





IL-MERILL

MALTA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

BULLETIN OF THE MALTA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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10c for non Members



BIRD RINGING GROUP REPORT FOR 1971

IL-MERILL

The title of the Society's Bulletin, IL-MERILL, is the Maltese name for the Blue Rock Thrush, *Monticola solitarius*, which is one of the few resident species of the the Islands. It was chosen as the National Bird of Malta by the local National Section of the International Council for Bird Preservation and has been the emblem of the Malta Ornithological Society since the latter's inception.

Editor

Bro. Edmund

St. Michael's Training College, St. Julian's Malta

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MALTA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

PATRON

*H.E. Sir Anthony J. Mamo, O.B.E., Q.C., LL.D. B.A.,
Governor-General of Malta*

Committee for 1972

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J.M. Attard

44, Marsamxett Rd., Valletta,

Secretary/Treasurer

J. Sultana

*3, Sciberras Flats, Fleur-de-Lys Junction,
Birkirkara, Malta*

Committee Members

*B. German, (Ass. Secretary), Bro Edmund, C. Gauci (Bird Ringing Sec.)
S. Borg, J. Azzopardi and C. Galea.*

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Cover Picture: Wood Sandpiper by E. Hocking. Owing to lack of proper habitat waders do not figure prominently in M.O.S. ringing lists. However, 1971 was an exception with a total of 118 ringed, including 23 Wood Sandpipers.

M.O.S. BIRD RINGING GROUP REPORT FOR 1971

INTRODUCTION

This special issue carries the third report of the M.O.S. Bird Ringing Group. It is the first time that the Systematic List and the Ringing Report figure in the same number, a format which we hope will be kept in future Ringing Group reports.

1971 was a highly successful year both for ringing and observation. It will long be remembered for the large autumn falls of passerines, record number of birds ringed and a record number of birds recovered abroad.

Seven active ringers (S. Borg, C. Gauci, B.K. German, J. Grech, Br. E. Johnson, J. Sultana and V. Vella Muskat) succeeded in ringing a record total of 7,525 birds of 91 species. These included eight new additions to the ringing list: Ringed Plover, Curlew Sandpiper, Redthroated Pipit, Orphean Warbler, Olivaceous Warbler, Isabelline Wheatear, Thrush Nightingale and Goldfinch. Since ringing was started in Malta many vagrants found their way into our nets. This year was no exception. The high water level at Ghadira receded in May and several waders were present daily. During four ringing sessions over 100 were ringed. In April we had excellent hirundine catches at Ramla Valley and as a result just under 2,000 were ringed. Two expeditions were again organised to Milfla where we ringed a thousand Storm Petrels and a few Cory's Shearwaters. In September and early October a record number of Icterine, Garden, Subalpine, Willow and Wood Warblers was trapped. Between mid-October and mid-November there were continuous falls of Robins and over a thousand were ringed mainly at Buskett and Wied Znuber.

Most of the 13 recoveries of birds reported abroad are very interesting. These include the 2nd Storm Petrel in Tunisia, the 2nd Sand Martin in England, four Swallows in Germany and one in Crete, a Blackcap in Sardinia, a Willow Warbler in Spain, a Chiffchaff in Austria and single Robins in Algeria and Greece.

In the list of foreign ringed birds recovered here we find a few which were recovered in earlier years. These were not previously reported as they only came to our notice last year. The list also includes the first Eleonora's Falcon, Common Sandpiper, Slender-billed Gull and Spotted Flycatcher.

A section of this report is devoted to selected retraps. The first two tables are of special interest as they show the weight gained (in a few cases lost) over

a few days by spring and/or autumn migrants. In spring the longest stay recorded was of a Swallow (8 days). In autumn birds lingered longer (as usual) than in spring and among others we find 2 Subalpine Warblers retrapped after 19 and 14 days respectively, a Redstart after 15 days and a Garden Warbler after 10 days. Another Garden Warbler which was retrapped after 15 days had surprisingly lost nearly 40% of its weight.

Regarding the Systematic List observation by the main contributors was carried out regularly in the following places in Malta: Ghadira, Mtahleb, Buskett, Hal Far, Salina and Chadwick Lakes. In Gozo, Ramla Valley, Lunzjata Valley, Ta' Cenc, Pergla Valley and Ghajnxejba (Xaghra) were the most frequented localities. *Usually not more than three localities were visited on any one day and the maximum number of birds recorded on a day (mentioned frequently in the text) should refer to an average of three localities only unless otherwise stated.* The main contributors were J. Azzopardi, S. Borg, L. Ellul Mercer, C. Galea, C. Gauci, B.K. German, J. Grech and J. Sultana. Other contributors were J.M. Attard, M. Beaman, C.B. Bennett, G. Davies, A. Gauci, Bro. E. Johnson, P. Micallef, J. Muscat, M. Pennell, C.C. Palmer, D. Rushforth, A. Sammut, F. Scrimgeour, D. Sherrard-Smith, M. Thake, C. Theuma, F. Vassallo and V. Vella Muskat.

J. Sultana & C. Gauci
Ringing Officer Ringing Secretary

SYSTEMATIC LIST

LITTLE GREBE *Podiceps ruficollis* BLONGUN ZGHIR
Singles on 11th October, 7th and 15th November and 10th December.

BLACK-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps nigricollis* BLONGUN SEKOND
1 on 19th January and 10th February. Early influx in autumn: 1 on 10th, 18th and 30th August, 3 singles on 4th and 1 on 24th September. Then on 8 dates in November and 3 dates in December with 2 on 7th November and 11th December.

GREAT CRESTED GREBE *Podiceps cristatus* BLONGUN PRIM
Unusually scarce. Only one recorded: on 20th December.

CORY'S SHEARWATER *Calonectris diomedea* CIEFA
Breeding as usual but the small colony at Migra Ferha was deserted this year. First noted near the coast on 14th March.

MANX SHEARWATER *Puffinus puffinus* GARNIJA
Bred in usual colonies. Those visited had average success.

STORM PETREL *Hydrobates pelagicus* KANGU TA' FILFLA
As usual bred in large numbers on Filfla.

GANNET *Sula bassana* SULA
1 off Qbajjar on 31st January; 4 off Ramla on 23rd, 2 off Marsascala on 24th and 2 off Comino on 28th February; 2 off Qbajjar on 6th March. 4 at Delimara and 1 off Sliema on 21st and 1 at Kalafrana on 22nd November.

CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax carbo* MARGUN
1 at Marsaxlokk on 22nd October and 1 at Kalafrana on 22nd November.

BITTERN *Botaurus stellaris* KAPPUN
Single birds at Wardija on 16th and at Ras il-Pellegrin on 27th March. Singles at Has-Saptan and Kuncizzjoni on 4th and at Buskett on 25th October.

LITTLE BITTERN *Ixobrychus minutus* RUSSETT TAS-SIGAR
Recorded almost daily from 17th April to 17th May. Highest figures were 11 on 4th, 6 on 2nd and 5 on 13th May. In autumn 1 on 29th August, flock of 8 on 4th and singles on 6th and 8th September, then 1-2 on 5 dates in October to 9th.

NIGHT HERON *Nycticorax nycticorax* KWAKKA
Flock of 40 on 14th March, then single figures on most days from 16th March to 4th May. Influx on 24th April with 60+ recorded. Late individuals on 21st (4) and 24th May. In autumn recorded almost daily from 23rd August to 5th October, with gaps on 14th-16th, 20th-23rd, 25th-26th and 28th-29th September. Best days were 4th and 8th September with 80+ and 45 respectively, otherwise single or very low double figures. Late birds on 14th (3) and 21st October.

SQUACCO HERON *Ardeola ralloides* AGRETT ISFAR
1 on 20th, 7 on 21st, 10 on 22nd, 3 on 23rd, 3 on 24th and 1 on 26th April; singles on 3rd, 4th, 5th, 15th and 24th May. In autumn 5 on 18th and 1 on 31st August, 11 on 4th and 1 on 8th September, and 1 on 3rd October.

- LITTLE EGRET** *Egretta garzetta* **AGRETT ABJAD**
Main spring passage in March, with 7 dates from 13th; highest 10 on 20th and 29th. Single figures on 4 dates in April (14th, 16th, 23rd 24th) and 3 dates in May (8th, 10th, 26th). In autumn 40 on 18th August, 25 on 4th and 85 on 19th September, and 36 on 3rd October. Singles on 6 other dates till 9th October.
- GREY HERON** *Ardea cinerea* **RUSSETT GRIZ**
4 on 8th January. Single figures on 12 dates from 13th March to 2nd May. 1 on 22nd June and 20th July. In August, 5 on 9th, 2 on 15th, 50 on 17th, 15 on 18th, 1 on 21st and 6 on 30th. Then almost daily from 2nd September to 5th October, with high double figures on 3 dates and 120 on 2nd October. Singles on 18th and 19th October and on 20th and 26th November.
- PURPLE HERON** *Ardea purpurea* **RUSSETT AHMAR**
In March recorded on 1st (2), 14th, 16th (14) and 27th. 1 on 17th then daily from 20th to 24th April, with 13 on 21st highest. 1 on 15th May. Only one good passage in autumn — on 19th September (40+ logged), otherwise one on 19th and 30th August and single or very low double figures on 6 dates in September and 5 dates in October to 15th. 1 on 1st and 2 on 26th November.
- WHITE STORK** *Ciconia ciconia* **CIKONJA BAJDA**
A dead oiled bird was washed ashore at Salina on 6th May.
- BLACK STORK** *Ciconia nigra* **CIKONJA SEWDA**
1 at Qattara, Dingli on 19th September.
- SPOONBILL** *Platalea leucorodia* **PALETTA**
Influx in February with 10 on 18th, 4 on 19th, 1 on 20th and 20+ on 27th along the south eastern coast. Singles on 15th and 24th May, and 13th and 17th September.
- GLOSSY IBIS** *Plegadis falcinellus* **VELLERAN**
Passages on 14th and 30th March with 36 and 50+ respectively logged. Singles on 7 other dates between 15th March and 7th April. Only one in autumn: on 13th August.
- 'GREY GEESE'** *Anser sp.* **WIZZA**
1 over Xaghra on 13th January, 18 over Balluta on 12th September and 20 over Wardija on 24th October.
- SHELDUCK** *Tadorna tadorna* **KULUVERT TAS-SALIB**
1 in Gozo on 28th January: 1 at Salina on 1st November; 3 at Qawra on 9th and 1 at Salina on 11th December.
- MALLARD** *Anas platyrhynchos* **KULUVERT**
2 on 7th and 1 on 16th March. 1 on 5th, 1 on 23rd and 2 on 31st October. Flock of c.150 off Bahar iċ-Cagħaq on 4th December.
- TEAL** *Anas crecca* **SARSELLA**
Unusual early influx in August with birds at Salina/Qawra on 6th, 10th (16), 11th, 17th, 21st and 30th (2). 2 on 19th September then 1-2 on 10th and 30th

October, on 1st, 2nd, 6th, 7th, 22nd and 28th November, and on 3rd and 22nd -- 29th December.

WIGEON *Anas penelope* SILFJUN EWROPEW
In November 1 on 5th, 2 on 7th and 1 on 19th. In December, 1 on 12th and 3 on 21st and 29th at Salina and 2 at Ghadira from 22nd to 29th.

PINTAIL *Anas acuta* SILFJUN
1 on 13th February. Then recorded on 9th, 13th, 14th and 19th September; 3rd and 9th October; 3rd, 9th, 10th and 27th November, and 23rd December. Highest 15 (flock) on 19th September, otherwise never more than 3.

GARGANEY *Anas querquedula* SARSELLA HAMRA
Recorded on 5th and 24th February; 12th and 13th March; 3rd, 7th, 12th, 25th and 27th April, and on 7th and 9th May in spring. Always singles except on 3rd and 7th April -- 2 and a flock of 28 respectively. In autumn on 7 dates from 6th August to 4th September, with 8 on 15th August and 6 on last date. Then 1 on 1st and 2 from 8th to 19th October at Hal Far.

SHOVILEE *Anas clypeata* PALETTUNA
Single birds on 20th August, 11th November and 21st and 30th December. Flock on 12 at St. Paul's Bay on 7th September.

POCHARD *Aythya ferina* BRAJMLA
3 on 17th October; 9 on 10th and 1 on 23rd and 24th November; 1 on 13th and 23rd December. All at Salina.

FERRUGINOUS DUCK *Aythya nyroca* BRAJMA T'GHAJNHA BAJDA
1 at Salina on 6th and 24th November.

COMMON SCOTER *Melanitta nigra* BORKA SEWDA
1 at Marsaxlokk on 24th November (2nd record for Malta).

RED-BREADED MERGANSER *Mergus serrator* SERRA
1 on 16th and 17th and 2 on 27th November, at Salina.

