

CYPRUS ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY (1957)
ANNUAL REPORT 2001



FORTY-EIGHTH EDITION

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THE CYPRUS ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY (1957)

ANNUAL REPORT 2001

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January 2001
February-December 2001 inclusive

Cover photograph. Masked Shrike *Lanius nubicus*
All photographs by Michael Gore FRPS

EDITORIAL

John Sanders handed over the duties of COS(57) Recorder at the end of January 2001. John and his wife Val were to leave Cyprus that summer having spent 3 years here. John arrived at an opportune moment [for COS(57)], and almost immediately took over the responsibilities of the Recorder. During his term in office he had been responsible for the Systematic List in numerous Newsletters and 2 superb Annual Reports.

Again, at an opportune moment for COS(57), Stuart and Angela were now living in Cyprus and, after a 'little bit' of persuasion, Stuart agreed to take over as Recorder from John. He was a worthy successor and performed the duties admirably, producing the Newsletter's Systematic Lists with accuracy and punctuality.

Then in early 2002 Stuart and Angela made the decision to leave Cyprus and relocate in France. Not only did this move deprive COS(57) of a competent Recorder but Angela had joined the Committee as Social Secretary, we lost 2 enthusiastic members of the Committee in one fell swoop! Stuart's last input to the Newsletter was the Systematic List for March.

Since that date I have been 'care-taking' the duties of Recorder but only until such time as a volunteer is found from within the ranks of our members!

One dilemma that we were immediately left with was who was going to write the Annual Report for 2001? It has always been the Recorder's responsibility but Stuart felt that he had not the time available to do justice to the task. This is when I thought I had better do something about it. Since its inception in 1957 COS(57) has always had an Annual Report, it would be unforgivable for the first year in the new century to be without one.

A few emails to a few friends and we were on the way. Olga, my partner, had taken it on herself to learn the intricacies of Microsoft Excel, essential if we were to distribute the species accounts amongst so many volunteers. After last years 'first' of a coloured Annual Report, Michael Gore offered some of his excellent photographs for inclusion in this years report plus he even obtained sponsorship from the Bank of Cyprus for the cost of their inclusion.

We so many contributors to the final edition it is inevitable that styles of presentation will differ. I have done my best at attempting to keep the formatting fairly uniform but the content and method of presentation is unaltered, each is unique to the contributor and I would not insult them by altering their submission.

Many UK societies work in this fashion with various members being responsible for a species-group or more for inclusion into their Annual Report. Maybe this is the way ahead for COS(57)?

BUT that does not detract from the main, outstanding problem, it is imperative that the position of Recorder is filled NOW! It does not have to be an 'on-island' member. Producing this report has shown that it is easy, quick and efficient to exchange data by electronic means.

Jeff Gordon
Chairman COS(57)
July 2002

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Production of this report would have been impossible without the help of the Contributors. Each in their own individual way has added to the overall 'flavour' of the document.

To Brian Holgarth, David Nye, Keith Betton, John Moore, Mark Askew, Owen Roberts and last but not least, Roy Mason, a great big thank-you from me, from all COS(57) members and the illustrious organisations who are on our distribution list. Without your sterling hard work this report would have been an impossibility, we are all greatly indebted to you.

To Michael Gore for the use of his most excellent photographs. I thank you very much, your contribution makes this report unique and an item to be proud of.

To the Chairman and Executives of The Bank of Cyprus for the sponsorship of the coloured photographs. This is now the second year that you have been so generous, your contribution illustrates your commitment to protection of the environment and your consciousness in making people aware of the vulnerability of the world of birds.

Last and by no means least a great big thank-you to Olga. Your dedication and unstinting efforts to get to grips with Microsoft Excel, in a language foreign to you as well, illustrates your commitment to the project. Put quite simply, without your efforts this publication would not have been a feasible proposition. Also your sense of humour, your understanding and your loyal support helped me in no small way to overcome the many difficulties encountered in getting this report together.

Thank-you all.

Jeff Gordon
Chairman COS(57)
July 2002

SYSTEMATIC LIST

LITTLE GREBE *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

A passage migrant and winter visitor from October to February. Breeding has become regular in recent years.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Achelia Dam	4		12	5	5			27	c25	22	36	
Akhna Dam	4								3			
Akrotiri Gravel Pits	4	4							3	4	6	5
Aspro Dam & pools	4		2	1	1	1	1	2		4	2	1
Athalassa Forest	6		3	2		11	5					
Bishop's Pool	20	15+	21	c10	14	12	10+	19	16	15+	10+	15+
Larnaca Salt Lake	30	23	15	2								
Larnaca Sewage Works	15	10	11	2	1						c30	10+
Oroklini Marsh	3	2	c3	c10	c10	12				2	c10	C12
Polemedhia Dam	26	6							8		20	
Sotira Pools			1	6	10							

Smaller numbers were reported at Aradippou Dam, Arakapas Dam, Kalavassos Dam, Kiti Dam, Kouris Dam, Lymbia Dam, Lythrodhonda Dam, Ora Dam, Parthenitis Dam, and Symvoulos Dam (Episkopi Garrison).

Breeding Records: at Athalassa Forest 2 adults and 2 five-day-old young were reported on June 30th. At Bishop's Pool there were 4 birds incubating on May 8th, then 7 of this years young on August 21st. At Oroklini Marsh, adults were feeding young on April 6th and a pair with 5 young plus an adult incubating a second clutch on May 3rd. There were 2 successful broods reported at this site. On May 11th 10 birds mostly juveniles were at Sotira Pool, and an adult with 4 tiny young were on the same site on May 25th.

GREAT CRESTED GREBE *Podiceps cristatus*

A scarce winter visitor to coastal waters and reservoirs, chiefly from December to March.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Dec
Asprokremnos Dam	4	2	3		3
Larnaca Salt Lake	4	6	6	5	

One was at Larnaca Sewage Works on January 1st, with 3 on Larnaca Salt Lake on January 2nd, which had risen to 6 birds on February 3rd, and still 5 birds up to April 15th. A single bird at Larnaca Sewage Works from May 10th to the 18th. The first wintering birds returned on December 17th with 1 at Akhna Dam and 3 at Asprokremnos Dam. Single birds at Lady's Mile on December 26th, Zakaki Marsh on December 28th and the last of the year on Aspro Dam on December 30th.

BLACK-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps nigricollis*

This species has been recorded in most months, but is more numerous on coastal waters, salt lakes and reservoirs from December to March, though there has been a decline in numbers in recent times. A few pairs have bred in the past, most recently in 1991.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Oct	Nov	Dec
Larnaca Sewage Works	23	41	8			1	25+
Larnaca Salt Lake	36	45	45	1			

Numbers built up steadily on Larnaca Salt Lake during January, from 20 on the 2nd, to 32 on the 15th. Then a marked decrease with numbers dropping to 3 on the 22nd until February 13th. During this period numbers on Larnaca Sewage Works rose from a single bird on January 10th, 16 by the 19th and a maximum count of 41 on February 16th, then back down to a single bird on the 19th. When the numbers on the Salt Lake started to build, 25 on February 15th, and reaching a maximum of 45 on the 27th. The last record for this period was of a single on Larnaca Salt Lake on April 4th.

The first returning bird was not reported until November 19th at Akhna Dam, then a single at Larnaca Sewage Works on November 24th. There were singles reported at four other sites in December and the year ended with 25+ on Larnaca Sewage Works on December 31st.

CORY'S SHEARWATER *Calonectris diomedea*

A scarce offshore visitor, mainly from March to May and July to October.

Two sightings on Apr 4th, a single off Paphos and presumably the same bird from Paphos Lighthouse Area, with 3 seen from this location on the 10th. A single again from the lighthouse area on the 16th, with a further 4 on the 17th. Two from Cape Kiti on Apr 10th and a single off Cape Drepanum on May 10th.

All records submitted have been mentioned.

YELKOUAN SHEARWATER *Puffinus yelkouan*

There have been records of small numbers for all months, but peak counts have been made in August and September.

Three off Paphos Lighthouse Area on Apr 3rd, 2 off Paphos on the 4th, with 2 off Ayios Georgios (Peyia) on the 11th, 4 off Kato Pyrgos on the 18th. Three from Cape Drepanum on May 2nd, and 3 from the Paphos Lighthouse Area on Nov 9th.

All records submitted have been mentioned.

GANNET *Morus bassanus*

Very scarce and irregular visitor offshore, mainly winter. Probably overlooked.

Three records this year. The first being a single off Lady's Mile beach on Apr 11th **TP**. The next record was of a 3rd winter off the Paphos Lighthouse area on Apr 15th **SR**. The last a 1st winter was recorded off Mandria (Paphos) on Dec 5th **JJG, APW**.

CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Mainly a winter visitor from October to May, whose numbers have increased over the past twenty years. Coastal migration has been recorded since 1985, being far more prevalent in spring, rather than autumn. There has been a tendency recently for a few to over-summer.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Oct	Nov	Dec
Asprokremnos Dam	23	3	23		2	155	c220
Larnaca Sewage Works	480	343	300	1	7	c80	160+

125 at Ormidhia shore on Jan 2nd was the only record submitted from this location this year. There were up to 200 birds present on the beach at Spiro's Pool from Jan 5th – 30th. 42 migrants flew east at Spiro's Beach on Mar 21st and a further 80+ were off Mandria on Mar 23rd. At Potamos Liopetri there were 200 on Jan 4th, 150 on Feb 8th, and 350 on Feb 9th.

Winter visitors again started to leave Larnaca Sewage Works from the second week in February but an estimated 300 were still present on Mar 1st but this number dropped to a single bird by the 13th. A 1st summer bird was reported from the sewage works on Apr 9th with two more records for April from Akrotiri Salt Lake and Akrotiri Gravel Pits on the 10th and 18th of April respectively. A juvenile bird was reported from the Akamas on May 11th.

In the autumn 7 were back at Larnaca Sewage Works by Oct 25th and numbers built up steadily to a year end total of 160+ on Dec 31st. Numbers peaked at c220 at Aspro Dam on Dec 1st. There were c30 off Mandria (Paphos) on Dec 6th, 40+ in Paphos Harbour on Dec 26th and c150 on Spiro's Beach on Dec 2nd.

SHAG *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*

Small numbers breed locally around the coast from Akrotiri to Chrysochou Bay. The species becomes more widespread in winter.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Cape Gata		1	1	2							
Kensington Cliffs	7	6		20					13	14	9
Mandria (Paphos)		5		1			2	3	2	3	2
Ormidhia Shore	2		2		3	20					
Quarry Beach	9	16			8						

A single bird present at Chlorakas on Feb 6th, and 4 birds at Kato Pyrgos on Apr 18th. Two at Mandria (Paphos) on Aug 23rd included a 1st year bird. Two 1st winter birds at Ormidhia shore on Jan 2nd, plus a 1st summer bird at the same location between Mar 1st and 10th. A single bird present at Timi beach on Nov 4th, with 4 birds there on Dec 31st, a single bird was reported from Kouklia on Dec 30th.

WHITE PELICAN *Pelecanus onocrotalus*

Mainly a passage migrant in variable numbers, with peak counts in double figure numbers occurring in October and November.

100 birds on Akrotiri Gravel Pits on Jan 30th was the maximum count for the year. 2 birds at Polemedhia Dam on Feb 17th and 6 there on Sept 20th, which dropped to 4 birds on the 28th. There were singles reported from four other locations, Akrotiri Salt Lake on Apr 17th, 19th, 29th and Dec 6th. Dhekalia Beach on Nov 18th, Mazotos on Mar 29th and 1 flying over Spiro's Pool on Mar 27th.

BITTERN *Botaurus stellaris*

A scarce passage migrant from March to May, less frequent from late August to December.

Singles were reported from 5 locations. The first record was from Oroklini Marsh on Mar 6th, then four records from Akrotiri Salt Lake on Mar 28th, Apr 8th and 23rd, and May 1st. From Phasouri Reed Beds on Apr 21st, Yermasoya Dam on Apr 25th. The last record for the year was from Bishop's Pool on Nov 10th. All records submitted have been mentioned.

LITTLE BITTERN *Ixobrychus minutus*

Chiefly a passage migrant in small numbers in April / May. It is uncommon at other times and breeding has possibly occurred, juveniles having been seen in July 1982 and 1995.

A single at Kiti Dam on Apr 9th, with further singles at Aspro Pools from Apr 22nd, with 4 reported from this location on Apr 28th. Singles at Yermasoya Dam on Apr 25th and Bishop's Pool on Apr 30th. Sightings extended from Sotira Pools (Paralimni) in the east to Evretou Dam in the northwest. Numbers increased slightly throughout May with a maximum count of 10 at Kiti Dam on May 2nd. A single bird reported at Zakaki Marsh on May 7th sadly had a broken wing. A pair was reported at Akhna Dam on May 2nd, with 3 males there on the 4th but no records suggest breeding was made at this site. There were no autumn records submitted.

NIGHT HERON *Nycticorax nycticorax*

A fairly common passage migrant from March to May and late August to early October. A few occasionally summer and breeding has occurred, the last occasion being in 1993 at Paralimni Lake.

Two were at Aspro Pools on Mar 27th, and a single at Kiti Dam on the same date. Three adults were reported at Kiti Dam on Mar 28th and there were 8 at Avdimou Beach on the same date. Passage continued throughout April with high counts of 8 at Cape Greco on Apr 7th, up to 14 at Oroklini Marsh from Apr 6th to the 24th, 13 at Paphos Lighthouse area on Apr 17th, 10 at Bishop's Pool on the same date, with 5 at Aspro Pools on Apr 30th. In May there were 32 at Cape Drepanum on the 2nd, 28 at Bishop's Pool on the 3rd, 10 at Coral Bay on the 25th and a 1st summer at Vrysoulles on the 24th.

June records comprised of 6 at Larnaca Sewage Works on the 1st, and a single at Evretou Dam on the 21st. A single was reported at Athalassa Forest on July 15th.

SQUACCO HERON *Ardeola ralloides*

A common passage migrant, with most records from March to May and August / September.

The only March record was of a single at Bishop's Pool on Mar 30th. Passage increased in April, with high counts of 12 at Oroklini Marsh on Apr 3rd to 30th. Only single figure counts from other sites through April. May started with the highest count of

the year, with 110+ at Cape Drepanum on May 1st. The only other double figure counts for May were 20 at Ayios Georgios (Peyia) on May 4th, 16 at Mandria (Paphos) on May 7th and 10+ at Akhna Dam on May 18th. Smaller numbers were reported from many sites during this period. A single at Akhna Dam on Jul 10th and 1 to 2 birds throughout September at this site. Aspro Pools held 2 birds on July 10th, with a further 2 on Oct 17th and singles until Nov 18th. There were 18 reported on the Akamas on Sept 19th and a single on Lady's Mile on Sept 1st, a single on Bishop's Pool on Oct 6th were the only records for this period away from Akhna Dam and Aspro Pools.

CATTLE EGRET *Bubulcus ibis*

A scarce passage migrant and winter visitor. There have been records for all months, but most have been seen from March to May. All records submitted are mentioned.

A single at Larnaca Tip on Jan 8th, and a single at the same location on the 24th. 3 at Kermia Beach (Cape Greco) on Apr 1st. A single at Oroklini Marsh on Apr 2nd and 18th, but 10 reported at this site on Apr 15th. A single at Phasouri Reed Beds on Apr 18th and 26th. There were 2 at Akhna Dam on Apr 20th, 2 on May 3rd and 1 on May 16th. 3 at Zakaki Marsh on Apr 27th and 5 on May 3rd. 3 at Mandria (Paphos) on May 6th and 1 at Cape Drepanum on May 9th, 2 at Evretou Dam on May 11th and 7 at Aspro Pools on May 25th, with 2 there on Jun 16th. Then no more records until 3 at Paphos on Nov 27th/28th. 6 at Mandria (Paphos) on Dec 9th and up to 15 at Oroklini Marsh from Dec 10th to the 22nd. A single at Bishop's Pool on Dec 13th and 2 at Zakaki Marsh on the same date. Phasouri Reed Beds held a single on Dec 13th, 8 on the 15th, 10 on the 26th and 5 on the 28th. A single was reported feeding on the fourth roundabout at Limassol on Dec 14th and 2 were feeding on the sixth roundabout on Dec 31st.

LITTLE EGRET *Egretta garzetta*

A common passage migrant, sometimes in three figure numbers. Peak counts are made from March to May and August to November and often refer to coasting birds. Breeding is rarely recorded, the last attempt being at Paralimni Lake in 1992, and a few remain in winter mainly in the east of the recording area.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akhna Dam				10	60	5		1	2	1	1	
Akrotiri Gravel Pit's				6	24		2					
Aspro Dam & Pools				14	3	1			6	1		1
Bishop's Pool				3	3	1		2	5	1		
Larnaca area	3		4	13	12	1						
Zakaki / Lady's Mile			1	15	c20			1	2	2	1	

In the first winter period singles were around the Cape Greco peninsula from Potamos Liopetri to Ayia Trias (Protaras) from Jan 2nd to Mar 15th. A single on floods at Dhekalia

from Jan 4th to the 7th. Between 1 and 3 were seen at Larnaca Sewage Works and up to 5 at Spiro's Pool on Mar 13th. The first spring migrants started to appear mid-month with 3 at Larnaca Airport Pools South on Mar 15th. Kiti Pool held 4 on Mar 21st, a single at Evretou Dam on Mar 24th and a single at Oroklini Marsh from Mar 25th to the 31st. There were 13 in Paphos harbour on Mar 31st. Numbers started to increase in April with 10 at Larnaca Salt Lake on the 1st. Kiti Pool held 9 on Apr 2nd, 15 on the 4th, 14 on the 9th and 3 on the 10th. There were 54 at Cape Greco on Apr 7th, 150 on Apr 8th and 12 on Apr 20th. 30 at Mandria (Paphos) on Apr 11th and double figure counts from many other sites during April. May started with 60 at Akhna Dam on the 1st that had dropped to just 9 birds by the 4th. Also on the 1st 22 at Mandria (Paphos) and 11 at Zakaki Marsh, which also had c20 on the 4th. Mandria (Paphos) held a further 20 on the 9th, and then single figure counts from many other sites to the month's end. In June 5 lingered at Akhna Dam from the 1st to the 10th. No real autumn passage occurred but 2 had returned to Akrotiri Gravel Pits on July 26th but then no more records until Aug 17th when a single was at Sotira Pools with 3 here on the 24th and 2 on the 26th. 35 were reported on the Akamas on Sep 19th. Then ones and twos were reported from many sites between Sep 22nd and Dec 1st, with the last record being of 2 birds from Paphos on Dec 13th.

GREAT WHITE EGRET *Ardea alba*

A passage migrant in single figure numbers in March/April, which is usually less frequent in the autumn and winter.

The year started off with 3 at Larnaca Salt Lake on Mar 7th, with a single still present on the 15th. A single at Mandria (Paphos) on Apr 4th and 3 at Cape Greco on the 7th. 2 at Akrotiri Salt Lake on Apr 8th and 17th, and a single at Oroklini Marsh from the 8th to the 11th. In May there were 3 at Mazotos beach. The largest count of the year came from Aspro Dam with 4 on Sep 8th. A single at Aspro Pools on Oct 21st, a single at Oroklini Marsh on Nov 16th. Then singles reported from Akrotiri Salt Lake on Dec 6th, Bishop's Pool on Dec 8th, Oroklini Marsh on Dec 18th, which held 2 birds on Dec 20th and 21st. All records submitted have been mentioned.

GREY HERON *Ardea cinerea*

Predominantly a common passage migrant. Relatively large numbers pass to the east along the south coast in spring and west off the north coast in autumn. A few over-summer and some remain all winter. There have been two records of breeding attempts, at Athalassa in 1980 and Xiliatos Dam in 1994.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akhna Dam	1	1	1	1	3	1		3	2	1	1	
Aspro Dam and Pools	2		3	20					4	2		1
Evretou Dam	2	1		1	1	1						1
Larnaca area	8		7		1	1		8	5		1	2

The first spring migrants were 3 at Oroklini Marsh on Mar 4th and they were still present on Mar 30th. A single was at Potamos Liopetri on Mar 4th, 14 were at Spiro's Pool on

Mar 8th and 4 flew east past Cape Greco on the same date. Then only low single figure counts from many sites until the end of March, except for a group of 66 recorded at Cape Gata on Mar 15th. The only double figure count for April was 20 at Aspro Dam on the 14th, and then only low single figure counts were submitted from other sites. The maximum count for May was 4 at Cape Drepanum on the 1st. Then ones and twos were recorded from Akhna Dam, Parthenitis Dam, Larnaca Salt Lake and Evretou Dam during June. Autumn passage started in late August with 5 at Bishop's Pool on the 24th. Larnaca Sewage Works held 7 on Aug 26th and 8 on the 28th, with a further 13 from the Paphos Lighthouse area on Aug 26th. The largest count for the year was at Lachi with c100 birds present on Sep 16th and 38 on the 19th. Then again back to low single figure counts from many sites to the year-end.

PURPLE HERON *Ardea purpurea*

A common migrant from March to May and August/September. Coastal passage is regular and larger numbers are recorded in the autumn. Occasionally a few over-summer and remain into early winter.

The first record of the year was from Aspro Dam with 35 present on Mar 21st, and 13 at Aspro Pools on the same date and 5 at Bishop's Pool also on the 21st. A single was seen with a Night Heron over the Paphos Lighthouse area on Mar 31st and a further 10 flew west from this location on the same date. A single adult was reported from Oroklini Marsh on Apr 1st catching and swallowing a male House Sparrow. Then up to 6 were reported from this site between the 2nd and 25th. Numbers increased from mid-April with 46 from Kensington Cliffs on the 11th, 37 from Mandria (Paphos) on the 13th, 30 at Aspro Dam and 40 at Coral Bay on the 17th, 10 at Phasouri Reed Beds on the 20th and 19 at Bishop's Pool on the 21st. There were 25 at Aspro Pools on May 1st, then only one to four from many other sites during the month. 2 June birds were recorded, singles at Akhna Dam and Parthenitis Dam on the 1st. There were only 4 autumn records. A single at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on Aug 29th, 8 at Lachi on Sep 19th, 2 at Akhna Dam on Sep 22nd and the last a single at Aspro Pools on Nov 3rd.

BLACK STORK *Ciconia nigra*

An uncommon passage migrant. Generally single figure numbers are seen in late April/early May and from September to November.

3 records this year all of single birds. The first record was from Akrounda on Sep 26th, then Phasouri Reed Beds on Oct 4th, and Aspro Pools on Nov 4th. All records submitted are mentioned.

WHITE STORK *Ciconia ciconia*

Recorded in all months, but is mainly a passage migrant from March to May and August to October. Numbers are very variable and counts of 1,000 or more have rarely been made.

A single at Paralimni Lake on Apr 3rd stayed while the 5th, and a single was reported from Achelia Dam on Apr 9th. There were 3 records for May. A single at Akrotiri Salt Lake on May 3rd, 10 at Aspro Dam on the 7th and 16 at the same site on the 22nd. 6 were at Phasouri Reed Beds on Jul 26th and 7 there on Aug 9th. A single at Aspro Dam on Sep 5th and lastly a single at Akhna Dam on Sep 22nd. All records submitted are mentioned.

GLOSSY IBIS *Plegadis falcinellus*

A common passage migrant from March to May and August/September, sometimes in flocks of over a hundred. Coastal migration is frequent. There are a small number of early spring and late autumn records and occasionally a few have over-summered.

Just one March record this year of a single at Lady's Mile on the 25th. Peak counts were made in April, with 18 at Larnaca Sewage Works on Apr 2nd and 12 flying over the Paphos Lighthouse Area on the same date. There were 21 at Curium Bay on Apr 7th and 35 at Akrotiri Reed Beds on the 11th. An influx of birds between the 14th and 15th resulted in counts of 68 at Aspro Dam, 73 at Ayios Georgios (Peyia) and 40 at Paphos Airport all on the 14th, and c25 at Kouklia beach on the 15th. From the 16th to the 30th single figure counts were made from many sites. In May Aspro Pools held 16 birds on the 1st and Oroklini Marsh held up to 45 on the same date, with 63 being reported here on the 3rd. Zakaki Marsh held 4 to 11 birds between the 3rd and 8th of May. A single returned to Larnaca Salt Lake on Aug 19th, with a juvenile bird at Bishop's Pool on Aug 21st, a single adult on Aug 24th, Sep 1st, Sep 7th and Sep 17th, with 6 on Sep 15th (all Bishop's Pool). There were between 1 and 3 birds present at Aspro Pools from Sep 6th to the 26th and a single at Akrotiri Salt Lake on Sep 18th.

SPOONBILL *Platalea leucorodia*

A passage migrant from March to May and less frequently from August to mid-October. It rarely occurs at other times and there is just one over-wintering record.

Four at Ayios Georgios (Peyia) on Apr 24th were the first for the year. Then 29 were reported at Larnaca Salt Lake on May 17th and a single from this location on Jun 5th. There was a single at Aspro Dam on Sep 8th and a single at Bishop's Pool on Sep 22nd with 24 at Larnaca Sewage Works on the same date. A single at Lady's Mile between Sep 25th and 28th, and then an immature bird on Oct 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 9th at the same location. The last of the year was a single at Akhna Dam on Oct 31st. All records submitted are mentioned.

GREATER FLAMINGO *Phoenicopterus ruber*

A common winter visitor to Larnaca sewage works and both the Salt Lakes when water levels are suitable. It also frequents other seasonal lakes when conditions permit. Counts of 10,000 or more were occasionally made in former years.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Akrotiri	2400	2847	c2100	c2300	2400+
Larnaca	1705	1115	1050	970	3200

	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akrotiri						c600	4800
Larnaca	4000	c250	C1500	75	200+	c1150	1300+

First winter period and spring: at Akrotiri relatively large numbers were present but well down on last years figures. The opposite seemed to happen at Larnaca with numbers being 3 times up on last year's records for the first few months at least. Away from these two sites Paralimni Lake held between 110 and 192 birds from Jan 10th to Feb 12th. An unprecedented occurrence happened this summer with large amounts staying at Larnaca and some 40-nest mounds being observed, but breeding could not be

proven. A fuller account of this can be read in the September 2001 newsletter (number 6).

Autumn and second winter period: birds did not start returning to Akrotiri while mid-November when 250+ were reported on Nov 10th. Numbers then built up to a maximum of 4800 on the 22nd and 28th of December. Numbers at Larnaca dropped off throughout the year after the influx of the summer and a year-end total of 1300 was recorded on Dec 31st.

MUTE SWAN *Cygnus olor*

Usually a scarce and irregular winter visitor, mainly to the salt lakes. This year was exceptional but not unprecedented with 380 birds being recorded in 1984.

All records were from the Akrotiri Salt Lake area. The first record concerned 2 immature birds at Zakaki Marsh on Dec 20th, then 12 birds were reported from this location on Dec 28th. Lady's Mile held 2 immatures on Dec 22nd, 1 immature on Dec 28th, and 6 birds (4 adults and 2 imms) on Dec 30th and 31st.

Akrotiri Salt Lake had 7 birds on Dec 22nd (3 adults and 4 imms), the same 7 birds were recorded again on Dec 24th and 26th, then 23 birds on Dec 29th (16 adults and 7 imms), then 25 on Dec 30th and 19 on the 31st. All records submitted are mentioned.

WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE *Anser albifrons*

A regular winter visitor, mainly from December to February, that is more numerous when there are cold winters on the continent.

25 at Larnaca Sewage Works on Jan 1st, rising to 27 on Jan 10th through to Jan 22nd, with a single present on Feb 11th. A single at Coral Bay on Dec 22nd and 5 at Zakaki Marsh on the same date to the 26th. Larnaca Sewage Works held c80 on Dec 23rd, with 124 at Larnaca Airport Pools south, 22 at Timi Beach and a single at Evretou Dam all on Dec 31st.

GREYLAG GOOSE *Anser anser*

A scarce and less than annual visitor, with the majority of records from December to February. Most individuals show characters of the eastern race A.a.rubrirostris.

A single with the White-fronted Goose flock at Larnaca Sewage Works on Jan 1st. Then a single at Oroklini Marsh on Nov 19th to the 29th, and then lastly a single reported from the same site on Dec 5th.

RED-BREASTED GOOSE * *Branta ruficollis*

These are the fifth and sixth accepted records for Cyprus following on closely from last years record.

3 at Larnaca Sewage Works on Dec 29th, and presumably the same 3 birds at Larnaca Airport Pools south on Dec 31st **JS**. Then a single at Aspro Dam on Dec 30th **APW**.

RUDDY SHELDUCK *Tadorna ferruginea*

Almost annual in late winter to the Salt Lakes, in single figures.

Just one record this year of a single at Akrotiri Salt Lake on Dec 21st.

SHELDUCK *Tadorna tadorna*

Formerly a very common winter visitor, but numbers have tended to decrease. Larger counts are made on the Salt Lakes in January and February and there is evidence in some years of a spring passage from mid-February to early March.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Nov	Dec
Akrotiri Salt Lake	188	150+	80+		400+
Larnaca area	33	18	5	7	8

Numbers peaked at Akrotiri Salt Lake on Jan 27th with a total of 188 being counted. By the beginning of March numbers had dropped to 80+ on Mar 7th, which was the last record submitted for the first winter period from this location. The winter peak count for the Larnaca area was 33 on Jan 10th and 12th, which was well down on last year's totals from this area. The last record from this period for the Larnaca area was 2 on Mar 9th from the Salt Lake. 3 birds at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on Oct 4th were relocated at Bishop's Pool on Oct 6th. Then in November up to 7 were at Oroklini Marsh on the 17th and 5 there on the 26th. 10 at Akrotiri Salt Lake on Nov 18th, 80 on Dec 2nd and 60+ on Dec 6th, with a single on Bishop's Pool on Nov 27th. 6 at Larnaca Sewage Works on Nov 24th and 3 on Dec 31st, with 7 at Larnaca Salt Lake on Nov 25th and 8 at Larnaca Airport Pools south on Dec 31st.

WIGEON *Anas Penelope*

A common autumn passage migrant and winter visitor from late August to March. Three figure counts are generally made but the species has tended to decline in numbers in recent years.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akrotiri area	20	3			1	3	300+
Aspro Dam and Pools	10	2			1	1	5
Evretou Dam	32	40	31			1	10+
Larnaca area	60	60	20	10		1	100+

Spiro's Pool had 2 birds on Jan 28th, 9 on Jan 30th, 3 on Feb 24th and then a sharp increase to 42 on Mar 2nd and 70 on Mar 6th, with numbers then dropping to 20 on Mar 19th. 3 at Kiti Dam on Mar 9th, 2 female on Mar 13th, 1 male and 3 female on Mar 17th, and a single female on Mar 29th. Oroklini Marsh had 2 female on Mar 12th and a single on Mar 15th. The first returning bird was a single male on Bishop's Pool on Oct 28th, with a single on Aspro Pools from Oct 29th to Nov 4th. 2 at Zakaki Marsh on Nov 18th, 8 on Nov 24th, and 4 on Nov 25th. Up to 6 at Oroklini Marsh from Dec 1st to the 14th.

GADWALL *Anas strepera*

A relatively scarce passage migrant and winter visitor from November to April.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Dec
Bishop's Pool	14	11	18		2
Larnaca Sewage Works	2	4	3	1	

3 at Aspro Dam Pools on Jan 2nd, 1 on Jan 5th and 3 on Jan 14th. 2 at Akrotiri Salt Lake on Apr 11th.

Then 2 at Oroklini Marsh from Nov 26th to the 30th and 2 at Bishop's Pool from Dec 15th to the 22nd.

TEAL *Anas crecca*

A common winter visitor from October to April, with peak counts in former times of up to 5,000 in January and February. Coastal migration is sometimes seen in spring, but is more frequent in the autumn.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Aspro Dam and pools	60	6	3	1		1	1	14	3	16
Bishop's Pool	360	100+	c160			1	4	19	65	200+
Evretou Dam	47	2	5	1						
Larnaca area	500	935	625	40	1		10+		80+	250+
Oroklini Marsh	100	150	14					1	c40	12
Spiro's Pool	13		8	2	1					
Akrotiri area	400		1							400+

17 at Kouris Dam on Jan 3rd and 4 at Dhekalia floods on Jan 5th. 2 at Dhypotamos Dam on Jan 23rd and 6 at this site on Feb 13th. 2 at Athalassa Forest on Jan 29th and a single at Parthenitis Dam on Feb 11th.

Polemedhia Dam held 106 on Feb 17th. Into March and 80 were resting on the sea off Cape Greco on Mar 8th and 50 flew east by this location on Mar 10th. 10 at Kiti Dam on Mar 8th and 9th with 2 still present on Apr 2nd. A single male was reported from Spiro's Pool on the 16th and 17th of May and another single male at Larnaca Sewage Works on May 18th. Singles returned to Bishop's Pool on Aug 9th and Aspro pools on Aug 25th with 4 here on Sep 18th. Achelia Dam had 9 birds on Sep 8th, and then mainly low figure counts from many sites during October. Bishop's Pool held 15+ on Nov 2nd, 27 on Nov 4th, rising to 200+ on Dec 8th and then dropping down to 40+ on Dec 28th. At Larnaca Sewage Works 80 were present on Nov 24th rising to 250+ by the year-end. Up to 12 birds were present all December at Oroklini Marsh.

MALLARD *Anas platyrhynchos*

Coastal passage migrants are seen in the north and west from August onwards and winter visitors have numbered up to 1,000 from December to March. Breeding regularly occurs.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Achelia Dam								1	5	1	3	
Akrotiri area	230	40+	6								7	60+
Aspro Dam Pools	85	1								2		15+
Bishop's Pool							9	9	2	3	15	
Evretou Dam	32	6	10	1	4					c40	30	
Larnaca Sewage	255	180	105	11	57	46			20+		40+	120+
Oroklini Marsh			1	1							7	4

8 at Kouris Dam on Jan 3rd, 12 at Kalavassos Dam on Jan 23rd, c45 on Mar 30th and 5 on Jun 26th. 2 at Parthenitis Dam from Mar 3rd to Mar 15th and 2 flew east by Ayia Thekla on Mar 12th.

Breeding records: at Larnaca Sewage Works, 10 ducklings were first seen on Apr 19th, 36 young in four broods on May 10th and 35 young in four broods on May 30th, with c12 juvenile on Jun 3rd. Winter visitor's started to arrive at Larnaca Sewage Works in the last week of November with a peak count of 120+ on Dec 31st. Akrotiri Salt Lake held 200+ on Dec 22nd with 15+ at Aspro Pools on Dec 20th.

