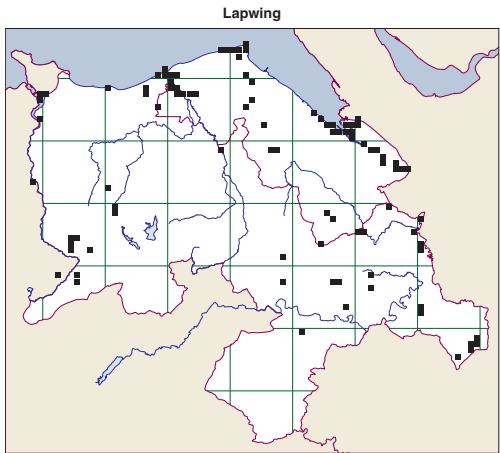
**Lapwing** *Vanellus vanellus*

CORNCHWIGLEN

*A declining breeding resident and abundant winter visitor.*

**Flints.** 450 BT records. At RSPB Burton Mere, 56 pairs raised 42 young in Eng+Wales, and since 40 of these pairs were in Wales, breeding was confirmed (GrJ). Breeding was also confirmed at Trelogan (3y: ShN) and Rhuddlan (2y: SHu). Courtship display was recorded at Star Crossing Pool in May (MP, GEM), Shotwick Lake on 14/04 (AHJ) and J31 on the A55 on 15/03 (AHJ). Max 4000 at Burton MOD marshes on 2/02 (CW): also 3000 there on 27/01 and 2300 on 6/12 (all CW). On Clwyd estuary, max. 1744 on 5/12 (JHi), 1510 at CQNR-OakRSPB in Dec (PSH), 1320 at White Sands on 7/12 (WeBS) and 920 at Cop Hole Pool on 28/12 (AHJ).

**Denbs.** 476 BT records, with breeding confirmed at Mynydd Hiraethog-Brynmyllt on 23/06 (3-4 nests: MAO and perJHg, plus several records of possible pairs at Mynydd Hiraethog), Ynys Wen-Ysbyty Ifan (2-3 nests; perJHg), RSPB Conwy on 19/07 (MAO), Pulford Brook on 12/06 (AHJ),



near Gwyddelwern (2y: SaK), Delph Pond Acrefair (3y: KiN) and Abergele on 3/06 (WRM), with 2 occupied nests near Pen-y-stryt (KiN, MP) and one at Cae Llwyd Res (KiN). Courtship display was recorded at both Cae Llwyd Res and Delph Pond on 29/03, at Llay on 6/05 (all SD) and near Pen-y-stryt on 11/03 (MP). Max 1100 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 30/01 (MD).

Sites with ≥ 150 on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
White Sands										9	1135	1320
Oakenholt Marsh	200	600					32	75	14	80	200	300
Point of Ayr incl. Fields	751	855	6							491	200	
Rhyl Marine Lake	500	20					10	2				150
Clwyd Estuary	32	632					107		86	300	507	68



Lapwing: Mike Pollard

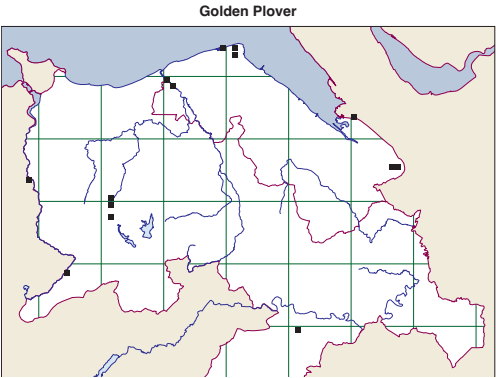
**Golden Plover**
*Pluvialis apricaria*

CWTIAD AUR

A rare upland breeder and uncommon winter visitor. Much higher numbers this year in both winters and both vice-counties.

**Flints.** 42 BT records (inc 23 from Clwyd estuary) up to 29/02 and from 24/08 onwards. Max 151 at Flint on 24/08 (TBo), 120 at Rhuddlan on 17/11 (eBird) and 82 at Cop Hole Pool on 24/12 (AHJ). The highest count on the Clwyd estuary was 36 on 19/01(AHJ). Also recorded at Talacre (MP), Gronant (6 on 26/11:WRM) and CQNR-OakRSPB (5 on 31/01: GrJ).

**Denbs.** 20 BT records up to 17/04 and from 21/09 onwards. Max 110 at Llyn Aled Isaf on 8/10 (RiE) and 60 there on 2/10 (AHJ). Spring records on upland areas inland, 49 at Ysbyty Ifan on 17/04 (RhPr) and 20 at Llansannan on 30/03 (DaFr), but no evidence of breeding. 3 records from the Garneddwen-Mynydd Mawr area of the Berwyns: 4 on 7/02, 21 on 17/02 and 11 on 21/03 (BSG). 12 inland at Glyn Ceiriog on 12/01 (NiD). Also recorded at Rhyl Marine Lake and Kinmel Bay.



**American Golden Plover**
*Pluvialis dominica*

CORGWTIAD AUR AMERICA

Vagrant.

**Denbs.** One at Llyn Aled Isaf from 21/09 to 25/09 (Tony Pope *et al*). Accepted by WRBC. Still present on 28/09 (JHi).



American Golden Plover (left): Tony Pope





American Golden Plover: Tony Pope

**Grey Plover** *Pluvialis squatarola*  
An uncommon winter visitor.

CWTIAD LLWYD

**Flints.** 70 BT records, up to 15/05 and then again from 1/09 onwards. Max 63 at Point of Ayr on 27/01 (DWin) and 61 at Gronant on 12/01 (WRM). There were 15 at Point of Ayr on 26/01 (eBird) and 10 at Burton MOD marsh on 18/10 (CW).

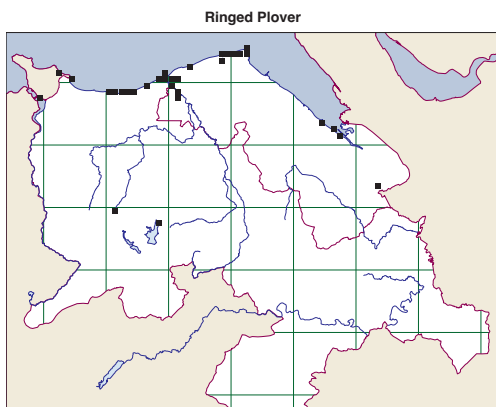
**Denbs.** Only 3 BT records of singles at RSPB Conwy on 2/06 (KBr) and Rhyl Marine Lake on 12/05 and 26/09 (both JHi).

**Ringed Plover** *Charadrius hiaticula*  
A rare breeding resident and fairly common passage migrant and winter visitor.

CWTIAD TORCHOG

**Flints.** 163 BT records with breeding confirmed at Gronant on 3/07 (2 pairs: WRM) and RSPB Point of Ayr where 6 pairs nested and 2 of them raised 5y (GrJ). Max 313 at Gronant on 3/09 (WRM).

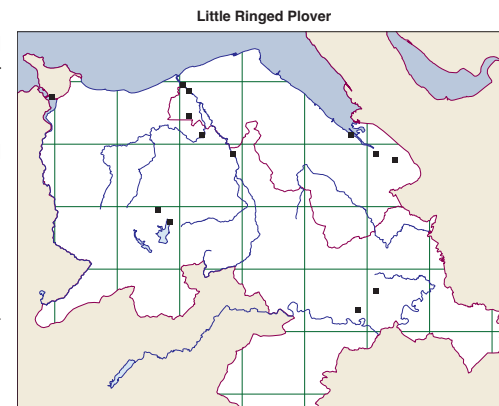
**Denbs.** 58 BT records throughout the year, all at RSPB Conwy and along the coast. No confirmed breeding. Inland, there were 4 at Llyn Aled Isaf on 14/08 (WRM: "Looked like 2 adults and 2 juveniles. A juvenile had been seen earlier at the N end of Llyn Brenig"). Max 106 on Clwyd estuary on 24/08 (JHi).



**Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius*  
A scarce breeding summer visitor and passage migrant.

CWTIAD TORCHOG BACH

**Flints.** 26 BT records from 24/03 to 9/07, with breeding confirmed again at St Asaph Business Park on 2/06 ("an adult with 2 small chicks - all feeding": WRM). CQNR had a pair on the bunded pool from 26/03 to 2/05 (PSH). Two at Clwyd estuary on 17/04 (JHi) and singles there on 31/03, 23/04, 2/05 (all JHi) and on 9/07 (AHJ). Singles at Rhuddlan on 30/04 and 8/05 (AHJ) plus 2 there on 12/07 (eBird). One at Cop Hole Pool on 26/03 (AHJ) and a flyover at Queensferry on 5/05 (DWin). Max 3 at Sandycroft/Sealand on 6/05 (JmHu) and St Asaph Business Park on 21/04 (WRM).



**Denbs.** 10 BT records from 2/04 to 29/07, with breeding confirmed at Llyn Brenig on 17/01 (adult with 1y: WRM) and Cae Llwyd Res on 19/05 (KiN). "Possible" breeding at Llyn Bran (WRM *et al*). Two near Dennis Brickworks, Johnstown (a site now known as Hafod y Bwch Commemorative Woodland) on 20/04 and 15/05 (TK) and at Glanllyn near Trefnant on 11/05 (SaK, MP) and singles at Llewenni on 29/07 (JHi), Acrefair on 2/04 (JmHu) and RSPB Conwy on 18/07 (SK). A juvenile on the estuary off RSPB Conwy on 29/07 (RS).



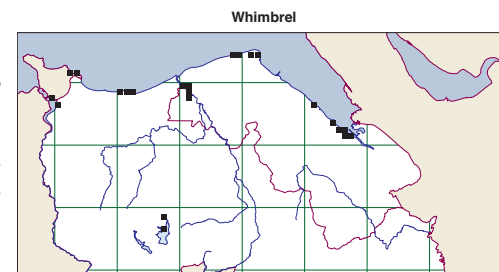
Little Ringed Plover: Tom Knight

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus*  
Uncommon but regular passage migrant.

COEGYLFINIR

**Flints.** 87 BT records (inc. 36 from the Clwyd estuary and 37 at CQNR-OakRSPB) between 5/04 and 30/11. Max 36 at CQNR-OakRSPB on 8/04 (GrJ). Also 10 at POA on 23/04 (SK).

**Denbs.** 84 BT records (inc 73 from RSPB Conwy) from 24/03 to 4/12. Max 14 at RSPB





Conwy on 10/08 (TGr). Inland singles at Llyn Brenig on 30/04 (JmHu) and 5/05 (KBr, GEM).

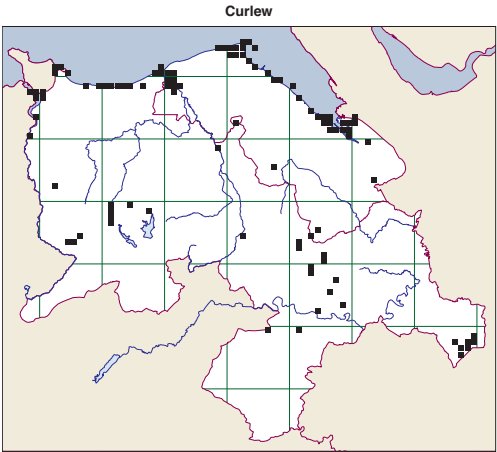


**Curlew** *Numenius arquata*

*Uncommon breeding resident and common winter visitor to wetlands.*

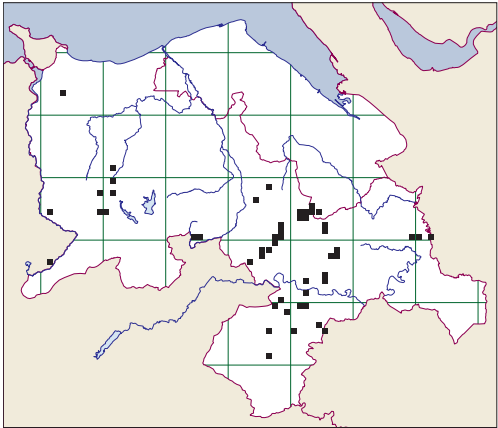
**Flints.** 579 BT records, inc 194 records at CQNR-OakRSPB and 124 records at Clwyd estuary. Max 1283 at Point of Ayr on 12/10 (WeBS): this site always has the highest winter numbers by far. Evidence of breeding attempts at Fauxdegla moors (JHg, MP, JaSh).

**Denbs.** 632 BT records, inc. 388 records at RSPB Conwy. Max. 193 at RSPB Conwy on 3/03 (SK). Breeding confirmed with 4 chicks near Nant-y-Garth Pass on 21/06 (SaK), chick taken by buzzard at nearby Llandegla on 26/05 (Graham Berry), 1 well-grown chick moved by farmer to allow hay-making above Glyn Ceiriog on 20/06 (SaK: still OK 21/06), at Isycoed on 4/06 when 1 chick (probably all) was predated by a fox (Sandra Hinds, MP), at Vivod Mtn with 2 chicks on 24/05 (Anya) and at Trefechan where a nesting pair may have lost its chicks during hay cutting (KiN). A “chick-guarding” pair was seen near Bryn Du in the Berwyns on 24/06 (BB). Evidence of breeding attempts at Llyn Aled Isaf (WRM, GEM, JHg) and Esclusham Mtn/World’s End (GrJ).



GYLFINIR

Curlew (summer only)



Sites with ≥ 50 on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Oakenholt Marsh	32	21	12	26			42	21	25	15	96	25
Point of Ayr incl. Fields	684	758	1264	450			1000	1200	1000	1283	1201	1083
Clwyd Estuary	93	132		3			110		28	3	35	
Greenfield & Bagillt incl. Fields	153	138	69	91						37	31	36
Upper Conwy Estuary	37		60			20		165	174		83	

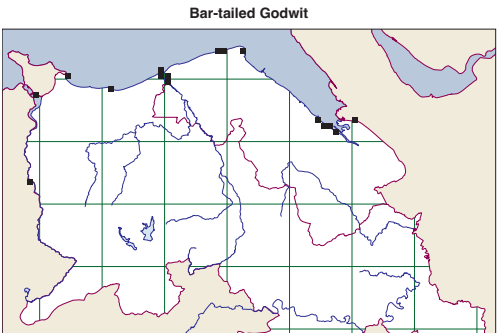


**Bar-tailed Godwit** *Limosa lapponica*  
*Uncommon coastal passage migrant and winter visitor.*

RHOSTOG GYNFFONFRAITH

**Flints.** 105 BT records in every month of the year (inc. 69 records at CQNR-OakRSPB). Max 100 Ffynongroyw on 13/07 (WeBS) and 70 at CQNR-OakRSPB on 22/06 (PSH). CQNR-OakRSPB also had 14 records of 20-55 birds, mostly in Jun-Aug, but 2 records of 20 in Jan (all PSH, MP). Other records of 1-20 birds from Gronant, Flint Castle, RSPB Burton Mere (Flints), Point of Ayr and Clwyd estuary.

**Denbs.** 36 BT records (inc.22 from RSPB Conwy) in every month of the year except June. Max 30 at Llanddulas on 5/01 (JJo)



Sites with ≥ 10 on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Point of Ayr	1	5	4	1			2		12	6	10	2
Oakenholt Marsh	22	17	10				6		1			
Ffynongroyw							100					

**Black-tailed Godwit** *Limosa limosa*  
*Abundant passage migrant and winter visitor.*

RHOSTOG GYNFFONDDU

**Flints.** 380 BT records (180 of which were from CQNR-OakRSPB) in all months of the year. CQNR-OakRSPB remains the principal site, with significant numbers all year and max. 4000 on several dates from Aug to Oct (PSH, MP, GEM), while POA had 4000 on 9/11 (WeBS). Flint Castle had 3500 on the high tide on 23/08 (eBird) and RSPB Burton Mere Border Pool had 2000-3000 on the high tide of 9/04 (eBird). The MOD marshes in Flints across the Dee had a roost of 1700 on 25/10 (CW). At CQNR-OakRSPB on 22/06, there was a “full breeding plumage bird with yellow bill, presumably recently returned from Iceland” (MP). Fields west of Gronant car park had 335 on 12/01 (WRM) while fields to the east, near Big Pool Wood, had 200 on 6/12 (MP). The Clwyd estuary had an unusually-high 194 on 4/01 and 56 on 29/12 (both AHJ).

**Denbs.** 141 BT records (118 of which were from RSPB Conwy) in all months of the year. Max 40 at RSPB Conwy on 2/11 (eBird) and 26 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 6/07 (PhE).

Sites with ≥ 750 on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Connahs Quay NR			190	750			80	10	16	25	5	6
Oakenholt Marsh	150	370	500	39			1300	4000	3000	500	1000	125
Point of Ayr incl. Fields		16	9				80	10	2200	1	4000	150
Ffynongroyw								1000				



Black-tailed Godwit: Mike Pollard

**Hudsonian Godwit** *Limosa haemastica*  
*Very rare vagrant, breeding in northern Canada and Alaska.*

RHOSTOG HUDSON

**Flints.** A first record for Wales. 67 BT records during 12/08-5/09 (and 18 eBird records). It was found on the CQNR bunded pools with Black-tailed Godwits by Geoff Robinson on the evening of 12/08 before it flew across the river to RSPB Burton Mere where the ID was confirmed by Colin Wells on 13/08. It returned to the Reserve on 14/08 where it consorted with a large flock of Black-tailed Godwits most days (apart from 18-19/08 when it went to RSPB Burton Mere) until 9/09. Many photographs were taken, both from close to West Hide and from the Flint side of Oakenholt Marsh. It was later seen on the Mersey at Hale, near Liverpool Airport, on 27/09.



Hudsonian Godwit (front, left): Mike Pollard





Photo: Mike Pollard. In this photo the Hudsonian Godwit is to the right, above centre, with, to its left a Bar-tailed Godwit and a Black-tailed Godwit. Under the Hudsonian, to the left is a Redshank and to the right is a Black-tailed Godwit.

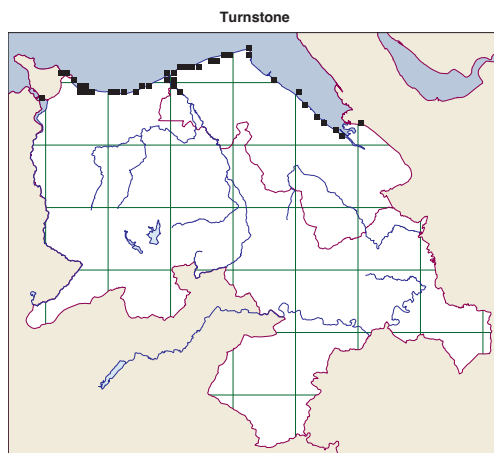
### Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

CWTIAD TRAETH

*Common coastal passage migrant and winter visitor.*

**Flints.** 96 BT records, in all months except May/Jun. Max. 230 at Gronant on 28/01 and 121 at Rhyl seafront on 26/01 (both MaS). On the Dee, Mostyn sewage works had 29 on 24/02 (Ian Buttriss) and 27 on 31/08 (SD).

**Denbs.** 135 BT records, 76 of which at Horton's Nose/Rhyl Marine Lake. Present all year but only 5 records in May/Jun. The highest counts were at Horton's Nose pontoons with 345 on 10/08 (MBo) and 330 on 28/09 (GEM).



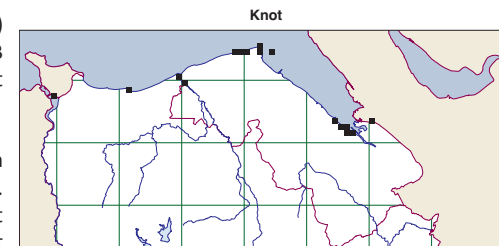
### Knot *Calidris canutus*

PIBYDD YR ABER YR YNYS LAS

*A common winter visitor, locally abundant on the Dee estuary.*

**Flints.** 126 BT records (54 at RSPB Oakenholt) in all months except June. Max. 3000 at RSPB Oakenholt in October (PSH) and 2000 at Point of Ayr on 7/09 (WeBS).

**Denbs.** 41 BT records (34 of which were from RSPB Conwy) during Jan-Apr and Sep-Dec. One at Llanddulas on 5/01 (JJo). Max. 152 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 26/01 (MaS) and 100 at Horton's Nose on 31/01 (GrJ).



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Point of Ayr	800	1200	1500	1				10	2000	250	1000	280
Gronant	900	800	500				25			150		70
Oakenholt Marsh	300	200	100	56				7	353	800	400	60

Sites with ≥ 300 on WeBS

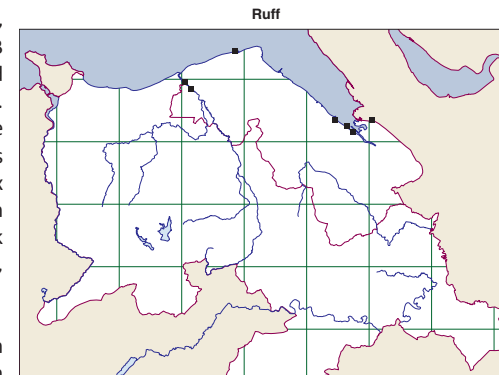
### Ruff *Calidris pugnax*

PIBYDD TORCHOG

*A scarce, but regular, passage migrant.*

**Flints.** 26 BT records, 24 from 10/07 to 23/11, plus spring records on 31/03 at RSPB Oakenholt (MP) and 8/04, 9/04, 27/04 and 4/05 at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) (AHJ). Winter records of 3 at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) on 4/02 and 19/02 (eBird). 10 records from Cop Hole from 4/09 to 17/11 (AHJ). Max 4 at CQNR on 27/08 (PSH), 4 at Cop Hole on 19/10 and 30/10 (AHJ) and 3 at Shotwick Lake on 23/11 (AHJ). Singles at Gronant, CQNR, Flint Castle and Clwyd estuary.

**Denbs.** 3 BT records. Two at Rhuddlan on 24/08 (JeN) and singles at RSPB Conwy on 31/07 and 2/08 (WRM).





**Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea*  
*A scarce, but regular, passage migrant.*

PIBYDD CAMBIG

**Flints.** 10 BT records. Two at Connah's Quay/RSPB Oakenholt on 31/08 (PSH, MP). The Clwyd estuary had an adult moulting into winter plumage during 7/10 to 11/10 (AHJ *et al*). Singles at Point of Ayr on 8/09 and 6/11 (Bg).

**Denbs.** A single at RSPB Conwy on 29/08 (Bg) was the only record.

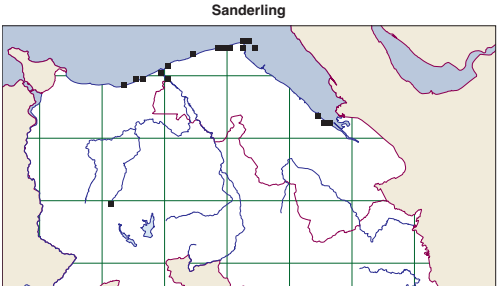
**Sanderling** *Calidris alba*

PIBYDD Y TYWOD

*A fairly common non-breeding visitor to coastal beaches.*

**Flints.** 60 BT records (49 at Gronant/POA beaches) in all months of the year. Max. 200 at Gronant on 26/01 (RiE) and up to 11 on Clwyd estuary in winter (JHi). 13 at CQNR-OakRSPB 13/09 (SuHa).

**Denbs.** 18 BT records (all months but mainly Jan-Feb) were nearly all from the Horton's Nose, apart from a very unusual summer-plumage bird at Llyn Aled Isaf on 11/06 (WRM). Max. 30 at Horton's Nose on 14/01 (JHi).



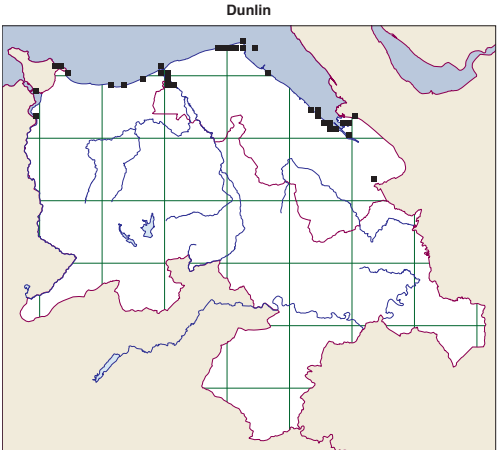
**Dunlin** *Calidris alpina*

PIBYDD MAWN

*An abundant winter visitor and passage migrant.*

**Flints.** 302 BT records in all months (only 3 in June), inc 87 records from CQNR-OakRSPB. Max 6000 at RSPB Oakenholt on 14/01 and 4000 there on 6/02 (both PSH), 3000 at POA on 12/01 (WeBS), 2000 at Burton MOD marsh on 14/02 (CW) and 1500 at Gronant on 15/12 (MP).

**Denbs.** 173 BT records in all months (only 3 in June), inc 116 records from RSPB Conwy which had max 170 on 12/03: SaE. Max in Denbs: 1400 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 11/01 (MAO).



Sites with  $\geq 300$  on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Point of Ayr incl. Fields	3000	2000	60	10			100	200		20	1000	850
Oakenholt Marsh	6000	1000	200				18	30	25	50	2000	420
Gronant	65	100	303				95	1	85	250	512	177
Clwyd Estuary	50	300			21		8	43	32		100	
Colwyn Bay to Rhos Pt	355	341	94								10	210

**Little Stint** *Calidris minuta*

PIBYDD BACH

*A scarce, but regular, passage migrant.*

**Flints.** One at Clwyd estuary on 8/09 (JHi).

**Denbs.** A juvenile at RSPB Conwy on 7/09 (SaE *et al*) and 1 at Colwyn Bay on 27/09 (MAO).

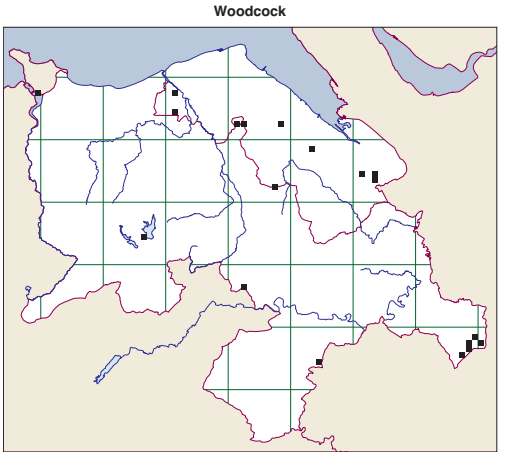
**Woodcock** *Scolopax rusticola*

CYFFYLOG

*Rare and declining breeding resident and winter visitor. No breeding evidence this year.*

**Flints.** 9 BT records Jan-Mar and Nov-Dec. Max 15 at Broughton on 6/01 and 10 there on 24/12 (flying out of roost: AHJ). 2 eBird winter singles at Northop and Holywell.

**Denbs.** 22 BT records Jan-Mar and Nov-Dec. The only summer record was at Llyn Brenig on 2/05 (PEM). Max 2 at Fenn's Moss on 16/02 (RHa).



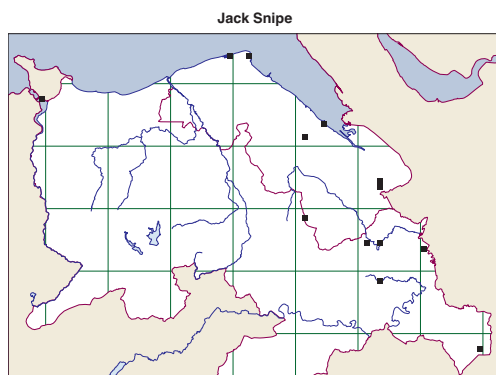
**Jack Snipe** *Lymocryptes minimus*

GŪACH FACH

*A scarce winter visitor.*

**Flints.** 15 BT records from 2/01 to 11/04 and then again from 9/11 to 25/12. Recorded at Gronant, Clwyd estuary and Broughton. Max 6 on "marshy wasteland" at Hawarden Ind Est on 28/01 (AHJ).

**Denbs.** 15 BT records from 1/01 to 17/04 and then again from 20/10 to 20/12, at Alyn Waters CP, Fenn's Moss, Erddig, Holt, Llay and RSPB Conwy. One found with thermal camera at RSPB Conwy on 4/01 (RS). Max 4 at Erddig Lake on 20/10 (PaJ).



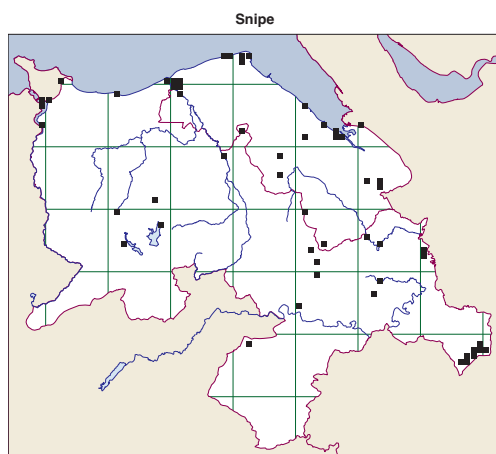
### Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*

*Scarce breeding resident locally and common winter visitor.*

GŪACH CYFFREDIN

**Flints.** 145 BT records, inc. 37 records from Clwyd estuary, 27 from CQNR-OakRSPB, and 19 from Gronant, up to 25/04 and again from 22/07 onwards. No breeding evidence. Max 38 on the Clwyd estuary on 3/11 (WRM), 15 at CQNR bunded pool in Dec (PSH) and 9 at Fauxdegla on 21/03 (MP).

**Denbs.** 174 BT records, inc. 95 from RSPB Conwy and 39 from Fenn's Moss. The only breeding evidence was a chipping bird at Fenn's Moss with a 2nd bird nearby on 17/04 and 2 records there in May (RHa). Summer singles at Cefn Du (E of Bodnant) on 15/06 (BOs) and Moel Fferna on 31/05 (TK). Max 24 at Fenn's Moss on 16/12 (RHa), 20 at Holt on 14/01 (NF), 17 at RSPB Conwy on 3/11 (SaE), 16 at Sontley on 5/03 (JmHu) and 14 at Bylchau on 18/03 (RhPi).



### Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

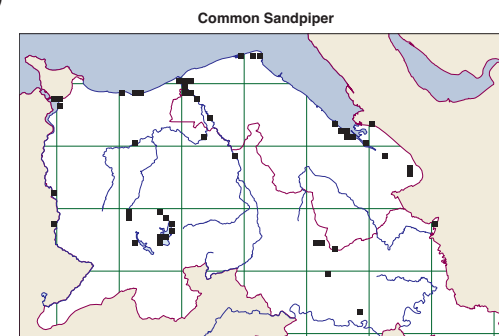
*Scarce upland breeding visitor, fairly common passage migrant and scarce winter visitor.*

PIBYDD DORLAN

**Flints.** 141 BT records in all months, inc. 66 at CQNR-OakRSPB. Max 11 at Clwyd Estuary on 12/04 (AHJ), 6 at CQNR in July and Sep (PSH) and 7 at Flint Castle on 27/07 (eBird). Summer record on the R. Elwy at Ffynnon Fair, Trefnant on 11/05 (SaK).

**Denbs.** 178 BT records, inc 133 records at RSPB Conwy. Confirmed breeding at RSPB Conwy with 1 chick fledged (JHg, WRM, PEM), Llyn Brenig (PEM) and Llyn Aled Isaf ("agitated pairs in 2 locations":

WRM). Max 5 at RSPB Conwy on 28/04 (JHg) and 30/04 (TGr).