OSPREY *Pandion haliaetus* ARPA
Singles on 2nd, 9th and 23rd April, and on 22nd May in spring. In autumn recorded on 4th, 19th, 20th, 23rd, 24th and 28th September and on 2nd, 4th, 8th and 21st October. Singles, except on 19th September -- 3 and on 4th October -- 2

HONEY BUZZARD *Pernis apivorus* KUCCARDA
2 on 28th March then single or very low double figures on 9 dates from 20th April to 12th May. Flocks of 14 on 27th and 28th and 1 on 29th May. In autumn, occasional singles from 15th August then daily from 8th September to 14th October, with small gaps on 1st, 6th-7th and 11th October. Low double figures on mcs; days in September. Heaviest passages recorded on 4th October -- 300+, and on 16th, 19th and 20th September with 60+, 90+ and 50+ respectively.

RED KITE *Milvus milvus* ASTUN AHMAR
1 at Marsascala on 19th August

- BLACK KITE *Milvus migrans* ASTUN ISWED
Recorded only in September: 2 on 3rd, 1 on 8th and 10th, 4 on 16th, 1 on 19th,
2 on 20th and 1 on 21st and 24th.
- SPARROW HAWK *Accipter nisus* SPARVIER
1 on 3rd April. In autumn 2 on 18th and 23rd and singles on 21st and 24th Sep-
tember, and on 2nd, 4th, 8th, and 16th October.
- BUZZARD *Buteo buteo* KUCCARDA PRIMA
1 on 21st March. 1 on 4th and 26th and 2 on 30th October.
- BOOTED EAGLE *Hieraetus pennatus* AJKLA TAL-KALZETTI
1 at Mgarr on 4th October (4th record for Malta).
- LESSER SPOTTED EAGLE *Aquila pcmerina* AJKLA TAT-TIKKI
1 at Buskett on 20th September and 1 at Ta' Qali on 4th October.
- SHORT-TOED EAGLE *Circaetus gallicus* AJKLA BAJDA
1 at St. Andrew's on 15th September and 2 at Buskett on 23rd September.
- HEN HARRIER *Circus cyaneus* BUGHADAM AEBJAD PRIM
1 on 8th, 20th, 21st and 27th March. 2 on 2nd and 1 on 14th April.
- PALLID HARRIER *Circus macrourus* BUGHADAM ABJAD
1 on 21st February then on 15th, 17th, 20th, 21st, 22nd and 29th March and on
3rd April; singles except on 22nd — 2. Very late bird on 24th May. Only one in
autumn — on 13th October.
- MONTAGU'S HARRIER *Circus pygargus* BUGHADAM GRIZ
1-2 on 1st, 3rd, 9th, 11th, 14th, 18th, 22nd, 23rd, 24th and 25th April and on 8th
May. In autumn singles on 16th, 17th and 27th September and on 2nd and 4th
October.
- MARSH HARRIER *Circus aeruginosus* BUGHADAM AHMAR
Occasional singles from 27th February then single figures on most days from
16th March to 7th May, but with two notable gaps on 3rd-7th and 10th-17th
April. Highest concentration on 21st-24th March with 27 logged. In autumn
single figures on 13 dates from 8th September to 10th October with 8 on 2nd
October highest.
- EGYPTIAN VULTURE *Neophron percnopterus* AVULTUN ABJAD
5 recorded in September: 1 at Manikata on 14th, 2 at Birzebbugia on 19th, 1 at
Buskett on 24th and 1 at Rabat on 26th.
- PEREGRINE *Falco peregrinus* BIES
Pair resident at south western coast of Gozo throughout the year. Another pair
along the western coast during July. Singles seen as follows: at Ghadira on
22nd February; at Hal Far on 19th and at Ghadira on 29th March; at Wardija
on 27th April; at Wied il-Kbir on 27th June; at Marsalforn on 2nd at Delimara
on 7th and at St. Paul's Bay on 8th July and at Harrax Hill on 21st October.

- HOBBY *Falco subbuteo* SEQER TAL-HANNIEQA
 Spring passage rather lean with low single figures on 18 dates from 11th April to 15th May. Single birds on 30th May, 5th June, 6th July and 10th August. In autumn after 3 on 3rd, daily from 3th September to 26th October with gaps on 17th-18th September and 5th-8th, 14th-15th, 17th-19th and 22nd-25th October. Single or very low double figures. Best days were 24th September, 3rd and 4th October with 27, 35+ and 30+ respectively.
- ELEONORA'S FALCON *Falco eleonora* BIES TAR-REGINA
 Single birds at Wardija on 23rd April, at Rabat on 11th July, at Buskett on 10th August, 9th and 24th September and on 2nd October, and at Mtahieb on 10th October. All dark phase. In July a pair was regularly seen along the western coast.
- SCOTY FALCON *Falco concolor* ZUMBRELL GHARBI
 A male was shot at Marsa on 16th June. (2nd record for Malta.)
- MERLIN *Falco columbarius* SEQER TA' DENBU
 1 at St. Andrew's on 2nd April.
- RED-FOOTED FALCON *Falco vespertinus* ZUMBRELL
 Daily from 18th to 26th April, then less regular (12 dates) till 18th May. 1 on 1st June. Highest 23 on first date, otherwise single figures. In autumn singles on 24th and 26th September and on 2nd, 5th and 11th October.
- LESSER KESTREL *Falco naumanni* SPANJULETT SEKOND
 Low single figures in spring: 21 dates from 12th March to 24th May. 2 on 30th June. In autumn recorded on 19th-20th and 24th-27th September; 2nd-4th, 9th, 12th-13th and on 20th-21st October. Highest 25+ on last date, otherwise single figures.
- KESTREL *Falco tinnunculus* SPANJULETT
 Single birds on 5 dates in January and 3 dates in February. Almost daily from 6th March to 29th May; double figures on 19th, 27th and 30th April with 10, 25 and 13 respectively. Singles on 3 dates in June and 4 dates in August. Autumn passage from 8th September to 6th November. Best days were 12th (30), 13th (38) and 21st (160+) September, and 2nd (45), 3rd (90) and 4th (26) October. On 4 dates in November from 15th and on 5 dates in December.
- QUAIL *Coturnix coturnix* SUMMIENA
 On most days from 28th February to 15th May; mostly single figures, but large influx on 18th April — 250+ recorded. From 9th September to 9th October in autumn with marked influxes on 9th, 20th and 21st September — 150+, 300+ and 50+ respectively.
- CRANE *Grus grus* GRAWWA
 1-3 on 9 dates from 30th September to 11th November. Passage on 22nd November with flocks of 24 at Safi, 26 at Kalafrana and 28 at Salina (possibly same flock).
- WATER RAIL *Rallus aquaticus* GALLOZZ TAX-XITWA
 1-2 at Lunzjata Valley throughout January and till 5th February. Singles on

7th February, 24th, 27th and 29th March, 14th April and 14th May. Then from 11th October, with singles on 3 dates in October, on 6 in November and on 3 in December.

SPOTTED CRAKE *Porzana porzana* GALLOZZ TAT-TIKKI
1 at Wied il-Luq on 1st-3rd January and 1 at Salina on 20th February, then 1-2 on 9 dates from 6th March to 20th April. In autumn 1 on 31st August then on 14 dates from 22nd September to 8th November. 2 on 16th October, otherwise singles.

LITTLE CRAKE *Porzana parva* GALLOZZ ZGHIR
Single birds at Mtahleb on 14th March, at Wied ir-Rum on 1st and at Ramla Valley on 24th April, and at Salina on 3rd October.

BAILLON'S CRAKE *Porzana pusilla* GALLOZZ TAL-FAXXI
1 at Marsascala on 31st March and 1 at Marsa on 4th October.

CORNCRAKE *Crex crex* GALLOZZ AHMAR
1 at Faqqanija on 21st September and 1 at Zabbar on 19th November.

MOORHEN *Gallinula chloropus* GALLOZZ ISWED
1 on 7th February, then 1-3 on most days from 4th March to 15th May. In autumn 1 on 20th August then daily from 3rd September to 21st October, with gaps on 9th-12th, 14th-17th, 20th-22nd and 27th-30th September. Highest 10 on 5th October. Singles at Salina on 3rd, 5th, 7th, 17th and 27th November.

COOT *Fulica atra* TIGIEGA TAL-BAHAR
1 on 23rd January and 2 on 13th September. 2 on 6th and 1 on 11th and 13th October. In November, 4 on 3rd, 2 on 5th, 3 on 17th, 1 on 19th and 12 on 28th. 1 on 5th and 21st December. Most records from Salina.

OYSTERCATCHER *Haematopus ostralegus* GALLINA TAL-BAHAR
2 in the south Cominc Channel on 26th and 2 at Salina on 27th July were probably the same birds. 1 at Bahar ic-Caghaq on 2nd September.

RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula* MONAKELLA PRIMA
1 on 21st and 22nd April, then 1-3 on most days from 2nd May to 5th June. (Most records from Ghadira). In autumn 1 on 31st August at Salina, 3 from 8th to 14th September and 1 on 10th October at Ghadira, and 1-3 from 17th September to 16th October at Hal Far.

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius dubius* MONAKELLA
1 on 22nd January and 15th February, then single or very low double figures almost daily from 14th March to 22nd May. 1 on 4th and 26th July, then single figures on most days from 23rd August to 26th October. Double figures on 5 days: 4th (25+), 5th (20+) and 8th (18) September, 1st (13) and 5th (50+) October.

1. ENTISH PLOVER *Charadrius alexandrinus* MONAKELLA SAQAJJHA SUWED
2 at Salina on 6th March and singles at Armier and at Salina on 26th July. 2 at Marsaxlokk on 8th, 2 at Ghadira on 13th-15th and 2 at Hal Far on 17th September. 1 at Ghadira on 6th October.

CASPIAN PLOVER *Charadrius asiaticus* BIRWINA TAL-ASJA
1 at San Lawrenz, Gozo on 10th May. (4th record for Malta).

DOTTEREL *Eudromias morinellus* BIRWINA
1 on 22nd March and 3 on 22nd August. 1-5 on scattered dates from 15th
September to 28th November. Heavy passage on 8th November.

GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis apricaria* PLUVIERA
Flock of 70 — 80 at Hal Far throughout January. In other places occasional
singles during January and February. 2 on 15th March. 1 on 4th, then single
or low double figures from 29th October. Flock of 30 at Hal Far from 19th
November.

GREY PLOVER *Pluvialis squatarola* PLUVIERA PASTARDA
1 at Ghallis on 2nd August.

LAPWING *Vanellus vanellus* VENEWWA
12 on 24th January, 2 on 6th and 1 on 19th February, 1 on 4th and 7th March.
Then from 26th October to 1st November with 9 at Hal Far, and again from
19th to 26th November, with 95 on 22nd and 50 on 24th.

TURNSTONE *Arenaria interpres* MONAKELLA IMPERJALI
Single birds on 21st, 24th and 28th April and on 5th May in spring, and on 8th,
19th, 21st and 25th September and on 20th November in autumn.

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta* TERTUXA
Daily from 21st March to 10th June with double figures (usually 20 to 50) on
most days after 17th April. 1 on 26th June and 4 on 11th and 1 on 12th July,
then single or very low double figures on most days from 26th July to 31st
October. 1 on 1st November.

TEMMINCK'S STINT *Calidris temminckii* TERTUXA GRIZA
1-3 at Ghadira from 19th to 23rd April; in May 1-3 on 9 dates from 2nd to 24th,
mostly at Ghadira and Ramia Valley. In autumn single birds on 26th July and
on 4th and 15th September.

DUNLIN *Calidris alpina* BEGGAZZINA TAT-TIZZ
Singles on 23rd, 27th and 31st August then 2-6 daily at Ghadira from 13th
September to 12th October. Also 4 on 17th September and 1 on 8th October at
Hal Far. 1 on 23rd October and 27th November.

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea* BEGGAZZINA HAMRA
After 1 on 27th March, 1-5 on 8 dates from 14th April to 8th May and 3-9 at
Ghadira from 13th to 22nd May. 2 on 15th and 1 on 17th September.

KNOT *Calidris canutus* GIRWIEL TA' SAQAJH QOSRA
1 at Ghadira on 20th May. (4th record for Malta).

SANDERLING *Calidris alba* PISPISSELLA BAJDA
Singles on 5th, 13th and 16th May. All at Marsascalea.

