



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

Summary of bird sightings in the Isle of Man, May 2025

Whooper Swan – A bird was with feral Greylag Geese at Hillberry from 9th to 11th.

Brent Goose – A single pale-belly was present at Strandhall from 4th to 10th.

Pink-footed Goose – Two remained at POANR, noted on 11th & 14th. It was likely one of these birds that was at Glascoe on 3rd.

Wigeon – On 1st a pair remained at Langness and a female was at Poolvaish; with two there on 9th. A pair remained at POANR up to 21st.

Scaup – A drake was at POANR from 3rd to 7th.

Goldeneye – The late drake remained at POANR through the month.

Mandarin Duck – A drake was seen at MWT Billown Quarry on 16th & 20th.

Dotterel* – Two were on the shingle at POA on 2nd.

Curlew Sandpiper – The bird from April remained at Langness until 4th.

Knot – A breeding plumage bird at POANR on 14th.

Wood Sandpiper* – A single was present at POANR on 3rd.

Osprey – One passed north through POA on 3rd.

Red Kite* – A bird was seen at Eary Cushlin on 18th.

Arctic Skua – A bird flew through Castletown and Derbyhaven Bays on 12th; another passing Langness on 15th.

Swift – The highest count in the month was 11 over Castletown on 22nd, with regular reports of small numbers from other breeding areas through the month.

Arctic Tern – The first returning birds at POA were two on 2nd & 3rd.

Yellow-legged Gull* – A bird was reported from Port St Mary on 1st.

Black-throated Diver – A breeding plumage bird flew over POANR on 11th.

Cuckoo – Birds were heard calling near Glenfaba on 3rd and Ballaleigh (Michael) on 12th. On 10th a bird was present near MWT Ballachurry. On 18th birds were calling at the Lhen and Montpellier, Druidale.

Spotted Flycatcher – One was in Howe Glen on 4th, 9th & 16th; and at Cregneash on 16th. At Fleshwick a single was present on 9th, two there on 17th & 20th.



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Calf of Man Interesting Sightings, May 2025

Sourced from trektellen.org, with thanks to Eleanor Grover

Barnacle Goose – A single flew north off the lighthouses on 22nd.

Common Scoter – Seven were recorded past South Harbour on 13th.

Cuckoo – Only one recorded on 1st.

Water Rail – Two pairs hatched young that appeared during the month.

Lapwing – A lone bird was noted on 15th, 17th and 23rd.

Purple Sandpiper – Late records of a single on 5th, three on 17th and the last on 18th.

Puffin – Counts of one or two regular after 10th; a high count of 16 on 25th.

Merlin – A late individual noted on 1st.

Osprey – A single passed over on 12th.

Marsh Harrier* – A bird was seen over the island on 16th and again on 17th.

Red-rumped Swallow* – A Calf and Isle of Man first was seen over the observatory on the morning of 13th.

Ring Ouzel – An individual was seen from 1st to 7th.

Spotted Flycatcher – Present daily from 1st to 23rd; the peak count being 22 on 13th.

Redstart – A female caught on 1st was the only bird of the spring.

Western Subalpine Warbler* – A male was caught at the Observatory and ringed on 15th.

Pied Flycatcher* – Two singles noted on 1st & 8th.

Grasshopper Warbler – A single on 13th.

Reed Warbler* – A respectable month with a single on 8th and two on each of 9th, 10th & 16th.

Garden Warbler – Singles on 4th, 10th & 20th.

Lesser Whitethroat – One on each of 16th & 17th.

Tree Pipit* – Two on 6th & 16th, singles on 8th, 13th & 15th.

Whinchat – One or two birds from 1st to 4th, then singles on 8th & 13th, then two again on 17th.

Yellow Wagtail* – Singles observed on both 13th & 15th – a female in the Front Field and a flyover bird.

Crossbill – A single over the Observatory on 15th and five juveniles present on 23rd.



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Dotterel, Point of Ayre 2nd May 2025. © David Kelly

Compiled by David Kelly

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

POA – Point of Ayre

POANR – Manx Birdlife Point of Ayre National Reserve

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.

For Manx Birdlife Recent Sightings visit: <http://manxbirdlife.im/sightings/>

For more information on the Manx Ornithological Society visit: <http://manxbirdlife.im/manx-ornithological-society/>

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