



NEWSLETTER

JULY 2012

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RECENT BIRD SIGHTINGS

March 2012

Highlights: The area's first **Stone Curlew** record for 21 years came from Sker (27th). The wintering **Lesser Scaup** continued to frequent Cosmeston and Cardiff Bay, while an adult **Bonaparte's Gull** was still being noted at Cardiff Bay and Cardiff Heliport. A **Great Grey Shrike** remained at Garwnant. A **Garganey** was at Cosmeston, with another reported at Cardiff Bay. A **Long-eared Owl** was found at Rumney Great Wharf. **Iceland Gulls** continued to feature, with sightings from Dowlais (at least 3), Cardiff Bay and Bonvilston. **Water Pipits** were at Llwyn-onn Reservoir and Rumney Great Wharf.

Other Sites: A flock of 12 **Pale-bellied Brent Geese** was at Aberthaw, with a lone **Dark-bellied Brent Goose** at Ogmores Estuary. **Scaup** were at Kenfig and Lisvane Reservoir. **Bitterns** were at Kenfig (3) and Forest Farm (2), while **Little Egrets** were logged at Aberthaw (5), Ogmores Estuary and Rumney Great Wharf. A **Hen Harrier** was noted at Cardiff Airport and **Merlins** occurred at several sites. Waders included **Ruff** (Kenfig rivermouth), **Little Ringed Plover** (migrants at Llanishen Reservoir, Ogmores Estuary and Llwyn-onn Reservoir), **Purple Sandpiper** (12 at Sker), **Greenshank** (2 at Rumney Great Wharf), **Common Sandpiper** (Llanilid), **Green Sandpiper** (Llanilid)





(front, top) Ospreys, Cantref Reservoir; (front, bottom) Dippers, River Llynfi, Llangynwyd, Maesteg; (above, left) Black-necked Grebe, Rhaslas Pond; (above, right) Grasshopper Warbler, Maesteg Cemetery (photos: Jeff Slocombe).

and Ogmere Estuary), **Jack Snipe** (3 at Llanilid), **Whimbrel** (Rumney Great Wharf) and **Bar-tailed Godwit** (19 at Cardiff Heliport and 23 at Rumney Great Wharf). **Yellow-legged Gulls** were observed at Dowalis (2), Cosmeston and Llanishen/Lisvane Reservoir. Two early **Sandwich Terns** stopped off at Cardiff Foreshore. **Short-eared Owls** were at Garth Mountain, Gelli-gaer Common, Mynydd Eglwysilan (3) and Rumney Great Wharf (8). A **Lesser Spotted Woodpecker** was at Dinas Powys. The first **House Martin** was sighted at Splott (30th). Migrant **Ring Ouzels** passed through at Garw Valley and Nantyffyllon. A **Firecrest** was seen at Nant Hir Reservoir, Llwydcoed. A flock of over 100 **Bramblings** was at Llwyn-onn Reservoir.

April 2012

Highlights: A **Ferruginous Duck** was at Lisvane Reservoir (6th). One lucky observer saw two **Common Cranes** circling and calling over Dowlais (8th). The **Lesser Scaup** was again commuting between Cosmeston and Cardiff Bay. A **Marsh Harrier** turned up at Kenfig. **Iceland Gulls** were at Rhaslas Pond and Llwyn-onn Reservoir. A **Bittern** was found at Parc Slip. **Ospreys** were noted at Abertidwr, Cantref Reservoir (2) and Llwyn-onn Reservoir. Two **Ruff** dropped in at Ogmere Estuary. A **Hawfinch** was unexpected at Pontyclun.

Other Sites: Three **Common Scoters** were at Cardiff Bay. **Little Egrets** were at Rumney Great Wharf (3) and Ogmere Estuary. Waders include **Little Ringed Plovers** at Ogmere Estuary and Llwyn-onn Reservoir, a **Greenshank** at Llanilid and 25 **Purple Sandpipers** at Sker. A **Hen Harrier** was observed at Cardiff Airport. **Yellow-legged Gulls** were at Lisvane Reservoir and Ogmere Estuary. Three **Black Terns** called in at Kenfig. **Short-eared Owls** were at Rhaslas Pond (2) and Rumney Great Wharf. **Ring Ouzels** occurred at Blaengarw and Caer-lan Farm. A large fall of **Wheatears** was noted at both Rumney Great Wharf and Sker late in the month. A **Pied Flycatcher** turned up in a Sully Garden. Flocks of 150 **Bramblings** and 200 **Redpolls** were near Llwyn-onn Reservoir.