Common Sandpiper: Mike Pollard



Common Sandpiper: John Hawkins

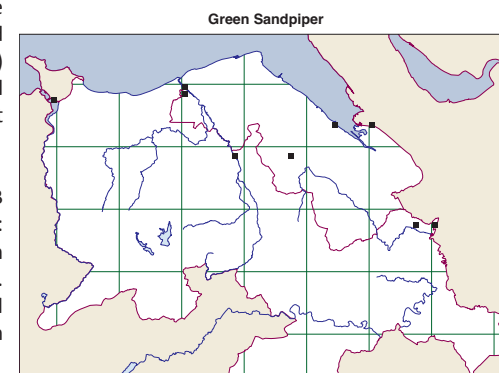
### Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*

*Uncommon passage migrant and winter visitor, both inland and coastal. Nearly all records during July-Sep.*

PIBYDD GWYRDD

**Flints.** 21 BT records, 20 of which from 2/07 to 22/09. 12 records of 1-3 birds at Cop Hole Pool, 13/07 to 5/09 and again on 9/11 and 28/12 (all AHJ). One at CQNR on 2/11 (PSH) and 6 records of a single at Star Crossing Pool from 2/07 to 23/07 (GEM, MP, MD). Max 3 at Cop Hole Pool on 29/08 (AHJ).

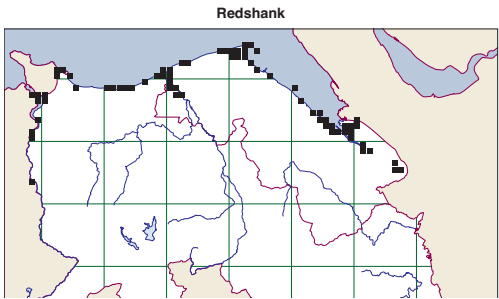
**Denbs.** 13 BT records, all singles, at RSPB Conwy (Jul-Sep: many obs), Lleweni (March: JHi) and Rossett (Feb, Aug, Dec: JonW) from 2/02-29/12. Winter singles along the R. Clwyd at Rhuthun, Llandyrnog and Glanywern and one at Pulford Brook on 12/02 (all GoP).



**Redshank** *Tringa totanus* PIBYDD COESGOCH  
Very local breeding visitor, locally numerous passage migrant and common winter visitor.

**Flints.** 578 BT records throughout the year (200 from CQNR-OakRSPB and 130 from Clwyd estuary). Max 4000 at CQNR-OakRSPB on 25/07(MP) and 3000 there on 18/08 (PSH) and 24/08 (MP). The only confirmed nesting site was RSPB Burton Mere, where, in the whole Reserve (Eng + Wales), 41 pairs raised 28 young (GrJ).

**Denbs.** 448 BT records, inc 337 from RSPB Conwy. Max. 600 at RSPB Conwy on 2/11 (TGr).



Sites with ≥ 200 on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Connaught Quay	30	38	16	416			1200	35	470	1800	42	12
Conwy Estuary	265		150			1		197	567		679	
Flint Marsh	300	240	110	275			100	600	75	300	100	200
Clwyd Estuary	20	81		96			313	26	106		135	6
Rhyl Marine La	30		1	70			39					200
Point of Ayr incl. Fields	481	337	556	40			180	100	200	751	1000	1001
Mostyn Dock							700	200		100	100	
Walwen	36	49	47	3			93	231	23	38	6	20
Oakenholt Marsh	46	31	65	200			1000	3000	1300	130	300	200

**Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola* PIBYDD GRAEAN  
Uncommon passage migrant.

**Flints.** A juvenile at Gronant on 22/07 (WRM, JHi)

**Denbs.** One at RSPB Conwy on 1/04 (Phil Davies, Alan Buckley).

**Spotted Redshank** *Tringa erythropus* PIBYDD COESGOCH MANNOG  
Regular passage migrant and uncommon winter visitor.

**Flints.** 117 BT records from 14/01 to 6/05 and again from 7/07 to 28/12, 100 of which were at CQNR. Max 24 at CQNR in Sep (PSH) and the highest winter count there was 6 on 28/01 (PSH). There were 1-3 at Burton Point on 5 occasions (GrJ) and 1-2 birds on Burton MOD marsh on 3 occasions (CW). Also singles at Gronant on 25/08 (Bg) and 15/10 (WRM), at Point of Ayr on 5/10 (MaS) and at Cop Hole Pools on 19/10 and 28/12



Spotted Redshank and Greenshank: Mike Pollard



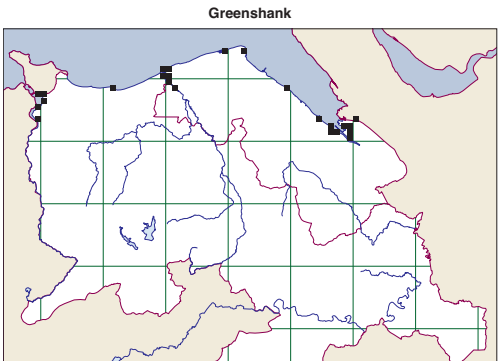
(both AHJ).

**Denbs.** 92 BT records, all of which were of 1-2 birds at RSPB Conwy during 4/01-26/04 and then again 30/08-31/12 (many obs), a very similar pattern to 2023.

**Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia* PIBYDD COESWYRDD  
Regular passage migrant and winter visitor.

**Flints.** 214 BT records in all months of the year (only 2 records in June), inc 161 records from CQNR and 37 records of 1-4 birds from the Clwyd estuary. Max 37 at CQNR in October (PSH). Other records were 2 at Gronant on 19/08 and 3/09 (WRM) and 1 at Rhuddlan on 24/08 (JeN) and 27/09 (Simon Garner).

**Denbs.** 127 BT records, inc. 112 from RSPB Conwy, in all months except June. Max 11 at RSPB Conwy 4/09 to 19/09 (SaE). The other records were singles at Rhyl Marine Lake and Horton's Nose and 3 at Llanddulas on 5/01 (JJo).





**Little Gull** *Hydrocoloeus minutus* GWYLAN FECHAN  
*Scarce passage migrant.*

**Flints.** One at CQNR-OakRSPB on 4/05 (SuHa).

**Denbs.** Two at RSPB Conwy on 10/02 (eBird, Bg).

**Kittiwake** *Rissa tridactyla* GWYLAN GOESDDU  
*Very scarce, but regular, passage migrant.*

**Flints.** Singles at Gronant on 28/01 (JOa) and 3/07 (BiP). and at Point of Ayr on 2/11 (MP). Max. 2 at Rhyl seafront on 26/01 (MaS).

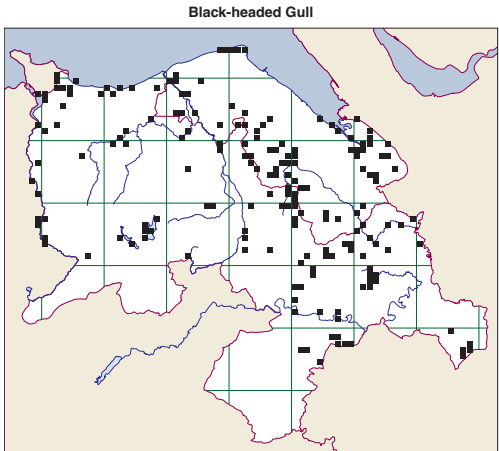
**Denbs.** Only 5 BT records. Max. 4 at Llanddulas on 25/02 (KaD) and at Horton's Nose on 20/10 (JHI). The only other records were singles at Llanddulas on 13/01 (MBo), 26/01, 14/02 (both eBird) and 19/02 (NF), and 2 at RSPB Conwy on 23/07 (MaS).

**Sabine's Gull** *Xema sabini* GWYLAN SABINE  
Flints  
One at Flint Castle on 21/08/24 (Bg; Colin Davies ).

**Black-headed Gull** *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* GWYLAN BENDDU  
*Uncommon breeding resident and abundant visitor.*

**Flints.** 712 BT records (inc 152 at Connah's Quay NR and 136 at Rhyl Brickworks). Max. 4200 at CQNR-OakRSPB on 20/01 (PSH) and 1244 at Clwyd estuary on 17/01 (JHi). Breeding was confirmed at Connah's Quay NR with young first seen on 28/06 (GEM) and on the MOD marshes at Burton with 3 occupied nests on 20/06 (CW). The nesting colony at Shotton Steelworks appears to be recovering from HPAI Bird Flu and fledged ca 1156 chicks (compared with less than 100 in 2023). There were 771 nests and 2113 eggs (MRG). Although 104y were fledged at RSPB Burton Mere (England), all nests in the Flints part of Burton Mere were lost to badger predation (GrJ).

**Denbs.** 811 BT records (inc 330 from RSPB Conwy). No confirmed breeding. Max count of 802 at RSPB Conwy on 19/01 (JHg) and 355 at Lleweni on 12/02 (JHi).

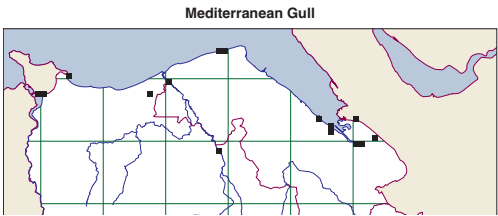


Sites with  $\geq 500$  on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Point of Ayr incl. Fields	282	228	53				1500	1000		360	218	277
Pulford Brook		1100										
Conwy Estuary	330		236			2		519	431		413	
Oakenholt Marsh	60	400	147	54			300	560	300	50	120	120
Flint Saltmarsh	120	125	65	10			500	1800	105	245	85	50
Clwyd Estuary	402	410	2	4			80	183	6	42	521	2

**Mediterranean Gull** *Ichthyaetus melanocephalus* GWYLAN MÔR Y CANOLDIR  
*Uncommon visitor in all months.*

**Flints.** 41 BT records, with max 3 adults at Gronant on 24/09 (WRM). 9 records at CQNR-OakRSPB from 10/03 to 18/08 included both 1CY and 2CY birds (MP) and 2 together on 6/04 (PSH). 24 records at Clwyd estuary from 7/01 to 14/12 included a 3CY bird on 9/07 and 19/07 (AHJ) and 2 together on 17/01 (JHi). Also, an adult at Bridge Farm, Sealand on 12/04, 2 at Shotton Sports Field on 9/03 (both DWin) and 1 at Shotwick Lake on 20/04 (AHJ). Four nests at Burton Mere (Flints) and 1 at Shotton all failed to hatch.

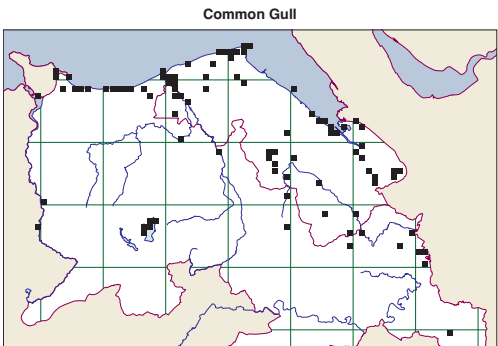


**Denbs.** 17 BT records. RSPB Conwy had 13 records of 1-2 birds from 19/04 to 23/07 (many obs). Singles at Rhyl Marine Lake on 14/04 (LeC) and 7/07 (JHi), at Lleweni on 28/10 (JHi) and Abergele Recycling on 16/02 (MBo).

**Common Gull** *Larus canus* GWYLAN GWEUNYDD  
*Common winter visitor and passage migrant.*

**Flints.** 403 BT records in all months. Max. 2000 on Gronant Spit on 30/12 (eBird), 1970 at Flint/Bagillt on 20/01 (SK) and 1300 at Gronant on 12/01 (WRM). Max. inland count of 800 in a mixed flock at Fforest Farm, Cilcain on 28/02 (GEM).

**Denbs.** 190 BT records. Max 300 at Pensarn Beach on 9/12 (Any). Inland, 130 at Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 21/03 (MP) and 124 at Lleweni on 26/02 (JHi).



Sites with  $\geq 200$  on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Gronant (inc Fields)	116	120	7						180			605



Common Gull: Mike Pollard

### Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*

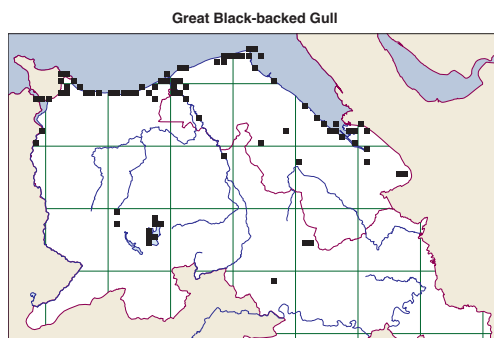
GWYLAN GEFNDDU FAWR

*Uncommon breeding resident and common winter visitor.*

**Flints.** 443 BT records. Breeding was confirmed by nest with 2 chicks “on the roof of NWPS Construction”, Rhyl on 23/06 and 2 nests with 3+ chicks on the roof of B&Q/PetsAtHome building, Rhuddlan on 12/05 (both WRM). Max. 42 at Point of Ayr on 2/11 (MP).

(WRM wrote: “My 6<sup>th</sup> pair of roof nesting GBB Gulls across Denbs (3 nests) and Flints (3 nests) this summer. None of these sites/tetrads had confirmed breeding in the 2008-12 'The Breeding Birds of North Wales'”)

**Denbs.** 400 BT records. Breeding was confirmed on the islands at Gors Maen Llwyd by 4 nests with young on 11/06 and at Tir Llwyd Ind. Estate, Kinmel Bay with a nest and 2+ chicks on the Prism Medical roof on 12/05 (both WRM). Nest with 3 chicks on the Black Cat Amusement Arcade, Towyn on 9/06 and 1 nest on BT Openreach, Mochdre on 14/05 (both WRM). The highest count was 26 at Horton’s Nose on 26/01 (AHJ)



### Glaucous Gull *Larus hyperboreus*

GWYLAN Y GOGLEDD

*Vagrant.*

**Flints.** One at Gronant on 14/12: “Picked out when scanning through large flock of gulls, mostly Herring, at 11.00.” (MP).



Glaucous Gull: Mike Pollard

### Caspian Gull *Larus cachinnans*

GWYLAN BONTAIDD

*Vagrant.*

**Flints.** One at Gronant on 11/08 (RS, MHu), 25/08 (LaE, Bg); both accepted by WRBC.

**Denbs.** One at Colwyn Bay on 15/12 (RS, Bg); accepted by WRBC.



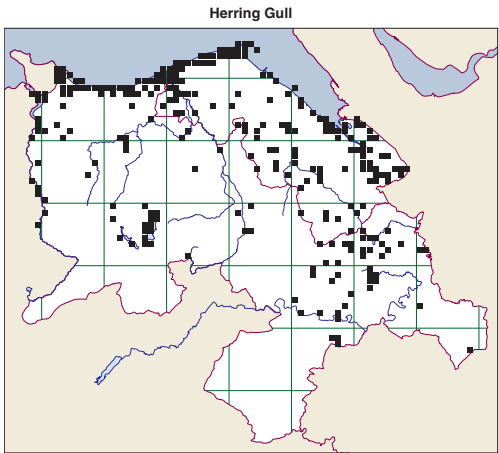
Caspian Gull: Robin Sandham

**Herring Gull** *Larus argentatus*  
Common breeding resident and abundant visitor.

GWYLAN PENWAIG

**Flints.** 1046 BT records. Breeding was confirmed at B&Q Rhuddlan on 12/05 (9 nests: WRM) and at Rhyl Brickworks on 15/06 (2 nests with young: JHi) and 30/06 (Pair with 3y: WRM). Max 1000 at Gronant on 11/04 (WRM) and 700 at Point of Ayr on 24/08 (eBird). A herring/glaucous hybrid was reported on 15/12 and 16/12 (Bg).

**Denbs.** 1207 BT records. Breeding was confirmed at Tir Llwyl Ind Estate on 12/05 (27 nests: WRM), at Llandulas on 26/05 (16 nests in quarries: WRM), at BT Openreach, Mochdre on 14/05 (8 nests: WRM), at and nearby Towyn Black Cat cafe on 9/06 (4 nests: WRM), at Llyn Brenig on 11/06 (10 nests: WRM), at Llanrwst on 16/07 (1 nest on Eagles hotel: WRM), Horton's Nose on 23/06 (3 rooftop nests: JHi) and at RSPB Conwy on 28/04 (2 nests: JHg). Also 23 nests at Mark Water Pumps, Mochdre on 14/05 (WRM). Max 5000 at Pensarn on 9/12 (Anya) and 2500 at Horton's Nose on 26/01 (AHJ) - two unusually high counts.



Sites with ≥ 300 on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Clwyd Estuary	88	108	42	63	346	58	139	69	106	1157	216	88
Point of Ayr incl. Fields	277	237	633				100	300	750	530	36	300
Gronant incl. Fields	408	674	356	440			185	21	426	708	489	719
Clwyd Estuary	88	108	42	63	346	58	139	69	106	1157	216	88

**Yellow-legged Gull** *Larus michahellis*  
Uncommon visitor.

GWYLAN GOESFELEN

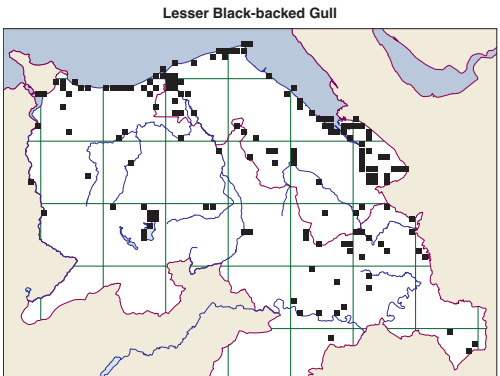
**Denbs.** One at Clwyd estuary (Denbs side of river) on 18/06-19/06 (JHi, RiE) and another there on 20/05 (AHJ). One at RSPB Conwy on 18/02 (AnDa).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** *Larus fuscus*  
Common breeding resident and very common visitor.

GWYLAN GEFNDDU FACH

**Flints.** 616 BT records. Max. 220 at Star Crossing Pool on 26/07 (GEM) "feeding with corvids on food put out for cattle" and 150 here on 23/07 and 24/07 (usually only seen flying over here). Otherwise, max. 120 at RSPB Oakenholt on 20/01 (PSH) and 100 at Gronant on 12/01 (DaHi). Breeding was confirmed at Connah's Quay Power Station (1 nest; 3y: PSH), Rhuddlan B&Q (3 nests: WRM) and Rhyl (1 nest: WRM).

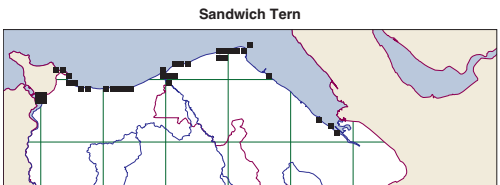
**Denbs.** 538 BT records. Max 72 at Delph Pool, Acrefair on 12/05 (JoR). Breeding was confirmed at RSPB Conwy (2y: WRM), Tir Llwyl Ind Estate (10 nests: WRM), Rhyl Marine Lake (6 nests: WRM), Llyn Brenig (3 nests: WRM), BT Openreach Mochdre (19 nests: WRM), Mark Water Pumps Mochdre (8 nests: WRM), Towyn Black Cat Arcade (2 nests: WRM) and Pensarn (WRM).



**Sandwich Tern** *Thalasseus sandvicensis*  
Very common passage migrant along the coast.

MÔR-WENNOL BIGDDU

**Flints.** 116 BT records from 7/04 to 17/09 with no evidence of breeding. Max 938 in the Clwyd estuary on 10/08 (MBo) and over 100 were recorded here on 17 days during Jul-Aug. Max. 500 at POA on 30/07 (eBird), 200 at Gronant on 2/08 (RSw) and only 17 at CQNR-OakRSPB on 14/05 (SuHa).

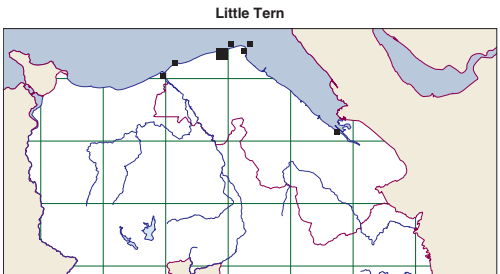


**Denbs.** 60 BT records, from 31/03 to 25/09 with no evidence of breeding. Max 139 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 21/07 (JHi). Only spring records (6/04-8/05) of small numbers at RSPB Conwy.

**Little Tern** *Sternula albifrons*  
Very local breeding summer visitor.

MÔR-WENNOL FACH

**Flints.** 76 BT records were from 7/04 to 12/09, 65 of which were at, or near, the Gronant nesting colony, and 8 from the Talacre/POA area. At Gronant on 16/06, 166 breeding pairs of Little Tern were recorded, a 21.7% decrease from 2023. A peak fledgling count of 158 was recorded and pair productivity was 0.95 fledglings (Gronant Warden Team). On the RSPB Reserve at POA, 21 occupied nests but ALL were lost to predation by corvids (GrJ). Max BT count of 250 at Gronant on 13/06 (TGr). The last record was one on Rhyl seafront on 12/09 (JHi), the last Gronant record being on 9/08.



**Denbs.** Five at Horton's Nose on 18/08 (JHi) is the only record.



**Roseate Tern** *Sterna dougallii*  
*Rare passage migrant.*

MÔR-WENNOL WRIDOG

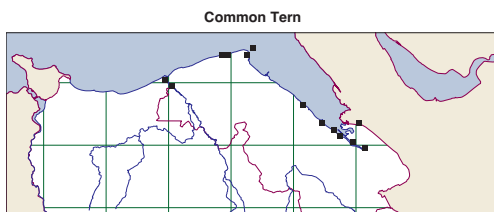
**Flints.** One with a metal ring on the Clwyd estuary from 5/07 to 7/07 (AHJ, Bg *et al*). Two there on 11/07, one with ring, one without (AHJ).

**Common Tern** *Sterna hirundo*

MÔR-WENNOL GYFFREDIN

*Very local breeding summer visitor on the Dee estuary, but scarce elsewhere.*

**Flints.** 72 BT records (53 of which were from CQNR-OakRSPB) between 23/04 and 3/09 with max. 44 at CQNR-OakRSPB on 22/06 (PSH). The nesting colony at Shotton Pools NR continued to be affected by HPAI Bird Flu and fledged only 102 chicks (compared with average 407 over previous 8 years). There were only 98 nests and 239 eggs (MRG).



**Denbs.** The only records were 3 at Llanddulas on 15/04 (eBird), presence at Rhyl Marine Lake on 30/06 (MCI) and 2 at Horton's Nose on 18/08 (JHi).

**Arctic Tern** *Sterna paradisaea*  
*Uncommon passage migrant.*

MÔR-WENNOL Y GOGLEDD

**Flints.** Two at Gronant on 27/04 (JHi) and a single there on 29/04 (AJo).

**Denbs.** Singles at Horton's Nose on 12/05 and 23/06, plus 2 there on 21/07 (all JHi). One at RSPB Conwy on 9/04 (TGr) and 3/05 (eBird) and 2 there on 16/04 (SK).

**Black Tern** *Chlidonias niger*  
*Scarce migrant.*

CORSWENNOL DDU

**Flints.** A breeding plumage adult flew over at Shotwick Lake early on 13/08 (GrJ). Singles at Talacre on 1/09 (eBird), Clwyd estuary on 9/09 (RIE), Rhyl seafront on 11/09 (JHi) and CQNR-OakRSPB on 11/09 (PSH).

**Great Skua** *Stercorarius skua*  
*Rare passage migrant on the coast.*

SGIWEN FAWR

**Flints.** One at Rhyl Splashpoint on 11/09 (AHJ) and Rhyl seafront on 12/09 (JHi).

**Arctic Skua** *Stercorarius parasiticus*  
*Scarce passage migrant on the coast.*

SGIWEN Y GOGLEDD

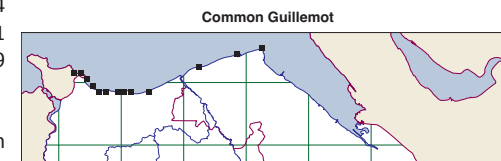
**Flints.** One Gronant on 3/05 (eBird), 1 at Rhyl Splashpoint on 11/09 (AHJ) and 3 at Rhyl seafront on 12/09 (JHi).

**Guillemot** *Uria aalge*

GWYLOG

*Uncommon winter visitor on the sea.*

**Flints.** Three offshore at Gronant on 13/04 (MBo) and singles on 31/10 (JaH) and 8/11 (WRM). One at Rhyl Splashpoint on 11/09 (AHJ).



**Denbs.** 51 BT records up to 18/04 and then again from 25/09, mostly from Llanddulas, plus 1 on 4/05 (eBird). Max an extraordinary 350 at Llanddulas on 15/11 (MP) and other counts of 40-50 here. 50 at Colwyn Bay on 2/11 (eBird).

**Black Guillemot** *Cephus grylle arcticus*

GWYLOG DDU

*Rare visitor from the small breeding population in NW Wales.*

**Flints.** One at POA on 17/02 and 1 at Colwyn Bay on 30/10 (both eBird).

**Razorbill** *Alca torda*

LLUR

*Uncommon winter visitor off-shore.*

**Flints.** Two at Rhyl Splashpoint on 11/09 (AHJ).

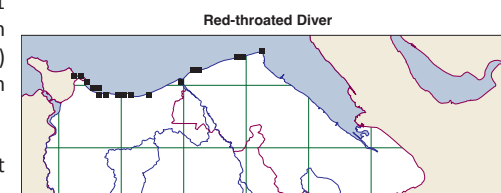
**Denbs.** 25 BT records from Llanddulas to Horton's Nose. Max 100 off Llanddulas on 12/11 (MP). Present from 1/02 to 2/04 and then again from 11/09 to 12/11.

**Red-throated Diver** *Gavia stellata*

TROCHYDD GYDDFGOCH

*A fairly-common off-shore winter visitor.*

**Flints.** 6 BT records. Three at Gronant on 8/11 (JaH) and 2 there on 31/10 and 26/11 (both WRM), plus singles at Rhyl on 11/09 (AHJ) and 12/09 (JHi). Max 11 at Point of Ayr on 27/01 (DWin).



**Denbs.** 110 BT records along the north coast

between Rhos and Kinnel Bay up to 18/04 and again from 25/09 onwards. Max. 90+ at Pensarn on 31/10 (ACla).

**Black-throated Diver** *Gavia arctica* TROCHYDD GYDDFDDU  
*A fairly-rare off-shore winter visitor.*

**Denbs.** Singles off the Abergele coast during WeBS counts on 14/01 and 17/11 were the only records.

**Great Northern Diver** *Gavia immer* TROCHYDD MAWR  
*A fairly-rare off-shore winter visitor.*

**Flints.** One flew over the Point of Ayr car park on 28/09 (eBird).

**Denbs.** Two at Llanddulas on 3/03 (TWO) and 2 records of singles there on 11/02 (AW) and 30/12 (LeC). One at Colwyn Bay on 13/12 (SdC).

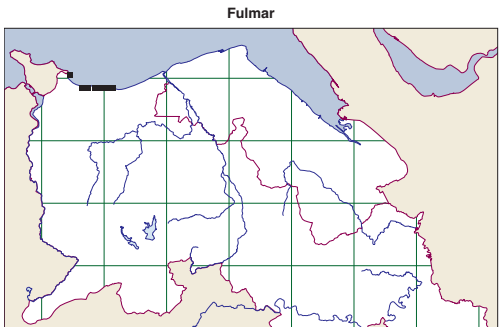
**Leach's Petrel** *Hydrobates leucorhous* PEDRYN DRYCIN LEACH  
*A scarce, but regular, passage migrant on the sea.*

**Flints.** BT records show a significant passage on 11/09 with 6 at Point of Ayr (Bg) and 5 records of 1-9 birds on Rhyl seafront (Bg, AHJ, JHi). An estimate of totals based on all reports at Point of Ayr was 9 on 10/09, 15 on 11/09 and 7 on 12/09 (JHg). Similarly at Rhyl, totals were 11 on 11/09 and 3 on 12/09 (JHg).

**Denbs.** An estimate of totals based on all reports along the Denbs coast was 4 on 11/09 and 1 on 12/09 (JHg).

**Fulmar** *Fulmarus glacialis* ADERYN DRYCIN Y GRAIG  
*Local resident on cliffs near the sea.*

**Denbs.** 30 BT records, all from the Llanddulas-Colwyn Bay area in all months except Sep-Oct. Breeding was confirmed on 12/08 at Colwyn Bay Cliffs (2-3 attempts, at least 1 successful: WRM) and at Llanddulas Quarry on 1/07 (1 pair: WRM). Max 8 at Llanddulas on 26/12 (WRM).



**Manx Shearwater** *Puffinus puffinus* ADERYN DRYCIN MANAW  
*Scarce passage migrant offshore.*

**Flints.** Seven at Rhyl Splashpoint on 11/09 (AHJ), 6 at Rhyl seafront on 12/09 (JHi) and 2 at Gronant on 13/04 (MBo).

**Denbs.** Two at Pensarn on 9/04 (MBo) and 1 at Llanddulas on 26/05 (LeC).

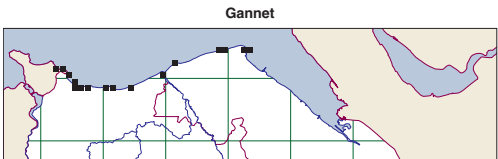
**White Stork** *Ciconia ciconia* CICONIA GWYN  
*Vagrant.*

**Flints.** Three at Sandycroft on 30/04 (Bg), moving to RSPB Burton (England) on 1/05 and 2 at Shotwick on 27/04 (AW).

**Gannet** *Morus bassanus* HUGAN  
*A scarce, but regular, passage migrant on the sea.*

**Flints.** 20 BT records, all from the sea between Rhyl and POA, from Apr-Oct. Max 10 off Gronant on 15/06 (RoHl).

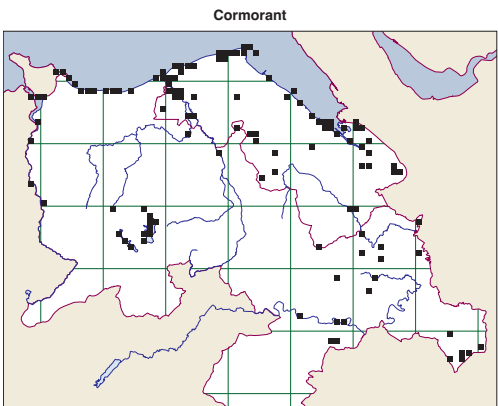
**Denbs.** 35 BT records off-shore of 1-20 birds between Llanddulas and Horton's Nose in all months except July. An unusual inland record was one in the Conwy valley at Trefriw on 4/03 (ScUp). Max 20 off Colwyn Bay on 24/10 (PEM).



**Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo* MULFRAN  
*Common resident on coast and tidal waters; sometimes inland.*

**Flints.** 667 BT records throughout the year. A breeding colony with up to 22 occupied nests was reported for the first time in the Vale of Clwyd (per JHg). Max 320 in a high tide roost at Gronant on 17/10 (TGr) and 238 at Clwyd Estuary on 21/08 (AHJ). Away from the north coast, the next highest Birdtrack count was 87 at Rhuddlan on 23/10 (SHu).

**Denbs.** 617 BT records (inc 274 from RSPB Conwy) throughout the year, but no breeding records. The highest counts were 85 at Horton's Nose on 15/07 (GEM) and, away from the Flints border, 40 at Llanddulas on 26/10 (GEM).



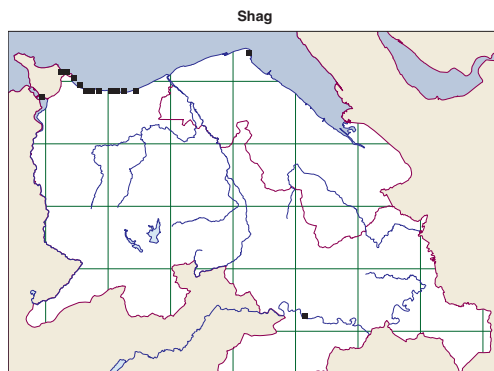


**Shag** *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*  
*An uncommon winter visitor along the coast.*

MULFRAN WERDD

**Flints.** Two at Point of Ayr on 17/02 (eBird).

**Denbs.** 62 records between Llanddulas and Pensarn, from 2/01 to 18/04 and again from 27/06 to 25/12, inc 41 records from Llanddulas [max 11 there on 12/01 (DWin) and 6 on 7/02 (MP)].



