

## Report on Bird Ringing for 1977 and 1978

This report covers the two-year period 1977-78 during which a total of 24,941 birds was ringed. This represents an increase of 5,256 birds on the two previous corresponding years (1975-76). This increase is mostly due to a greater effort and efficiency on the part of some of the ringers who spent more hours in the field. By the end of 1978 the grand total stood at 89,186 of 131 species.

The number of birds ringed in 1977 was 13,541 of 89 species, the highest for any one year since ringing started. In 1978 the total decreased by 2,081, to 11,430 birds of the same number of species. This decrease is reflected mainly in the totals of Chiffchaff and Sand Martin (2,689 and 1,112 in 1977 down to 893 and 538 in 1978 respectively), though twice as many Storm Petrels and nearly twice as many Swallows were ringed in 1978 than in 1977.

4 new species have been added to the ringing list during the two-year period: Olive-backed Pipit and Water Pipit in 1977 and Melodious Warbler and Yellow-breasted Bunting in 1978. The Olive-backed Pipit was also the first record for Malta (see Il-Merill 19:11). Owing to the recent adoption of Vouos' order, the Eastern Collared Flycatcher also figures as a new species in 1977's list. Amongst the rare visitors ringed one notes the Orphean Warbler, the Rustic Bunting and the Rufous Bush Chat. The increase in number of Cetti's and Fan-tailed Warblers ringed reflects the successful colonization by these new breeding species. On the other hand the dearth of waders ringed is attributable to lack of suitable catching areas and to human interference, mainly shooters, in places such as Ghadira and Salina, the only two localities where waders could otherwise be ringed in any numbers.

The variation in numbers of spring and autumn migrants and winter visitors ringed from year to year is always expected due to their fluctuations in abundance. This is also evident in the two-year period under observation, for hirundines, Spotted, Pied and Collared Flycatchers, Wood Warbler, Dunnock, Serin and especially in the Chiffchaff which was very common in 1977. However, the general pattern of birds ringed is nearly the same as in previous years with the Robin and the

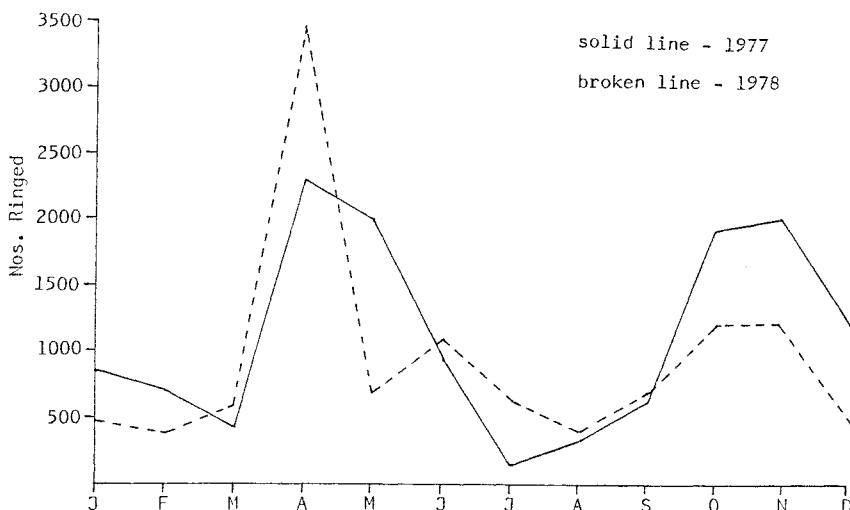


Fig.1 :The number of birds ringed for each month during 1977-78.

Chiffchaff dominating the figures from October to March; Blackcap from January to March; migrant species in April and May (topping the list - hirundines, Sedge, Wood and Willow Warblers), in August and September (mostly Subalpine, Garden and Reed Warblers) and in October (Swallows and winter visitors). Storm Petrels figure in June and July when Filfla islet is usually visited, while the two common resident species, the Sardinian Warbler and the Spanish Sparrow, figure prominently all year round but especially during the post-nuptial period. The pattern of the number of birds ringed for each month during the two-year period is shown in Fig. 1.

Topping the list of birds ringed in 1977 and 1978 we find the Chiffchaff (2,689) and the Swallow (1,727) respectively. However, at the end of 1978 we find the Robin heading the list of the grand total of birds ringed (1965-1978) with 11,715. Following is a table of the top 15 species ringed since 1965 with the annual totals for the 5 years 1974-78.

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1965-1978
Robin	850	1,584	1,381	1,843	1,586	11,715
Chiffchaff	1,363	986	1,108	2,689	984	10,785
Storm Petrel	351	1,243	460	578	1,285	9,800
Swallow	1,003	383	840	901	1,727	8,669
Spanish Sparrow	384	690	820	812	694	6,021
Sand Martin	1,016	250	272	1,112	538	4,392
Sardinian Warbler	338	365	531	675	691	3,767
Garden Warbler	229	555	486	283	271	3,583
Blackcap	247	718	252	625	551	3,290
House Martin	498	391	359	406	272	3,066
Subalpine Warbler	247	298	346	218	238	2,177
Yellow Wagtail	203	317	111	157	257	1,641
Wood Warbler	60	166	348	305	145	1,536
Willow Warbler	126	141	139	174	248	1,343
Redstart	110	162	153	155	128	1,337

1977 and 1978 produced several annual record totals. Those for 1977 were Robin (1,843), Sand Martin (1,112), Sardinian Warbler (675), Pied Flycatcher (310), Sedge Warbler (244), Meadow Pipit (183), Spotted Flycatcher (151), Stonechat (119), Spectacled Warbler (118), Collared Flycatcher (51), Grey Wagtail (50), Serin (33), Whinchat (44) and Golden Oriole (17). The record annual totals for 1978 were Swallow (1,727), Sardinian Warbler (691), Willow Warbler (248), Fan-tailed Warbler (188), Dunnock (132), Reed Warbler (104) and Cetti's Warbler (51). As in previous years, except for the Storm Petrel and Shearwaters, mostly small passerine species were ringed in any substantial numbers.