PINTAIL *Anas acuta*

A common migrant in spring, when large numbers have been seen off the south coast. In winter the highest counts of several thousands have been made at the Salt Lakes from December to March.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akrotiri Salt Lake		1	80+	c50				c20	100+
Bishop's Pool		25	2			4	5	27	
Larnaca Salt		20	40	2	1				
Larnaca Sewage Works	20	53	152		1	4		c20	80+

Away from the sites mentioned above, Mandria (Paphos) had 17 on Mar 8th. Kiti Dam held 14 on Mar 9th, 6 on Mar 13th, and 20 on Mar 17th.

In the autumn a single returned to Bishop's Pool on Sep 15th, with 4 on the 25th and 27th. 4 were back at Larnaca Sewage Works on Sep 22nd. Many sites had singles throughout October. Numbers increased steadily in November with 27 at Bishop's Pool on the 9th, c20 at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 13th, and c25 at Oroklini Marsh on the 26th. In December 100+ were reported from Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 15th and 80+ from Larnaca Sewage Works on the 31st.

GARGANEY *Anas querquedula*

A common passage migrant, mainly from late February to May and August to October. Large flocks are seen off the coast in spring and autumn. There are two old probable breeding records.

	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Aspro Dam and Pools		1	1	1			4	2	4	
Bishop's Pool			47	44	1	1	37	31	3	1
Larnaca Sewage Works	4	9	20	8	1			10		
Oroklini Marsh		18	12	6	1					

The first spring migrant was a single male at Larnaca Airport Pools South on Feb 13th, with 4 at Larnaca Sewage Works on Feb 27th. Coastal passage comprised of 60 resting on the sea off Cape Greco on Mar 12th, and 6 offshore from the same location on Mar 24th. Mandria (Paphos) had 4 on Mar 8th and 40+ on Mar 23rd. 7 off Paphos Lighthouse area on Apr 9th and then 2 flocks comprising of 15 and 20 birds on Apr 11th from the same location. The largest count inland was 20 at Larnaca Sewage Works on Apr 4th. The last records for spring were of a single male at Larnaca Sewage Works on Jun 3rd and another single male at Bishop's Pool on Jun 14th.

Autumn passage started with a single at Bishop's Pool on Jul 26th, with numbers increasing to 9 on Aug 9th, 37 on Aug 21st, 6 on Aug 24th and 14 on Aug 28th. Aspro Pools held low single figure counts from Aug 19th to Nov 19th. The last record of the year was of a single at Ayia Napa Pool on Nov 26th. No coastal passage was recorded this autumn.

SHOVELER *Anas clypeata*

A common migrant in spring, when thousands gather off the south coast. It is less numerous in the autumn and winter visitors remain from December to early April. There is one old breeding record.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akrotiri Salt Lake	20		400+	300+							200+
Aspro Dam and Pools	1		5						1	2	1
Bishop's Pool	24	25	17	50	27			2	2	2	
Larnaca Sewage Works	1250	1180	900	230	12		10	40+	150+	400	1030
Oroklini Marsh			20	4	4	1				8	30

The sewage works at Larnaca again held the vast majority of large counts for this species.

2 at Akhna Dam and 2 at Paralimni Lake on Feb 12th, with a single male at Akhna Dam on Feb 28th. 2 flew east with Pintail off Cape Greco on Mar 1st. Kiti Dam held double figure counts between Mar 8th and Apr 4th, with a maximum count of 22 on Mar 13th. There were 5 at Aspro Dam on Mar 11th, with 3 on Aspro Pools on the 17th and 3 on the Dam on Mar 24th. Spiro's Pool held 10 on Mar 30th, with 10 still being present on Apr 27th. A single female was at Oroklini Marsh from Jun 1st to the 17th.

3 returned to Larnaca Sewage Works on Aug 17th (same date as last year). With numbers rising steadily to 40+ on Sep 22nd. In October numbers rose again to 150+ on Oct 25th, 400+ on Nov 24th to a year end total of 1030+ on Dec 31st. Aspro Pools held ones and twos from Oct to the year end. Oroklini Marsh had up to 30 on Dec 1st and Akrotiri Salt Lake held 200+ on Dec 28th.

RED-CRESTED POCHARD *Netta rufina*

A scarce winter visitor that has occurred in previous years in double figure numbers from mid-November to March.

A single female at Evretou Dam on Jan 21st, with 2 reported from this location on Mar 3rd. A single male at Larnaca Sewage Works from Mar 3rd to the 10th was joined by a female on the 12th. The last record of the year was of 2 birds at Oroklini Marsh on Dec 11th. All records submitted are mentioned.

POCHARD *Aythya farina*

A fairly common winter visitor to salt lakes and reservoirs from October to April.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bishop's Pool	71	68	52		4	4	14	11
Larnaca Sewage Works	18	17	3	1				12

In January 13 were at Kiti Dam on the 8th, 12 on the 12th, and just a single male was left by the 15th. Evretou Dam held 13 on Jan 21st, 4 on Feb 12th and 5 on Mar 3rd. 7 were reported from Kalavassos Dam on Jan 23rd. A single female at Oroklini Marsh from Feb 28th to Mar 8th. A single was at Zakaki Marsh on Apr 11th then no more records until Sep 1st when a single was reported from Bishop's Pool, with 4 here on Sep 17th. A single at Aspro Pools between Oct 13th and 19th. Then low double figure counts from Bishop's Pool until the year-end.

FERRUGINOUS DUCK *Aythya nyroca*

An uncommon passage migrant and winter visitor that has been recorded in all months. It is most frequent from November to May. Generally single figure counts are made, but up to 50 have been reported in the past.

A male and female at Kiti Dam from Jan 8th to the 10th and then 2 from Mar 5th to the 9th. A single female at Larnaca Sewage Works from Jan 19th to the 24th, and also Feb 4th, with a single male on Feb 27th, and 2 birds reported on Mar 9th, and a single on Apr 16th. A single female reported from Oroklini Marsh on many dates between Jan 24th and Mar 3rd, with 2 here on Feb 1st. Also a single at Aspro Pools on Jan 27th.

A single at Bishop's Pool from Nov 2nd to the 19th. 2 at Oroklini Marsh from Dec 17th to the 19th, and a single at Larnaca Sewage Works on Dec 29th, with a juvenile at Aspro Pools on Dec 31st.

TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fuligula*

A winter visitor from November to March, when counts of up to twenty have been reported.

A male and female at Larnaca Sewage Works on Jan 2nd to the 4th, then a single from the 8th to the 15th, a single male from Mar 21st to the 28th and a single female on May 10th. 5 at Larnaca Salt Lake on Mar 8th and 2 male and a female at Achelia Dam on Apr 9th.

In November 5 females were at Larnaca Sewage Works. Bishop's Pool held 2 On Nov 27th, 5 on Dec 22nd, 26th, and 28th. Akrotiri Salt Lake held c10 on Dec 21st and Larnaca Sewage Works had 3 on Dec 23rd, 29th and 2 on Dec 31st.

RED-BREADED MERGANSER *Mergus serrator*

An uncommon and less than annual winter visitor that is generally seen in small groups on the sea in the east. There have been records in eleven winters since 1956; the ones below follow on from last years report.

3 at Potamos Liopetri on Jan 2nd and then four redheads from Jan 4th to Mar 11th. Ayia Thekla had four redheads on Feb 28th.

HONEY BUZZARD *Pernis apivorus*

A scarce spring passage migrant from mid-April to May, more common in autumn August to September with the largest numbers generally occurring over the Akrotiri peninsula in late August and September.

Just three spring records with singles during May. The first at Ayios Georgios (Peyia) on the 1st, then over Akamas on the 12th, and Stroumbi on the 19th.

The first returning birds were 5 on the 1st September at Akrotiri Salt Lake with passage continuing at the site until the 20th September, peaking at 26 birds on the 16th. Elsewhere over 200 at Phasouri on the 9th September was notable as were 38 at Aspro Pools on the 20th September. Other September sightings came from Bishop's Pool (2 on the 15th; 4 the 22nd), Kissonerga (1 the 16th; 2 the 18th; further singles the 24th and 26th), Zakaki Marsh (2 the 15th), and Peyia (single on the 19th). In October there was one at Peyia on the 1st, and single juveniles at Aspro Dam on the 14th and Akrotiri Salt Lake the next day. The last reported were 2 at Bishop's Pool on the 15th October.

BLACK KITE *Milvus migrans*

A passage migrant, usually in single figure numbers, from late March to May and August to October.

The only spring records, all of singles in May, came from Cape Greco on the 2nd, Goudi on the 7th, and Ayia Varvara on the 15th.

All autumn reports came from the Akrotiri peninsula area. At Bishop's Pool there was a good count of 13 on the 22nd September with 2 on the 27th and 28th. Passage continued at the site in October with 3 on the 1st, 1 the 2nd, 3 the 6th, and 2 the 13th. The final sightings at Bishop's Pool were of singles on the 2nd and 9th November. At the Salt Lake there were singles on the 7th and 18th September, and a juvenile bird on the 18th November. Phasouri Reed Beds recorded 2 on the 1st October and a single on the 6th.

GRIFFON VULTURE *Gyps fulvus*

A resident breeding species that has declined in numbers, although there are signs of a recovery since 1996. Nesting now only occurs regularly at cliff sites in the Western Sovereign Base Area at Episkopi, and occasionally at other locations inland. In some years there is evidence of a winter influx from October to January.

There were regular reports throughout the year of up to 17 together around the breeding stronghold of Kensington Cliffs and nearby Episkopi and Quarry Beach. Elsewhere birds were most frequently reported from the Arminou area (with a peak there of 5 on the 7th August); the Xeros Potamos (maximum 3 adults on the 22nd June); and the Dhiarizos River Valley (max. 3 on the 14th January). Other records included 2 at Vasa on the 5th August, 2 at Aspro Dam on the 8th September, 3 Bishop's Pool on the 22nd September, and 3 at Salamiou on the 19th October. Only a single report from the Troodos in the year, one on the 26th May.

SHORT-TOED EAGLE *Circaetus gallicus*

A very scarce passage migrant, usually in ones and twos, in April/May and September/October, and recent years has seen the occasional winter record.

The only record was a single at Bishop's Pool on the 4th September (BW).

MARSH HARRIER *Circus aeruginosus*

A passage migrant, sometimes in double figure numbers, from March to May and August to October, and uncommon winter visitor.

Scarce in the first winter period with a female and immature at Akrotiri Salt Lake in January, and what was probably the same immature seen at nearby Zakaki Marsh

early in the same month. The only other report was of a female at Kiti Dam on the 22nd January.

During the spring passage a total of at least 110 individuals were reported from various sites, but especially well watched areas in the west such as Mandria and the Aspro Pools. The first of this period were 2 at Akrotiri Reed Beds on the 11th March with a steady 'trickle' of reports to the end of May.

There were no further reports until the first returning birds of the autumn with 5 at the Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 28th August. Autumn passage continued until the 24th November with at least 165 individuals reported. As usual the pattern of migration differed from that of the spring with birds concentrated at favoured sites on and around the Akrotiri peninsula. Around 80 birds reported were from the Salt Lake in the period 28th August to the 10th November, with an obvious peak from the 13th to the 20th September.

In December a single female frequented Zakaki Marsh, a male the Akrotiri Salt Lake (with 2 on the 15th), and others were a single at Oroklini Marsh on the 14th and 2 at Phasouri Reed Beds on the 15th, one of which remained until the year's end.

HEN HARRIER *Circus cyaneus*

An uncommon passage migrant and winter visitor, generally in ones and twos, from mid-August to early May.

In January there were reports from Paramali (female on the 1st); Akrotiri Salt Lake (adult female and first winter on the 4th); Phasouri Reed Beds (female the 7th to the 11th with 2 on the 20th); Akhna Dam (ringtail 13th to 17th); Aspro Pools (female the 19th); a pair displaying in the Dhiarizos River Valley on the 20th; and Zakaki Marsh (female the 20th). In February there were single females at Phasouri on the 1st, 3 at Pyla buffer zone on the 18th, and one at Aspro Pools on the 28th. March saw an increase in records with birds reported from Anarita Park (singles 1st, 3rd and 11th); Paphos rubbish tip (single female the 4th); Akrotiri Reed Beds (male the 7th); Arminou Dam (one 14th); Zakaki Marsh (one 14th); Mandria (singles 12th, 14th and 29th); Aspro Pools (singles 3rd and 25th); and Aspro Dam (one 24th). During April birds were reported from the Dhiarizos River Valley (female on 23rd); Akrotiri Gravel Pits (female 26th); and Akrotiri Salt Lake (male and female on the 7th and female on 26th). A single female at Cape Drepanum on the first of May was the last of the spring.

There were no further reports until the 22nd October with a male at Akrotiri Salt Lake followed by a female there on the 28th, and one at Akhna Dam on the 31st. The final two months of the year brought reports from Akhna Dam (singles 3, 7, 12 and 19th November with 3 on 5th December); Akrotiri peninsula (singles 2nd November and 11, 15, 20, and 24th December with 2 females on the 15th and 3 on the 30th); Armou (single 23rd November); Aspro Pools (2 on 27th December); Ayia Varvara (single on 15th December); Episkopi (females on the 8th, 18th and 30th December); Lysos (a juvenile on 19th November); Mandria (3 females on the 5th December with further singles on the 13th and 23rd); Paramali (female on 1st December and again on the 11th); Bishop's Pool (one the 15th December); Zakaki Marsh (male on the 13th November and in December a male the 26th and a female the 28th and 31st); and Phasouri Reed Beds (one or two females more or less continuously present from 2nd November to 15th December).

PALLID HARRIER *Circus macrourus*

A regular passage migrant in small numbers in March/April and September/October, and rare winter visitor.

What became a good spring passage began on the 21st March with males at Akrotiri Salt Lake and Aspro Pools, and a female at Spiro's Pool on the same date. The last of the spring was a first summer at Cape Greco on the 2nd May. In between times birds - singles unless stated otherwise - were reported from Akhna Dam (female 29th March and 16th April); Akrotiri Reed Beds (female 11th April); Aspro Pools (male 1st April, females 4th, 10th and 20th with 2 on the 8th and 3 males 27th April); Cape Drepanum (female 1st May); Cape Gata (2 females 11th April); Cape Greco first summer 23rd March, with a male on the 26th, and females on the 29th and 31st of March and the 1st, 8th and 10th April); Curium Bay (female 7th April); Kiti Dam (second summer male the 29th March, a female on 10th April with two on the 16th); Kivisili (male on 30th March); Latchi (female on 14th April); Lady's Mile (ringtail 12th and female 20th April); Lara (female 23rd April); Larnaca Salt Lake (male on 30th March); Larnaca Sewage Works (male on 10th April); Neo Chorio (male 12th April); Oroklini Marsh (first summer 28th and male 30th and 31st March, ringtail 20th April); Pano Arodes (female 16th April); Paphos Lighthouse Area (ringtails 26th March and 10th and 13th April, with female on 16th); Paralimni Lake (male 27th and 28th March); Paramali (17th April); Phasouri Reed Beds (female 28th March); and Zakaki Marsh (30th March).

Birds were much scarcer during the autumn return. As usual the Akrotiri Salt Lake area witnessed the most activity with a male and an immature on the 7th September, followed by immatures on the 14th, 18th and 20th, and males on the 27th and finally one on the 9th October. Elsewhere there were 2 at nearby Akrotiri Gravel Pits on the 15th September, and Bishop's Pool with one on the 22nd September and a male on the 27th and again the next day.

MONTAGU'S HARRIER *Circus pygargus*

A spring passage migrant in small numbers from March to early May. More common in the autumn from August to October especially at wetland and reed bed sites.

The first was a female at Droushia on the 16th April, quickly followed on the 17th by further single females at Kivisili, Akrotiri Salt Lake and Larnaca tip. Other April records were from Aspro Pools (single male 19th, females on the 20th and 21st); Kiti Dam (female 25th); Lady's Mile (one 19th); Mandria (one 22nd); Paphos Lighthouse Area (immature female 21st and one the 22nd); Phinikas (male 19th); and Smyies (female on the 18th). In May birds passed through Akrotiri Salt Lake (immature female 5th and male the 8th); Aspro Dam (one 5th); Kivisili (female 3rd); with final one being a female that lingered at Oroklini Marsh from the 25th May to the month's end.

Autumn passage was, as usual, most evident through the Akrotiri peninsula. At the Salt Lake a single female on the 28th August was followed by a single on the 7th September, with 8 on the 13th, 4 immatures on the 14th, 3 on the 15th, more than 10 on the 18th, 8+ on the 20th and finally singles on the 22nd and 25th. Nearby singles were at Bishop's Pool on the 25th September and 1st October, and at Phasouri there were singles on the 1st and 15th October with an immature on the 16th. There was some early passage through the east of the island with a juvenile on the 24th August and 3 females on the 26th. Elsewhere singles were reported from the Akamas (19th September), Akhna Dam (22nd September), and Aspro Pools (2nd October).

HARRIER *Circus*

Ring-tailed harriers reported, but not specifically identified as either Pallid or Montagu's, were as follows (all in September). Three at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 1st, one Akhna Dam the 9th, one Cape Greco the 16th, two Oroklini Marsh the 20th, and single at Spiro's Beach on the 10th.

GOSHAWK *Accipiter gentilis*

A scarce resident breeding species in woods on the Troodos range. Records elsewhere are of wandering birds or possibly of the occasional passage bird.

Two Troodos during C.O.S. field meeting 17th February, and 2 Dhiarizos Valley on the 29th May. Singles were reported from Arminou (female 14th January); Aspro Pools (female 8th February and one 13th March); Ayia Minas (female 14th April); and Akamas (30th May).

SPARROWHAWK *Accipiter nisus*

Present from late August to May. Double figure numbers are occasionally seen on passage, but uncommon in the winter.

In the first winter period there were reports of singles in January from Mandria (13th), Xeros Potamos (20th), and Ayia Varvara (female 24th); in February Oroklini Marsh (3rd), Aspro Pools (9th), and Limassol (24th).

Spring saw single birds at Aspro Pools and Oroklini Marsh on the 16th March and Nata on the 23rd and Phasouri Reed Bed a female on the 28th. During April singles at Akrotiri Salt Lake (7th), Neo Chorio (female 7th), Kiti Dam (27th), Paphos Lighthouse Area (27th), and Bishop's Pool (28th). Late individuals were at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 11th May and Aspro Pools on the 14th.

Autumn saw higher numbers concentrated at the usual sites. Bishop's Pool had 3 on the 1st October with 2 the 2nd, 4 on the 6th, and then singles on the 9th and 15th October and the 11th and 15th November. At Phasouri there were 2 on the 15th October, one the 18th, and further singles on the 4th and 28th November. Aspro Pools reported 2 on the 2nd October with singles on the 21st and 29th. Elsewhere there were two at Paramali on the 7th October with one on the 10th, and singles in November at Akhna Dam (7th), Akrotiri Salt Lake (4th), Kensington Cliffs (20th), Mandria (17th) and Quarry Beach (20th).

In December there were three records. A female at Phasouri Reed Bed on the 2nd, and individuals at Akrotiri Salt Lake and Aspro Pools on the 15th.

LEVANT SPARROWHAWK *Accipiter brevipes*

A rare and less than annual passage migrant, that has been recorded in April and September/early October.

One, a male, Bishop's Pool on the 1st October (APW).

COMMON BUZZARD *Buteo buteo*

Fairly common as a spring passage migrant March/early May, with larger numbers in autumn September/October especially over the Akrotiri peninsula. Scarce winter visitor.

There were January reports from Akrotiri Salt Lake (2 the 4th), Neo Chorio (5th), Larnaca tip (8th), Zakaki Marsh (10th), Phasouri and Paramali (26th), Aspro Pools (27th) and Bishop's Pool (29th). Just one record in February at Cape Gata on the 16th that was probably an early migrant.

A total of only 15 individuals were reported during the spring passage all singles other than for 2 at Phasouri on the 14th March, and 2 over Akamas on the 14th April. Autumn saw a very concentrated passage in September with c80 at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 20th, c180 at Bishop's Pool the 22nd with 60+ on the 28th, 9 at Aspro on the 20th and 7 at Paramali on the same date. Ones and twos were reported elsewhere during the autumn until the 14th October when there was a single at Episkopi. No reports in November, but presumed wintering birds were one at the Dhiarizos River Valley on the 20th December, and 5 at Phasouri Reed Bed on the 26th of the month.

'STEPPE' BUZZARD *Buteo buteo vulpinus*

This highly migratory race is a passage migrant, uncommon in spring April/May, but fairly common in the autumn.

Just one spring record at Akrotiri on the 28th April.

First of the autumn was a single at Mandria on the 31st August. The main passage was at the Akrotiri peninsula during the later part of September and early October. One was at Bishop's Pool on the 22nd September with 2 on the 27th, 40+ on the 1st October, and 30+ the next day. Numbers had dropped to 3 there on the 6th, and just one on the 13th. Seven at Phasouri, 3 at Lady's Mile and 4 at Zakaki all on the 1st October were doubtless part of the same movement. Further birds were at Akrotiri Salt Lake with 2 on the 12th October, and an adult and a juvenile were noted on the 10th November. Elsewhere 15 at Aspro Pools on the 20th September were notable. Late individuals were also at Zakaki Marsh on the 28th October and at Mandria on the 18th November.

LONG-LEGGED BUZZARD *Buteo rufinus*

A scarce resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Up to seven pairs are believed to have bred or made breeding attempts in recent years.

Regular reports from the west of the island, particularly from known breeding areas. Information was received of at least 3 nesting pairs, but persecution continues with an adult at Arsos on the 3rd January with an injured left wing that had probably been shot. A bird at Kiti Dam in the east of the island on the 27th April was almost certainly a passage migrant.

BOOTED EAGLE *Hieraaetus pennatus*

A very scarce passage migrant from mid-March to early May and September/October. One report of a light morph at Paramali on the 8th April (APW).

BONELLI'S EAGLE *Hieraaetus fasciatus*

Formerly a relatively common breeding resident, but now much less frequent. It is thought that a few individuals may occur on spring and autumn passage.

There were regular sightings of ones and twos, mainly in the spring and autumn, but also in January and December, from western districts as far east as Makheras Forest. The reports of adult birds with a juvenile at two sites one in June the other November, suggest continued successful breeding, albeit on a very limited scale. The status of this species, both as a breeder and as a passage migrant, remains difficult to determine.

OSPREY *Pandion haliaetus*

A scarce passage migrant March/May and late August to November.

All reports were of single birds. The first was over Akamas on the 21st March, with further spring reports in April from Paralimni (5th), Mandria (21st) and Yermasoya Dam (25th). A single sighting in May at Cape Drepanum on the 1st. In autumn just three records, at Bishop's Pool on the 22nd September and 4th October, and Spiro's Beach the 5th October.

LESSER KESTREL *Falco naumanni*

A passage migrant in variable numbers from March to May and September to early November, more common in the spring.

A good year with a remarkable spring passage by recent standards.

The first were 6 at Tersephanou on the 29th March (with 5 still there on 5th April) and 4 at Kivisili, Larnaca on the same date. The latter site recorded a remarkable 45 on the 2nd April (JDS), with 15 on the 10th and 3 more on the 3rd May. Also in the east there were 6 at Vrysoulles on 9th April; 5 at Paralimni Lake on the 3rd April with 1 the 18th, 3 the 19th, 2 the 20th and a single on 4th May; and 3 at Kiti Dam on the 10th April with two on the 19th. Not to be outdone the west produced a good series of records with 9 at Aspro Dam on 3rd April (still present the following day) and 6 on the 6th. There were 5 at Anarita Park on the 4th April, one at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the same date (and another on the 13th), with other singles at Neo Chorio on the 7th April and Mamonia the 9th. Surprisingly there few reports from the Akrotiri peninsula with just 2 at Lady's Mile on the 11th April, and singles at Phasouri Reed Bed and Akrotiri Salt Lake on the same day.

After such a good spring showing the autumn passage was disappointing with only three reports. These were 3 at Cape Greco on the 14th September, 3 at Akrounda on the 25th October, and one at Lady's Mile on the 27th October.

KESTREL *Falco tinnunculus*

A common breeding resident away from the forested areas. It is also a common passage migrant and winter visitor.

Numerous single figure sightings from most parts throughout the year. Double figure counts came from Ayia Varvara with c20 on the 22nd May, 16 (probably all juveniles) on Akamas 28th June, and 13 at Cape Greco on the 14th September.

RED-FOOTED FALCON *Falco vespertinus*

A common passage migrant, sometimes in large flocks, April/early June and September/October.

A good year with some large flocks in both spring and autumn. The first was very early at Aspro Dam on the 4th April, and there were no further reports until the 17th when there was a male at the same site. Passage continued throughout the remainder of April and into early May with reports of ones and twos from several localities. Larger groups were reported particularly from the east of the island with 39 at the Kiti Dam on 25th April; 30 at Kivisili, Larnaca on 3rd May with 55 on the 10th; 12 at Vrysoulles on the 3rd May with 50 between there and Akhna Dam on the 4th, 27 on the 9th and 25 on the 10th. The west could not match these numbers with high counts of just 4 males at Ayios Georgios (Peyia) on the on the 2nd May, and 4 more males at Aspro Dam on the 7th. The last of the spring were 2 at Anarita Park on the 15th May.

The first autumn report was a single at Bishop's Pool on 15th September. This site then enjoyed a good run of records until 22nd October when 5 were seen. High counts at the site were 60+ on the 1st October with 30+ the following day, 12 on the 6th and

12 on the 15th. Nearby Akrotiri Salt Lake had a high count of 35+ on the 4th October with smaller numbers seen from 18th September to the 16th October. Also nearby, Phasouri had 3 on the 1st October with 20+ on the 6th and 50+ on the 15th. More unexpectedly were some high counts in the west with 33 at Mandria on the 28th September being the start of a bumper autumn at the site. Reported October counts were 40+ the 2nd, c80 the 3rd, c40 the 5th, c30 the 7th, c15 the 12th, 20+ from the 15th to the 18th, and finally 5 on the 20th. Aspro Pools also got in on the act with up to 6 birds reported in the first part of October with the last on the 25th. Away from these favoured sites reports were surprisingly few: 2 Akhna Dam 22nd September, one Paramali the 28th, 2 Aspro Dam the 14th October and one Achelia Dam on the 24th.

MERLIN *Falco columbarius*

A scarce passage migrant and winter visitor at lowland sites September to April.

The year began with one at Achelia Dam on the 1st January, with another reported from Evretou Dam on the 21st. Just a single February record of a female at Paralimni Lake on the 26th. Birds at Aspro Dam on the 14th March and a male at Mandria on the 4th April were probably migrants.

The first in the second winter period was one at Mandria on the 24th October. Several November reports with males at Bishop's Pool on the 13th and Ayia Varvara the 28th plus a single at Evretou Dam the 23rd. Two were at Spiro's Pool on the 25th November. Just a single report in December of a male at Symvoulos Dam on the 26th.

HOBBY *Falco subbuteo*

There are records from March to December and breeding is rarely attempted. The species is most common as a passage migrant in lowland areas.

First of the spring was one seen at Smyies and Ayia Minas on the 14th April, quickly followed by singles at Droushia the 15th, Akamas 16th, Kouklia 17th, Cape Greco 19th, and the Dhiarizos River Valley on the 20th. In May just five reports all of single birds: Cape Greco 2nd, Aspro Pools 7th, Cape Drepanum 20th, Episkopi 21st, and Makounta on the 31st. Late individuals were at Pomos on the 3rd June and Argaka on the 6th June. July records from Armou on the 1st and Kato Pyrgos the 25th July raised the possibility of this species over summering.

The first autumn bird was at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 13th September with further singles on the 9th and 27th October. Nearby Bishop's Pool had its first on the 20th September with an immature on the 27th, a single on the 2nd October, and 3 on the 6th. There were 5 at Phasouri on the 15th October with 5 also reported on the 18th, and a single on the 27th at the Reed Bed. At Aspro Pools 3 on the 7th October and a juvenile on the 20th. Also 2 at Pissouri 15th October, and singles at Paphos Lighthouse Area 14th, Mandria 16th, Ineia 16th and Armou on the 24th.

ELEONORA'S FALCON *Falco eleonora*

A locally common summer visitor and breeding species from mid-April to mid-November. Breeding colonies are located on sea cliffs from Cape Gata at Akrotiri to Petra Tou Romiou west of Cape Aspro.

The first birds to return were two at Cape Gata on the 11th April. There followed several reports of up to 6 during the rest of April and May, but larger counts came from the cliff bound coasts where they breed with 20+ at Kensington Cliffs on the 28th April.

There were few reports in the summer months, that of 6 at Avdimou on 22nd June perhaps the most notable. Sightings increased during the latter part of August

increasing into September, and with the largest counts in October. On the 15th October there were up to 30 around Kensington Cliffs, and a good series of counts came from Paramali with 5 on the 8th October increasing to 17 the following day and then 14 the 13th, 12 the 17th, 8 the 18th, 6 the 25th, 3 the 26th and finally 2 on the 27th. The latter proved the last sighting of the year together with 2 at Akrotiri on the same date.

SAKER *Falco cherrug*

Formerly described as a scarce spring passage migrant, more common in the autumn with almost daily sightings, and scarce in the winter. Records have declined greatly in recent years.

Five reports. A juvenile at Larnaca Airport the 8th January; another juvenile at Oroklini Marsh 10th March and again the 15th; 2 at Cape Greco 25th April; one Mandria 21st May; and an immature Zakaki Marsh on the 23rd December.

PEREGRINE FALCON *Falco peregrinus*

There is a small resident breeding population of the race *F. p. brookei*. Single figure numbers are recorded on passage in April/May and September/October. A few birds of the race *F. p. calidus* have been identified as winter visitors.

Numerous records of ones and twos throughout, mainly from coastal areas. The frequency of spring sightings in certain areas suggested the presence of breeding pairs, but no positive information on actual breeding was received.

A bird at Mandria on the 10th November was identified as of the northeast European race *F. p. calidus*.

CHUKAR *Alectoris chukar*

Very common and widespread resident.

There were many reports of double-figure numbers seen in the early start to the year from Aspro Dam Pools, Athalassa Forest, Asprokremnos Dam, Evretou Dam and Larnaca Salt Lake. First breeding report came from Mandria on the 29th Apr when an adult was seen with 7 young chicks, about 2 or 3 days old. In May double-figure numbers were reported from Ayia Varvara, Kannaviou and the Akamas. Pomos Dam just made it into double-figures with 10 on the 6th Jun. Other reports in Jun included c30 at Mandria on 22nd, up to 11 birds at Oroklini all month and an estimated 30, including juveniles, at Dhrapia. 4 juveniles and 1 adult were seen at Kalapanayiotis on 3rd Jul and reports from Oroklini are of 10 birds all month. Up to 12 birds were reported from Oroklini in Aug whilst in Sep c20 were seen at Asprokremnos Dam on the 8th, 20+ at Aspro Dam Pools on 11th with the highest count for the year, 65 birds, coming from Cape Greco on the 14th. Mandria, Oroklini, Aspro Dam Pools, Happy Valley and Episkopi all had reports of more than 10 birds in the last 3 months of the year.

BLACK FRANCOLIN *Francolinus francolinus*

A locally common and widespread resident.

Most reports originate from the west of the island where the species is particularly locally common with fewer reports originating from the west of central were the species is not quite so abundant. The first birds heard calling were at Ayia Varvara on the 24th Jan. Reports then came from Chlorakas, Paramali, Dhiarizos River Valley, Aspro Dam Pools, Mandria, Pissouri, Latchi, Evretou Dam, Polis and Akrotiri Reed Beds. There was just one early year report from the east, 1 bird at Potamos Liopetri on the 12th Feb. Another sighting from the east of the island concerned a male bird at Ayios Nikolaos

[Famagusta] calling from the top of a telegraph pole on the 15th Mar! As well as the sites already mentioned Mar and Apr reports came from Ayios Giorgios, Anarita Park, Kouklia Reed Beds, Nata plus 2 more sightings from Ayios Nikolaos on the 6th and 17th Apr. Breeding confirmation, with juveniles being seen, came from Ayia Varvara on the 7th Jun, Argaka on 21st Jun, Giolou on 21st Jun and Polis on 28th Jun. Further proof of breeding came from a report at Mandria on 3rd Jul of an adult and 4 juveniles and on the 26th Jul from Argaka where 2 juveniles were seen. In Aug a female was reported from Phasouri Reed Beds on the 24th with further reports coming from this site in Oct and Nov with a maximum of 3 birds [males?] on 8th Nov. The species was also reported from Kissonerga, Zakaki Marsh, Peyia and a single report from Oroklini of 1 bird on the 8th Nov.

QUAIL *Coturnix coturnix*

Status obscure with reports from Feb through to Dec but with most reports being in the early half of the year. Although heard calling from suitable habitat there was no confirmed proof of breeding this year

The first report was of a single bird at Larnaca Salt Lake on the 4th Feb with a single bird reported from Cape Greco on the 14th Feb. 2 birds were reported from Larnaca Salt Lake on the 15th Feb and a single bird at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 21st Feb. In Mar singles were reported from Cape Greco on 2nd, Akrotiri Gravel Pits on 7th, Larnaca Salt Lake on 9th, Anarita Park on 11th, Asprokremnos Dam on 14th, Ayios Nikolaos on 20th, Kiti Lighthouse on 21st, Mandria on 21st, and Evretou Dam on 24th. Also in Mar there were reports of 2 at Cape Greco on 9th, 6 at Ayia Varvara on 11th, 3 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on 19th and 31st, 2 at Ayios Giorgios on 24th, 2 at Mazotos on 29th and 3 at Cape Greco on 31st. Apr reports were Cape Greco on 1st [2], Akrotiri Reed Beds on 11th [2], Ayios Giorgios on 11th [1], Paphos Lighthouse Area with 3 on 12th and 1 on 19th, Akamas on 14th [1], Fiti on 15th [1], Evretou Dam on 17th [4], Lara on 19th [1] and Ayios Giorgios on 27th [1]. In May the species was reported from Ayios Giorgios on 1st [3] and on 3rd [4], Mandria on 2nd [1], Aspro Dam Pools on 14th [1] and a report of 10+ from Kato Deftera, date not supplied. The only reports for the remainder of the year came from Akrotiri Salt Lake with 1 on 20th Sep, Kissonerga with 1 on 26th Sep and Phasouri Reed Beds with 2 on 24th Dec.