- RUFF *Philomachus pugnax* GIRWIEL
 Single figures on most days from 22nd March to 21st May. 25 on 12th April.
 In autumn on scattered dates from 21st August then on most days from 17th
 September to 8th October. Double figures (highest 22 on 17th September) record-
 ed on 4 dates.
- SPOTTED REDSHANK *Tringa erythropus* CUVETT
 1 on 19th and 26th April; 1 on 1st July; 4 on 25th August; 3 on 17th and 1 on
 20th September, and 1 on 6th November.
- REDSHANK *Tringa totanus* PLUVEROTT
 Recorded on scattered dates from April to November. Singles unless otherwise
 indicated: on 17th April; 2nd (4) and 4th May; 2nd, 10th and 28th June; 5th
 and 26th July; 6th, 12th (8), 18th (2), 23rd and 27th August; 1st, 9th, 13th and
 18th September; and 27th November.
- MARSH SANDPIPER *Tringa stagnatilis* CEWC EWVA ZGHIRA
 1 at Ghadira from 20th to 23rd April and on 2nd May. 1 at Salina on 23rd
 April. In autumn 1 at Marsa on 2nd and 1 at Hal Far on 17th September.
- GREENSHANK *Tringa nebularia* CEWC EWVA
 1 on 28th March, then on 9 dates from 17th April to 26th May; singles except
 on 17th April and 2nd May with 3 on each day. In autumn 1 on 26th July; 2
 on 23rd and 1 on 27th August; 3 on 4th, 1 on 14th and 2 on 17th September;
 and 1 on 18th October.
- GREEN SANDPIPER *Tringa ochropus* SWEJDA
 1 on 23rd February, then 1-3 on 12 dates in March from 5th, and on 10 dates
 in April to 23rd. 1 on 1st, 3 on 2nd and 1 on 3rd May. In autumn 2 on 12th and
 3 on 26th July, then 1-4 on 12 dates from 7th August to 15th September. 1 on
 4th October.
- WOOD SANDPIPER *Tringa glareola* PESPUS TAL-BAHAR
 2 on 14th, then daily from 22nd March to 29th May with gaps on 1st-8th and
 25th-29th April. Low double figures (maximum 30 on 2 days) throughout most
 of May. Rather scarce in autumn: 1 on 16th, 2 on 18th and 1 on 22nd August;
 1 on 15th and 3 on 17th September; and 1 on 8th, 9th and 18th October.
- COMMON SANDPIPER *Tringa hypoleucos* BEGGAZZINA TAR-ROKKA
 2 on 2nd January, 1 on 26th February and 2 on 21st and 1 on 22nd March. On
 most days from 9th April to 16th May, with 7 on 2nd May highest. 1 on 28th
 June. 1 on 6th and 18 on 10th-11th July then regular from 22nd July to 17th
 September, highest 10 on 9th September. 1 on 18th October and 2 on 22nd and
 29th December.
- BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa limosa* GIRWIEL PRIM
 Singles on 17th February, 15th, 22nd, 24th and 26th March, 27th October and
 24th November.
- CURLEW *Numenius arquata* GURLIN
 1 off Qawra on 15th August.

WHIMBREL *Numenius phaeopus* GURLIN ŻGHIR
3 at Hal Far on 8th September.

WOODCOCK *Scolopax rusticola* GALLINA
1 on 12th, then single figures on most days from 15th October to 7th November,
with 23 on 31st October. 1 on 20th and 22nd November.

SNIFE *Gallinago gallinago* BEKKACC
2 on 22nd January. 1 on 5th, 3 on 8th, 4 on 24th and 1 on 26th February. Single
figures on 19 dates from 5th March to 18th April. In autumn 1 on 14th August;
2 on 8th, 2 on 17th, 1 on 25th and 30th September; 10 on 15th, 5 on 16th; 3 on
17th and 2 on 18th-19th October; 1 on 1st, 9th, 17th and 19th November; 1 on
5th, 10th and 21st December.

GREAT SNIFE *Gallinago media* BEKKACC TA' MEJJU
Singles at Salina on 6th-7th March and at Marsa on 12th October.

JACK SNIFE *Limnocyptes minima* CINKONJA
Singles on 4th, 9th and 26th October, on 17th November, and on 18th and 21st
December.

BLACK-WINGED STILT *Himantopus himantopus* FRAS-SERVJENT
2 on 18th February; 2 on 3rd, 1 on 4th, 4 on 9th, 2 on 13th and 1 on 28th-
29th April; and 1 on 20th May.

AVOCET *Recurvirostra avosetta* XIFA
2 in the south Comino Channel on 14th April. 2 on 21st August, 1 on 1st Sep-
tember, 2 on 19th October and 1 on 10th December at Salina.

STONE CURLEW *Burhinus oedicnemus* TELLERITA
1 on 18th and 23rd March; 2 on 18th and 1 on 28th April; singles on 3rd, 5th,
9th and 24th May. In October 1 on 3rd, 3 on 9th and 20th, 1 on 21st, 2 on 22nd
and 1 on 29th. 1 on 3rd November.

CREAM-COLOURED COURSER *Cursorius cursor* NANKINA
A good number was recorded this year: singles at Luqa on 5th and at Qasam
Victoria on 25th February; at Siġġiewi on 21st, at Ġnejna and at Mtaħleb on
24th, at Għar Lapsi on 29th and at Dwejra on 30th March; and at Mgarr on
1st April.

PRATINCOLE *Glareola pratincola* PERNICJOTTA
On spring passage recorded on 24th March; 6th, 9th, 16th, 19th, 20th, 24th and
27th April; 1st, 10th, 11th, 24th and 30th May, with 6 on 6th and 2 on 16th and
20th April and 2 on 10th and 3 on 30th May. 2 on 2nd, and flocks of 13 and 6
on 4th October.

GREAT SKUA *Stercorarius skua* CIEFA KBIRA
Single birds off the south coast of Malta on 7th February, 3rd and 5th March.
(3rd, 4th and 5th records for Malta).

POMARINE SKUA *Stercorarius pomarinus* CIEFA TA' DENBHA
1 off St. Paul's Bay on 2nd November

MEDITERRANEAN GULL *Larus melanocephalus* GAWWIJA RASHA SEWDA
Low double figures during January and February, with a maximum of 30 on
3rd January. Single figures in March to 21st. 1 immature on 26th April. 50+
on 21st November, then single figures daily till end of year.

LITTLE GULL *Larus minutus* GAWWIJA ZGHIRA
Daily till 5th March; mostly single figures but up to 40 occasionally during
January. 1 on 27th October.

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ridibundus* GAWWIJA RASHA KANNILLA
Daily till 17th March with 1,000+ on 3rd January and high double or low treble
figures on many days. Only single figures after 4th March. 1 on 26th April and
3 on 2nd May. Then from 18th November, mostly double figures but occasionally
up to 300.

SLENDER-BILLED GULL *Larus genei* GAWWIJA TA' GEDDUMHA RQIQ
2 off St. Thomas Bay on 26th March. Singles at Salina on 18th and 24th October,
on 24th November and on 11th December.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus fuscus* GAWWIJA DAHRHA ISWED
Single figures (highest 7) regularly till 10th March.

HERRING GULL *Larus argentatus* GAWWIJA PRIMA
Bred in the usual numbers. Double figures (up to 50) regularly with other winter-
ing gulls during January-February and November-December.

BLACK TERN *Chlidonias niger* CIRLEWWA SEWDA
1 on 21st, 2 on 23rd and 6 on 24th August. 2 on 1st, 1 on 4th, 3 on 5th, 5
on 16th, 6 on 18th, 3 on 19th and 1 on 27th September. 1 on 2nd-3rd October.

WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN *Chlidonias leucopterus* CIRLEWWA TAL-GEWNAH ABJAD
2 on 5th April and singles on 9th May, 2nd June and 9th September.

WHISKERED TERN *Chlidonias hybrida* CIRLEWWA BIL-MUSTACCI
1 at Ghadira on 11th April.

CASPIAN TERN *Hydroprogne tschegrava* CIRLEWWA PRIMA
5 off Delimara on 8th April. In September, 2 off Delimara on 9th, 2 over Drago-
nara Point on 10th and 1 at Salina on 13th.

SANDWICH TERN *Sterna sandvicensis* CIRLEWWA TAX-XITWA
1 on 3rd, 8th and 9th January; 2 on 4th February; 1 on 25th March; 1 on 14th
April; 2 on 21st November; and 1 on 14th December.

COMMON TERN *Sterna hirundo* CIRLEWWA TAL-BAHAR
1 at Marsascaia on 14th September.

LITTLE TERN *Sterna albifrons* CIRLEWWA ZGHIRA
1 at Benghisa Point on 24th April.

WOOD PIGEON *Columba palumbus* TUDUN
1 on 24th and 28th April. In autumn, influx on 5th, 6th and 7th November with 20+, 4 and 3 respectively; otherwise singles on 3rd, 6th and 30th September, 3rd, 22nd, 23th and 31st October, and 14th, 17th, 18th and 27 November.

ROCK DOVE *Columbia livia* TUDUN TAL-ĠEBEL
A few birds (typical plumage) present all the year round along the southern and western coasts of Malta and Gozo.

TURTLE DOVE *Streptopelia turtur* GAMIEMA
Occasional from 1st, then daily from 12th April to 30th May. Treble figures daily from 19th to 29th April and with 20,000 on 20th, 4,000 on 24th, 13,000 on 27th and 14,000 on 29th April and 7,000 on 2nd May. Only single figures from 17th-30th May. Occasional in summer: 3 on 6th, 1 on 19th and 3 on 20th June; 1 on 6th and 23rd July; 1 on 8th and 2 on 10th and 15th August. In autumn daily from 29th August to 8th October; treble figures (maximum 350) on 5 dates and 6,000 on 4th October. Late birds on 12th, 14th, 17th, 20th and 21st October, and 5th November.

CUCKOO *Cuculus canorus* DAQUQA KAHLA
Daily from 4th April to 4th May with small gaps on 8th-10th and 29th-30th April. Single or very low double figures but 40 and 70 on 17th and 18th April respectively. Singles on 8th, 16th and 30th May; 9th and 23rd June; 9th and 31st July. In autumn on 14 dates from 16th August to 9th October, with 6 on 4th-5th September highest.

GREAT SPOTTED CUCKOO *Clamator glandarius* SULTAN IL-GAMIEM TAT-TOPPU
Singles at Siggiewi on 9th January, at Zabbar on 6th and at Mgarr on 16th March, at Gudja on 20th April and at Ramla Bay on 1st September.

BARN OWL *Tyto alba* BARBAGANN
A very few pairs in different localities in Malta and Gozo. In addition 1 was found in a rubble wall at Ramla Valley on 30th April.

LONG-EARED OWL *Asio otus* QATTUS
2 on 1st and singles on 2nd, 3rd, 6th and 7th November.

SHORT-EARED OWL *Asio flammeus* KOKKA TAX-XAGHRI
Singles on 5 dates from 16th March to 7th April. In autumn singles on 19th and 25th September; 5th, 10th, 17th, 24th and 27th October; 6th, 9th, 15th, 19th and 20th November.

SCOPS OWL *Otus scops* KOKKA
Rather scarce in spring: singles on 17th February; 12th March; 1st, 13th, 24th and 26th April; 1st and 2nd May, 1 on 29th August. In autumn, low single figures on 4 dates in September from 12th, 12 in October, and 5 in November to 24th. 1 on 15th December.

NIGHTJAR *Caprimulgus europaeus* BUQRAJQ
Single figures daily from 18th to 30th April, with 16 on 22nd. 1 on 3rd, 7th and

8th May. Very low single figures (maximum 4) on 4th-5th, 16th-17th, 21st and 23rd September; 3rd, 9th, 13th, 20th, 22nd, 23rd and 29th October.

PALLID SWIFT *Apus pallidus* RUNDUN KANNELLI
2 on 7th and 1 on 8th April, 1 on 22nd May and 1 on 14th October.

SWIFT *Apus apus* RUNDUN
2 on 20th and 22nd, then daily from 27th March to 4th May; on 11 days in May from 8th, 14 days in June, 11 in July, 16 in August, 17 in September and 4 in October to 9th. Treble figures (maximum 600) on several dates in April, May, August and September.

ALPINE SWIFT *Apus melba* RUNDUN TA' ZAQQU BAJDA
1 on 24th March then on 8 dates from 2nd to 12th April with 10 on 10th highest. 2 on 1st and 2nd May. Singles on 2nd and 4th July; 8th, 25th, 26th and 28th September. 2 on 2nd and 3 on 9th and 12th October.

KINGFISHER *Alcedo atthis* GHASFUR TA' SAN MARTIN
1 on 8th February. 1-3 on 11 dates in August from 12th, then singles on 1st, 15th, 16th and 25th September; 8th, 13th, 14th and 19th October; 8th, 15th and 22nd November.

BEE-EATER *Merops apiaster* QERD IN-NAHAL
In April recorded on 2nd-4th, 9th-10th and 14th, then on 15 dates in May and June to 7th. Double figures (maximum 40) on 5 dates. In autumn 25+ on 17th and 3 on 30th September.

ROLLER *Coracias garrulus* FARRUG
Low single figures (maximum 6 on 21st-22nd April) on 11th, 13th, 18th, 19th-22nd, 24th and 26th April; 2nd, 7th, 17th, 21st-23rd and 29th May. 1 on 3rd July and 1 on 26th August. In September 2 on 5th, 4 on 9th and 1 on 10th, 24th and 26th. 2 on 2nd October.