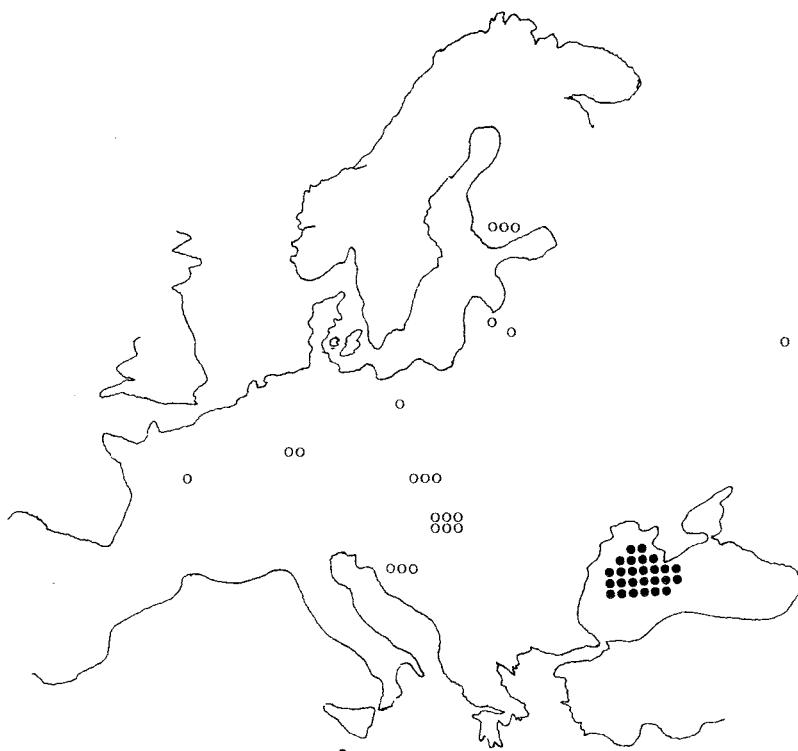
The main ringing sites used during the two-year period were Buskett/Wied il-Luq, Lunzjata Valley, Rabat, Ghadira, Salina/Kennedy Grove, Marsa, Għirgenti, Xemxija and Sta. Marija Estate. Other sites used were Wied Znuber, Sta. Lucia, Ramla Valley, L-Ahrax, Chadwick Lakes, Ta' Qali, Tarġa Gap, Balluta, Munxar, Ghajn Barraġi, Birzebbuġa, Hal Saflieni and Filfla.

This report comprises three main parts : a list of ringing and recovery totals to 31.12.78; a ringing-recoveries section which deals with 73 recoveries of 23 species occurring during 1977-78; and another section dealing with locally-recovered foreign ringed birds (46 recoveries of 28 species). As usual this last section includes birds which were recovered in earlier years but which came to

our notice during the current period.

The 73 recoveries of Malta-ringed birds listed are those which occurred at least 5 km away from the ringing site. 26 of these were recovered in foreign countries. Pride of place goes to 2 Manx Shearwaters ringed as pulii and recovered in the north east area of the Black Sea. The 2nd Spotted Flycatcher to be recovered overseas was controlled in Finland, while a Wheatear, the first to be recovered abroad, turned up in Gabes, Tunisia, 6 years after ringing. Hirundines provide many foreign recoveries and this two-year period was no exception with 7 Sand Martins, 2 Swallows and 4 House Martins involved. The Robin also figures prominently with singles in Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Italy, and 2 in Algeria. The list also includes the 2nd meadow Pipit in Italy, the 1st Chiffchaff in Czechoslovakia and another Blackcap in Italy. Of the local recoveries the most interesting are those provided by the Fan-tailed Warbler.

The 46 foreign ringed birds recovered in Malta hail from Spain (1), France (2), U.K. (3), Netherlands (3), W.Germany (2), Sweden (7), Finland (2), U.S.S.R. (8), Poland (7), C.S.S.R. (2), Austria (1), Hungary (3), Yugoslavia (2), Italy



All recoveries of Mediterranean Gull Larus melanocephalus (26 solid circles) and of Black-headed Gull Larus ridibundus (22 open circles) in Malta. All birds of both species have been ringed as nestlings or juveniles.

(2) and Algeria (1). An interesting recovery, which came to our notice lately, is of the only White Stork so far recovered in Malta. It was ringed in Poland in 1934 and found in Malta in 1951. Other species recovered for the first time are a Turnstone from Poland, single Chiffchaffs from Austria and Czechoslovakia respectively, and a Brambling from the Netherlands. The birds of prey which figure in the section are 2 more Ospreys from Sweden and another from Finland, a Marsh Harrier from Lithuania and a Kestrel from Hungary. Amongst the few waders there is a Sanderling which was ringed in Wales and recovered 6 years later. The 4th Great Skua from Scotland was ringed 9 years earlier on the Shetlands. Amongst other sea birds we find the 25th Mediterranean Gull, the 2nd Slender-billed Gull and the 4th Sandwich tern, all of which hail from the Black Sea. Other birds bearing Moskwa rings are a little Egret, a Black-headed Gull, a Great Reed Warbler and a Pied Flycatcher. The Little Egret and the Great Reed Warbler are the first while the Black-headed Gull and the Pied Flycatcher are the second from the U.S.S.R. The first Squacco Heron from Spain was the second bird to hail from that country. Other interesting recoveries are the 2nd Purple Heron from France, the first Short-eared Owl from Sweden and the first Great Reed Warbler from Poland. Three more Swedish Caspian Terns have been recovered, two of which were ringed 9 and 11 years earlier respectively. Hirundines (2 Sand Martins, 4 Swallows and 1 House Martin) and finches (2 Siskins, 3 Serins and 3 Linnets) also figure in this section. Of the latter group the 2 Siskins, the first from the Netherlands, are the most interesting.