WATER RAIL *Rallus aquaticus*

A fairly common winter visitor and passage migrant from September to April. The last breeding record was in 1985

	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Achelia Dam		1	3					
Akhna Dam	1		1		2			
Aspro Pools		1	1	2	5	1	1	1
Ayia Napa Pool			2				1	
Bishop's Pool			2					
Cape Greco					3	2	3	

January saw the wintering birds established in suitable areas. Sightings included 2 at Akhna Dam on the 25th and 2 at Aspro Dam on the 20th. At Aspro Pools there were 2 on the 2nd, 2 on the 19th, 5 on the 21st, 1 on the 27th and 2 on the 30th. There were 3 on the 7th, 3 on the 13th and 1 on the 17th at Cape Greco and 1 at Paralimni Lake on the 10th. Sightings reduced in February with 1 at Aspro Pools on the 11th and at Cape

Greco there was 1 on the 5th, 2 on the 14th and 1 on the 28th. March saw an increase in sightings, probably due to a passage movement. Sightings recorded were from Aspro Pools where there was 1 on the 12th, 1 on the 16th, 1 on the 17th and 1 on the 23rd; at Ayia Napa Pool there was 1 on the 4th, 1 on the 8th and 1 on the 22nd; at Cape Greco there was 1 on the 2nd, 2 from the 4th to the 7th, 3 on the 8th, 2 on the 9th and 1 on the 14th; at Larnaca Salt Lake there was a single bird on the 6th. The last sightings for the winter period were a single bird at Akrotiri Reed Beds on the 11th April and a single bird at Aspro pools on the 2nd.

The first autumn sighting was of a single bird at Akhna Dam on the 21st September. The only sightings in October were from Aspro Pools with single birds seen on the 5th, 13th, 16th, 20th and 22nd. Sightings in November were 1 at Achelia Dam on the 26th and 3 on the 28th, 1 at Akhna Dam on the 24th, 1 on the 3rd, 1 on the 4th, 1 on the 20th and 1 on the 27th at Aspro Pools, 2 at Ayia Napa Pool on the 26th, 2 on the 4th, 1 on the 9th, 1 on the 10th and 1 on the 25th at Bishop's Pool, 1 at Kouklia Pools on the 17th, 4 or 5 at Kouris Dam on the 27th, 1 at Oroklini Marsh from the 14th to the 29th and 1 at Zakaki Marsh on the 24th. Sightings in December were from Aspro Pools where there was 1 on the 6th, 2 on the 9th, 1 on the 27th and 1 on the 30th and from Zakaki Marsh where there was a single bird on the 28th.

SPOTTED CRAKE *Porzana porzana*

A scarce passage migrant, normally from March to May and September to November. This year saw a few spring migrants but none in autumn.

The only sightings were of a dead bird at Kiti Lighthouse on the 8th April, single birds at Kiti Dam on the 9th and 10th April, a single bird at Ayia Napa Pool on the 23rd April and a single bird at Aspro Pools on the 4th May.

LITTLE CRAKE *Porzana parva*

A fairly common spring migrant, a less common autumn migrant and scarce winter visitor.

	Mar	Apr	May	Sep
Aspro Pools	2	2	2	1
Ayia Napa Pool		1		
Evretou Dam		1		
Kiti Dam	3	1		
Larnaca Salt Lake	2			
Oroklini Marsh	3	2		
Sotira Pools	2	2		

This year saw a healthy spring passage and the usual much reduced movement in autumn. Recorded sightings showed an even spread of male and female birds.

The first arrival was a single bird at Aspro Pools on the 16th March followed at the same site by 1 on the 17th, 2 on the 27th, 1 on the 29th and 2 on the 31st. Other March sightings were 1 at Kiti Dam on the 19th and 3 on the 29th, 2 at Larnaca Salt Lake on the 19th and 1 on the 30th, 3 at Oroklini Marsh from the 21st to the 28th and 2 at Sotira Pools on the 22nd. In April there were sightings from Aspro pools; 2 on the 1st, 1 on the 3rd, 2 on the 4th, 1 on the 5th, 6th, 7th, 9th, 11th, 12th, 13th and 15th, 2 on the 18th, 1 on the 19th and 2 on the 22nd and 28th. At Ayia Napa Pool there was 1 on the 19th and 20th, at Evretou Dam 1 on the 2nd, at Kiti Dam 1 on the 4th, at Oroklini Marsh 2 from the 1st to the 22nd and at Sotira Pools 1 on the 5th and 2 on the 17th. In May, the only sightings

were from Aspro Pools with 1 on the 3rd, 2 on the 5th and single birds on the 7th, 9th, 11th, 13th, 14th and 15th.

BAILLON'S CRAKE *Porzana pusilla*

A scarce spring and autumn migrant. Last breeding record was in 1985.

For the second year running, the only sighting was in May. This year the sighting was of a single bird at Aspro Pools on the 9th May.

CORNCRAKE *Crex crex*

A scarce spring and autumn migrant, even more uncommon in autumn.

The only record for the year was of a single bird at Perivolia (Larnaca) on the 29th March.

MOORHEN *Gallinula chloropus*

A fairly common resident breeder if water levels are suitable. Common passage migrant and winter visitor.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Achelia Dam				3	2			8		c30	14	
Akhna Dam				20	4					1	1	1
Aspro Pools	2	3	2	3	11	5	1	1	7	c12	8	
Athalassa Forest	3		1	8		1	4		1			
Ayia Napa Pool		1	2	1							5	
Bishop's Pool	17	20+	30	10+	11			5	c10	23	20+	10+
Kiti Dam			5	15								
Oroklini Marsh			2	5	6	12	2				6	2

Significant numbers recorded in January were 8 at Aspro Dam on the 20th and 17 at Bishop's Pool on the 11th. Other sightings were of low numbers at Athalassa Forest, Evretou Dam and Ora Dam. February saw 20+ at Bishop's Pool with only low numbers at Aspro Pools, Ayia Napa Pool and Evretou Dam. It is presumed that the great increase in sightings during March can be attributed to a significant spring passage movement. There were 2 at Aspro Dam on the 24th, up to 3 at Aspro Pools from the 13th to the 17th, 1 seen on the 1st and 1 bird on the 15th at Athalassa Forest, 1 or 2 at Ayia Napa Pool from the 4th to the 26th, up to 30 at Bishop's Pool from the 1st to the 28th, 1 at Cape Greco on the 7th and 26th, up to 5 at Kiti Dam on the 5th, 27th and 28th, 2 from the 28th to the 30th at Oroklini Marsh, 1 at Parthenitis Dam on the 3rd and 1 at Sotira Pools on the 26th. Sighting numbers remained high during April with 8 at Athalassa Forest on the 1st, 10+ at Bishop's Pool on the 11th, 15 at Kiti Dam on the 10th and 9 at Lythrodhonda dam on the 27th. Lower numbers were reported from Achelia Dam, Akhna Dam, Aspro Pools, Ayia Napa Pool Ayia Varvara, Evretou Dam, Ora Dam, Oroklini Marsh, Paphos Tip and Zakaki Marsh. During May there were up to 11 birds at Aspro Pools and Bishop's Pool with lower numbers reported from Achelia Dam, Akhna Dam, Ayia Varvara, Larnaca Salt Lake, Oroklini Marsh, Parthenitis Dam and Sotira Pools. In June there were up to 12 at Oroklini Marsh and lower numbers reported from Achelia Dam, Aspro Pools, Athalassa Forest, Episkopi, Kalavassos Dam Pools, Ora Dam and Parthenitis Dam. During July and August no large numbers were reported

other than 8 at Achelia Dam on the 14th August. Low numbers were sighted at Aspro Pools, Athalassa Forest, Bishop's Pool and Oroklini Marsh. September sightings remained low, the only sightings being of 9 birds at Achelia Dam on the 8th, up to 7 at Aspro Pools from the 6th to the 28th, 1 at Athalassa Forest on the 15th and 4 on the 1st and c10 on the 15th at Bishop's Pool. Sightings in October were 26 on the 18th and c30 on the 20th at Achelia Dam, 1 at Akhna Dam on the 31st, 8 on the 2nd, 5 on the 14th and c12 on the 20th at Aspro Pools and 10+ on the 1st, 9 on the 23rd and 2 on the 27th at Bishop's Pool. Larger numbers reported in November were 14 at Achelia Dam on the 28th, 8 at Aspro Pools on the 4th and 20+ at Bishop's Pool on the 10th. Lower numbers were seen at Akhna Dam, Ayia Napa Pool, Kouris Dam, Oroklini Marsh, Symvoulos Dam and Zakaki Marsh. The only sightings in December were 1 at Akhna Dam on the 1st, 10+ at Bishop's Pool on the 6th and 1 or 2 all month at Oroklini Marsh. Breeding Records: Sightings of juveniles were reported from Achelia Dam, Bishop's Pool, Kalavassos Dam Pool, Ora Dam, Oroklini Marsh and Parthenitis Dam.

COOT *Fulica atra*

A common passage migrant and winter visitor. Fairly common breeder when water levels permit.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akhna Dam	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	2	3	20
Aspro Pools	21	4	5	7	5	4	4	4	6	5	5	5
Bishop's Pool	313	250	110	15+	16	21	12	24	30	30	30	30
Evretou Dam	70	30	54							1		
Kiti Dam	85	12	12	3								
Larnaca Salt Lake	53	77	46	2		1						
Larnaca Sewage W	155	135	145	14							100	60
Oroklini Marsh	75	75	60	12	12	19	8			1	156	200
Zakaki Marsh	6											107

During the period January to March, winter visitors were present in high numbers at the favoured localities as shown above. From October, numbers slowly built up again. Other sites with lower numbers of sightings were Achelia Dam, Akrotiri Salt Lake, Aspro Dam, Athalassa Forest, Dhyptomamos Dam, Kalavassos Dam, Kouris Dam, Larnaca Airport Pools North, Parthenitis Dam, Polemedhia Dam and Sotira pools. Breeding Records: Juveniles or nesting activity was recorded from Athalassa Forest, Bishop's pool and Oroklini Marsh.

COMMON CRANE *Grus grus*

A fairly common passage migrant in March and April but normally more common on passage in October to December.

During March, recorded sightings were 24 at Larnaca Airport Pools South on the 9th, c60 at Anarita Park on the 11th, 30 at Mazotos on the 29th, c200 at Paralimni on the 29th, 135 at Akhna Dam on the 29th and 33 at Paramali on the 31st. There were only 2 sightings in April, 1 at Larnaca Airport Pools South on the 2nd and 14 at Oroklini on the 19th. The autumn movement commenced in October with sightings of 13 at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 27th, 13 on the 11th and 1 on the 20th at Aspro Pools, 2 at Bishop's Pool on

the 22nd, 19 at Chrysochou Bay on the 15th, 2 at Lysos on the 17th and c400 at Mazotos on the 14th. During November there were sightings of 1 at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 11th, 15 at Larnaca Salt Lake on the 25th and 12 at Paphos on the 5th. The final sightings were 1 at Mandria on the 5th December, which was a 1st winter bird that stayed until at least the 27th, and 13 at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 15th December.

DEMOISELLE CRANE *Anthropoides virgo*

A passage migrant, fairly common in August and September but less so in March and April. Favoured area in the autumn is the Akrotiri Salt Lake where birds usually rest overnight. It would appear that numbers are still declining.

There were no spring sightings this year and autumn sightings were of far less birds than normal. The only sightings were from the Akrotiri area in September with 8 at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 1st, 3 (2 Ads, 1 juv) at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 5th, 15 at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 16th and 9 (Including 4 juvs) at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on the 16th.

OYSTERCATCHER *Haematopus ostralegus*

An uncommon passage migrant from February to May and August to November. Most records have been in the spring. Last recorded in 1999.

One was at Kermia Beach, Cape Greco on 1st March, and one was at Larnaca Salt Lake on 19th June.

BLACK-WINGED STILT *Himantopus himantopus*

There are records for all months, but the species is most common as a spring migrant from March to May. Small numbers breed occasionally.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Akhna Dam			10	8	1	1		7
Akrotiri Peninsula			80+	18				
Aspro Dam and Pools			6	5	23	2		
Kiti Dam and Pool		2	6	23	9	4		
Larnaca Salt Lake			7	30	23	30		
Larnaca Sewage Works			1	5		44	20	
Oroklini Marsh		4	4	5	14	2	15	6
Spiro's Pool			45	16	12		1	
Zakaki Marsh				12	6			

Breeding occurred at a number of sites, with three pairs at Kiti Pool (of which one reared two young), at least six pairs at Larnaca Salt Lake (rearing at least 17 young), two pairs at Larnaca Sewage Works and three pairs at Spiro's Pool.

AVOCET *Recurvirostra avosetta*

Numbers vary widely from year to year and three figure counts have occasionally been made. It has been recorded in all months, but is predominantly a passage migrant from March to May and August to October.

In the early year a single was at Larnaca Sewage Works on 4th Jan. Numbers at Larnaca Salt Lake rose from one on 1st Mar, to three on 8th, and five on 21st. Six were present on 16th May. At the Larnaca Sewage Works there were three on 1st Mar and one from 5th-8th. Two were at Larnaca Airport Pools on 19th Mar. Four were at

Spiro's Pool on 6th Mar, five on 17th, two on 27th and one on 29th. A single was there on 16th May. The only autumn record was of a single at Akrotiri on 27 Oct.

STONE CURLEW *Burhinus oedicnemus*

There is a small resident breeding population. The species is more numerous as a passage migrant from late March to early May and in September/October. Roosts occur from August to February and these are thought to include winter visitors.

Birds were present at Mandria throughout the year with up to five on many dates. Large gatherings included 43 on 30th Jan, 11 on 28th Mar, about 40 on 8th Sep and at least 20 on 15th Oct. Up to two were at Oroklini Marsh from 1st-20th Apr. Singles were at Paphos Lighthouse on 13th Jan and 27th Apr. About 25 were in the Paphos area on 19th Nov and seven were on Paphos Plain on 21st Dec. Other records were 20 at Potamos Liopetri on 27 Jan, at least ten at Spiro's Pool on 29th Dec and three at Xeros River Valley the next day.

CREAM-COLOURED COURSER *Cursorius cursor*

A scarce and less than annual migrant that is more frequent in spring from March to May.

Two were at Akrotiri Salt Lake on 1st Apr, a single was at Mandria from 3rd-6th May and one was at Lady's Mile on 5th Apr.

COLLARED PRATINCOLE *Glareola pratincola*

A passage migrant from late March to May and late July to mid-October. Rarely three-figure counts have been made and the species is most numerous in the spring at wetland sites.

Singles were at Mandria on 13th Apr and Larnaca Sewage Works on 15th Apr. At least 80 were at Akrotiri Salt Lake on 18th Apr while a single was at Akrotiri Gravel Pits that day. On 19th Apr a single was at Kiti Dam and the next day two were at Lady's Mile. A single was at Sean's Pool on 28th Apr and two were at Mandria on 29th. There were no further records until nine were at Akhna Dam on 31 May.

The only autumn records were from Larnaca Sewage Works where there were seven on 20th Aug and three on 28th.

BLACK-WINGED PRATINCOLE *Glareola nordmanni*

An uncommon passage migrant from April to mid-June and late August to mid-October.

The only sighting was of two Akrotiri Salt Lake on 17th Apr. This is the lowest number of sightings in recent years.

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius dubius*

Although there are records for all months this is chiefly a passage migrant in numbers up to 100 from March to May and July to October. Breeding is rarely attempted, the last record being in 1996.

	Mar	Apr	May	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akhna Dam	3	1	1	35	30	20	5	6	
Akrotiri gravel pits	4	6							
Aspro Pools	3	4							
Kiti Dam	3	15	1						
Larnaca salt lake	3	1	2						
Larnaca sewage works		1			3				

	Mar	Apr	May	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Oroklini Marsh	6	4	1					3	3
Sotira Pools	3	6			1				
Spiro's Pool	5	2							
Zakaki / Lady's Mile	3	10	3						

Spring records spanned the period from 3rd Mar to 25th May. Away from the sites listed above two were at Ayia Varvara from 18th-22nd April, and a single on 9th May. A single was at Cape Greco on 18th Mar and from 7th-8th Apr. One was at Evretou Dam on 2nd, 15th and 17th Apr, and two were at Ezousa River on 9 Apr. Singles were at Larnaca Airport pools on 9th Apr, Mandria on 11th Apr and Lara on 19th Apr. Two were at Paralimni Lake on 20th Apr. High numbers were maintained at Akhna Dam during July and August. The first returning migrants appeared elsewhere from 20th Aug. There was a single at Paphos Lighthouse on 17th Sep. Other autumn records included two at Bishop's Pool from 4th-9th Oct with one on 16th. Up to three were at Oroklini Marsh on 14th, 18th, 19th and 30th Nov and 18th Dec.

RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula*

A spring passage migrant in double figure numbers from late March to May. It is usually more common in the autumn from mid-August to October and small numbers remain during the winter months.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Akrotiri gravel pits				8		
Lady's Mile				1	1	
Larnaca Airport Pools			5		5	
Larnaca Salt Lake	3		4	4	3	
Larnaca sewage works		3		2	3	
Spiro's Pool/Beach			1	2	1	4

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Akrotiri gravel pits	2	3		
Lady's Mile		4	3	1
Larnaca Airport Pools				
Larnaca Salt Lake				
Larnaca sewage works	4	10		
Spiro's Pool/Beach		1		

Birds were recorded in all months except July and December. The largest counts were seven at Mandria on 9 May, eight at Akrotiri Salt Lake on 18th Apr and ten at Larnaca sewage works on 22nd Sep. Spring birds at other sites included singles at Ayia Thekla on 14th Feb and 15th Mar, three at Ayios Georgios on 16th Mar, five at Kiti Dam on 10th Apr, two at Oroklini Marsh on 19th Apr with one on 3rd May, and two at Zakaki Marsh on 15th May. The only other autumn records were two at Akhna Dam on 21st and 24th Aug, and one there on 9th and 13th Sep.

KENTISH PLOVER *Charadrius alexandrinus*

There is a small breeding population that has declined in recent years. Numbers are boosted from September to April by passage migrants and winter visitors and occasionally three figure counts are made at this time.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Akrotiri gravel pits			6	2	5	
Akrotiri Salt Lake	20	40+	60+	10+		
Ayia Thekla	7	18	11			
Lady's Mile			10	20+	6	32
Larnaca Airport pools	30		30	3		
Larnaca Salt Lake	115	60	10	2		
Larnaca sewage works		3		20	3	3
Spiro's Pool / Beach	50	70	45	33		4

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akrotiri gravel pits			1	2	1	
Akrotiri Salt Lake					10	60+
Ayia Thekla						
Lady's Mile	20	10+	150+	200	90	
Larnaca Airport pools						
Larnaca Salt Lake					70	
Larnaca sewage works			3			
Spiro's Pool / Beach	4	6	180	100		

Breeding was proven at Lady's Mile and Spiro's Beach. Other records included a single at Paphos Lighthouse on 19th Jan 12 at Akhna Dam on 22nd Sep, five at Paralimni Lake on 30th Mar (including three shot birds with broken wings), two at Potamos Liopetri 27th Jan and one on 19th Feb, two at Sotira Pools on 22nd Mar, and two at Zakaki Marsh on 5th April, followed by three on 3rd May and one on 18th Nov.

GREATER SAND PLOVER *Charadrius leschenaultii*

A passage migrant and winter visitor in small numbers that is faithful to its regular loafing sites on the shore at Ayia Thekla and Paphos Lighthouse. It is absent from the island for only a short period from late April to early June. The usual sub-species is *C.l.columbinus* but a few individuals of the larger-billed race *C.l.crassirostris* have been identified.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Ayia Thekla	1	2	11						
Ayia Trias									
Kermia Beach	2	4	5		2				
Paphos Lighthouse	6	4	4	1	3	5	5	7	6
Spiro's Beach / Pool			4			1			

Wintering birds around Paphos Lighthouse were last seen on 3rd Mar when four were present. A single was at Larnaca Airport Pools during March and was last seen on 2nd Apr. No birds were then seen anywhere until 18th Jul when a single was at Paphos Lighthouse. The largest count was of 11 at Ayia Thekla on 31st Mar.

The only other sightings were a single at Ayias Trias on 6th Feb, four at Potamos Liopetri on 8 Mar, an immature at Larnaca Airport Pools on 24 Aug and four at Meneou on 22nd Sep.

DOTTEREL *Charadrius morinellus*

A scarce and less than annual passage migrant and winter visitor.

There were two records. One was at Cape Zevgari on 21st Mar and a single was at Akrotiri Salt Lake on 7th Sep. This is the fifth consecutive year that the species has been recorded.

GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis apricaria*

A fairly common winter visitor from November to early April, often in three figure numbers.

	Jan	Feb	Nov	Dec
Paphos Lighthouse	45	47	31	30+

Birds were reported until 27 Feb and again from 4th Nov. At Chlorakas there were 17 on 17th Jan, then 13 on 10th Feb rising to 17 on 14th Feb. Six were at Coral Bay on 21st Feb. At Mandria there ten on 11th Nov, rising to 15 on 17th Nov, then reducing to three on 6th Dec before peaking at 37 on 27th Dec. At Oroklini Marsh there were up to eight in February and four on 18th Nov.

GREY PLOVER *Pluvialis squatarola*

A scarce but regular passage migrant and winter visitor from late August to May. It usually occurs in single figures, but counts of up to 30 have been made.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Nov	Dec
Paphos Lighthouse		2	2		2	3
Ayia Thekla	1	1	1		1	
Spiro's Pool / Beach	4	3	3	1	1	

Birds were present until 30th May and the first returns were on 16 August. Only small numbers were reported this year. Other early year records include a single at Potamos Liopetri on 9 Feb, and others at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on 18th and 24th Apr, three at Larnaca Airport Pools on 3rd May, one at Mandria on 9th May, and finally a single at Larnaca Salt Lake on 30th May. Autumn and early winter records include one at Kermia Beach on 16th Aug, two at Lady's Mile on 17th Sep, and then singles at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on 1st Oct, and Larnaca Sewage Works on 22nd Sep and 24th Nov.

SPUR-WINGED PLOVER *Vanellus spinosus*

There are records for all months but it is mainly a passage migrant from mid-March to mid-May and late July to October. A few pairs have bred or made breeding attempts annually since 1993.

Up to ten were in the Parthenitis Dam area on various dates from January to May. Four pairs eventually held territories and two of these were known to rear two and four and four young respectively. No further sightings were reported after June. A pair was present at Oroklini Marsh from March to July during which time they reared two broods. Spring sightings (singles unless otherwise stated) were from Spiro's Pool on 8th Mar, Cape Greco on 15th-16th Mar and 7 Apr, Paphos Lighthouse on 5th Apr, Kiti Lighthouse on 12th Apr, Akrotiri area (two from 13th Apr-1st May), Ayios Georgios on

14th Apr, Ezousa River on 21st Apr, Aspro Pools on 28th Apr, Zakaki Marsh on 30th Apr (four there from 1st-5th May), Cape Drepanum (two on 1st May), Bishop's Pool from 5th-8th May and Larnaca Salt Lake on 17th May.

There were few autumn sightings with just singles at Larnaca Sewage Works on 22nd Aug, 2nd and 22nd Sep and Akhna Dam from 7th-13th Sep.

WHITE-TAILED PLOVER *Vanellus leucurus*

First recorded in 1970, this is a rare passage migrant from mid-March to June and in October.

Following a record number of sightings in 2000, just two birds were reported. The first was at Aspro Pools on 25th-26th May, and also on 3rd Jun. A second bird was at Larnaca Salt Lake from 2nd-4th Jun.

LAPWING *Vanellus vanellus*

The species has been recorded in all months but it is mainly a winter visitor from October to early March when flocks of several thousands are sometimes reported.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akhna Dam		60					40
Akrotiri Gravel Pits					3		20
Akrotiri Salt Lake	50					4	9
Aspro Dam	40				15	30	
Mandria	20	5			22	30	40
Oroklini Marsh	75	100	10	1		31	50
Phasouri	40	11			39	22	21

The largest count in January was of 75 at Oroklini Marsh on 31st. Numbers declined rapidly after 21st Feb (when 100 were at Oroklini Marsh). The only subsequent spring reports were from this site, with up to eight in March, and singles on 28th Apr and 1st May. The first returns were three at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on 1st Oct. Numbers started to build at Lady's Mile, Mandria and Phasouri from 27th Oct. The largest late-year count was of 50 at Oroklini Marsh on 11th Dec. Apart from these and those shown in the table, the only counts over 20 were 45 at Larnaca Sewage Works on 5th Jan, 25 at Dhekalia floods on 17th Jan, 50 at Dasaki Akhnas on 20th Jan, 27 at Lady's Mile on 17th Oct and 40 at Aspro Pools on 18th Nov.

SANDERLING *Calidris alba*

Mainly a passage migrant from late March to early June and August to November, when counts of up to 53 have been made. Rarely recorded during the winter months.

The first was at Larnaca Sewage Works on 16th and 22nd Apr. The only other spring records were a single at Lady's Mile on 19th Apr and two there on 3rd May. The first returns were two at Larnaca Sewage Works on 26th Aug, with one still there on 28th. A single was at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on 1st Sep and three were at Spiro's Beach on 29th Sep.

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta*

A common passage migrant from April to early June and mid-July to October. Smaller counts are made in the winter months.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Akhna Dam					10	
Akrotiri Salt Lake	30	10+		100+		
Kiti Dam			3	20	30	
Lady's Mile				65	6	
Larnaca Airport Pools	40		52		350	
Larnaca Salt Lake	100	40	75	80	280	5
Larnaca Sewage Works				30	30	15
Oroklini Marsh				26	40	
Sotira Pools			20	120	120	15

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akhna Dam	6	30	25		3	
Akrotiri Salt Lake						40+
Kiti Dam						
Lady's Mile	6		4	15	13	
Larnaca Airport Pools						
Larnaca Salt Lake		80			3	
Larnaca Sewage Works		100	30+		2	
Oroklini Marsh	2					
Sotira Pools		3				

Recorded in every month. The largest numbers in spring came from Larnaca Airport Pools with 350 on 10th May. Numbers reduced quickly after this, with small numbers in June and July. Return migration was noticeable from 16th Aug when there were 80 at Larnaca Salt Lake followed by 100 at Larnaca Sewage Works on 24th. Numbers were then generally low throughout the autumn - the largest count being 30+ at Larnaca Sewage Works on 22nd Sep. As usual a few remained in the late-year and there were 40+ at Akrotiri Salt Lake on 15th Dec.

Away from the main sites the only count to exceed 20 was 60 at Meneou Pool on 25th Apr. Also of note was the dearth of records from Parthenitis Dam, with just three on 14th May.

TEMMINCK'S STINT

Calidris temminckii

A passage migrant in numbers up to 50 from March to May and mid-July to September. Occasionally a few remain until November and rarely into December.

At Akhna Dam there were up to three on six dates until 1st Mar. A single was there on 26th Apr, two on 2nd May and one on 3rd. Birds were at Aspro Pools from 27th Apr-4th May with a max of four on 28th-28th. A single was at Spiro's Pool on 21st Mar. Five were at Larnaca Sewage Works on 10th Apr. Two were at Lady's Mile on 11th Apr, after which there was a single on 20th, five on 23rd and two on 24th.

Up to three were Zakaki Marsh from 21st Apr-11th May but with peaks of five on 8th and eight on 11th. At Oroklini Marsh there were three on 20th Apr and two on 14th May. Two were at Mandria on 2nd May. Singles were at Kiti Dam on 3rd and 10th May, Ezousa River on 4th May and Varvara on 9th and 13th May.

Return passage was extremely poor with just four sightings. Two were at Larnaca Sewage Works on 19th Aug, three on 24th and one on 26th. Finally two were at Akhna Dam on 22nd Nov.

CURLEW SANDPIPER*Calidris ferruginea*

A spring passage migrant mainly in April/May in numbers up to 225. It is less frequent in autumn from August to October and occasional birds linger to December.

Spring passage occurred between 10th Apr and 7th Jun. The first was a single was at Larnaca Sewage Works from 10th-16th Apr with two on 15th. At Lady's Mile there were birds from 15th-28th Apr, with peaks of seven on 18th and 12 on 20th and 23rd. Four were at Meneou Pool on 25th Apr and a single at Oroklini Marsh on 27th Apr. At Larnaca Airport Pools there were 15 on 3rd May and 12 on 10th. Three were at Larnaca Salt Lake on 3rd May, five on 18th and 30 on 10th. Singles were at Akhna Dam on 4th and 25th May. A single was at Zakaki Marsh on 11th May and five were there on 15th. The remaining spring records came from Spiro's Pool between 10th May (when 22 were present) and 7th Jun (when there were three). There were 14 on 3rd Jun.

Return passage occurred between 15th Aug and 4th Oct. The first were three at Akhna Dam on 15th Aug, followed by two there on 13th Sep. A single was at Larnaca Sewage Works on 19th Aug, followed by two on 20th and 22nd, six on 26th and three on 28th. A single was at Lady's Mile on 21st Aug. A single was at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on 1st Sep followed by two on 15th. Seven were at Larnaca Sewage Works on 22nd Sep. A single was at Bishop's Pool on 1st and 4th Oct. This was the last date for sightings - with two also at Akrotiri Gravel Pits and 11 at Lady's Mile.

DUNLIN*Calidris alpina*

A few hundreds are recorded on passage and as winter visitors from August to May. Most, if not all, appear to be of the race *C.a.alpina*.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Akrotiri Gravel Pits						
Akrotiri Salt Lake	5	2		1		
Ayia Thekla	2	3				
Bishop's Pool						
Lady's Mile				3		
Larnaca Airport Pools			20		2	
Larnaca Salt Lake	30	35	1			
Larnaca Sewage Works		25		1		
Oroklini Marsh						
Spiro's Pool	1		23		2	1

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akrotiri Gravel Pits		5	2	1	
Akrotiri Salt Lake					20+
Ayia Thekla					
Bishop's Pool		1	1		
Lady's Mile		2	9	39	
Larnaca Airport Pools				10+	
Larnaca Salt Lake	6			12	
Larnaca Sewage Works	5				
Oroklini Marsh				6	4
Spiro's Pool					

Relatively low numbers were recorded this year. All records are summarised above with exception of four at Paralimni Lake on 26th Feb, and singles at Aspro Dam on 17th Apr and Paphos Lighthouse on 9th Dec.

BROAD-BILLED SANDPIPER

Limicola falcinellus

A scarce passage migrant from mid-April to early June and mid-July to October. It is more common in the spring and single figure numbers are usual.

Fewer than average were seen this year. A single was at Lady's Mile on 23rd Apr. Two were at Larnaca Salt Lake on 17th May, with just one present the next day. The last bird of spring was at Spiro's Pool on 29th May. The only autumn records were of a single at Larnaca Sewage Works on 26th and 28th Aug.

RUFF

Philomachus pugnax

Although there are records for all months, the species is most common as a spring passage migrant in flocks of up to 2,000 from late February to early June. Up to 100 have been seen in the autumn from August to September, but it is scarce in the winter.

	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Akhna Dam		270	46	40
Akrotiri Gravel Pits		1	4	11
Akrotiri Salt Lake		300+	300+	
Aspro Pools		7	6	8
Bishop's Pool			2	11
Evretou Dam		3	4	5
Kiti Dam		120	480	15
Lady's Mile		20	200+	
Larnaca Airport Pools	1	70	30	235
Larnaca Salt Lake		40	50	130
Larnaca Sewage Works	5	10	56	75
Oroklini Marsh		150	140	20
Spiro's Pool		250	90	40
Zakaki Marsh		15	40+	40

	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Akhna Dam		3	1	2	
Akrotiri Gravel Pits				2	
Akrotiri Salt Lake					
Aspro Pools	3				
Bishop's Pool				2	3
Evretou Dam					
Kiti Dam	1				
Lady's Mile		1			2
Larnaca Airport Pools					
Larnaca Salt Lake	9		1		
Larnaca Sewage Works	35		7	7+	
Oroklini Marsh	20				
Spiro's Pool	40				
Zakaki Marsh					

Spring passage commenced on 13th Feb and ended on 7th June. Apart from two isolated sightings in July autumn passage started on 13th Aug and ended on 1st Oct - but will low numbers.

Counts of 200 or more included 250 at Spiro's Pool from 14th-21st Mar, 270 at Akhna Dam on 28th Mar, 300+ at Akrotiri Salt Lake on 30th Mar and 18th Apr, 215 at Kiti Dam on 4th Apr, rising to 480 on 9th, 200+ at Lady's Mile on 7th and 10th Apr, 235 at Larnaca Airport Pools on 3rd May and 200 there on 10th. Other counts included 195 at Paralimni Lake on 26th Feb and 95 there the next day, 30 at Sotira Pools on 5 Apr and 95 at Meneou Pool on 25th Apr. Away from the main sites single-figure counts came from Achelia Dam, Aspro Dam, Ayia Varvara, Cape Drepanum, Ezousa River, Mandria, Paphos Lighthouse and Parthenitis Dam.

JACK SNIPE *Lymnocyptes minimus*

A scarce passage migrant and winter visitor in single figure numbers from August to early May.

Records were received from three sites. Two were at Aspro Dam. Nearby a single was at Aspro Pools on 27th and 30th Jan, and two were there on 14th Feb. Singles were at Cape Greco on 7th Jan and 7th Mar. Singles were at Oroklini Marsh on 28th Feb, 5th Mar and 4th-10th Apr. The only autumn record was a single at Aspro Pools on 12th-13th Nov.

SNIPE *Gallinago gallinago*

A regular passage migrant and winter visitor from August to mid-May in numbers up to 100.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Akhna Dam	3	8	8		1
Aspro Pools	2	4	3	3	2
Cape Greco	5	6	6	1	
Kiti Dam			12	5	1
Oroklini Marsh			5	2	
Zakaki Marsh			2	1	1

	Jun	Aug	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akhna Dam	1	1		1	
Aspro Pools		1		2	1
Cape Greco					
Kiti Dam					
Oroklini Marsh			1	5	2
Zakaki Marsh				1	2

Birds were present until 1st Jun and then again from 11th Aug, although there were no sightings in September. The only double-figure counts were of 15 at Spiro's Pool on 12th Mar and 12 at Kiti Dam on 29th Mar.