May 2012

Highlights: A **Lesser Scaup** remained at Cardiff Bay until the start of the month. Two **Black-necked Grebes** turned up at Cosmeston, before relocating to Rhaslas Pond, where passage waders included 2 **Sanderling**, 7 **Whimbrels**, **Black-tailed Godwit** and **Bar-tailed Godwit**. **Ospreys** were recorded at Llanharry and Nash Point, where a **Quail** was heard. **Hobbies** were noted at Coity, Kenfig and Rhaslas Pond. Sker hosted peaks of 66 **Whimbrels**, 30 **Purple Sandpipers** and 4 **Eiders**. **Little Egrets** were at Aberthaw and Ogmere Estuary. A **Short-eared Owl** was at Caer-lan Farm. A **Green Sandpiper** stopped off at Llanilid. A **Yellow-legged Gull** lingered at Lisvane Reservoir. A **Ring Ouzel** was noted at Mynydd Eglwysilan.

June 2012

Highlights: Inclement weather dictated that many reports related to seabirds. Selected maxima at Porthcawl included 11 250 **Manx Shearwaters** (in 3.5 hours), 36 **Storm Petrels**, 85 **Fulmars** and 3 **Great Northern Divers**. Further notable records from Porthcawl were 2 **Pomarine Skuas**, as well as several each of **Arctic Skua** and **Great Skua**.

Sightings from Lavernock Point included 51 **Storm Petrels**, 1,340 **Manx Shearwaters** (in 3 hours), 30 **Fulmars** (the highest count for this site), 2 **Great Skuas**, an **Arctic Skua** and 30 **Common Scoters**. A **Gannet** feeding at Kenfig Pool was an unusual occurrence. **Nightjars** were observed at a number of forestry sites. A **Short-eared Owl** was at Kenfig. **Yellow-legged Gulls** were noted at Llanishen Reservoir and Cosmeston. Caer-lan Farm held 20 **Crossbills**.

Paul Roberts

CLUB NEWS

Members News

We have several new members to welcome: Barbara Brown from Whitchurch, Naomi Davis from Rhiwbina, Lin & Frank Learner from Barry, Barbara Morris from North Cornelly, the Binding family from Penarth, Claire Pooley from Cardiff, and Leigh Forman from Laleston. We hope to meet you at a club event in the near future.

Membership renewals have been rather slow coming in this year. If you haven't yet renewed, a reminder is included with your Newsletter. Thanks to all those that have already renewed. Whilst on this topic, many club members have set up Standing Orders, to cover their subs. A few members haven't adjusted their SOs to cover the 'new' membership subscriptions. Once again, if this is the case, a reminder is enclosed.

Committee News

The Committee has met twice since the AGM.

First, welcome back to Adrian Murch, who has re-joined the Committee and has been elected Chair (I thought they taught you in the forces never to volunteer for anything, Adrian). Also many thanks go to Paul Seligman, who has stepped down from the Committee after several years service.

- There was much discussion about the Girl Guide Day and the Big Birding Day on 12 and 13 May at Kenfig. (More elsewhere.)
- It was decided to purchase a digital projector for indoor meetings and talks, with a budget of £300–400.
- Following a question at the AGM, John Wilson has been in touch with a rep from Gower Ornithological Society to discuss the problems with access to Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir. As yet matters have not been resolved and birders are not allowed on site.
- The sightings page of the web site was discussed. Christian Jenkins has been working on the revamp of the site.
- Once again in response to a question at the AGM, Anne Wilson has transferred some funds into a higher interest account.

Big Birding Day – 13 May

We were extremely lucky to have a fine day for our third annual birding day. The day began early with the Kenfig Ringing Group setting up their nets near the pool. Perhaps the 'best' bird ringed was a Cetti's Warbler. Elsewhere, the highlight was probably a Red Kite spotted over the reserve.

Outside the centre, Anne Wilson set up her cake stall and I sold off a few of my surplus seedlings. In addition, Matt Evans and Howard Driver were busy constructing bird boxes. (Thanks to Marlay John and Adrian Murch for sawing all the wood). John Wilson led two bird walks around the reserve. In the centre, Strinda Davies looked after the book-stall. We were delighted that Mark Richards could join us. If you haven't seen Mark's bird carvings and paintings, check his web site <<http://www.marksart.net>>.