The 1977 ringing programme started with 13 licensed ringers - J Azzopardi, R. Cachia Zammit, V. Cilia, C. Gauci, M.V. Gauci, T. Gauci, B.K. German, J. Grech, M. Grima, R.M. Holman, E. Mackrill, V. Sammut and J. Sultana. During the year the number was augmented by 4 British ringers who visited Malta for a short period - H.E. Axell, V. Cozens, J.A. Hardman and C.A. Pomeroy. At the end of the year E. Mackrill left the islands; however, the number of ringers increased to 15 as three new ringers qualified for a ringing permit - J. Attard Montalto, E. Curmi and R. Testa. The number of ringers remained the same during 1978.

In October 1977 the Ornithological Society was represented at the 5th Euring Conference which was held in Gdansk, Poland. During the conference the Ornithological Society Ringing Scheme was unanimously accepted as a full member of Euring, The European Union for Bird Ringing.

During the two-year period the Ornithological Society continued to expand its scheme by ordering and using more Malta-addressed rings in addition to the BTO rings used. We wish to thank the Ringing and Migration Section of the BTO, in the person of Mr. Robert Spencer, for the help which our scheme has received.

C. Gauci was again responsible for recording and filing all the ringing and recovery data. With this report we prepared a map (Fig.2) showing all recoveries of Mediterranean and Black-headed Gulls in Malta.

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## RINGING AND RECOVERY TOTALS TO 31.12.78

Species	Ringed in 1977	Ringed in 1978	Grand Total ringed 1965-1978	Grand Total recovered 1965-1978
<i>Calonectris diomedea</i>	50	52	640	12
<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	35	50	266	3
<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>	578	1,285	9,800	20
<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	3	1	19	1
<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	1	-	8	1
<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	-	1	1	-
<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	-	-	3	-
<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>	-	2	17	-
<i>Porzana porzana</i>	1	-	7	1
<i>Porzana parva</i>	1	1	6	-
<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	8	2	31	2
<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	1	-	28	1
<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	-	-	4	-
<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	-	-	1	-
<i>Calidris minuta</i>	10	4	147	3
<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	1	-	9	-
<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	-	-	16	2
<i>Calidris alpina</i>	-	-	7	-
<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	-	-	13	1
<i>Lymnocryptes minimus</i>	2	2	5	1
<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	1	5	12	1
<i>Gallinago media</i>	-	1	2	1
<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	2	5	16	3
<i>Tringa glareola</i>	5	1	49	8
<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	11	4	33	-
<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	-	-	1	-
<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	-	-	1	1
<i>Larus argentatus</i>	-	1	14	1
<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	2	1	23	4
<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	2	4	14	-
<i>Otus scops</i>	6	3	79	4
<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>	-	-	11	1
<i>Apus apus</i>	-	-	2	-
<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	3	4	37	5
<i>Upupa epops</i>	-	1	7	-
<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	17	14	183	1
<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>	1	5	92	1
<i>Lullula arborea</i>	-	-	2	-
<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	6	-	26	4
<i>Riparia riparia</i>	1,112	538	4,392	24
<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	901	1,727	8,669	60
<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	3	3	25	1
<i>Delichon urbica</i>	406	272	3,066	11
<i>Anthus novaeseelandiae</i>	-	-	1	-
<i>Anthus campestris</i>	-	2	7	-
<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>	1	-	1	-
<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	97	41	635	1
<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	183	27	457	6
<i>Anthus cervinus</i>	11	1	16	-
<i>Anthus spinolella</i>	5	-	5	-
<i>Motacilla flava</i>	157	257	1,641	19
<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	50	25	380	5
<i>Motacilla alba</i>	43	37	261	5
<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	-	-	15	-
<i>Prunella modularis</i>	69	132	573	3

<i>Cercotrichas galactotes</i>	-	1	3	-
<i>Eritachus rubecula</i>	1,843	1,581	11,715	133
<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>	-	-	2	-
<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	79	71	839	1
<i>Luscinia svecica</i>	2	2	33	-
<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	13	8	45	1
<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	155	128	1,337	2
<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	44	26	243	-
<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	119	68	570	2
<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>	-	-	1	-
<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	12	10	91	1
<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>	-	-	2	-
<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>	-	-	3	-
<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	6	2	42	3
<i>Turdus torquatus</i>	-	-	3	-
<i>Turdus merula</i>	16	9	124	12
<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	-	-	1	-
<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	63	43	431	26
<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	2	3	24	-
<i>Cettia cetti</i>	43	51	252	8
<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	159	188	440	17
<i>Locustella naevia</i>	-	-	2	-
<i>Locustella fluviatilis</i>	-	-	1	-
<i>Locustella lusciniooides</i>	2	5	23	-
<i>Acrocephalus melanopogon</i>	8	4	45	1
<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	244	200	948	1
<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>	-	-	3	-
<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	94	104	657	-
<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	80	75	637	2
<i>Hippolais pallida</i>	-	-	2	-
<i>Hippolais icterina</i>	43	50	476	-
<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>	-	1	1	-
<i>Sylvia undata</i>	7	1	32	-
<i>Sylvia conspicillata</i>	118	100	572	1
<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>	218	238	2,177	-
<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	675	691	3,767	15
<i>Sylvia rueppelli</i>	-	-	2	-
<i>Sylvia hortensis</i>	-	1	4	-
<i>Sylvia nisoria</i>	-	-	1	-
<i>Sylvia curruca</i>	3	2	21	-
<i>Sylvia communis</i>	96	62	992	-
<i>Sylvia borin</i>	283	271	3,683	5
<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	625	551	3,290	9
<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>	3	4	62	-
<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	305	145	1,536	-
<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	2,689	984	10,785	29
<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	174	248	1,343	1
<i>Regulus regulus</i>	1	1	49	-
<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>	13	14	145	1
<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	151	74	620	3
<i>Ficedula parva</i>	9	4	33	-
<i>Ficedula semitorquata</i>	2	-	2	-
<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>	51	5	151	-
<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>	310	97	1,023	2
<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>	-	-	2	1
<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	17	7	77	5
<i>Lanius collurio</i>	7	5	56	-
<i>Lanius senator</i>	8	15	95	-
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	7	3	56	6
<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	812	694	6,021	83