Apart from the above sites, small numbers (usually singles) were also reported from Achelia Dam,

Akrotiri Salt Lake, Ayia Varvara, Ayios Nikolaos, Bishop's Pool, Coral Bay, Evretou Dam, Kivisili, Larnaca Salt Lake, Larnaca Sewage Works, Mandria, Paphos Lighthouse, Parthenitis Dam and Sotira Pools.

GREAT SNIPE*Gallinago media*

Most records occur in the spring from mid-March to May and involve single birds. It is rarely reported in autumn and early winter, in September, October and December.

One was at Zakaki Marsh on 25th April. Singles were at Aspro Pools from 2nd-4th May and 16th-18th May. Other singles were at Bishop's Pool on 3rd May, Akhna Dam on 4th May and Larnaca Salt Lake on 10th May.

WOODCOCK*Scolopax*

A winter visitor to the wetter areas of the wooded hills and mountains in numbers up to 30 from November to February.

The only record was of a single at Coral Bay on 22nd Dec.

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT*Limosa limosa*

Although mainly a spring passage migrant in flocks of up to 20 from February to May, there are records of small numbers in all other months.

Spring passage commenced on 2nd Mar, and lasted until 8th June. The only other record was on from 17th-28th Aug. The largest numbers were at Spiro's Pool from 2nd-27th Mar, peaking at 28 on 5th. After this there were isolated records with three on 16th Apr, two on 27th Apr and one on 1st Jun. Singles were at Akrotiri Salt Lake on 28th Mar and 12th Apr. At Kiti Dam there was a single from 27th-28th Mar, six on 29th, five on 2nd Apr and one on 4th. Five were at Lady's Mile on 5th Apr after which there was one on 8th and two on 11th. Singles were at Larnaca Salt Lake on 30th Mar, 10 Apr, two on 15th Apr, followed by singles on 3rd and 8th Jun. At nearby Larnaca Sewage Works there were four on 12th Mar, while a single was at Larnaca Airport Pools on 19th Apr. At Oroklini Marsh there were six from 22nd-24th Mar and singles on 28th-30th May and 4th-11th Jun. Six were at Zakaki Marsh on 5th Apr dropping to five on 7th. Singles were present on 11th, 19th and 21st May. The only autumn sighting was a single at Larnaca Sewage Works on four dates from 17th-28th Aug.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT**Limosa lapponica*

A scarce and less than annual passage migrant and rare winter visitor. There have been fourteen previous records for Cyprus.

Two in full breeding plumage were at Zakaki Marsh from 1st-7th May

WHIMBREL*Numenius phaeopus*

A scarce and irregular passage migrant, usually in single figure numbers, in April/May and August/September.

There were only three records. Six were at Cape Pyla on 30th Mar, a single was at Spiro's Beach on 2nd Apr and five were at Mandria on 19th Apr.

CURLEW*Numenius arquata*

A scarce visitor from August to May that is most regularly seen from March to mid-April.

Records of small numbers continued from January until 28th Mar. Birds returned from 27th Oct until the year end.

At Larnaca Airports Pools there were nine on 4th Jan, 13 on 9th Mar, 11 on 10th, three on 13th, four on 19th and a single on 21st. Five were at Kourion on 31st Jan. Up to three were at Phasouri Reed Beds from 11th Jan-3rd Mar, with seven on 6th Feb. Up

to 18 were at LA Beach from 4th-19th Feb. Singles were at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on 21st and 28th Mar.

Return passage was light, starting with a single at Akrotiri on 27th Oct. A month then passed but on 25th Nov there were three at Larnaca Salt Lake and 12 at Spiro's Pool. Early Dec saw singles at Phasouri Reed Beds (2nd), Akrotiri Salt Lake (6th) and Anarita Park (8th), followed by regular sightings at Phasouri Reed Beds from 20th-29th, with a peak of nine on 28th.

SPOTTED REDSHANK

Tringa erythropus

A spring passage migrant in flocks of up to 45 from mid-March to mid-May. It is occasional from late May to October, generally in single figure numbers.

Recorded from 19th Feb to 15th May, followed by two records in Aug.

The only record for Feb was of a single at Paralimni Lake on 19th. After a gap of almost a month two arrived at Larnaca Airport Pools on 12th Mar, being there also on 14th, and possibly the same birds were also there on 2nd Apr. Singles were at Akrotiri Salt Lake on 21st and 30th Mar, followed by four on 28th Apr and two on 10th May. Two at Aspro Pools were the only record there this year. There were singles at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on 11th and 18th Apr, followed by two on 28th. One was at Oroklini Marsh on 27th Apr. The only report from Lady's Mile was a single on 3rd May, while another was at Zakaki Marsh that day. This site was the most popular, with regular sightings of up to eight on several dates until 19th May, with nine on 8th.

The only autumn records were of singles at Akhna Dam on 7th Aug and Larnaca Sewage Works on 28th Aug.

REDSHANK

Tringa totanus

Recorded in all months but most common as a winter visitor to the Salt Lakes in flocks of a few hundreds from December to March. Double figure counts are made on spring and autumn passage.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Akhna Dam						
Akrotiri Gravel Pits			3	5		
Bishop's Pool						
Cape Greco	2	5	4			
Lady's Mile				1	1	
Larnaca Airport Pools		14	25		1	
Larnaca Salt Lake	50	4	28			
Larnaca Sewage Works						
Oroklini Marsh	1		1			
Spiro's Pool		25	8	4		1
Zakaki Marsh				1		

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akhna Dam				1	1	
Akrotiri Gravel Pits			1	2	1	
Bishop's Pool				1		
Cape Greco						
Lady's Mile					1	
Larnaca Airport Pools						

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Larnaca Salt Lake						1
Larnaca Sewage Works		4	3			1
Oroklini Marsh					9	9
Spiro's Pool					1	10+
Zakaki Marsh					1	1

Birds were present until 21st Apr followed by two sightings on 3rd and 15th May (one of which had a broken wing). A single at Spiro's Pool on 4th-6th Jun also had a broken wing. The first return was from 17th Aug, although more were not seen until 1st Sep after which they were present until the year end.

The only records away from the above sites were a single at Aspro Pools on 30th Mar, one at Paphos Lighthouse on 21st Apr and four there on 17th Sep, two at Achelia Dam on 18th Oct and one at Potamos Liopetri on 25th Nov.

MARSH SANDPIPER

Tringa stagnatilis

Mainly a spring passage migrant. Counts of up to 100 or more have been made from late February to May. Fewer are seen in the autumn from June to October

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Akhna Dam	1	2	3				1
Akrotiri Gravel Pits		4					
Akrotiri Salt Lake	62	2					
Aspro Pools		1					
Kiti Dam	1	7	1				
Lady's Mile	39	15	3				2
Larnaca Airport Pools		4					
Larnaca Salt Lake	5	2					
Larnaca Sewage Works	4	8				5	2
Oroklini Marsh	2	3					
Spiro's Pool	5	4					
Zakaki Marsh		7	1				

Spring passage was from 14th Mar to 10th May. Returning birds moved through quickly from 17th Aug to 22nd Sep. The largest counts were 62 at Akrotiri Salt Lake on 30th Mar, when there were also 39 at Lady's Mile. Away from the above sites there were singles at Meneou Pool on 25th Apr and Sotira Pools on 20th Aug.

GREENSHANK

Tringa nebularia

There have been sightings in all months, but it is chiefly a spring migrant when over 100 have been made. Up to 20 have been recorded in the autumn and it is rare in the winter months.

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Akhna Dam					1	2	3
Akrotiri Gravel Pits		1					
Akrotiri Salt Lake	4	10					
Aspro Pools	1	1					
Kiti Dam	1	1	1				
Lady's Mile	1	2					1

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Larnaca Airport Pools	2	10					
Larnaca Salt Lake	3	9	6				
Larnaca Sewage Works		1					
Oroklini Marsh	3	1					
Sotira Pools	8	1					
Spiro's Pool		8					
Zakaki Marsh		1	2				

Spring passage occurred from 14th Mar to 30th May. The largest counts were of ten at Larnaca Airport Pools on 4th Apr, eight at Spiro's Pool on 27 Apr and ten at Akrotiri Salt Lake on 28th Apr. There were two July sightings at Akhna Dam, after which there were regular sightings of up to three there until 19th Sep. The only other autumn record was of one at Lady's Mile the next day. Records away from these sites were of singles at Ayia Varvara on 9th and 13th Apr and 8th May, and Evretou Dam on 2nd Apr

GREEN SANDPIPER *Tringa ochropus*

A common spring passage migrant in numbers up to 100 from mid-March to mid-May. It is then scarce until mid-June when autumn passage begins. Flocks of 10's are regular until October and a few are seen during the winter months.

	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Achelia Dam									1	1
Akhna Dam	6	24	1	3		4	7	8	2	1
Akrotiri Grav Pits		3						2		
Akrotiri Salt Lake		3	6							
Aspro Pools		8	4		1		1			
Ayia Varvara			6	1						
Cape Greco		4	1	1			1			
Evretou Dam		2	2							
Kiti Dam		13	10							
Larn Sewage Works							2	c60		
Oroklini Marsh	1	c20	7	1	1	1				2
Paphos Lighthouse			2					1	1	
Parthenitis Dam		7								
Sotira Pools		6					1			
Zakaki Marsh		4	1							

The first report was of 3 at Parthenitis Dam on the 8 Jan. Akhna followed with 2 on the 25th Jan. In addition to the reports above regarding Larnaca 1 was seen at the Airport Pools South on the 10th Mar, 1 at the Salt Lake on the 12th Mar and 4 on the 30th Mar. Dec records included 2 at Oroklini on the 1st, 1 at Phasouri Reed Beds on the 26th and 1 at Zakaki Marsh on the 28th.

There were also reports from Spiro's Pool with 1 on 14th Mar, Ladies Mile with 1 on 8th Apr, 2 on 20th Apr, Symvolous Dam with 1 on 16th Apr, Kelefos Bridge with 1 on 2nd Apr and Bishop's Pool with 1 on 15th Sep.

WOOD SANDPIPER*Tringa glareola*

A common spring passage migrant mainly from late March to May, when 100s have been reported. Double figure numbers occur in the autumn from late June to October and it is rare in the winter until early December.

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Nov
Achelia Dam			1				
Akhna Dam		7	4		2	2	
Akrotiri Gravel Pits		1	8				
Akrotiri Salt Lake	1	45					
Aspro Pools		28	14	1			
Ayia Varvara		4	19				
Bishop's Pool			10			6	
Cape Greco		2	10				
Evretou Dam		5	8	1			
Kiti Dam	5	68	40				
Ladies Mile		9	4				
Larnaca Salt Lake	2	2	4				
Larnaca Sewage Works			3			9	
Mandria			2				
Oroklini Marsh	2	c175	26	5	2	1	1
Sotira Pools		12	10			1	
Zakaki Marsh	2	20	30				

The first report was of a single bird at Oroklini on the 4th Mar. Numbers then steadily increased all over the island at the various wetlands. Records not included in the above table are Kouklia Beach with a lone bird on 11th Apr, 10 at Parthenitis Dam on 14th May and 1 at Nata on 16th May. The last record for the year was of a single bird at Oroklini on the 14th Nov.

TEREK SANDPIPER**Xenus cinereus*

A scarce passage migrant last recorded in 1997.

A single was at Lady's Mile on 19th Apr.

COMMON SANDPIPER*Actitis hypoleucos*

There are records for all months, but it is predominantly a passage migrant in tens from March to May and July to September. Single figure numbers occur in the winter.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Akhna Dam	1	2	2	4	1
Akrotiri Gravel Pits				2	
Aspro Pools		1		5	3
Ayia Thekla	1	1	1		
Ayia Varvara				4	6
Bishop's Pool			1	2	2
Cape Greco				1	
Coral Bay				1	3
Evretou Dam				2	5
Kit Dam				c10	5

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Larnaca Salt Lake			1		3
Larnaca Sewage Works				1	1
Mandria				3	3
Oroklini Marsh				4	2
Paphos Lighthouse	1	1	1	1	
Potamos Liopetri	1	2			
Sotira Pools				2	8
Zakaki Marsh				2	3

	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akhna Dam		4	6	4			
Akrotiri Gravel Pits				3			
Aspro Pools	1						
Ayia Thekla							
Ayia Varvara							
Bishop's Pool							
Cape Greco							
Coral Bay							
Evretou Dam							
Kiti Dam							
Larnaca Salt Lake							
Larnaca Sewage Works			10	c20			
Mandria							
Oroklini Marsh		2	4				
Paphos Lighthouse		1	6		1	1	1
Potamos Liopetri						1	
Sotira Pools			1				
Zakaki Marsh						1	1

In addition to the above also reported from Yermasoya Dam on 3rd Jan and 14th Apr [1], Ayia Thekla on 17th Jan [1], Kiti Lighthouse on 8th Apr [1], Koukليا on 11th Apr [1], Dhiarizos River Valley on 15th Apr [1], Latchi on 16th Apr [1], 3 at Symvolous Dam on 16th Apr, 3 at the Ayia Napa Football Stadium on the 20th Apr, 2 at Kelefos Bridge on 22nd Apr, 1 at Pyrgos Dam on 26th Jul, 1 at Curium on 21st Aug, 1 at Kermia Beach 27th Aug, 1 at Polemedhia Dam on 20th Sep, 1 at Chlorakas on 15th Nov and 1 at Symvolous Dam on 30th Nov.

TURNSTONE

Arenaria interpres

A scarce passage migrant from mid-March to mid-June and August to October in groups of less than 10. Wintering at the Paphos Lighthouse area has only recently been established.

	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akrotiri Gravel Pits				3		2			
Bishop's Pool						2	1		
Ladies Mile			1	4					
Larnaca Sewage Works				1	1	c10			

	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Paphos Lighthouse	6	6	5	1	2	1		7	8
Spiro's Pool		1			1				
Zakaki Marsh				2					

7 birds were also present at the Paphos Lighthouse in January meaning that they were only absent from this area for the middle-summer months. The only other record not included in the above table is of 5 birds at the Larnaca Airport Pools South on the 3rd May and 1 bird on the 10th of the same month.

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE

Phalaropus lobatus

A scarce migrant to the reservoirs and Salt Lakes mainly from March to the middle of May.

Two were at Akrotiri Salt Lake on 28th Apr. A male and two females were at Larnaca Salt Lake on 3rd May, while a male was there on 16th May.

MEDITERRANEAN GULL

Larus melanocephalus

Scarce visitor, mainly in the winter, to the east of the Island.

Also reported from Paphos Harbour on 6th Apr [1 adult] and Dhekalia Floods on 2nd Jan [2 adults], which were still present on the 8th and 24th.

Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Nov
Larnaca Area	5	12	24		1[ring 93E]	1	2
Oroklini	7	6	4				

LITTLE GULL

Larus minutus

Fairly common visitor to the larger bodies of water, mainly but not solely, in the winter.

Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Aug	Dec
Akrotiri Salt Lake	1		1	2				5
Larnaca Salt Lake	3	12	16	6				3
Larnaca Sewage Works				4	2	2	2	

Also reported from Kiti Dam on 29th Dec [1], Paralimni Lake on 12th Feb [1, 1st winter] and Spiro's Pool on 27th Apr [1].

BLACK-HEADED GULL

Larus ridibundus

A very common winter visitor but scarce at other times.

Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akrotiri Salt Lake	150			5						
Dhekalia Floods	300									
Ladies Mile	260	c200	c180						200	200
Larnaca Salt Lake	4000	c40	4000							
Larnaca Sewage				1	5	1	5		c500	c70

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Larnaca Tip	2000									
Limassol Docks/Port	400								200	
Oroklini	c200	500	350	9				1	c300	c200
Kato Paphos	16	30	c200	20					1	11
Paphos Tip	1000									
Zakaki Marsh	60	6		1					40	c200

Also reported from Aspro Dam on 1 Dec [1]; Curium Beach on 12 Apr [1]; Kiti Dam on 29 Mar [2]; Parthenitis Dam on 15 Mar [40]; Polemedhia Dam on 17 Feb [12] and Potamos Liopetri on 19 Feb [c30].

A combined count of the totals occupying Larnaca Salt Lake/Kiti Dam/Larnaca Tip revealed:

4 Feb 4000
19 Feb 3000
27 Feb 2500.

SLENDER-BILLED GULL *Larus genei*

A common passage migrant in spring and autumn. Very few stay to over winter.

Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Aug	Sep	Dec
Akrotiri Salt lake				c100				
Larnaca Airport pools South			100	8				
Larnaca Salt Lake	2	1	70	55	7	1		
Larnaca Sewage Works			21	4		9	1	
Oroklini			6					
Paphos Lighthouse			2	25				3
Spiro's Pool			80	6				

Also seen at Ayia Thekla on 10 Jan [1 adult]; Ladies Mile on 19 Apr [1] and 9 Aug [1]; Meneou Pools on 25 Apr [3] and Potamos Liopetri on 6 Feb [1 adult].

AUDOUIN'S GULL *Larus audouini*

Seen in small numbers throughout the year, particularly in the west.

Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Aug
Cape Greco	2 adults	1	1	2	2		1
Kermia Bay		3 adults	7 adults				
Konnos Bay		1 adult	2 adults	2 adults			
Larnaca Sewage Works			1 x 1 st winter		2 [1 x ring AF7]	1	
Potamos Liopetri		2			3		

Also at Ayia Trias on 8 Feb [1 adult]; Kato Pyrgos on 18 Apr [1]; Mandria on 29 Apr [2] and Ormidhia Shore on 6 Jun [1].

COMMON GULL*Larus canus**An uncommon winter visitor from Jan to Mar.*

Site	Jan	Feb	Mar
Aspro Dam	2 x 1 st winter		
Dhekalia Floods	6 x 1 st winter		
Larnaca Salt Lake	2 x 1 st winter		
Oroklini	4	10x 1 st winter	2 x 1 st winter
Paphos Tip	5 x 1 st winter		

Also seen at Kiti Dam on 15 Feb [1 x 1st winter]; Ladies Mile on 14 Mar [1]; Larnaca Airport Pools South on 1 & 19 Jan [1] and Larnaca Tip on 5 Jan [2].

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL*Larus fuscus*

A winter visitor and passage migrant at the coasts and major wetlands. There are 2 forms occurring, L.f.fuscus sometimes known as the 'Baltic' Gull and L.f.heuglini known as the 'Siberian' or 'Heuglin's' Gull.

First seen at Spiro's Beach on 1 Sep [2] then at Chrysochou Bay on 11 Oct [1]; Spiro's Beach on 25 Oct [1]; Mandria on 17 Nov [1] and Larnaca Sewage Works on 24 Nov [1]. These birds were not identified to race.

L.f.fuscus. Larnaca Sewage Works on 4 Jan [3, adult + 2 x 1st winter]; Larnaca Tip on 5 Jan [3 x 1st winter]; Paphos Tip on 8 Jan [2 x 1st winter]; Kiti Dam on 10 Jan [2 x 1st winter]; Larnaca Airport Pools South on 10 Jan [1 x 1st winter]; Limassol Tip on 11 Jan [2 x 1st winter]; Larnaca Airport Pools South on 15 Jan [3, adult + 2 x 1st winter] & 19 Jan [1 x 3rd winter]; Larnaca Tip on 19 Jan [1, ringed in Finland 6 months ago, traveled 3319km]; Aspro Dam on 20 Jan [1 x 1st winter]; Paphos Tip on 21 Jan [1 x 1st winter]; Akrotiri Gravel Pits on 22 Jan [1]; Larnaca Airport Pools South on 22 Jan [adult + 2 x 1st winter]; Larnaca Tip on 4 Feb [1 adult]; Mandria on 9 Feb [1]; Larnaca Salt Lake on 15 Feb [1 adult & 1 1st winter]; Kiti Dam on 19 Feb [1 adult + 2 1st winter]; Mandria on 21 Feb [3]; Larnaca Sewage Works on 1 Mar [1 x 1st winter], on 2 Mar [1 adult + 1 x 1st winter], 5 Mar [1 x 1st winter]; Cape Greco on 8 Mar [1]; Larnaca Sewage Works on 10 Mar [1 x 1st winter], 12 Mar [1 adult + 2 x 1st winter], 13 Mar [1 x 1st winter], 14 Mar [2 adults + 2 x 1st winter], 17 Mar [1 adult + 1 x 1st winter]; Cape Greco on 18 Mar [1]; Larnaca Sewage Works on 21 Mar [1]; Paphos Tip on 21 Mar [1]; Larnaca Sewage Works on 27 Mar [3 adults], 28 Mar [4 adults]; Cape Greco on 1 Apr [1 adult]; Larnaca Sewage Works on 1 Apr [1 adult + 1 x 1st winter]; Paphos Lighthouse Area on 2 Apr [1 + 15 on 8th, 1 on 9th, 4 on 11th and 5 on 12th]; Limassol Harbour on 6 Apr [6]; Cape Kiti on 10 Apr [2]; Larnaca Sewage Works on 10 Apr [1]; Ayios Giorgios on 11 Apr [15], on 11 Apr [2], on 12 Apr [3]; Petra Tou Romiou on 14 Apr [1]; Larnaca Sewage Works on 19 Apr [1]; Ayios Giorgios on 29 Apr [1]; Larnaca Sewage Works on 3 May [5], on 18 May [2], on 7 Jun [1]; Akrotiri Salt Lake on 6 Dec [1]; Aspro Dam on 17 Dec [2] and Larnaca Sewage Works on 31 Dec [3].

L.f.heuglini. Larnaca Airport Pools South on 1 Jan [6]; Larnaca Salt Lake on 2 Jan [2 adults]; Larnaca Sewage Works on 4 Jan [5 adults + 1 x 1st winter]; Kiti Dam on 8 Jan [2 adults]; Larnaca Airport Pools South on 8 Jan [1 adult]; Kiti/Larnaca Airport Pools South on 10 Jan [5 adults]; Limassol Tip on 11 Jan [1 adult + 1 x 1st winter]; Larnaca Airport Pools South on 15 Jan [5 adults + 1 x 1st winter]; Larnaca Tip on 18 Jan [6]; Paphos Tip on 21 Jan [1]; Larnaca Airport Pools South on 22 Jan [2 adults]; Akrotiri Salt Lake on 1 Feb [1]; Larnaca Salt Lake on 9 Feb [5 adults]; Larnaca Salt Lake/Kiti Dam/Larnaca Tip on 19 Feb [4]; Larnaca Salt Lake on 27 Feb [5]; Aspro Dam on 28

Feb [1]; Larnaca Sewage Works on 3 Mar [3 adults + same on 5th + 1 x 2nd winter]; Larnaca Airport Pools South on 7 Mar [6 adults]; Larnaca Sewage Works on 10 Mar [4 adults], 12 Mar [3 adults], 13 Mar [2 adults], 14 Mar [2 adults + 1 x 1st winter], 17 Mar [1]; Mandria on 14 Nov [3]; Larnaca Sewage Works on 24 Nov [2]; Aspro Dam on 1 Dec [1 + 4 on 17th & 1 on 21st] and Ladies Mile on 2 Dec [2 adults].

YELLOW-LEGGED GULL

Larus cachinnans

L.c.michahellis occurs as a breeding resident, known as the Mediterranean Herring Gull, Western Mediterranean Yellow-legged Gull *et al*, and *L.c.cachinnans* also known as the 'Caspian' Gull, which is a winter visitor.

Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akrotiri Salt Lake	80	800									3	600
Aspro Dam	380		20	c40		c140				20		c860
Dhekalia Floods	110											
Ladies Mile				3	1	1				1	5	20
Larnaca Airport Pools South	1200*		225									
Larnaca Sewage Works			400	35	31	20				15	40	60
Larnaca Tip	500											
Mandria	200	130	17							64	300	
Oroklini	15	25	30	2							3	3
Kato Paphos	5		4	5					2			
Spiro's Beach	100					4	8					

* = mostly *cachinnans*.

Also reported from Akrotiri Gravel Pits on 28 Apr [2]; Ayios Giorgios on 14 Apr [20] & 12 Sep [3]; Cape Arnouti on 19 Sep [6]; Cape Gata on 7 Mar [4] & 18 Oct [30]; Chlorakas on 4 Feb [60]; Chrysochou Bay on 17 Oct [26]; Curium Beach on 4 Oct [1]; Evretou Dam on 11 May [2]; Lachi on 12 Feb [1]; combined count at Larnaca Airport Pools South/Larnaca Sewage Works on 1 Jan [1000 mostly *cachinnans*]; Limassol Tip on 11 Jan [300 of which 25% *cachinnans*]; combined count at Larnaca Salt Lake/Kiti Dam/Larnaca Tip on 15 Feb [1000] & 27 Feb [300]; Paphos Tip on 16 Jun [c180]; Paramali on 10 Nov [8] and Zakaki Marsh on 28 Apr [7].

Positively identified as *cachinnans*:

Akrotiri Salt Lake 1-18 Feb [1000+ to 1400+]; Larnaca Sewage Works on 24 Feb [17]; Paphos Tip on 9 Jan [200]; Larnaca Sewage Works on 22 Apr [11] and Spiro's Pool on 22 Apr [3].

A 1st winter bird seen at Larnaca Airport Pools South on the 4 Jan had been ringed in Ukraine on the 13 Jun 00.

A bird seen on the 18 Jan was carrying a red ring UMC2.

ARMENIAN GULL *Larus armenicus*

A regular winter visitor in small numbers.

Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Nov	Dec
Aspro Dam	3	4				5
Larnaca Salt Lake			4			
Larnaca Sewage Works			5	1	3	
Larnaca Tip		10				
Oroklini		3	2			

Also reported at Akrotiri Salt Lake on 1 Feb [1]; Dhekalia Floods on 24 Jan [2]; Ladies Mile on 2 Dec [2]; from Larnaca Area is a report of up to 10 birds all Jan; Mandria on 9 Feb [3] and Paphos Tip on 9 Jan [2].

GULL-BILLED TERN *Sterna nilotica*

A spring passage migrant at the major wetlands, much less frequent in the autumn.

First reported on 12 Mar from Larnaca Salt Lake [2]; Paphos on 20 Mar [3]; Oroklini on 24 Mar [2]; Larnaca Salt Lake on 2 Apr [7]; Ladies Mile on 5 Apr [1]; Akrotiri Salt Lake on 18 Apr [27]; Mandria on 29 Apr [1]; Akhna Dam on 16 May [1] and Larnaca Salt Lake on 5 Jun [2, also on 6th with 1 on 7th and 8th].

Just one report on the return passage, Larnaca Sewage Works on 26 Aug [1].

CASPIAN TERN *Sterna caspia*

Very scarce passage migrant, mainly in spring.

Just one report of a single bird at the Paphos Lighthouse Area on 12th Apr by DT.

SANDWICH TERN *Sterna sandvicensis*

A scarce winter visitor and spring passage migrant. Has favoured localities and the numbers appear to be increasing.

Reported from Ormidhia Shore on 5 Jan [2]; Ayias Trias on 7 Jan [3] and 17 Jan [1]; Kourion on 31 Jan [2]; Dhekalia on 4 Feb [1]; Ayias Trias on 5 Feb [1]; Kermia Beach on 6 Feb [3]; Potamos Liopetri on 9 Feb [2]; Ayia Thekla on 11 Feb [1]; Kermia Beach on 12 Feb [1]; Paralimni Lake on 19 Feb [2]; Cape Greco on 1 Mar [2], on 5 Mar [1] and on 7 Mar [3]; Konnos Bay on 100 Mar [1]; Curium Bay on 11 Mar [2]; Kermia Beach on 12 Mar [1]; Cape Greco on 15 Mar [2]; Kermia Beach on 18 Mar [1] and on 22 Mar [1]; Paphos on 22 Mar [2]; Paphos Lighthouse Area on 31 Mar [2]; Kermia Beach on 1 Apr [1] and Paphos Lighthouse Area on 16 Apr [1].

Arrivals noted at Mandria on 17 Nov [2]; Paphos Harbour on 1 Dec [2]; Mandria on 5 Dec [1]; Akrotiri Gravel Pits on 11 Dec [1] and 15 Dec [1]; Curium Bay on 15 Dec [1] and finally Curium Beach on 26 Dec [1].

LITTLE TERN *Sterna albifrons*

Scarce passage migrant in spring and autumn.

First reported from Meneou Pools on 25 Apr [2]; Larnaca Sewage Works on 3 May [1 with 4 on 13th, 2 on 16th and 1 on both 17th and 18th]; Larnaca Salt Lake on 18 May [1] and on 4 Jun [1]; Spiro's Pool on 6 Jun [2]; Larnaca Sewage Works on 8 Jun [1] and on 17 Aug [1].

WHISKERED TERN *Chlidonias hybridus*

A regular passage migrant but more frequent in the spring.

First report from Akrotiri Salt Lake on 11 Apr [1]; at Larnaca Sewage Works on 16 Apr [1] and on 19 Apr [1]; Larnaca Airport Pools South on 27 Apr [1]; Ayia Varvara on 2 May [1]; Larnaca Sewage Works on 3 May [1]; Akhna Dam on 4 May [2]; Zakaki Marsh on 8 May [1]; Ladies Mile on 21 May [7]; Larnaca Sewage Works on 29 May [1] and on 1 Jun [1]; Aspro Dam on 30 Jun [1].

Return passage noted at Mandria on 23 Aug [1]; Aspro Pools on 200 Sep [1]; Akhna Dam on 22 Sep [1] and Larnaca Sewage Works on 22 Sep [6].

BLACK TERN *Chlidonias niger*

An uncommon spring and autumn passage migrant.

First seen at Larnaca Sewage Works on 10 May [1]; Zakaki Marsh on 11 May [1] and Larnaca Sewage Works on 7 Jun [1].

Reported in autumn from Larnaca Sewage Works on 22 Sep [1].

WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN *Chlidonias leucopterus*

Usually the most common of the marsh terns, seen in both spring and autumn.

Site	Apr	May	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Akhna Dam	8	4	1	2	4	4
Larnaca Sewage Works		4	10		18	
Mandria		1				
Zakaki Marsh		3				
Spiro's Pool			1			
Bishop's Pool			1			

First date was of the 8 birds at Akhna Dam on the 26th Apr. Last date was of 4 birds at Akhna Dam on the 1st Oct.

ROCK DOVE *Columba livia*

An abundant resident breeding in colonies all over the island. Feral Pigeons also occur in great numbers with much inter-breeding.

Just how 'pure' many of the colonies are is open to debate. Because of this, many being written off as 'pigeons', the species is under-recorded.

A large mixed colony exists at the Aspro Dam Pools but 30 of these were recorded as Rock Dove on the 2nd Jan. 10 were reported from Kensington Cliffs on the 8th Jan and 400 from the Dhiarizos River Valley at Arminou Dam on the 14th Jan. Reports of smaller numbers came from Quarry Beach on 13 Feb [5], Kouris Dam on 17 Feb [2] and Cape Greco on 1 Mar [4]. The Aspro Dam Pools colony was reported as holding about 100 on the 3 Mar and a similar number was reported from Cape Gata on 8 May. 90 birds were reported from Bishop's Pool on 25 Nov, 15 on the Akamas on the 4 Dec and finally the Bishop's Pool number was put at 50 on the 26 Dec.

STOCK DOVE *Columba oenas*

Probably an overlooked winter visitor.

Just 2 reports this year. On the 7th Mar 2 birds were reported from Cape Gata and 1 bird on the 18th Oct at Mandria with a flock of Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*.

WOOD PIGEON *Columba palumbus*

A very common breeding resident with counts increasing in recent years.

The largest numbers came from the area around Mandria and the Paphos Airport, presumably due to the hunting restrictions in the area. Dec appears to be the period of highest concentration with in excess of 2000 reported independently on the 5th. Other counts from this same area were 200+ in Feb, c60 in Jun, c90 in Jul, 60+ in Aug and 1000+ in Nov.

Other areas holding respectable numbers included 50 at Achelia Dam on 24 Jan with the same number on the same date being reported from Ayios Therapon. On the 8th Feb there were 80+ reported from Paramali, about 10 each at Letimbou and Skarfos Bridge in May, c30 from Evretou Dam in Jun, c70 from Aspro Dam Pools in Jul with c80 from the same locality in Aug. 400 from Paramali was a large count on the 15th Sep as was 100 from Phasouri Reed Beds on 4th Nov. c40 birds were reported from Peyia on 15th Oct and there were 40 reported from Xeros Potamos on 17th Nov and 70 from Phasouri Reed Beds on 26th Dec.

Other sites to hold much smaller numbers included Ezousa River in Feb [1], Kato Pyrgos in Mar [2], Ayios Dhimitrian in May [5], Kannaviou in May [2], up to 4 birds at Kissonerga in May, Athalassa Forest in Jun [2] with 3 in Jul, Zakaki Marsh in Nov [3] and Oroklini in Nov and Dec [1].

COLLARED DOVE *Streptopelia decaocto*

A locally common breeding resident.

No great concentrations anywhere, Mandria near the Paphos Airport appears to have the highest density. c20 were reported from there on 23rd Mar with similar numbers reported in Aug, Nov and Dec. Small numbers ranging from 1 to 4 birds were reported in Jan from Athalassa Forest, Nicosia, Strovolos, Larnaca Salt Lake and Paramali. Feb and Mar saw the same numbers being reported from Paramali but Oroklini had up to 6 birds present from the 3rd to 28th Mar. 6 birds were reported from Paphos Lighthouse Area and Asprokremnos Dam in Mar with the only other record this month being of 2 birds at Skarinou. Kouklia Plain had 2 in Apr, Zakaki Marsh had 1 and the 6 were again reported from Paphos Lighthouse Area. 2 on the Akamas and at Argaka are the only reports for May and Jun. Oroklini had just 1 bird in Sep and there were 2 at Ayia Napa Pool in Nov. Monthly counts came from Nicosia in Mar [4], Apr [3], Jul [2]; from Oroklini in Apr [3], May [2], Jun [2], Jul [2], Aug [2]; Athalassa Forest in Jun [3]; Strovolos in Mar [4]; Kissonerga in Feb [3], Sep [4] and finally Episkopi in Nov when we are informed that birds were seen daily.

TURTLE DOVE *Streptopelia turtur*

A very common passage migrant and widespread migrant breeder.