There was a steady trickle of visitors. Anne raised £90 with her cakes, the book-stall took £20, the plants £18.50 and the bird-boxes £15. Proceeds were split 50/50 with Kenfig. Thanks to the staff at Kenfig for all their help on the day, especially David Carrington.

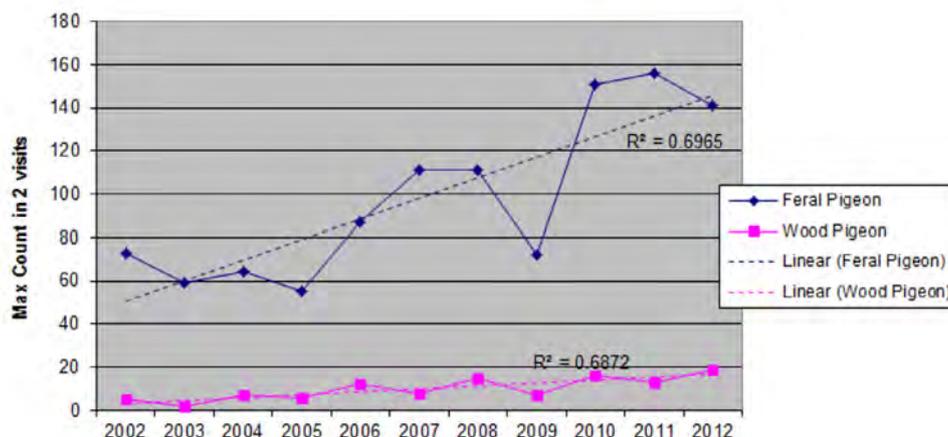
Alan Rosney

PIGEONS INCREASING IN CANTON

In 2007, newspapers reported BTO findings that Wood Pigeons were replacing Feral Pigeons in cities and towns. I wondered if I could detect any trends from my then six years of BTO Breeding Birds Survey square ST1576 (aka Canton). There were large numbers of feral pigeons and with the same observer and same method used each year, I felt that the data should be reasonably comparable. I drew some graphs and my main conclusions were that:

- both Feral Pigeon and Wood Pigeon numbers were increasing;
- Wood Pigeon numbers were small but increasing as a percentage of the total number of both species.

I was interested to update the graphs and analysis with another five years and see if the trends continued. If we graph the max. number of birds seen across my two BBS visits each year, and add linear regression trend lines, we get:

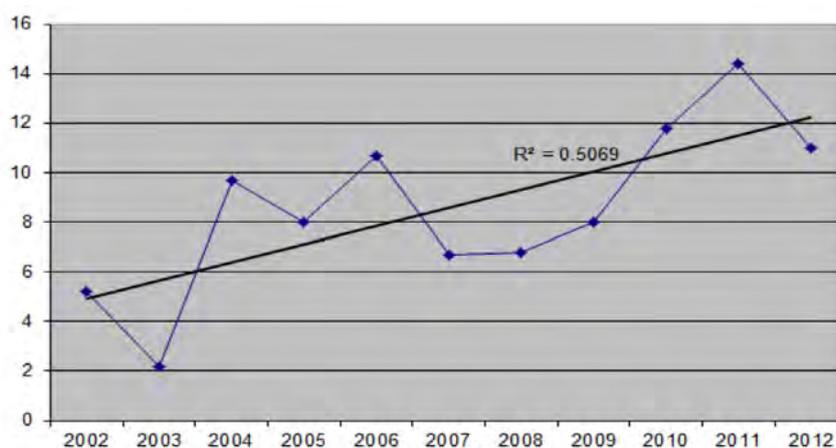


Wood Pigeon vs. Feral Pigeon BBS ST1576 (Canton).

The R-squared line (R^2) is a simple statistical indication showing how much confidence can be put in the ability of one variable to predict the other, where 1 is a perfect fit.

In the first graph, both Wood and Feral Pigeon numbers (first variable) continue to increase each year (second variable) and the R-squared values of just under 0.7 give a good degree of confidence that this will continue.

If we plot the total sightings (i.e. early and late visits to ST1575 totaled by year), we can look at Wood Pigeon sightings each year as a percentage of the total pigeon sightings:



Wood Pigeons as a percentage of total Wood and Feral Pigeons seen.