**Spoonbill** *Platalea leucorodia*  
*A regular, but scarce, visitor to the Dee estuary.*

LLWYBIG

**Flints.** One at CQNR-OakRSPB on 4/05 and 5/05 (PSH) and at Flint Castle on 17/08 (eBird).

**Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis*  
*Scarce visitor, but increasing after recent breeding at RSPB Burton Mere.*

CRÉYR GWARTHEG

**Flints.** 25 BT records. Max 8 birds with sheep on the MOD firing range at Burton (Flints) on 4/10, preceded by 5 birds on both 25/09 and 6/10 (all CW). There were 5 on the Burton Mere (Flints) Border Pool on 6/10 (AHJ) and 2 at Ffynnongroyw on 22/04 (Bg). Singles at Talacre on 20/10 (RCR) and CQNR on 4 dates (PSH, Bg). 12 records from 3/03 to 25/04 in the Rhyl/Clwyd estuary area (many obs) and another on 9/11 (Bg).

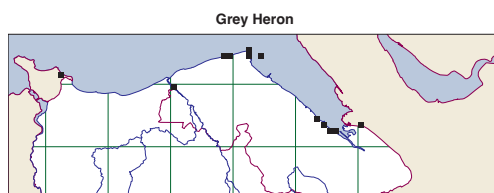
**Denbs.** 6 BT records of singles at RSPB Conwy on 30/03 and, in summer plumage, on 1/07 (many obs).

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*  
*Fairly-common resident, breeding at a few sites.*

CRÉYR GLAS

**Flints.** 446 BT records (126 from CQNR-OakRSPB) but no breeding evidence reported. Max. 32 at CQNR-OakRSPB on 18/08 (PSH) and 30 at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) on 19/02 and 28/02 (eBird).

**Denbs.** 497 BT records (289 from RSPB



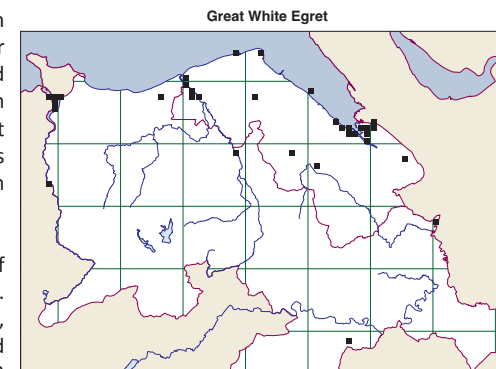
Conwy). Breeding was confirmed when at least 1 nest fledged young at Erddig on 29/05 (HeCa) and Tal-y-cafn had 3 nests with total 4 young (2,1,1) on 28/05 (WRM). Nest building at Lleweni on 11/03 (JHI) but, unlike 2023, no further reports of success this year (JHI). Max 22 at Lleweni on 19/02 (JHI).

**Great White Egret** *Ardea alba*  
*Common on the Dee estuary, especially in autumn.*

CRÉYR MAWR GWYN

**Flints.** 145 BT records throughout the year (only 2 records in May), 62 of which from CQNR-OakRSPB. Inland records at Star Crossing Pool, Fagl Lane, Llyn Helyg and Rhydymwyn. Max 18 at CQNR-OakRSPB in Aug (PSH). A ringed bird photographed at CQNR on 16/06 (RBe) was one of 3 females ringed in their nest at Westhay, Somerset on 16/04/24 (RSPB).

**Denbs.** 94 BT records during Jun-Nov, 71 of which were from RSPB Conwy (many obs). Inland records at Chirk Castle, Rhewl, Llandyrnog, Llanfair D Clwyd, Lleweni and Llansanffraid Glan Conwy. Max 9 at RSPB



Great White Egret: Mike Pollard

Conwy on 9/10 (SaE).

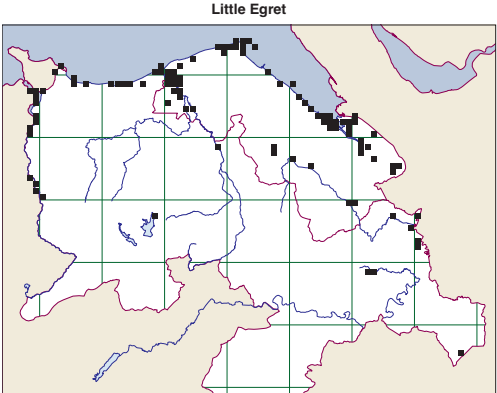
**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*

CRËYR BACH MAP PHOTO

Common breeding resident and passage migrant near the coast but frequently seen inland.

**Flints.** 636 BT records, inc. 146 records from CQNR-OakRSPB and 140 from Clwyd estuary. Breeding was confirmed with 2 nests at Point of Ayr on 8/07 (CasM), but complete counts were not performed. Max 50 at POA on 24/06 (eBird). Max 102 at CQNR-OakRSPB in Aug (PSH) and 68 at Burton MOD marsh on 25/06 (CW).

**Denbs.** 548 BT records, inc 427 from RSPB Conwy. Breeding was confirmed with 8 or 9 nests at Tal-y-cafn near Conwy on 28/05 (WRM). Although there were counts of up to 60 at RSPB Conwy, such high Conwy counts will include the Benarth heronry across the river in Caernarvon. Elsewhere, max 14 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 21/07 (JHi).



Sites with ≥ 20 on WeBS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
White Sands	1	1	1				53	58	16	12	11	
Walwen	3	1	2	1			56	39	40	4	3	4
Point of Ayr		1	2	12			50	30	6	8	3	2
Bagillt Saltmarsh	2	5	2	6			55	80	122	7	8	
Oakenholt Marsh	2	6	2	4			36	100	27	16	40	6
Conwy Estuary	3		1			20	24	20				
Clwyd Estuary	6	1	1		5	3	63	1	11	11	3	1



Little and Great White Egret: Mike Pollard

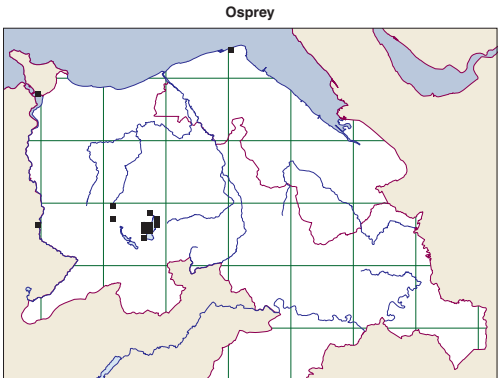
**Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus*

GWALCH PYSGOD

A very scarce breeding resident and passage migrant.

**Flints.** One at Gronant on 6/09 (JaH) was the only BT record.

**Denbs.** Of 69 BT records from 31/03 to 5/09, 66 were at or near the Llyn Brenig nest site where “a pair, LJ2 and LM6, fledged 2 young on 23/07 (named Blue 7B5 Dilys & Blue 7B6 Mari). Two chicks hatched at Llyn Brenig also returned to North Wales. KA5 Roli (male, hatched 2019) has been spotted looking for a nest and a female of his own for the past three years, and KC5 Dwynwen (female, hatched 2020) returned for the first time this year. She actually landed on the Brenig nest” briefly (NWWT Osprey Project). Singles at Llyn Aled and Aled Isaf on 19/04 (JHg), RSPB Conwy on 2/04 (TGr) and Bodnant on 1/06 (eBird).



**Honey-buzzard** *Pernis apivorus*

BODA MÊL

Rare passage migrant.

**Denbs.** One at World’s End on 21/05 (MGa per AHJ).



Honey-buzzard: Marc Gannon

**Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter nisus*

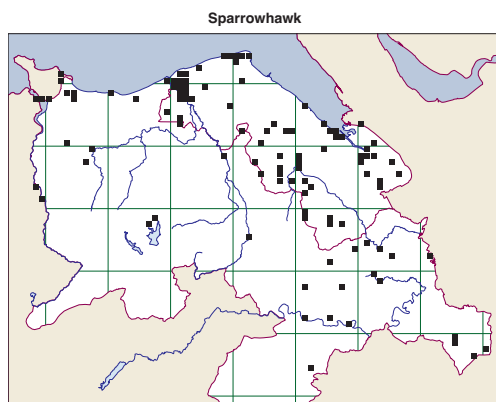
GWALCH GLAS

A fairly common breeding resident that often takes advantage of garden bird feeders (there were 346 Garden Birdwatch (GBW) records across all months of the year, with fewest in May).

**Flints.** 206 BT records, but no confirmed breeding. Max. 4 at Rhuddlan NR on 13/04 (SHu). In Pantymwyn, one was “perched on house scaffolding as it hunted through gardens” on 2/04 (GEM). A female took a male blackbird at Rhydymwyn NR on 19/03 (IMo). GBW had 168 records in 16 garden locations.



**Denbs.** 90 BT records but no confirmed breeding. Max. count 2 at RSPB Conwy on 24/02 (TGr), Eglwyseg on 29/05 (NiSu) and Pwllglas on 30/04 (ABar: one female in display flight). One was “mobbed by 4 swallows” at Llechrydau on 8/07 (GEM). One took a house sparrow in a Denbigh town centre garden on 7/05 (Rachel Jones). GBW had 178 records in 35 garden locations.



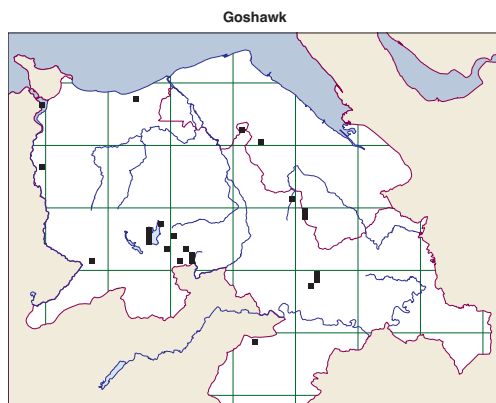
### Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*

GWALCH MARTH

*A scarce breeding resident, possibly increasing.*

**Flints.** Only 3 BT records; 2 sightings at Nercwys Forest on 4/03 (DWin) and 22/06 (DaFr) and one in the Chwiler Valley near Ddol on 24/06 (SK), although there were 3 Chwiler valley sightings across the border in Denbs.

**Denbs.** 29 records, inc. 15 in the well-known Clocaenog Forest/Llyn Brenig area during Jan-July and Dec. There was a record of courtship display at Bron Banog on 3/03 (“probable” breeding) and the max. count of 5 there (MBo). Other counts here of 3 on 12/04 (JJo) and 2 on both 5/03 (SK) and 1/06 (DaFr). An adult female was seen perched on a post in a forest clearing near Llyn Brenig on 1/01 (GrJ). A female soaring with a buzzard near Llanellidan on 26/04 (ABar) and one in the Elwy valley near Llanfair TH on 9/11. Four records of singles at World’s End on 22/03 (Maya), 1/04 (ShH), 1/05 (NF) and 26/09 (IMoo). Three singles at Maes Mynan in the Chwiler valley on 10/01 (MV), 19/01 (male: KBr) and 23/10 (MV). One at RSPB Conwy on 22/12 (RoH, NOH). A male flying low near the R. Alyn on 6/01 (DWin), 1 at Pentrefoelas on 6/03 (ScUp) and a juvenile landing in an Abergele garden on 3/08 (MBo).



### Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*

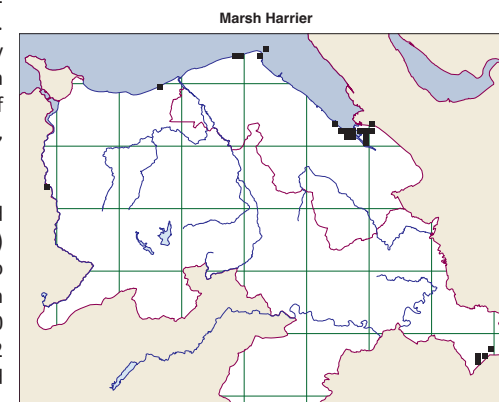
BODA’R GWERNI

*Resident on the Dee estuary and migrant.*

**Flints.** 130 BT records (34 at CQNR-OakRSPB and 26 at Gronant) in all months except June but no breeding evidence submitted. The only 2 records specifically of males were at Cop Hole and Burton

MOD marsh. Counts of 3 at Gronant on 7/02 (RiE) and at Cop Hole on 3/09 and 5/09 (AHJ). CQNR-OakRSPB had 3 together over the fly ash lagoon on 26/11 (SuHa) and one with a red wing-tag on 18/08 (AHJ). Point of Ayr/Talacre had 3 records on 6/01 (FrG), 31/07 (PSw) and 7/11 (HeCa).

**Denbs.** 11 BT records in Jan-May and Sep/Oct, (8 from Fenn’s Moss/Bettisfield) with no breeding evidence submitted and no males reported. Singles at Fenn’s Moss on 29/03, 17/04, 11/05, 28/09, 12/10 and 22/10 (all RHa). Singles at RSPB Conwy on 4/02 (JeN), offshore at Towyn on 6/01 (MBo) and at Trefriw on 7/03 (ScUp).



### Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*

BODA TINWYN

*A very scarce breeding resident in upland areas, a scarce passage migrant and an uncommon winter visitor to the estuaries.*

**Flints.** 22 BT winter records during Jan-Feb and Oct-Dec (except 2 in Apr, 1 in Aug). Four ringtail records at Burton MOD marsh from 27/01 to 18/02 (CW) and 1 there on 30/11 (AHJ), 11/02 and 15/12 (both GrJ), at Cop Hole on 2/02 (GrJ), 24/02 and 4/04 (both AHJ) and at CQNR-OakRSPB on 24/01 (PSH), 9/04 (AW) and 23/12 (AHJ). One at Clwyd estuary on 21/08 (AHJ), at Gronant on 17/10 and 29/12 (Bg) and at Point of Ayr on 23/12 (Bg).

**Denbs.** 37 BT records in all months except Jan. A survey of the north Berwyns (Denbs) recorded 6 nests again with 17y fledged (KO per JHg). Four young fledged from two nests on Mynydd Hiraethog, but all 3 nests at Migneint (Denbs) failed this year (KO per JHg). A sky-dancing pair displayed at Mynydd Hiraethog on 16/05 (HeJo) and a male was “followed on” by a Merlin here on 18/04 (ChMe). 3 BT records from Llyn Brenig in May and Oct, which included confirmed breeding with a bird carrying food on 6/05 (Maya), are thought to relate to the Mynydd Hiraethog birds, as are 4 BT records from Llyn Aled-Aled Isaf in Mar, Jul and Oct and 3 BT records from Llansannan on 3/03 (male), 16/07 and 6/09. Max 3 at World’s End on 20/04 (DaFr) and 13 other records of 1-2 birds there (10 of them in Apr-May: many obs), including a displaying pair on 1/05 (NF). Singles at Llyn Bran on 3/12 (Rte), Fenn’s Moss on 10/08 (RHa), Pentrefoelas on 5/05 and Ysbyr Ifan on 8/05 (both MAO). A male in the Clwydians on 10/10 (GoP: “perfect view of male hunting low above ground - hillside above Llyn Gweryd”).

### Red Kite *Milvus milvus*

BARCUD COCH

*Visitor and breeding resident, now more common and widespread, although numbers are still small in the north.*

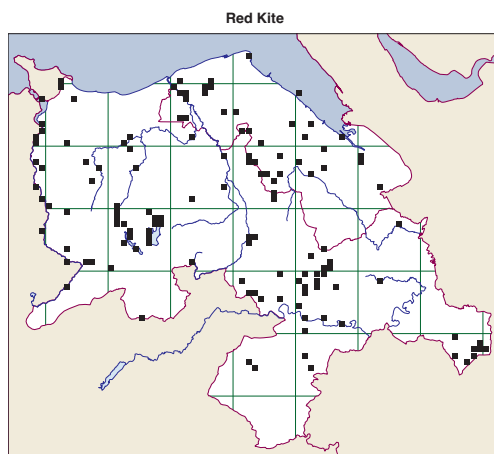
**Flints.** 40 BT records, in all months except Feb (mainly Apr-Jun), but no breeding evidence. Max 3 at Bagillt on 27/06 (GRMP). Two at Broughton on 12/05 were identified as 2CY (AHJ).

**Denbs.** 196 BT records from all months (mainly Mar-Jun). Two nests near Pentrefoelas were successful

(3y and 1y: KHJ). All of 1-4 birds except max. 6 at Bryneglwys on 26/03 (MP). A GBW location near Cefn Du had summer visits on 3 occasions.



Red Kite: Glenn Morris



### White-tailed Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla*

*Occasional visitor from re-introduction projects in England.*

ERYR MÔR

**Denbs.** One seen at Llyn Brenig on 14/04 was identified by tracking data as female G819 released on Isle of Wight in 2021, a different bird from our 2023 female (SaC).

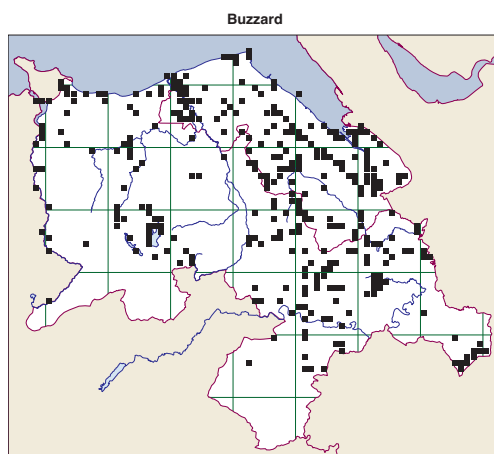
### Buzzard *Buteo buteo*

*Common breeding resident.*

BWNCATH

**Flints.** 429 BT records with breeding confirmed by an adult with a begging juvenile near the Clwyd estuary south of Rhyl on 25/08 (WRM); “probable” breeding at 3 further locations. Max 6 both at Penycloddiau on 1/04 (MP) and at Clwyd estuary on both 19/02 (AHJ) and 22/02 (KBr).

**Denbs.** 717 BT records without breeding confirmation, although 4 calling birds at Chirk Castle on 1/08 were considered a likely family party. “Probable” nesting (as far as “courtship display”) at 11 locations. Max 8 at Craig Bron Banog on 12/04 (JJo). At Fenn’s Moss, one was seen carrying off a likely Curlew chick on 16/06, mobbed by a Curlew and 2 Lapwings (RH) and one was mobbed by 2 Kestrels and a Curlew as it circled above on 8/07 (RH).



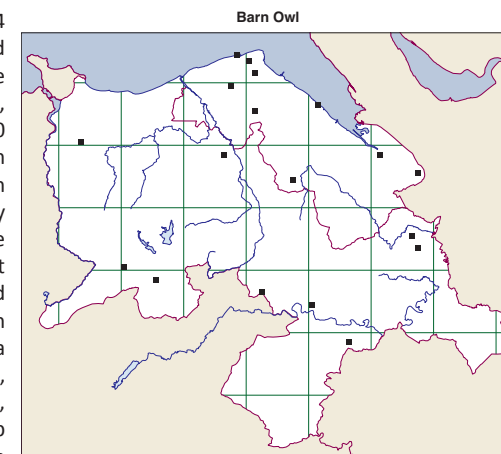
### Barn Owl *Tyto alba*

*Scarce breeding resident.*

TYLLUAN WEN

**Flints.** 12 BT records during Jan-Jul and Sep-Dec. Breeding was confirmed from 4 nestboxes in Flints which raised 10 ringed young (IMS). One was found dead by the A494 Queensferry roundabout on 17/12, having been seen nearby earlier on 3/10 (JGre), close to 1 flying near A494 Garden City on 18/06 (KaM). One was seen on both early and late BBS walks at nearby Sandycroft. Another was found dead by the A55 at St Asaph on 18/03 (LeWi). Singles at Rhydymwyn NR on both 25/04 (StW) and 18/10 (IMo), near Holywell Common on 29/07 (MaCa), Gronant on 26/03 (KBo), on a fence by the A548 at Gwespyr on 3/01 (AB), near the A55 at Pen-y-Cefn on 23/12 (JHg), Glan-yr-Afon on 3/02 and 27/03 (ShN), Cop Hole on 26/10 and 30/10 (AHJ), Walwen Marsh on 28/05 (GRMP), Dyserth on 16/07, Queensferry on 15/09 (DWin), Saltney on 1/02 (eBird), south of Cilcain on 3/10 (SK) and at Shotwick Fields on 16/12 (DBr).

**Denbs,** 12 BT records with breeding confirmed at Bryneglwys, Corwen on 24/04 (PMo). Breeding was also confirmed from 4 nestboxes in Denbs which raised 7 young: at one nest, 3 well-grown young died





Barn Owl: John Hawkins

after the heavy rain on 14/15th July and both adults disappeared (IMS). 10 nestboxes in the Wrexham area raised an impressive 19 ringed young (EB). A nestbox at Cefn Brith near Cerrigydrudion raised 3 ringed young (KHJ). One found dead by the A483 Ruabon Jcn on 9/11 (RoTa) and wings/remains found south of Llansannan on 24/02 (JoW). One flew over the A55 at Llanddulas at 01.00hrs on 11/04 (LeWi). Singles recorded at Bodlondeb on 4/02 (LyS), Glasfryn on 16/01 (NiD), Cerrigydrudion on 6/01 (ToSt), A525 N. of Denbigh on 1/02 (MAO), Valle Crucis on 8/07 (PhE), Llandegla Forest on 20/06 (NoWi), Chirk Castle on 29/04 (CTg), Marford on 14/05 (JuWi) and Holt on 18/08 (DaA).

### Little Owl *Athene noctua*

TYLLUAN FACH

*Very scarce and declining breeding resident.*

**Flints.** Singles at Broughton on 13/01, 14/01 and 17/10 (AHJ) and Fagl Lane on 10/01 (OWP).

**Denbs.** Singles at Three Fingers near Whitchurch on 5 dates from 10/05 to 18/11 (GRC) and Commonwood on 24/04 and 28/04 (JmHu).

### Long-eared Owl *Asio otus otus*

TYLLUAN GORNIOG

*Rare resident.*

**Denbs.** One photographed with a trail camera near Glyndyfrdwy on 15/07 (per JHg).



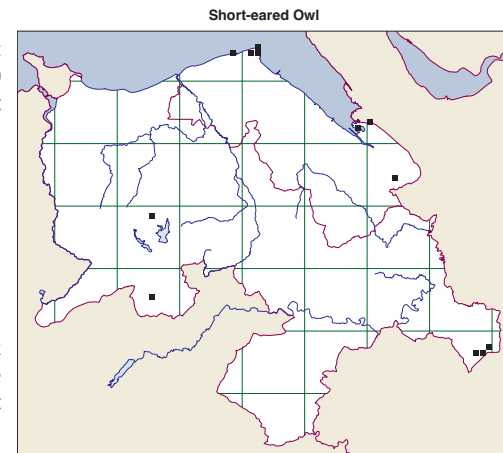
### Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*

TYLLUAN GLUSTIOG

*Very scarce upland breeding resident and scarce winter visitor.*

**Flints.** 9 BT records. No breeding evidence. Max 2 at Talacre/Point of Ayr on 11/02 (AJR) and White Sands on 4/02 (eBird). Singles at Talacre/Point of Ayr on 30/03 (eBird), 26/10 (MP) and 15/11 (PEM). Further singles at Burton MOD marshes on 3/01 (CW) 4/02, 14/03, 30/11 and 1/12 (eBird), Cop Hole Pool on 24/02, RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) on 30/11 (both AHJ), Shotwick Lake on 30/11 (Bg), Hawarden Airfield on 31/10 (SHe) and Gronant on 14/05 (JGi).

**Denbs.** 4 BT records. No confirmed breeding, but 2 together north of Llyn Aled Isaf at dusk on 6/04 and 1 there on 3/03 (both JoW). One at Bylchau on 3/03 (MP) and 3 records at Fenns Moss on 11/01, 21/10 and 22/10 (all RHa). In the Clwydians, 1 was seen "Quartering along Heather on the side of Foel Fenlli" on 24/12 (eBird).



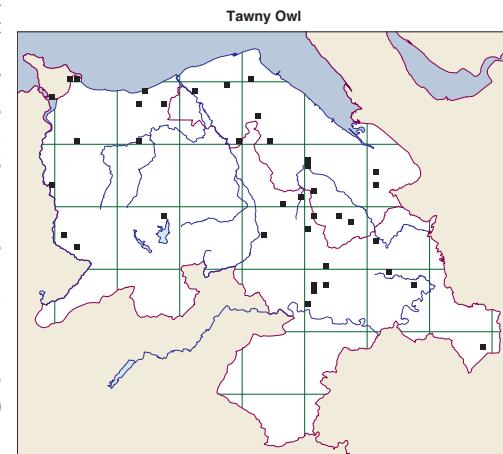
### Tawny Owl *Strix aluco*

TYLLUAN FRECH

*Fairly common breeding resident.*

**Flints.** 29 BT records (inc 11 records at Rhydymwyn), with confirmed breeding at Llanfynydd on 19/06 (eBird: 2y) and 9 eBird records at nearby Treuddyn in winter. A GBW site in Caerwys had presence in most weeks of the year. There were summer (May-July) BT records in 4 locations. Max. 3 at Caerwys in Jan-Mar (KBr).

**Denbs.** 36 BT records. Breeding was confirmed at Froncysyllte on 10/05 (TK: 1y on a telegraph pole), Llanfair TH on 17/07 (MAO) and "probable" at Eglwyseg on 1/06 (NiSu). One was mobbed by blackbirds at Minera Quarry NR on 11/05 (Jack). There were summer (May-July) BT records in 10 locations. Max. 6 at Gwytherin on 15/02 (ZacR) and 4 at Maeshafn on 24/01 (DWin).



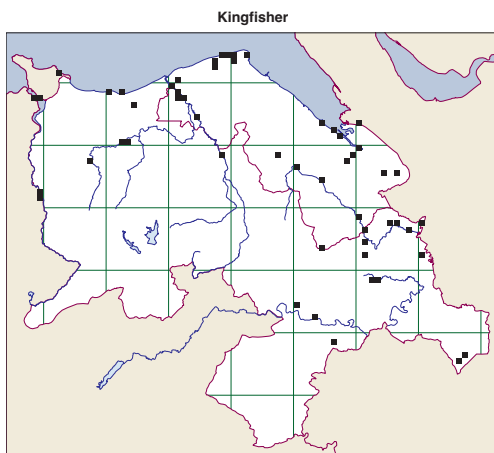


**Kingfisher** *Alcedo atthis*  
*Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor.*

GLAS Y DORLAN

**Flints.** 114 BT records with no evidence of breeding, although 35 records from Rhyl Brickworks included a pair on 18/04 (AHJ) and 6 singles in June (AHJ, JHi). There were summer singles (late April to June) on R. Alyn at both Mold and Caergwrlle, and another at Rhuddlan. Max 2 at the Talacre Warren, Rhyl Brickworks and Big Pool Wood. CQNR is a well-known winter location, but this year had only singles and nearly all in Aug-Sep.

**Denbs.** 58 BT records, including 17 from RSPB Conwy, but no evidence of breeding. There were summer records (late April to June) of singles on the R. Elwy at both Llangernyw and Llanfair TH, at RSPB Conwy, Lleweni, Chirk Castle lake, Erddig, Rhuthun, Llangollen and Llanrwst. Max 3 at Bangor-on-Dee on 26/09 (SuLo) and 2 at RSPB Conwy, Rossett, Holt and Rhyl Marine Lake.



Kingfisher: Mike Pollard



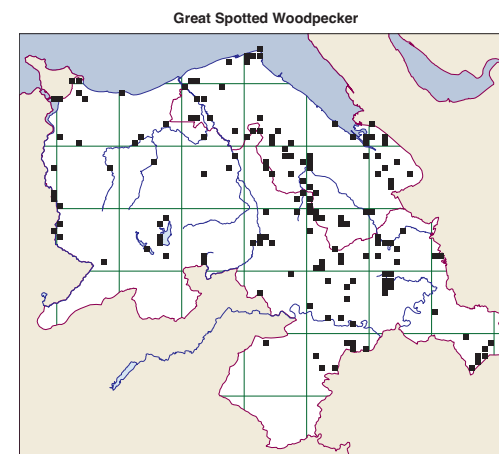
**Great Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos major*  
*Common breeding resident.*

CNOCELL FRAITH FAWR

**Flints.** 186 BT records with confirmed breeding in Deeside Ind Estate on 27/05 (DWin), Rhydymwyn on 21/07 (MD) and Bryn Eithin on 13/07 (JaH). Max count of 5 at Buckley Heritage Trail On 17/02 (SG).

**Denbs.** 319 BT records. Breeding was confirmed at Gors Maen Llwyd on 27/06 (WRM) and Penycoed, Llangollen on 12/06 (ACu: "Nest in dead birch with adult at hole entrance feeding well grown chicks"). "Probable" breeding at 3 further locations. Max 4 at RSPB Conwy on 12/05 (SaE) and Chirk Castle on

6/08 (CTw).

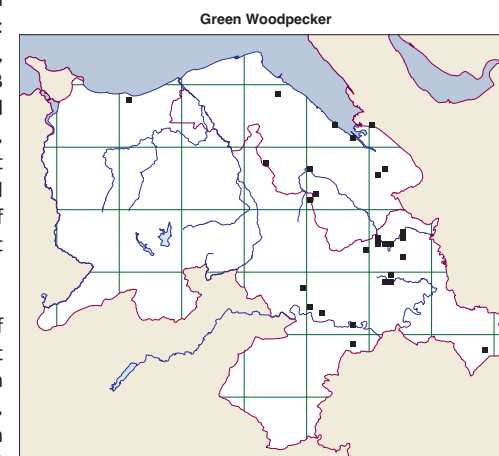


**Green Woodpecker** *Picus viridis*  
*Uncommon breeding resident.*

CNOCELL WERDD

**Flints.** 9 BT records. A pair at Gwernymynydd on 2/06 (GBW) and singles from 7 localities: Hawarden (DWin: 5 records 30/03-28/07), Mancot on 19/02 and 11/03 (eBird), RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) on 19/02, 28/02 and 5/10 (eBird), CQNR on 7/08 (JhHu), Gwernymynydd on 20/08 (Maya), Pennant Park-Holywell on 29/07 (eBird) and Rhydymwyn on 17/07 (IMS). No evidence of breeding, apart from permanent territory at Hawarden.

**Denbs.** 27 BT records, with no evidence of breeding, apart from permanent territory at Erddig 16/04-30/08 (JmHu). Singles at Alyn Waters CP, Sydalit-Llay, Brymbo, Chirk Castle, Wrexham centre, Llangollen, Pentredwr, Glyn Arthur, Moel Findeg, Fenn's Moss and max. 2 at Cefn yr Ogaf on 1/04 (DWin) and at Marford on 10/03 (GBW).



**Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus*  
*Uncommon breeding resident.*

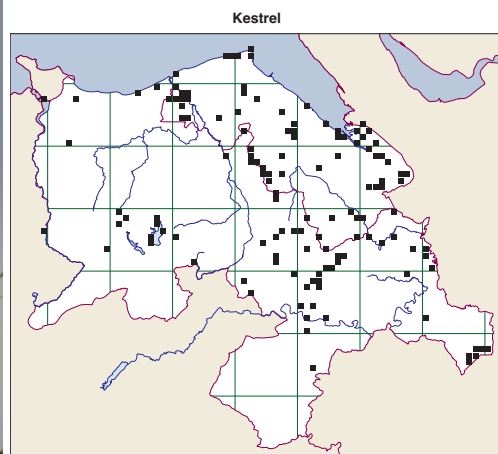
CUDYLL COCH

**Flints.** 176 BT records throughout the year, with no breeding evidence submitted, apart from a pair calling from a tree on Holywell Common on 4/07 (MaCa), an immature bird seen at Flint on 21/08 (She) and a pair at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints). Max 4 at Penycloddiau on 24/06 (eBird).



Kestrel: Mike Pollard

World's End on 13/07 (CaCa).