Site	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Akamas	1	8						
Akhna Dam	18	15				18		
Akrotiri Salt Lake	2	8						
Asprokremnos Dam	6					3		

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Aspro Dam Pools	1			3		8		
Athalassa Forest	1		2	2				
Ayia Varvara		6	5					
Bishop's Pool	1	4		2	7	8	2	
Cape Greco	1	15				1 juv		
Evretou Dam	1	3						
Mandria	c120	20+	5		8	8	1	5
Oroklini	1	2						

The first report of the year was of 2 birds on 25th Mar at Secret Valley. This was followed by many reports in Apr from, in addition to the above sites, Kiti Dam, Paphos Lighthouse Area, Akrotiri Reed Beds, Melanda Beach, Curium, Phasouri Reed Beds, Ezousa River, Lara and Lythrodhonda. In May reports came from Ayia Varvara [6], Dhiarizos River Valley [c20], Letimbou [7], Smyies [5], Ayios Mamas [1] and Troodos where 1 was heard. In Jun just 1 bird was reported from Yialia and 8 from the Xeros Potamos. There were 5 at Ayios Savvas Monastery on the 3rd Jul and 1 at Eagle Baths on 8th Jul. Aug reports came from Vasa with 4 on 5th and the only confirmed breeding report came from Cape Greco on the 14th Sep with the sighting of 1 juvenile. In addition to the above reports Oct sightings came from Zakaki Marsh [5] and Peyia [1]. The last sighting of the year came on the 1st Nov with 5 birds being reported from Mandria.

GREAT SPOTTED CUCKOO *Clamator glandarius*

Fairly common and widespread spring passage migrant and breeding summer visitor. A parasitic species, which, in the main, uses the Magpie as the host species but will also, use Hooded Crow on occasions.

The first record for the year was a single bird seen at the Kouris Dam on 17th Feb. The next birds were not reported until the 28th Feb when 4 birds were seen at the Dhyptomamos Dam. There were then many records in Mar of no more than 3 birds together from Cape Greco in the east to Polis in the west. Apr continued in the same vein with the species being recorded from Kiti Dam, Tersephanou, Ayia Napa and Akhna Dam in the east, through the central areas to the Akamas in the west, the highest counts being of 3 birds at Kiti Dam on 8th Apr and a similar number at Evretou Dam on 15th. Reports of breeding success started to be submitted in May, the first coming from Bishop's Pool on the 11th with a report of 3 juveniles being seen. Jun saw juveniles being reported from Kokkina on the 6th, Ayia Varvara on the 7th, Episkopi also the 7th, Akoursos on the 11th, Ayios Giorgios also the 11th, 5 juveniles from Evretou Dam on the 21st, Happy Valley on the 21st [3 juveniles], Skarfos Bridge on 21st and Draphia on the 26th. Recently fledged young were seen at Ay Savvas Monastery on 3rd Jul [2], Dhiarizos River Valley on the 3rd and finally Armou on the 30th Jul, which was also the last report of this species for the year.

CUCKOO *Cuculus canorus*.

A fairly common spring passage migrant with no autumn reports this year. Also no evidence of breeding this year.

The first report of the year came from Cape Greco with a single bird on 20th Mar. In Apr reports of single birds came from Ayios Giorgios [rufous phase], Evretou Dam, Asprokremnos Dam, Bishop's Pool, Akrotiri Reed Beds, Smyies [rufous phase], Meneou Beach, Makheras Forest, Paramali [rufous phase], Pano Pyrgos, Armou,

Konia, Kathikas, Kiti Dam, Akrotiri Salt Lake, Vrecha [2], Cape Kiti, Paphos Lighthouse Area and Emba. Finally, May reports of single birds came from Akrotiri Salt Lake and the last of the year from Ayios Mamas and Platanistasa both on the 16th.

BARN OWL *Tyto alba*

A relatively common resident, occurring throughout the island. No direct evidence of breeding received.

Reported in single figures from [date in brackets] Chlorakas [26 Feb]; Episkopi [3 Mar]; Akhna Dam [20 Mar]; Evretou Dam [20 Apr]; Xylotymbou [21 Apr]; Paphos Lighthouse Area [25 Apr]; Kourion [13 Jun]; Petra Tou Romiou [13 Oct]; Paphos [14 Oct]; Chlorakas [15 Oct]; Phasouri Reed Beds [26 Oct & 13 Nov]; Curium Beach [21 Nov]; Episkopi [9 Dec] and Mandria [11 Dec].

2 birds seen at Achelia Dam on 12th Apr and at Peristonera on 22nd Dec.

SCOPS OWL *Otus scops*

The resident endemic race O.s.cyprius breeds in wooded areas throughout the island although most of the records come from west of Limassol.

The nominate race is a passage migrant in both the spring and the autumn.

Reported from Armou in all months of the year, it was first heard calling here on the 31st Jan. 4 birds were seen/heard on the 31st May and on the 5th Jun 2 juveniles were reported.

On the 12th May **JJG** reports finding a nest containing 3 eggs in a hole in a Carob Tree on the Akamas.

1 bird, seen on the 2nd Apr by the seashore at Chlorakas, was reported by **NSI** as being an obvious passage bird.

Other reports of either 1 or 2 birds came from Paramali [Jan to May inclusive]; Dhypotamos Dam [Feb]; Asprokremnos Dam [Mar and Apr]; Episkopi [Mar], a bird was heard calling in Nicosia on 21st Mar; Happy Valley [Mar]; Droushia [Apr-up to 3 birds heard]; Konia [Apr]; Ayios Therapon [May]; Dhiazos River Valley [May]; Kholetria [May] and Pedhoulas [3 on 13 Jun].

LITTLE OWL *Athene noctua*

A common breeding resident.

Ones and twos reported from many areas, from the Akamas in the west to Ayios Nikolaos in the east.

Breeding was confirmed from only one site, Kato Arkhimandrita, where a single juvenile was reported on the 13th Jul.

3 birds were reported from the Asprokremnos Dam on the 17th Nov.



Coal Tit *Parus ater cypriotes*



Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*



Black-headed Bunting *Emberiza melanocephala*



Cretzschmar's Bunting *Emberiza caesia*



Redshank *Tringa totanus*



Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*



Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*



Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

LONG-EARED OWL *Asio otus*

A scarce and local breeding resident.

All reports this year emanate from the Athalassa Forest courtesy of **BDA**.

She reports 2 on the 9th Jan, 4 on the 14th Jan, 4 on the 3 Jun, which included 3 juveniles, 1 adult and 1 juvenile on the 10th Jun and in Jul 3 on the 1st, 4 on the 15th, and 3 on the 22nd.

SHORT-EARED OWL *Asio flammeus*

Primarily a spring passage migrant though it has over-wintered in the past.

All reports are of single birds.

The first was from Cape Greco on the 13th Mar with another reported from Oroklini on the 14th Mar. There was one at Mandria on 29th Mar and 1 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on 31st Mar. All other records are from Apr, Paphos Lighthouse Area on 7th and 8th, Kiti Lighthouse on 8th and Ladies Mile on the same day. There was a report from Ayios Giorgios on 12th, Kiti Dam on 22nd and finally Kouklia Plain on 30th.

NIGHTJAR *Caprimulgus europaeus*

A passage migrant and migrant breeder. Very few reports are received.

Just 3 reports this year. The first from Kouris Dam of 2 birds on the 12th Mar. 1 report of a single bird from Lara on the 23rd Apr and finally a single bird from Paramali on the 14th Jun.

SWIFT *Apus apus*

An abundant passage migrant in the spring less so in the autumn. Also a very common migrant breeder.

First birds to be reported were 2 birds at Akhna Dam on the 19th Feb. Birds then continued to pass through, significant counts being of 80 estimated over Nicosia on the 6th Mar, 100 at Kiti Dam on the 2nd Apr, 100+ at Mazotos on the 8th Apr with the same number being reported from Stavrovouni Monastery area on the same date. There was c120 over Troodos on the 14th Apr with 100 around the Larnaca Sewage Works on the 19th. In May they were 40+ reported all month at Episkopi from the 3rd and on the 10th 200 were present at Kiti Dam. Oroklini had up to 30 all Jun until the 22nd whilst the largest number reported all year were c300 at Konia on the 8th Jun. Large counts in Jun included c150 at Akhna Dam on the 10th and c100 at Pedhoulas on the 13th. Numbers declined very rapidly from this date onwards, the only double figure counts being 13 at Larnaca on the 25th Jul and 10 at Episkopi on the 13th Aug. The last reported sighting was of a lone bird at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 22nd Sep.

PALLID SWIFT *Apus pallidus*

Locally fairly common breeder but only 3 definite sightings reported this year. Often overlooked owing to confusion with the previous species.

'Several' were reported from Troodos on the 13th Apr and 'several' by a different observer in the same locality on the 26th May. There were 2 reported from Konia on the 8th Jun.

ALPINE SWIFT *Apus melba*

Common passage migrant, particularly in the spring. Also a common migrant breeder

The first report of the year was on the 15th Mar when 2 birds were seen at Paramali. There then followed reports from Curium, Aspro Pools, Quarry Beach, Asprokremnos

Dam, Ayios Giorgios and Akhna Dam until the months end. In addition to these localities they were also reported from Troodos, Akamas, Kouklia Beach and Kensington Cliffs in April. During this month double figure reports came from Paramali on 8th [11], Troodos on 14th [c20] and c20 at Kensington Cliffs on 28th. During May 1 to 6 birds were also reported from Ladies Mile, Mandria, Mamonía and Dhiarizos River Valley whilst 12+ birds were reported from Curium on the 21st. The reports then started to slow down with just 3 sites in Jun, Aya Napa Reservoir [7] on 2nd, Konía [1] on 8th and Xeros Potamos [7] on 16th. There were 14 at Paramali on the 2nd Jul, 7 at Armou on 29th Jul with the last report being 1 bird at Larnaca Sewage Works on the 19th Aug.

KINGFISHER *Alcedo atthis*

A fairly common passage migrant, particularly in the autumn, and a winter visitor.

Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Achelia Dam						1	1	1	
Akhna Dam				1	2	2			
Aspro Pools			2	2	2	1	3	1	1
Bishop's Pool			1			2	1		
Cape Greco		1		1					
Oroklini			1	2	1		1		
Paphos		1	1		4	2	1	1	2
Pot. Liopetri	1	3	1						
Zakaki Marsh				1				1	2

Jan records also came from Evretou Dam on 21st [1]. Feb records included 1 at Chlorakas on 3rd. In Mar there was 1 at Aya Napa Pool, Larnaca Salt Lake and Spiro's Pool all on the 27th. Kiti Dam had 2 birds on the 1st Apr with just 1 on the 2nd and 19th; Sotira Pools held a single bird on the 5th Apr and there was one each at Kiti Lighthouse on the 8th and Ezousa River on the 9th. 2 birds were seen at Lachi on the 17th Apr whilst there was 1 at Kelephos Bridge on the 22nd Apr. The only May record was 1 at Ayios Giorgios on the 4th.

The return passage started at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 6th Aug when there were 3 birds present. Up to 4 birds were seen there for the remainder of the month. Apart from the records tabled above there was just one more Aug record of a single bird off the Akamas on the 9th. Away from the coastal sites there was a bird present on the Arminou Dam on the 19th Oct. Nov and Dec records were all from the sites listed above plus singles at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on the 13th Nov, Dhekalia Beach on the 18th Nov and again at Dhekalia Beach on the 9th Dec.

PIED KINGFISHER *Ceryle rudis*

Very scarce and irregular winter visitor.

There was a female reported from Akhna Dam on the 11th Apr with another female present at Evretou Dam on the 15th Apr. A bird reported from Akhna Dam on the 16th Apr, although not sexed, would most likely have been the one reported previously; the female was again reported from Akhna Dam on the 9th May. A single bird was reported from Dhekalia Beach on the 22nd Dec whilst on the same day there were 2 birds reported from Zakaki Marsh; 3 birds on the island at once is a most unusual occurrence!

BLUE-CHEEKED BEE-EATER *Merops persicus*

A scarce spring passage migrant.

A quite amazing report of 26 birds came from Paphos on the 1st Apr whilst, on the same day, there was 1 reported from Paramali. The only other report this year was of 3 birds at Akrotiri on the 11th Apr.

BEE-EATER *Merops apiaster*

A common passage migrant, more numerous in the autumn.

A scarce breeder either singly or in small colonies.

Location	Apr	May	Sep	Oct
Akamas		c190		
Akhna Dam			c250	
Akro Salt Lake	48	20		c100
Armou	10	10		c100
Aspro Pools	1	c45	c70	c55
Athalassa For			c40	
Ayia Varvara		143		
Bishop's Pool			c260	c110
Evretou Dam		c40		
Mandria		51		
Mavro Dam	c200			
Oroklini		12	c100	c15
Paramali		c20	c30	c10
Phas Reed Bed			c60	c55
Zakaki				c60

First observed on 11th April at the Akrotiri Salt Lake, Chlorakas and the Mavrokolympus Dam. Last sighting was 1 at Bishop's Pool on the 10th Nov [there were 2 there on the 4th].

Also observed at Arakapas on 27 Apr [10], 8 & 26 Jun [3 near nest holes], 20 Jul [15- probably 3 families]; Ayios Giorgios on 1 May [c20]; Chlorakas on 11 Apr [9], 8 May [6] & 14 Jun [2]; Coral Bay on 12 Apr [22]; Dhrapia on 26 Jun [2]; Episkopi on 14 Oct [12]; Kannnaviou on 6 May [10]; Kissonerga on 8 May [c60]; Kiti Dam on 10 May [10]; Lachi on 13 May [c40]; Layia on 8 & 26 Jun [max of 2 but nest not located]; Makheras on 20 Jul [4 which included 3 young]; Neo Chorio on 12 Apr [20]; Palekhori on 20 Jul [3 which included 2 young]; Ayia Mina on 20 Jul [14 which included 3 young]; Spiro's Beach on 25 Sep [60]; Vavatsinia on 20 Jul [12-mostly young from 2/3 families]; Vrysoulles on 7 & 25 May [4]; Xeros Potamos on 19 Apr [12] and c6 at Yialia on 11 Jun.

ROLLER *Coracias garrulus*

Common passage migrant, most numerous in spring and a fairly common migrant breeder.

First date was the 7th April at Cape Greco. Last date was 13th Oct at Akrotiri Reed Beds.

Also recorded at Anarita Park on 21 Apr [1]; Argaka on 6 Jun [1]; Armou on 30 May

[2]; Asgata on 26 Jun [2]; Avgorou on 12 Apr [2]; Ayia Marina on 15 May [2]; Ayia Napa on 8 Apr [1]; Ayios Nikolaos on 4 May [4] & on 18 May [1]; Dhiarizos River Valley on 31 May [3]; Episkopi on 7 Jun [1]; Fasoula on 13 Apr [2]; Kalavastos Dam on 26 Jun [3 which included 2 juveniles]; Kholetria on 22 May [2]; Kofinou on 13 Apr [2]; Kokkina on 26 Jul [1]; Makounta on 31 May [1]; Mamonnia on 29 May [2]; Melanda Beach on 14 Apr [1]; Nata on 19 Apr [2] & 24 Apr [1]; Paralimni Lake on 12 Apr [1]; Phasouri Reed Beds on 20 Sep [2]; Pissouri on 27 Jun [2]; Skarfos Bridge on 25 May [2]; Skoulli on 6 Jun [1]; Stroumbi on 20 May [2]; Tera on 15 Apr [1] and Vasa on 5 Aug [1].

Site	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Achelia Dam				1			
Akamas		4					
Akhna Dam	2		1		1	3	
Akrotiri Gravel Pits		1					
Akrotiri Reed Beds							1
Akrotiri Salt Lake	2	1				4	3
Aspro Dam	1	5	1				
Aspro Pools	5	4	1	1	2		
Ay Varvara	7	12	4[3 sites]				
Bishop's Pool	2	1				2	1
Cape Greco	1	2					
Evretou Dam	3	12					
Kiti Dam	12						
Kritou Tera		22					
Mandria	1				1	2	
Oroklini	1	1					
Tsadha		3					

HOOPOE *Upupa epops*

Common passage migrant and breeding summer visitor. It is most numerous in the Spring, usually from late February to early May.

First date was 1 on 2nd Mar at Oroklini and the latest report was 1 at Zakaki Marsh on the 9th Oct.

Also seen at Armou on 30 May [1]; Ayios Mina on 8 Jun [2]; Ayios Savvas Monastery on 3 Jul [5]; Ayia Marina on 15 May [1]; Ayias Trias on 10 Apr [1]; Ayios Nikolaos on 15 May [5]; Bishop's Pool on 17 Mar [1]; Cape Gata on 28 Mar [1]; Cape Zevgari on 21 Mar [1]; Dhekalia on 1 Apr [1]; Dhiarizos River Valley on 5 May [1] & 31 May [7 including 1 juvenile]; Dhrapia on 26 Jun [4 including 2 juveniles]; Happy Valley on 29 Mar [1]; Kalopanayiotis on 14 Jun [1]; Kannaviou on 25 May [1]; Kellaki on 8 Jun [1]; Kykko on 15 Jun [2]; Lysos on 21 Jun [1]; Lythrodhonda on 27 Apr [2]; Makheras Forest on 17 Apr [3]; Mansoura on 26 Jul [3 including 2 juveniles]; Melanda on 18 Mar [1]; Moniatas on 19 Apr [1]; Neo Chorio on 12 Apr [2]; Pelandria on 16 May [1]; Perivolias on 2 Apr [1]; Peyia Forest on 21 Mar [1]; Phasouri Reed Beds on 20 Sep [2]; Platanistasa on 16 May [3]; Polis on 4 Mar [2]; Potamos Liopetri on 11 Mar [1]; Skarfos Bridge on 25 May [1]; Smyies on 14 Apr [1]; Spiro's Pool on 27 Mar [1]; Vavatsinia on 8 Jun [3]; Xeros Potamos on 3 Apr [1] and Zakaki Marsh on 9 Oct [1].

Site	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Akamas		7	5				
Akhna Dam	3					1	1
Akrotiri Salt Lake	3						3
Aspro Dam	1						1
Aspro Pools	1	1					
Ayios Giorgios		4	2				
Cape Greco	14	6				1	
Evretou Dam		2	1				
Kiti Dam	2	4					
Kiti Lighthouse	3						
Kouklia	1	1					
Larnaca Salt Lake	1	2					
Larnaca Sewage Works	7	1					
Mandria	4	10					
Oroklini	2						1
Paphos Lighthouse	7	3	1				
Paramali	1			1	1		

WRYNECK *Jynx torquilla*

Fairly common passage migrant in spring but much less common in autumn. There are some winter records.

First record was of 1 bird at Cape Greco on the 16th Mar.

Akamas on 21 Mar [1] & 13 Apr [2]; Akrotiri Salt Lake on 11 Apr [1]; Aspro Pools on 7 Apr [1] & 16 Apr [1]; Ayia Trias on 10 Apr [1]; Cape Greco on 16 Mar [1], 26 Mar [1], 31 Mar [2], 1 Apr [1] & 25 Aug [1]; Evretou Dam on 2 Apr [1]; Kiti Dam on 2 Apr [2] & 16 Apr [1]; Neo Chorio on 2 Apr [1]; Oroklini on 2 Apr [1] & 9 Apr [1]; Paphos Lighthouse 1 on 21 & 22 Apr; Sotira Pools 5 Apr [2] and Xeros Potamos on 3 Apr [1].

CALANDRA LARK *Melanocorypha calandra*

Small numbers breed locally. A few are seen on passage from late February to April and in September. Winter birds are thought to be mainly visitors from the continent.

All reports this year, with the exception of 2, were from the east of the island. The first birds were reported on the 15th of January when there were 5 at Larnaca Airport. No more reports were received until February 4th when there were 2 at the same site, increased to 5 on the 13th and a further 3 on the 27th.

The first March report was of 5 at Larnaca Airport on the 19th with 1 at Spiro's Pool. By the 21st the numbers had increased to 6 at Larnaca Airport, 2 at Spiro's Pool and 4 at Larnaca Sewage Works. On the 27th there was a singleton at Larnaca airport and 2 were seen at Perivolias on the 29th.

April 2nd saw 6 at Larnaca Airport and on the 4th 2 at Perivolias followed by 1 at Spiro's Pool on the 10th and the first sighting in the west of 1 at Coral Bay on the 21st.

May saw 8 at Perivolias on the 10th including a family of 5, and another 3 on the 18th, the last spring sighting.

A further two sightings were in the autumn with 3 at Mandria on the 3rd November and 2 at Larnaca Sewage Works on the 24th November.

Site	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	Nov
Coral Bay				1		
Larnaca Airport			6	6		
Larnaca Sewage Works	5	5	4			2
Mandria						5
Perivolia			2	2	8	
Spiro's Pool			2	1		

BIMACULATED LARK *Melanocorypha bimaculata*

Regular spring migrant to coastal areas from mid-March to early May. Rare from July to November. This year there were few sightings mainly in the east, so all are included. There were no autumn sightings.

On the 17th March there was a singleton at Kiti Lighthouse followed by another singleton on the 18th at Cape Greco. On the 22nd there was a singleton at Paralimni Lake.

In April there were four sightings – 2 on the 6th at Akrotiri Salt Lake, 1 at Paralimni Lake on the 10th, 2 at Coral Bay on the 14th and finally 3 at Mandria on the 27th.

Site	March	April
Kiti Lighthouse	1	
Cape Greco	1	
Paralimni Lake	1	1
Akrotiri Salt Lake		2
Coral Bay		2
Mandria		3

SHORT-TOED LARK *Calandrella brachydactyla*

Common spring migrant often in flocks of hundreds from March to May. Numbers are fewer in the autumn.

The first report of the year was on March 7th when there was a singleton at Oroklini Marsh, which stayed until the 7th. There followed many reports from all over the island with notable counts being about 40 at Mandria on the 13th, 20 at Paralimni Lake on the 22nd, 100 at the same site on the 26th including 2 grey morphs, 15 at Mandria on the 30th and 15 at Paralimni Lake also on the 30th.

During April numbers increased with 20 at Cape Greco on the 1st, 15 at Chlorakas on the 2nd, 80 at Aspro Dam on the 3rd, over 200 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 7th, over 90 at Ayios Georgios (Peyia) on the 7th with over 70 at Curium Bay on the same date. On the 8th Mandria had 29, around 60 were at Paphos Lighthouse Area and the following day over 80 at RAF Akrotiri. Numbers were in single figures for the remainder of the month varying from 1 to 7.

During May there were only 3 reports of 3 at Mandria on the 2nd, 2 at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on the 3rd and 3 at Cape Drepanum on the 5th.

The first autumn sighting was of 14 at Cape Greco on the 4th of September followed by a singleton at Bishop's Pool on the 28th.

There were about 30 at Mandria on October 12th and finally 14 at Phasouri Reed Beds on the 28th.

Site	March	April	September	October
Akamas		20		
RAF Akrotiri		80+		
Aspro Dam		20		
Ayios Georgios		90+		
Cape Gata	12			
Cape Greco		20	14	
Chlorakas		15		
Coral Bay		20		
Curium Bay		40		
Mandria	40	29		c30
Oroklini Marsh	1			
Paphos Lighthouse		c60		
Paralimni Lake	100			
Phasouri Reed Beds				14

LESSER SHORT-TOED LARK *Calandrella rufescens*

A passage migrant and winter visitor in very small numbers.

The only reports this year were in the spring mainly from the east of the island. On the 16th January there was a singleton at Larnaca Salt Lake. There were no more reports until the 27th February when 2 were at Larnaca Sewage Works followed by 5 at Cape Greco on the 28th.

In March the first sighting was of 5 at Cape Greco, followed by 1 at Cape Greco from the 7th to 9th of March.

April 7th saw 1 at Paphos Lighthouse Area and 2 at Mandria on the 12th of April was the last record.

Site	January	February	March	April
Larnaca Salt Lake	1			
Larnaca Sewage Works		2		
Cape Greco		5	5	
Paphos Lighthouse			1	
Mandria			2	

CRESTED LARK *Galerida cristata*

Common resident breeding species in open areas at lower altitudes.

From the 1st of January up to 30 were seen at Oroklini Marsh all month this also being the case during February. Other large counts were approximately 20 at Cape Gata on the 1st March, about 12 at Aspro Pools on the 24th and about 12 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 31st.

During April there was one large count of 20 in the Paphos Lighthouse Area and then they did their usual disappearing act until June when around 40 were seen at Oroklini Marsh including 10 juveniles. Further juveniles were seen during June.

In July the largest count was at Mandria on the 3rd when about 20 were present.

During August there was just one report of 10 or more on Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 28th. September 7th more than 20 were present on Akrotiri Salt Lake and around 12 at Zakaki Marsh on the 15th.

In November there was one sighting of a largish flock of 15 at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on the 10th and the final report for the year was 2 at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 26th December.

Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	June	July	Aug	Sept	Nov	Dec
Akrotiri Gravel Pits									15	
Akrotiri Salt Lake	10						10	20	20	2
Aspro Dam			12							
Cape Gata			20							
Mandria						20				
Oroklini Marsh	30	30			40					
Paphos Lighthouse			12	20					10	
Zakaki Marsh								12	10	

WOODLARK *Lullula arborea*

Resident breeding species in wooded areas of Troodos Mountains. More widespread from mid-October to mid-March when small numbers are seen on lower ground and around wetlands.

The first record is of 4 at Paramali on the 8th January, with 6 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 16th, 14 in the Athalassa Forest on the 21st, a singleton at Evretou Dam on the same day, 10 at Ayia Varvara on the 24th and 3 at Nata on the 28th.

During February there were sightings from both east and west of the island – largest flock was 12 at Kiti Dam on the 11th and 10 at Paramali on the 3rd.

During March and April there were few reports of 1 to 5 birds from both east and west of the island.

In November when the next reports were lodged there was one notable record of 30 at Kouris Dam on the 10th whilst December brought records of 30 at Ayia Varvara on the 15th and over 10 on the 30th at Aspro Pools, this being the last report for the year.

Site	January	February	November	December
Aspro Pools				10
Athalassa Forest	14			
Ayia Varvara	10			30
Bishop's Pool			10	
Kiti Dam		12		
Kouris Dam			c30	
Paramali	4	10		

SKYLARK *Alauda arvensis*

Common passage migrant and winter visitor from September to April. Peak numbers are usually from November to February.

During January and February there were reports of large numbers ranging from 30 to 300 from most parts of the island. The first report was on 4th January when there were 40 at Phasouri Reed Beds. Other large counts during this period were 120 at Mandria on the 13th January which increased to 300 on the 30th, 200 at Larnaca Sewage Works

on February 4th, 120 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 5th and 10th of February and 120 at Larnaca Sewage Works on the 13th February.

During March and April numbers decreased although there were some significant numbers up until the 7th March– 30 at Cape Greco on the 1st, 20 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 3rd, around 20 at Cape Gata on the 5th and 20 at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on the 7th.

The next records were not received until October when on the 20th there were 10 at Mandria. This number increased to 70 by the 21st and there were approximately 60 at Ayia Varvara on the 26th.

During November the numbers again rose into the hundreds – around 400 at Mandria on the 7th which had increased to over 1000 by the 14th, 120 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 14th and around 200 at Larnaca Sewage Works on the 24th.

Numbers remained high during December – over 400 at Mandria on the 5th and around 120 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 31st.

Site	Jan	Feb	March	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akrotiri Gravel Pits			20			
Akrotiri Salt Lake	80					
Ayia Varvara	20			60		
Cape Gata			20			
Cape Greco		20	30			
Chlorakas	30	80				
Coral Bay		80				
Larnaca Airport		60				
Larnaca Sewage Works		200			200	
Mandria	300	30		70	1000	400
Paphos Lighthouse Area	80	120	20	120	20	120
Phasouri Reed Beds	40					80
Zakaki Marsh						20

SAND MARTIN *Riparia riparia*

Common spring migrant but more numerous in the autumn. First report usually February with many hundreds passing through from late March to mid-May. The autumn sees thousands from late July to early October.

There was only one report for March when on the 26th a singleton was seen at Paphos Lighthouse Area.

April reports started with a singleton at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 3rd, followed by regular sightings at many sites from 1 to a maximum of 20+ at Bishop's Pool on the 11th and 20 at Avgas Gorge on the 19th. Other notable numbers were 10 at Latchi on the 12th, 10+ at the Akamas on the 15th and 6 on the 19th at the Dhiarizos Valley. From the eastern side of the island there were reports of 5 at Kiti Dam on the 25th and 1 at Cape Drepanum on the 26th.

During May numbers built up from 5 at Akhna Dam and a similar number at Aspro dam on the 1st to over 40 at Bishop's Pool and over 20 at Cape Drepanum on the 3rd. There were 12 at Mandria on the 7th, 5 at Oroklini Marsh on the 9th and the final report for the spring migration was of 5 at Achelia Dam on the 10th.

Birds were first seen returning on 28th August when 3 were seen at Akrotiri Salt Lake and 2 at Larnaca Sewage Works. During September numbers built up from the beginning of the month when 6 were reported at Mandria to a maximum of over 500 at

Larnaca Sewage Works on the 22nd. Other notable reports were for over 50 at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 20th, around 40 at Bishop's Pool and around 90 at Zakaki Marsh on the 15th, over 50 at Kissonerga on the 22nd and 10 at Spiro's beach on the 29th. The final reports were in October with 2 at Bishop's Pool on the 1st, over 20 at Phasouri Reed Beds on the 2nd, over 20 at Akrotiri Salt Lake also on the 2nd and finally 4 at the same site on the 12th.

Site	Mar	Apr	May	Sep	Oct
Akamas		10			
Akrotiri Salt Lake		10		30	20
Akhna Dam				15	
Avgas Gorge		20			
Bishop's Pool		20	40	40	
Cape Drepanum			20		
Cape Greco				17	
Kissonerga				50	
Larnaca Sewage Works				500	
Mandria			12		
Paphos Lighthouse	1				
Phasouri Reed Beds					20
Zakaki Marsh				90	

CRAG MARTIN *Ptyonoprogne rupestris*

Breeding occurs in the Troodos on cliffs and under bridges. During the colder weather of winter the birds find more sheltered valleys and cliff faces. There is some passage from February to April and also late autumn.

The first bird appeared on the 3rd April at Elias Bridge in the Dhiarizos Valley followed by 2 more reports of 1 at Cape Greco on the 20th and 4 in the Paphos Forest on the 23rd.

On the 15th of June 2 were spotted at Kykko this being the last sighting until December when 2 were at Armou on the 23rd and 4 at Evretou Dam on the 27th.

Site	Apr	Jun	Dec
Armou			2
Cape Greco	1		
Elias Bridge	1		
Evretou Dam			4
Kykko		2	
Paphos Forest	4		

SWALLOW *Hirundo rustica*

A common passage migrant and breeding summer visitor. Spring passage extends from mid-February to May. The autumn passage, from August to October, sees thousands flying through. There have been very few winter reports.

January saw the first report of 1 at Zakaki Marsh on 20th.

During February there were reports from all over the island of 1 to over 50, notable numbers being 15 at Larnaca Sewage works on the 16th, 50+ roosting in bushes at Oroklini Marsh on the 20th to 22nd and more than 10 at Mandria on the 27th.

During March numbers built up significantly. Between the 1st and the 11th there were reports from all districts ranging from 2 at Kato Paphos to 20 at Polis. From the 13th March to the 5th May saw a huge influx – 50+ at Akrotiri on the 13th March, 60 on the Xeros River on the 14th March, around 30 at Aspro Dam on the 24th March, similar number at Paphos Lighthouse Area on 31st March, over 30 at Aspro Pools on the 1st April, then a gap until around 30 were seen at Paphos Lighthouse on the 21st April, 20 at Cape Greco on the 26th, more than 20 at Bishop’s Pool on the 3rd May and around 40 in the Dhiarizos valley on the 5th May.

During the remainder of May and June there were many reports of smaller numbers, many mentioning the presence of young birds or birds at nests.

July and August saw a huge build up of numbers being reported. On the 20th July 565 were seen at Aspro Pools in a roost, around 140 at Armou on the 27th July, about 400 at Mandria on the 18th August, 350 at Larnaca Sewage works on the 20th August.

During September numbers declined with the exception of over 100 at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 14th, 72 at Cape Greco on the 14th, 30 or more at Zakaki Marsh on the 15th and hundreds at Spiro’s Beach on the 25th, heading out to sea.

October saw the passage continuing with over 100 at Bishop’s Pool on the 1st, 50 at Phasouri Reed Beds on the 2nd, 30 at Spiro’s Beach on the 5th, around 10 to 100 at Aspro Pools on the 10th to the 14th, and 20 at Paramali on the 22nd.

From the 27th of October to the 23rd November a few stragglers passed through until the final sighting was 1 at Ayios Georgios (Peyia) on the 23rd November

Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Akrotiri Salt Lake							c250	100+	
Armou						140			
Aspro Dam			c30						
Aspro Pools				c30		565			c100
Bishop’s Pool					20+				100+
Cape Greco				20				72	
Larnaca Sewage Works		15					350		
Mandria		10+	60				400		
Paphos Lighthouse			c30						
Phasouri Reed Beds				c30					50+
Spiro’s Beach								100s	30
Xeros River			60						
Zakaki Marsh	1							c30	

RED-RUMPED SWALLOW *Hirundo daurica*

A common passage migrant and breeding summer visitor. The first reports are normally in February. Most numbers occur on passage from March to May and on the return August/September. Nests are built under bridges and culverts, on buildings and cliffs. During autumn passage numbers run into hundreds.

On the 19th February the first sighting was of 6 at Larnaca sewage works followed by 5 at Mandria on March 13th. During the month of March there were numerous reports from all parts of the island with notable counts of 25 at Aspro Pools on 18th and 50 in the Akamas on the 24th.

April saw a steady trickle of birds numbering from 1 to over 20 being reported from all parts of the island. In the Dhiarizos Valley they were noted as “being common”. May showed a similar pattern as April with from 2 to 6 being reported from many locations, both east and west.

June saw the first reports of breeding. On the 1st 6 were reported from Armou with 4 juveniles in the group. 4 juveniles were at Ayia Varvara on the 7th. 20 were seen at Troodos on the 14th.

During July there were fewer reports, numbers being between 2 and 5, with 20 being reported from Aspro Pools on the 3rd.

August saw 3 reports, all from the east of the island – 2 at Akhna dam on the 3rd, 7th and 10th, 1 at Oroklini Marsh on the 17th and 1 at Cape Greco on the 25th.

During September there were reports of 20+ at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 1st and 1 at Larnaca Sewage Works on the 22nd.

The final report was of 1 at Bishop’s Pool on the 22nd October.