I conclude that:

- both species continue to increase;
- there is a modest probability that Wood Pigeons are becoming a bigger proportion of total pigeon numbers;
- my BBS results are easy to access on line and offer numerous possibilities for interesting analysis of my patches.

Paul Seligman



Looking out for birds

WEBS UPDATE

From Cors Crychudd Reen in the east to Kenfig Pool in the west, from East Aberthaw Lagoon in the south to Rhaslas Pond in the north – there are more active Wetland Birds Survey (WeBS) sites in East Glamorgan than ever before. Twenty-four volunteers are currently counting 29 WeBS sites across the region – but it would be great if we could increase those numbers. Could you be that 25th volunteer counting the birds at that 30th site?

The Wetland Bird Survey – Is It for You?

If you've always felt that you'd like to make a practical contribution to our knowledge of birds but didn't know how, then taking part in the WeBS is an excellent way to begin.

Anyone can take part, even beginners to bird-watching, and it's suitable for volunteers of any age. In East Glamorgan, we have counters who have passed their retirement age and our youngest is only 13 years old. Unlike many bird surveys, to carry out WeBS counts, you don't have to know bird-songs or calls, just the ability to identify common water-birds.

The survey involves visiting a local wetland site once a month throughout the winter and count the waterfowl there. We do welcome counts from all months of the year but the main period we ask our counters to concentrate on is September through to March.

Do You Have a Body of Water Near You?

Here in East Glamorgan we're looking in particular for volunteers to count smaller bodies of water. These could be stretches of river, small pools or even water-filled ditches and reens. Do you have one of these near you, or one which you'd be happy to travel to count? It doesn't have to hold a large number or variety of birds – regularly counting Mallards, Coots and Moorhens all helps build up a bigger picture of the current status of these birds.

Current sites in need of counters – calling on all 'northern' birders.

If you have suggestions for new sites we'll be more than happy to register them. Coverage, on the whole, is a bit sparse in the north of the recording area and I would be delighted to hear from any 'northern' birders. The following are examples have already been registered and in need of counters.

SO039073 – Cyfarthfa Castle Lake, Merthyr;

SO097055 – Fochriw Reservoir;

SO008121 – Llwyn-Onn Reservoir, north of Merthyr;

ST050758 – Warren Mill Pond, nr Welsh St Donats;

SS876842 – Parc Slip Nature Reserve, nr Tondy.

If you'd like more information please get in touch:

Daniel Jenkins-Jones

East Glamorgan WeBS Local Organizer

m: 07828 093613; e: <eastglamwebs@gmail.com>.

Looking for a New Birding Challenge?

Ask birders over a particular age what sparked their interest in birding and they'll often say that it all began with 'bird-nesting' or 'egging' – collecting wild birds' eggs. As late as the mid-1950s there was a thriving playground economy with eggs, particularly those of scarce birds, being bought and sold for good money. It's not surprising that boys (and it was almost always boys) became very adept at finding the nests of many species. But, thankfully the Wild Birds Protection Act 1954 made it illegal to collect eggs and, despite a few hard-core egg thieves remaining, the practice has largely disappeared and has become very much a taboo amongst birders.

However, the demise of 'nesting' has also led to the loss of those skills once employed to find nests – skills that, if people could be persuaded to rediscover them, and if they adhere to the Code of Conduct <<http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/nrs/coc>>, could be of huge benefit to bird conservation.

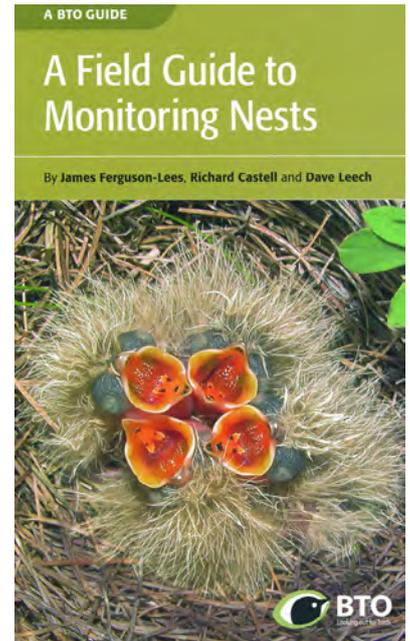
Explaining why numbers of some species of birds are crashing can be difficult. More often than not a complex suite of factors are responsible. It can be like a jig-saw puzzle where you need all the pieces to be able to get the complete picture – and that's where 'nest recording' is so vitally important.