**Denbs.** 159 BT records, with no confirmed breeding. "Probable" breeding by permanent territory at Stansty, Wrexham on 30/06 (SabJ) and a pair mobbing a buzzard at Fenn's Moss on 8/07 (RHa) is suggestive. Max 4 at

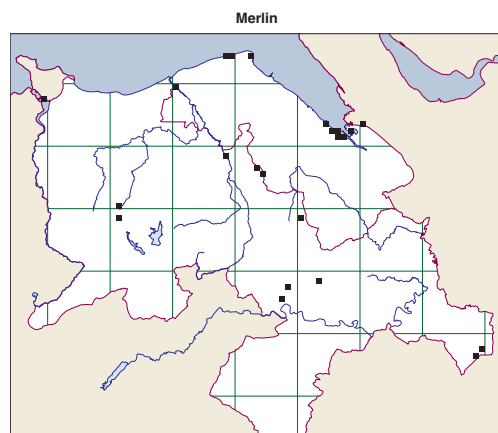
## Merlin *Falco columbarius*

*A rare breeding resident in uplands and scarce winter visitor to wetlands.*

CUDYLL BACH

**Flints.** 40 BT records up to 23/04 and from 19/08 onwards. A winter pair was seen at Cop Hole Pool on several occasions (AHJ). 12 records at Cop Hole Pool, 8 records at CQNR-OakRSPB, 6 records at Point of Ayr and 3 records at Gronant. A male at Moel Llys-y-Coed on 23/02 (DWin). Also recorded at Clwyd estuary, Burton MOD marshes, Flint castle and Shotwick Lake.

**Denbs.** 14 BT records. A survey area in the North Berwyns had only one nest which fledged 4 young, but 5 other known territories were unoccupied this year (KO per JHg). No other evidence of breeding apart from a pair present on Mynydd Hiraethog on 16/05 (HeJo). The only other May-July records were 1 near Llyn Aled/Aled Isaf on 6/05 (JuWi, JmHu) and 1 on a BBS walk in the Berwyns on 6/05. Elsewhere on Mynydd Hiraethog, a female was following-on a hunting male hen harrier on 18/04 (ChMe). Singles at Fenn's Moss, World's End, Lleweni, Rhewl and Llantysilio Mtn. At Bryn Alyn on 16/09, one flew "from Eryrys towards Maeshafn at telegraph pole level, with a brief dash at a small bird on the pole" (GEM). One flew east over rooftops in central Colwyn Bay on 18/11 (RS).



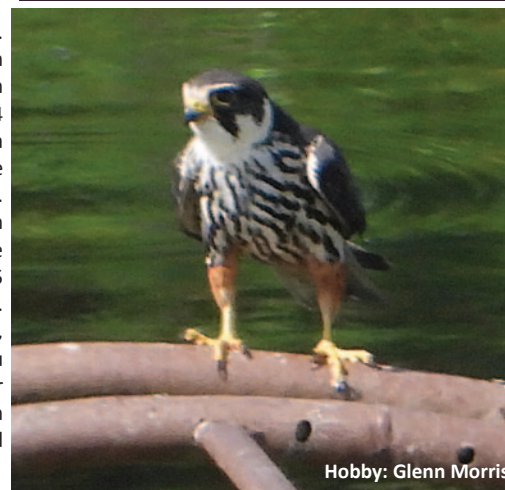
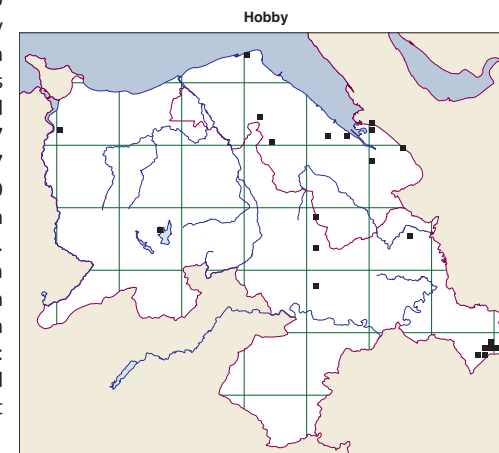
## Hobby *Falco subbuteo*

*A rare breeding visitor and scarce passage migrant.*

HEBOG YR EHEDYDD

**Flints.** 15 BT records (all singles) from 6/05 to 4/10, including 5 records at Cop Hole in May and Sep (all AHJ) and 3 records at Burton MOD marsh in May and Aug (all CW). Singles at CQNR-OakRSPB on 25/07 (PSH), Sealand on 27/05 (DWin), Higher Shotton on 14/07 (MaFr), the A5119 above Flint on 25/07 (AnWh), Talacre on 6/09 (JaH) and 16/09 (RCR), Plas Gwyn in the Chwiler valley on 5/07 (SK) and nearby Caerwys on 7/09 (MV). 4 eBird records of singles near Cop Hole on 6/05, Nercwys Forest on 26/05, Fauxdegla on 26/07 and RSPB Burton Border Pool on 24/09. One at St Asaph on 27/06 (JoW: "being mobbed by house martins and swallows near farm building"). The last record was at Gronant on 4/10 (per JHg).

**Denbs.** 38 BT records from 28/04 to 28/08. Max. 8 together at Fenn's Moss on both 20/06 and 11/08 (RHa), attracted by high dragonfly numbers. Although 15 of the 34 Fenn's Moss records were in June/July and a likely juvenile was seen on 3/08 (RHa), there was no proof of nesting within the Reserve. There were early singles at Llyn Aled Isaf on 28/04 (SK) and Llyn Brenig on 6/05 (JHi). One was seen carrying food at Bodnant on 28/05 (ToB) and one at Eglwysseg on 29/05 (NiSu). There were 3 singles at Froncysyllte on 28/06, 9/08 and 29/08 (TK), 2 singles at Moel Famau (Denbs) on 8/07 and 17/07 (TK) and further singles at Pwllglas on 5/05 (ABar), Sydalit on 25/09 (JVH) and Brynmyllt-Mynydd Hiraethog on 1/08 (ChMe).



Hobby: Glenn Morris

## Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*

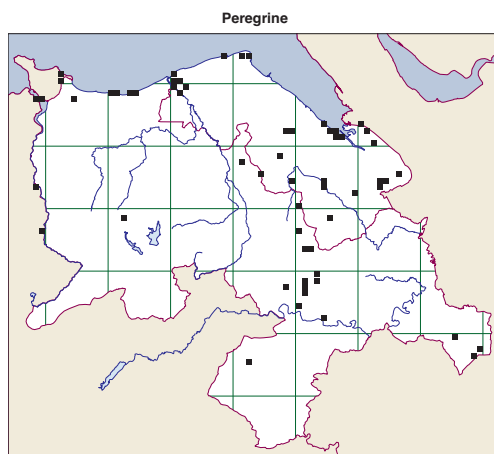
*An uncommon breeding resident.*

HEBOG TRAMOR

**Flints.** 84 BT records, 24 of which came from CQNR-OakRSPB, with confirmed breeding at Halkyn Mtn on 26/06 (GRMP) and a pair present at Prestatyn in Feb (StW). Permanent territory reported at one site in the Mold area (per GEM). Max 3 at Point of Ayr on 18/10 (JHg) and at Cop Hole on 17/11 (F + 2 juv: AHJ). Unusual locations were 1 over Tesco Mold car park on 19/04 (AB), seen again on a nearby BBS walk on the same day (GEM) and 1 mobbed by House Martins over Treuddyn village on 1/09.

**Denbs.** 55 BT records in all months of the year, with a pair in the central Berwyns on 5/05 (JmHu) and

one carrying prey at Eglwyseg on 1/06 (NiSu) the only breeding evidence. Two previous nesting sites in the North Berwyns were unoccupied or “female-only” (KO per JHg). Singles at Minera NR in Mar, Sep and Nov. A female stooping on a kestrel at Moel Famau on 26/08 (TK) and one stooping on buzzards at Bryneglwys on 8/04 (MCr). Max. 2 at RSPB Conwy, Llanddulas, Eglwyseg, Trefriw, Coedpoeth, World’s End and Pensarn (where they chased a Woodpigeon out to sea: MBo).



Peregrine: John Hawkins

**Great Grey Shrike** *Lanius excubitor*  
*Very scarce winter visitor.*

CIGYDD MAWR

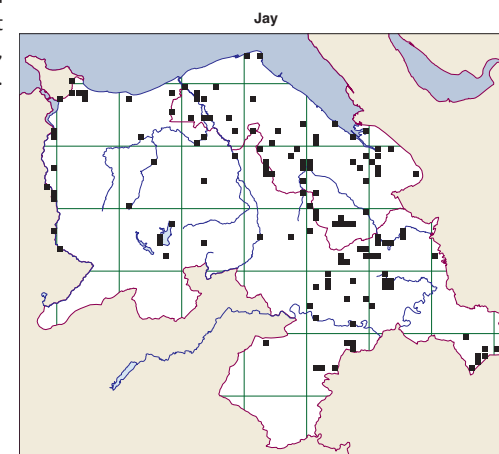
**Denbs.** One west of Llyn Brenig on 1/01 (MBo, Anya) was found again during 28/01 to 1/02 (Bg). One east of Llyn Brenig on 28/12 was “found one by chance, perched up on a dead tree for around 20 min” (DaWi) and was still there on 29/12 (Bg).

**Jay** *Garrulus glandarius*  
*Common breeding resident.*

SGRECH Y COED

**Flints.** 105 BT records with no breeding evidence submitted. Max. 5 at Coed-talon on 10/02 (RbL).

**Denbs.** 252 BT records with no confirmed breeding, but nest-building seen at Pontcysyllte on 28/03 (PEM) and Brynteg, Wrexham on 13/04 (RJ). Max. 4 at 5 localities.

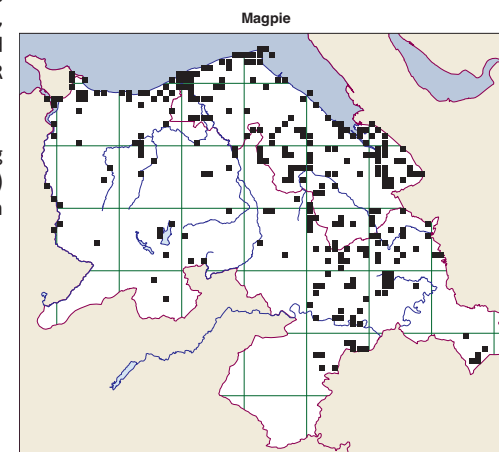


**Magpie** *Pica pica*  
*Very common breeding resident.*

PIODEN

**Flints.** 970 BT records with breeding confirmed at Clwyd estuary on 7/06 (AHJ), Rhyl Brickworks on 4/07 (AHJ) and Rhydymwyn on 30/05 (MD). Max 33 at CQNR on 3/03 (MD).

**Denbs.** 936 BT records with breeding confirmed at RSPB Conwy on 19/07 (MAO) and Llangollen on 9/07 (PhE). Max 11 in Wrexham on 9/06 (PaJ).



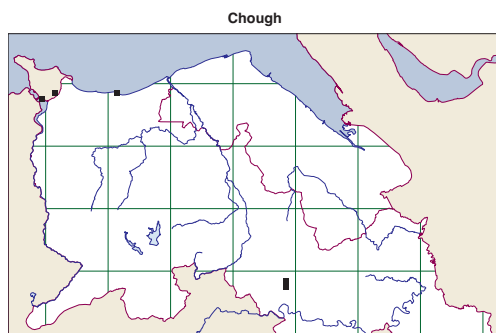
**Chough** *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*  
*Rare breeding resident and scarce visitor.*

BRÂN GOESGOCH

**Denbs.** 14 BT records without evidence of breeding. The only summer records were of 2 birds at Horseshoe Pass on 11/04 (ARow) and 12/04 (MP). 9 records of 1-5 birds flying over RSPB Conwy during Jan-Feb and Aug-Dec (SaE, JHg, SK, KBr, AW). 4 in flight at Llantysilio Mtn on 20/10 (MB). Two at



Llanddulas on 5/01 (JJo) and 4 there on 18/02 (eBird). One at Coed Hafod on 16/09 (eBird). Max 9 at Horseshoe Pass on 16/02 (DWin).

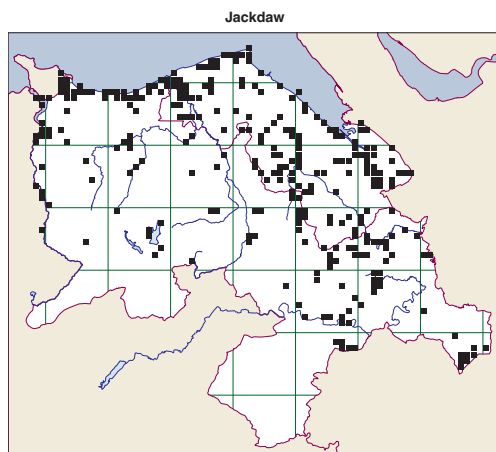


**Jackdaw** *Coloeus monedula*  
Very common breeding resident.

JAC-Y-DO

**Flints.** 834 BT records (165 of which from Rhyl Brickworks). Breeding was confirmed at Rhyl Brickworks, Hawarden and Rhydymwyn. Max 350 at Rhydymwyn on 16/01 (MD) and Rhuddlan on 28/02 and 11/12 (SHu) and 300 “feeding on cattle food with gulls and other corvids” at Star Crossing on 26/07 (GEM).

**Denbs.** 981 BT records. Breeding was confirmed at Erddig, Abergele and Llanrwst. Max 500 at RSPB Conwy on 19/01 (JHg).

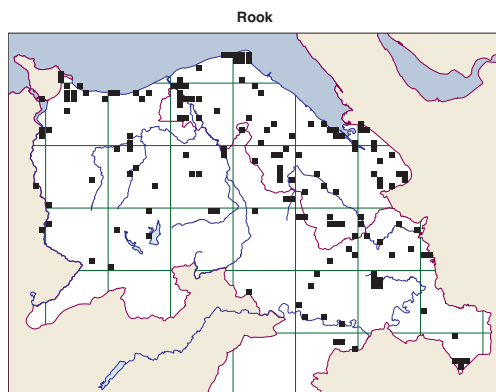


**Rook** *Corvus frugilegus*  
Common breeding resident.

YDFRAN

**Flints.** There were 321 BT records with breeding confirmed at Point of Ayr, Rhuddlan and Big Pool Wood. Max 139 on Clwyd estuary on 31/10 (JHi).

**Denbs.** There were 227 BT records with breeding confirmed at Bychau, Henllan, Pentrefoelas and Abergele. Max. 227 at RSPB Conwy on 1/10 (JHg) and 100+ at Bontuchel on 10/02 (GoP).

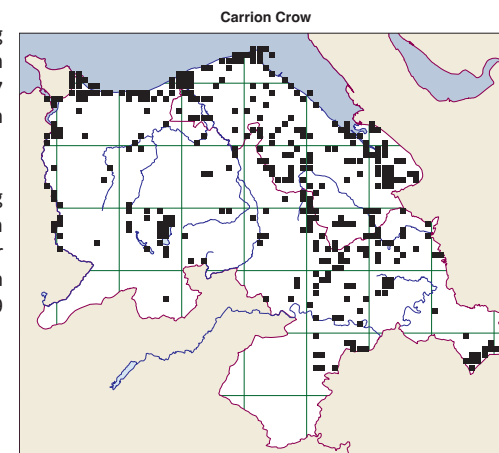


**Carrion Crow** *Corvus corone*  
Very common breeding resident.

BRÂN DYDDYN

**Flints.** 981 BT records with breeding confirmed by fledged young at Broughton on 12/06 (AHJ) and Moel Arthur on 15/07 (GEM). Max 95 at Connah’s Quay NR on 13/01 (PSH).

**Denbs.** 1521 BT records with breeding confirmed by occupied nests at Llanddulas on 8/07, Llanfair TH on 27/04 and Pentre Mawr Park, Abergele on 8/04 (all MBo). Max 470 in a pre-roost flock at RSPB Conwy on 6/09 (MDu).



**Hooded Crow** *Corvus cornix*  
Rare visitor.

BRÂN LWYD

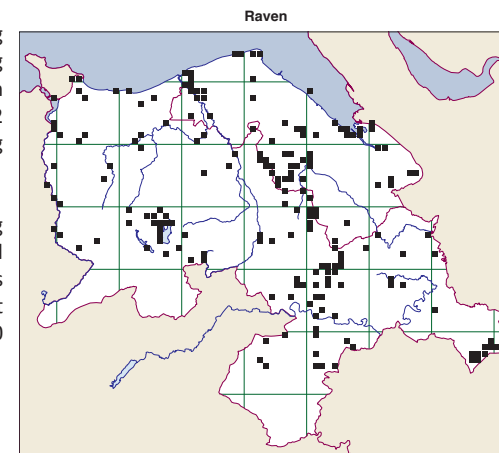
**Flints.** One was present again on or near the Clwyd estuary from 20/05 to 13/10 (many obs). Singles at Caerwys on 1/11 (MV), CQNR on 16/11 (ALo), Gronant on 17/12 (Bg) and Erddig on 15/12 (PeT).

**Raven** *Corvus corax*  
Common breeding resident.

CIGFRAN

**Flints.** 270 BT records with breeding confirmed at Rhyl town centre with 2+ young on 2/04 (JHi “usual site”). Max 36 together in flight at Cilcain moors on 20/08 (MFr) and 32 on Burton MOD marshes on 18/02, feeding on dead sheep and Canada Goose (CW).

**Denbs.** 362 BT records with breeding confirmed at Llanddulas Quarry on 2/04 and with 3 young on 26/05 (WRM) and at World’s End with 2 young on 18/03 (GrJ). Max 17 at Llyn Brenig on 7/02 (TGr) and 16 on 24/10 (WRM).

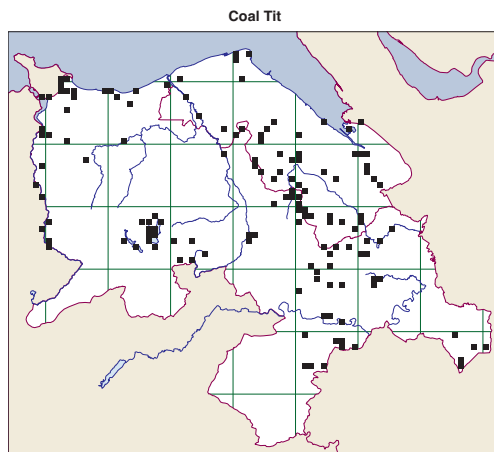


**Coal Tit** *Periparus ater*  
Common breeding resident.

TITW PENDDU

**Flints.** 121 BT records but no evidence of breeding submitted. Max. 15 at Penycloddiau on 24/06 and 12 at Treuddyn on 28/10 (both eBird).

**Denbs.** 343 BT records with breeding confirmed at Llanfair TH on 27/04 (MBo), Bodnant on 15/05 (NeJ), Craignant Wood on 19/05 (CSB), Bwlchgwyn on 9/06 (SD) and Bryn Alyn on 15/06 (GEM). Max. 20 at Clocaenog on 26/12 (eBird) and 10 at Bodnant on 23/02 (PEM).



**Marsh Tit** *Poecile palustris*  
Very scarce breeding resident.

TITW'R WERN

**Flints.** The only record was from a GBW site near Pantymwyn on 29/12.

**Denbs.** 7 BT records. Breeding was confirmed at Froncysyllte with birds present from 24/05 to 30/08, including juveniles from 8/06, feeding on honeysuckle berries on 23/08 and 30/08 (TK). Max 3 at Tregeiriog on 7/09 (eBird) and 2 at Bryn Alyn-Pant Du on 27/05 (eBird). Singles at Sontley on 4/01 (HeCa), Erddig on 11/03 (JmHu), Pontcysyllte on 2/11 (LB) and Cefn Cliffs on 21/05 (JHi). Two Nov records from the Coed Hafod-Coed-y-Celyn area (eBird), GBW records at 2 sites near Rhuthun and at Bryneglwys. Also recorded on BBS walks at Ceiriog Forest and Melin-y-Coed.

**Willow Tit** *Poecile montanus*  
Very scarce breeding resident.

TITW'R HELYG

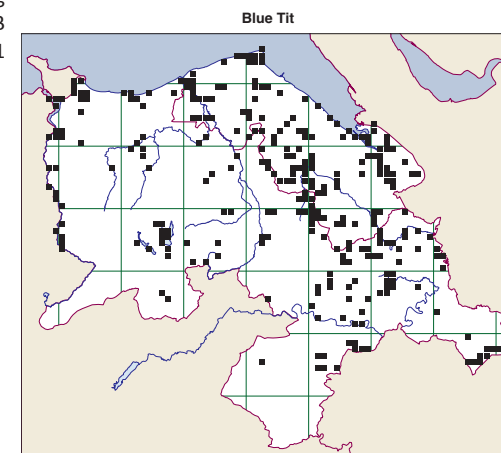
**Denbs.** 28 BT records, inc 25 of 1-2 birds visiting feeders at the Llyn Brenig Visitor Centre from 1/01 to 26/02 and again from 8/04 to 28/12 (many obs). Suggestion of "probable" breeding there on 17/07 (WRM). Two near Coed Hafod on 11/11 (eBird) and 1 at Alwen Reservoir on 1/01 (DaHa).

**Blue Tit** *Cyanistes caeruleus*  
Very common breeding resident.

TITW TOMOS LAS

**Flints.** 681 BT records with breeding confirmed at 9 locations. Max 28 on a BBS walk near Mold on 20/04.

**Denbs.** 1140 BT records with breeding confirmed at 5 localities. Max 30 at RSPB Conwy on 29/01 and at Llyn Brenig on 30/01 (both MaS).

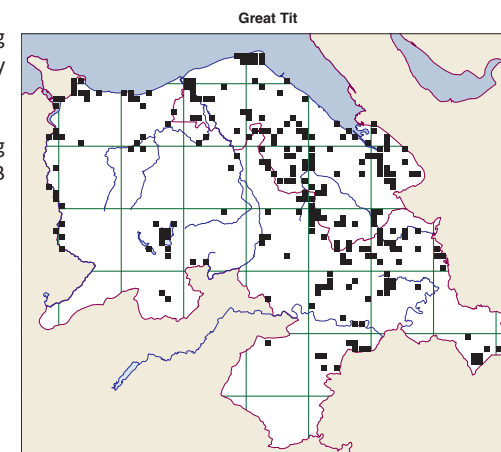


**Great Tit** *Parus major*  
Very common breeding resident.

TITW MAWR

**Flints.** 527 BT records with breeding confirmed at 6 locations. Max 17 on Buckley Heritage Trail on 7/02 (SG).

**Denbs.** 901 BT records with breeding confirmed in 6 localities. Max 10+ at RSPB Conwy on several dates (MaS).



**Bearded Tit** *Panurus biarmicus*  
Very scarce visitor.

TITW BARFOG

**Flints.** 6 BT records at Gronant reedbeds, including a male on both 7/05 and 20/05 (WRM) but no breeding confirmation. Two on 3/05 (eBird) and 8/11 (JaH) and singles on 15/10 (WRM) and 21/12 (Bg).

**Woodlark** *Lullula arborea*  
Rare passage migrant.

EHEDYDD COED

**Denbs.** One flew over the car park at RSPB Conwy on 23/10 (JHg).

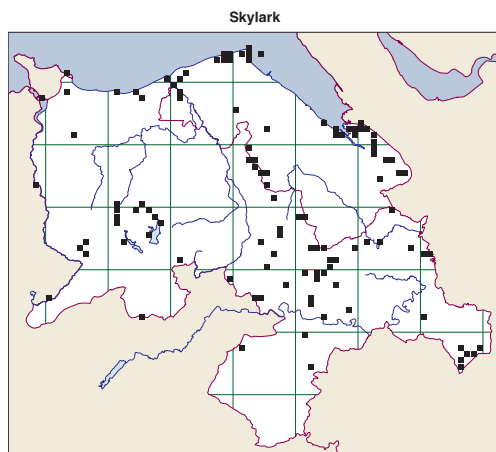
**Skylark** *Alauda arvensis*

EHEDYDD

*Common breeding resident and winter visitor. Most records are March-May displaying males.*

**Flints.** 340 BT records (inc 101 at Gronant and 40 at Cop Hole) with confirmed breeding at Gronant on 7/05 (WRM) and 16/06 (AHJ). Estimated number at Gronant in nesting season was ca. 20 on 2/07 (WRM). Max 55 at Clwyd estuary on 4/01 (AHJ).

**Denbs.** 186 BT records, with breeding confirmed at Abergele on 3/06 (WRM) and Maes Gwyn, Pentrefoelas on 23/06 (MAO). "Probable" breeding at Llyn Aled Isaf and Bryn Alyn. Max 19 at Llechrydau in the Berwyns on 19/02 (AIDa).



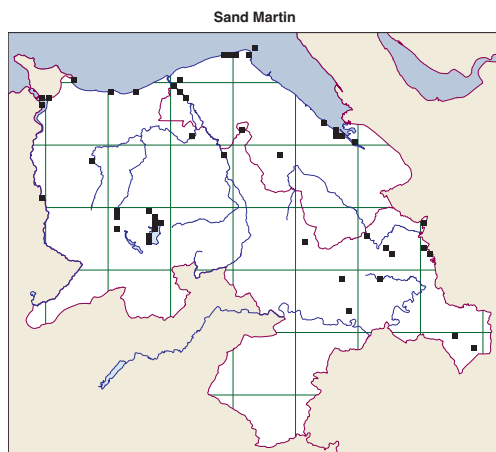
**Sand Martin** *Riparia riparia*

GWENNOL Y GLENNYDD

*Common passage migrant and local breeding summer visitor.*

**Flints.** 83 BT records from 13/03 to 25/08 with breeding confirmed at the Flint Point colony (125 birds on 5/08 was also the maximum count: GRMP).

**Denbs.** 167 BT records from 14/03 to 13/09, including 109 from RSPB Conwy. Breeding confirmed at Llyn Brenig (Archaeological Trail) on 17/07 (2 birds: WRM) and "probable" at Llyn Aled Isaf on 5/05 (5 birds: GEM). Max 250 at RSPB Conwy on 30/04 (TGr: "Probably double that number, as small groups regularly leaving eastwards, but overall numbers not diminishing so presumably being replenished by other birds arriving").



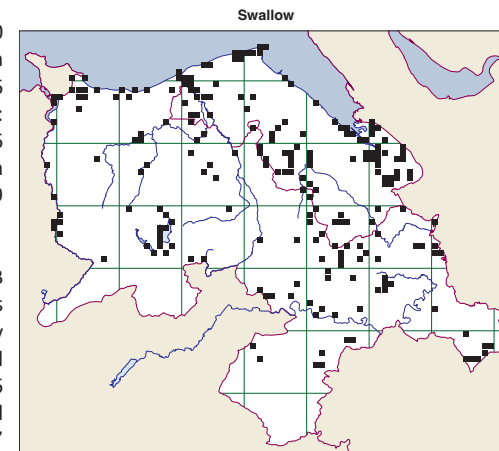
**Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*

GWENNOL

*Common breeding summer visitor.*

**Flints.** 427 BT records from 24/03 to 2/10 with confirmed breeding at Clwyd estuary on 8/09 (JHi), Gelli Bach near Hendre on 20/06 (GEM), Rhydymwyn NR on 31/05-26/06 (IMS: 13 nestlings ringed) and Cilcain on 30/06 (MP). "Probable" breeding at Nannerch Fishponds. Max 150 at Point of Ayr on 1/09 (eBird) and 71 at Cop Hole on 13/09 (AHJ).

**Denbs.** 438 BT records (inc. 153 from RSPB Conwy) from 16/03 to 10/10. Breeding was confirmed at Minera on 5/05 (CBo: "Usually have 5 or 6 nests in my buildings with several broods over the summer"), Llanrwst on 4/06 (WRM), Erddig on 23/06 (HeCa) and Llechrydau on 8/07 (GEM). "Probable" breeding at 2 further locations. Max. 150 at RSPB Conwy on 6/09 (MDu), 50 at Ty Mawr Res on 3/05 (KiN) and 45 at Hammer on 22/09 (DaHa).



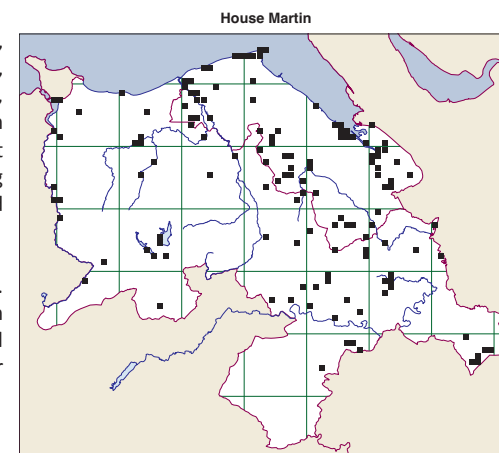
**House Martin** *Delichon urbicum*

GWENNOL Y BONDOL

*Common breeding summer visitor.*

**Flints.** 175 BT records from 21/03 to 4/10, with breeding confirmed at Fforest Farm, Cilcain on 5/07 (GEM), Lower Mountain, Hope on 8/07 (IMS) and Rhydymwyn on 14/07 (MD). "Probable breeding" at Pantymwyn and Saltney. Max. in migrating flocks was 120 at Cilcain on 24/08 (MP) and 50+ at Nannerch on 3/08 (AnJS).

**Denbs.** 298 BT records from 29/03 to 28/09. Breeding was confirmed at Eglwyseg on 16/06 (NiSu), Llechrydau on 8/07 (GEM) and Bodnant on 2/07 (ABa). Max 60 at Hammer on 18/08 (DaHa).



**Cetti's Warbler** *Cettia cetti*

TELOR CETTI

*Breeding resident in coastal wetlands.*

**Flints.** 226 BT records throughout the year, including 85 records at Gronant, 64 at Rhyl Brickworks and 50 at Cop Hole Pool. Breeding was confirmed by fledged young at Rhyl Brickworks on 30/03 (RiE). with "probable" breeding at Gronant, RSPB Burton Mere (Flints), Point of Ayr and Clwyd estuary. Max

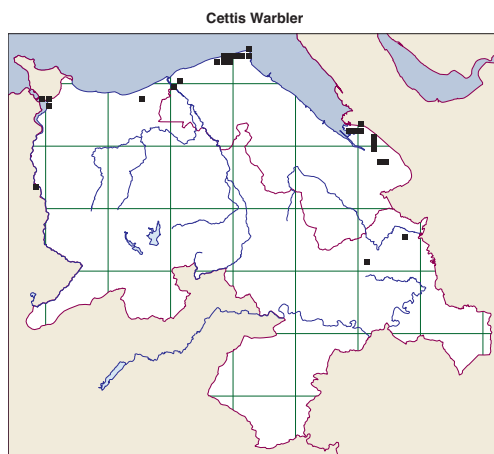


6 at Gronant on 20/05 (WRM) and 6 pairs at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints). Also recorded at Garden City (Queensferry), Deeside Ind. Estate and Shotwick Lake.

**Denbs.** 283 BT records throughout the year, including 241 at RSPB Conwy. Probable breeding at RSPB Conwy on 2/08 (WRM). Other records from Gatewen Marsh, Wrexham on 29/06 (SD) and Rhuddlan Road, Abergele on 14/02 (MBo). Max 8 at RSPB Conwy on 20/04 (Zak).



Cetti's Warbler: Glenn Morris

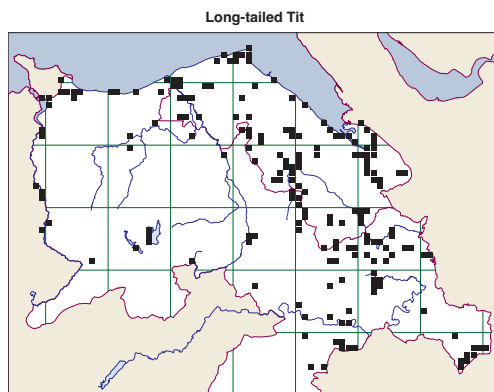


**Long-tailed Tit** *Aegithalos caudatus*  
*Very common breeding resident.*

TITW GYNFFONHIR

**Flints.** 384 BT records with breeding confirmed at Rhyl Brickworks on 18/06 (AHJ), Pantymwyn on 21/06 (GEM), Rhydymwyn on 21/07 (MD), Broughton on 15/06 (AHJ) and Sandycroft on 8/07 (IMS). Max 30 at Point of Ayr on 4/10 (MP).