<i>Passer montanus</i>	18	7	96	1
<i>P. montanus x hispaniolensis</i>	-	-	1	1
<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	26	17	272	5
<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>	-	-	3	-
<i>Sernius serinus</i>	33	2	147	4
<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	3	-	255	18
<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	5	-	11	1
<i>Carduelis spinus</i>	-	2	5	-
<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	14	4	869	53
<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>	-	-	1	-
<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i>	-	-	1	-
<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	-	-	1	-
<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>	-	-	2	-
<i>Emberiza rustica</i>	1	-	4	1
<i>Emberiza aureola</i>	-	1	1	-
<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	6	4	35	-
<i>Miliaria calandra</i>	9	35	113	2
Totals	13,511	11,430	89,178	675

#### RINGING RECOVERIES

This section deals with 73 recoveries of 23 species during 1977-78. Only those recovered at least 5 km away from the ringing site are included. For local recoveries the approximate distance covered and direction are given.

##### Key to symbols and terms used in the recovery list

- Arrangement of entry : recoveries are arranged by species, and within the species usually by date of recovery. Ringing details are given on the firstline and recovery data on the second.
- Ring number : where this is followed by an asterisk (\*) the ring has been returned.
- Age code : 1 = puttus; young bird ringed in the nest.  
                   1J = fledged; but flying so weakly that it is obviously incapable of having travelled far from the nest.  
                   2 = fully grown; year of hatching quite unknown.  
                   3 = definitely hatched during current calendar year.  
                   3J = definitely hatched during current calendar year and still partly or completely in juvenile body plumage.  
                   4 = hatched before current calendar year; exact year unknown.  
                   5 = definitely hatched during last calendar year.  
                   6 = hatched before last calendar year; exact year unknown.  
                   (a number in brackets beside the age code 1 indicates the size of the brood).
- Sex : M = male.  
       F = female.
- Manner of recovery : v = caught or trapped, and released with ring.  
                   + = shot or killed by man.  
                   x = found dead or dying.  
                   () = caught or trapped alive and not released, or released but with ring removed.  
                   /R = manner of recovery unknown.
- Date of recovery : where this is unknown the date of the reporting letter is given instead and is shown in brackets. An OO in the date indicates that the exact day or month are unknown.

Co-ordinates of ringing sites omitted from text :

Wied il-Lug/Buskett : 35.51 N, 14.26 E	Marsa : 35.53 N, 14.30 E
Xemxija : 35.57 N, 14.23 E	Wied Znuber/Hal Far : 35.49 N, 14.31 E
Lunzjata Valley (Gozo) : 36.03 N, 14.14 E	Ramla Valley (Gozo) : 36.03 N, 14.17 E

Cory's Shearwater *Calonectris diomedea*

FV05.207	4	26.06.76	Filfla.
	x	13.06.77	Attard (13 km N).

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*

ED96.747*	1	24.06.72	L-Ahrax Pt., Mellieha : 35.59 N, 14.21 E.
	x	00.08.75	nr. Sochi, Black Sea : 43.34 N, 39.44 E (Krasnodar)
			U.S.S.R.
ED46.085	1	07.07.77	L-Ahrax Pt.
	x	30.06.78	nr. Alushta : 44.42 N, 34.24 E Black Sea (Crimea)
			UKRAINE S.S.R.

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

BV52.104	4	24.04.77	Marsa,
	+	24.04.77	L-Iklia (5 km WNW).

Scops Owl *Otus scops*

ED46.086*	4	02.11.77	Lunzjata Valley.
	/?	(05.10.78)	Mosta (17 km SE).

Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

SA44.708	3M	06.09.78	Wied-il-Lug, Buskett.
	v	17.09.78	Marsa (8 km ENE).

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

JK32.962*	4	12.05.73	Ramla Valley.
	x	20.05.76	nr. Gatchina : 59.33 N, 30.07 E (Leningrad) U.S.S.R.
JV15.480	4	21.04.74	Lunzjata Valley.
	v=F	15.05.77	Délegyháza : 47.15 N, 19.05 E (Pest) HUNGARY.
KH83.052*	4	23.04.77	Marsa.
	/?	31.05.77	Beleno : 43.39 N, 25.07 E (Pleven) BULGARIA.
KP62.272	4	13.05.77	Targa Gap : 35.55 N, 14.25 E.
	v	17.08.77	Siemionki, Włostowa : 52.35 N, 18.20 E (Bydgoszcz)
(Gdańsk MA46.094 added)			POLAND.
KP65.336*	4	09.04.78	Lunzjata Valley.
	xA	mid.05.78	Massa Lombarda : 44.27 N, 11.49 E (Ravenna) ITALY.
A033.367	4	30.04.78	Lunzjata Valley.
	v	20.05.78	Gzira (37 km SE).
KH82.675	4	30.04.77	Ramla Valley.
	v	16.07.78	Upplanda, Västlanda : 57.25 N, 15.17 E (Jönköping) SWEDEN.
KC31.855	4	02.04.77	Marsa.
	v	24.07.78	Tahitótfalu : 47.45 N, 19.05 E (Budapest) HUNGARY.