HOOPOE *Upupa epops* DAQUQUA TAT-TOPPU
Single figures on most days from 5th March to 8th May. 1 on 13th, 6 on 16th and 1 on 25th May. In autumn, after 2 on 11th and 1 on 12th August, single figures again on most days from 26th August to 2nd October.

WRYNECK *Jynx torquilla* BULEBBIET
1 at Buskett on 4 dates in January. In spring recorded only in April: single figures on 12 dates. 1 on 31st August then almost daily from 5th September to 5th November. 1 on 19th December

FEMMINOK'S HORNED LARK *Eremophila bilopha* ALWETTA TAL-QRUN
1 was caught at Nadur, Gozo in March. (2nd record for Malta).

BAR-TAILED DESERT LARK *Ammomanes cincturus* ALWETTA QASTNIJA
1 taken at Marsa on 5th April. (6th record for Malta).

SHORT-TOED LARK *Calandrella cinerea* BILBLA
First birds seen on 9th March then daily with treble figures from 28th. Abundant in usual breeding habitat all through summer. Flocks of migrants frequently

seen between mid-August and late September. Last seen on 10th October, and 8 or 17th November.

WOOD LARK *Lullula arborea* CUQLAJTA
1 on 11th March. 3 on 20th and 2 on 28th October. Singles on 4th, 6th and 25th November.

SKYLARK *Alauda arvensis* ALWETTA
Single or very low double figures throughout January and February. Larger numbers in March and April to 13th, with 500+ at Wardija on 16th March highest. Late birds on 22nd (3) and 23rd (6) April. In autumn single figures on 7 dates in September from 5th, then high double figures on most days in October and November. Treble figures on 21st-22nd and 25th-26th October, 7th and 9th November. Small parties on a few dates in December.

SAND MARTIN *Riparia riparia* HAWWEEFA TAX-XTUT
On 17 dates from 22nd March to 24th April then daily from 28th April to 7th June; double or very low treble figures on most days, highest 450 on 30th April. 20 on 19th, 3 on 21st and 1 on 23rd and 29th June. 1 on 8th July. In autumn single or low double figures on 11 dates from 30th August to 19th September, then in larger numbers daily from 23rd September to 23rd October. Maximum 370 on 4th October. Late bird on 31st October.

SWALLOW *Hirundo rustica* HUTTAF
1 on 28th February then daily from 9th March to 29th May with small gaps on 14th March, 17th and 25th-26th April and 18th May. Treble figures (highest 700 on 30th April) on most days after 20th March. In June 1 on 4th, 15 on 5th, 1 on 10th, 30 (including juveniles) on 19th and 1 on 21st. 1 on 2nd and 30 on 9th July. In August on 7 dates from 23rd then daily throughout September and October. Mainly high treble figures from 23rd September and 3,000 on 1st, 1,200 on 2nd, 11,000 on 4th, 2,000 on 12th, 1,400 on 18th and 1,100 on 19th October. Single figures on 10 days in November to 19th. 1 on 6th December.

RED-RUMPED SWALLOW *Hirundo daurica* REGINA TAL-HUTTAF
Only a few recorded this year: 2 on 22nd March; 2 on 9th and 1 on 10th April; 1 on 14th May; 2 on 23rd October.

HOUSE MARTIN *Delichon urbica* HAWWEEFA
4 on 23rd and 20 on 28th February then daily from 4th March to 7th June with small gaps on 14th and 26th March; 11th, 15th-17th and 30th April. High double or low treble figures on most days, with 500 on 6th May highest. 2 on 10th, 11 on 19th and 1 on 30th June. In autumn daily from 6th September to 21st October with gaps on 13th-16th, 20th 22nd-23rd and 25th-26th September. Double figures on most days with 500 on 28th September; 200 on 4th, 155 on 10th and 100 on 19th October. 1-5 on 23rd, 26th, 27th, 29th and 31st October. 1 on 13th and 2 on 20th November. 2 on 12th December.

RICHARD'S PIPIT *Anthus novaeseelandiae* BILBLUN PRIM
Singles at Salina on 20th February, at Ta' Grawwa on 26th September, at Hal Far on 20th and at Ta' Qali on 24th November.

- TAWNY PIPIT** *Anthus campestris* **BILBLUN**
 Single or low double figures (maximum 21) on most days from 14th March to 14th April. 1 on 20th and 24th April and 4 on 15th May. In same numbers as in spring from 29th August and on most days in September, but with notable gap 11th-16th. In larger numbers from 1st to 18th October, with 60 on 5th highest. 1 on 23rd October.
- TREE PIPIT** *Anthus trivialis* **DIZZ**
 2 on 7th and 6 on 15th then daily from 21st March to 8th May with small gaps on 29th-30th April and 4th-5th May. 1 on 14th and 16th and 2 on 23rd May. Double figures on most days in April with 115 on 12th and 400 on 24th. Again daily from 26th August to 11th October with double figures from 19th September and 300 on 2nd and 260 on 3rd October. Then single or very low double figures on 13th-14th, 16th, 23rd, 27th and 30th October. 1 on 8th December.
- MEADOW PIPIT** *Anthus pratensis* **PESPUS**
 Double or low treble figures daily throughout January — March, then single or low double figures till 10th April. 1 on 13th and 3 on 17th then daily in same numbers as before from 22nd October till year end.
- RED-THROATED PIPIT** *Anthus cervinus* **DIZZ AHMAR**
 Single figures (maximum 6) on most days from 29th March to 27th April, then 1 on 7th, 3 on 8th and 1 on 15th May. 10 on 19th, 5 on 23rd and 2 on 24th September, but main autumn passage in October with 8 dates between 3rd and 22nd. Highest 15 on 16th.
- ROCK/WATER PIPIT** *Anthus spinoletta* **DIZZ TAL-ILMA**
 1 at Wied il-Kbir on 9th and 1 at Wied il-Ghasri on 16th April.
- YELLOW WAGTAIL** *Motacilla flava* **ISFAR**
 Daily from 26th March to 22nd May with a small gap on 25th-26th March. Double figures on most days but only a few on 17th-21st and 160 on 24th April. 1 on 29th May, 12th and 29th July. In autumn 1 on 10th and 18th then daily from 26th August to 16th October with stragglers up to 6th November. Peak on 2nd-3rd October with c.300 on each day otherwise high double figures on most other days.
- GREY WAGTAIL** *Motacilla cinerea* **ZAKAK TAD-DELL**
 Single figures daily throughout January, February and early March. Stragglers till 28th March. 1-5 on 7 dates in September from 15th, then daily from 2nd October till year end. Double figures (maximum 50) on several dates in October and November.
- WHITE WAGTAIL** *Motacilla alba* **ZAKAK ABJAD**
 Daily throughout the first three months. Single figures in most localities but over 2,000 roosting in Valletta. In April 1 on 8th and 10th. In autumn stragglers from 3rd, then daily from 16th October till year end. Double figures frequently in October and early November.
- RED-BACKED SHRIKE** *Lanius collurio* **KACCAMENDULA HAMRA**
 Two small autumn movements (singles unless otherwise indicated): on 15th, 17th, 22nd (3), 25th, 26th, 29th and 31st August; 1st, 4th and 6th-10th (2 on

each day) September. Then on 27th September (2) and 1st-3rd, 5th (2), 9th, 10th and 17th October.

WOODCHAT SHRIKE *Lanius senator* KACCAMENDULA
2 on 24th March. 1 on 3rd, 8th, 9th and 12th, then single figures on most days from 12th April to 26th May, highest 8 on 25th April. 1 on 18th April belonged to the Corsican race *L.s. badius*, this being the second record of this sub-species for Malta. 3 juveniles present at Buskett during late July and early August probably were a brood raised in the area, otherwise no summer records. Autumn passage from 10th August to 2nd October with main movement between mid-August and mid-September; always single figures.

LESSER GREY SHRIKE *Lanius minor* KACCAMENDULA GRIZA
2 at Hal Far on 5th and 1 at Tal-Handaq on 7th September.

GREAT GREY SHRIKE *Lanius excubitor* KACCAMENDULA GRIZA PRIMA
1 at Mellieha on 15th March and 1 at Tal-Handaq on 2nd April.

WAXWING *Bombycilla garrulus* SULTAN L-ISFONSUNI
1 at Siggiewi on 9th January. (4th record for Malta).

WREN *Troglodytes troglodytes* BUMISTUR
2 at Buskett throughout January and 1 till 14th February. 1 at Lunzjata throughout January and till 7th February. In March singles at Wied Znuber on 6th and 27th and at Buskett on 21st. 2 at Wied Znuber from 5th November and 2 at Buskett from 24th December onwards. Also singles at Wied il-Kbir on 17th and at Balluta on 27th November and at Sliema on 23rd December.

ALPINE ACCENTOR *Prunella collaris* ZIEMEL TAL-ALPI
1 at Mtahleb on 19th and 1 at Ta' Zuta on 20th November.

DUNNOCK *Prunella modularis* ZIEMEL
Low double figures daily throughout January, February and March to 18th. Then again from 16th October onwards with fairly high double figures (maximum 40) in October and November.

CETTI'S WARBLER *Cettia cetti* BAGHAL TAL-GHOLLIEQ
A female at Ghajn Barrani (Gozo) during the last week of August was the only record outside the usual breeding places. Family parties were seen at Wied l-Luq on 24th May (4 young) and 27th July (2 young).

SAVI'S WARBLER *Locustella luscinioides* BAGHAL AHMAR
1 at Salina on 24th March and 1 at Wied il-Luq on 30th August.

RIVER WARBLER *Locustella fluviatilis* BAGHAL TAX-XMAJJAR
1 at Hal Far on 6th September. (3rd record for Malta).

GRASSHOPPER WARBLER *Locustella naevia*
1 at Ta Zuta on 31st March. (1st record for Malta).

MOUSTACHED WARBLER *Lusciniola melanopogon* BAGHAL QASTNI
An unusually poor year with only two records: 1 at Wied Znuber on 6th and 1 at Wied il-Luq on 20th November.

SEDGE WARBLER *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* **BAGHAL TAS-SIMAR**
Single figures on most days from 13th March to 22nd May but with two notable gaps in April: 14th-22nd and 27th-30th. Influx on 4th-5th September, with c. 15 on each day, then on most days till 25th. Smaller influx on 4th October then single figures daily till 9th. Stragglers on 20th October and 1st (2) and 14th November.

REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus scirpaceus* **BAGHAL TAL-QASAB**
Singles on 20th April and on 1st, 3rd and 19th May were the only spring records. Autumn movement smaller than usual: 1 on 27th July; 3 on 11th and 1 on 12th, 14th and 18th, then daily from 22nd August to 23rd September. Peak on 4th-8th September with 6 on 5th, otherwise only 1-3. Small influx in early October with 3 daily on 2nd-5th.

GREAT REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* **BAGHAL PRIM**
After 1 on 16th, influx on 24th April (10 recorded) then on most days till 23rd May with 6 on 1st and 7 on 8th highest. In autumn singles on 7 dates between 13th August and 3rd September, then influx on 5th-8th with 15 on 6th highest. 1-4 on most days after 8th and till 9th October but noticeable gaps on 14th-16th and 18th-20th September.

ICTERINE WARBLER *Hippolais icterina* **BEKKAFIK ISFAR**
1 on 25th and 27th April then on most days from 2nd to 29th May but gaps on 14th-15th and 17-20th. Single figures except for influxes on 4th, 21st, 23rd and 25th with 10-15 on each day. Very good autumn passage: singles on 6th, 18th, 19th and 30th August then daily from 3rd September to 10th October except for gaps on 15th-17th, 23rd-26th and 28th-30th September. Main passage from 4th to 9th September and 3rd to 10th October with double figures (maximum 21) on all days.

OLIVACEOUS WARBLER *Hippolais pallida* **BEKKAFIK GRIZ**
1 at Wied Żnuber on 4th and 1 at Wied il-Luq on 23rd May. (2nd and 3rd records for Malta).

ORPHEAN **WARBLER** *Sylvia hortensis* **BEKKAFIK T'GHAJNU BAJDA**
A male was trapped and ringed at Ghadira on 2nd April.

GARDEN WARBLER *Sylvia borin* **BEKKAFIK**
3 on 12th and 1 on 18th, then daily from 23rd April to 25th May. Low double figures (maximum 25) on most days. 1 on 29th May. Unusual bird on 9th July. Autumn passage heavy and sustained: daily from 14th August to 10th October with high double figures from 29th August to 21st September and 1st-5th October. Larger influxes on 19th September and 3rd and 4th October with 250 on the first two dates and 100 on the other. Late stragglers on 15th-16th, 23rd (2) and 25th (2) October and 6th November.