Site	Feb	Mar	Apr	Jun	Jul	Sep	Oct
Akamas		50	10	c20			
Akrotiri Salt Lake						20+	
Aspro Pools		25	20+		c20		
Larnaca Sewage Works	6					1	
Troodos			10				
Bishop’s Pool							1
Troodos			15				

HOUSE MARTIN *Delichon urbica*

Common passage migrant and breeding summer visitor. Spring passage is usually from mid-February peaking in April to mid May. The passage is less noticeable in the autumn.

The first reported sighting was on 20th February when 8 were seen at Oroklini followed by 4 at Paphos on the 27th.

In March small numbers were reported from both east and west with 12 at Achelia dam on the 11th. 50+ were present in Kathikas on the 18th at their breeding ground at the church.

Up to 4 were seen the whole month of April at Oroklini with around 10 at Evretou Dam on the 2nd. Numbers increased to 60+ at Aspro Pools on the 5th, 15 in the Akamas on the 7th and over 80 at Cape Greco on the 7th. On the 9th Trooditissa saw around 20, a similar number at Curium Cliffs on the 18th and 12 at Akhna dam on the 20th. On the 24th there were 20 at Bishop’s Pool and 20 at Cape Greco on the 26th.

Arminou Dam has a large nesting colony and many birds were seen there on the 5th plus more than 60 in the Dhiarizos valley. On the 8th 20+ were reported at Bishop’s Pool, over 50 in the Akamas on the 11th, around 80 at Aspro dam on the 15th. During June there was one remarkable record of around 2500 in Pedhoulas with 345 nests recorded. At Kakopetria on the 23rd 4 nests with young were seen.

From July to October there were very few reports, the most notable being around 60 at Eagles’ Baths on the 8th July, and over 30 at Kakopetria on the 26th August. The final report was of 2 at Akhna Dam on the 1st October

Site	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Oct
Akamas			c15	50+				
Akhna Dam			12					2
Arminou Dam				Many				
Aspro Pools			60+					
Aspro Dam				c80				
Bishop's Pool			20	20+				
Cape Greco			80+					
Dhiarizos Valley				c60				
Eagles' Baths						c60		
Kakopetria							30+	
Kathikas		50+						
Pedhoulas					2500			
Trooditissa			20+					
Oroklini	8							

RICHARD'S PIPIT *Anthus novaeseelandiae*

A scarce passage migrant from late March to April and mid-October to November.

There were only 2 reports this year both at the Paphos Lighthouse Area. The first was spotted on 21st January (**CB**) and the second on 13th February (per **JJG**)

TAWNY PIPIT *Anthus campestris*

A spring passage migrant usually in small flocks. The main passage is from mid-March to April although a few occur in February. It is seen occasionally from August to November.

The first record was on 11th March at Akrotiri Gravel Pits when 2 birds were seen. From this date to the end of the month there were 11 further reports with numbers of 1 to 8 from all parts of the island.

April saw many reports from different parts of the island, although most were from the west. The most significant numbers were 11 at Aspro Dam on the 3rd and 10 in the Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 20th. From the east of the island the highest number was 4 at Larnaca Airport on the 10th.

During May there were only 6 reports – 4 at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on the 1st, 6 at Cape Drepanum on the 1st, 9+ on the 2nd, 3 on the 3rd and 1 on the 5th and 1 at Mandria on the 16th.

From the 1st of September through to November there only 6 reports – at Akrotiri Salt Lake, 2 on the 1st September, 1 on the 15th, at 2 on the 10th October and 3 on the 12th and at Paphos Lighthouse Area 3 on the 18th November.

TREE PIPIT *Anthus trivialis*

Common spring passage migrant but less frequent in the autumn.

There were several records during March with the first occurring on the 17th when 2 were reported at Curium. Apart from one further report of a singleton at Cape Greco on the 31st, all other reports were from the west of the island – 1 in the Akamas on the 24th, at Paphos Lighthouse Area 2 on the 24th, 1 on the 27th and 3 on the 31st.

During April there was a steady build up of numbers with heavy falls occurring on the 12th, 13th and 14th. On the 12th there was a report of 75 in the Akamas, 32 at Mavrokolymbos Dam and 10 in the Paphos Lighthouse Area. The 13th there was a count of 50 in the Akamas and 12 at Mandria. Finally on the 14th there were still over 20 in the Akamas and over 30 at Smyies. For the remainder of the month there were reports of small numbers of 1 to 10 mainly from the east of the island.

During May there were 2 reports of singletons at Cape Drepanum on the 2nd and 9th. In the autumn there were reports during October of 3 at Phasouri Reed Beds on the 15th, with 2 on the 18th, 1 in the Akamas on the 17th and for November 1 at the Paphos Lighthouse Area, 2 at Mandria on the 17th and 27th and 1 at Akhna Dam on the 24th.

Site	Mar	Apr	Nov
Akamas		75	
Cape Greco		10	
Mandria		12	2
Mavrokolymbos Dam		32	
Paphos Lighthouse		10	1
Smyies		30+	
Curium	2		

MEADOW PIPIT *Anthus pratensis*

A common winter visitor and passage migrant mainly occurring from October to March on low open ground.

The first report for the year was on 5th January when 40 were counted at Chlorakas. Throughout the month there were large flocks over all the island the most notable being 70 at Chlorakas on the 11th, 20 at Cape Greco on the 13th and 20 at Oroklini Marsh on the same date, 20 at Akhna Dam on the 17th, 30 at Paphos Lighthouse on the 19th and 20 at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 27th.

During February numbers were still high with 30 at Chlorakas on the 5th, 70 at Coral Bay on the 6th, over 20 at Paramali on the 8th, 20 at Akhna Dam on the 12th, 30 at Paphos Lighthouse on the 21st and 30 at Larnaca Sewage Works on the 24th.

During March there were several reports of large flocks one of the largest being a fall of 100 at Potamos Liopetri on the 8th. Other large numbers were around 20 at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on the 7th, an estimate of 80 at Ayia Varvara on the 11th, about 25 on the 13th at Akrotiri, on the 14th 50 at Cape Greco and 30 at Curium.

During April numbers tailed off with only 4 reports of 1 to 5 birds.

In October numbers were returning with 14 at Mandria on the 14th but the main influx was in November. On the 2nd over 100 were counted at Phasouri Reed Beds with over 60 on the 28th, 30 at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on the 4th and 40 on the 10th and 18th, 40 at Phasouri Reed Beds on the 4th, up to 20 at Oroklini Marsh on the 5th, 20 at Zakaki Marsh on the 10th, around 60 at Mandria on the 17th, about 40 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 18th, 20 at Ayia Napa on the 26th and approximately 80 at Mandria on the 30th.

During December numbers were still high with around 150 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 9th, 20 or more at Zakaki Marsh on the 22nd, 35 at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on the 23rd, 30 at Bishop's Pool on the 26th and the final report for the year on the 31st of approximately 40 at the Paphos Lighthouse Area.

Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akhna Dam	20	20				
Akrotiri Gravel Pits			c20		30	35
Akrotiri Salt Lake	20		c25			
Ayia Napa					20	
Ayia Varvara			80			
Bishop's Pool						30
Cape Gata			c10			
Cape Greco	20		50			
Chlorakas	70	50				
Coral Bay		70				
Curium			30			
Larnaca Sewage Works		30+				
Mandria				14	80	10
Oroklini Marsh	20	15	12		20	
Paphos Lighthouse	30	30			40	c40
Paramali		20+				c150
Phasouri Reed Beds					100+	
Potamos Liopetri			100			
Zakaki Marsh					20	20+

RED-THROATED PIPIT

Anthus cervinus

Common passage migrant and winter visitor. Main spring passage occurs March to May and in the autumn October to November.

The first record was of 3 at Cape Drepanum on March 24th followed by a singleton at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 26th and another singleton on the 29th at Perivolía.

Early in April there were reports of 4 large flocks – 15 at Mandria on the 1st and around 20 on the 22nd, 30 at Larnaca Sewage Works on the 2nd and 20 at Perivolía on the 2nd with 15 there on the 4th.

There was only one report for May of 2 at Evretou Dam on the 3rd.

From the 10th of October to 23rd of December there were only 11 reports varying from 1 to 5 birds with the last sighting being 2 at Larnaca Sewage Works on the 23rd December.

Site	March	April	December
Mandria		20	
Cape Drepanum	3		
Larnaca Sewage Works		30	2
Perivolía		20	

WATER PIPIT

Anthus spinoletta

Fairly common spring passage migrant from late March to early May. Less frequent in the autumn and scarce in the winter.

The first record for 2002 was of a singleton at Larnaca Sewage Works on the 19th followed by another singleton at Zakaki Marsh on the 22nd.

Only one sighting in February of a singleton in the Pyla buffer zone.

During March there was a steady trickle of birds varying from 1 to 3 all from the east of the island with the exception of 2 at Ayia Varvara on the 11th.

The first autumn birds were recorded on the 26th October at Mandria when 3 were seen. From this first autumn sighting to the end of December, most reports were from the east of the island except for a singleton remaining at Mandria on the 27th and 30th of October. The final report was on the 30th December when a singleton was on Lady's Mile.

YELLOW WAGTAIL *Motacilla flava*

Three races occur as very common passage migrants, M.f.feldegg, flava and thunbergi. Usually hundreds and sometimes thousands occur from March to mid-May and August to October. Occasionally, mainly in the spring, there are a few records that refer to the races M.f.cinereocapilla, bema and lutea. Winter sightings are rare.

This year the birds were later than usual arriving and the first one was not seen until March 31st when a singleton was recorded at Paphos Lighthouse Area.

Early in April all the records were from the east of the island with a large count of 30 at cape Greco on April 3rd. Numbers then began to build up, particularly in the west when over 200 were recorded at Mandria on the 10th, 20 at Coral Bay on the 12th, about 40 at Evretou Dam on the 15th. In the east Oroklini Marsh had 50 on the 12th, about 50 at Avdimou Valley on the 14th, 30 at Akrotiri salt Lake on the 18th and around 50 at Bishop's Pool on the 21st.

The 1st May saw over 200 at Cape Drepanum, which had dwindled to 50 by the 9th, in addition to over 30 at Mandria also on the 1st. The remainder of May saw small numbers being recorded from various parts of the island.

In August 3 were regularly at Akhna Dam from 10th to the 28th but on the 26th there were over 60 recorded at Mandria.

In September there were two notable counts of over 150 on the 15th at Paramali and over 40 at Episkopi on the 21st.

20th October saw an exceptionally large fall of over 200 at Mandria, reducing to c80 near the end of the month. From thereon there were a few records of 1 to 4 from most parts of the island with the last report being of a singleton on the Paphos Plain on November 11th.

Site	Mar	April	May	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov
Akrotiri Salt Lake		30					
Avdimou Valley		50					
Ayios Georgios(Peyia)		25					
Bishop's Pool		50					
Cape Drepanum			200				
Cape Greco		30					
Coral Bay		20					
Episkopi					40+		
Evretou Dam		40					
Mandria		200+	30	60+	30+	c200	
Oroklini Marsh		50					
Paramali					140+		
Paphos Lighthouse	1						
Paphos Plain							1

The following are sub-species extracted from the above records.

M.f.flava: A singleton at Oroklini Marsh on the 21st march with 3 further records for this month at Perivolía, 2 on the 29th, 4 at Aspro Pools on the 31st and 1 at Cape Greco also on the 31st.

At Mandria on the 1st of April there was a large count of around 40, at Oroklini Marsh on the 2nd up to 10, at Perivolía on the 4th 18, followed by over 20 at Mandria on the 8th. Further large counts for this month were 20 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 19th and 15 in the Dhiarizos River Valley on the 23rd.

At the beginning of May there was one large record of around 40 at Mandria but numbers declined for the remainder of the month varying from 1 to 4 all from the east with two exceptions – 3 at Aspro Pools on the 5th and 3 at Coral Bay on the 22nd.

The first autumn record was about 250 at Mandria on the 14th August, which had decreased slightly to around 200 by the 2nd September. There were 55 recorded at Cape Greco on the 14th September with no more significant numbers until about 10 were reported at Mandria on the 3rd October, 24 at Bishop's pool on the 15th October, about 20 at Aspro Pools on the 20th October and finally 1 at Mandria on the 4th November.

Site	Mar	Apr	May	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov
Aspro Dam						20	
Bishop's Pool						24	
Cape Greco	1				55		
Dhiarizos River Valley		15					
Mandria		40	40	250	200	10	1
Oroklini Marsh	1	10					
Paphos Lighthouse Area		20					
Perivolía	1	18					

M.f.thunbergi: There were only 10 records during the spring. On the 29th March there were 2 at Kiti Dam and the same number at Perivolía. At Cape Greco on the 1st April there was a singleton and on the 17th, 23rd, 27th a singleton at Paphos Lighthouse Area. Three further singletons were recorded at Dhiarizos River Valley on the 23rd April, on the 2nd May at Cape Greco and at Sotira Pools on the 4th May.

M.f.beema: Only three records for the year –1 male at Sotira Pools on the 4th May, 4 at Mandria on the 16th May and a singleton at Akrotiri Salt Lake on 28th October.

M.f.feldegg; Up until the 24th March all records were from the east of the island, in particular Oroklini Marsh. From the 3rd to the 22nd March there were from 1 to 5 birds present here and it was not until the 20th of March that there was a record of 1 at Cape Greco. On the 24th March there were 12 at Cape Drepanum and on the same date a first report from the west of 2 at Evretou Dam. The east still dominated reports for the remainder of March with from 1 to 8 birds reported, broken only by a record of 3 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 31st.

During April numbers built up. On the 1st around 60 were recorded at Paphos, 20 at Kiti Dam on the 2nd, 12 at Larnaca Sewage Works on the same date and approximately 10 at Mandria on the 8th with the same number at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 17th. Numbers then declined to singletons in various locations around the island until the final record was of 1 at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 28th August.

Site	March	April	August
Paphos Lighthouse Area		10	
Paphos		60	
Oroklini Marsh	5		
Mandria		10	
Larnaca Sewage Works		12	
Kiti Dam		20	
Cape Greco		12	
Cape Drepanum	12		
Akrotiri Salt Lake			1

CITRINE WAGTAIL *Motacilla citreola*

A scarce spring passage migrant that has become more regular over the last few years.

All records this year, bar one, are for the spring, beginning with a male singleton at Oroklini Marsh on the 14th March, and further singletons at the same site on the 28th and 31st. There was a singleton also present at Aspro Pools on this date.

In April the first record was of a singleton at Oroklini Marsh that stayed until the 3rd, a female singleton at Evretou Dam on the 2nd followed by singletons at Cape Greco on the 7th, Evretou Dam on the 15th and Mandria on the 29th. The final spring record was a singleton at Akhna Dam on the 19th May.

The only autumn record was of a 1st winter bird at Zakaki Marsh on 10th November.

GREY WAGTAIL *Motacilla cinerea*

Fairly common passage migrant and winter visitor.

In January singletons were seen at Aspro Pools, Arminou Dam and Pano Paphos.

February saw singletons recorded in the buffer zone at Pyla and Aspro Pools. Only one record for March of a singleton at Cape Greco on the 9th and a similar story for April with a singleton at Aspro Pools on the 21st.

During the autumn numbers increased slightly with from 1 to 4 birds being recorded during September, October, November, and December. The final record was of 1 at Evretou Dam on the 31st December.

WHITE WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba*

A common passage migrant and winter visitor sometimes in flocks numbering hundreds. It is usually present from August to early May.

During January up to 4 were present the whole month at Oroklini Marsh and on the 10th January 200 were present in Nicosia

In February the largest counts were 11 at Evretou Dam on the 12th and 11 at Larnaca Salt Lake on the 19th.

However 110 were at Larnaca Salt Lake on the 1st March, 50 at Oroklini Marsh on the 4th, 20 at Akhna Dam on the 5th and 30 on the 8th, 35 at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 18th, and over 40 on the 30th, approximately 60 at Mandria also on the 18th, 15 at Strovolos on the 19th and around 25 at Aspro Pools on the 31st.

During April numbers declined with 1 to 5 birds recorded with the exception of over 20 at Curium Bay on the 7th, and around 10 on the 14th at Avdimou Valley.

May saw only singletons recorded, mostly in the east.

There were no more records until October when 2 were seen at Bishop's Pool on the 2nd. On the 14th there were around 60 present at Aspro Dam, over 100 at Mandria on the 15th, up to 50 at Oroklini Marsh and around 50 at Ayia Varvara.

During November there were frequent reports of 1 to over 40 from many sites on the island. There were over 10 at Phasouri Reed Beds on the 2nd, 10 at Bishop's Pool on the 4th, over 10 at Mandria on the 4th, over 20 at Happy Valley on the 7th, 20 in Episkopi on the 8th, around 10 at Zakaki Marsh on the 10th, over 40 at Symvoulos Dam on the 30th and during December 20 at Bishop's Pool on the 26th and 18 at Phasouri Reed Beds also on the 26th.

Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akhna Dam			30				
Akrotiri Gravel Pits			10				
Akrotiri Salt Lake			40+				
Aspro dam					60		
Aspro Pools			25				
Avdimou				10			
Ayia Varvara					50		
Bishop's Pool						10	20
Cape Greco			10				
Chrysochou Bay					10		
Curium Bay				20			
Episkopi						20	
Evretou Dam		11					
Happy Valley						20+	
Larnaca Salt Lake		11	110				
Mandria	10		60		100+	10+	30+
Nicosia	200						
Oroklini Marsh			50		50		
Phasouri Reed Beds						10+	18
Strovolos			15				
Symvoulos Dam						40+	
Zakaki Marsh						10+	

WREN *Troglodytes troglodytes*

A common resident that breeds on the higher and middle slopes of the Troodos range. In winter when it becomes more widespread a few are seen on lower ground.

Most records came from the foothills of the Troodos range, the first being a single at Lefkara Dam on March 6th. Two singing birds were reported from Theletra on March 24th and from Troodos on April 14th. Unsurprisingly the majority of the May sightings were also in the foothills region with singles at Agros, Platanistasa, Ay Marina and two at Pano Platres on the 11th. No specific family groups were recorded but a report of about fifteen birds at Adelphi Peak on May 16th was the highest count.

At lower altitudes two were at Avgas Gorge on October 16th and singles at Yialia and the lower Xeros River Valley at the end of December.

DUNNOCK *Prunella modularis*

A winter visitor in small numbers from October to early April. It is possibly also a rare passage migrant, but few records have been received.

Just two records; a single bird at Zakaki Marsh on January 22nd and four at Symvoulos Dam on November 30th.

RUFUS BUSH CHAT *Cercotrichas galactotes*

A very scarce passage migrant from mid-March to early May and August to mid-October with no more than three having been seen in any one year. There is one winter record.

One sighting only of a single bird at Aspro Dam on April 13th.

ROBIN *Erithacus rubecula*

A very common passage migrant and winter visitor from October to April.

Widespread sightings in January with up to four birds reported in Athalassa Forest on January 1st and smaller numbers across lowland regions from Larnaca Salt Lake to Evretou Dam. Ones and twos were at Bishop's Pool, Paramali, Kouklia Plain, Aspro Pools and Avgas Gorge. February was equally diverse with records from ten locations, the highest count being seven at Happy Valley on February 15th. Two at Paphos Lighthouse area on April 17th was the final record for the spring period.

Six winter visitors at Avgas Gorge on October 16th and five at Ayias Minas the following day heralded a steady influx throughout October and November with more than 160 birds at 18 locations. Between five and ten birds were present throughout November at Akrotiri Salt Lake with fifteen at Episkopi on November 7th and more than sixty at Symvoulos Dam on the 30th.

THRUSH NIGHTINGALE *Luscinia luscinia*

A fairly common, though rarely identified passage migrant from late March to early May and late August to October.

Just one record of a single bird at Cape Greco on May 2nd.

NIGHTINGALE *Luscinia megarhynchos*

A common summer visitor breeding species and passage migrant. It nests in valleys of the Troodos Range in pine forest and cultivated areas. Peak passage is from mid-March to May. It is more scarce in the autumn with passage from late August to mid-October.

March records came from just three locations with singles at Paphos Lighthouse Area on March 15th and 19th, Cape Greco on March 22nd and Kiti Dam on the 29th. Other March sightings at the same sites totalled thirteen birds. There was a steady flow of migrants throughout April; mainly coastal records until the 9th, when there were three at Kato Platres. Forty reports from nineteen locations involved a total of seventy-seven birds with seven at Ayias Minas on April 27th the highest count. Singing birds were reported from Mavrokolympos Dam on the 11th. April and from Kedares and Kidasi in the Dhiarizos Valley on the 13th and 15th. Records received during the breeding season came mainly from sites in the Troodos foothills and juveniles were reported at Marathasa on June 14th and Kelephos Bridge on July 3rd.

Autumn sightings centred on the Akrotiri peninsular with singles at the Salt Lake and Bishop's Pool on September 15th, two at Zakaki Marsh on October 12th and one at Bishop's Pool the following day.

BLUETHROAT *Luscinia svecica*

An autumn passage migrant and winter visitor from late August to early April, generally in single figure numbers. Spring passage birds are rarely seen. The most commonly occurring race is the red-spotted form L.s.svecica. L.s.cyanecula is much scarcer and there are just a few records of L.s.magna.

Just two February sightings from Akhna Dam, the most regular winter site. One white-spotted form, *L.s.cyanecula* on February 5th and two *L.s.svecica* on the 19th. A passage bird, again white-spotted was present on March 20th. Single migrant birds were at Cape Greco on March 8th and 26th and Oroklini Marsh on April 2nd.

The first returning autumn birds were at Oroklini in late October. A single on the 26th followed by two on the 30th and 31st. One bird was seen daily from November 3rd to 26th. A female was at Akrotiri Salt Lake on November 4th with single at Bishop's Pool on 9th, Zakaki 10th, Kouklia Pools 17th, Akhna Dam 24th plus two at Evretou Dam on the same day. Aspro Pools had singles on 5th and 6th December plus a first winter bird on the 9th. A first winter *L.s.svecica* was at Zakaki Marsh on December 22nd.

BLACK REDSTART *Phoenicurus ochruros*

A common and widespread passage migrant and winter visitor to lower areas from September to mid-April.

Almost all the sightings recorded during January and February were from the western coastal region with the majority at the Paphos Lighthouse Area. Exceptions were singles at Strovolos on January 1st., Larnaca Sewage Works on February 1st, two at Cape Greco on the 14th and two at Kouris Dam on the 17th. Highest January counts were the 15 at Paphos Lighthouse on the 19th and eight at Aspro. Dam on the 20th. Numbers remained high throughout February on the west of the island and the nine birds recorded at the lighthouse on the 21st. may well have been the last of the winter visitors.

Passage birds began to appear at the beginning of March with thirty-seven birds at Cape Greco between the 1st and 8th and twelve at Cape Gata in the same period. Several groups of between two and seven birds passed through these areas until March 16th and the final spring record was one at Paphos Lighthouse Area on March 24th.

In October returning birds were noted at Paramali on the 10th, Akrotiri 12th, Aspro Pools 17th, Armou 25th and Tala 31st, all singles. During November numbers rose steadily. Up to four were seen daily at Episkopi, twenty on the Akamas, November 7th and twenty on Paphos Lighthouse Area the same day. Singles recorded throughout the coastal lowlands, including Oroklini Marsh, until the 16th.

REDSTART *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

A common passage migrant from March to mid-May and mid-August to October. The race P.p.samamiscus is frequent in spring but very scarce in the autumn.

Passage was rather slow to get underway with two arrivals at Cape Greco on March 20th, one of which was a male of the race *P.p.samamiscus* and a single female at Kiti Dam next day. The only other March record was a female at Larnaca Sewage Works on the 30th.

April sightings showed a gradual spread around the island though numbers remained fairly small at most sites. Single birds were found at Kiti Lighthouse, Phasouri Reed Beds, Mandria, Armou and the Paphos Lighthouse Area. Smyies on the Akamas fringe attracted a total of twenty-two birds during the month with six on the 18th being the

highest count. Aspro Pools with two males and female on April 29th was the other site where a count beyond two was recorded.

In all there were just twenty-three records involving forty-five birds during the month. May saw birds at Ayios Georgios 1st and 2nd, a male at Cape Greco on the second and one at Aspro. Pools on May 9th.

Return passage was not recorded before October 5th when a single bird was at Mandria with single males at Bishop's Pool and Lysos the following day. From the 14th numbers began to increase with four at Paphos Lighthouse Area, three at Ineia on the 16th and twelve at Ayios Minas on the 17th. Two first year males were at Neo Chorio on the 28th October, two at Paramali on November 2nd and the final one for the year, another first year male at Episkopi.

WHINCHAT *Saxicola rubetra*

A common passage migrant from March to early May and mid-August to early November.

On April 3rd singles were at Akhna Dam, Aspro Dam, Oroklini Marsh and Paphos Lighthouse Area plus male and female at Cape Greco. Numbers rose steadily over the next few days, twenty-five through Cape Greco by the 10th and fourteen via Aspro Pools. Appreciable falls occurred in the period from April 12th to 15th with a ten and fourteen at Paphos Lighthouse, twenty at Smyies, up to twenty on the Akamas, fifteen in Avdimou Valley and fifteen at Aspro Dam. Numbers remained quite high in many locations for the rest of the month; eight at Paramali on the 17th, sixteen on Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 24th, six at Cape Greco and four at Sotira Pools on April 26th. In May thirty six birds were recorded before the final sighting at Bishop's Pool on the 11th.

Akrotiri Salt Lake proved a popular site for the returning birds with three on August 28th. Birds stayed there all September with the highest count of twenty on the 7th decreasing to one by month's end. Nine were at Mandria on October 12th with smaller groups, twos and threes, at fourteen sites across the island. The last record was a single at Aspro Pools on October 30th.

STONECHAT *Saxicola torquata*

The race S.t.rubicola is a very common and widespread winter visitor from October to April, mainly at lower altitudes.

The usually reliable Paphos Lighthouse Area appears to have been forsaken by the Stonechats of '01 – no birds recorded there at all during January and only twenty-one to the end of spring. Elsewhere two were at Oroklini Marsh on January 1st and three at Aspro Pools, both sets staying all month. Singles at Larnaca Salt Lake, Athalassa Forest and Spiro's Pools. Other January counts were twelve at Aspro Dam on the 20th and ten at Ayia Napa on the 24th. The only ten plus count in February was at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 1st, with eight at Coral Bay and seven at Chlorakas on the 6th. The only high count in March was of around twenty birds still at Akrotiri Salt Lake, otherwise numbers remained low. Exceptions were six at Evretou Dam on the 3rd and five at Ayia Varvara on the 11th. A probable passage bird, a male at Cape Greco on March 16th, displayed characters of *S.t.variegata*. Three other birds were at the same site on the 22nd, followed by a single female on March 26th.

A single bird was at Aspro Pools on October 10th and a second at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 12th. There followed a steady build up of numbers during the month; six at Aspro Dam on the 20th, six at Akhna Dam on the 21st, up to eight at Oroklini and over twenty

at Ayia Varvara by the 26th. In November forty birds at Paphos Lighthouse area on the 18th and twenty-five at Ayia Napa were the highest concentrations recorded.

ISABELLINE WHEATEAR *Oenanthe isabellina*

A common spring passage migrant from late February to early May. Less numerous in the autumn from mid-August to November.

Early migrants were at Chlorakas on February 3rd and 5th and Ayia Thekla on the 6th, all singles. A further seven birds were recorded by month's end. Following easterly winds there were small falls of fourteen birds at Cape Gata and the same number at Cape Greco on March 1st. The numbers built up steadily during the month and the highest counts recorded were eleven at Cape Greco on the 8th, ten on the 14th, thirty at Mandria on the 21st and a further twenty at Cape Greco on March 31st. More than 400 birds involved in 72 records from twenty sites. Strong passage was evident in the first week of April with at least eighty passing through Cape Greco and a further sixty at Curium Bay on April 7th. Numbers reduced greatly in the rest of the month but coastal sites continued to receive sightings until the beginning of May, with the last record from Cape Greco on May 2nd. During April there were 37 records totalling 204 birds from 15 locations.

Singles at Mandria on August 18th and Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 29th. There after records were very sparse indeed--four at Aspro Dam on September 5th, six at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 15th, five at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on October 1st and four at Mandria on the 21st. These were the only autumn counts greater than two with details of just 37 birds in 18 records; the final one a single at Akrotiri Salt Lake on October 28th.

NORTHERN WHEATEAR *Oenanthe oenanthe*

A very common passage migrant from February to May and August to early November.

The earliest spring migrant was at Dhypotamos Dam on February 28th followed by two males at Cape Greco on March 1st. During the first three weeks of March the majority of sightings came from sites on the Akrotiri Peninsular, principally Cape Gata with Cape Greco and Mandria accounting for almost all the remaining records. In the fourth week of the month there was a considerable increase in numbers throughout the island. Sixty were at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on the 21st plus twenty at Mandria on the same day, eighteen at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 27th and twenty-seven at Cape Gata on the 28th. Even larger concentrations were recorded in early April when passage peaked. A fall of ninety at Cape Greco on the 1st was followed by counts there of 35 (3rd), 30 (6th), 100+ (7th) and 75 on the eighth. Equally impressive were counts at other locations during the same period. Thirty were at Ayios Georgios (Peyia) and more than two hundred at Curium Bay on April 7th but in a count of eighteen at Paralimni Lake on the 5th many had been illegally trapped on limesticks.

Many smaller groups were recorded in April ranging from Ayia Napa in the east round to Lachi in the west. Eight at Ayios Nikolaos on the 6th, eight at Mandria on the 8th, ten at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 7th with singles at ten locations, the final one lingering on at Mandria until May 10th. Altogether a splendid spring passage with 150 reports of 1148 birds at 36 sites.

Autumn numbers were much lower. A single bird at Akrotiri Salt Lake on August 28th with four there by September 1st. Singles at Oroklini Marsh, Paphos Lighthouse and Mandria preceded the only notable fall of twenty nine at Cape Greco on September 14th. An interesting record was of thirteen juveniles at Anarita Park also on the 14th. Eleven birds at Larnaca Salt Lake and ten at Ayia Varvara on the 26th with eleven at

Akrotiri the next day were the other high counts. A few birds remained into November in the western coastal areas but a very late bird reported as "well seen" was at Ayia Varvara on December 3rd.

CYPRUS WHEATEAR

Oenanthe cyprica

A very common summer visitor and breeding species with the highest numbers occurring on the hills and mountains.

Into the extensive south-easterly foothills of Troodos for the earliest sighting at Lythrodhonda on March 6th just ahead of four through Cape Greco on the 8th. A rapid spread through the island during the next seven days with birds at Larnaca Sewage Works, Happy Valley, Ayia Varvara, Arminou Dam, and Aspro Dam as well as several groups at Cape Greco. A high fall of over thirty was noted at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on the 21st and reports indicate that it was now present in all areas with eight birds at Paramali recorded as resident from that date. Territorial sightings included pairs at Cape Greco on April 1st, Aspro Pools 2nd, Xeros Valley on the 3rd and ten birds at Smyies on the 12th. Over thirty birds were in the Dhiarizos Valley on May 5th along with many juveniles by the end of the month. Many juveniles are recorded throughout June. Three in a group of six birds at Pomos Dam; juveniles also present in a group of ten at Kalopanayiotis, the lowest lying of the villages of the Marathasa Valley, on the 14th. The wooded slopes around Lefkara yielded ten birds at Potamos Tou Ayias Mina and nine at Vavatsinia on the 8th with eight at Kalavastos, lower down the valley on the 26th. As might be expected Troodos and its environs dominate the list of juvenile sightings and twenty-nine were recorded in the month. July continued in a similar way with thirty birds at Troodos including five juveniles. Seven records from the area in July included ten juveniles in a total of seventy-three birds. Numbers decreased generally thereafter and the last report of juveniles was two at Karmi (Tala) on September 30th (**JM**). All the remaining records, twenty four, covering August to October came from lowland areas with six birds at Anarita Park on October 14th, seven at Ineia on 16th, eight on the Akamas 17th with the final bird at Episkopi on October 30th.

BLACK-EARED WHEATEAR

Oenanthe hispanica melanoleuca

A fairly common spring passage migrant from late March to early May. It is occasionally reported in the autumn from late August to October.

Not a vintage year for spring sightings after the 265 birds recorded in 1999 and the 325 in 2000 as just 120 birds were recorded from seventeen locations across the island. Single birds were at Larnaca Sewage Works on March 27th, Cape Gata and Mandria 28th, Cape Greco 29th and Aspro Pools 31st. Also on 31st two males were at Cape Greco and two at Mandria. One male at Cape Greco was the white-throated morph. A second white throated, a female, was at Kiti Dam on April 25th. The first week of April saw the largest falls across the island. Seven at Aspro dam on the 3rd, twelve at Cape Greco the same day and eight on the 7th. A further twelve birds were at Curium Bay also on the 7th. Elsewhere in April, three were at Anarita Park, three at Cape Kiti, two at Mandria, two at Paphos Lighthouse with singles at ten sites from Paralimni to Smyies. Five birds were recorded during May with one at Cape Drepanum staying until the 5th. A single bird was reported from Anarita Park on June 16th. Autumn birds matched the pattern of spring with just two records. Two birds at Cape Greco on September 14th and a month later on October 14th a single bird, again at Anarita Park.

FINSCH'S WHEATEAR

Oenanthe finschii

A winter visitor in small numbers and a scarce passage migrant with records from late September to March. Males outnumber females to a considerable degree.

A male bird at Ayia Napa on January 17th was an exception to the general pattern of January sightings as all others came from western locations. Reports came from the reliable area of stony, rocky slopes at the Phinikas end of Aspro Dam and the Xeros Potamos and beyond the two sites close by Anarita Park and Ayia Varvara. At the beginning of January, the 3rd, two males were at Xeros Potamos with a bird described as a brown female. The same bird was seen there with a male on January 20th and 27th. Five birds, three males and two females were at Aspro Dam on the 20th. A high count came from Ayia Varvara on the 24th – ten birds comprising eight males and two females. During February singles were recorded at Cape Greco, a male on the 5th, Kouris Dam 17th and the Pyla buffer zone on the 18th. A small passage may have occurred at the end of the month when four birds were at Anarita Park and four at Cape Greco on the 28th. Three were still there on March 1st with two on the 4th and one on the 7th. Similarly at Anarita Park with singles 1st and 3rd and two on the 11th. Singles also at Evretou Dam on the 3rd, Xeros Potamos on the 14th before the final record of a single female at Ayia Varvara on March 18th.