Volunteers who monitor nests and submit their data to the BTO through the Nest Recording Scheme <<http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/nrs>> help build up a picture of nest productivity, i.e. how successful each species' nesting attempts are in terms of numbers of eggs laid and chicks fledged. Over the years, patterns appear that can help explain whether breeding productivity is one of the reasons for the demise, or indeed the success, of a species. If breeding productivity doesn't appear to be a factor then it's clear that there are other issues involved.

But, the NRS needs more volunteers and, with the breeding season in full swing, why not strike while the iron's hot and get involved?

The BTO's *A Field Guide to Monitoring Nests* <<http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/nrs/field-guide>> is a great introduction to the lost art of finding birds' nests and how to monitor them safely. As you would expect, it has comprehensive species accounts – over 146 in total – each one a wealth of information about the nesting biology of each species: nest structure; when, where and how many eggs are laid; egg colour; number of broods; etc.

There is also a whole host of tips about how to go about finding birds' nests. There are techniques for those who may prefer the patient or proactive approach. We're guided through the NRS methodology and what information should be recorded. But, of course, there is the caution that the welfare of birds should always come first and that BTO nest recording is based on the Code of Conduct, which is a protocol designed to ensure that monitoring a nest does not influence its outcome. There is an introductory guide to wild-life legislation, which includes a list of Schedule 1 species <<http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/nrs/sch1>> whose nests must not be approached without a license. And we're also asked that nests of other species should never be approached or searched for unless the intention is to submit the information collected to the NRS.



You can become a Nest Recorder by submitting the record of just one nest – and that record could be the blue tits nesting in your garden nestbox. Every record is valuable.

Daniel Jenkins-Jones
East Glamorgan WeBS Local Organizer
m: 07828 093613; e: <eastglamwebs@gmail.com>.

Tracking Welsh Cuckoos

Cuckoo is one of the UK's fastest declining migrants and, until recently, was one of which we knew least about once it left the UK. Many readers will already be familiar with the stories of five Norfolk Cuckoos, successfully tagged last summer and tracked on their migration to West Africa and their return journey this spring.

Cuckoo populations declined in Wales by 27% between 1999–2009, compared to 49% in England and only 9% in Scotland. Why is this? Do their timings or patterns of movements differ significantly? Tagging birds from all three regions will help us to understand why they are faring differently.

This year, the BTO Tracking Team have been busy in Wales (and Scotland), and have now tagged four male Welsh Cuckoos from the Tregaron area. As I write, all four birds have already left the UK, with two in France, one in Italy and another in Montenegro.

Details of these Welsh birds and their English and Scottish counterparts may be found at <<http://www.bto.org/cuckoos/>>.

Bob Howells MBE

Congratulations to Bob Howells, who has been awarded an MBE in the recent Queen's birthday honours list. Bob served as a BTO Regional Representative, initially covering all Glamorgan and then West Glamorgan since 1974. In addition to recruiting, co-ordinating and managing volunteers, Bob was and continues to be an active volunteer himself. His contributions to WeBS for the Burry Inlet in particular stretch back several decades and, at 83, he's still surveying. Alastair Flannagan took over as BTO RR in West Glamorgan in 2011.

WOS/BTO/RSPB Conference

This year's Welsh Ornithological Society Conference, in association with BTO Cymru and RSPB Cymru, will be held on 10 November 2012, at Myddfai Community Hall, Llandovery. Full details will appear on the WOS web site <<http://www.birdsinwales.org.uk>> in due course.

The 2013 Conference will be in Gwent, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the WOS-affiliated Gwent Ornithological Society, and is planned for 2 November 2013.

Wayne Morris

BTO Regional Representative in East Glamorgan

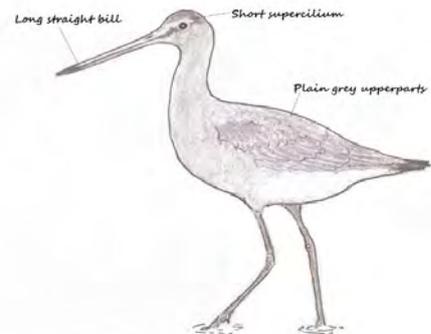
e: eastglambto@gmail.com; w: <http://eastglambto.wordpress.com>

CONFUSION SPECIES – GODWITS

Black-tailed Godwits and Bar-tailed Godwits may be encountered on passage in spring and autumn along our coast-line. Both species can also be encountered in winter, although there are fewer winter records of Bar-tailed Godwits in our region. In early autumn they may show traces of their red summer plumage. This article, however, deals with winter plumaged birds. In flight, differentiation is relatively easy. The white wing-bars and square white rump of a Black-tailed Godwit distinguishes it from Bar-tailed, which has no wing-bars and a white wedge-shaped rump.