**Denbs.** 517 BT records with breeding confirmed at Tir Llwyd Ind Estate on 12/05 (WRM), Sontley on 14/06 (HeCa) and Erddig on 23/06 (HeCa). Max 17 at Erddig on 24/12 (PaJ).



**Wood Warbler** *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*  
*Scarce breeding summer visitor.*

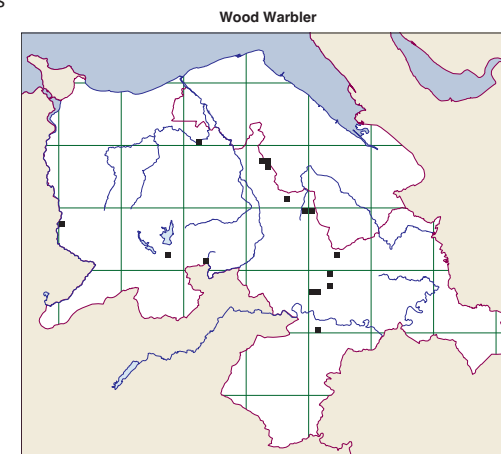
TELOR COED

**Flints.** The only record was 1 at Penycloddiau from 6/05 to 31/05 (eBird).

**Denbs.** 26 BT records from 14/04 to 17/07, inc 7 records from the Eglwyseg Valley from 1/05 to 16/06 (NiSu, JmHu, NF) plus 4 further records from nearby World's End on 14/04, 28/04, 12/05 and 8/06. "Probable" breeding at Loggerheads with max 3 on 27/05 (eBird). Two records from Bryn Alyn: 2 on 13/05 (Maya) and 1 on 15/06 (GEM), plus 2 on nearby R. Alyn at Llanferres on 13/05 (eBird). Singing males at Pendinas Res on 29/05 (MB) and the Denbs side of Conwy Falls on 18/05 (RS). Max 3 at Pentre-llyn-cymmer on 18/05 (MAO). Singles from 8 other locations.



Wood Warbler: Glenn Morris



**Yellow-browed Warbler** *Phylloscopus inornatus*  
*Rare migrant.*

TELOR AELFELYN

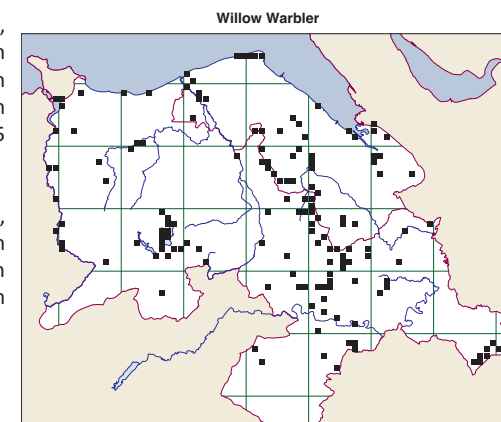
**Flints.** 7 BT records. 6 records of one at Shotwick Lake 6/10-8/10 (AHJ, Bg) and 1 at Talacre on 28/10 (Bg).

**Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus*  
*Very common breeding summer visitor.*

TELOR HELYG MAP

**Flints.** 137 BT records from 21/03 to 17/09, with breeding confirmed at Rhydymwyn Reserve on 26/06 (IMS) and Moel Arthur on 12/07 (GEM). Max 18 at Penycloddiau on 20/04 (eBird) and 14 at Moel Arthur on 1/05 (GEM).

**Denbs.** 349 BT records from 17/03 to 7/09, with breeding confirmed at Valle Crucis on 8/07 (PhE). Max. 22 on a BBS walk at Bryn Alyn on 21/04 and 16 at RSPB Conwy on 19/04 (Zak).



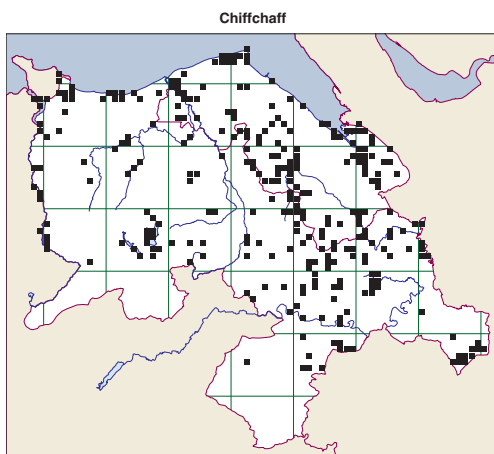
**Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus collybita*

SIFF-SIAFF

*Very common breeding summer visitor and scarce winter visitor.*

**Flints.** 571 BT records throughout the year. Breeding confirmed at Rhydymwyn on 17/07 (IMS), Cop Hole Pool on 14/06 (AHJ), Star Crossing Pool on 25/05 (GEM) and Nercwys Forest on 16/06 (DWin). Max 25 at Penycloddiau on 31/05 (eBird) and 20 at Rhydymwyn on 31/05 (IMo).

**Denbs.** 890 BT records throughout the year. Breeding confirmed at RSPB Conwy on 5/07 (WRM), Valle Crucis on 8/07 (PhE) and Llanrwst on 16/07 (WRM). Max 18 on a BBS walk near Llanddulas on 24/04 and 15 at RSPB Conwy on 20/04 (TGr).

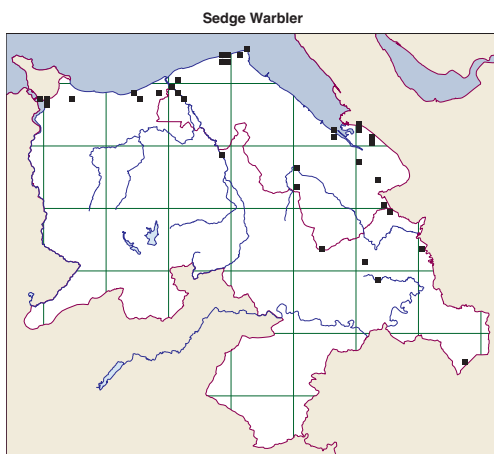
**Sedge Warbler** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

TELOR HESG

*Locally common breeding summer visitor.*

**Flints.** 102 BT records (47 of which from Gronant) from 8/04 to 19/08 with breeding confirmed at Gronant on 19/08 (WRM: "Agitated birds in all 3 locations and in 1 location a bird seen carrying food (twice) and hidden begging young heard from the reeds"). "Probable" breeding at Hawarden Ind. Estate on 15/06 (AHJ). Adult ringed at Rhydymwyn NR on 11/08 (IMS). Max 9 at Gronant on 2/05 (DaHi).

**Denbs.** 121 BT records (inc. 97 from RSPB Conwy) from 7/04 to 2/09, but no confirmed breeding. "Probable Breeding" at RSPB Conwy on 5/07 (WRM). Max 24 singing males at RSPB Conwy on 30/04 (TGr: "never heard so many here - presumably many making a brief stop before continuing their journey").

**Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

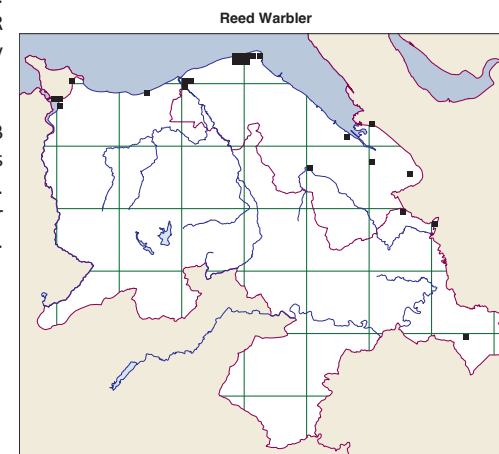
TELOR CYRS

*Locally common breeding summer visitor.*

**Flints.** 107 BT records from 11/04 to 18/09, with breeding confirmed at Gronant on 12/06 in 2 places

(WRM) and at Cop Hole Pool on 14/06 (AHJ). Other records from Rhyl Brickworks, CQNR and Rhydymwyn. Max 21 in an annual survey at Gronant on 21/05 (WRM).

**Denbs.** 138 BT records, inc 131 from RSPB Conwy, from 7/04 to 16/09. Breeding was confirmed at RSPB Conwy on 5/07 (WRM). Other records from Sontley, Pentre Mawr Park, Pulford Brook, Trevalyn and Hanmer. Max 11 at RSPB Conwy on 7/05 (TGr).

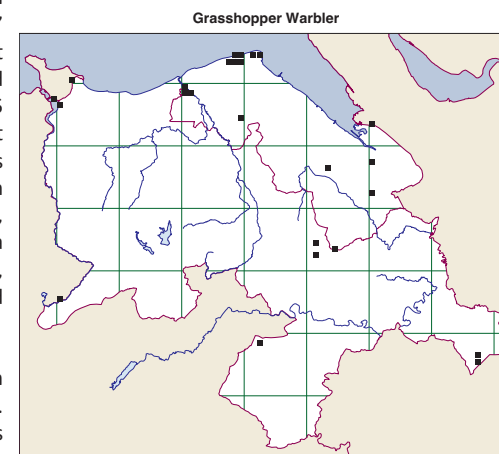
**Grasshopper Warbler** *Locustella naevia*

TROELLWR BACH

*Local breeding summer visitor and uncommon passage migrant (April/May and Sep).*

**Flints.** 57 BT records (33 of which from Gronant) from 6/04 to 10/08. "Probable" breeding at Gronant with 3 permanent territories from 8/05 onwards (WRM) and possibly at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) with 5 singing males. Otherwise, except for 2 at Killins Lane, Shotton on 18/04 (MFr), singles only at Point of Ayr/Talacre, RSPB Burton Mere (Flints), Cop Hole Pool, Shotwick Lake, Prestatyn Golf Course, Rhualt, Fauxdegla Moor, Llyn Cyfynwy, Sychdyn, Bagillt, Penyfford, St Asaph Business Park and Rhuddlan.

**Denbs.** 15 BT records of singles only from 8/04 to 23/06, but no evidence of breeding. The 8 BT localities were RSPB Conwy, Gors Maen Llwyd, Fenns Moss, Bettisfield, Ysbyty Ifan, south of Rhyl, Nant-y-Ffrith and Tir Llwyd Ind Estate. Max 3 seen at Wenffrwd NR, Llangollen on 18/07 (AlMa).

**Blackcap** *Sylvia atricapilla*

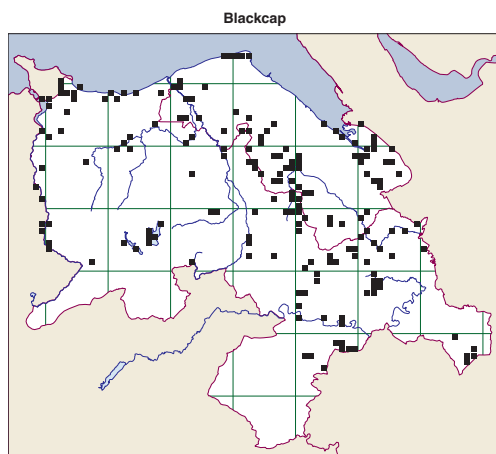
TELOR PENDDU

*Very common breeding summer visitor and uncommon winter visitor.*

**Flints.** 275 BT records throughout the year. Breeding confirmed at Rhydymwyn (IMS) and Rhyl Brickworks (AHJ). Max. 12 at Penycloddiau on 12/05 (eBird), 12 on a BBS walk near Rhosesmor on

13/06 (SK) and 11 at St Asaph on 10/05 (JHi).

**Denbs.** 412 BT records throughout the year. Breeding confirmed at RSPB Conwy, Bodnant, Brymbo and Valle Crucis. "Probable" breeding in Wrexham. Max. 11 on a BBS walk near Llansannan on 1/05 and 10 at RSPB Conwy on 16/04 (Zak).

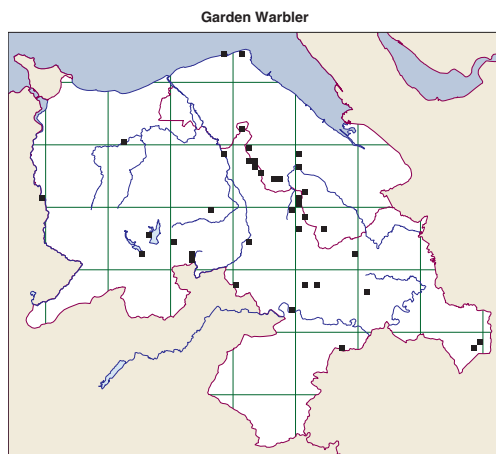


#### Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin*

Uncommon (possibly under-recorded) breeding summer visitor.

**Flints.** 9 BT records from 27/04 to 24/06, with nest-building ("probable breeding") at Cilcain Cae Newydd on 9/05 (MP). Max. 10 at Penycloddiau on 6/05 (eBird) and 3 at Cilcain on 8/05 (MP).

**Denbs.** 54 BT records from 13/04 to 18/07, with nest-building ("probable breeding") at Eglwyseg on 6/05 (NiSu). Max 5 near Caerwys on 10/05 (KBr).

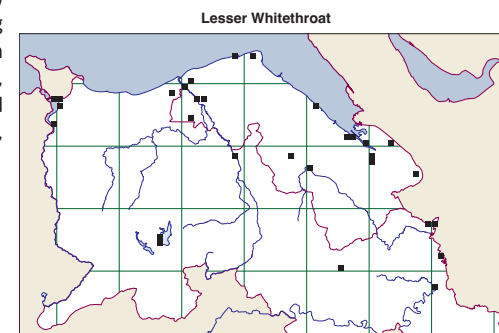


#### Lesser Whitethroat *Curruca curruca*

Uncommon breeding summer visitor.

**Flints.** 54 BT records of 1-2 birds from 13/04 to 15/09 with breeding confirmed only at Rhydymwyn Reserve (IMS: incubation patch on a ringed bird). Other records from St Asaph Business Park, Rhyl Brickworks, Gronant, Talacre, Rhuddlan, Walwen, Star Crossing, CQNR, Shotton, Deeside Ind. Park and Queensferry.

**Denbs.** 45 BT records (inc 28 at RSPB Conwy) from 16/04 to 19/08. but no breeding records submitted. Other records from Colwyn Bay, Rhyl Marine Lake, World's End, Llyn Brenig, Cerrigydrudion, Holt, Tir Llwyd Ind.Estate, Sesswick, Lleweni, Halton, Wrexham, Rossett and Trevalyn.

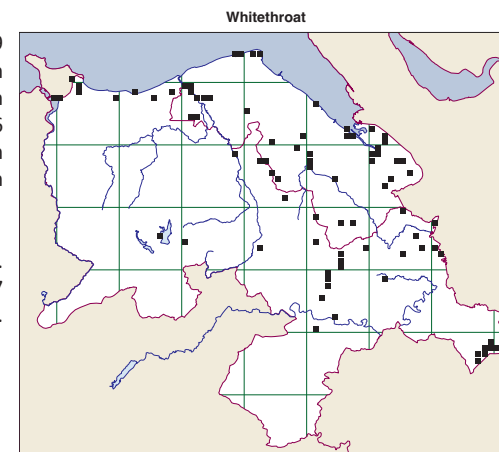


#### Whitethroat *Curruca communis*

Common breeding summer visitor.

**Flints.** 147 BT records from 11/04 to 1/09 with breeding confirmed at Rhydymwyn Reserve on 17/07 (IMS), Coed Trelyniau on 5/07 (GEM) and Clwyd estuary on 15/06 (JHi). "Probable" breeding at Moel Arthur on 25/05 (GEM). Max 5 at Penycloddiau on 13/05 (eBird).

**Denbs.** 142 BT records from 14/04 to 4/09. "Probable breeding" at RSPB Conwy on 5/07 (WRM). Max. 8 at Bettisfield on 19/07 (RHa).



Whitethroat: John Hawkins



**Firecrest** *Regulus ignicapilla*

DRYW PENFFLAMGOCH

*Very scarce winter visitor and very rare breeding resident.*

**Flints.** One in a mixed flock with goldcrest and tits on Pantymwyn Pastures on 1/01 (MB) and 1 at St Asaph on 24/02 (JHi).

**Denbs.** Max 2 at Tal-y-Cafn on 7/02 (eBird). Singles at Pwllcrochan, Colwyn Bay on 9/11 (RaR), Llanrwst on 14/02 (SK) and Fenn's Moss on 12/08 (RyA).

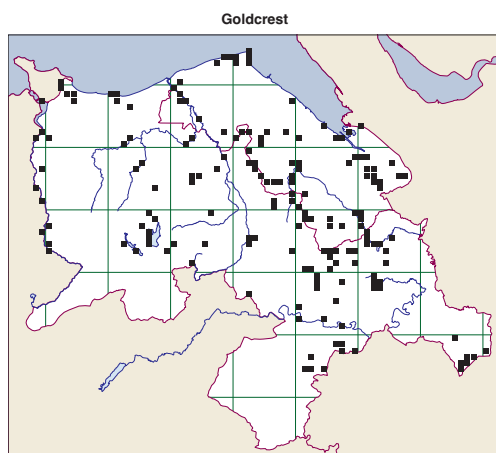
**Goldcrest** *Regulus regulus*

DRYW EURBEN

*Very common breeding resident.*

**Flints.** 140 BT records with “probable breeding” at Hawarden on 11/05 (DWin). Max. 18 on a BBS walk at Nant-y-Frith on 18/05 and 9 at Rhydymwyn NR on 31/05 (IMo).

**Denbs.** 395 BT records, with confirmed breeding at Llanddulas on 18/07 (WRM) and Erddig on 29/08 (HeCa). Max. 10 at Craignant Wood on 18/06 (CSB).



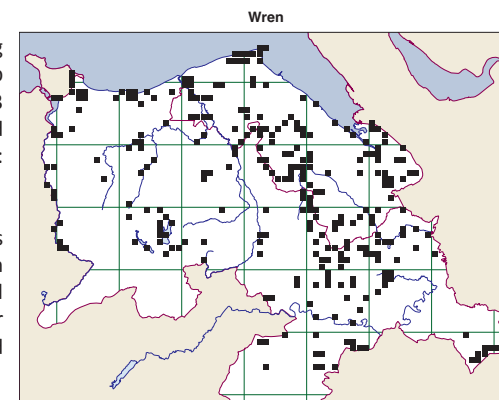
**Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes*

DRYW

*Very common breeding resident.*

**Flints.** 785 BT records with breeding confirmed at Gronant, Rhyl Brickworks, Cop Hole (all AHJ) and Rhydymwyn (IMS). Max 33 on a BBS walk at Nant-y-Frith on 18/05 and 17 at Rhydymwyn NR on 31/05 (IMo: accurate count).

**Denbs.** 914 BT records. Breeding was confirmed at RSPB Conwy, Llanrwst, Llyn Brenig (all WRM), Llanfair TH (MBo) and Erddig (HeCa). Max 20 on a BBS walk near Betwy-yn-Rhos on 11/05 and 15 at Coed Hafod on 13/05 (DaBe).



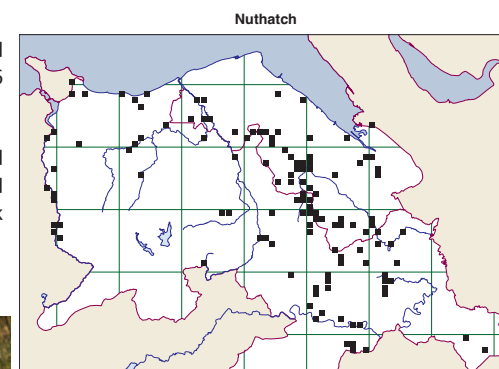
**Nuthatch** *Sitta europaea*

DELOR CNAU

*Common breeding resident.*

**Flints.** 107 BT records with confirmed breeding at Cilcain on 9/06 (MP) and max. 6 on a BBS walk near Pantymwyn.

**Denbs.** 228 BT records with confirmed breeding at Coed Hafod on 24/05 (JHg) and Froncysyllte on 5/05 (TK). Max. 8 at Chirk Castle on 14/04 (AlHi).





**Treecreeper** *Certhia familiaris*  
Fairly common breeding resident.

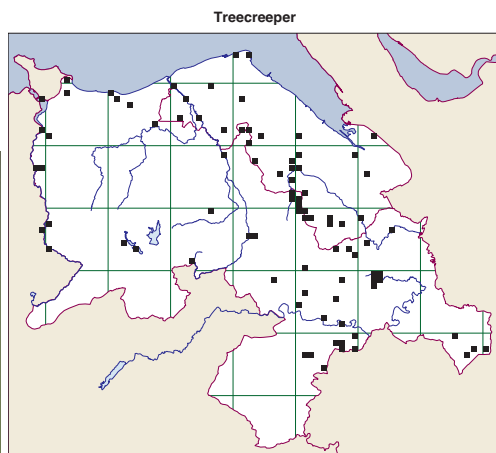
DRINGWR BACH

**Flints.** 44 BT records with no confirmed breeding. Max 2 at 6 locations.

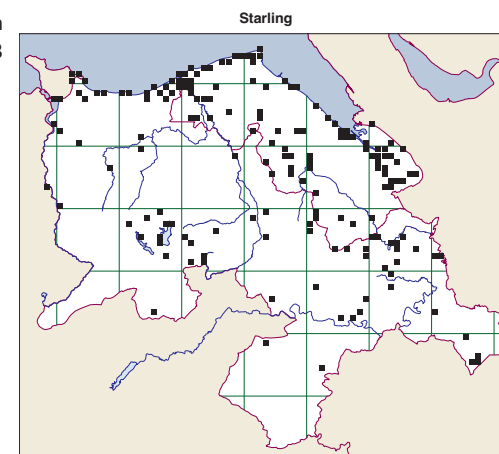
**Denbs.** 128 BT records with no confirmed breeding. Max. 5 at Bryn Euryn on 15/02 (Zack) and 4 at Craignant on 12/04 (CRB).



Treecreeper: John Hawkins



roosting regularly at dusk mid December onwards", 2000 in the Berwyns (BSG) on 4/03 and 1500 at Llantysilio Mtn on 17/03 (MP).



**Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris*  
Very common breeding resident and winter visitor.

DRUDWEN

**Flints.** 564 BT records with breeding confirmed at Rhydymwyn Reserve on 20/05 (MD), Rhyl Brickworks on 17/05 (JHi: 12y), Cilcain on 10/05 (MP), Talacre on 2/05 (AB) and Shotton on 5/05 (DWin). Max 745 on Clwyd estuary on 30/10 (JHi).

**Denbs.** 307 BT records with breeding confirmed at Pensarn on 27/06 (SHe) and Tir Llwyd Ind Estate on 12/05 (WRM). Max 4000 coming to roost at RSPB Conwy on 24/02 (TGr), 3000 at Dolwen Res ("seen



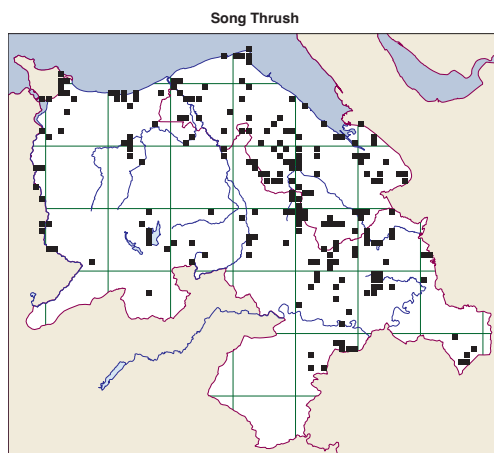
Starling: Mike Pollard

**Song Thrush** *Turdus philomelos*  
Common breeding resident and winter visitor.

BRONFRAITH

**Flints.** 289 BT records with confirmed breeding at Broughton, Cilcain and Star Crossing. "Probable" breeding at CQNR (GrJ). Max. 15 at Rhydymwyn Reserve on 31/05 (IMo) and 12 at Bettisfield Beacon, Holywell on 18/08 (GEM).

**Denbs.** 495 BT records with breeding confirmed at Abergele, Bodnant, Coed Hafod, Craignant and Valle Crucis. "Probable" breeding at Llanrwst (WRM). Max 13 at Chirk Castle on 25/04 (BBS) and 10 at Bodnant on 22/04 (PEM).

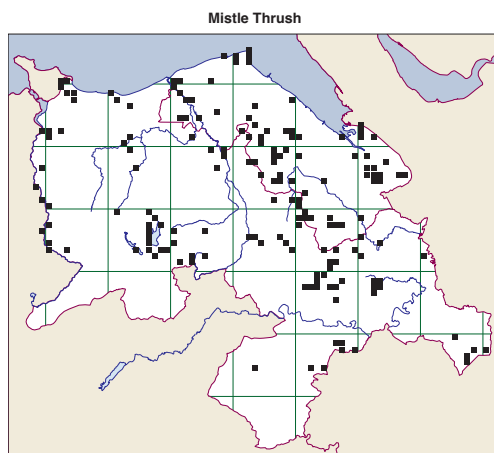


**Mistle Thrush** *Turdus viscivorus*  
Common breeding resident.

BRYCH COED

**Flints.** 147 BT records with breeding confirmed at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) on 2/06, Hawarden Ind Park on 2/05 (both AHJ), Pontruffyd Hall on 20/06 (GEM) and St Asaph Business Park on 26/03 (SHu). Max 34 at St Asaph Business Park on 7/08 (SHu).

**Denbs.** 275 BT records with breeding confirmed at Craignant Wood on 19/05 (CRB), Llanrwst where 2 birds were still feeding young on 16/07 and Gors Maen Llwyd on 17/07 (both WRM). Max 20 at Pentre-llyn-cymmer on both 5/03 (SK) and 5/09 (WRM).



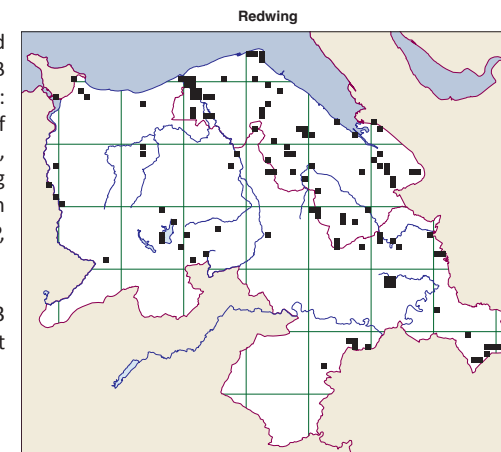
Mistle Thrush: Mike Pollard

**Redwing** *Turdus iliacus*  
Common winter visitor.

COCH DAN ADAIN

**Flints.** 135 winter BT records up to 31/03 and again from 10/09 onwards. Max 500 at RSPB Burton Mere Border Pool on 30/10 (eBird: "Large flocks flying in from the other side of the estuary") Also 250 at Ffrith Farm, Treuddyn on 29/12 (eBird: "Large flock flying to and from hedgerows"), 154 at Rhuddlan on 27/01 (JHi) and 150 at Cilcain on 4/11 (MP, GEM) and Nannerch on 5/11 (GEM).

**Denbs.** 125 winter BT records, up to 15/03 and again from 1/10 onwards. Max 138 at Llewenni on 22/01 (JHi).



Redwing: Mike Pollard

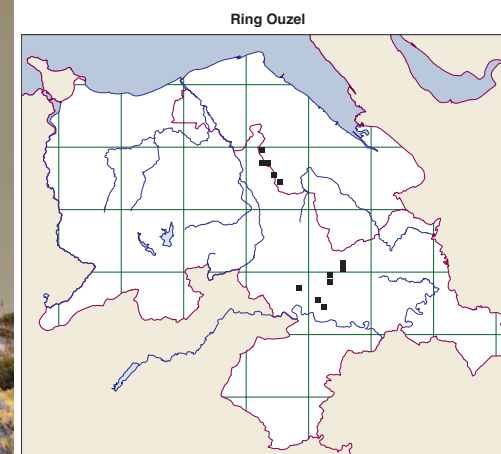
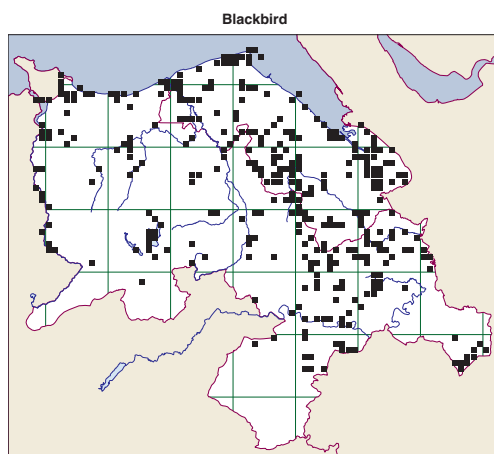
**Blackbird** *Turdus merula*  
Very common breeding resident and winter visitor.

MWYALCHEN

**Flints.** 889 BT records with breeding confirmed at 14 localities. Max 37 at St Asaph on 6/12 (JHi) and 23 at Pantymwyn on 24/04 (GEM).



**Denbs.** 589 BT records with breeding confirmed at 8 localities. Max count of 31 on a BBS walk in the Vale of Clwyd on 23/04, 17 at Wrexham on 9/06 (PaJ) and Chirk Castle on 19/06 (CTg).

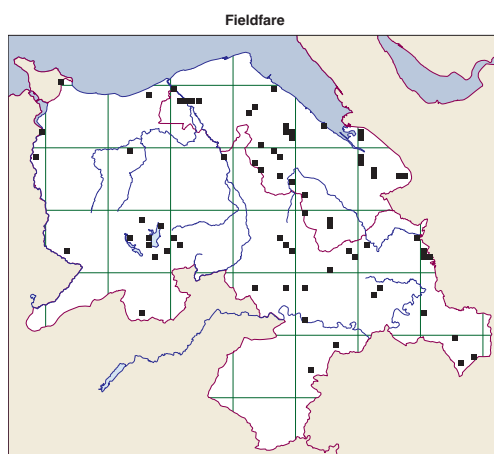


**Fieldfare** *Turdus pilaris*  
Fairly common winter visitor.

SOCAN EIRA

**Flints.** 43 BT records. Present until 31/03 and again from 31/10 onwards. The largest flocks were 200 at Penycloddiau on 2/11 (eBird) and 150 near Pen-y-cefn along the A55 on 4/03 (KBr).

**Denbs.** 78 BT records. Present until 23/04 (at Minera) and again from 24/10 (at Llyn Brenig) onwards. The highest count was 550 at Clocaenog on 7/02 (TGr): several counts of 200+ in this area. Elsewhere, 300 at Sontley on 4/01 (HeCa), 300 at Llyn Alwen on 3/03 (eBird) and 150-200 on Trevalyn Meadows on 12/02 (GoP).



**Ring Ouzel** *Turdus torquatus*  
Scarce passage migrant (previously bred).

MWYALCHEN Y MYNYDD

**Flints.** 6 BT records from 31/03 to 26/04: max. 11 at Penycloddiau on 18/04 (EdW). Two at Llangynhafal on 20/04 (GoP) and singles at Moel Arthur on 26/04 (GEM, GoP) and at Cilcain moors on 18/04 (WAO).

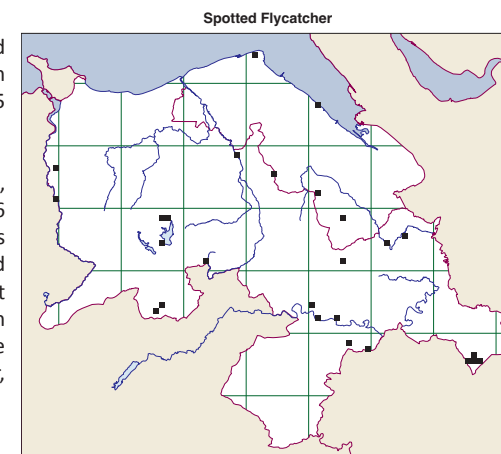
**Denbs.** 16 BT records from 30/03 to 20/04. Max. 7 at Llangwyfan Forest near Penycloddiau on 10/04 (MP). There were 11 records of 1-3 birds from Ruabon Mtn during 30/03 to 20/04 and 2 at Llantysilio Mtn on 11/04 (MP).