BLACKCAP *Sylvia atricapilla* **KAPINERA**
60+ at Buskett in early January gradually built up to c.300 by mid-February decreasing again towards the end of the month. Large influx on 6th-7th March with 800 decreasing to 40 by 13th. Most birds had departed by 5th April but stragglers till 18th. In smaller numbers in other localities. Scattered migrants from 13th September then daily from late October with up to 40 at Buskett from 3rd December onwards.

- WHITETHROAT** *Sylvia communis* BEKKAFIK AHMAR
Spring passage from 28th March to 26th May with peak days on 24th and 26th April, 2nd-6th, 15th-16th and 20th May. Best day was 16th May (80 logged) otherwise not more than 45. A male was singing in display flight at Buskett on 6th June. 2 on 10th, 22nd and 26th August. Influx on 4th-8th September with 30 on first date then 1-3 on 9th-14th, 3 on 19th and 1 on 20th. Renewed passage on 1st October with main influx on 3rd (40 recorded) and up to 12 daily till 10th. 1 on 13th and 16th and 2 on 24th October.
- LESSER WHITETHROAT** *Sylvia curruca* BEKKAFIK IRMIEDI
1 at Mtahleb on 17th April. 3 singles in October: at Mtahleb on 3rd and at Wied il-Luq on 4th and 31st.
- SARDINIAN WARBLER** *Sylvia melanocephala* BUFULA SEWDA
Very common breeding resident in usual numbers.
- SUBALPINE WARBLER** *Sylvia cantillans* BUFULA PASSAJRA
Spring passage small and scattered from 21st March to 6th May with several large gaps. Only one good influx: on 28th March (45 recorded) otherwise low single figures. 1 on 9th and 23rd then daily from 27th July to 23rd September. Double figures with maximum of 50 on 12th August and 5th September. Renewed small movement a week later with 1 on 28th September and 6 on 2nd, 10 on 3rd and 1 on 10th October.
- SPECTACLED WARBLER** *Sylvia conspicillata* BUFULA HAMRA
Present in usual numbers.
- DARTFORD WARBLER** *Sylvia undata* BUFULA TAX-XAGHRI
Up to 6 throughout January and February to 8th and 2 on 5th March at Ghadira. In other places singles at Hal Far on 24th January; at Ta' Zuta on 1st, at Kalafrana on 18th, at Ramla Bay on 21st and at Salina on 25th February; and at Hal Far on 19th March. 1-2 at Hal Far on 19th November and 1 at Ghadira on 28th December.
- WILLOW WARBLER** *Phylloscopus trochilus* VJOLIN PASTARD
Daily from 21st March to 4th May then slightly less regular till 23rd May. Double figures on 28th March; 2nd, 6th, 10th, 12th, 13th, 18th, 23rd-25th April; 4th and 15th May with 20 on 24th April highest. 1 on 22nd and 1 on 31st July. 1-5 on 13 dates in August then daily from 3rd September to 10th October with stragglers up to 23rd. Double figures on several days in September and early October with 65 on 5th September highest.
- CHIFFCHAFF** *Phylloscopus collybita* VJOLIN TAX-XITWA
High double figures in several places throughout January and February. Few during 1st-5th March then again up to 80 till 22nd; single figures on most days to 10th April. Few from 2nd October reaching low double figures late in the month. 60 at Lunzjata on 18th December otherwise never more than 30.
- BONELLI'S WARBLER** *Phylloscopus bonelli* VJOLIN BAJDANI
Small passage in spring: 1 on 24th, 28th and 29th and 2 on 31st March; 1 on 2nd, 3rd and 11th, 2 on 17th and 1 on 25th April; 1 on 2nd and 9th May. Most birds were recorded at Ghadira. 1 at Buskett on 12th August.

WOOD WARBLER *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* VJOLIN AHDAR
Singles on 28th and 31st March then almost daily from 7th April to 25th May. Double figures only for short period of 25th April — 4th May with maximum of 20 on last date. Good autumn passage with several large influxes: 1 on 11th and 16th August then daily from 3rd September to 16th October with gaps on 16-17th, 21st-22nd and 28th-30th September and 11th-15th October. Influxes on 4th-9th and 19th September and 1st-5th October; 105 on 3rd October and fairly high double figures on other influx days.

GOLDCREST *Regulus regulus* BUFULA TAL-QAMAR
Single figures (maximum 6) throughout January, February and March to 24th. Slight increase in March probably due to birds wintering south of Malta. 1 on 16th and 2 on 25th and 28th October then regular from 1st November onwards. Up to 20 (on 15th December) on most days at Buskett.

FIRECREST *Regulus ignicapillus* BUFULA TAT-TOPPU AHMAR
In about same numbers as Goldcrest in January and February but seen in a larger variety of habitats. None during the first half of March then small movement between 17th and 27th with 8 at Buskett on 22nd-23rd highest. 2 on 2nd April. From 3rd October onwards in autumn with double figures on most days after 15th. Peak 30 at Buskett in late November and early December.

FAN-TAILED WARBLER *Cisticola juncidis* BAGHAL TAL-IMREWHIA
1 at Marsaxlokk on 9th-10th April and 2 at Salina on 9th August.

PIED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula hypoleuca* ZANZARELL ISWED
Singles on 29th-30th March and 1st April then on most days from 7th April to 16th May. Main passage between 23rd and 28th April and 2nd and 5th May, with 50 on 4th May highest. Singles figures on most other days. In autumn daily from 4th to 13th September with 15 on 7th highest. 1 on 27th September then influx on 3rd-5th October with 35 on last date highest. 1 on 7th and 10th and 6 on 31st October.

COLLARED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula albicollis* ZANZARELL TAL-KULLAR
Spring passage smaller than usual: single figures on 8 dates between 13th and 28th April with 12 on 19th. Singles on 4th, 15th and 16th May. In autumn 2 on 4th-5th, 13 on 7th, 1 on 8th, 10 on 11th and 1 on 12th September and 3 on 3rd, 4 on 4th and 10 on 5th October. This is only the second time that this flycatcher has been recorded in autumn.

RED-BREASTED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula parva* ZANZARELL TA' SIDRU AHMAR
Record autumn with birds present on 8 days: 24th September; 3rd, 9th, 10th, 16th, 20th October; 6th and 18th November. Singles except for 2 on 10th October.

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa striata* ZANZARELL TAT-TPKKI
1 on 10th and 12th then almost daily from 19th April to 4th June. Double figures on 24th and 28th April, 3rd-6th and 15th-23rd May, highest 45 on 16th May. Pair with 3 fledged young seen at Buskett on 6th-10th June then 1-5 birds seen on several dates till 18th August. At Wied il-Kbir 1 was seen on 27th June then 4 and 3 together (probably family party) on 30th June and 11th July respectively. Also 1 at Gzira on 17th June. Autumn passage from 27th August and

daily to 24th October. Low single figures except on influx days — September: 4th (10), 5th (30), 6th (15), 7th (60), 8th (25), 11th (10) and 25th (10); October: 2nd (60), 3rd (300), 4th (250), 5th (160) and 20-40 on 6th-10th.

WHINCHAT *Saxicola rubetra* BUCAQCAQ TAS-SILLA
Spring passage from 4th April to 25th May with birds present on most days; double figures on 9th and 12th-16th April, 2nd-6th and 15th May, highest 25 on two days. 1 on 3rd June. Small and scattered autumn passage from 29th August to 24th October with 12-15 on 19th September and 5th-8th October, otherwise very low single figures on 15 days.

STONECHAT *Saxicola torquata* BUCAQCAQ TAX-XITWA
Up to 15 daily till 24th March. Then from 4th October; high double figures (maximum 60 on 23rd October) on several days between 10th October and 19th November, then single or very low double figures in most places till year end.

WHEATEAR *Oenanthe oenanthe* KUDA
On most days from 10th March to 16th May. Main days of passage (20-25 recorded) 22nd-27th March, 13th and 22nd-23rd April and 2nd-4th May. Single figures in August from 12th and double figures on most days in September (highest 80 on 7th). Treble figures between 1st and 10th October (highest 300 at Hal Far on 3rd) then decreasing to double figures and gradually singles after 16th and till 24th. 1 on 1st November.

BLACK-EARED WHEATEAR *Oenanthe hispanica* KUDA DUMNIKANA
Low single figures on 20 dates between 21st March and 8th May with 10 on 24th March. Autumn passage smaller with birds recorded on 9 days between 18th August and 30th September. Singles except for 4 on 9th and 2 on 21st September.

DESERT WHEATEAR *Oenanthe deserti* KUDA TAD-DEZERT
1 was caught at Wied il-Ghajj in January. (4th record for Malta).

ISABELLINE WHEATEAR *Oenanthe isabellina* KUDA IZABELLINA
1 trapped and ringed at Hal Far on 6th September. (2 record for Malta)

RUFOUS BUSH CHAT *Cercotrichas galactotes* ROZINJOL TAX-XAGHRI
Single birds on 14th, 15th and 23rd April, and on 3rd May.

ROCK THRUSH *Monticola saxatilis* GANBUFLU
1-3 on 13 dates between 20th March and 4th May. In autumn singles on 4th, 7th and 9th September and on 5th October.

BLUE ROCK THRUSH *Monticola solitarius* MERILL
Resident. Good number of young seen on the wing from late April.

BLACK REDSTART *Phoenicurus ochruros* KUDIROSS ISWED
Up to 10 in suitable habitat during January. In smaller numbers during February and March to 24th. Again from 23rd October onwards with up to 8 till mid-November and then smaller numbers.

REDSTART *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* KUDIROSS
on 14th then on most days from 22nd March to 16th May. Single and occa-

sional very low double figures, highest 14 on 16th April. Late birds on 21st (3), 25th (2) and 29th May. 1 on 20th June. In autumn daily from 3rd September to 25th October. 100 on 3rd October and double figures from 23rd September to 10th October with 40-60 on 4 days. 1 on 3rd November.

ROBIN

Erithacus rubecula

PITIROSS

Double figures in January and February with up to 80 at Buskett. Smaller numbers in March. 1-2 on most days in April to 20th. 1 on 1st, 3rd and 19th May. 1 at San Anton on 27th July and 1-2 at Buskett from 23rd July and throughout August. 1-3 in several places in September increasing to 20+ at Buskett by the end of the month. Treble figures (maximum 600) in most places in October and early November when several large falls recorded; then smaller numbers but 300 at Buskett till year end.

THRUSH NIGHTINGALE

Luscinia luscinia

ROZINJOL PRIM

1 trapped and ringed at Wied il-Luq on 29th September. (4th record for Malta).

NIGHTINALE

Luscinia megarhynchos

ROZINJOL

Spring passage smaller than usual: single figures from 18th March to 28th April with 18 on 10th and 10 on 11th April. 1 on 1st, 2 on 3rd and 9th, and 1 on 15th-16th May. In autumn 1 on 31st July, 10th and 20th August then daily from 24th August to 10th October with double figures on most days except at extreme ends. Highest 50 on 5th-8th and 60 on 19th September. Singles on 16th, 17th and 19th October.

BLUETHROAT

Luscinia svecica

KUDIROSS BLU

A record spring: singles at Siggiewi on 13th, at Mtahleb on 20th and at Salina on 22nd March. 1-2 were present at Ghadira from 25th March to 17th April (6 were ringed during this period). 3 were at Hal Far on 10th April and singles at St. Andrew's on 23rd April and at Bingemma on 2nd May. Only 1 in autumn: a male at Wied il-Luq on 7th October.

FIELDFARE

Turdus pilaris

MALVIZZUN TAL-QTAJJA

6 on 9th and 1 on 11th January. 1 on 11th-12th and 3 on 23rd and 27th February. 1 on 16th March. 1-2 on 25th October, 5th-7th, 11th, 12th and 15th November, 4th and 18th December.

RING OUZEL

Turdus torquatus

MALVIZZ TAS-SIDRA BAJDA

Singles on 4th January, 10th October, 12th and 17th November and 26th December.

BLACKBIRD

Turdus merula

MALVIZZ ISWED

Small numbers (maximum 3) regularly in January, February and March to 21st. Odd birds on 24th April, 7th May and 25th July. 1 on 2nd then regular from 20th October onwards. Double figures (maximum 26) on most days between 24th October and 12th November.

REDWING

Turdus iliacus

MALVIZZ AHMAR

On 9 days in January, 9 in February and 3 in March to 9th. High single figures on most days with 15 on 14th February and 10 on 31st January. On 4 days in November from 5th and on 10 days in December with 8 on 26th November highest. Most records from Buskett.

