



Manx Ornithological Society: publisher of the *Peregrine* journal of Manx natural history

Summary of bird sightings in the Isle of Man, May 2023

Brent Goose – A single bird remained at Derbyhaven until 3rd.

Grey Plover – At least two were present at Langness on 7th and 8th.

Greenshank – A single bird was present at Langness between 7th and 9th.

Black-tailed Godwit – Only one report of a single bird at Langness on 14th.

Little Stint – A single bird was among other small waders at Derbyhaven on 30th.

Great Skua – The south coast individual was sighted at Langness on 18th.

Swift – The first of the month was a report of three near Colby on 3rd. Subsequent sightings came from Castletown, Nobles Hospital, Farmhill, Peel, Ramsey and the Point of Ayre. The highest count was of 18 over Castletown on 29th.

Arctic Tern – The first returning birds sighted at the Point of Ayre were six on 3rd.

Cuckoo – A single sighting from the Smeale Ayres on 4th. An individual was present near Niarbyl where it was recorded on 16th & 28th. Another bird was heard from Surby on 12th & 19th.

Spotted Flycatcher – A single bird was seen at Langness on 16th. Subsequently the Howe Glen saw two on 20th and three on 24th. Two were in Bradda Glen on 26th.

Yellow Wagtail* - A flavissima bird was present at Langness on 13th.

Tree Sparrow* - Sighting details are not made public during the breeding season; however a new location was identified during the month.

Crossbill – Four were seen in Conrhenny Plantation on 19th.

Compiled by David Kelly

Sourced from Manx Birdlife website, and some eBird contributors; with thanks.

Species marked with * are yet to be considered by Manx Bird Records Committee.

Please note that sightings of sensitive breeding species may not be included in this summary during the periods outlined at <http://manxbirdlife.im/sightings/start-and-end-dates-for-sensitive-breeding-species/>. Sightings of these species on the Calf may still be reported where they do not relate to breeding birds.



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Calf of Man Interesting Sightings, May 2023

Sourced from trektellen.org, with thanks to Aron Sapsford

Cuckoo – Three records of individuals from 17th, 20th & 29th.

Water Rail – A single bird was recorded around the withy and mill pond from 7th to 13th.

Common Sandpiper – Only two sightings during May; singles on 1st and 3rd.

Sanderling – A single bird was seen on 27th; an infrequent species for the Calf.

Purple Sandpiper – lingering winter birds or migrants were seen with three on 3rd & 17th and two on 14th.

Great Skua – Single seen almost daily throughout the month, thought to be the same bird that has returned for the last eight years.

Sandwich Tern – Two were seen passing through the Sound on 7th.

Merlin – A late individual was recorded on 5th.

Spotted Flycatcher – After a slow start with single birds on 1st, 2nd & 6th; the highest count of the month of 25 on 24th.

Redstart – Three records of individuals on 1st, 6th & 12th.

Whinchat – The first of the year was of a male on 14th; with another caught and ringed on 29th.

Grasshopper Warbler – A single bird was present on 1st.

Reed Warbler* - Four individuals were caught and ringed on 9th, 13th, 14th and 30th.

Garden Warbler – Single birds on 1st & 3rd; with two on 6th.

Lesser Whitethroat – A single trapped at the Withy on 13th.

Tree Sparrow* – Two records of individuals on 3rd and 13th.

Tree Pipit* - Tree Pipits were seen on five dates from 3rd to 18th; with four birds seen on 6th.

Yellowhammer* - On 10th a female was seen at the rear of the Observatory.

Little Bunting* - A singing male was seen outside the observatory on the morning of 6th.



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Spotted Flycatcher, Howe Glen 20th May 2023. ©David Kelly.

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