**Spotted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa striata*  
Uncommon breeding summer visitor.

GWYBEDOG MANNOG

**Flints.** Only 2 BT records with no confirmed breeding. Max 2 at Talacre Gas Terminal on 28/04 (Bg) and 1 at Walwen Marsh on 28/05 (GRMP). One at Treuddyn on 12/08 (eBird).

**Denbs.** 28 BT records from 10/05 to 14/09, with breeding confirmed at Llanrwst on 4/06 (WRM), at Llangwm on 26/07 (WAO), Gors Maen Llwyd on 11/06 (WRM) and Cerrigydrudion on 9/08 (PaHe: 3y). Max. 4 at Llangwm on 5/06 (WAO). GBW gardens in both Moss Valley, Wrexham and in the Ceiriog Valley had 1-3 birds all summer, suggesting breeding pairs.



**Robin** *Erithacus rubecula*  
Very common breeding resident.

ROBIN GOCH

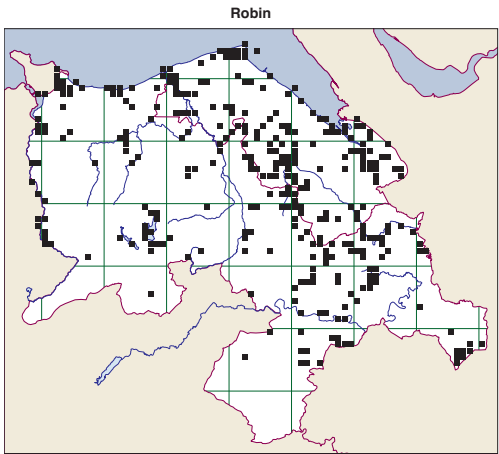
**Flints.** 921 BT records with confirmed breeding at Cilcain, Pantymwyn, Rhydymwyn, Moel Arthur, Caerwys, Hawarden, Queensferry, Cop Hole, Rhyl Brickworks and Clwyd estuary. Max 19 at Wepre Park on 18/05 (BBS) and 18 at Buckley Heritage Trail on 7/02 (SG).

**Denbs.** 1180 BT records with confirmed breeding at Caignant, Bodnant, Llanrwst, Trefriw, Sontley and

Llanfair TH. Max 23 on a BBS walk at Bron-Bannog and 20 at Bodnant on 23/02, 14/10 and 30/10 (PEM).



Robin: John Hawkins



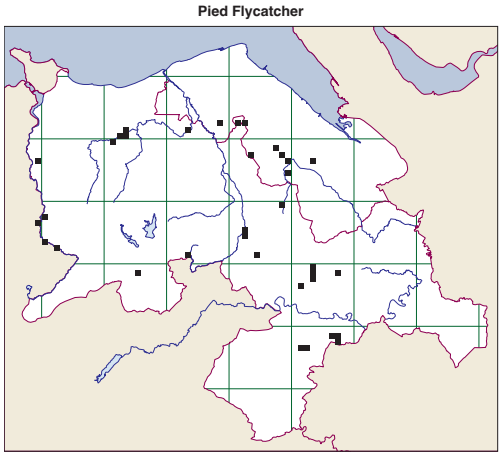
**Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula hypoleuca*

GWYBEDOG BRITH

*Uncommon breeding summer visitor. Almost invariably using garden nestboxes and woodland nestbox schemes.*

**Flints.** 9 BT records at 8 localities from 13/04 to 12/05, Rhydymwyn, Pantymwyn, Nant Alyn, Sychdyn, Caerwys, Coed-y-Felin, Gelli Bach and Tremeirchion. Nest building with pair present at Afonwen on 24/04 (HWe). Four nestboxes in Loggerheads/Cadole (Flints) were successful (ImH). Max 3 at Tremeirchion on 3/04 (MaS) and at Penycloddiau on 12/05 (eBird).

**Denbs.** 58 BT records from 11/04 to 16/06, with breeding confirmed at Llanfair TH on 25/05 (SD). Nest building seen at Glyn Arthur on 20/04 (RHa). 6 males were holding territory in Coed Hafod on 24/05 (JHg). Five nestboxes in Loggerheads CP were successful, though the chicks died in 2 others



(ImH). Max 23 at Glyn Arthur on 4/05 (RHa).

The following nestbox scheme data was supplied by Peter Coffey (MRG) who writes “none of our sites were particularly productive but the figure for Prion was catastrophic. Lack of food was the main problem; both parents were observed actively feeding broods but only managing to fledge one or two chicks. Predation created more losses”.

Location	Nests	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Fledged Young	Young per nest
Glyn Arthur	24	163	126	95	3.96
Glyn Ceiriog/Pandy	30	198	177	88	2.93
Prion	50	337	293	42	0.84

**Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros*  
*Rare winter visitor and passage migrant.*

TINGOCH DU

**Flints.** One in Rhyl from 24/01 to 28/01 (Bg).

**Denbs.** A female at Horton’s Nose from 24/01 to 2/02 (AHJ, JHi *et al*), once on 22/03 (Bg) and again from 10/12 to 30/12 (RiE *et al*). Two at Tal-y-Cafn on 7/02 (eBird) and singles at Belgrano on 30/01 (Bg) and Alyn Waters CP on 8/11 (eBird).

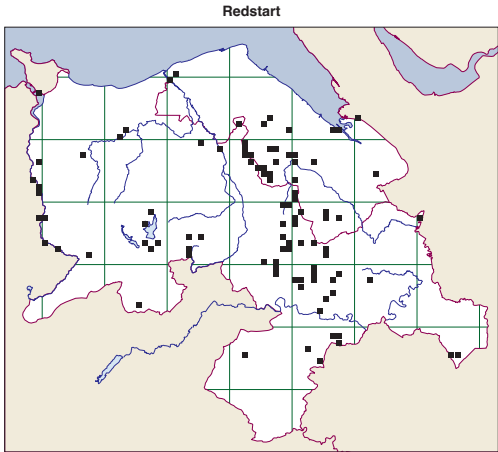
**Redstart** *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

*Fairly common breeding summer visitor and passage migrant.*

TINGOCH

**Flints.** 41 BT records from 7/04 to 29/08 with breeding confirmed at Halkyn Mtn on 5/07 (GEM) and Rhydymwyn Reserve (9 nestlings ringed in May: IMS) and “probable” near Fforest Farm, Cilcain (GEM). Max 9 at Rhydymwyn Reserve on 26/04 (IMo).

**Denbs.** 72 BT records with confirmed breeding at 6 localities (Eryrys, Glyn Arthur, Cragnant, Gors Maen Llwyd, Bryneglwys and Llanrwst) and “probable” at 4 more. Present from 5/04 to 2/09. Max. 14 at Llanfair TH on 27/04 (MBo).



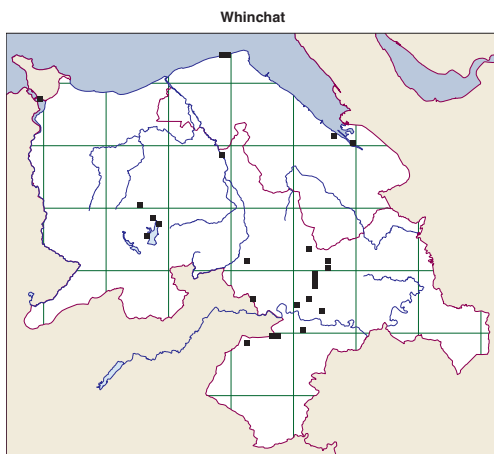
**Whinchat** *Saxicola rubetra*

CREC YR EITHIN

*Scarce and local breeding summer visitor and passage migrant.*

**Flints.** 13 BT records from 13/04 to 8/05. Breeding was confirmed by a pair feeding young on Cilcain moors on 29/06 (EdW: none found at other Clwydian sites). Two at Gronant 20/04 to 29/04 (RiE *et al*, Bg) and a male at CQNR and RSPB Oakenholt on 18/04 (MP, eBird). A female at Fauxdegla on 8/05 (MP).

**Denbs.** 37 BT records (inc 19 from the Ruabon Moors stronghold) from 14/04 to 5/09. Breeding was confirmed at Lleweni on 13/08 with "2 recently fledged young and female, on 2 acre cut plantation" (JHi). A BBS site at Ceiriog Forest had a single on both 6/05 and 30/06. Other spring records at RSPB Conwy, Moel Fferna, Plas Nantyr, Vivod Mtn, Llangollen, Llyn Brenig and Llyn Bran.

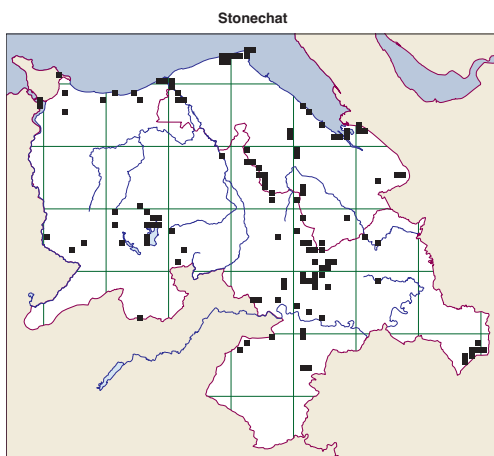
**Stonechat** *Saxicola rubicola*

CLOCHDAR Y CERRIG

*Fairly common breeding resident.*

**Flints.** 306 BT records with confirmed breeding at Point of Ayr, Gronant (2 prs), Rhuddlan, Burton MOD marshes, RSPB Burton Mere (Flints) (4 prs), Cop Hole, Halkyn Mtn and Nercwys Forest. "Probable" breeding of 5 pairs at Moel Llys-Y-Coed on 23/02 (DWin). Max 10 at Penycloddiau on 20/04 (eBird), 10 at CQNR on 19/09 (PSH) and 9 at Moel Llys-Y-Coed on 23/02 (DWin). A search of the Clwydian Range (Flints/Denbs) in Jan-Apr found 29 sites with stonechats (GoP: see map).

**Denbs.** 292 BT records with confirmed breeding at Llechrydau, Llyn Brenig, Gwytherin, Esclusham Mtn and World's End. Max. 10 at World's End on 20/07 (CaCa).



Stonechat: Mike Pollard



Stonechat: Glenn Morris

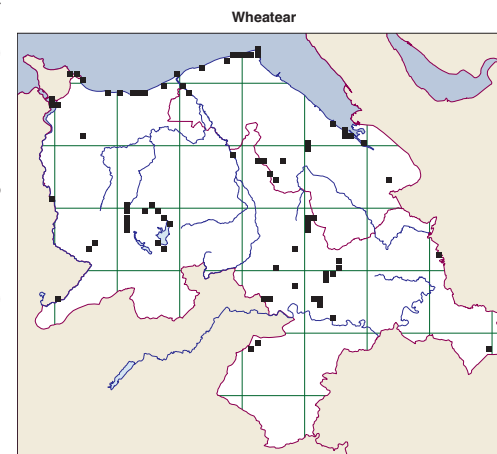
**Wheatear** *Oenanthe oenanthe*

TINWEN Y GARN

*Scarce and declining breeding summer visitor and fairly common passage migrant.*

**Flints.** 99 BT records from 20/03 to 6/10, but no confirmed breeding. Max. 12 at CQNR on 7/04 (SuHa). A Greenland form (*leucorhoa*) female was at Gronant on 12/05 (GrJ).

**Denbs.** 139 BT records from 18/03 to 18/11, with confirmed breeding at Llyn Aled Isaf on 11/06 (WRM) and Esclusham Mtn on 28/06 (HeCa). A very late record on 18/11 at Llyn Aled Isaf (AHJ). Max. 10 at Llantysilio Mtn on 23/04 (SaK) and 8 at Llanddulas-Pensarn on 1/05 (MBo). The Greenland form (*leucorhoa*) was identified at RSPB Conwy on 28/09 (KBr).



Wheatear: Mike Pollard



Wheatear: Mike Pollard

**Waxwing** *Bombus garrulus*

CYNFFON SIDAN

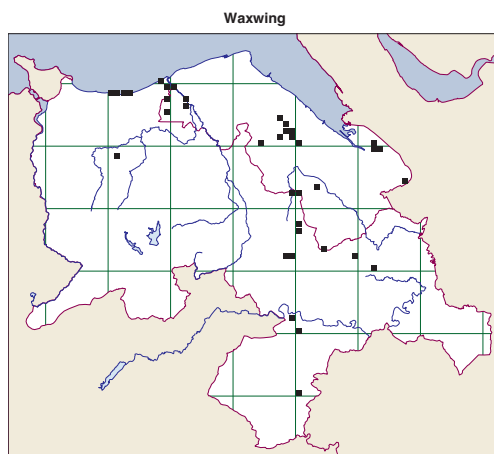
*Sporadic winter visitor, but the large influx of last autumn remained until late spring.*

**Flints.** 99 BT records from 1/01 to 20/04, inc 74 records from Halkyn Mtn/Pentre Halkyn (Buxton Lane). Max 180 at Halkyn Mtn quarry on 3/02 (Bg) and 150 there on both 24/01 (MP) and 12/02 (Bg). Nearby Buxton Lane, Pentre Halkyn had 90+ on 30/01 (MP) and 11 other records. Also 36 at Glan Clwyd hospital and the nearby Ind. Estate on 1/01 and 3/01 (Bg), 34 at Rhuddlan NR on 1/01 (Bg), 36 at Garden City/Sealand on 7/03 (JaSh, DWin, Bg), 11 at Tesco car park Mold on 5/01 (Bg) and smaller numbers at Flint, Plas Gwyn in the Chwiler valley and Mold Road, Connah's Quay.

**Denbs.** 48 BT records from 1/01 to 8/05. Max 40 at Wrexham Maelor hospital 10/01-13/01 (Bg), 29



at nearby Wrexham B&Q on 22/01 (Bg), 33 at Kinmel Bay town on 1/01 (DWin), 30 at Gwrych, Abergele on 1/01 (RS), 20 at Llay Ind. Estate on 28/02 (Bg) and 16 at Brymbo/Tan-y-Fron on 14/04 (AHJ). Smaller numbers at Minera and Eryrys.



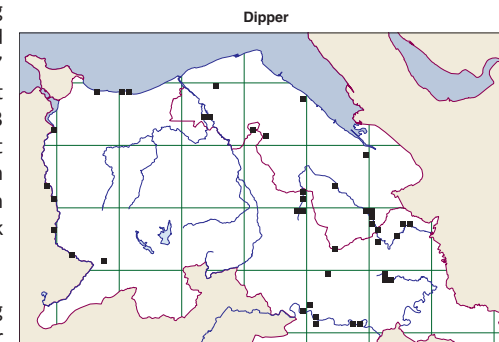
## Dipper *Cinclus cinclus*

BRONWEN Y DWR

*Fairly common breeding resident on suitable rivers and streams.*

**Flints.** 18 BT records, with breeding confirmed by a nest with young at Greenfield Valley on 27/04 (Richard Jones). "Probable" breeding by courtship display on 2/12 at Afonwen (MV). Two at Fagl Lane on 25/03 and singles in Llanrwst village on 21/08, at Caergwrle Weir on 22/04, Rhydymwyn NR on 18/10 (IMo) and Pen-y-Bont bridge, Mold on 7/02 (eBird). Max 4 flying along Wepre Brook on 19/10 (MFr).

**Denbs.** 89 BT records with breeding confirmed by recently-fledged young near Maes Mynan on 16/06 (KBr), by pairs carrying food under the Cornmill pub, Llangollen on 10/4 (MP) and 11/04 (JM) and at Erddig on 29/05 (HeCa). Pairs in suitable habitat ("probable breeding") on the Dee at Cefn Mawr on 2/03 (DaPh) and at Loggerheads on 5/04 (GEM). Pair on R. Ystrad at Denbigh on 8/03, at Pen-y-Cae on 24/03 (GBW), at Coed Cooper near Clocaenog on 26/03 (both ACu) and at Rhuthun Sewage Weir on 19/01 (SuLo).



## Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*

GOLFAN MYNYDD

*Uncommon breeding resident and winter visitor, often detected by BTO's Garden Birdwatch scheme (GBW).*

**Flints.** Only one BT record at Fagl Lane on 10/01 (OwP). One at Etna Park, Buckley on 9/12 (eBird). One GBW site at Gronant had continuous records of 2-4 birds from 21/07 to the end of the year and another GBW garden near Nannerch had a single record of 4 birds on 31/03.

**Denbs.** One at Cefn Du (E of Bodnant) on 8 occasions from 16/03 to 16/06 (BOs)

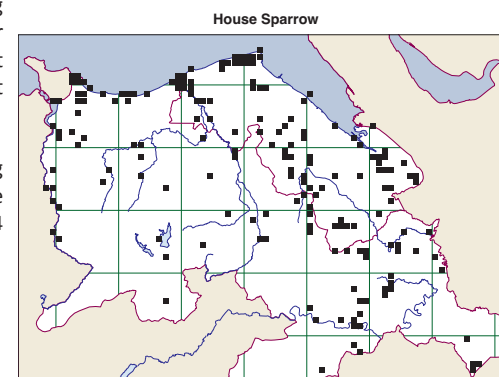
## House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

ADERYN Y TÔ

*Very common breeding resident.*

**Flints.** 561 BT records with breeding confirmed at Rhyl Brickworks, Mold, Star Crossing and Rhydymwyn. Max. 60 at Point of Ayr on 16/09 (eBird) and 33 at Queensferry on 18/07 (DWin).

**Denbs.** 428 BT records with breeding confirmed at Llanferres, Llanrwst and Pentre Llyn Cymmer. Max. 30 at Llanddulas on 2/04 (WRM).

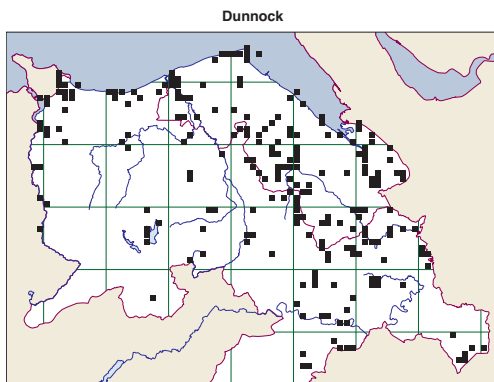


**Dunnock** *Prunella modularis*  
Very common breeding resident.

LLWYD Y GWYRCH

**Flints.** 670 BT records with confirmed breeding at Rhydymwyn, Rhyl Brickworks, Walwen Marsh and Clwyd estuary. "Probable" breeding at 2 additional localities. Max 12 at Buckley Heritage Trail on 6/03 (SG).

**Denbs.** 730 BT records with confirmed breeding only at Llanferres. "Probable" breeding at 4 further locations. Max 10 at RSPB Conwy on 24/03 (MaS).

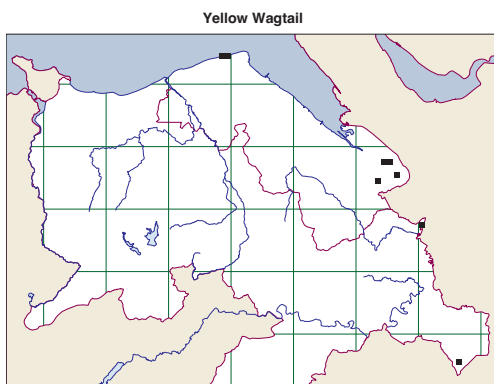


**Western Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava flavissima*  
Scarce passage migrant and breeding summer visitor.

SIGLEN FELEN GORLLEWIN

**Flints.** 13 BT records of 1-6 birds from 26/04 to 7/09 with "probable" breeding of 2 pairs at RSPB Burton Mere (Flints). Elsewhere, max. 10 at Sealand on 6/06 (TK), 6 at Sandycroft/Sealand on 6/05 (JmHu) and 5 at Sealand on 26/04 (DWin), all consistent with "probable" breeding.

**Denbs.** 9 BT records from 13/04 to 30/08, but no breeding evidence. Max 6 at Trevalyn Meadows on 26/04 (JonW).

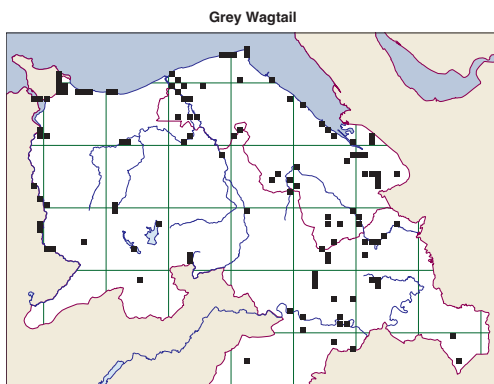


**Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea*  
Fairly common breeding resident on waterways.

SIGLEN LWYD

**Flints.** 111 BT records with breeding confirmed at Waterfall Road, Dyserth (pr + 2y) on 27/06 (AHJ). Max 5 on the R. Elwy at Ffynnon Fair, Trefnant on 11/05 (MP) and 4 at Ffrith Farm, Treuddyn on 9/06 (eBird).

**Denbs.** 215 BT records, with breeding confirmed at Loggerheads CP (ImH), Llanddulas Quarry on 26/05 (WRM), Bodnant on 7/05 (VRB), Rhuthun Sewage Weir on 17/08 (SuLo) and Llanfair TH on 25/05 (SD). Max 9 at Bodnant on 7/05 (VRB).

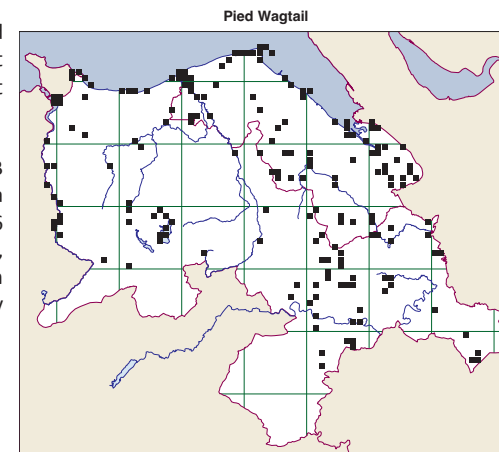


**Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla alba yarrellii*  
Common breeding resident.

SIGLEN FRAITH

**Flints.** 405 BT records with no confirmed breeding, but nest building seen at Queensferry on 4/04 (DWin). Max. 150 at Greenfield sewage works on 20/01 (CW).

**Denbs.** 637 BT records, including 359 at RSPB Conwy, with confirmed breeding at Minera NR on 15/05 (AB), RSPB Conwy on 9/06 (ImR), Cloy Hall-Wrexham on 20/06 (JmHu), Llechrydau on 8/07 and Horton's Nose on 15/07 (both GEM). Max 200 at RSPB Conwy on 1/04 (SaE).

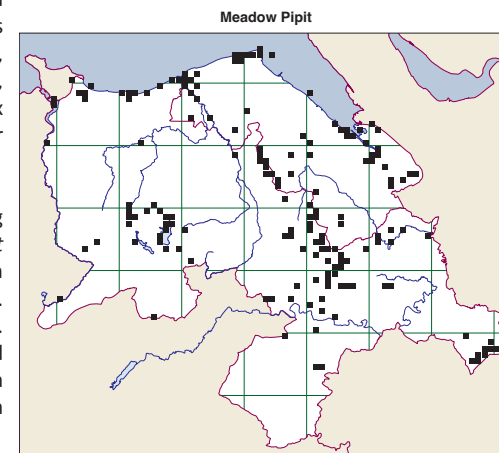


**Meadow Pipit** *Anthus pratensis*  
Common breeding visitor mostly to uplands; also passage migrant and winter visitor.

CORHEDYDD Y WAUN

**Flints.** 362 BT records with confirmed breeding at Gronant from 21/05 onwards (WRM at al) and at Cop Hole on 14/06 (AHJ), plus "probable" breeding at Moel Arthur, Cilcain Moors and Halkyn Mtn (all GEM). Max 45 at Talacre Beach on 4/10 (MP) and Star Crossing Pool on 18/11 (GEM).

**Denbs.** 420 BT records with breeding confirmed at Ruabon Mtn from 18/05 (SD et al), Eryrys on 4/05 (DWin), Llanfair TH on 25/05 (SD) and Brynmyllt on 23/06 (MAO). "Probable" breeding at 10 further locations. Max 37 on a BBS walk at Ceiriog Forest and 30 at World's End on 11/03, Fenn's Moss on 21/03, Llyn Brenig on 31/03 and Carrog on 26/03.

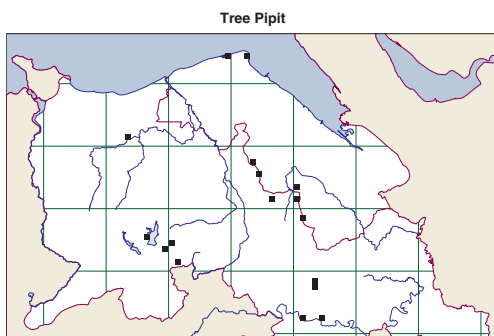


**Tree Pipit** *Anthus trivialis*  
Scarce breeding summer visitor, mainly in uplands.

CORHEDYDD Y COED

**Flints.** 3 BT records of singles between 20/04 and 3/07, at Gronant (JHi), Point of Ayr (JaH) and Nercwys Forest (DWin), but no confirmed breeding. One on territory at Penycloddiau 20/04-24/06 (EdW) and 1 at Gwernymynydd on 19/05 (eBird).

**Denbs.** 18 BT records of singles at 12 locations between 12/04 and 12/06, but no confirmed breeding. A BBS site near Tregeiriog in the Berwyns had 1 on 6/05 and 2 on 21/06.



**Water Pipit** *Anthus spinoletta*  
Rare winter visitor.

CORHEDYDD Y DWR

**Flints.** Singles at Clwyd estuary on 21/12 (JHi), Gronant on 29/12-30/12 (Bg), Talacre on 30/01-1/02 (MP, Bg), Flint Castle on 13/02 (MP) and 21/12-24/12 (AHJ, Bg).

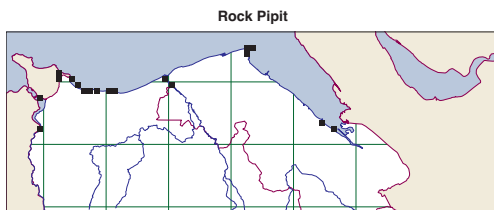
**Denbs.** One at RSPB Conwy on 4/02 (Bg).

**Rock Pipit** *Anthus petrosus*  
Scarce winter visitor to coast and estuaries. Has bred.

CORHEDYDD Y GRAIG

**Flints.** 15 BT records (up to 13/04 and again from 18/10 onwards). Max 3 at CQNR-OakRSPB and Point of Ayr (both GrJ on 12/02).

**Denbs.** 92 BT records, up to 17/04 and again from 7/09 onwards, apart from a June record from Colwyn Bay on 13/06 (WRM: "2-3 birds nr Rainbow Bridge. I watched for a while, hoping to see a bird carrying food, but twice a bird flew across to the quarry on the N side of the A55. Probably to a nest in the quarry face? In roughly the same location where breeding was confirmed 21/6/16"). Max 4 at RSPB Conwy on 4/01 (RS) and 3 there on 25/09 (RiE), 9/10 (SaE) and 13/12 (RHu).



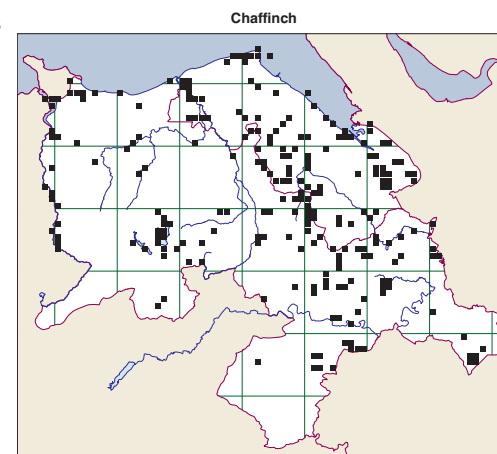
**Chaffinch** *Fringilla coelebs*  
Very common breeding resident and winter visitor.

JI-BINC

**Flints.** 352 BT records with confirmed breeding only at Rhydymwyn on 14/07 (MD) and 17/07 (IMS). Max. count of 80 at CQNR on 23/01 and 150 in Dec (PSH). No "visible migration" records of large flocks this year.

**Denbs.** 642 BT records with confirmed breeding at Gors Maen Llwyd on 11/06 (WRM). "Probable"

breeding at 4 locations. Max 60 at Sontley on 13/02 (HeCa). No "visible migration" records of large flocks this year.

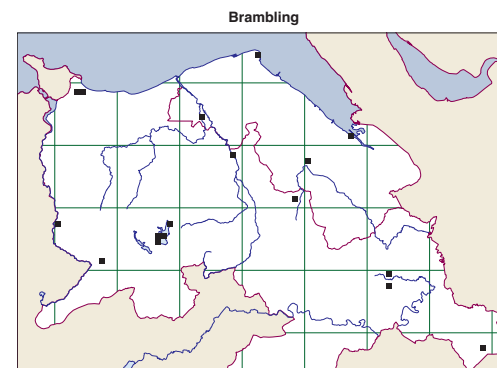


**Brambling** *Fringilla montifringilla*  
Uncommon winter visitor.

PINC Y MYNYDD

**Flints.** 8 BT records, up to 21/03 and again from 9/11, of which 5 were of 2-6 birds in a Rhydymwyn garden (14/02-21/03 and 7/12: MD). Max 6 at Rhydymwyn on 21/03. Also 3 at both St Asaph on 9/11 (MHi) and POA on 14/12 (HeCa), 2 at CQNR on 21/03 (PSH) and 1 at Bagillt during 3/03-14/03 (GRMP).

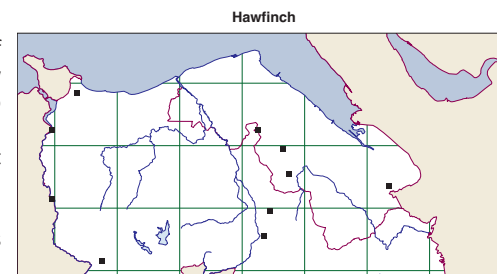
**Denbs.** 24 BT records, up to 21/04 and again from 17/10, mostly from upland areas with the highest count of 5 near Coed Hafod on 11/11 (eBird). There were 2 at Llyn Brenig on 7/02 (TGr), 5/03 (RiE) and 8/03 (Any).



**Hawfinch** *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*  
Very scarce breeding resident and winter visitor. In winter, often in churchyards with yew trees.

GYLFINBRAFF

**Flints.** 8 BT records with max 3 at Cilcain during 1/11 to 5/11 (MP: "At back of graveyard, presumably feeding on yew berries which are currently numerous"). Two at Nannerch 2/11 to 6/11 (MP: "Two perched in tall tree near churchyard then one in flight over churchyard"). One at Caerwys on 16/11 (MV) and a flyover recorded at Broughton on 4/11 (AHJ). Wynnstay Park had GBW singles





in both Mar and Dec.

**Denbs.** 23 BT records, with max. 5 at Llanrwst on 5/11 (SdC) and 5 again on 13/12 (Bg). One bird was present at Three Fingers near Hanmer for 4 weeks from 10/11 to 9/12 (Bg, eBird). Two at Bodnant on 13/12 and 14/12 (Bg, TGr) and singles at Llanbedr-Dyffryn-Clwyd church on 24/02 (NF) and 18/12 (JuWi), Pentrefoelas on 6/03 (ScUp), Pwllcrochan, Colwyn Bay on 12/10 (RaR), Ty Mawr CP on 17/10 (Bg), Alyn Waters CP on 8/11 (Bg) and Borras Park on 28/11 (eBird).