**Swallow Hirundo rustica**

KH82.074	4	10.04.77	Marsa
	+	29.04.77	Zurrieq (6 km SSW).
KP63.976	4F	02.04.78	Lunzjata Valley
	v	08.04.78	Ripatransone : 43.00 N, 13.46 E (Ascoli Piceno) ITALY.
	v	15.08.78	Ripatransone.
KP65.488*	4F	12.04.78	Lunzjata Valley.
	x	16.04.78	Aftard (24 km SE).
KP65.637	4M	15.04.78	Lunzjata Valley.
	v	19.04.78	Gudja (30 km SE).
KP65.553	4F	15.04.78	Lunzjata Valley.
	()	23.04.78	Għaxaq (31 km SE).
KP65.102*	4M	06.04.78	Lunzjata Valley.
	(=B)	00.07.78	nr. Bytów : 54.10 N, 17.29 E (Koszalin) POLAND.

**House Martin Delichon urbica**

KH82.822*	4	09.05.77	Ramla Valley.
	()	15.07.77	nr. Volokolamsk : 56.00 N, 35.56 E (Moscow) U.S.S.R
KH84.343	4	10.05.77	Lunzjata Valley.
	/??	(05.04.78)	Orosháza : 46.33 N, 20.40 E (Békés) HUNGARY.
KP65.335*	4	09.04.78	Lunzjata Valley.
	x	15.06.78	Aprilia : 41.36 N, 12.39 E (Litina) ITALY.
KC30.751*	4	18.05.76	Lunzjata Valley.
	x	20.07.78	nr. Kropki ; 54.20 N, 29.16 E (Minsk) BELORUSSIYA S.S.R.

**Meadow Pipit Anthus pratensis**

KH80.869*	4	26.02.77	Lunzjata Valley.
	+	01.11.78	Torre del Greco : 40.47 N, 14.22 E (Napoli) ITALY.

**Robin Erithacus rubecula**

01.280	3	23.10.76	Buskett
	v	24.10.76	Xemxija (9km NNW).
KB85.679	3	24.10.75	Rabat.
	+	00.12.76	Cospicua (11 km E).
KC27.150	3	12.10.76	Għargħi Valley.
	v	02.01.77	Bidnija (8 km N).
KH80.195	4	11.10.76	Xemxija.
	v	20.03.77	Lesnice, Sumperk : 49.53 N, 16.57 E (Olomouc) C.S.S.R.
(re-ringed Praha M735.585)			
00.750	2	16.10.77	Salina.
	v=3	21.10.77	Rabat (7 km SSW).
KP62.878	2	19.10.77	Wied Znuber, Hal Far.
	()	22.10.77	Naxxar (19 km NW).
KR85.891	2	26.10.75	Wied Znuber, Hal Far.
	+	early 11.77	Bou-l-Ismaïl, Blida : 36.38 N, 02.41 E (Algier) ALGERIA.

03.489	4	29.10.77	Xemxija.
	v	13.11.77	Buskett (9 km SSE).
KB84.544	3	09.10.75	Xemxija.
	v	04.11.77	Buskett (9 km SSE).
KC31.927*	3	10.10.76	Buskett.
	x	(23.02.78)	Ain Tahamimime, Medjez-sfa, Bône : 36.24 N, 07.48 E (Constantine) ALGERIA.
KC31.918*	2	10.10.76	Buskett.
	x	20.07.78	Somoskőjfalu : 48.10 N, 19.50 E (Nógrád) HUNGARY.
JX60.317*	4	01.11.74	Lunzjata Valley.
	+	25.10.78	Ventoso-Borgo Maggiore : 43.56 N, 12.25 E (San Marino) ITALY.
A033.880	3	18.10.78	Girgenti Valley.
	( )	06.11.78	Zurrieq (6 km SE).
Wheatear <i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			
JH84.697	4M	08.04.72	Hal Far.
	( )	26.03.78	Matmatah : 33.35 N, 10.00 nE (Gabès) TUNISIA.
Song Thrush <i>Turdus philomelos</i>			
CH89.936	3	10.10.76	Wied Znuber, Hal Far.
	v	17.10.76	Salina (15 km NNW).
Cetti's Warbler <i>Cettia cetti</i>			
KC26.996	3M	10.09.76	Girgenti Valley.
	v	30.10.76	Għajnej Barrani, Gozo (25 km NW).
	v	05.09.77	Għajnej Barrani.
Fan-tailed Warbler <i>Cisticola juncidis</i>			
1A8.164	1(6/6)	17.06.77	Targa Gap.
	v	25.08.77	Marsa (10 km SE).
	v	10.09.77	Marsa.
952.962	3	25.08.77	Marsa.
	v	06.09.77	Targa Gap (10 km NW).
A0.017	1(4/4)	24.07.77	Targa Gap.
	v	13.09.77	Għadira (8 km NW).
014.999	3	01.05.77	Għadira.
	v	08.10.77	Marsa (17 km SE).
1A8.188	1(5/5)	25.06.77	Wied il-Luq, Buskett.
	+	02.11.77	Il-Qaws (5 km W).
A0.001	1(2/2)	11.07.77	Salina.
	vB=M	15.04.78	Għadira (6 km NW).
	v	14.09.78	Għadira.
1A8.194	1(4/4)	26.06.77	Chadwick Lakes.
	v=F	16.07.78	Wied il-Luq, Buskett (5 km S).
	v	23.07.78	Wied il-Luq.
A0.033	3F	19.09.77	Għadira.
	vB	23.07.78	Girgenti Valley (25 km SE).
1A8.200	3	21.07.77	Targa Gap.
	v=M	25.07.78	Għadira (8 km NW).
	v	21.08.78	Għadira.

A1.863	3	12.07.78	Targa Gap.
	v	08.08.78	Ghadira (8 km NW).
952.121	2	04.08.76	Targa Gap.
	v=F	21.08.78	Ghadira (8 km NW).

Moustached Warbler *Acrocephalus melanopogon*

03.639	2	04.11.77	Ghadira.
	v	09.11.77	Lunzjata Valley, Gozo (12 km WNW).
	v	20.11.77	Lunzjata Valley.

Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala*

KH82.921	3M	03.09.77	Ramla Valley.
	v	05.12.77	L-Ahrax (10 km SE).
	v	28.01.78	L-Ahrax.
00.800	2	25.06.78	Salina.
	v=3M	02.09.78	Buskett.

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*

00.323	2F	26.12.76	Sta.Lucia.
	v	27.02.77	Buskett (10 km W).
KH80.340*	4M	29.01.77	Buskett.
	x	ca.23.10.77	Cetraro : 39.31 N, 15.56 E (Cosenza) ITALY.

Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*

962.734	2	01.11.76	Lunzjata Valley.
	v	02.11.76	Sta.Lucia (30 km SE).
866.786	2	03.12.76	Xemxija.
	v	14.01.77	Rabat (8 km S).
014.175	4	08.02.77	Salina.
	v	20.02.77	L-Ahrax (6 km NW).
826.414	2	13.11.74	Lunzjata Valley.
	v	06.03.77	L-Ahrax (8 km SE).
962.271*	2	16.11.76	Lunzjata Valley.
	v	17.04.77	Praha-Bránik : 50.02 N, 14.25 E (Praha) C.S.S.R. re-ringed Praha S77.186
962.785	2	27.11.76	Lunzjata Valley.
	v	04.12.77	Marsa (29 km SE).
1A8.286	2	04.12.77	Salina.
	v	10.12.77	Marsa (9 km SE).
962.951	4	06.01.77	Lunzjata Valley.
	+	08.01.78	Rabat (23 km SE).
A0.086	2	05.11.77	Lunzjata Valley.
	v	11.02.78	nr.Paola (30 km SE).
A0.666	2	13.12.77	Marsa.
	v	24.02.78	Salina (9 km NW).

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*

KC29.605	4	16.05.76	Xemxija.
	v	13.08.77	Lägskär, Lemland : 59.50 N, 19.56 E (Åland) FINLAND.

### Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus*

XA99.129 6M 16.04.77 Xemxija.  
x (31.05.77) Mgarr, Gozo (12 km NW).

### **Starling *Sturnus vulgaris***

XA99.231	3F ( )	12.11.76 (28.02.77)	Rabat, St. Paul's Bay (7 km N).
XA99.076	4F +	28.10.77 04.12.77	Luga, Rabat (7 km WNW).

### Spanish Sparrow *Passer hispaniolensis*

BJ55.621      2M      10.02.74      Salina.  
                  x      24.02.77      Ghadira Bay (5 km WNW).

### **Goldfinch** *Carduelis carduelis*

KH80.090 2M 08.12.76 Rabat.  
( ) end 02.77 Marsaxlokk (13 km SE).

FOREIGN RINGED BIRDS RECOVERED IN MALTA

This section deals with 46 foreign ringed birds of 28 species recovered in Malta. Some of these were recovered previous to the two-year period (1977-78) covered by this report, but they only came to our notice lately. The symbols and terms are the same as those used in the Ringing Recoveries.

### Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides*

Seville 1 17.06.69 Coto Donana : 37.02 N, 06.37 W (Huelva) SPAIN.  
D8.148 + 25.06.72 Malta

### Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Moskwa 1 23.06.75 Crimea Region : 45.52 N, 33.29 E Karkinitskii,  
D-810.970 + 17.05.77 Black Sea, U.S.S.R.  
+ Marsaxlokk : 35.50 N, 14.33 E.

### Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*

Paris 1 28.05.71 Tour du Valat : 43.30 N, 04,40 E (Bouches-du-Rhône)  
 CJ8.524 + 09.04.77 FRANCE.  
                   Benghisa : 35.49 N, 14.31 E.

### White Stork *Ciconia ciconia*

Varsavia 3 27.07.34 Bielewo : 51.57 N, 16.56 E (Woj.Poznan) POLAND.  
B2.484 /?/ 19.10.51 Malta.

### Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*

Lituania 1 03.07.78 Žuvintas : 54.28 N, 23.38 E LITHUANIA.  
145.007 + 20.09.78 Delimara : 35.39 N, 14.33 E.

<b>Osprey</b> <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>			
Stockholm	1	30.06.62	Skokloster : 59.42 N, 17.37 E (Uppland) SWEDEN.
9.202.414	+	28.09.62	Bidnija : 35.54 N, 14.25 E.
Helsinki	1	05.07.78	Hollola, Hämeen, FINLAND
M-5323	+	15.09.78	Salib tal-Gholja : 35.51 N, 14.26 E.
Stockholm	1	02.07.78	Lake Hurven : 57.08 N, 13.08 E Smålands Burseryd, (Småland) SWEDEN.
9.219.293	+	30.09.78	Salib tal-Gholja 35.51 N, 14.26 E.
<b>Kestrel</b> <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>			
Budapest	1	01.06.72	Palmonostora : 46.38 N, 19.56 E HUNGARY.
167.505	+	25.10.73	Malta.
<b>Sanderling</b> <i>Calidris alba</i>			
London	4	24.05.71	Point of Air, Prestatyn : 53.21 N, 03.19 W (Flintshire) WALES.
BB74.442	x	ca.15.05.77	nr.Nadur (Gozo) : 36.02 N, 14.18 E.
<b>Wood Sandpiper</b> <i>Tringa glareola</i>			
Stockholm	4	30.07.76	Kvismaren : 59.11 N, 15.24 E Norrbyås (Närke) SWEDEN.
4.121.396	+	19.04.77	Wied Ghajnej Rihana : 35.55 N, 14.25 E.
<b>Turnstone</b> <i>Arenaria interpres</i>			
Gdansk	3	02.09.78	Ujście Wisły : 54.21 N, 18.57 E Mikoszewo (Elbląg) POLAND.
HC30.214	+	(09.10.78)	Benghisa Pt. : 35.49 N, 14.32 E.
<b>Great Skua</b> <i>Stercorarius skua</i>			
London	1	08.07.69	Foula : 60.08 N, 02.05 W (Shetland) SCOTLAND.
HW19.169	x=F	23.02.78	14 km east of Malta : ca.35.55 N, 14.45 E.
<b>Mediterranean Gull</b> <i>Larus melanocephalus</i>			
Moskwa	1	24.06.76	Chernomorsk Reserve : 46.15 N, 32.00 E
M-272.094	+	00.01.77	Tendra Bay, Smalenyi Island, Black Sea, U.S.S.R. Marsaxlokk : 35.50 N, 14.33 E.
<b>Black-headed Gull</b> <i>Larus ridibundus</i>			
Moskwa	1	19.05.76	Ryazan' Region : 54.33 N, 40.44 E nr. Izhevskoe, U.S.S.R.
M-110.518	+	00.12.76	Marsa : 35.53 N, 14.30 E.
<b>Slender-billed Gull</b> <i>Larus genei</i>			
Moskwa	1	10.06.75	Kherson Region : 46.17 N, 31.45 E Chernomorsk Reserve, Ortov Island, Tendra Bay, Black Sea, U.S.S.R.
E-995.302	x	23.09.75	nr. Filfla : 35.48 N, 14.25 E.