Five returning birds were at Mandria on October 12th with six at Ayia Varvara and Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 26th. November saw numbers building up steadily with eleven on Xeros Valley on the 17th, nine at Ayia Napa 26th and twenty at Ayia Varvara on the 28th dropping to six on December 3rd and four by the 21st. Birds were also recorded at Mamonia, Aspro Dam, Anarita, Ineia and Marathounda during December. Altogether 181 birds were involved in 60 reports from 16 sites.

DESERT WHEATEAR

Oenanthe deserti

A scarce passage migrant from March to mid-April and even less frequent in the autumn from mid-August to November. There was one winter record in 1987.

Early records were singles at Paphos Lighthouse Area of a male on February 13th and a female at Cape Greco on the 14th. Into March and a male was at Cape Greco on the 1st, another at Cape Gata 5th and a third on the football pitch at Paralimni on the 22nd. Single birds were well spread across the island in April. A female at Aspro Pools on the 1st and a male at Cape Greco the same day. A female was recorded at Paphos Lighthouse on the 4th and one at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 5th. The final group, still singles, were a male on the Akamas 13th, a female at Cape Greco, 18th and 19th and the last for the year, a female at Mandria on April 20th.

ROCK THRUSH

Monticola saxatilis

A scarce passage migrant from February to early May. Although there has been the occasional summer record there has been no evidence of breeding. It is rare in autumn from late August to mid-November.

Two males recorded on April 2nd, one at Evretou Dam and the other a first summer bird at Larnaca Sewage Works. A male was also recorded at Paralimni on the 3rd. On the 17th a further two birds were reported, one at Droushia, the other a male bird at Smyies.

The spring passage ended with a female recorded at Akrotiri Salt Lake on May 3rd.

BLUE ROCK THRUSH*Monticola solitarius*

Mainly a winter visitor to low rocky ground in single figures from mid-September to early April. A few records from late February to April refer to spring passage but there is little evidence of autumn movements. The species is rare in summer and there have been only three previous reports of breeding, two in 1991 and one in 1999, before the one detailed here.

Wintering birds, mainly singles, were recorded at several locations during January-around Kensington Cliffs, Cape Greco, Evretou Dam and Aspro Dam. Much the same spread in February though numbers increased at Cape Greco; four on the 14th and three on the 28th. Single birds were at Chlorakas, Kouris Dam and the Pyla buffer zone. Cape Greco was the scene for much of the movement noted during March with birds recorded there on seventeen dates. Records in ones and twos until the 9th but in the next week twenty three birds were reported; six on the 13th and 16th, four on the 17th with five more on the 28th. In the same period three were at Aspro Dam, two at Ayia Varvara plus a single at Anarita Park. Singles too at Kiti Dam, Avgas Gorge, Peyia and Chlorakas and a further two at Quarry Beach. Three birds were still at Cape Greco on April 3rd and on the 10th a male was singing at Aspro Dam. A record of a female at Cape Greco on May 3rd reports "agitated behaviour as if breeding" but a more certain record is of breeding at Kannaviou Quarry. It was reported as a possible nest site in 1999 but this year both birds were seen taking food to the nest and the young had fledged by May 25th (DW)

A male was singing from the Karmi (Tala) rooftops on September 30th but birds did not return to their more recognised wintering areas until mid-October. One was at Aspro pools 10th and singles at the Dam on the 20th and 22nd. A male bird was at Episkopi on the 14th and one at Peyia on October 28th and also November 27th. The year ended with records of birds at Kouris Dam and Happy Valley.

BLACKBIRD*Turdus merula*

A fairly common winter visitor in variable numbers from October to April. Since 1979 there have been summer records from the Troodos range and song is often heard.

First breeding record confirmed in 2000.

In the first three months of the year twenty-one records were received, but only two of them were not reporting single birds. Three were at Bishop's Pool on January 11th and three at Ayias Therapon in the Troodos foothills on the 24th. Singles were recorded all round the island including Athalassa Forest on 29th, Smyies on February 12th and Dhekalia on March 16th. Single birds in April at Cape Greco and Kiti Dam on the 15th were possibly the last of the migrants. Sightings thereafter until mid-July came exclusively from the Troodos range and foothills.

A male was on the Artemis trail on April 21st and six were at Kionia, on a mountain peaking at 1423 metres in the Makheras Forest on 27th. Sightings in May and June included the forest again and Troodos where two were in song on May 22nd. Much lower down in the foothills on June 8th two males were near Vavatsinia and a further three at Potamos Tou Ayia Mina. The final summer record was back in the high Troodos with one singing at Lemithou on July 24th.

Winter visitors were back at Paramali on October 22nd and Oroklini Marsh on the 28th. Numbers were low until November 10th when six at Akrotiri Salt Lake were followed up by a fall of thirty-two there next day. Another high count in November was ten at Avgas Gorge on the 23rd. Of the remaining November records more than half were at sites

around the Akrotiri Peninsular but the remaining ten were as far apart as Peyia Forest, Lysos, Aspro Pools and Oroklini marsh.

The year ended with birds settled in much the same areas, five at Bishop's Pool on December 15th, two in Coral Bay and four on Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 28th.

RING OUZEL *Turdus torquatus*

A scarce and irregular passage migrant and occasional winter visitor. Last recorded in 1995.

A single bird at Ayios Minas on October 17th of the ssp. *alpestris*.

FIELDFARE *Turdus pilaris*

A winter visitor in variable numbers.

Two were at Oroklini Marsh on October 30th and singles were recorded from Akrotiri Salt Lake on November 11th and December 23rd, 24th, and 28th.

SONG THRUSH *Turdus philomelos*

A common and widespread winter visitor from October to April.

A poor beginning to the year in terms of numbers with a high of five at the Xeros Potamos on January 27th. Scattered ones and twos in February were recorded at Cape Greco tip, Nata, Paramali and the Akamas. The only count into double figures occurred with the arrival of fifteen birds at Cape Pyla on February 19th. At the end of the month four were at Dhypotamos Dam. By mid-March a number of slightly higher counts showed that some migrants were here; four at Skarfos Bridge, four at Lefkara Dam and five at Paramali by the 5th. Six birds were at Cape Greco and five at Potamos Liopetri on the 10th and 11th but clearly the evidence was there that this was a spring with very few migrants. A count of twenty-five at the Akamas on March 21st was by far the highest count. Elsewhere ones and twos were recorded at coastal sites with just one record after the end of March, that of a single at Kiti Dam on April 8th.

The species was a little less scarce in the autumn. There was a fall of ten on the Akamas on October 17th to start things off followed by fifteen at Akrotiri Salt Lake on November 11th, ten at Xeros River Valley on the 17th and twenty at Avgas Gorge on the 23rd. Ones and twos then until December 22nd when there were counts of more than twenty at Bishop's Pool and over thirty at Coral Bay plus a further twenty six birds at six different sites.

REDWING *Turdus iliacus*

A scarce winter visitor, which may reach into double figures from late October to March.

Three singles at Akrotiri Salt Lake on November 11th and 13th and Coral Bay on December 22nd.

MISTLE THRUSH *Turdus viscivorus*

A winter visitor in variable numbers, most often seen from November to February.

Singles at Armou on November 23rd, Neo Kholetria December 4th, Kensington Cliffs December 23rd, Akamas February 12th and a later than usual bird at Happy Valley on March 13th.

CETTI'S WARBLER *Cettia cetti*

A widespread breeding resident with some dispersal in winter

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul.	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akrotiri Salt Lake				1				1			
Aspro Dam	2		3								
Aspro Pools	3	3	3	1			1				3
Athalassa Forest	4		3	3		4		1			
Ayia Varvara						3					
Bishop's Pool	2	2	2						1	1	
Dhiarizos Valley					10						
Episkopi						3					
Evretou Dam	4					2				1	
Happy Valley		4	2								
Kato Pyrgos			5								

A few were recorded at Achelia Dam, Akhna Dam, Avgas Gorge, Cape Greco, Kissonerga, Kouklia Plain, Paphos Tip, Paramali, and Zakaki Marsh. Most sightings were from January to May when they are more vocal. *Breeding Records* – No nests recorded although juveniles were seen at Episkopi and Evretou Dam.

FAN-TAILED WARBLER *Cisticola juncidis*

A widespread resident breeder on lower ground with dispersal in winter

There were also 10 seen at Phasouri Reed Beds in May in addition to the above. Ones and two's were seen at Akhna Dam, Cape Greco, Coral Bay, Kouris Dam, Latsia, Spiro's Pool and Bishop's Pool. *Breeding* – Juveniles were found at Ayia Varvara, Evretou Dam and Yialia.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akrotiri Salt Lake							6	4	1	2	
Aspro Dam			2						1		
Aspro Pools		2	2			1				3	2
Ayia Varvara					3						
Chlorakas	3										
Evretou Dam	2				2						
Kissonerga		1						1			
Kouklia											5
Larnaca Sewage	1									4	
Mandria		2					2	1			
Oroklini Marsh	1		4	4	4	5	5		2	2	3
Paphos Lighthouse		2	1	8						2	
Paramali	1	1	2						2		
Phasouri Reed Beds			2			1	3			6	
Zakaki Marsh			1	2	2			1			

SAVI'S WARBLER*Locustella luscinioides**A passage migrant in small numbers in March / April and late July to November.**One record by RT on 11th April at the Akrotiri Reed Beds.***MOUSTACHED WARBLER***Acrocephalus melanopogon**A regular winter visitor in small numbers from October to April and is usual found in wetland areas*

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Nov	Dec
Akhna Dam	1					
Aspro Pools	7	2	1	1	2	4
Quarry Pool						1

Recorded at only three sites and with the vast majority of records coming from the Aspro Pools with January seeing the highest count of seven. Nearly always found in reed beds adjacent to water

SEDGE WARBLER*Acrocephalus schoenobaenus**A passage migrant in variable numbers from March to May and August to November*

	Mar	Apr	May	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Akrotiri Gravel Pits		3					
Akrotiri Reed Beds		2					
Aspro Pools		2	1	1	2	1	
Bishop's Pool				2		1	1
Cape Drepanum	1		2				
Cape Greco		1	1				
Kiti Dam		2	1				
Paphos Lighthouse Area		1	1				
Xeros River		2					

Singles were seen at Sotira Pools (Mar), Droushia and Evretou Dam (Apr), Akhna Dam and Ayia Varvara (May), and Larnaca Sewage Works (Aug). A poor year with only 15 seen in April and the autumn passage showing far fewer birds.

REED WARBLER*Acrocephalus scirpaceus**A local migrant breeder and passage migrant in March –May and August - November*

	Mar	Apr	May	Jul	Sep	Oct	Nov
Akhna Dam		5	1				
Akrotiri		6					
Akrotiri Reed Beds		3					
Aspro Pools	2	2		1	1	1	1
Evretou Dam		5					
Ezousa		10					
Kiti Dam		2					
Kouris Dam	6						
Larnaca Salt Lake	3	1	4				
Phasouri Reed Beds	1	3					
Zakaki Marsh		3					

Singles in April at Zakaki Marsh, Cape Greco, Dhiarizos Valley and Paphos Tip with singles at Akhna Dam in November, Achelia Dam in July and Phasouri in October. *Breeding* – An adult was seen taking food for young at Larnaca Salt Lake. Most breeding takes place in the Akrotiri and Phasouri areas. Most sightings seen in spring would be passage migrants with 10 being seen in the Ezousa River area

GREAT REED WARBLER

Acrocephalus arundinaceus

A regular passage migrant in mainly single figures from mid March to early May with the main passage in the spring being in April. In autumn anytime between mid August to early November. Has bred in the past

	Apr	May	Aug	Sep	Oct
Akamas	1	1			
Akrotiri Reed Beds	3				
Aspro Pools	2	1	1	1	1
Bishop's Pool	1		1		1
Cape Drepanum		2			
Cape Greco			2		
Evretou Dam	2				
Kiti Dam	2				

Singles in April at Akhna Dam, Ezousa River, Nata, Oroklini Marsh, Paphos Lighthouse area and Phasouri Reed Beds. Singles were also at Melitis Forest in May and Phasouri in October. Again the main passage was in April when 17 different birds were recorded. Although this species has bred on the island there is no evidence of breeding this year.

OLIVACEOUS WARBLER

Hippolais pallida

The most common migrant breeder and also passage migrant. Arrives in March and usually leaves in October.

Main arrival in April. Autumn passage August to October.

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Sep	Oct
Akamas	3	4				
Akhna Dam	3					
Akrotiri Salt Lake	1	3	2			
Armou		1		1		1
Athalassa Forest	4		10	3		
Ayia Marina		4				
Ayia Varvara		2				
Dhiarizos River Valley		12				
Episkopi			2	1		
Evretou Dam		8				
Kannaviou Quarry						
Kissonerga		1			1	
Lemithou				5		
Letimbou		8				
Lythrodhonda	5					

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Sep	Oct
Nata	2					
Nicosia (riverbed area)	8					
Paphos Forest		2				
Paphos Lighthouse area	2					
Paramali		1		1	1	
Pelandria		1				
Phasouri Reed Beds	4					
Platania	4					
Strovolos- Nicosia	2	2				

Singles seen in April at Akrotiri Reed Beds, Bishops Pool, Cape Greco, Kiti Dam and Platania. In May at Pelandria and Yialia. In June at Aspro Pools and October at Arminou Dam and Aspro Dam. *Breeding* – Adults seen carrying food at Ayia Marina and Aspro Pools. One juvenile seen at Episkopi

ICTERINE WARBLER

Hippolais icterina

Scarce passage migrant in April – May, August - October but normally seen in spring.

	Apr	May	Sep
Akamas		1	
Aspro Pools	1		
Cape Drepanum		2	
Cape Greco		2	
Kritou Tera		1	
Oroklini Marsh	2		
Paphos Lighthouse Area	2	2	
Paramali		1	
Phasouri Reed Beds			1
Sephalas		1	

As in most years it was again scarce but 2 were seen at several sites in spring with only one sighting in autumn.

SPECTACLED WARBLER

Sylvia conspicillata

A locally common resident breeder.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Akrotiri Reed Beds				4						
Akrotiri Salt Lake							12	5	2	3
Aspro Dam			1	2	1				3	1
Aspro Pools			2	1	2				1	1
Ayia Napa										5
Cape Greco				40				12		
Kiti Dam				6						
Ladies Mile				1						3
Larnaca Sewage	1			10				2		2

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Oroklini		3								
Oroklini Marsh			6	6	4	20	3	2	4	3
Zakaki Marsh	2		3							1

There were 2 in June and 1 in December at Oroklini in addition to the above. Smaller numbers seen in spring at Ayia Varvara, Kissonerga, Neo Chorio, Spiro's Pool, Larnaca Airport Pools South and in the autumn at Akhna Dam and Pyla bz. Highest numbers to the East of the island. *Breeding*: - A family party of 6 seen at the Oroklini Marsh on 29th. March and at the same location adults were feeding juveniles on 30th. April.

SUBALPINE WARBLER

Sylvia cantillans

Passage migrant in variable numbers usually in March & April. There is one previous record in autumn.

	Mar	Apr
Akamas		1(f)
Cape Greco	1	1
Kiti Dam		1(f)
Paphos Lighthouse	1	1(f)
Phasouri		2

A poor year with only Phasouri having more than one sighting.

SARDINIAN WARBLER

Sylvia melanocephala

Formerly a winter visitor from October to April. However breeding was proved in 1992 on the Akamas peninsular and is now rapidly expanding its range eastward

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akamas		30	1	23	9	2			5	
Akrotiri Salt Lake									8	
Armou		1							1	1
Aspro Dam	1	1								
Aspro Pools									2	2
Avgas Gorge	5								6	
Ayia Napa									3	
Ayios Georgios (Peyia)				5	2					
Cape Greco	1		3							
Coral Bay				2						
Curium				2						
Episkopi									2	
Evretou Dam					4	1				
Ineia			2							
Ladies Mile										

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Lara	7								2	
Letimbou									2	
Neo Chorio								2		
Oroklini Marsh									1	1
Pomos Dam						4				
Smyies		1		10	2					
Yialia						3				1

Singles seen at Anadiou and Bishop's Pool in November, Kato Pyrgos in March, Kissonerga in September and Pissouri Beach in December. The vast majority of records are still coming from its stronghold on the Akamas peninsular. *Breeding*: - 2 family parties including fledged young were recorded in the Akamas on 12th April. A nest was found with 3 three young on 12th May again in the Akamas. 1 juvenile was found on the Akamas on 28th June. On 6th June 2 juveniles were seen at the Pomos Dam and on 11th June 2 juveniles were recorded at Yialia.

CYPRUS WARBLER *Sylvia melanothorax*

Resident and migrant breeder. Some of the population departs September to October and returns February to March. There is some evidence of contraction of breeding in the west following the expansion of Sardinian Warblers.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akamas					5				3	
Akrotiri Salt Lake					2					
Arakapas						2				
Armou										6
Aspro Dam	2		2	1	2			3		1
Aspro Pools	5	7	4	3	2	2	1	2	2	
Avdimou Beach			1					1		
Ayia Dhimitrian					2					
Ayia Mamas					2					
Ayia Therapon					1					
Ayia Marina					2					
Ayia Varvara	1				1	12				
Ayios Georgios					2		2			
Cape Gata			1							
Curium				4						
Dhiarizos Valley				3						

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dhyptomamos Dam	1	7								
Episkopi					3					
Evretou Dam			1		2					1
Happy Valley	8		4							
Kannaviou					3					
Kato Pyrgos			6							
Kelokedhara					3					
Kensington Cliffs	5	1						1		
Kissonerga		2			1		3			
Kiti Dam				1						1
Kouris Dam		3								
Kritou Tera					3					
Letimbou					3					
Mandria							2			
Mavro Dam										2
Mousere					2					
Nata				2						
Paphos Lighthouse area									2	
Paramali			7				3			
Peyia Forest			2							
Pyla bz		2								
Quarry Beach		5								
Secret Valley			15							
Troodos						2				
Xeros river				2						

There were also single sightings in Jul and Aug at Aspro Dam Pools

Singles seen in March at Akrotiri, Kalavassos, Makounta and Lachi. In May at Agros. In June at Argaka and Kambos. In October at Avgas Gorge and in December at Lower Xeros River Valley and Kouklia.

Breeding: - One juvenile recorded at Ayia Varvara in June. A male seen feeding juveniles at Kelokedhara in May and 2 juveniles recorded at Troodos in June.

RÜPPELL'S WARBLER

Sylvia rueppelli

A fairly common passage migrant in spring that passes mainly in March – April. Much scarcer in autumn when passage is August – November.

	Mar	Apr
Akrotiri Salt Lake		1
Aspro Pools	1	
Cape Gata	1	
Cape Greco	10	
Koukliia		1
Paramali	1	

The majority of birds recorded were at Cape Greco where 10 were present on 16th March.

DESERT WARBLER *Sylvia nana*
Accidental. Only 5 records prior to 2000

	April
Cape Greco	1 (13 th)
Paphos Lighthouse Area	1 (18 th)

With only five previous records the above were extremely good sightings and constitute the 6th and 7th records for Cyprus respectively. Recorded by **LG** [6th] and **SR** [7th].

ORPHEAN WARBLER *Sylvia hortensis*
A common migrant mainly in March to April but scarce in autumn passing from August to October

	Mar	Apr	May	Aug
Akamas		1		
Akrotiri Gravel Pits	3			
Akrotiri Salt Lake		2		
Aspro Pools		1		
Ayios Georgios (Peyia)		1		
Cape Greco	1		1	1
Cape Kiti		1		
Paphos Lighthouse area	2	1		
Paramali	1			

This species has been relatively scarce this year with the first spring sighting at Cape Greco on the 13th. March and the last at the same site on 2nd. May. The only autumn record, again from the same site was on the 18th. August.

BARRED WARBLER *Sylvia nisoria*
Passage migrant from March – May and August – October.

	Apr	May
Cape Greco	1(f)	1(f)

The only records for this year refer to females seen at Cape Greco on 18/4 and 2/5

LESSER WHITETHROAT *Sylvia curruca*

Although there are records for all months it is mostly a very common passage migrant with most passing in spring from March to May. Smaller autumn passage from August to October.

	Mar	Apr	Sep	Oct
Akamas		2		3
Akrotiri Salt Lake		10		
Aspro Dam	1	1		
Aspro Pools	8	1		3
Cape Greco	50	10		
Happy Valley	12			
Kissonerga			2	
Kiti Dam	5			
Neo Chorio		1		2
Paphos Lighthouse area	7	10		12
Paramali	1	1		
Secret Valley	2			
Sotira Pools	2			

Singletons seen in March at Ayia Napa Pool, Cape Gata and Larnaca Sewage Works. In April at Akhna Dam, Ayios Nikolaos, Droushia, Episkopi, Kouklia, Lemba, Mavrokolympos Dam and Zakaki Marsh. In May at Cape Drepanum and in *October* at Phasouri Reed Beds. The highest total recorded was at Cape Greco on 27th. March where 50 were found following a 'fall'. Good totals were recorded at Paphos Lighthouse area in both spring and autumn.

COMMON WHITETHROAT *Sylvia communis*

Common passage migrant, which in spring passes mainly from March to May and in fewer numbers August to October.

	Mar	Apr	May	Sep
Akamas		3	1	
Akrotiri Reed Beds		2		
Cape Drepanum			3	
Cape Greco	6	1		
Kissonerga				2
Kiti Dam	1	1		
Mandria		1	1	
Paphos Lighthouse area	1	3		
Smyies		3		

Singles seen in April at Akrotiri, Ayias Mina, Coral Bay, Curium, Melanda Beach and Neo Chorio. In May at Melitis Forest and the only autumn record in September from Paramali. The main passage month was April.

GARDEN WARBLER *Sylvia borin*

A passage migrant in small numbers from March to May and August to October.

	Apr	May	Oct
Bishop's Pool			1
Cape Drepanum		1	
Cape Greco		2	
Paphos Lighthouse area	1		

Not a good year with single records from only three sites and the highest count of 2 at Cape Greco. Only one autumn record from Bishop's Pool on 2nd October

BLACKCAP *Sylvia atricapilla*

A very common passage migrant and winter visitor

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akamas		1	3	30					
Akhna Dam				2					
Akrotiri Salt Lake				5				8	
Armou		2		1					1
Aspro Dam			3				2		
Aspro Pools			2	2	1				1
Avgas Gorge	4		10						
Ayias Mina							8		
Ayios Georgios (Peyia)					6				
Bishop's Pool						3	1	4	1
Cape Greco			20	10+	8				
Chlorakas	1	2							
Episkopi							1	20+	
Evretou Dam				2					1
Happy Valley		2	1						
Kissonerga		2				2			
Kiti Dam			8	7					
Lachi				7					
Lythrodhonda				3					
Mandria		2						2	
Neo Chorio							3		
Oroklini Marsh	2		1				1	1	2
Paphos Lighthouse area		2	2	5+			6+		
Paramali			1	2			5		
Strovolos	2		2						

Singles seen in March at Ayia Napa Pool and Larnaca Sewage Works. In April at Lefkara Dam. In May at Pitargou and Yialia and in December at Achelia Dam, Kouklia

Plain and Paphos Seen in every month with the exception of June – August. Highest counts of 20 at Cape Greco in March and 20+ at Episkopi in November.

Eastern Bonelli's Warbler

Phylloscopus orientalis

A passage migrant in variable numbers. Passes in spring from March to May and in lesser numbers in autumn from September to October

	Apr	May	Oct
Akrotiri Salt Lake	1		
Aspro Dam		1	
Aspro Pool			1
Ayias Mina	1		
Cape Greco	4		
Kiti Dam	1		
Lachi	1		
Lemba	1		
Neo Chorio	1		
Smyies	1		

The vast majority of the records were in April and all singletons with the exception of 4 being recorded at Cape Greco. There was 1 record in May and a single autumn record in October at the Aspro Pools

WOOD WARBLER

Phylloscopus sibilatrix

A passage migrant in good numbers in spring from March to May and considerably less numbers in autumn from August to October

	Apr	May
Akamas	7	1
Akrotiri Salt Lake	3	
Aspro Dam	1	1
Aspro Pools	2	
Lachi	3	
Paphos Lighthouse area	2	

Singles seen in April at Cape Greco, Kiti Dam, Lythrodhonda, Melanda Beach and Smyies. In May at Cape Drepanum, Goudi and Pomos. There was no record outside the months of April / May. The highest count of 7 was at the Akamas on 12th. April.

CHIFFCHAFF *Phylloscopus collybita*

A very common passage migrant and winter visitor. Present mainly from October to April.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Oct	Nov	Dec
Achelia Dam							15
Akamas				1	25		
Akhna Dam			3			1	
Akrotiri Salt Lake						5	
Aspro Dam	6		2				
Aspro Pools	20	3	6	1	3	6	11

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Oct	Nov	Dec
Ayia Napa Pool			3				
Bishop's Pool	5				2	4	3
Cape Greco	5	5	50	6			
Chlorakas	5	6					
Arminou Dam	5						
Episkopi					1	4	
Evretou Dam	5						
Happy Valley		4	20+				
Kathikas						3	
Kiti Dam			20	2			
Kouklia Pools							
Larnaca Salt Lake	1	3				6+	
Larnaca Sewage Works	2					2	
Mandria		4	1	1	6		5
Neo Chorio					3		
Oroklini area			3				
Oroklini Marsh	4				8	8	3
Paphos Lighthouse area	5	7	c30	1			
Paramali		5+	3				
Phasouri Reed Beds	2					2	
Symvoulos Dam						20+	5

Lesser numbers at Akrotiri Salt Lake, Androlikou, Cape Gata, Cape Zevgari, Kensington Cliffs, Khapotami Gorge, Kissonerga, Pyla bz, Quarry Pool, Sotira Pool and Trooditissa. Highest counts at Cape Greco (50) Paphos Lighthouse area (30) with Happy Valley, Kiti Dam, and Symvoulos Dam all having counts of 20. March was the most productive month.

WILLOW WARBLER

Phylloscopus trochilus

A common passage migrant from March to May and August to October but has been recorded in all months of the year. More common in the autumn.

	Apr	May	Aug	Sep	Oct
Achelia Dam					3
Akamas	1				10
Akhna Dam			1	1	
Akrotiri Gravel Pits				7	
Anarita Park					11
Aspro Dam				8	1
Aspro Pool	2			15	4
Avdimou Beach				5	
Bishop's Pool				2	2
Cape Drepanum	1	2			
Cape Greco	1		1	5	

	Apr	May	Aug	Sep	Oct
Larnaca Sewage Works	1			6	
Mandria				c30	7
Melitis Forest		10+			
Paphos Lighthouse area	4				
Paramali		1	1	6	3
Zakaki Marsh	1				1

Singles recorded in April at Kiti Dam, Neo Chorio and Spiro's Pool. In May at Ayios Anergia and Ayios Georgios (Peyia) In September at Episkopi, Kissonerga and Phasouri Reed Beds and in October at Coral Bay. The main passage this year was in September and Mandria had the highest count of c30 on the 2nd.

GOLDCREST *Regulus regulus*

Winter visitor in variable numbers to high or low ground, usually in pine trees.

Bishop's Pool was the only site from which this species was reported this year. There was 1 on the 11th Nov and 2 there on the 25th.

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa striata*

A summer breeding species and passage migrant. Breeds mainly in the forests of the Troodos Range.

Site	Apr	May	Aug	Sep	Oct
Akamas	c90	c25			
Akrotiri Salt Lake	c30			1	1
Asprokremnos Dam	2	5			
Aspro Dam Pools	c10	4	1		3
Bishop's Pool	8	11			2
Cape Greco	2	4	1		
Kiti Dam	3	5			
Mandria	5	1		1	1
Paphos Lighthouse Area	1				3
Paramali	11	2			
Smyies	c10				

First date was 1st Apr at Oroklini; last date 19th Oct at Aspro Pools.

Reported from Achelia Dam on 10 May [1]; Akhna Dam on 4 Sep [1]; Armou on 19 & 25 Apr [1]; Ayia Marina on 15 May [2]; Ayios Giorgios on 1 May [2]; Dhiazos River Valley on 5 May [1]; Droushia on 16, 17 & 18 Apr [1]; Evretou Dam on 12 May [3]; Ezousa River on 28 Apr [1] and on 10 May [3]; Kelefos Bridge on 3 Jul [1] and on 27 Sep [2]; Kissonerga on 3, 9, 18 and 24 [1] and on 10 [2]; Letimbou on 6 May [1]; Lythrodhonda on 27 Apr [5]; Melanda Beach on 14 Apr [3]; Neo Chorio on 16 Apr [1] and on 21 May [1]; Oroklini on 1 Apr [24]; Peyia on 3, 5, 10 and 12 [1]; Phasouri Reed Beds on 26 Apr [1] and on 15 Oct [1] and at Zakaki Marsh on 28 Apr [2].

RED-BREASTED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula parva**Scarce passage migrant.*

Just the one report, 1 female seen at Ayia Napa Pool on the 24th Apr.
 No details of observer recorded.

SEMI-COLLARED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula semitorquata**A scarce passage migrant in the spring.*

First reported from Kiti Dam on the 28 Mar [1 male]. Then a female at Kiti Dam on the 10 Apr; Smyies on the Akamas on 12 Apr [1]; Aspro Dam on 13 Apr [1]; Smyies on 14 Apr [1] and at the Akamas on 16 Apr [1 female].

COLLARED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula albicollis**A fairly common spring passage migrant, extremely rare on the return passage in the autumn.*

Site	Mar	Apr
Akamas	1 male	c100 peak-13 th
Akrotiri Salt Lake		80+ peak-11 th
Asprokremnos Dam		5 peak-11 th
Kiti Dam		20 peak-12 th
Paramali	1	20 peak-17 th

First date was 24 Mar at both Akamas and Paramali. Last date was of 3 males at Smyies on the 25th Apr.

All records refer to April unless otherwise stated.

Reported from Bishop's Pool on 11 [2]; Cape Greco on 6 [1 male]; Curium on 11 [1]; Droushia on 15 [2]; Kouklia Plain on 6 & 11 [1]; Ladies Mile on 11 [3]; Lasa on 15 [1]; Melanda Beach on 14 [2]; Oroklini on 12 [1]; Paphos Lighthouse Area on 12 [4]; Secret Valley on 25 Mar [1]; Smyies on 14 [30+] and Xeros Potamos on 16 [1 male].

PIED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula hypoleuca**A common spring passage migrant occasionally getting into 3 figures. Very scarce on the return passage in the autumn.*

Site	April	May
Akamas	c90. Peak on 13 th and 14 th	1 female on 5 th
Akrotiri Salt Lake	17. Peak on 12 th	
Asprokremnos Dam	7. Peak on 13 th	
Bishop's Pool	10. Peak on 24 th	
Kiti Dam	14. Peak on 25 th	
Paphos Lighthouse	7. Peak on 27 th	
Smyies	c130. Peak on 12 th and 25 th	1 female on 10 th .

First date was 4th April at Kiti Dam [1 male]. Last date was the female at Smyies on the 10th May.

Also reported from Ayias Marinas on 9 May [1 female]; Ayios Anergia on 3 May [1 female]; Ayios Giorgios on 24 Apr [2] and 3 May [1 male]; Cape Greco on 3 May [2]; Droushia on 15 Apr [4], 16 Apr [3] and 17 Apr [4]; Ezousa River on 28 Apr [1]; Lasa on 15 Apr [2]; Mandria on 25 Apr [8]; Melanda Beach on 14 Apr [6]; Neo Chorio on 16 Apr [2] and Paramali on 17 Apr [10+].

COAL TIT *Parus ater Cypriotes*

This very distinctive endemic race is found in the higher reaches of the Troodos Range.

Reported from Adhelphi Peak on 16 May [12]; Argaka on 6 Jun [4 incl. 3 juvs.]; Arminou Dam on 19 Oct [2]; Ayia Marina Dam on 31 May [2]; Kalapanayiotis on 14 Jun [3 incl. 1 juv.]; Kambos on 14 Jun [3 incl. 1 juv.]; Kannaviou on 25 May [7]; Kykko on 15 Jun [2 juvs.]; Lemithou on 24 Jul [2]; Paphos Forest on 26 Dec [10+]; Platania on 16 Apr [1]; Pomos Dam on 4 Mar [4] and on 6 Jun [2 incl. 1 juv.] and at Troodos on 17 Feb [10], 14 Apr [1], 8 Jul [5] and 25 Dec [2].

GREAT TIT *Parus major*

A common breeding resident throughout the island.

Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Akamas			1		5					
Asprokremnos Dam	2		3							
Aspro Dam Pools	1	2		1	4					
Happy Valley	1	5							3	
Kissonerga	2						2			
Kouklia Plain	2		2	1						1
Oroklini		1	1	1		1	2	2	1	1
Paphos Lighthouse	1	5	6	7						
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Paramali	6		1			1	2	3		
Strovolos	2		2							

Also reported from Adhelphi Peak on 16 May [2]; Argaka on 6 Jun [2 juvs]; Athalassa all Jan [max. 2]; Ayia Varvara on 7 Jun [2 + 2 juvs]; Ayios Giorgios on 20 May [1]; Dhypotamos Dam on 28 Feb [3]; Episkopi on 14 Nov [8]; Evretou Dam on 21 Jan [3]; Kykko on 15 Jun [2 + 3 juvs]; Makounta on 31 May [3]; Mandria on 8 Sep [1]; Nicosia all Jan [max. 2]; Randi Forest on 30 May [2] and Troodos on 17 Feb [6].

WALLCREEPER *Tichodroma muraria*

A scarce winter visitor to well known sites; wonder how many we don't know about!

All records refer to sightings of single birds.

First seen on 20 Nov at Quarry Beach; then on 23 Nov near the White River Restaurant on the Akamas where it stayed for a few days; Kensington Cliffs on the 12 Jan and then the last date, 11 Feb at Quarry Beach.

SHORT-TOED TREECREEPER *Certhia brachydactyla dorotheae*

A common breeding resident inhabiting the higher reaches of the Troodos Range. The race dorotheae is endemic

Reported from Kannaviou Quarry on 25 May [2]; Kykko on 15 Jun [2]; during a COS(57) Field Trip to the Troodos on 17 Feb [1] and again in Troodos on 26 May [2].

PENDULINE TIT *Remiz pendulinus*

A scarce to fairly common winter visitor to wetland areas.