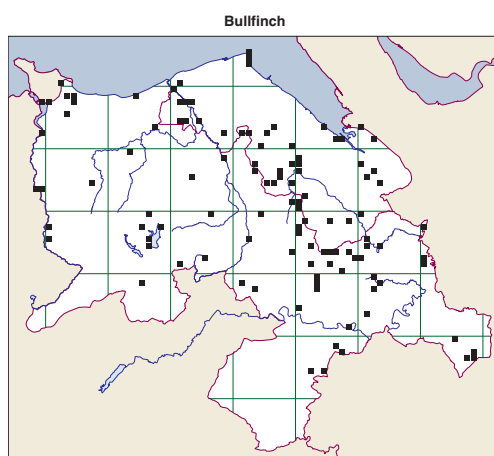
### **Bullfinch** *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

COCH Y BERLLAN

*Common breeding resident and winter visitor.*

**Flints.** 149 BT records with confirmed breeding by recently-fledged young at Pantymwyn on 6/07 (GEM), Rhydymwyn Reserve on 30/08 (IMS) and Afonwen on 16/09 (MV). Max 6 at Nercwys Forest on 28/12 (eBird), Buckley Heritage Trail on 27/01 (SG) and CQNR on 9/12 (TiB).

**Denbs.** 200 BT records with confirmed breeding by recently-fledged young at Llandegla Moors on 11/07 (MP). Max numbers at RSPB Conwy with 11 on 13/12 (RoH) and 20 on 27/12 (ChBa).



Bullfinch: John Hawkins

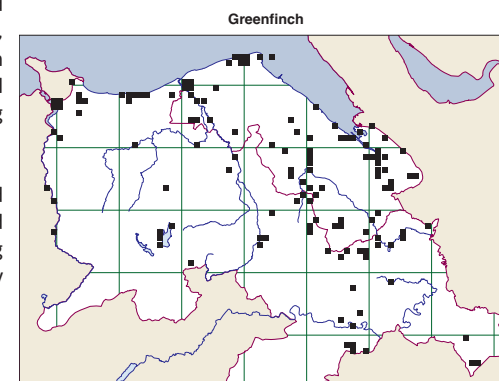
### **Greenfinch** *Chloris chloris*

LLINOS WERDD

*Very common breeding resident and winter visitor.*

**Flints.** 459 BT records with confirmed breeding at Rhyl on 30/06 (WRM), Pantymwyn on 1/07 (GEM) and Rhydymwyn on 14/07 (MD). "Probable" breeding at Rhyl Brickworks on 11/04 (AHJ). Max 80 flying over Rhydymwyn on 19/02 (MD).

**Denbs.** 513 BT records with confirmed breeding at RSPB Conwy on 6/06 (WRM) and Bodnant on 2/07 (ABa). "Probable" breeding at 3 further locations. Max 20 at RSPB Conwy on 23/04 (PEM).



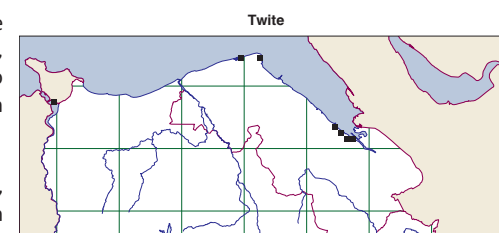
### **Twite** *Linaria flavirostris*

LLINOS Y MYNYDD

*Uncommon winter visitor and passage migrant.*

**Flints.** 34 BT records. Max 32 at Flint Castle on 27/01 (Bg) and 15 at CQNR on 31/01 (NF, GrJ). Also 4 at Gronant on 4/01 (JHi). No breeding evidence and no records away from the coast.

**Denbs.** The only records were at RSPB Conwy, with max 14 on 20/02 (MAO) and 2 there on



10/12 (Bg); an unusual location. No breeding evidence and no records away from the coast.

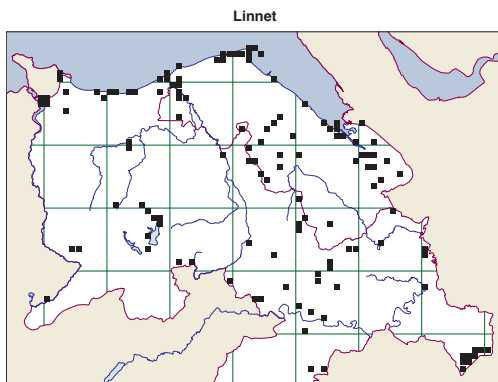
### Linnet *Linaria cannabina*

LLINOS

*Common breeding resident and winter visitor.*

**Flints.** 397 BT records with breeding confirmed at CQNR (2 prs: PSH) and Gronant on 12/06 (2y: WRM) and nest-building on Halkyn Mtn on 4/05 (RJ). Max 100 at Gronant on 2/08 (RSw), at Mancot on 30/11 (eBird) and CQNR-RSPB Oakenholt on 8/12 (AHJ).

**Denbs.** 260 BT records with breeding confirmed at Maes Mynan on 12/07 (MV) and Brynmlyt on 23/06 (MAO). Max 100 at Llanbedr D Clwyd on 3/04 (GoP) and 30 at RSPB Conwy on 27/12 (ChBa).



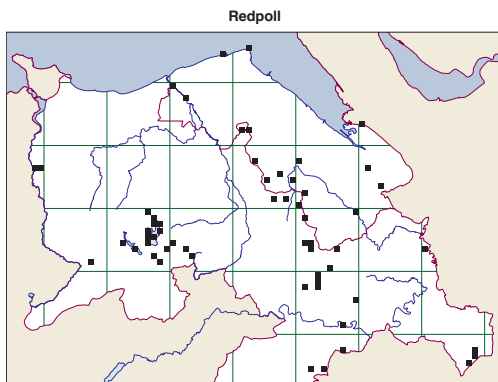
### Redpoll *Acanthis cabaret*

LLINOS BENGGOCH FECHAN

*Uncommon breeding resident and winter visitor. (All species became "Redpoll Acanthis flammea" in 2024, including Common, Arctic and Mealy).*

**Flints.** 27 BT records, but no evidence of breeding submitted. June records at Cilcain and Pantymwyn (GEM). Max 15 at Penycloddiau on 31/03 (eBird), 4 at Buckley Heritage Trail on 17/02 (SG) and Clwyd estuary on 3/11 (WRM). Greenland form ringed at Bagillt on 17/04 (GRMP).

**Denbs.** 120 BT records with confirmed breeding at 3 different sites in the Llyn Brenig/Llyn Bran area on 11/06 and 17/07 (all WRM) and June records from Llandegla Forest (NoWi). Max 20 at Fenns Moss on 8/04 and Clocaenog Forest on 29/12 (GrJ).



### Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra*

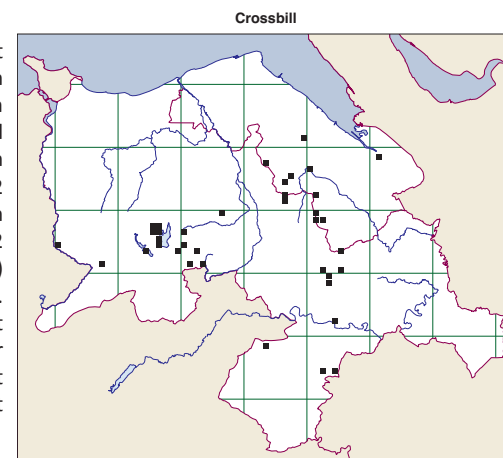
GYLFINGROES

*Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor.*

**Flints.** 10 BT records, but no breeding evidence. Max 31 at Nercwys Forest on 13/01 (DWin) and 20 there on 24/12 (eBird). 5 on the Flints side of Coed Moel Famau at Ffrith on 25/04 (HLaw). Unusual locations were singles at Rhydymwyn on 5/07 (IMS), Cilcain on 1/01, 15/02 and 21/06 (MP) and 6

flying over Halkyn Mtn on 26/01 (DWin).

**Denbs.** 69 BT records. "Probable" breeding at Llechrydau where nest-building was seen on 19/02 (AIDa). Pairs in suitable habitat at Llyn Brenig on 18/04 (PEM) and Coed Moel Famau on 11/05 (JHg). Max 42 at Llyn Alwen on 28/01 (DWin), 30 at Clocaenog on 28/12 (DWin), 30 at Llyn Brenig-CerrigCaws on 29/02 (WRM), 25 at World's End on 26/02 (eBird), 20 at Esclusham Mtn on 27/01 (JJo) and 15 above Glyn Ceiriog on 30/12 (eBird). Unusual locations were 2 pairs feeding at Bwlchgwyn Quarry on 1/01 (SD), 8 flying over Queensferry on 20/05 (DWin), flock of 4 at Hafotty Bennett on the B5113 (RS) and 1 at Llyn Gweryd on 10/10 (GoP).



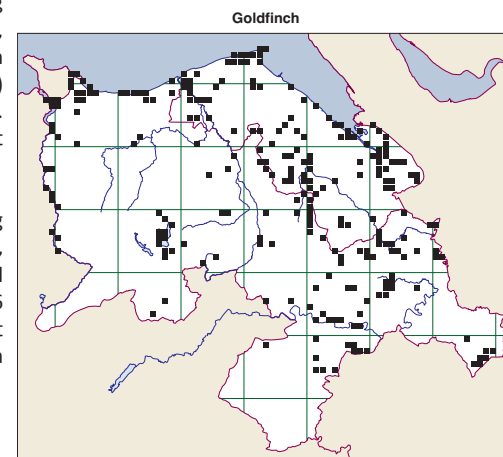
### Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*

NICO

*Very common breeding resident and winter visitor.*

**Flints.** 748 BT records with breeding confirmed at Cop Hole Pool on 19/06 (AHJ), Rhydymwyn on 14/07 (MD), Pantymwyn on 13/06 (GEM), Rhyl Brickworks on 25/06 (AHJ) and Clwyd estuary on 30/08 (WRM). Max. 150 at CQNR on 15/10 (GEM) and 100 at Point of Ayr on 13/10 (eBird).

**Denbs.** 812 BT records with breeding confirmed at RSPB Conwy on 13/07 (RNe), Colwyn Bay on 29/08 (WRM), north of Foel Goch on 26/07 (WO) and Trefriw on 16/06 (WRM). Max. 150 feeding on knapweed at Minera NR on 11/10 (Jack) and 60 at Bryn Alyn on 16/09 (GEM).



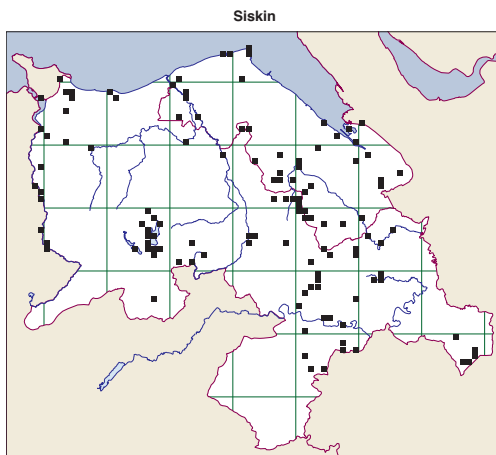
**Siskin** *Spinus spinus*

PILA GWYRDD

*Fairly common breeding resident and winter visitor.*

**Flints.** 142 BT records with breeding confirmed at Rhydymwyn on 13/06 (MD) and Pantymwyn on 1/07 (GEM). Max 80 in a Rhydymwyn garden on 21/03, with 68 there on 12/03 (MD). Also 75 in a Broughton garden on 7/03 (AHJ) and 55 in a Pantymwyn garden on 2/03 (GEM). Penycloddiau had 40 on 31/03 and still 20 on 24/06 (eBird). 81 were ringed at Bagillt on 11/03 (GRMP) and 29 were ringed at Sychdyn on 17/02 (IMS), just a fraction of the annual total ringed at these sites (765 at Bagillt, 111 at Sychdyn).

**Denbs.** 284 BT records with breeding confirmed at Llyn Brenig on 11/06 and Llanrwst on 16/07 (both WRM). Max. 60+ on 2/05 at Llyn Brenig (PEM) and 50 at Hanmer on 19/11 (DaHa).

**Lapland Bunting** *Calcarius lapponicus*

BRAS Y GOGLEDD

*Rare winter visitor.*

**Flints.** One was at Talacre on 6/11 (Bg) and at nearby Gronant on 9/11 (JHi).

**Snow Bunting** *Plectrophenax nivalis*

BRAS YR EIRA

*Very scarce and local winter visitor.*

**Flints.** 35 BT records. Four at Point of Ayr lighthouse on 3/01 (PeJ, Bg) and then 20 records of up to 6 birds here from 13/01-12/02 (many obs). There were 8 records at nearby Gronant of up to 5 birds (probably the same flock) from 25/01 to 13/02 (many obs), plus a late single on 25/04 (RiE). Singles at Fagl Lane on 10/01 (OwP) and Moel Famau (Flints) on 11/11 (SWh: remained in area when walkers went past. Not spooked. Approachable. Photo taken with mobile") and 13/11 (Bg).

**Denbs.** 15 BT records of one at Horton's Nose from 10/12 to 30/12 (AHJ, RiE *et al*).

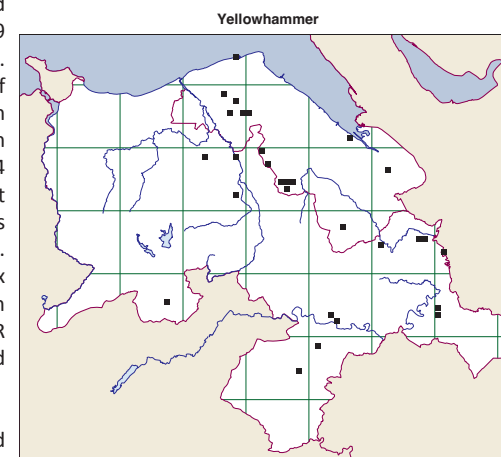
**Yellowhammer** *Emberiza citrinella*

BRAS MELYN

*Uncommon and declining breeding resident.*

**Flints.** 30 BT records with no confirmed breeding. 11 records of 1-4 birds near Jcn 29 of the A55 in Feb-May, Jul, Oct and Dec (KBr). Nearby, Pen-y-Cefn had 4 summer records of 1-2 during 1/05-31/07 (KBr). Brygwyn Bach to the west had 1 on 1/05 (SK) with 5 on feeders across the A55 at Glanllyn on 30/04 (TK), plus a winter record at nearby Rhualt on 3/01. May-June records of singing males in 4 areas of Cilcain/Cilcain Moors (MP, GEM). Ffrith Farm, Treuddyn had 4 on 9/06 and max 7 on 29/12 (eBird). Singles at Fagl Lane on 10/01 (OwP), Gronant on 20/04 (MaS), CQNR on 11/05 (PSH), Dyserth on 5/06 (eBird) and near Marian Cwm on 24/06 (ShN).

**Denbs.** 9 BT records with no confirmed breeding. Summer singles at Panorama/Llangollen on 6/05, Trevalyn on 6/05, Llanrhaeadr on 12/05, Henllan on 27/06 and Cloy Hall-Wrexham on 20/06. Two at a traditional nesting site on Penycloddiau on 12/05 (eBird) and 24/06 (GEM, eBird), 1-2 below Moel Famau around Moel-y-Gaer on 14/03 (GoP), 17/07 and 23/07 (TK). One below Moel-y-Parc on Offa's Dyke Path on 20/04 (GoP). Two at Llewenni on 9/09 (JHi) and singles at Rossett on 24/03 (JoW), Cefn Du on 27/05 (RS), above Glyn Ceiriog on 4/06 (RhJ), near Llanfair TH on 28/06 (HeCaf) and near the A5 at Ystrad Bach on 23/04 (RiE).



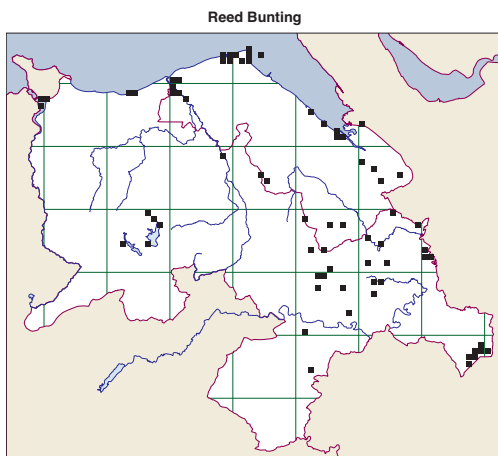


**Reed Bunting** *Emberiza schoeniclus*  
*Fairly common, but local, breeding resident.*

BRAS CYRS MAP

**Flints.** 232 BT records inc 89 records at Gronant, with “probable” breeding only, at Gronant and Rhuddlan. Max 11 at Gronant on 12/06 (WRM).

**Denbs.** 252 BT records, inc 111 from RSPB Conwy and 65 from Fenn’s Moss, with breeding confirmed at Lleweni on 15/06 (3 fledged young: JHi). “Probable” breeding at RSPB Conwy. Max. 15 at Llay on 3/02 (GrJ) and 14 at Fenn’s Moss on 28/09 (RHa).



Reed Bunting: Mike Pollard

## Category E and Other Species

**Snow Goose** *Anser caerulescens*

GWYDD YR EIRA

**Flints.** One at Fagl Lane on 9/01 (Bg). Probably the same Denbs bird.

**Denbs.** One of the “blue” form at Is-y-coed from 6/01 to 8/01 (NF *et al*) and at Llay pools from 28/01 to 30/03 (many obs).

**Bar-headed Goose** *Anser indicus*

*Escape.*

**Flints.** Two at CQNR-OakRSPB on 3/02 and 4/02 (PSH).

**Black Swan** *Cygnus atratus*

*Escape.*

**Flints.** Singles at Shotton Lagoons on 4/02 (Maya, eBird), Cop Hole on 24/02 (AHJ) and CQNR on 14/03 (PSH).

**Ruddy Shelduck** *Tadorna ferruginea*

HWYADEN GOCH YR EITHEN

*An occasional visitor to the estuaries. Feral or escape.*

**Flints.** Two at RSPB Burton Mere Border pool on 5/10 (eBird), with singles at Flint Castle, RSPB Oakenholt (22 records during 15/06 to 5/08) and Clwyd estuary 20/07-21/07 (Bg).

**Wood Duck.** *Aix sponsa*

*Escape.*

**Denbs.** A male at Llay Pool on 12/1 and 13/12 (SD). One at Millhouse Nature Sanctuary, Gwersyllt on 3/03 and 14/03 (eBird).

**Reeve’s Pheasant**

*Escape.*

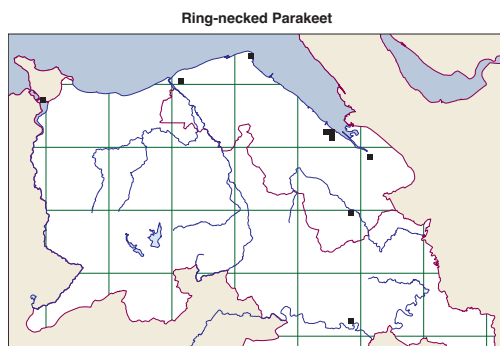
**Flints.** One at Glan-yr-Avon, Llanasa on 9/11 (ShN)

**Ring-necked Parakeet** *Psittacula krameri*

PARACIT TORCHOG

**Flints.** 3 BT records. Max 10 at Talacre on 3/09 (eBird: “At least 10 flying together over caravan parks.”). Two at Queensferry on 12/12 (DWin: “One perched up at the back of the garden calling. Spent around 10 mins there before a crow chased it off. Another calling down the road”). Singles at Plas Teg, Flint, Oakenholt and Rhyl Brickworks. One GBW garden in Gronant had 31 records of up to 7 birds throughout the year.

**Denbs.** Two at Cefn Mawr on 17/06. Singles at RSPB Conwy on 20/04 and 8/10.



**Eagle Owl** *Bubo bubo*  
*Escape.*

**Denbs.** One in Llanrwst village on 5/03 (JCaw). One photographed in Rossett in 2023 was still present Jan (StP per JHg).

Domestic birds are not included.

## STATEMENTS

WeBS: "Data were supplied by the Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS), a partnership jointly funded by the British Trust for Ornithology, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and Joint Nature Conservation Committee with fieldwork conducted by volunteers and previous support from the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust. Although WeBS data are presented within this report, in some cases the figures may not have been fully checked and validated. Therefore, for any detailed analyses of WeBS data, enquiries should be directed to the WeBS team at the British Trust for Ornithology, The Nunnery, Thetford, IP24 2PU (webs@bto.org)"

## Locations

**Acrefair** (Denbs): village with a pool at the north end of the Pontcysyllte aqueduct  
**Aled Isaf** (Denbs): A reservoir on the Denbigh Moors, visible from the road  
**Bagillt** (Flints): a village overlooking the Dee estuary  
**Berwyns** (Denbs): Large range of upland moors between Corwen and Lake Vyrnwy  
**Bettisfield** (Denbs): village on the Shrops border, adjacent to W hixall/Fenn's Moss  
**Big Pool Wood** (Flints): a NWWT Reserve near Gronant (open access)  
**Bodnant** (Denbs): National Trust Gardens (fee for non-members)  
**Brymbo** (Denbs): ex-mining village near Wrexham with a pool  
**Broughton** (Flints): the first Welsh village on the A55 from Chester  
**Bryn Alyn** (Denbs): limestone uplands above the R. Alyn between Eryrys and Llanferres. Not Wrexham.  
**Buckley: Lane End and Heritage Trail** (Flints): LNR, wetland in construction mitigation area, visible from the Heritage Trail  
**Burton Mere, RSPB** (Flints): mostly England, but Border Pool and adjacent areas are in Wales.  
**Bwlchgwyn** (Denbs): village with quarry and pool on the N. edge of moors west of Wrexham

**Cae Llwyd** (Denbs): a reservoir on the edge of the Ruabon moors near Wrexham

**Cefn Du:** upland area south of Colwyn Bay

**Ceiriog Forest** (Denbs): forestry plantation in the north Berwyns with public access

**Chwiler** (Wheeler) Valley (Flints/Denbs): a pass through the Clwydians from Rhydymwyn to Bodfari

**Cilcain Moors** (Flints): moorland west of Cilcain, below Moel Llys-y-Coed and Moel Famau

**Clocaenog Forest** (Denbs): extensive FC conifer plantations on the eastern Denbigh Moors

**Clwyd Estuary** (Denbs/Flints): where the R. Clwyd reaches the sea at Rhyl and Kinmel Bay

**Coed Hafod** (Denbs): Woodland east of the Conwy River at Betws-y-Coed

**Cop Hole Pool** (Flints): reed-fringed pool adjacent to Sealand Rifle Range (no public footpaths).

**CQNR** (Flints): Connah's Quay Nature Reserve (on Power Station land: members only) with hides overlooking Oakenholt Marsh (RSPB)

**Denbigh Moors** (Denbs): aka Mynydd Hiraethog, uplands between Llyn Brenig and Llanrwst.

**Eglwysseg** (Denbs): a small village nestling below the Ruabon moors below World's End

**Erdidig** (Denbs): National Trust property (entry fee) near Wrexham, surrounded by Country Park (open access)

**Esclusham Mountain** (Denbs): northern part of heather moorlands west of Wrexham

**Fagl Lane** (Flints): an ex-quarry with large lake (entry fee, or views from public footpaths)

**Fauxdegla** (Flints): area around Moel Garegog, adjacent to the Llandegla Moors of Denbs.

**Fenn's Moss** (Denbs): NNR spanning the England-Wales border (with Whixall Moss [Eng.])

**Ffynnon Fish Ponds** (Denbs): fishing ponds on the A494 Mold-Rhuthun road (public footpath)

**Froncysyllte** (Denbs): village at one end of the Pontcysyllte Viaduct

**Garreg Ddu** (Denbs): a peak in the southern Berwyns

**Glyn Arthur** (Denbs): Wooded farmland below Moel Arthur on west side of Clwydian Range.

**Gors Maen Llwyd** (Denbs): NWWT Reserve adjacent to Llyn Brenig

**Gronant** (Flints): LNR with dunes, wetlands and nesting Little Tern colony

**Gresford Flash** (Denbs): a well-watched roadside pool between Gresford and Wrexham

**Hanmer Mere** (Denbs): Lake in the centre of Hanmer village in the Maelor.

**Holt** (Denbs): village with meadows on the English border east of Wrexham

**Horseshoe Falls** (Denbs): tourist site upstream along the canal from Llangollen

**Horton's Nose** (Denbs): LNR with beach/shingle at the mouth of the R. Clwyd (Kinmel Bay)

**Is-y-Coed** (Denbs): village on the Dee valley plain east of Wrexham

**Llanddulas** (Denbs): a car park at Wern Road on the beach good for sea-watching at high tide.

**Llanddulas Quarry** (Denbs): on the other side of the A55 from the beach area

**Llandrillo-yn-Rhos** (Denbs): small town above Rhos-on -Sea

**Llanfyllin** (Denbs): village in a river valley south of the Berwyns

**Llantysilio Mtn** (Denbs): moorland area N. of Llangollen

**Llay** (Denbs): a large pool adjacent to Alyn Waters CP near Wrexham

**Llechrydau** (Denbs): traditional upland wooded farmland, SE of the Ceiriog valley in the Berwyns.

**Lleweni** (Denbs): Lleweni Hall between Denbigh and Bodfari (public footpaths and access to R. Clwyd)

**Llyn Brenig** (Denbs): a large reservoir in the Denbigh Moors, with an Osprey viewing site.

**Llyn Cyfynwy** (Flints): an isolated lake near Fauxdegla moors

**Llyn Gweryd** (Denbs): a private commercial fishing lake in the Clwydians near Llanarmon-yn-Ial that can be viewed from a public footpath

**Llyn Helyg** (Flints): a private fishing lake in the north Clwydians with limited access by public footpath

**Loggerheads CP** (Denbs) and Leete Path (Flints): riverside walks

**Maes Mynan** (Denbs): sand-extraction pools on the Mold-Denbigh road (limited views)

**Migneint** (Denbs): moorland north of the Arenigs in Snowdonia

**Minera** (Denbs): village near Wrexham with adjacent NWWT Reserve (ex-quarry)

**Moel Arthur** (Flints/Denbs): Hill-fort in the Clwydian Range; marshy area near the car park.

**Moel Famau** (Denbs): Highest point on Offa's Dyke Path in the Clwydian Range (NE flanks in Flints)

**Moel Findeg** (Flints/Denbs): LNR in Denbs with varied habitats accessible by footpaths from Maeshafn.

**Moel Fferna** (Denbs): one of the peaks in the north Berwyns, partly in Denbs  
**Moel Garegog** (Flints): moorland near Llandegla village (Denbs)  
**Moel Llys-y-coed** (Flints): Clwydian Range, near Moel Arthur.  
**Nannerch Fishery** (Denbs): Walgoch fish ponds on the Penbedw estate (visible from the road).  
**Nant-y-Ffrith** (Denbs): a reservoir on the Llandegla, surrounded by woodland  
**Nercwys Forest** (Flints): a forestry commission, largely-coniferous woodland with paths for cyclists and dog-walkers. A traditional site for nightjar and (formerly) woodcock.  
**Padeswood Pool** (Flints): pool east of Buckley with limited access  
**Pantymwyn** (Flints): a village on the limestone above the R. Alyn  
**Pensarn** (Denbs): a beach near Abergele  
**PenYCae** (Denbs): village with two reservoirs on the SE edge of Ruabon moors  
**Penycloddiau** (Flints). Hill-fort on Offa's Dyke Path in the Clwydian Range  
**POA** (Flints): the RSPB Reserve at Point of Ayr at the mouth of the Dee Estuary, A footpath from the village of Talacre leads to a hide for high tide birdwatching  
**Pontcysyllte** (Denbs): the canal viaduct area around the R. Dee at Froncysyllte  
**Rhuddlan** (Flints): town on the R. Clwyd with a LNR by the river  
**Rhydymwyn** (Flints): village in the Chwiler valley near Mold with a LNR  
**Rhyl Brickworks Pool** (Flints): accessible pool near Rhyl  
**Rhyl Marine Lake** (Denbs): large pool by the A548, above the river at Rhyl  
**Rhyl Splash Point** (Flints): a bend in Marine Drive in the east of Rhyl  
**Ridleywood**: village on the Dee valley plain east of Wrexham  
**RSPB Conwy** (Denbs): RSPB Reserve with access from the A55 near Conwy  
**Ruabon Moors** (Denbs): large area of heather moorland west of Wrexham.  
**Shotton Pools NR** (Flints): pools within factory with a tern nesting colony (no public access)  
**Shotwick Lake** (Flints): boating lake on the English border near RSPB Burton Mere  
**Sontley** (Denbs): area near Erddig  
**Star Crossing** (Flints): pools near the A541 road west of Hendre (visible from the road)  
**Tal-y-cafn** (Denbs): wooded area by the R. Conwy near Bodnant  
**Tanat Valley** (Denbs): in S. Berwyns close to Montgomeryshire border.  
**Trevalyn** (Denbs): wet meadows near Rossett, NE of Wrexham  
**Ty Mawr** (Denbs): another reservoir on the edge of the Ruabon moors near Wrexham  
**Vivod** (Denbs): peak in the Berwyns north of Ceiriog Forest  
**Walwen Marsh** (Flints): Dee estuary between Bagillt and Greenfield  
**White Sands** (Flints): tidal marshes across the river Dee from CQNR  
**World's End** (Denbs): scenic area with cliffs at the south end of Ruabon moors near Wrexham  
**Ysbyty Ifan** (Denbs): village and moorland east of (and not including) the B4407 to Ffestiniog  
**Ysceifiog** (Flints): a large private wooded lake with a public footpath on one side

## Contributors

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## Ringling Report for 2023 and 2024

Lee Barber

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Each year licenced BTO bird ringers fit specially designed rings with unique digits to birds to help track their movements, life span, migrations and breeding performance. We have learned fascinating insights into the lives of birds since the start of the British and Irish Ringing Scheme, but there is still much that is unknown.

After a peak in the ringing totals in 2022, the number of birds ringed dropped slightly in 2023 and then dropped further in 2024. This was mainly driven by a reduction in the number of fully grown birds ringed, however the number of chicks (pulli) ringed followed the same trend although to a lesser extent. BTO analysis for Britain and Ireland shows that productivity in 2024 was generally poor for most species, which would affect the totals of fully grown birds and pulli ringed.

### Total numbers of birds ringed each year

Year	Full grown	Pulli	Total
2024	7177	3007	10184
2023	8447	3118	11565
2022	9533	3901	13434
2021	5744	1532	7276
2020	4750	793	5543
2019	6473	3965	10438
2018	7508	3457	10965
2017	7810	3711	11521
2016	7939	3824	11763
2015	7648	3911	11559
2014	5161	3568	8729
2013	3387	2374	5761
2012	3449	1881	5330
2011	4448	2137	6585
2010	3908	2776	6684
2009	2385	2229	4614
2008	2127	3703	5830
2007	2740	4745	7485
2006	3179	4575	7754
2005	2967	4793	7760
2004	3769	4430	8199
2003	3202	3756	6958
2002	2202	3216	5418

The totals show that 2023 was not as good a year compared to 2022 (with a decline of 1,086 birds) and 2024 showed a further decline of 1,381 birds between 2023 and 2024. The number of Blue Tits ringed in 2023 was 548 birds greater than the previous year, however during 2024 this total dropped to levels below that of 2022 (a decline of 628), with this species showing the greatest decline in the number of birds ringed in 2024. This drop in the number of Blue Tit ringed in 2024 could in part be due to low productivity and the weather generally not being conducive for ringing. Great Tit followed a similar pattern, however they didn't drop below the 2022 total like Blue Tit. Numbers of Pied

Flycatcher ringed also showed an increase in 2023 and a decline in 2024 to a very similar level to 2022.

The largest drop in the numbers of birds ringed in 2023, compared with 2022, was shown in Black-headed Gull, with 838 birds ringed in 2022 and none in 2023. There were no Common Tern ringed in 2023 either and was due to a severe outbreak of Avian Influenza in the area which killed many individuals (see the selected recoveries list below for example). Black-headed Gull and Common Tern were ringed again in 2024, however this was only a very small fraction compared to previous years. There was only one individual Dunlin ringed in 2023 which was a decline of 691 birds compared to the previous year, with the total also one bird in 2024. The species with the greatest increase in the numbers of birds ringed in 2024 was Siskin, with 959 more individuals ringed compared with 2023. Depending on the winter temperature and the weather, the number of individual Siskin can vary greatly on an annual basis between northern and the southern Britain, with Siskin staying further north during milder winters.