Caspian Tern *Sterna caspia*

Stockholm 7.016.938	1	23.06.65	Älgsväderarna : 57.41 N, 16.48 E Västervik (Småland) SWEDEN.
		+ 02.09.76	Zongor Pt. : 35.53 N, 14.34 E.
Stockholm 7.041.418	1	15.07.67	Gunnarstenarna : 58.47 N, 18.02 E SE Nynäshamn (Södermanland) SWEDEN.
	v	12.06.76	Älgsväderarna : 57.41 N, 16.48 E (Småland) SWEDEN.
	+ 06.11.76		nr. Tarxien : 35.52 N, 14.32 E.
Stockholm 7.062.390	1	05.06.78	Stenarna : 60.38 N, 17.56 E Hällnäs (Uppland) SWEDEN.
	+ 13.09.78		off Delimara : 35.49 N, 14.34 E.

Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis*

Moskwa P-548.168	1	24.06.76	Chernomorsk reserve : 46.15 N, 32.00 E Tendra Bay, Black Sea, U.S.S.R.
	+ 19.09.76		Marsascala : 35.52 N, 14.34 E.

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*

Stockholm 8.033.605	1	11.07.77	Buddbyn : 65.52 N, 21.41 E Boden (Norrbotten) SWEDEN.
	+ 28.10.77		Birkirkara : 35.53 N, 14.29 E.

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

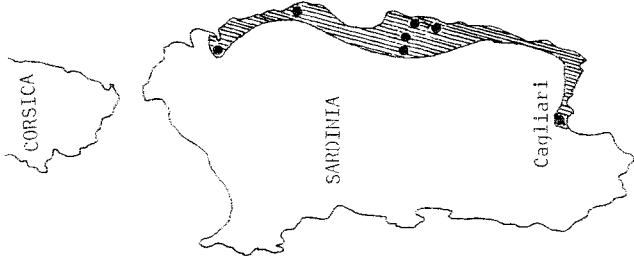
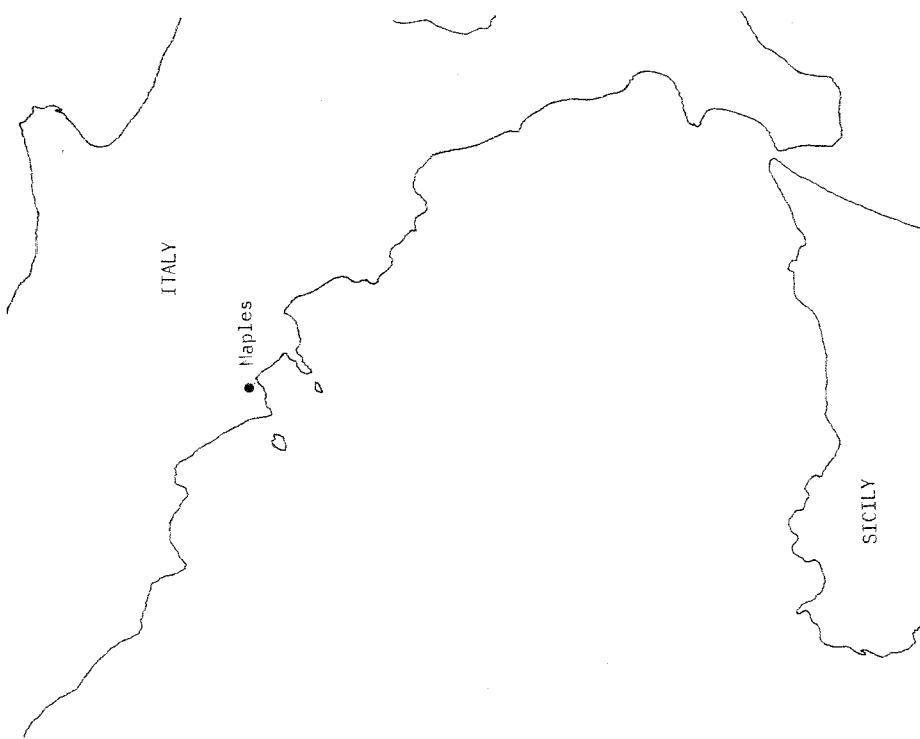
London KJ75.283	4	15.08.76	Frodsham : 53.18 N, 02.46 W (Cheshire) ENGLAND.
	v	02.04.77	Lunzjata Valley : 36.03 N, 14.14 E.
Gdansk NA44.707	4	03.08.76	Siemionki : 52.35 N, 18.20 E Włostowo (Bydgoszcz) POLAND.
	v	21.04.77	Lunzjata Valley : 36.03 N, 14.14 E.
Gdansk KB04.855	3	05.08.76	Lake Druzno, Stankowo : 54.02 N, 19.28 E (Elbląg) POLAND.
	v	10.05.77	Targa Gap, Mosta : 35.55 N, 14.25 E.
Helsinki Y-36.262	4F	12.06.77	Janakkala, Hämeen : 60.53 N, 24.39 E (Lääni) FINLAND.
	v	15.04.78	Lunzjata Valley : 36.03 N, 14.14 E.
Bruxelles 561.685	3	12.10.77	Reghaia : 36.44 N, 03.21 E (Alger) ALGERIA.
	v	29.04.78	Lunzjata Valley 36.03 N, 14.14 E.

Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

Paris 2.455.350	4F	31.08.76	Mothern : 48.56 N, 08.09 E Bas-Rhin FRANCE.
	x	09.04.77	Hal Far : 35.49 N, 14.31 E.
Helgoland 9R77.232	3	25.08.74	Neuhof : 51.35 N, 10.34 E Kr. Osterode/Bez. Hildesheim, Niedersachsen, W. GERMANY.
	v=4F	11.04.77	Ramla Valley (Gozo) : 36.04 N, 14.17 E.
	v	15.04.77	Lunzjata Valley (Gozo) : 36.03 N, 14.14 E.

Helgoland 9R65.944	4F v	06.09.76 06.04.78	Gunderhausen/0.5 km W Bez. Darmstadt : 49.52 N, 08.47 E (Hessen) W. GERMANY. Lunzjata Valley : 36.03 N, 14.14 E.
Gdansk KA26.140	3 v	15.08.77 02.05.78	Siemionki : 52.35 N, 18.20 E Wlostowo (Bydgoszcz) POLAND. Gudja : 35.51 N, 14.31 E.
House Martin <i>Delichon urbica</i>			
Varsovia HA332.582	1 v	12.07.76 08.05.77	Brynek : 50.31 N, 18.44 E Tworog, (Katowice) POLAND. Salina : 35.57 N, 14.25 E.
Yellow Wagtail <i>Motacilla flava</i>			
Bologna L610.794	4 +	14.04.76 05.04.77	Contrada Castellano : 43.16 N, 13.45 E Porto S. Elpidio (Ascoli Piceno) ITALY. Marsaxlokk : 35.51 N, 14.33 E.
Great Reed Warbler <i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>			
Gdansk JA24.415	3 +	04.09.76 18.10.76	Ujscie Wisly : 54.21 N, 18.57 E Mikoszewo, (Elblag) POLAND. Chadwick Lakes : 35.54 N, 14.23 E.
Moskwa XA020.741	4 v	29.07.77 14.04.78	Engure Lake : 57.17 N, 23.07 E LATVIAN S.S.R. Lunzjata Valley : 36.03 N, 14.14 E.
Chiffchaff <i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>			
Praha S79.078	4 v	17.06.76 10.01.77	Úvaly : 50.05 N, 14.43 E (Praha) C.S.S.R. Marsa : 35.53 N, 14.30 E.
Radolfzell BP36.701	4 v	27.09.77 24.03.78	Ebenthal : 46.36 N, 14.22 E Bez. Klagenfurt, Kärnten, AUSTRIA. Mellieha : 35.58 N, 14.22 E.
Pied Flycatcher <i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>			
Moskwa XA429.387	4M v	16.06.76 19.04.77	Voronezh Reserve : 51.55 N, 52.00 E 40 km NNW Voronezh, U.S.S.R. Luga : 35.52 N, 14.29 E.
			Re-ringed London KH83.501
Brambling <i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>			
Arnhem B-386.742	3F ( )	23.11.77 00.02.78	Castricum : 52.33 N, 04.37 E NETHERLANDS. Ta' Cenc (Gozo) : 36.01 N, 14.14 E.
Siskin <i>Carduelis spinus</i>			
Arnhem A-213.891	3M ( )	08.10.77 00.01.78	Wassenaars Slag : 52.10 N, 04.21 E NETHERLANDS. Ta' Cenc (Gozo) : 36.01 N, 14.14 E.

Arnhem A-141.130	3M ( )	11.12.77 00.02.78	Haarlem : 52.23 N, 04.38 E NETHERLANDS. Ta' Cenc (Gozo) : 36.01 N, 14.14 E.
<b>Serin <i>Serinus serinus</i></b>			
Praha S99.074	4M ( )	06.07.76 01.01.77	Lednice : 48.48 N, 16.48 E (Breclav) C.S.S.R. Lunzjata Valley : 36.03 N, 14.14 E.
Ljubljana X471	2F ( )	05.09.74 28.01.77	Brinje : 45.59 N, 15.05 E (Šentrupert) YUGOSLAVIA. Ta' Cenc (Gozo) : 36.01 N, 14.14 E.
Ljubljana 71.566	2M ( )	18.10.75 28.12.76	Ljubljana : 46.03 N, 14.30 E YUGOSLAVIA. Safi : 35.50 N, 14.29 E.
<b>Linnet <i>Carduelis cannabina</i></b>			
Budapest† 703.572	3 ( )	26.09.76 04.01.77	Budapest : 47.29 N, 19.03 E HUNGARY. Sannat : 36.01 N, 14.14 E.
Bologna L350.074	2 ( )=4F	08.04.73 27.02.77	S. Benedetto del Tronto : 42.57 N, 13.53 E (Ascoli Piceno) ITALY. Sarraflu (Gozo) : 36.03 N, 14.12 E.
Budapest 730.552	2M ( )	02.09.77 24.03.78	Budakeszi : 47.31 N, 18.56 E HUNGARY. Dingli Cliffs : 35.51 N, 14.23 E.



● urban areas occupied by Passer montanus  
// range of P. montanus in Sardinia