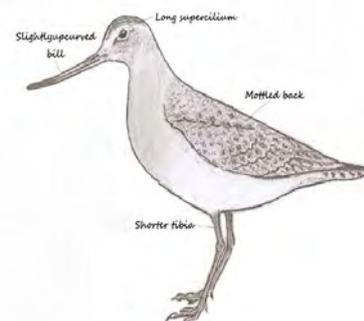
Black-tailed Godwit (winter)

To ID godwits at a distance it is best to concentrate on structure. Black-tailed is tall and elegant with a long neck and legs. The tibiae are in fact longer on Black-tailed. This means that their feeding actions are different. Black-tailed seem to be more hunched than the straighter-backed Bar-tailed. The other diagnostics are the plain grey upperparts, long, straight bill and short supercilium.



Bar-tailed Godwit (winter)

They look much stockier than Black-tailed. The forehead is steeper and the bill slightly upcurved. Shorter bill length is diagnostic, though females have slightly longer bills than males. If you can catch sight of the tail, it is of course barred as opposed to the solid black of Black-tailed. The upperparts are pale brown with dark feather centres giving a mottled effect. The supercilium is longer than on Black-tailed.



Black-tailed Godwits are more frequent than Bar-tailed in Glamorgan. They can be encountered on any of our coasts but the largest gatherings are outside our recording area in the Burry Inlet. You may encounter Bar-taileds on any stretch of coast, most recently they have been at Ogmere Estuary. Both species have been recorded at Kenfig Pool.

Alan Rosney

TRIP REPORTS

Field outing to Ogmore-by-Sea, 14 April 2012

Fifteen hardy souls braved the cold blustery conditions for some local birding. Three or four **Wheatears** were around the car-park and a flock of **Linnets** was doing the rounds. Conditions meant we had to seek shelter and we began our birding in the sheltered Pant Norton valley. There were **Willow Warblers** and **Chiffchaffs** singing in the woodland. On the gorse we encountered 3 pairs of **Stonechats**, a pair of **Yellowhammers** (a 'new' bird for Robert Lewis – look out Graham, he's storming ahead), plus **Greenfinches** and **Chaffinches**. There seemed to be a high density of **Dunnocks** in the area. Overhead was a pair of very vocal **Ravens** and later 3 **Buzzards** put in an appearance.

At Portobello there were large numbers of **hirundines** skimming over the river. All three species were present. A relatively late **Goosander** was a surprise find. There were very few waders present. A lone **Redshank** was on the far bank and an oiled **Black-tailed Godwit** was seen. Despite its oiled feathers it appeared to be feeding well. There were, of course, plenty of gulls, mainly **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** and **Herring Gulls**, but a few **Black-headed Gulls** were still present and a lone **Common Gull** was over the estuary. Many of the usual sightings such as **Shelduck**, **Mute Swans**, **Canada Geese** and **Greylag Geese** were put up by a fisherman.

It was decided to decamp to Kenfig where a reeling **Grasshopper Warbler** had been reported near the Prince of Wales pub. Some of the party heard it but as usual for this species, the bird stayed deep under cover. Walking back via the east shore of the pool, we were pleased to see several **White Wagtails** (possibly 9 in total). John Duffy then picked out a cracking male **Yellow Wagtail**. Stuart Hardcastle managed to get a few photos. On the edge of the pool a **Common Sandpiper** was quite active and over the pool there were many **hirundines**. A **Cetti's Warbler** was also heard. Some of the party were lucky enough to see a **Whitethroat** on their return to the car-park.