### Numbers of birds ringed per species

Ringing totals Species	2022			2023			Year total difference	2024			Year total difference
	FG	Pull.	Total	FG	Pull.	Total		FG	Pull.	Total	
Greylag Goose	0	2	2	0	0	0	-2	0	0	0	0
Mute Swan	13	1	14	0	9	9	-5	5	4	9	0
Mandarin Duck	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	-1
Mallard	4	0	4	1	0	1	-3	0	0	0	-1
Teal (A)	1	0	1	6	0	0	-1	1	0	1	1
Nightjar	39	26	65	16	13	29	-36	26	24	50	21
Swift (R)	0	0	0	2	2	4	4	0	2	2	-2
Cuckoo (R)	2	0	2	3	0	3	1	1	1	2	-1
Stock Dove	1	4	5	7	2	9	4	3	0	3	-6
Woodpigeon	3	24	27	3	10	13	-14	2	9	11	-2
Collared Dove	0	1	1	0	0	0	-1	1	0	1	1
Coot (A)	14	2	16	4	0	4	-12	0	0	0	-4
Oystercatcher (A)	8	0	8	12	2	14	6	18	2	20	6
Lapwing (R)	0	0	0	3	0	3	3	1	0	1	-2
Ringed Plover (R)	47	12	59	1	21	22	-37	0	24	24	2
Curlew (R)	2	0	2	5	44	49	47	5	60	65	16
Turnstone (A)	45	0	45	34	0	34	-11	0	0	0	-34
Sanderling	3	0	3	0	0	0	-3	0	0	0	0
Dunlin (R)	692	0	692	1	0	1	-691	1	0	1	0
Woodcock (R)	12	0	12	22	0	22	10	8	0	8	-14
Jack Snipe (A)	3	0	3	7	0	7	4	1	0	1	-6
Snipe (A)	5	0	5	32	0	32	27	6	0	6	-26
Common Sandpiper (A)	2	0	2	0	0	0	-2	0	0	0	0
Redshank (R)	1	0	1	26	0	26	25	6	0	6	-20
Black-headed Gull (R)	0	838	838	0	0	0	-838	0	153	153	153
Herring Gull (R)	3	0	3	0	0	0	-3	3	0	3	3
Little Tern (R) (S)	8	253	261	7	174	181	-80	2	179	181	0
Common Tern (A)	0	354	354	0	0	0	-354	0	139	139	139
Manx Shearwater (A)	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	0	3	2
Gannet (A)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Osprey (A) (S)	0	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	2	2	0

Ringing totals Species	2022			2023			Year total difference	2024			Year total difference
	FG	Pull.	Total	FG	Pull.	Total		FG	Pull.	Total	
Sparrowhawk	4	0	4	5	0	5	1	0	0	0	-5
Hen Harrier (R) (S)	0	3	3	0	7	7	4	0	4	4	-3
Red Kite (S)	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	4	4	3
Buzzard	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	2	3	2
Barn Owl (S)	16	59	75	15	68	83	8	11	58	69	-14
Tawny Owl	0	0	0	0	7	7	7	1	1	2	-5
Kingfisher (S)	23	0	23	16	0	16	-7	0	0	0	-16
Great Spot. Woodpecker	30	0	30	23	0	23	-7	13	0	13	-10
Kestrel (R)	0	12	12	0	2	2	-10	2	12	14	12
Hobby (S)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	4
Jay	2	0	2	3	0	3	1	4	0	4	1
Magpie (A)	2	0	2	2	0	2	0	1	0	1	-1
Chough (A) (S)	0	4	4	0	5	5	1	0	4	4	-1
Jackdaw	1	5	6	1	19	20	14	18	9	27	7
Rook (R)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Carrion Crow	0	0	0	3	0	3	3	0	0	0	-3
Coal Tit (A)	44	19	63	44	56	100	37	52	30	82	-18
Willow Tit (R)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Blue Tit	601	623	1224	968	804	1772	548	667	477	1144	-628
Great Tit	189	301	490	270	575	845	355	279	364	643	-202
Sand Martin	2	0	2	34	0	34	32	0	0	0	-34
Swallow	35	38	73	10	70	80	7	21	84	105	25
House Martin (A)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Cetti's Warbler (S)	10	0	10	14	0	14	4	2	0	2	-12
Long-tailed Tit	203	0	203	120	0	120	-83	120	0	120	0
Willow Warbler (R)	60	0	60	45	0	45	-15	37	0	37	-8
Chiffchaff	282	0	282	340	1	341	59	232	0	232	-109
Sedge Warbler	22	0	22	7	0	7	-15	3	0	3	-4
Reed Warbler	68	0	68	33	0	33	-35	21	0	21	-12
Grasshopper Warbler (R)	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0
Blackcap	292	0	292	263	0	263	-29	115	0	115	-148
Garden Warbler (A)	37	0	37	38	2	40	3	1	0	1	-39
Lesser Whitethroat	3	0	3	2	0	2	-1	2	0	2	0
Whitethroat (R)	16	0	16	25	0	25	9	9	0	9	-16
Firecrest (A) (S)	1	0	1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0
Goldcrest (R)	164	0	164	111	0	111	-53	82	0	82	-29
Wren	127	12	139	99	24	123	-16	102	18	120	-3
Nuthatch	15	15	30	8	6	14	-16	14	36	50	36
Treecreeper	30	0	30	17	4	21	-9	9	0	9	-12
Starling (R)	29	3	32	30	0	30	-2	12	12	24	-6
Song Thrush	54	0	54	43	4	47	-7	18	7	25	-22
Redwing (S)	213	0	213	139	0	139	-74	32	0	32	-107
Blackbird	161	12	173	120	14	134	-39	66	15	81	-53
Fieldfare (A) (S)	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	-1
Spotted Flycatcher (R)	0	0	0	1	10	11	11	0	4	4	-7
Robin	199	22	221	166	26	192	-29	121	5	126	-66

Ringing totals				Year total difference							Year total difference
Species	FG	Pull.	Total	FG	Pull.	Total		FG	Pull.	Total	
Pied Flycatcher (A)	114	676	790	177	957	1134	344	124	598	722	-412
Redstart	20	107	127	25	102	127	0	13	71	84	-43
Stonechat	10	0	10	4	0	4	-6	5	0	5	1
Dipper	0	45	45	1	32	33	-12	0	14	14	-19
House Sparrow (A)	31	18	49	1	13	14	-35	6	5	11	-3
Dunnoch (A)	142	11	153	85	2	87	-66	75	3	78	-9
Grey Wagtail (A)	13	2	15	2	1	3	-12	1	18	19	16
Pied Wagtail	11	0	11	0	5	5	-6	11	14	25	20
Meadow Pipit (R)	74	0	74	112	0	112	38	57	0	57	-55
Tree Pipit (R)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2
Chaffinch (A)	183	4	187	182	2	184	-3	142	4	146	-38
Brambling (S)	11	0	11	3	0	3	-8	3	0	3	0
Bullfinch (A)	78	0	78	77	0	77	-1	57	0	57	-20
Greenfinch (R)	539	0	539	345	0	345	-194	168	0	168	-177
Linnet (R)	2	0	2	0	0	0	-2	1	0	1	1
Twite (A)	16	0	16	0	0	0	-16	0	0	0	0
Redpoll (A)	19	0	19	34	0	34	15	36	0	36	2
Goldfinch	641	0	641	768	0	768	127	542	11	553	-215
Siskin	263	0	263	320	0	320	57	1279	0	1279	959
Reed Bunting	7	4	11	1	0	1	-10	2	0	2	1
Grand Totals	6019	3514	9533	5349	3098	8447	-1086	4690	2487	7177	-1270

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 *et al.* 2023). Species where a Schedule 1 licence is required during the breeding season are indicated with S. The ringing totals are derived from the BTO database and similar numbers can be seen on the online Ringing Report: [www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/ringing/publications/online-ringing-reports](http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/ringing/publications/online-ringing-reports).

Being able to individually identify birds has opened a window into their movements, with some species travelling large distances on a regular basis while others rarely move further than 10km. For example, a Siskin ringed in Scotland and subsequently caught in Wales the following winter is a regular occurrence and not unusual. Some of the more unusual movements, captures and life histories for 2023 and 2024 are highlighted below, particularly those that show exceptional ages. This includes a Blue Tit that was caught 22 times over the years at Rosedan, Bagillt, Flintshire, which when caught in 2024, was only two years from breaking the longevity record for this species. Considering the thousands of Blue Tits that are monitored annually, this is quite an achievement.

Highly Pathogenic Avian influenza (HPAI) is a virus that can infect individual birds easily, so an outbreak can go through a population rapidly. This has had large effects on the poultry industry but has also devastated populations of wildfowl, gulls and seabirds. At Shotton Steelworks, Flintshire, Black-headed Gull and Common Tern populations were particularly affected, which included many ringed individuals being found dead. Due to this virus, extra precautions were placed on ringers, to minimise the risk of transmission to birds or people, whilst still maintaining monitoring productivity, survival, abundance and population change through ringing activities.

Ringing provides a wealth of information to inform conservation. Standardised ringing can improve on this by providing information on adult survival, annual productivity and adult abundance. The two



schemes which are able to provide this information are the Constant Effort Site (CES) Scheme and Retrapping Adults for Survival (RAS) Scheme. Ian Spence and Giles Pepler ran their CES in 2023 and 2024 at Rhydymwyn and Kelvin Jones ran his CES at Afon Gannol for the last time in 2023. Two RAS studies were active in 2023 and 2024, both being Pied Flycatcher projects (run by Bob Harris and Peter Coffey, the latter since 1986). One other RAS project ended in 2023 which was on Siskins (run by Alan Robinson since 2002). These projects have contributed good quality data for the annual survival rates of those species. More CES and RAS projects are greatly needed and further information can be found at <https://www.bto.org/get-involved/volunteer/projects/bird-ringing-scheme/ringing-surveys>. An increase of just four CES projects, could result in the production of population trends specific for Wales.

I am grateful to the ringers in the area and those who visit, who give up their time to study birds in North-East Wales.

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 histories. To report a ringed bird, go to [www.ring.ac](http://www.ring.ac), and you will be sent the details of the bird including where and when the bird was ringed. Reporting colour ringed birds is also very useful and the colour ringer can be found on this website <http://cr-birding.org/>

### Selected recoveries for 2023 and 2024

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
7	Hatched two years ago
8	At least three years, exact year unknown

LH76875	Nightjar	6M	
	24/06/2016	Llyfarddu, Clocaenog Forest, Conwy	
	09/07/2021	Craig Bron-banog, Clocaenog Forest, Denbighshire	
	10/07/2021	Craig Bron-banog, Clocaenog Forest, Denbighshire	
DT79851	Cuckoo	6M	
	16/06/2022	Carnedd Ci, Clocaenog Forest, Denbighshire	
	10/06/2023	Carnedd Ci, Clocaenog Forest, Denbighshire	
	0km	-0y 11m 25d	Caught by ringer
EY22729	Black-tailed Godwit	6	
	24/01/2020	Bangor Harbour, Gwynedd	
	27/08/2024	River Clwyd, Rhyl, Denbighshir	
	51km	W	4y 7m 3d Colour ring sighting
SV33010	Turnstone	5	
	02/12/2006	Rhos-on-Sea, Conwy	
	26/02/2005	Rhos-on-Sea, Conwy	
	10/01/2009	Rhos-on-Sea, Conwy	
	08/03/2013	Rhos-on-Sea, Conwy	

ST00472	Rhos-on-Sea, Conwy		
	12/02/2024	Rhos-on-Sea, Conwy	
	0km	-18y 11m 17d	Colour ring sighting. Longevity record 20yrs 3 days.
	Turnstone	6	
BT80235	Rhos-on-Sea, Conwy		
	19/02/2023	Rhos-on-Sea, Conwy	
	26/03/2023	Deganwy Marina, Conwy	
	10/05/2023	Skogarnes, Hnappadalssýsla, Iceland	64°46'N 22°36'W 1662 km. NW 0y 2m 21d Colour ring sighting
EA84154	Dunlin	5	
	11/03/2017	Kinmel Bay, Conwy	
	11/03/2017	Kinmel Bay, Conwy	
	20/08/2023	Griend, The Netherlands	53°15'N 5°15'E 584 km. E 6y 5m 9d Caught by ringer
EY34857	Woodcock	3	
	19/11/2022	Tal Goed Nursery, Conwy	
	21/04/2024	Ramenskiy distr., Aksenovo, Russia	55°40'N 38°15'E 2727 km E 1y 5m 2d Shot
	Black-headed Gull	6	
UA12571	Newburgh, Aberdeenshire		
	12/07/2013	Newburgh, Aberdeenshire	
	26/05/2023	Shotton Steelworks, Flintshire	
	458 km	S	9y 10m 14d Fresh dead due to viral infection
1V020729	Common Gull	6	
	29/05/2017	Läänemaa, Kakrarahu, Estonia	58°46'N 23°25'E
	29/05/2014	Läänemaa, Kakrarahu, Estonia	58°46'N 23°25'E
	01/03/2024	Horton's Nose, Kinmel Bay, Conwy	1771 km. SW 9y 9m 1d Colour ring sighting. 5 <sup>th</sup> record from Estonia
4A99225	Common Tern	3	
	17/08/2012	Parque Nacional Marismas del Odiel, Huelva, Spain	37°16'N 6°55'W
	25/06/2023	Shotton Steelworks, Flintshire	
	1799 km.	N	10y 10m 8d Not fresh due to viral infection
XS48111	Common Tern	4	
	29/03/2021	La Somone, Senegal	14°28'N 17°4'W
	25/06/2023	Shotton Steelworks, Flintshire	
	4482 km.	NNE	2y 2m 27d Not fresh due to viral infection
XR70447	Common Tern	Pull.	
	22/06/2002	Welney, Norfolk	
	26/05/2023	Shotton Steelworks, Flintshire	
	235 km.	WNW	20y 11m 4d Fresh dead due to viral infection
GV84787	Common Tern	Pull.	
	10/07/2013	Ynys Welltrog, Isle of Anglesey	
	26/05/2023	Shotton Steelworks, Flintshire	
	74 km	E	9y 10m 16d Fresh dead due to viral infection
NV83031	Peregrine	Pull. F	
	10/06/2022	Corlarach Forest, Dunoon, Argyll and Bute	
	18/02/2024	Denbigh area, Denbighshire	
	323 km.	SSE	1y 8m 8d Facial injury, maybe shot. Fate unknown
	Waxwing	3F	
	17/11/2023	Kirbister, Orphir, Orkney	
	29/01/2024	Windmill, Pentre Halkyn, Flintshire	
	73 km.	S	0y 2m 12d Colour ring sighting

S254916	Blue Tit	3	20/11/2016	Rosedan, Bagillt, Flintshire	20 other captures	14/04/2024	Rosedan, Bagillt, Flintshire	0 km	- 7y 4m 25d	Caught by ringer. Longevity record 9 years 8 months 16 days
Z936881	Great Tit	5F	18/03/2016	Rosedan, Bagillt, Flintshire	17 other captures	21/10/2023	Rosedan, Bagillt, Flintshire	0 km	- 7y 7m 3d	Caught by ringer. Longevity record 10 years 5 months 18 days
NTE389	Chiffchaff	3J	01/09/2022	Cors Ddyga, Llangefni, Isle of Anglesey		25/03/2023	Llanddulas, Conwy	45 km.	E 0y 6m 24d	Killed by cat
AYR8232	Lesser Whitethroat	4F	23/05/2022	Rhydymwyn, near Mold, Flintshire		02/06/2022	Rhydymwyn, near Mold, Flintshire			
			30/07/2024	Rhydymwyn, near Mold, Flintshire				0 km	- 2y 2m 7d	Caught by ringer
S841359	Pied Flycatcher	6M	04/06/2017	Llwynmawr, Wrexham		30/05/2023	Coed Collfryn, Llwynmawr, Wrexham			
			31/05/2024	Coed Collfryn, Llwynmawr, Wrexham				0 km	-6y 11m 27d	Caught by ringer. 9 years 7 days
ACA1543	Meadow Pipit	6	06/03/2018	Llwydfaen, Conwy		20/02/2023	Llwydfaen, Conwy	0 km	-4y 11m 14d	Caught by ringer
BLA8525	Chaffinch	3F	28/09/2023	Rosedan, Bagillt, Flintshire		20/02/2024	Illogan, Redruth, Cornwall	365 km	SSW 0y 4m 23d	Found fresh dead
EP17201	Chaffinch	4M	09/05/2021	Kvassås, Sokndal, Rogaland, <b>Norway</b> 58°19'N 6°16'W		21/01/2023	Tal Goed Nursery, Conwy	844 km.	SW 1y 8m 12d	Caught by ringer
Z936921	Chaffinch	5M	31/03/2016	Rosedan, Bagillt, Flintshire		03/04/2022	Rosedan, Bagillt, Flintshire			
			01/04/2023	Rosedan, Bagillt, Flintshire						
			11/04/2024	Rosedan, Bagillt, Flintshire				0 km	- 8y 0m 11d	Caught by ringer
AZT2835	Bullfinch	3J	18/08/2022	River Tanat, Llangedwyn, Powys		04/03/2024	Cefn Isa, Glyn Ceiriog, Wrexham	13 km	N 1y 6m 15d	Fresh dead. Hit glass bi-fold doors
AYR8132	Twite	6M	27/01/2022	Connah's Quay Nature Reserve, Flintshire		18/03/2022	Connah's Quay Nature Reserve, Flintshire			
			16/10/2023	Askam Car Park, Cumbria				108 km.	N 1y 8m 19d	Colour ring sighting

AX03594	Goldfinch	3	17/11/2008	Skyum, Thisted, Viborg, <b>Denmark</b> 56°49'N 8°34'E		18/02/2023	Llwynmawr, Wrexham	867 km.	WSW 14y 3m 1d	Caught by ringer. Second from Denmark
HK73245	Siskin	6M	08/02/2022	Navestad, Haugeveien, Skjeberg, Østfold, <b>Norway</b> 59°16'N 11°7'E		17/03/2024	Rosedan, Bagillt, Flintshire	1105 km.	SW 2y 1m 9d	Caught by ringer
AKP8461	Reed Bunting	3	31/07/2021	Betley Mere, Betley, Staffordshire		05/01/2023	Rossett, Wrexham	38 km.	WNW 1y 5m 5d	Fresh dead, killed by Sparrowhawk or cat

### Birds ringed or found in NE Wales involving movements abroad in 2023 and 2024.



The codes used in this map relate to birds that were ringed in NE Wales (red diamond) and found abroad (blue pin). These are:  
TURNS-Turnstone, DUNLI-Dunlin, WOODC-Woodcock, BLHGU-Black-headed Gull



The codes used in this map relate to birds that were ringed abroad (blue pin) and found in NE Wales (red diamond). These are:  
BLABI-Blackbird, CHAFF-Chaffinch, SISKI-Siskin, BLHGU-Black-headed Gull, SANTE-Sandwich Tern, COMTE-Common Tern

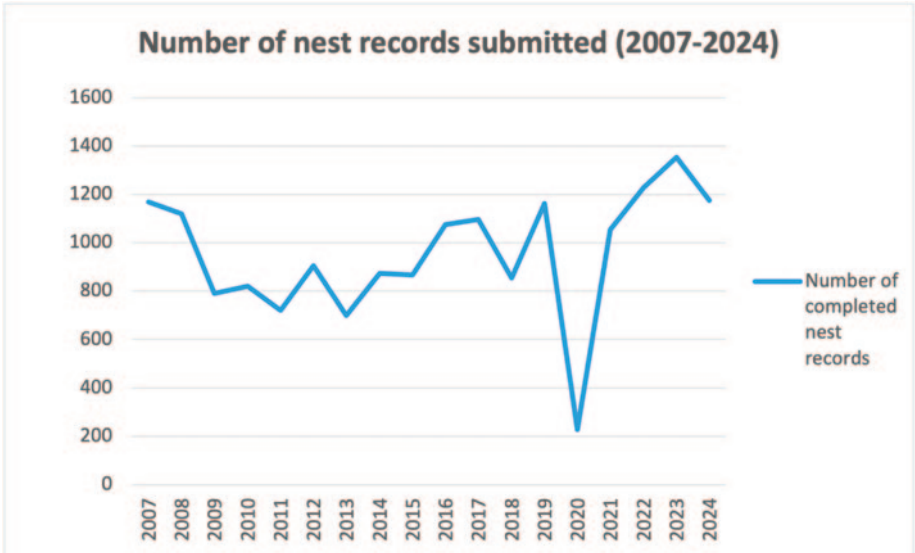
### Reference

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### Nest records from ‘Clwyd’ (NB This is not the same area as VCs 50 and 51)

Volunteer nest recorders are in a unique position to be able to record how successful a particular nesting attempt is. Factors such as the number of eggs produced or the number of chicks which fledge can have a direct impact on population change of bird species. This information can then link with ringing data to monitor first year and adult survival, which gives a unique insight into the potential reasons for population decline and where action can then be taken to reverse population declines.

Since 2013, there has been a steady increase in the number of nest records submitted to the Nest Record Scheme from North-East Wales. The large drop in nest records in 2020 was due to the COVID lockdown, but thankfully the totals bounced back the following year. The total peaked in 2023 with the greatest number of nest records submitted (1354 nest records). It’s worth noting that these numbers are a reflection of the effort and commitment of nest recorders and not necessarily



productivity. Productivity is however the most likely cause of the drop in numbers in 2024 (from 1,354 in 2023 to 1,176 in 2024) as many species failed in their nesting attempts due to the cold wet weather early on in the breeding cycle.

In 2023, Little Tern (322 nest records) was the most recorded species, followed by Blue Tit (280), Pied Flycatcher (261) and Great Tit (173) however in 2024, Pied Flycatcher (299) was the most nest recorded species followed closely behind by Blue Tit (298). After these was Great Tit (183), Little Tern (142) and Swallow (35). Raptor monitoring is also quite successful in North-East Wales with 10 species being monitored.

A nest record consists of recording the contents of a birds’ nest and following it through its development until it succeeds or fails. With enough data, this information can give an insight into any issues a species might have while it is breeding e.g. reduced chick survival or a reduction in the number of eggs laid. For declining species, this information could be an important tool for conservation, particularly when it is incorporated into the BTO’s Integrated Population Monitoring. For more information on the NRS and the code of conduct, see <https://www.bto.org/get-involved/volunteer/projects/nrs>.

Species name	Number of nest records for Clwyd					Britain and Ireland total	
	2022	2023	Change	2024	Change	2023	2024
Nightjar	14	13	-1	14	1	118	101
Swift	0	1	1	1	0	288	291
Cuckoo	0	0	0	1	1	32	28
Stock Dove	20	17	-3	4	-13	1072	925
Woodpigeon	18	19	1	9	-10	501	375
Collared Dove	1	0	-1	0	0	65	52
Moorhen	1	0	-1	0	0	126	111
Great Crested Grebe	0	1	1	0	-1	49	38
Oystercatcher	4	7	3	4	-3	232	257
Avocet	0	2	2	0	-2	45	73



Species name	Number of nest records for Clwyd					Britain and Ireland total	
	2022	2023	Change	2024	Change	2023	2024
Ringed Plover	15	28	13	10	-18	106	101
Mediterranean Gull	0	0	0	1	1p	10	13
Little Tern	304	322	18	142	-180	358	160
Osprey	2	1	-1	1	0	77	81
Hen Harrier	1	3	2	2	-1	110	95
Red Kite	0	1	1	2	1	211	206
Buzzard	0	4	4	2	-2	185	190
Barn Owl	31	28	-3	26	-2	3350	3942
Little Owl	0	1	1	1	0	156	156
Tawny Owl	0	3	3	1	-2	616	542
Kestrel	4	3	-1	4	1	580	702
Hobby	0	1	1	3	2	92	122
Peregrine	3	2	-1	2	0	210	240
Chough	7	8	1	10	2	129	130
Jackdaw	5	8	3	5	-3	487	472
Raven	8	9	1	7	-2	123	148
Coal Tit	5	10	5	8	-2	138	118
Blue Tit	288	280	-8	298	18	7649	7400
Great Tit	128	173	45	183	10	4440	4173
Swallow	40	42	2	35	-7	1616	1384
House Martin	0	1	1	1	0	338	322
Long-tailed Tit	0	0	0	1	1	141	140
Wood Warbler	3	0	-3	0	0	42	22
Willow Warbler	0	1	1	0	-1	118	102
Chiffchaff	0	2	2	1	-1	165	165
Dartford Warbler	1	0	-1	0	0	18	22
Blackcap	0	1	1	0	-1	128	135
Garden Warbler	0	1	1	0	-1	27	23
Wren	7	9	2	9	0	245	279
Nuthatch	4	5	1	9	4	301	338
Treecreeper	0	1	1	0	-1	51	26
Starling	2	2	0	4	2	213	258
Song Thrush	1	2	1	5	3	444	430
Blackbird	15	7	-8	10	3	895	885
Spotted Flycatcher	0	6	6	3	-3	89	95
Robin	9	11	2	5	-6	363	445
Pied Flycatcher	212	261	49	299	38	2394	2610
Redstart	19	19	0	13	-6	264	208
Stonechat	3	3	0	2	-1	256	246
Dipper	19	15	-4	5	-10	484	453
House Sparrow	16	4	-12	6	2	424	367
Dunnock	4	3	-1	3	0	221	218
Grey Wagtail	3	7	4	8	1	112	150
Pied Wagtail	9	4	-5	6	2	101	114
Tree Pipit	0	1	1	1	0	60	72

The table below shows the number of nest records in 2023 and 2024, compared to 2022 and the

Species name	Number of nest records for Clwyd				Britain and Ireland total		
	2022	2023	Change	2024	Change	2023	2024
Chaffinch	2	1	-1	3	2	86	90
Greenfinch	1	0	-1	0	0	25	27
Goldfinch	0	0	0	2	2	101	84
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1229</b>	<b>1354</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>1174</b>	<b>-180</b>	<b>32158</b>	<b>31560</b>

national total for comparison.

I am grateful to the nest recorders in the area who have given up their time to follow the progress of these nests (in order of number of nests recorded during 2023 and 2024): Merseyside Ringing Group, Mike Baron, John Lawton Roberts, Kelvin Jones, Ian Spence and Giles Pepler, Nigel Wilde, Claire Backshall, Lee Barber, Julian Moulton, North Wales Wildlife Trust, Shropshire Ringing Group, Mid Wales Ringing Group, Jack Slattery, Cross & Stratford Welsh Chough Project, Jimmi Hill, Shaun Nield, East Dales Ringing Group, Steve Kent, Neil Finch, Peter Coffey, Michael Lloyd, Chris Mellenchip, Myles Tomlinson.

## Index

American Golden Plover	33		
American Wigeon	12	Eagle Owl	111
Arctic Skua	55	Egyptian Goose	8
Arctic Tern	54	Eider	17
Avocet	31	Feral Pigeon	25
Bar-headed Goose	111	Fieldfare	92
Bar-tailed Godwit	38	Firecrest	86
Barn Owl	65	Fulmar	56
Barnacle Goose	5	Gadwall	11
Bewick's Swan	7	Gannet	57
Bearded Tit	77	Garden Warbler	84
Black Grouse	21	Garganey	10
Black Guillemot	55	Glaucous Gull	51
Black Redstart	95	Goldcrest	86
Black Swan	111	Golden Plover	33
Black Tern	54	Goldeneye	18
Black-headed Gull	48	Goldfinch	107
Black-tailed Godwit	38	Goosander	18
Black-throated Diver	56	Goshawk	62
Blackbird	91	Grasshopper Warbler	83
Blackcap	83	Great Black-backed Gull	50
Blue Tit	76	Great Crested Grebe	29
Brambling	103	Great Grey Shrike	72
Brent Goose	4	Great Northern Diver	56
Bullfinch	104	Great Skua	54
Buzzard	64	Great Spotted Woodpecker	68
Canada Goose	4	Great Tit	77
Carrion Crow	75	Great White Egret	59
Caspian Gull	51	Green Sandpiper	45
Cattle Egret	58	Green Woodpecker	69
Cetti's Warbler	79	Greenfinch	105
Chaffinch	102	Greenshank	47
Chiffchaff	82	Grey Heron	58
Chough	73	Grey Partridge	21
Coal Tit	76	Grey Plover	34
Collared Dove	26	Grey Wagtail	100
Common Crane	28	Greylag Goose	5
Common Gull	49	Guillemot	55
Common Sandpiper	44	Hawfinch	103
Common Scoter	17	Hen Harrier	63
Common Tern	54	Herring Gull	52
Coot	27	Hobby	71
Cormorant	57	Honey-buzzard	61
Crossbill	106	Hooded Crow	75
Cuckoo	23	House Martin	79
Curlew	36	House Sparrow	99
Curlew Sandpiper	42	Hudsonian Godwit	39
Dipper	99	Jack Snipe	43
Dunlin	42	Jackdaw	74
Dunnock	100	Jay	72

Kestrel	69	Red-throated Diver	55
Kingfisher	68	Redshank	46
Kittiwake	48	Redstart	95
Knot	41	Redwing	91
Lapland Bunting	109	Reed Bunting	110
Lapwing	31	Reed Warbler	82
Leach's Petrel	56	Reeve's Pheasant	111
Lesser Black-backed Gull	52	Ring Ouzel	92
Lesser Whitethroat	84	Ring-necked Duck	16
Linnet	106	Ring-necked Parakeet	111
Little Egret	60	Ringed Plover	34
Little Grebe	28	Robin	93
Little Gull	48	Rock Dove	25
Little Owl	66	Rock Pipit	102
Little Ringed Plover	35	Rook	74
Little Stint	43	Roseate Tern	54
Little Tern	53	Ruddy Shelduck	111
Long-eared Owl	66	Ruff	41
Long-tailed Duck	18	Sabine's Gull	48
Long-tailed Tit	80	Sand Martin	78
Magpie	73	Sanderling	42
Mallard	13	Sandwich Tern	53
Mandarin Duck	10	Scaup	16
Manx Shearwater	57	Sedge Warbler	82
Marsh Harrier	62	Shag	58
Marsh Tit	76	Shelduck	8
Meadow Pipit	101	Short-eared Owl	67
Mediterranean Gull	49	Shoveler	10
Merlin	70	Siskin	108
Mistle Thrush	90	Skylark	78
Moorhen	27	Slavonian Grebe	29
Mute Swan	7	Smew	18
Nightjar	22	Snipe	44
Nuthatch	87	Snow Bunting	109
Osprey	61	Snow Goose	111
Oystercatcher	29	Song Thrush	90
Peregrine	71	Sparrowhawk	61
Pheasant	21	Spoonbill	58
Pied Flycatcher	94	Spotted Flycatcher	93
Pied Wagtail	101	Spotted Redshank	46
Pink-footed Goose	6	Starling	89
Pintail	14	Stock Dove	25
Pochard	15	Stonechat	96
Quail	22	Surf Scoter	17
Raven	75	Swallow	79
Razorbill	55	Swift	23
Redpoll	106	Tawny Owl	67
Red Grouse	19	Teal	15
Red Kite	63	Tree Pipit	101
Red-breasted Merganser	19	Tree Sparrow	99
Red-legged Partridge	22	Treecreeper	88

Tufted Duck	16
Turnstone	40
Twite	105
Velvet Scoter	17
Water Pipit	102
Water Rail	26
Waxwing	97
Western Yellow Wagtail	100
Wheatear	97
Whimbrel	35
Whinchat	96
White Stork	57
White-fronted Goose	6
White-tailed Eagle	64
Whitethroat	85
Whooper Swan	7
Wigeon	11
Willow Tit	76
Willow Warbler	81
Wood Duck	111
Wood Sandpiper	46
Wood Warbler	80
Woodcock	43
Woodlark	78
Woodpigeon	25
Wren	87
Yellow-browed Warbler	81
Yellow-legged Gull	52
Yellowhammer	109