First reported from Larnaca Salt Lake on 15 Jan [6] and they remained in the area until the 7 Mar when they were last reported. Also reported from Akhna Dam on 16 Apr [1]; Bishop's Pool on 10 Nov [3] and finally from the lower Xeros Potamos on the 30 Dec [5].

GOLDEN ORIOLE *Oriolus oriolus*

Fairly common spring passage migrant, much less frequent in the autumn. Also a scarce and local migrant breeder.

Site	Apr	May
Akamas		3 females and 1 12 th then 19 th
Akrotiri Salt Lake	6 and 3 27 th then 28 th	10+ 3 rd
Armou	1 and 3 19 th then 27 th	1 24 th
Asprokremnos Dam	6 males and 4 males 25 th then 28 th	1 7 th
Bishop's Pool	1 male 21 st	c10 3rd
Kiti Dam	1 and 5 16 th then 19 th	
Paphos Lighthouse Area	1 male from 17 th to 27 th	1 female 5 th

First date, 2 females at Tera on the 15th April.

Also reported from Droushia on 17 Apr [1 male]; Cape Greco on 19 Apr [1 male]; Melanda Beach on 19 Apr [2]; Ayios Giorgios on 24 Apr [4]; Ayios Anergia on 3 May [3]; Coral Bay on 4 May [1]; Fasoula on 4 May [1]; Evretou Dam on 10 May [1 male]; Smyies on 10 May [5 females]; Kritou Tera on 14 May [1]; Lysos on 14 May [1 female]; Xeros Potamos on 16 Jun [1 male]; Lemithou on 24 Jul [1] and Kissonerga on 18 Sep [1 juvenile].

ISABELLINE SHRIKE *Lanius iasbellinus*

A rare passage migrant but now reported more frequently, increased observer coverage? The 2 spring records, already accepted, represent the 9th and 10th for Cyprus.

A male, reported from the Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 31 Mar, was still present the following day, the 1 Apr.

Another male was reported at the Asprokremnos Dam Area on the 9 Apr and was still present in the area on the 14 Apr.

A 1st winter bird was reported on the 14 Oct from the Paphos Lighthouse Area.

RED-BACKED SHRIKE *Lanius collurio*

A common passage migrant in both the spring and the autumn. Again, not recorded breeding this year.

The first bird to appear was a male reported from Cape Greco on the 7 Apr. This was followed by reports at Akrotiri Reed Beds on the 13 Apr [1]; on 14 Apr at Petra Tou Romiou [1] and on all subsequent days in Apr from all central and western sites plus a report of 2 in the east at Paralimni on the 23 Apr. In Apr notable records included 4 males at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 28 and 5 birds at Ayios Giorgios on the same date.

May got off to a good start with multiple sightings of 20+ at Ayios Giorgios on the 1st and an unprecedented 110 birds at Cape Greco on the 2nd. Things then went back to normal with just 1's and 2's being reported from most sites until the 29th May; an exception was of 6 birds on the Akamas on the 19th.

Cape Greco was also the site for the first sighting of the return passage with 2 birds on the 18 Aug. Notable sightings in the autumn included c10 birds at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 1st Sep; up to 3 birds at Oroklini from 1st Sep to the 26th and 6 birds at Cape Greco on the 14th Sep. Sightings from most sites then continued with either 1 or 2 birds right up to the end of October.

The final sighting of the year was of a 1st year bird at Aspro Dam Pools on the 4th Nov.

LESSER GREY SHRIKE *Lanius minor*

Usually a scarce passage migrant in the spring but a common passage migrant in the autumn, sometimes in considerable numbers.

The spring passage started with a lone bird at Cape Greco on the 20th Apr. Singles were then seen at Ladies Mile on the 28 Apr, Kato Deftera on the 29 Apr, Ayios Giorgios on the 1 May, Aspro Dam Pools on the 2nd with a final 3 birds at Cape Greco on the 2nd as well.

The first autumn report was from Oroklini with a single bird on the 5th Aug. Other reports in Aug from this site were of single birds on the 9th and 21st but with 7 birds on the 26th. From the 21st Aug reports came flooding in from all the south coast sites, of note are 10+ birds at Akrotiri Salt Lake on 29th Aug, at Aspro Dam Pools on 24 Aug [12] and Akrotiri Salt Lake on 29 Aug [c12].

Sep sightings started off with c20 birds at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 1st, 40+ there on the 7th but the only other double-figure sighting in the month was of 12 birds at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 15th. Most coastal sites had single-figure numbers during Sep.

The final sighting for the year was of 1, 1st winter bird at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 22 Oct.

SOUTHERN GREY SHRIKE *Lanius meridionalis*

Including this report, there are now 5 records of this species.

The *L.m.pallidirostris*, known as the Steppe Grey Shrike, reported as being present at the Paphos Lighthouse Area in Dec in last years Annual Report, was still present until the 31st Mar. It provided a 'life-tick' for many visiting birdwatchers.

WOODCHAT SHRIKE *Lanius senator*

A scarce to fairly common passage migrant, mainly in the spring. Scarce breeding summer visitor.

Site	Apr	May	Jun
Akamas	1, 3 and 2 13 th , 14 th and 23 rd	20 and 15 19 th and 26 th	
Akrotiri	1 each at Salt lake and Gravel Pits on 27 th		
Asprokremnos Dam	2 and 1 3 rd and 21 st	1 on 15 th	
Aspro Dam Pools	1, 2 and 1 14 th , 16 th and 27 th		
Ayios Giorgios	1 on 7 th	2 on 1 st and 2 nd 1 on 8 th and 9 th	7 on the 11 th included 4 juvs.
Bishop's Pool	1 on 21 st	1 on 11 th	
Cape Greco	1 on 6 th , 7 th , 17 th and 20 th 2 on 18 th and 19 th	2 on 2 nd	
Mandria	1 on 8 th	1 on 7 th	
Paphos Lighthouse Area	1 on 4 th , 21 st and 22 nd 4 on 8 th and 2 on 12 th		
Smyies	10 on 12 th 2 on 14 th	2 on 10 th	

First date was of 2 birds at Asprokremnos Dam on the 3rd Apr and of 4 birds on the same date at Xeros Potamos. There was just the one Jun record of the 7 birds at Ayios Giorgios.

Also reported from Anarita Park on 4 Apr [1]; Larnaca Airport on 4 Apr [1]; Paralimni on 5 Apr [2] and on 10 Apr [1]; Cape Greco on 7 Apr [1]; Akhna Dam on 9 Apr [1] and on same date 1 at Ezousa River, Kouklia and Oroklini; on 11 Apr at Cape Gata [1], Ladies Mile [1], Mavrokolymbos Dam [2], Phasouri Reed Beds [1]; Melanda Beach on 14 Apr [1]; Paramali on 17 Apr [1]; Nata on 24 Apr [1]; Kritou Tera on 4 May [1]; Tera on 6 May [1] and Cape Gata on 8 May [1].

MASKED SHRIKE *Lanius nubicus*

A very common migrant breeder.

The first report was of a male at Episkopi, WSBA, on the 13th Mar, the last report being on the 8th Sep of a single bird at Xeros Potamos.

Significant sightings include a fall of 28 birds at Cape Greco on the 27th Mar, 8 there on the 28th Mar and 10 in the Makheras Forest on the 17th April.

Evidence of breeding came from Paramali on the 10th May when a bird was seen carrying prey to a nest site; 3 juveniles on the 6th Jun at Argaka, 1 juvenile at Vavatsinia on the 26th Jun, 1 juvenile at Kalopanayiotis and Kambos on the 14th Jun, similar at Kykko and Milikouri on the 15th Jun, 5 juveniles at Troodos on 14th Jun and 4 juveniles at Lysos on the 21 Jun.

Juveniles were also reported in late Jun from Galateria and Layia and in Jul from Palekchori and Lemithou. In Aug immature birds were reported from Vasa on the 5th and from Bishop's Pool on the 21st.

JAY *Garrulus glandarius glaszneri*

A common breeding resident of the Troodos Range.

There were many reports of 4 birds or less from most locations in the Troodos and the higher reaches of the Paphos Forest.

Reports of breeding success came from the Kelefos Bridge area on the 3rd Jul when 2 recently fledged young birds were seen.

Reported in all months of the year.

MAGPIE *Pica pica*

A common breeding resident away from the higher reaches of the Troodos Range. It is the most common host to the Great Spotted Cuckoo Clamator glandarius.

Higher counts come from Anarita Park on 3 Mar [c200]; Aspro Dam on 24 Mar [c200], on 8 Sep [c40] and on 20 Jan [60]; Ayia Varvara on 24 Jan [40] and on 22 May [30]; Ineia on 4 Nov [20+] and Makounta on 31 May [c20].

They were noted all year at Oroklini with up to 4 birds seen at any one time.

JACKDAW *Corvus monedula*

A locally very common resident.

High counts come from Aspro Dam on 20 Jan [c200]; Dhiarizos River Valley on 5 May [c50]; Ayia Varvara on 7 Jun [c200, including c50 juveniles]; Episkopi on 7 Jun [c100, including c50 juveniles]; Evretou Dam on 21 Jan [c200]; Happy Valley in Feb, Mar & Nov [c200]; Kouklia Plain on 27 Dec [c200] and at Xeros Potamos on 16 Jun [c240].

1 to 3 birds have been reported from Nicosia in all months of the year.

ROOK *Corvus frugilegus*

A very scarce and irregular visitor in the winter months.

The first since 1997, the one discovered at Mandria by **NSI** on the 15th Nov resulted in a major Cyprus 'twitch' on the 17th, the morning after the COS(57) Annual Dinner!

HOODED CROW *Corvus corone*

A very common and widespread resident, it also plays host to the Great Spotted Cuckoo Clamator glandarius but not on the same scale as the Magpie Pica pica.

High counts include Aspro Dam on 20 Jan [c50]; Athalassa Forest on 9 Jan [c100]; Evretou Dam on 21 Jan [c50] and Phasouri Reed Beds on 21 Jan [121].

Monthly counts at Oroklini range from 10 up to 30 depending on the month the highest counts being in Jan and Feb.

Counts at Strovolos reveal a maximum number of 228 birds on the 9th and 23rd Jan. The summer roost numbers did not exceed 61 birds on the 12th Jul.

RAVEN *Corvus corax*

Becoming increasingly more difficult to find, this residential species is nearing extinction on the island. Captive breeding may be its only saviour!

Reported from the Akamas on 21 Mar [2], on 24 Mar [2], on 12 Apr [2], on 3 May [2] and on 11 May [1]; from Kensington Cliffs on 24 Apr [1]; from Latchi on 13 Apr [1]; from Makheras Forest on 17 Apr [2] and from Strovolos on 22 Sep [1].

STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris*

Common winter visitor to open ground but surprisingly irregular to the west of Limassol.

Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Jun	Oct	Nov	Dec
Avdimou		60+						
Bishop's Pool							1	12
Dasaki Achnas	150							
Episkopi							20+	
Evretou								10+
Lakatamia								40-50
Kensington Cliffs							18+	
Kiti Dam		100						
Kouklia Pools							12+	
Larnaca Salt Lake								10+
Larnaca Sewage Works	2000							
Mandria							15	c120
Mazatos		100						
Oroklini	300	20	20	8	1		50	20
Paphos Airport								c20
Paramali		12						
Phasouri Reed Beds		8				2	150	20
Quarry Beach							18	
Spiro's Pool			1					
Zakaki Marsh						9	c66	

There was just one other sighting, Ayia Napa on 26 Nov [1].

HOUSE SPARROW *Passer domesticus*

Locally abundant resident.

Regular monthly counts from Oroklini reveal up to 50 birds present in Jan, 20 to 30 in Feb, c40 in Mar, c100 in Apr, c200 in May roosting in Olive Trees, same in Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep and Oct, dropping to c75 in Nov then c500 in Dec.

Other double figure counts are from Strovolos with c20 all Jan, Larnaca Salt Lake with c30 all Jan, 30 from Paramali on 8th Jan, 20 at Asprokremnos Dam on 20th Jan, c40 at Mandria on 19th Feb, c40 at Paramali on 3rd May, c30 at Ayia Varvara on 22nd May, c20 at Zakaki Marsh on 15th Sep, and between 10 to 20 in Mar, Apr, Jun and Jul in Strovolos.

A breeding report concerning 2 instances of a House and Spanish Sparrow pair was reported from near to Argaka on the 6th Jun.

SPANISH SPARROW *Passer hispaniolensis*

A locally common breeding resident. Migrants occur, particularly in the autumn when large flocks are seen.

c200 were reported from Mandria on the 30th Jan with c220 there on the 19th Feb. In Mar the flock was estimated at c400 on the 13th with numbers dropping to c300 on the 18th. Paphos Lighthouse Area had about c300 on the 31st Mar but the only other treble figure number came from Ayia Minas on the 14th Apr [100] and then a gap until 6th Oct when c500 were reported from Bishop's Pool.

Confirmed breeding came from Argaka, Episkopi, Kalapanayiotis and Kampos all in Jun.

In addition to the Oct record previously mentioned large concentrations in autumn came from Mandria with c300 on the 10 Oct, c100 from Larnaca Sewage Works on the 24th Nov and c100 from Oroklini in the same month.

Other sites in the year with reasonable numbers were Chlorakas with 40 in Jan, Kissonerga with 30+ in Feb, 50 at Oroklini in Mar, 60 at Asprokremnos Dam in Mar, 50 at Cape Greco in Mar, 50 at Smyies in Apr and 30+ at Kelefos Bridge on the 22nd Apr. Reports of c20 birds in May came from Ayia Varvara and Lysos and in Jun from the Akamas tip, Xeros Potamos [c40] and from the areas in which breeding was reported. There was just the one report in Jul of a reasonable number, c20 at Arminou on the 3rd. There were no reports in Aug but c60 at Mandria on 8th Sep and c80 at Asprokremnos Dam Pools on 5th Oct are worthy of mention. Ayia Napa Pool had c25 on the 26th Nov. Dec records came from Oroklini with c30 on the 11th, 10+ at Asprokremnos Dam and the Xeros Potamos on the 20th with 10+ at Larnaca Sewage Works on the 23rd and finally 10+ at Yialia on the 31st.

TREE SPARROW *Passer montanus*

A scarce and less than annual winter visitor.

Just the one report this year of a single bird in a mixed flock of House and Spanish Sparrows at Mandria on the 19th Feb by **JJG**.

PALE ROCK SPARROW *Petronia brachydactyla*

An accidental visitor, all records have been in spring.

The 7th accepted record for Cyprus was seen at Ayios Giorgios on the 6th May by **OR**.

CHAFFINCH *Fringilla coelebs*

A resident breeder at higher altitudes but with many less reports of breeding activity compared with previous years. A common passage migrant and winter visitor from October to April, more common at lower altitudes.

The highest count in January was of 150 birds at Ayias Therapon on the 24th with flocks of up to 30 reported from Aspro Dam and Pools, Athalassa Forest, Dhypotamos Dam, Arminou Dam, Evretou Dam, Happy Valley, Kouklia Plain, Mandria, Oroklini Marsh and the Paphos Lighthouse Area. Numbers in February dropped with the largest flock of c60 being reported from Paramali on the 8th. Other sightings of up to c20 were reported from Akamas, Akrotiri Salt lake, Armou, Aspro Pools, Avgas Gorge, Chlorakas, Happy Valley, Kissonerga, Mandria and the Paphos Lighthouse Area. March saw a general reduction in sightings with c50 at Vroisha on the 4th being the largest number. During the period April to July, a sighting of 10 birds at Kionia on the 27th April was the largest count.

Breeding records were very sparse with sightings of odd juveniles being the only proof of breeding at all.

There were no sightings at all during August and September but the first migrants appeared in late October with odd single birds reported from Akrotiri Salt Lake, Arminou Dam and Aspro Dam with c30 at Mandria on the 31st. November saw the main arrival with flocks of up to 60 being reported from Akhna Dam, Aspro Pools, Bishop's Pool, Episkopi, Evretou Dam, Happy Valley, Ineia, Kathikas, Lysos, nr M1 Pools, Oroklini Marsh and Phasouri Reed beds but a dramatic c300 on the 23rd at Anadiou.

Significant sightings in December were c40 at Aspro Dam, c40 at Mandria, 90 at Phasouri Reed Beds and c30 at Zakaki Marsh.

RED-FRONTED SERIN *Serinus pusillus*

An accidental visitor, this year's sightings bringing the total to only 6.

3 birds were seen at Ineia on the 1st November (**DW**) and 2 at the same locality on the 2nd November, these being identified as 1st winter birds (**NSI**). This is the 6th record for Cyprus.

SERIN *Serinus serinus*

Fairly common resident breeder. Common winter visitor and passage migrant with flocks of 100 or more. Flock sizes were generally lower than in previous years, which may indicate a decrease in overall population.

The largest flock in January was 200 at Arminou Dam on the 14th. Other large flocks were 20 at Akhna Dam on the 25th, 25 at Athalassa Forest on the 21st, 50 at Dhypotamos Dam on the 23rd, 60 at Paramali on the 8th and 30 at Paramali on the 9th. February saw an increase in sightings with the largest flock being 60+ at Paramali on the 16th. Other significant flocks were 10+ at Aspro Pools on the 8th, 20+ at Aspro Pools on the 27th, 12 at Chlorakas on the 7th, 14 at Coral Bay on the 6th and 21st, 30 at Dhypotamos Dam on the 13th, 15 at Dhypotamos Dam on the 28th and 10+ at Paramali on the 3rd. In March, c20 were seen at Aspro Pools on the 3rd, c25 at Cape Gata on the 5th and c10 at Athalassa Forest on the 1st. Sightings of up to 5 birds were seen at Akamas, Anarita Park, Aspro Dam, Athalassa Forest, Ayia Varvara and the Paphos Lighthouse Area. From April to June, numbers dropped significantly as winter visitors departed, leaving low numbers of residents. Sightings of birds to a maximum of 5 were reported from Akamas, Argaka, Cape Kiti, Kalopanayiotis (Including 3 juveniles on the 14th June), Kissonerga, Lefkara Dam, Lythrodhonda, Makheras, Marathasa, Pano Platres, Paphos Forest, Paphos Lighthouse Area, Roudhias Bridge and Yialia. No sightings were reported during July, August and September with only 2 birds seen in October; 1 at Arminou Dam on the 19th and 1 at the Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 20th. The winter influx and passage commenced in November with the largest flocks being c300 at Akhna Dam on the 24th, c20 at Ineia on the 1st and 4th and c20 at Lysos on the 12th. Numbers dropped in December, the only sightings reported being 2 at Armou on the 24th increasing to 10+ on the 31st, 9 at Aspro Dam on the 17th, 5 at Aspro Pools on the 3rd and 4 at Zakaki Marsh on the 22nd.

GREENFINCH *Carduelis chloris*

Common resident breeder, winter visitor and passage migrant. Sighting records peak in March and November, which would correspond to the main passage periods.

There were only 2 reported sightings in January, 4 at Akrotiri Salt Lake on the 20th and 2 at Oroklini Marsh on the 28th. This paucity of records could indicate a reluctance to record the more common birds rather than a scarcity of the species. February saw a slight increase in sightings with 3 at Akrotiri Salt lake on the 1st, 2 at Ezousa River on the 10th, 1 at Kissonerga on the 9th and 2 on the 13th, 8 at Oroklini Marsh on the 28th with 6 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 15th and 2 on the 21st. Larger flocks were reported in March with 80+ at Curium Bay on the 14th, c10 at Cape Gata on the 1st and 14 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 19th. Sightings of up to 8 birds were reported from Aspro Dam, Larnaca Sewage Works, Oroklini Marsh, Paphos Lighthouse Area, Strovolos and Vroisha. Significant sightings in April were 10+ at Cape Greco on the 7th

and c15 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 21st with lower numbers from Kouklia Plain, Oroklini Marsh and Strovolos. In May, the only flock was a sighting of c20 birds at Akamas on the 19th with low numbers reported from Akrotiri Salt Lake, Athalassa Forest, Ay. Savvas Monastery, Dhiarizos River Valley, Kannaviou Quarry, Kissonerga, Makounta and Oroklini Marsh. June saw reports of up to 6 birds from Argaka, Kalopanayiotis, Lysos, Oroklini Marsh, Strovolos, Troodos and Yialia. The sightings in July of c10 at Athalassa on the 22nd and c40 at Mandria on the 9th might indicate post-breeding flocks. The only sighting in August was of 2 birds at Oroklini Marsh while in September there were flocks of c10 at Athalassa Forest on the 23rd and 20+ at Paramali on the 15th. In October, the only sighting was of a solitary bird at Aspro Dam on the 20th. Significant movements occurred in November with many flocks reported. They included 30+ at Episkopi on the 14th, 20+ at Ineia on the 2nd and 10+ on the 4th. At the Paphos Lighthouse Area there were c30 on the 9th and 14th and 15 on the 18th. The year ended with sightings of 60 at Curium Beach on December 26th, 40 at Lady's Mile on the 11th and 2 at Oroklini Marsh on the 17th. Breeding records: Juvenile birds were reported from Kalopanayiotis on June 14th, Lysos on June 21st, Troodos on June 14th and Yialia on June 11th.

GOLDFINCH *Carduelis carduelis*

A very common resident breeder at lower altitudes, numbers being boosted by winter visitors and migrants from October to March.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Aspro Dam	40		20						12		400	200
Aspro Pools	20	10	10						4			
Mandria	200	40							16	2	180	
Oroklini Marsh	30	16	6	6	6	15	15	8	4	8	15	15
Paphos Lighthouse		10	30	12							60	

Large flocks reported in January were 40 at Aspro Dam on the 20th, 150 in 2 flocks at Ayia Varvara on the 24th, 30 at Arminou Dam on the 14th, 200 at Mandria on the 27th and 30 at Oroklini Marsh on the 25th. Lower numbers were reported from Aspro Pools, Athalassa Forest, Larnaca Salt Lake and Strovolos. No very large flocks were reported in February other than 30+ on the 14th and 40 on the 19th at Mandria, 16 at Oroklini Marsh on the 1st and 20+ at Paramali on the 14th. Lower numbers were reported from Aspro Pools, Ezousa River, Kissonerga and Paphos Lighthouse Area. During March, the only significant flocks were c20 at Aspro Dam on the 24th, c10 at Aspro Pools on the 3rd and c30 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 31st but lower numbers were reported from Kouklia Plain, Oroklini Marsh and Strovolos. Sightings generally dropped from April to August when visitors had left and residents were breeding. c20 birds were reported from Akamas on the 19th May and from Dhiarizos River Valley on 5th May. Smaller numbers were reported from Argaka, Athalassa Forest, Ay. Savvas Mon., Episkopi, Kannaviou Quarry, Kissonerga, Kouklia Plain, Makounta, Nicosia, Oroklini Marsh, Paphos Lighthouse Area, Paramali and Strovolos. Young juveniles were reported from Episkopi and Paramali in June. Sightings increased in September with c12 at Aspro Dam on the 8th, 30+ at Bishop's Pool on the 7th, reducing to c15 on the 15th and 16 at Mandria on the 8th. Lower numbers in September were reported from Aspro Pools, Kissonerga and Oroklini Marsh. October saw the first large flock when 60+ were reported from Bishop's Pool on the 1st, smaller numbers being sighted at

Mandria and Oroklini Marsh. November saw the largest reported flock of the year with 400+ at Aspro Dam on the 17th. Other flocks were 40+ at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on the 10th, c180 at Mandria on the 7th and c60 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 18th. Smaller numbers were reported from Akhna Dam and Oroklini Marsh. A large flock of c200 at Aspro Dam on the 29th and 15 at Oroklini Marsh on the 10th were the only sightings in December.

SISKIN *Carduelis spinus*

A winter visitor in small numbers.

The only sighting for the year was of 6 birds at Evretou Dam on the 21st January.

LINNET *Carduelis cannabina*

Locally fairly common resident breeder. Common at lower altitudes as a winter visitor and migrant from October to March

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Aspro Dam	25		8								60	
Aspro Pools		5	2	10	1					140		
Mandria	28	20	26				6				200	20
Paphos Lighthouse		40	5	4							80	30

Reported sightings in January were 25 at Aspro Dam on the 20th, 100 at Ayia Varvara on the 24th, 14 at Chlorakas on the 5th, 14 at Evretou Dam on the 21st and 28 at Mandria on the 13th reducing to 20 on the 27th. Significant sized flocks in February were 80 at Anarita Park on the 28th, 30 at Coral Bay on the 6th, 18 at Mandria on the 19th increasing to 20+ on the 27th and 40 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 5th. Lower numbers were recorded from Akamas, Aspro Pools, Dhyptomamos Dam and Ezousa River. The last winter flocks of the season were seen in March with c50 at Ayia Varvara on the 11th, 25 at Larnaca Airport Pools on the 9th and 26 at Mandria on the 21st. Lower numbers reported were 4 at Akhna Dam on the 8th falling to 1 on the 20th, 8 at Aspro Dam on the 24th, 2 at Aspro Pools on the 3rd, 2 at Cape Gata on the 1st, 2 at Kiti Dam on the 21st, 5 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 31st and 1 at Paramali on the 25th. From April to July, low numbers were reported from Aspro Pools, Achelia Dam, Adhelphi Peak, Akamas, Argaka, Ay. Savvas Mon., Ay. Therapon, Dhiarizos River Valley, Kalopanayiotis, Lemithou, Makounta, Mandria, Paphos Lighthouse Area and Smyies. No sightings were reported in August and September but October saw the start of movement with 3 birds at Akhna Dam on the 1st and c140 at Aspro Pools on the 13th. Sightings in November saw the build-up of flocks with 60+ at Aspro Dam on the 17th, c15 at Ineia on the 2nd rising to 20+ on the 4th, 200+ at Mandria on the 7th and c80 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 14th falling to 25 on the 18th. Sightings in December were of medium sized flocks; 25 at Akrotiri Gravel pits on the 23rd, 24 at Lady's Mile on the 29th, 20+ at Mandria on the 5th and c30 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 31st.

CROSSBILL *Loxia curvirostra*

Fairly common resident breeder at higher altitudes in the Troodos Range. Almost certainly under-recorded.

A COS(57) field meeting in the Troodos area on the 17th February yielded sightings of 10, 12, 15+ and "Several" from members. The only other sightings recorded were 6 in Troodos Village on the 26th May and 2 at Troodos on the 29th November.

HAWFINCH *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

A regular but uncommon winter visitor, usually from November to March.

This year saw a healthy increase in the numbers recorded in February and March compared with previous years. At Armou there were 3 on the 17th February, 4 on the 21st, 30 on the 26th, 35 on the 3rd March, 9 on the 4th and 2 on the 12th. At Kissonerga a single bird was seen in February on the 9th, 11th and 12th. There were 15 at Lythrodhonda on the 6th March and a single bird at Coral Bay on the 3rd April.

ORTOLAN BUNTING *Emberiza hortulana*

A passage migrant, common in spring from March to May but scarce in autumn from late August through September.

The main spring passage took place in April with odd sightings in late March and early May while the small autumn movement was recorded in late August.

Sightings from favoured areas are as follows:

Akrotiri Salt Lake ... 1 on the 14th April, 6 on the 27th April.

Anarita Park 10 and 12 on the 4th April.

Aspro Pools 1 on the 1st April, 2 on the 8th April, 2 on the 27th April and 1 on the 9th May.

Cape Greco 3 on the 1st April, 3 on the 3rd April, 1 on the 6th April, 2 and 2 on the 7th April, 2 on the 15th April, 3 on the 16th April, 1 on the 20th April and 1 on the 2nd May.

Mandria 2 on the 10th April, 1 on the 11th April, 1 on the 12th April and 1 on the 20th April.

Paphos Lighthouse ... 1 on the 8th April, 3 on the 12th April, 2 and 1 on the 21st April, 2 on the 22nd April and 3 on the 27th April.

Smyies 5 and 2 on the 14th April, 3 on the 16th April, 60 on the 18th April and 1 on the 25th April.

Other spring records of small numbers were recorded from Akhna Dam, Ayia Napa, Ayios Georgios (Peyia), Cape Drepanum, Coral Bay, Curium Cliffs, Droushia, Evretou Dam, Kiti Dam, Kouklia, Neo Chorio, Paphos and Perivolia. A sighting of 31 birds was recorded from Mavrokolymbos Dam on the 11th April.

The autumn movement was only recorded from Cape Greco when 3 birds were seen on the 25th August and 2 on the 27th.

CRETZSCHMAR'S BUNTING *Emberiza caesia*

A fairly common summer visitor and breeder as well as a common spring migrant and scarce autumn migrant.

The first sighting in spring was of 2 birds at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on the 7th March with the main arrival starting about a week later. The autumn movement was very small, the only sightings after July being 1 at Larnaca Sewage Works on the 22nd August, 3 at Akhna Dam on the 4th September and 2 at Aspro Dam on the 8th September.

The largest numbers reported in March were 10 at Achelia Dam on the 23rd, 8 at Cape Greco on the 20th, 6 at Cape Greco on the 27th, 12 at Curium on the 17th, 14 at Neo Chorio on the 21st, 5 at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 19th and c30 at Secret Valley on the 20th. Odd birds to a maximum of 4 were recorded from most other areas. In April there was a sighting of 50 birds between Makheras Forest and Kionia on the 17th and 15 at Troodos on the 14th. Lower numbers of birds were recorded from a number of

other locations. The only sighting in May of significant numbers was of c10 birds at Ay. Savvas Mon. on the 7th, sightings from other areas being usually of 2 or 3 birds only. Breeding Records: A bird was seen carrying nesting material at Aspro Dam on the 16th June. Sightings of juveniles were 2 at Akamas on the 28th June, 2 at K. Pyrgos on the 26th July, 1 at Kalopanayiotis on the 14th June, 1 at Kambos on the 14th June and 5 at Yialia on the 11th June.

REED BUNTING *Emberiza schoeniclus*

Fairly common winter visitor from October to April. Although a declining species, numbers have not fallen since last year

The last sighting in spring was of a single bird at Phasouri Reed Beds on the 7th April and the first in autumn was of 2 birds at Bishop's Pool on the 28th October.

From January to March 1 to 4 birds were seen regularly at Akhna Dam, 5 were seen at Mandria on 27th February, 1 was seen at Oroklini Marsh on 21st March, 6 were seen at Paphos Rubbish Tip on the 4th April and 2 were seen at Phasouri Reed Beds on the 20th January. In November, 2 birds were seen at Akhna Dam on the 24th, up to 10+ were seen at Bishop's Pool on the 2nd to 13th and up to 6 were seen at Oroklini Marsh from the 3rd to the 23rd. The only sightings in December were of single birds at Aspro Pools on the 6th and Lower Xeros River Valley on the 30th.

BLACK-HEADED BUNTING *Emberiza melanocephala*

A fairly common summer visitor and breeder. Common passage migrant in spring during April and May but scarce in autumn.

The first recorded arrival was of a single bird at the Xeros River Valley on April 16th. Other recorded sightings in April were 1 at Aspro Dam on the 21st, 2 males at Ayias Mina on the 27th, 4 males at Cape Gata on the 26th, 1 at Latchi on the 23rd, 1 male at Lara on the 23rd, 1 male at Makheras on the 27th, 1 at Nata on the 21st and 24th and 2 males at Smyies on the 25th. Sightings in May were 1 at Agros on the 16th, 9 at Akamas on the 12th, 5 at Akamas on the 19th, 7 at Akamas on the 30th, 1 at Arminou on the 7th, 4 at Aspro Dam on the 15th, 3 at Ay. Therapon on the 11th, c10 at Ayios Nikolaos on the 15th, 4 at Cape Gata on the 2nd, 2 at Dhiarizos River Valley on the 5th, 1 at Droushia on the 25th, 1 at Evretou Dam on the 11th, 7 at Kritou Tera on the 19th and 10+ at Smyies on the 10th. June sightings were 2 at Ayia Varvara on the 7th, 3 at Ayias Mina on the 28th, 6 at Kambos on the 14th, 1 at Kionia on the 26th, 2 at Vavatsinia on the 8th, 2 at Xeros Potamos on the 16th and 3 at Aspro Dam on the 30th which was the last sighting of the year, any autumn movement being un-recorded.

Breeding Records: 2 juveniles were seen at Akamas on the 30th May, 2 were seen at Ayias Mina on the 8th June, 1 was seen at Ayias Mina on the 28th June and 1 was seen at Vavatsinia on the 8th June.

CORN BUNTING *Miliaria calandra*

Common resident breeder, passage migrant and winter visitor.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chlorakas	11	5										
Evretou Dam	5	10	40	6	Sev					20	30	
Oroklini Marsh		20	5	2	15	15	4			4	100	25
Paphos Lighthouse		6	10									
Akhna Dam					100	100	40	50	20			

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Aspro Dam	20		90	4								12
Aspro Pools		11	8	6	1					1	1	1

January saw few significant sightings with the only notable one at Ayia Varvara on the 24th when 2 flocks totalled 40 birds. February saw many more recorded sightings from a wide range of localities, but only one flock of 20 birds at Oroklini Marsh. As the passage migrants arrived in March and residents moved to breeding areas, the number of sightings rose dramatically. Notable flocks were c50 at Ayia Varvara on the 11th, 20 on the 3rd and 40 on the 24th at Evretou Dam, c60 at Mandria on the 14th, 32 at Peyia Forest on the 21st, 30 on the 11th, c90 on the 14th and c20 on the 24th at Aspro Dam. April saw only low numbers reported as resident birds were breeding. Post-breeding flocks were evident in May with 40 at Kiti Dam on the 10th and 50 at Akhna Dam on the 16th. The only sightings in June were 15 at Oroklini Marsh and c100 at Akhna Dam. From July to October, sightings were sparse, the only flock reported being at Akhna Dam with 40 in July, 50 in August and 20 in September. In October, the only flock was c20 at Evretou Dam on the 17th. November saw the establishment of winter flocks with c30 at Evretou Dam on the 1st, 100 at Oroklini Marsh on the 15th, 20+ at Phasouri Reed Beds on the 13th and c50 at Xeros River Valley on the 17th. December saw a slight reduction, the only notable flocks being c25 at Oroklini Marsh on the 17th, 20 at Phasouri Reed Beds on the 26th and 30 at Akrotiri Gravel pits on the 23rd. Breeding Records: A nest was found at Paphos Lighthouse Area on the 31st march and another was being constructed at Xeros River on the 3rd April. Juveniles were seen flying at Akhna Dam on the 4th May.

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