Alan Rosney

GBC trip to Craig Cerrig Gleisiad, 19 May 2012

A well attended trip with 16 participants. We arrived at the usual lay-by on the A470 to find that the crags above the cwm were invisible in very low cloud. Indeed the cwm itself was barely visible – so not much hope of seeing the main target – Ring Ouzel – doh! The only option first off was to cross the road to the area of woodland around the nearby youth hostel, as visibility at road elevation was not too bad. Soon after entering the wood we had good views of a male **Pied Flycatcher**. A **Blackcap** was singing nearby and then I heard a distinctly richer song, it had to be **Garden Warbler**. I soon found it just back up the path and managed to 'scope it up' so giving some excellent views to some of the party for whom this was a life bird. Further through the wood we found a nice male **Redstart**, several **Nutchatches**, **Willow Warbler** and **Chiffchaff** and we spent a good 15 mins or so watching **Redpolls** and **Siskins** coming to feeders behind the youth hostel itself. A male **Great Spotted Woodpecker** also came in and commandeered a nut feeder. Back at the lay-by we ate our packed lunches and ventured up into the cwm but it was hopeless. All we saw was a brief **Tree Pipit** in the mist. We decided to head back down the hill to Llwyn-onn and Garwnant. Here it was quite clear. At the bridge over the reservoir feeder stream, we had a good session with 4 **Common Sandpiper** and 5 **Dipper** showing well, the latter having a nice scaly juv. in with them. There were also 4 **Grey Wagtails**, 4 **Spotted Flycatchers**, a pair of **Redstarts**, 2 more **Garden Warblers** (we assumed a pair as they were together). Young Robert Lewis, who has been on a few trips now, expressed a wish for **Crossbill**. We headed up to the Garwnant car-park and within a couple of minutes had 'scoped up' **Crossbill** and also some juv. **Redpoll** and **Siskin**. Highlight though was finding both **Willow Tit** and **Marsh Tit** close to each other, affording a good comparison of the differences between these two confusion species – around the head and neck (Willow Tit is much thicker necked) and plumage (Willow Tit with pale wing panel and looser feathering, looking less 'sleek'). So despite not seeing the target bird, it was an enjoyable and successful trip.

John Wilson

Field outing to Bryngarw Country Park, Thursday 31 May 2012

The weather wasn't very promising as we gathered in the car park at Bryngarw. There was a lot of building work going on in and around the car-park. The shelter, where Swallows had been nesting last year had been demolished. Were they still nesting in the park?

Our first port of call was the ornamental pond alongside the main house. There wasn't much on show, apart from a **Muscovy Duck** perched high up in a tree. A **Grey Heron** was seen later. From here we walked through the beech trees of Coed Kensington. The usual suspects were seen including **Nuthatch**, **Coal Tit**, **Chaffinch**, etc. Unfortunately there was no sign of the mythical **Lesser Spotted Woodpecker** that has been reported here. A quick scan over the meadows brought us **Jay** and a **Goldcrest** was seen in the conifers. As the rain set in we decided to take a coffee-break in the restaurant (good value too!). I was fortunate to catch sight of a **Peregrine** flying over as we headed for shelter. Once the rain stopped we resumed our birding. Howard Driver found a **Great Spotted Woodpecker** entering a nest hole. Remarkably, a pair of **Jackdaws** was nesting just a few feet away.

After lunch we headed for the riverside walk. John Wilson spotted a **Sparrowhawk** going over the car park. **Dippers** were seen on the Garw. There were probably two pairs here. One pair was feeding young. A **Blue Tit** was observed entering a bat box – a tight squeeze. Over the river at least 3 **Spotted Flycatchers** were seen. In the Japanese garden a **Swallow** was seen entering a nest. In the pond there were loads of **Toadlings**. Margaret Samuel then spotted a **leech** wriggling in the shallows. As the rain set in once more we decided to call it a day. If you haven't yet visited Bryngarw Country Park, I would certainly recommend it.

Alan Rosney

Field outing to Llanwonno, Wednesday 13 June

Twelve club members met at the Brynffynnon Arms in Llanwonno. For once the weather had been dry during the day but just as we were setting off the rain returned. This actually did us a favour as it kept the midges at bay. Luckily the rain stopped shortly afterwards.

En route to the Nightjar site both **Cuckoo** and **Whitethroat** were heard and **Meadow Pipit**, **Swallow**, **Swift** and **Pied Wagtail** were seen. We weren't too hopeful of seeing Nightjars. The local RSPB group had 'dipped' the week before and the weather hadn't been at all kind. However, as we took to the forestry track John Duffy spotted a movement that turned out to be a male **Nightjar**. As it was still light we all had good views. We were in luck. Eventually, 3 birds (2 males and 1 female) were seen flying together over the clear-fell. Another male was heard from a different area. In all we saw/heard at least 7 birds.