- SONG THRUSH *Turdus philomelos* MALVIZZ
 Double figures (maximum 30 on several days) in January and February. Slightly smaller numbers in March but unusual very heavy passage on 16th with several thousands moving north. Stragglers on 7 dates in April to 20th and 1 on 14th May. 1 on 21st and 22nd and 3 on 30th September then regular from 2nd October onwards. Main southward movement from 19th October to 7th November with treble figures on 19th-25th and 30th October, maximum 750 on 21st. Only single or very low double figures after 8th November.
- MISTLE THRUSH *Turdus viscivorus* MALVIZZUN PRIM
 1 on 17th and 28th and 3 on 30th October. Singles on 3rd, 5th and 7th November.
- CORN BUNTING *Emberiza calandra* DURRAJSA
 Breeding in usual numbers. In flocks of up to 30 from late July, 200+ were counted coming in at Mtahleb on 16th August.
- ORTOLAN BUNTING *Emberiza hortulana* ORTOLAN
 Singles on 19th, 23rd and 24th April and 3 on 9th May. 1 on 4th September.
- LITTLE BUNTING *Emberiza pusilla* DURRAJSA QERQNIJA
 1 at Tal-Handaq on 24th October and 1 at Hal Far on 4th November, 1 caught in early December) (4th, 5th and 6th records for Malta).
- REED BUNTING *Emberiza schoeniclus* DURRAJSA TAL-QASAB
 Singles at Salina on 16th January, 24th February and 5th November 1 at Ghadirra on 1st November.
- CHAFFINCH *Fringilla coelebs* SPONSUN
 Single figures in January, February and March but 19 on 6th, 50 on 7th and 20 on 13th March. 2 on 2nd and 1 on 23rd and 28th April. 2 on 25th and 1 on 29th June. Up to 5 at Buskett from 6th July and throughout August and September. Autumn passage from 25th September; high double or low treble figures on several dates in October and November. Smaller numbers in December. Maximum 160 on 30th October.
- BRAMBLING *Fringilla montifringilla* SPONSUN SELVAGG
 2 on 5th and singles on 11th and 13th November, 2 in early December.
- SERIN *Serinus serinus* APPARELL
 Single or very low double figures in January, February and March to 24th. 1 on 15th and 28th April and on 18th and 28th September. Single figures on 24th-31st October and 2 on 15th November, then low double figures from 3rd December onwards.
- GREENFINCH *Carduelis chloris* VERDUN
 Low single figures on scattered days during the first three months. 1 on 9th April. On most days from 19th October onwards. Double figures on several days and 200 on 15th November and 350 on 3rd December.
- SISKIN *Carduelis spinus* EKRU
 In October 3 on 20th, 20 on 24th, 150 on 25th, 5 on 28th, 1 on 29th and 4 on 31st. On 9 days in November to 19th with 7 on 3rd highest. 1 on 5th December.

GOLDFINCH *Carduelis carduelis* GARDELL
2 on 29th and 1 on 30th January; 2 on 14th and 1 on 15th February; 2 on 7th, 2 on 22nd, 1 on 24th and 25th March; 2 on 14th and 1 on 18th April. 9 on 17th, 1 on 19th, 4 on 30th and 9 on 31st October then on 15 days in November, mostly single figures but 200 on 15th. In December 2 on 5th, 1 on 16th-17, 5 on 18th and 2 on 22nd.

LINNET *Acanthis cannabina* GOJJIN
Single figures in early part of year then low double figures from late February to 28th April, with larger numbers in mid-March (100 on 23rd highest). Single figures on 4 days in May and 1 on 3rd June, 15th July and 19th August. Up to 10 were present at Ghajin Barrani, Gozo throughout the summer. In September flock of 30 on 15th and 3 on 20th. Autumn passage from 9th October with high double or treble figures on most days till early December. Then smaller numbers till year end. Best days were 20th (400) and 25th-26th (300) October.

TRUMPETER BULLFINCH *Rhodopechys githaginea* TRUMBETTIER
1 caught at Nadur in January and 2 at Xorb i-Ghagin on 30th November.

SCARLET ROSEFINCH *Carpodacus erythrinus* BUMUNQAR
Female caught at Buskett on 29th November. (4th record for Malta)

HAWFINCH *Coccothraustes coccothraustes* GHASFUR TAZ-ZEBBUQ
7 in Gozo on 16th March. 1-3 on 20th September, on 5 days in October and 10 days in November. Singles on 3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th and 27th December.

SPANISH SPARROW *Passer hispaniolensis* GHAMMIEL TAL-BEJT
Abundant everywhere all the year round.

TREE SPARROW *Passer montanus* GHAMMIEL TAS-SIGAR
Small numbers present in several localities throughout the year. Present also on Comino. No large passages noted in autumn this year with only a maximum of 10 at Ghadira on 23rd October.

STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris* STURNELL
During January and February seen only in flocks of up to 60 (except for roosting). Smaller numbers in March to 19th. First autumn birds on 20th September with double figures from 28th. Large flocks of up to 2,500 throughout October and early November then smaller numbers with flocks of 1000-2000 only at Hal Far, Safi and Luqa.

ROSE-COLOURED STARLING *Sturnus roseus* STURNELL ROSA
One at Ghadira on 5th October.

GOLDEN ORIOLE *Oriolus oriolus* TAJRA SAFRA
Daily from 13th April to 20th May; double figures on 8 days with 35 on 27th April highest. 2 on 23rd and 29th and 1 on 31st May. Singles on 8th, 12th, 25th and 27th August, then daily from 2nd to 26th September (except on 18th) with large influxes on 4th (82) and 5th (80); low double figures on 6th-8th and 11th, otherwise single figures. Another large influx on 3rd October (70) then no subsequent records.

SPECIES RINGED AND TOTALS

Species	Ringed in 1971	Recovered in 1971	Grand Total Ringed	Grand Total Recovered
<i>Calonectris diomedea</i>	18	1	146	1
<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	23	—	61	—
<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>	988	2	3,322	4
<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	5	—	8	1
<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	1	1	4	1
<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	—	—	2	—
<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>	2	—	3	—
<i>Porzana porzana</i>	2	1	3	1
<i>Porzana parva</i>	—	—	4	—
<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	3	—	9	1
<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	2	—	27	1
<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	4	—	4	—
<i>Calidris minuta</i>	58	1	94	2
<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	4	—	5	—
<i>Calidris alpina</i>	5	—	6	—
<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	10	1	10	1
<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	5	—	12	1
<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	3	1	7	2
<i>Tringa glareola</i>	23	4	40	5
<i>Tringa hypoleucos</i>	4	—	11	—
<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	—	—	6	1
<i>Gallinago media</i>	—	—	1	1
<i>Lymnocryptes minimus</i>	—	—	1	—
<i>Larus argentatus</i>	2	1	7	1
<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	—	—	5	—
<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	1	—	3	—
<i>Otus scops</i>	9	—	22	2
<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>	—	—	4	1
<i>Apus apus</i>	—	—	1	—
<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	5	—	17	3
<i>Upupa epops</i>	1	—	3	—
<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	12	—	57	—
<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>	6	—	25	—
<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	—	—	1	—
<i>Riparia riparia</i>	246	3	980	7
<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	1,370	18	2,646	27
<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	2	—	11	1
<i>Delichon urbica</i>	150	—	761	3
<i>Anthus campestris</i>	4	—	5	—
<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	37	—	148	1
<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	12	—	67	1
<i>Anthus cervinus</i>	2	—	2	—
<i>Motacilla flava</i>	53	—	443	12
<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	37	1	142	2
<i>Motacilla alba</i>	7	—	101	3
<i>Lanius collurio</i>	8	—	19	—
<i>Lanius senator</i>	4	—	23	—

<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	4	—	9	—
<i>Prunella modularis</i>	34	—	95	—
<i>Cettia cetti</i>	10	—	33	—
<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>	1	—	9	—
<i>Locustella fluviatilis</i>	—	—	1	—
<i>Luscinia melanocephala</i>	1	—	20	—
<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	74	—	206	1
<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>	—	—	1	—
<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	35	—	170	—
<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	57	—	207	1
<i>Hippobais icterina</i>	80	—	139	—
<i>Hippobais pallida</i>	1	—	1	—
<i>Sylvia hortensis</i>	1	—	1	—
<i>Sylvia borin</i>	457	—	1,078	1
<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	213	1	615	2
<i>Sylvia communis</i>	135	—	458	—
<i>Sylvia curruca</i>	1	—	3	—
<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	131	—	764	3
<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>	148	—	440	—
<i>Sylvia conspicillata</i>	13	—	128	—
<i>Sylvia undata</i>	2	—	13	—
<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	89	1	339	1
<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	495	1	2,266	5
<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>	4	—	10	—
<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	112	—	254	—
<i>Regulus regulus</i>	3	—	8	—
<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>	24	—	53	1
<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>	43	—	178	—
<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>	4	—	37	—
<i>Ficedula parva</i>	3	—	5	—
<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	57	—	145	—
<i>Saricola rubetra</i>	18	—	70	—
<i>Saricola torquata</i>	21	1	73	1
<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	32	—	38	—
<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>	1	—	1	—
<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>	—	—	1	—
<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	2	1	20	3
<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	4	—	9	—
<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	109	—	433	—
<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	1,203	18	2,653	49
<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>	1	—	1	—
<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	78	—	249	1
<i>Luscinia svecica</i>	9	—	18	1
<i>Turdus torquatus</i>	—	—	2	—
<i>Turdus merula</i>	15	1	35	4
<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	1	—	2	—
<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	45	2	80	4
<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	6	—	27	—
<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>	—	—	2	—
<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	—	—	1	—
<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	16	1	55	1
<i>Serinus serinus</i>	2	—	68	2

<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	24	—	147	15
<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	1	—	1	—
<i>Acanthis cannabina</i>	94	4	597	37
<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	478	2	1,977	32
<i>Passer montanus</i>	1	—	26	—
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	1	—	4	—
<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	3	—	16	—
Totals	7,525	68	23,607	261

SPECIES: 1971 Total: 91
Grand Total: 106

RINGING RECOVERIES

Key to symbols and terms used:

Age: pull. — chick ringed in the nest;
 juv. — young bird able to fly freely;
 1Y — bird in its first year of life;
 p.j. — post-juvenile;
 fg. — full-grown, age uncertain;
 ad. — adult, at least one year old.
 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;
 /?/ — manner of recovery unknown.

Date of Recovery:

Where this is unknown the date of the reporting letter is given in brackets.

Co-ordinates of principal ringing sites omitted from text:

Filfla	35°47'N;	14°25'E.
Ghadira, Mellieha, Malta	35°58'N;	14°21'E.
Wied Miġra Ferha, Mtahleb, Malta	35°52'N;	14°21'E.
Buskett, Rabat, Malta	35°51'N;	14°26'E.
Wied Znuber, Hal Far, Malta	35°49'N;	14°31'E.
Marsalforn Valley, Gozo	36°04'N;	14°16'E.
Ramla Valley, Xaghra, Gozo	36°03'N;	14°17'E.
Lunzjata Valley, Victoria, Gozo	36°02'N;	14°14'E.

STORM PETREL	<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>	KANĠU TA' FILFLA
210.2795	p.j.	28. 6. 71 Filfla.
	()	1. 7. 71 Marsascala. (16 km NE)
697.989	ad.	12. 6. 71 Filfla.
	+	25. 9. 71 off Ash Shabbah: c. 35°08'N, 11°12' E, (La Chebba), Tunisia, (2nd)
LITTLE STINT	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	TERTUXA
697.945	p.j.	21. 5. 71 Ramla Valley.
	v	24. 5. 71 Ghadira. (15 km SE)
CURLEW SANDPIPER	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	BEGGAZZINA HAMRA
BV 02.829	p.j.	19. 5. 71 Ghadira
	+	22. 5. 71 Sliema. (16 km SE)
GREEN SANDPIPER	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	SWEJDA
CP 66.955	p.j.	29. 3. 71 Ghadira
	+	7. 4. 71 near Mosta. (10 km SE)

WOOD SANDPIPER			<i>Tringa glareola</i>	PESPUS TAL-BAHAR
CV 55.452	p.j.	27.	4. 70	Ghadira
	()	0.	3. 71	Mcsta. (9 km SE)
BV 02.812	p.j.	8.	5. 71	Ramla Valley.
	+	15.	5. 71	Ghallis. (19 km SE)
HERRING GULL			<i>Larus argentatus</i>	GAWWIJA PRIMA
GP 27.654	pull.	12.	6. 71	Filfa.
	+	12.	11. 71	Marsa. (12 km NNE)
SAND MARTIN			<i>Riparia riparia</i>	HAWWIEFA TAX-XTUT
JE 58.628	p.j.	8.	4. 71	Ramla Valley.
	+	15.	4. 71	Wardija. (18 km SSE)
JE 58.523	p.j.	11.	4. 71	Ramla Valley.
	()	25.	4. 71	Naxxar. (23 km SE)
JE 59.444	ad.	10.	4. 71	Ramla Valley.
	v	27.	4. 71	Boughton: 52°35'N, 0°31'E, Stoke Ferry (Norfolk), England (2nd)
SWALLOW			<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	HUTTABA
JC 91.071	ad. M.	22.	3. 71	Lunzjata Valley.
	()	25.	3. 71	Zebbug. (25 km SE)
JC 91.097	p.j. M.	23.	3. 71	Lunzjata Valley.
	x	29.	3. 71	Mgarr (Gozo). (5 km SE)
HX 94.510	p.j. M.	28.	3. 70	Ramla Valley.
	x	31.	3. 71	Riccione: 40°01'N, 12°38'E, (Forlì), Italy. (2nd)
HX 76.994	p.j. M.	6.	4. 71	Lunzjata Valley.
	x	7.	4. 71	St. Paul's Bay. (17 km SE)
JE 59.395	p.j. F.	8.	4. 71	Ramla Valley.
	()	(8.	4. 71)	Qrendi. (29 km SSE)
JE 59.367	p.j. F.	8.	4. 71	Ramla Valley.
	()	10.	4. 71	Mcsta. (21 km SE)
JE 58.629	p.j. M.	8.	4. 71	Ramla Valley.
	+	15.	4. 71	Komitades Sfakion: 35°12'N, 24°08'E, (Nr. Khora Sfakion), Crete. (1st)
JE 58.670	p.j. F.	10.	4. 71	Ramla Valley.
	v	(1.	5. 71)	Ghaxaq. (32 km SE)
JE 59.284	p.j. M.	6.	4. 71	Ramla Valley.
	v	14.	5. 71	Klausdorf, near Zossen: 52°09'N, 13°24'E, (Brandenburg), Germany. (1st)

JE 58 725	p.j. F. x	10. 4. 71 19. 6. 71	Ramla Valley. Offenhsim: 49°44'N, 8°7'E, Alzey, (Rheinland Pfalz), <i>Germany</i> . (2nd)
JE 59.078	p.j. + (cat)	30. 4. 71 8. 7. 71	Ramla Valley. Derwitz: 52°23'N, 12°50'E, (Potsdam), <i>Germany</i> (3rd)
(At the time of death this Swallow was breeding and had unfledged young).			
HX 75.403	p.j. F. x	1. 5. 70 c.10. 7. 71	Lunzjata Valley. Frauendorf: 51°25'N, 13°46'E, (Dresden in Sachsen), <i>Germany</i> (4th)
JE 58.850	1Y +	4. 10. 71 5. 10. 71	Lunzjata Valley. Zurrieq. (30 km. SE)
JE 58.813	1Y +	4. 10. 71 0. 10. 71	Lunzjata Valley. Zeitun. (33 km SE)
GREY WAGTAIL			<i>Motacilla cinerea</i> ZAKAK TAD-DELL
JE 58 559	ad. M. v	11. 10. 71 20. 10. 71	Lunzjata Valley. Wied Znuber, Hal Far. (36 km SE)
BLACKCAP			<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i> KAPINERA
HX 12.878	ad. F. ()	17. 4. 69 7. 1. 71	Marsalforn Valley. Tresnuraghes: 40°16'N, 08°30'E, (Nuoro), <i>Sardegna</i> , (1st)
WILLOW WARBLER			<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i> VJOLIN PASTARD
155.539	p.j. x	28. 3. 71 21. 8. 71	Wied Znuber, Hal Far. Rosas: 42°15'N, 03°11'E, (Gerona), <i>Spain</i> . (1st)
CHIFFCHAFF			<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i> VJOLIN TAX-XITWA
PB 6738	p.j. v	4. 1. 69 28. 3. 71	Lunzjata Valley. near Klagenfurt: 46°38'N, 14°20'E, (Karnten), <i>Austria</i> . (1st)
STONECHAT			<i>Saxicola torquata</i> BUCAQCAQ TAX-XITWA
BJ 48.814	ad. M. v	21. 10. 71 5. 11. 71	Wied Znuber, Hal Far. Birkirkara. (10 km NNW)
ROBIN			<i>Erithacus rubecula</i> PITIEROSS
HX 95.411	p.j. +	27. 10. 70 (9. 2. 71)	Wied il-Luq, Buskett. Yithion: 36°46'N, 22°34'E. (Peloponnesos), <i>Greece</i> . (1st)
HR 90.134	1Y ()	9 10. 68 (8. 3. 71)	Wied Migra Ferha, Mtahleb. Dellys: 36°57'N, 03°55'E, (Alger), <i>Algeria</i> . (1st)
211.4547	i.g. x	14. 9. 71 8. 10. 71	Wied Znuber, Hal Far. Paola. (7 km N)

JH 84.126	ad. v	26. 10. 71 29. 10. 71	Wied Znuber, Hal Far. Wied il-Luq, Buskett. (11 km WNW)
JH 84.062	ad. + (cat)	24. 10. 71 2. 11. 71	Wied il-Luq, Buskett. Paola. (5 km E)
JE 60.354	1Y ()	24. 10. 71 (2. 11. 71)	Wied Znuber, Hal Far. Qrendi, (5 km WNW)
JE 60.411	1Y ()	22. 10. 71 13. 11. 71	Wied Znuber, Hal Far. Qermi. (9 km NW)
JE 60.325	ad. ()	23. 10. 71 c.15. 11. 71	Wied Znuber, Hal Far. Gudja. (5 km N)
JH 84.110	p.j. v	25. 10. 71 20. 11. 71	Wied Znuber, Hal Far. Lunzjata Valley. (36 km NNW)
JE 60.063	ad. + (cat)	21. 10. 71 4. 11. 71	Ta' Giorni, St Julian's. Kalkara. (5 km SE)
JH 84.109	1Y x	25. 10. 71 21. 12. 71	Wied Znuber, Hal Far. Nadur. (32 km NNW)
BLACKBIRD		<i>Turdus merula</i>	MALVIZZ ISWED
CV 55.498	1Y F. +	6. 11. 71 (18. 11. 71)	Wied Znuber, Hal Far. Luqa. (6 km NNW)
SONG THRUSH		<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	MALVIZZ
CP 66.916	p.j. +	1. 11. 71 5. 11. 71	Wied Znuber, Hal Far. St. Julian's. (11 km N)
CP 66.914	p.j. +	1. 11. 71 17. 11. 71	Wied Znuber, Hal Far. Mtahleb, (12 km NW)
LINNET		<i>Acanthis cannabina</i>	GOJJIN
HX 76.841	p.j. F. ()	6 11. 70 (27. 1. 71)	Lunzjata Valley. Rabat, (23 km SE)
JH 83.680	p.j. F. ()	25. 10. 71 0. 10. 71	Lunzjata Valley. Marsaxlokk. (37 km SE)
JH 83.703	p.j. F. ()	30. 10. 71 1 11. 71	Lunzjata Valley. near Mosta. (21 km SE)
SPANISH SPARROW		<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	GHAMMIEL TAL-BEJT
BJ 48.698	ad. F. +	15. 5. 71 (7. 6. 71)	Wied Znuber, Hal Far. Pieta'. (10 km N)
EC 74.664	ad. M. ()	23. 12. 68 c.23. 7. 71	Wied Migra Ferha, Mtahleb. Rabat. (5 km E)

REFLECTED RETRAPS

The weight, in gms., appears in brackets beside the date.

1. *Retraps of Spring Migrants.*

<i>Species</i>	<i>Ringing Date</i>	<i>Date Retrapped</i>	<i>Locality</i>
Little Stint	13.5.71 (17.7)	19.5.71 (24.6)	Ghadira
Little Stint	19.5.71 (19.2)	24.5.71 (22.0)	Ghadira
Little Stint	19.5.71 (19.2)	21.5.71 (25.5)	Ghadira
Little Stint	19.5.71 (21.0)	21.5.71 (20.9)	Ghadira
Little Stint	19.5.71 (20.6)	24.5.71 (26.3)	Ghadira
Little Stint	19.5.71 (19.8)	21.5.71 (22.0)	Ghadira
Curlew Sandpiper	13.5.71 (45.9)	19.5.71 (53.0)	Ghadira
Swallow	26.3.71 (18.1)	27.3.71 (19.1)	Lunzjata
Swallow	22.3.71 (16.5)	26.3.71 (18.2)	Lunzjata
Swallow	23.3.71 (16.2)	28.3.71 (17.7)	Marsalforn
Swallow	10.4.71 (16.3)	11.4.71 (18.0)	Ramla Valley
Swallow	4.4.71 (14.8)	12.4.71 (19.2)	Marsalforn
Swallow	5.4.71 (18.5)	7.4.71 (20.3)	Lunzjata
Yellow Wagtail	21.3.71 (14.0)	30.3.71 (21.7)	Lunzjata
Great Reed Warbler	24.4.71 (27.3)	1.5.71 (36.1)	Ramla Bay
Sedge Warbler	21.3.71 (10.0)	25.3.71 (10.7)	
		27.3.71 (11.2)	Lunzjata
Sedge Warbler	23.3.71 (10.9)	27.3.71 (11.8)	Lunzjata
Willow Warbler	12.4.71 (7.0)	14.4.71 (7.5)	
		16.4.71 (8.5)	Ghadira
Redstart	7.4.71 (17.3)	10.4.71 (15.3)	Ghadira
Nightingale	23.4.71 (18.5)	26.4.71 (22.5)	Ghadira
Nightingale	26.4.71 (29.4)	28.4.71 (27.8)	Ghadira
Bluethroat	10.4.71 (17.7)	16.4.71 (20.8)	Ghadira
Bluethroat	12.4.71 (16.6)	16.4.71 (18.9)	Ghadira

(A Sand Martin retrapped after 2 days, 7 Swallows retrapped after 1 - 4 days, a Sedge Warbler retrapped after 2 days, and a Bonelli's Warbler and a Redstart retrapped after 1 day, showed little or no variation in weight).

* * * * *

2. *Retraps of Autumn Migrants.*

<i>Species</i>	<i>Ringing Date</i>	<i>Date Retrapped</i>	<i>Locality</i>
Kingfisher	19.10.71 (40.2)	23.10.71 (37.0)	Lunzjata
Great Reed Warbler	5.9.71 (42.5)	6.9.71 (40.8)	Buskett
Great Reed Warbler	6.9.71 (34.3)	8.9.71 (35.6)	Buskett
Great Reed Warbler	21.9.71 (31.0)	26.9.71 (34.0)	Buskett
Sedge Warbler	13.9.71 (11.7)	18.9.71 (12.3)	Buskett
Sedge Warbler	18.9.71 (15.4)	23.9.71 (16.6)	
		25.9.71 (17.2)	Buskett
Icterine Warbler	5.10.71 (15.0)	9.10.71 (18.0)	Hal Far
Garden Warbler	17.8.71 (25.7)	19.8.71 (27.3)	Buskett
Garden Warbler	26.8.71 (24.8)	29.8.71 (27.6)	Buskett
Garden Warbler	3.9.71 (21.7)	6.9.71 (23.4)	Buskett
Garden Warbler	3.9.71 (19.3)	13.9.71 (26.0)	Buskett

Garden Warbler	23. 9.71 (26.3)	25. 9.71 (24.3)	Buskett
Garden Warbler	1.10.71 (23.0)	16.10.71 (18.0)	Hal Far
Whitethroat	22. 8.71 (15.7)	26.8.71 (18.6)	Buskett
Subalpine Warbler	1. 8.71 (11.0)	15. 8.71 (14.4)	Buskett
Subalpine Warbler	14. 8.71 (13.2)	19. 8.71 (16.0)	Buskett
Subalpine Warbler	19. 8.71 (12.5)	24. 8.71 (14.3)	Buskett
Subalpine Warbler	31. 8.71 (11.2)	19. 9.71 (14.6)	Buskett
Subalpine Warbler	3. 9.71 (12.8)	8. 9.71 (14.7)	Buskett
Wood Warbler	5.10.71 (9.5)	10.10.71 (12.8)	Hal Far
Whinchat	8.10.71 (13.7)	10.10.71 (17.5)	Hal Far
Redstart	11. 9.71 (14.7)	26. 9.71 (18.1)	Buskett
Redstart	28. 9.71 (12.7)	1.10.71 (15.0)	Hal Far
Redstart	1.10.71 (21.5)	2.10.71 (19.5)	Hal Far
Nightingale	6. 9.71 (30.0)	17. 9.71 (31.5)	Hal Far

(A Reed Warbler and a Whitethroat retrapped after 2 days, 5 Subalpine Warblers retrapped after 1 - 3 days, and 2 Redstarts retrapped after 1 - 4 days showed little or no variation in weight).

3. *Retraps of Breeding Species.*

In the following table, the top line shows the approximate period which had elapsed between ringing and retrap (in two cases death). The figures show the number of individuals retrapped in 1971.