Alan Rosney

FUTURE CLUB EVENTS

Indoor Meetings

These are generally held on the first Tuesday of the month during the winter months. Start 7.45 p.m. in the Kenfig National Nature Reserve's Visitor Centre, Kenfig. For details, please contact Paul Denning on 01443 202 607 or <pgdenning.naturepics@virgin.net>.

Tue. 2 Oct. Scandianavia to the Balkans by Paul Bowden - HD video and digital stills.

Field Trips

Please contact John Wilson on 029 2033 9424 or <john_wilson@glamorganbirds.org.uk> at least seven days before the trip date. The meeting point for non-local trips is normally at St. Margaret's Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff – just off junction 32 of the M4. Departure times vary, but John will be able to give you the information for each trip. These trips are suitable for birders of all levels.

Thu. 26 Apr. *Glyncornel Woods*
New local location for a field trip. Woodland species: Redstart and Spotted Flycatcher. Hillside hold Skylark and Cuckoo.

Sat. 11 Aug *Port Eynon*
Waders, early migration of sea birds.

Thu. 6 Sept. *Goldcliff*
Passage waders and whatever else we can find. High tide 11:04 a.m.

Fri.–Sun. *Portland Bird Observatory*
 19–21 Oct. 2 night stys at Portland Observatory on Portland Bill - anything is possible **This trip is now fully booked.**

Monthly Walks (Kenfig NNR)

These take place on the third Saturday of each month. Meet at the Reserve Centre at 9.00 a.m. For details, please contact Dave Carrington on 01656 743 386.

Monthly Walks (Cosmeston Lakes and Lavernock Point)

These take place on the second Saturday of each month. Meet in the car park at Cosmeston at 9.30 a.m. For details, please contact John Wilson.

AND FINALLY ...

Many thanks as always to everybody who contributed articles for this Newsletter. Deadline for submissions for the next one is Saturday **29 September**.

Best wishes and good birding Joek

Useful Addresses & Telephone Numbers			
Chair	Membership Secretary & Field Trips Assistant	Treasurer	Local WeBS Organiser
Adrian Murch 30 Lewis Avenue Bridgend, CF31 4JJ ☎ 01656 768 155 chair@ glamorganbirds.org.uk	Alan Rosney 10 Parc-y-Nant Nantgarw, CF15 7TJ ☎ 01443 841 555 alan.rosney@ glamorganbirds.org.uk	Anne Wilson 122 Westbourne Rd. Penarth, CF64 3HH ☎ 029 2033 9424 treasurer@ glamorganbirds.org.uk	Daniel Jenkins-Jones 18 St. Margarets Rd. Cardiff, CF14 7AA ☎ 029 2062 1394 eastglamwebs@gmail.com
Secretary	County Bird Recorder	Regional BTO Representative	Bird Report Editor
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Newsletter Editor	Webmaster	Field Trips	South Wales Police Wildlife Liaison Officer
Joek Roex joek.roex@ glamorganbirds.org.uk	c/o John Wilson ☎ 029 2033 9424 john.wilson@ glamorganbirds.org.uk	John Wilson ☎ 029 2033 9424 john.wilson@ glamorganbirds.org.uk	Sgt. Ian Guilford ☎ 029 2077 2400

GBC MERCHANDISE

Why not order a GBC polo shirt, sweat shirt or fleece? They are available in bottle green with a gold badge. Fill in the form below and send it to Alan Rosney at 10 Parc-y-Nant, Nantgarw, CF15 7TJ.

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I wish to order:	Size	Number
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Full zip fleece (£18)

[Approx sizes: Small 36", Medium 38", Large 40-42", X Large 44-46", XX Large 48-50"]

Name:

Address:

.....

Postcode: Tel.:



If you haven't already done so, please consider donating Gift Aid to the club by completing the form below. Gift Aid makes every £1 you give worth 28p more to the GBC at no extra cost to you.

I want the GBC (Registered Charity 1129684) to treat all gifts of money or subscriptions that I have made since 22 April 2008 and all donations and subscriptions made from the date of this declaration as Gift Aid Donations until I notify you otherwise and I confirm that I am a UK tax payer.

Signature Date

Send to: Membership Secretary, Alan Rosney, 10, Parc-y-Nant, Nantgarw, RCT, CF15 7TJ