<i>Species</i>	<i>1 yr.</i>	<i>2 yrs.</i>	<i>3 yrs.</i>	<i>4 yrs.</i>	<i>5 yrs.</i>
Manx Shearwater	1				
Cory's Shearwater	1	3	3		
Storm Petrel	41	21*	7*		
Cetti's Warbler	3	3	1		
Sardinian Warbler	6	6	2		1
Spectacled Warbler	1				
Flue Rock Thrush				1	
Spanish Sparrow	2	3	1	1	1

(*) One each of these Storm Petrels had also been retrapped in 1970.

4. *Retraps of Winter Visitors.*

In the following table, the top line shows the approximate period which had elapsed between ringing and retrap. The figures show the number of individuals retrapped in 1971

<i>Species</i>	<i>1 yr.</i>	<i>2 yrs.</i>	<i>3 yrs.</i>	<i>4 yrs</i>	<i>5 yrs.</i>
Scops Owl				1*	
Grey Wagtail	2	2			
Blackcap	3	4	1		
Dartford Warbler	1				
Chiffchaff	18	11		6	3
Robin	32**	1	1		

(*) This bird had also been retrapped after two years of ringing.

(**) One of these Robins had returned as early as 29th August.

In the following table, the top line shows the number of weeks which had elapsed between ringing and retrap in the same winter. The figures show the number of individuals retrapped in 1971.

<i>Species</i>	5-8 wks.	9-12 wks.	13-16 wks.	17-20 wks.
Grey Wagtail		1		
Wren		1		
Dunnoek	1			
Blackcap	6	1		
Chiffchaff	2	8	2	1
Firecrest	1			
Stonechat		1		
Robin	22	7	6	2
Blackbird		1		
Song Thrush			1	

The following table gives some wintering retraps with the weight (in gms.) given in brackets besides the date.

<i>Species</i>	<i>Ringing Date</i>	<i>Date Retrapped</i>	<i>Locality</i>
Dunnoek	23. 1.71 (19.7)	7. 3.71 (24.8)	Buskett
Blackcap	24. 1.71 (18.2)	9. 4.71 (21.2)	Buskett
Blackcap	30. 1.71 (17.8)	3. 3.71 (24.5)	Buskett
Blackcap	31. 1.71 (17.5)	3. 3.71 (24.1)	Buskett
Blackcap	6. 2.71 (19.0)	9. 3.71 (22.1)	Buskett
Blackcap*	2. 4.71 (18.6)	16. 4.71 (21.6)	Ghadira
Chiffchaff	25.11.70 (6.7)	6. 1.71 (7.9)	Mtahleb
Chiffchaff	9. 1.71 (6.5)	26. 1.71 (8.0)	Lunzjata
Chiffchaff	1. 2.71 (6.0)	2. 2.71 (8.0)	Buskett
Chiffchaff*	10. 4.71 (6.5)	16. 4.71 (9.9)	Ghadira
Chiffchaff	4.12.71 (6.8)	29.12.71 (8.0)	Lunzjata
Chiffchaff	18.12.71 (6.5)	27.12.71 (7.2)	Lunzjata
Chiffchaff	18.12.71 (6.3)	27.12.71 (7.7)	Lunzjata
Stonechat	8.11.70 (13.0)	24. 1.71 (15.0)	Buskett
Robin	15.11.70 (15.0)	11. 1.71 (17.0)	Buskett
Robin	2.11.70 (14.7)	24. 1.71 (16.3)	Buskett
Robin	24. 1.71 (18.9)	7. 3.71 (22.1)	Buskett
Robin	27.12.70 (16.9)	14. 2.71 (19.4)	Buskett
Robin	11.10.71 (14.8)	19.10.71 (16.4)	Lunzjata
Robin	31.10.71 (14.7)	28.12.71 (17.9)	Ghadira
Robin	3.12.71 (16.5)	12.12.71 (17.7)	Sliema
Robin	4.12.71 (15.5)	9.12.71 (16.7)	Sliema
Robin	16.10.71 (16.2)	19.10.71 (18.0)	Hal Far
Robin	18.10.71 (15.2)	24.10.71 (16.3)	Hal Far
Robin	13.10.71 (14.0)	7.11.71 (16.0)	Victoria
Robin	2.11.71 (15.4)	24.12.71 (18.0)	Victoria
Robin	6.11.71 (15)	27.11.71 (18.8)	Lunzjata
Robin	24.10.71 (14.2)	4.11.71 (16.0)	Buskett
Robin	28.10.71 (14.0)	28.12.71 (16.5)	Ghadira
Robin	1.11.71 (15.5)	19.11.71 (18.0)	Hal Far
Blackbird	1.11.71 (85.0)	6.11.71 (96.0)	Hal Far

* These two birds were presumably wintering south of Malta and so may be regarded as spring migrants.

RECOVERIES IN MALTA OF BIRDS RINGED ABROAD

The symbols and terms are the same as those used in the 'Ringing Recoveries', with the exception that the term 'juv.' cannot always be relied upon to signify a young bird able to fly freely; owing to lack of unanimity in the various ringing schemes, this term may sometimes mean a chick or pullus. A number in brackets beside the term 'pull.' indicates the size of the brood.

Abbreviations used for ringing stations:

A.	Arnhem	Lj.	Ljubljana
Bo.	Bologna	M.	Moskwa
H.	Helgoland	P.	Paris
Hi.	Hiddensee	St.	Stockholm
Hki.	Helsinki	Z.	Zagreb

NIGHT HERON		<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	KWAKKA
Z	pull.	30. 6.69	Drenov Bck/Krapje: 45°18'N; 16°50'E,
C231142			(Hrvatska), YUGOSLAVIA.
	+	18.10.69	Dwejra: 36°03'N; 14°16'E (Gozo).
SQUACCO HERON		<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	AGRETT ISFAR
Z.	pull.	18. 6.69	Tikves/Bilje: 45°30'N; 18°43'E, (Hrvatska),
C229873			YUGOSLAVIA.
	+	24. 4.71	Rabat: 35°53'N; 14°24' E.
HONEY BUZZARD		<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	KUČČARDA
Hki.	pull. (2)	2. 8.63	Ruokola, Palkane; 61°17'N; 24°20'E,
D-24139			(Hame), FINLAND.
	+	1. 5.71	Attard: 35°53'N; 14°27'E.
ELEONORA'S FALCON		<i>Falco eleonora</i>	BIES TAR-REGINA
H.	pull.	17. 9.69	Paximada: 35°15'N; 26°15'E, GREECE,
5155891	+	9. 9.71	Buskett: 35°51'N; 14°26'E.
KESTREL		<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	SPANJULETT
P.	2Y. M.	21. 4.65	El Haouaria: 37°05'N; 11°02'E, (Cap Bon),
FD-8924*			TUNISIA.
	+	0. 3.66	Lija: 35°54'N; 14°27'E.
P.	p.j. F.	14. 4.66	ibidem.
FS-7137	+	9.12.66	St. Paul's Bay: 35°57'N; 14°25'E.
P.	p.j. F.	8. 4.67	ibidem.
EA93830**	+	15. 3.63	Nadur: 36°02'N; 14°18'E (Gozo).
			* Released at El Ariana
			** Released at Rades.
COMMON SANDPIPER		<i>Tringa hypoleucos</i>	BEGGAZZINA TAR-ROKKA
H	ad.	18. 7.65	Schirmenitz: 51°23'N; 13°11'E, E. GER-
7003977			MANY.
	+	18. 5.67	Sliema: 35°58'N; 14°25'E.

MEDITERRANEAN GULL	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	GAWWIJA RASHA SEWDA
M. 147869	juv. 15. 6.70	Orlov Isles.: 46°17'N; 31°45'E, (Tendrovskii Bay), U.S.S.R.
	() 2. 3.71	c. 5km. off Siema: 35°59'N; 14°25'E.
BLACK-HEADED GULL	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	GAWWIJA RASHA KANNELLA
Z. B408822	juv. 16. 6.63	Jelas polje: 45°09'N; 18°01'E, (Hrvatska), YUGOSLAVIA.
	+ 14. 1.64	Valletta: 35°54'N; 14°31'E.
SLENDER-BILLED GULL	<i>Larus genei</i>	GAWWIJA TA' GEDDUMHA RQIQ
P. EA345070	pull. 6. 6.71	Chott El Jem: 35°10'N; 10°15'E, TUNISIA.
	x 11.12.71	Salina Bay: 35°58'N; 14°26'E.
CASPIAN TERN	<i>Hydroprogne tschegrava</i>	CIRLEWWA PRIMA
Hki. H-38831	pull. 24. 6.62	Midfjardababan, Eckero: 60°12'N; 19°25'E, (Aland), FINLAND.
	+ 9. 9.71	Marsaxlokk: 35°49'N; 14°33'E.
SANDWICH TERN	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>	CIRLEWWA TAX-XITWA
M. P-229175	juv. 15. 6.70	Orlov Isles.: 46°17'N; 31°45'E, (Tendrovskii Bay), U.S.S.R.
	+ 0. 9.70	Marsascula: 35°52'N; 14°34'E.
SCOPS OWL	<i>Otus scops</i>	KOKKA
P. FT1442	f.g. 31. 3.68	El Hacuaria: 37°05'N; 11°02'E, (Cap Ben), TUNISIA.
	+ 19.10.68	Dingli: 35°52'N; 14°22'E.
SAND MARTIN	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	HAWWIEFA TAX-XTUT
A. S352415	1Y 16. 8.69	Westerhven: 51°20'N; 05°24'E, (Noord Bra-band), HOLLAND.
	v 10. 4.71	Ramla Valley: 36°03'N; 14°17'E (Gozo).
Z. E47148	ad. 14. 7.70	Perlez: 45°12'N; 20°24'E, (Vojvodina), YUGOSLAVIA.
	v 2. 5.71	Ramla Valley.
SWALLOW	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	HUTTAFI
P. 414337	pull. (4) 21. 6.69	Hem: 50°39'N; 03°12'E, (Nord), FRANCE.
	v 10. 4.71	&
	11. 4.71	Ramla Valley.
COLLARED FLYCATCHER	<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>	ZANZARELL TAL-KULLAR
St. 1471327	pull. (5) 25. 6.69	Atlingbo: 57°29'N; 18°23'E, (Gotland), SWEDEN.
	x 12. 9.71	Rabat: 35°53'N; 14°25'E.
SPOTTED FLYCATCHER	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	ZANZARELL TAT-TIKKI
Hki. K-272531	f.g. 16. 8.65	Honnakar, Kirkkonummi: 59°56'N; 24°24'E, (Uusimaa), FINLAND.
	v 20. 9.71	Mellieha: 35°58'N; 14°22'E.

GREENFINCH		<i>Carduelis chloris</i>		VERDUN
Bo.	f.g.	7. 9.68	Pedaso: 43°05'N; 13°50'E, (Ascoli Piceno), ITALY.	
H269305	()	8.11.68	Xaghra: 36°03'N; 14°17'E (Gozo).	
Lj.	f.g. M.	10. 5.69	Ljubljana: 46°03'N; 14°30'E, YUGOSLAVIA.	
127875	()	11.12.69	Sannat: 36°01'N; 14°13'E (Gozo).	
GOLDFINCH		<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		GARDELL
P.	ad. F.	9. 3.68	Mendjez-el-Bab: 36°39'N; 09°40'E, (Bizerte), TUNISIA.	
770159	()	24. 3.68	Delimara: 35°49'N; 14°34'E.	
Z.	ad. M.	11.10.69	Stobrec: 43°30'N; 16°31'E, (Hrvatska), YUGOSLAVIA.	
A379908	()	27.11.69	Birżebbugia: 35°50'N; 14°34'E.	

MALTA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Principles and Aims:

(a) The Society's main purpose is to initiate, foster and aid the study of avian fauna in accordance with strictly scientific methods, thereby helping to increase the sum of human knowledge on the subject.

(b) The Society solemnly affirms its belief in the Conservation of Nature and will pursue whatever actions it deems necessary to ensure adequate protection of wild-life, and to propagate these ideals in the Maltese Islands.

Membership:

Members can join the Society and participate in all its activities, provided they subscribe to the aims of the Society and further undertake to propagate its views, each in his own sphere of life thus spreading the Society's enlightened ideal and awakening a social conscience that will brook no further deprediation of the living resources of Nature, especially birds.

Membership Fees:

Life Member £15

Members 15s per annum

Young Member (under 17) 2s 6d

Anyone wishing to join the Society is welcome to write to the Secretary. The Society's Bulletin is sent free to members and illustrated talks, meetings and outings are held monthly except during the summer months.

Malta Ornithological Society Ringing Group:

The Society also has its Bird Ringing Group. This Group is engaged in studying the various aspects of Maltese Ornithology, and is staffed by qualified bird ringers holding a ringing permit from the British Trust for Ornithology. Ringing Secretary: C. Gauci, IAI Museum Road Rabat, Malta.

The Editor welcomes articles, letters and other features bearing on any aspect of the Ornithology of the Maltese Islands and Mediterranean for publication in this Bulletin.

The views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Editor or the M.O.S.

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