

Πτηνολογικός  
Σύνδεσμος Κύπρου

BirdLife  
Cyprus



# The Monthly Checklist and society news

December 2018 - Issue 11



Recent Decisions Of The Cyprus Rare Birds Committee  
Cyprus Bird Sightings Records 2018  
Field Meetings and Activities 2018  
Field Meeting Reports  
Monthly Bird Quiz - Number 65  
A – Z of Cyprus Birdwatching  
November 2018 Systematic List  
November 2018 Waterbird Count and Report

**ΣΥΜΒΟΥΛΙΟ & ΠΡΟΣΩΠΙΚΟ ΤΟΥ ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΥ**  
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### **Last pages: Membership Application Forms**

*Cover photo: Three juvenile Great White Pelican Pelecanus onocrotalus spent most of November moving between Athalassa Dam and Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant in Nicosia. Half way through November they were joined by a fourth who appeared to have lost several primary wing feathers. All four then travelled between the two locations and were seen at Athalassa on 24th November by those on the BirdLife field trip that spent a while there. Agamemnon Loutsios took this photo at Athalassa on 6th November.*

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## **COMPILATION OF MONTHLY CHECKLIST**

*The Monthly Checklist and Society News is compiled by Dave and Jan Walker.*

We would love to hear from members and friends who would like to provide bird and bird watching related articles in future editions of the Monthly Checklist. Get in touch and let us know your ideas. Suggestions for topics could include ID pointers, great locations to visit, birding walks or drives or interesting personal birding experiences that you feel fellow readers would enjoy. Please contact Dave Walker 99915907 [davidwalker@cytanet.com.cy](mailto:davidwalker@cytanet.com.cy)

If you are sending photographs for inclusion in the Systematic List please send them by 18th of the month to Jane Stylianou. Every effort is made to ensure that the work of as many contributors as possible is used but inclusion cannot be guaranteed. Please send photographs in JPEG format where possible. Please send to [janestycy@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:janestycy@yahoo.co.uk). Telephone: 99558953

**Birdline** Operated by June Neal on behalf of BirdLife Cyprus is the bird information hotline. To hear a pre-recorded message with recent interesting bird sightings and to add your own observations, please phone 00357 25 934076.

Join the [BirdLife Cyprus Google](#) group to exchange and receive emails updating local and visiting birders about recent sightings <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/birdlifecyprusbirds>

## **KEEP UP TO DATE AND SHARE RECENT SIGHTINGS WITH THE BIRDLIFE CYPRUS GOOGLE GROUP**

Continuing BirdLife Cyprus' attempts to ensure both resident and visiting birders receive up to date information on the birds being spotted on the island, we have set up a Google Group through which group members can email in their recent sightings and bird news and receive and read those of other members.

If you would like to join please [click here](#).

Email: [BirdLifeCyprusBirds@googlegroups.com](mailto:BirdLifeCyprusBirds@googlegroups.com)

Once you are a member you can choose whether to receive all emails or check the news via the web at a time convenient to you. Visit the settings option to ensure that you get emails if you want to. It is an informal group for birders to share what is around. It cannot be checked for accuracy or be held responsible for misinformation. The group is open to both BirdLife Cyprus members and non-members alike. If you know a non-member or friend who may be interested please let them know.

Any news will also be shared with the BirdLife Cyprus BirdLine 25 934076 and the BirdLife Cyprus [Recent sightings page](#) of the website. You can also use these two resources to find out what is around if you don't want to join the Google group.

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### **YOUR BIRDING SIGHTINGS ARE IMPORTANT. PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO SEND THEM TO THE RECORDER**

*Jane Stylianou*

Whether you go out bird watching regularly or just enjoy noting what you see when out on a walk, any record of what you see is important to help us keep an up to date database of the birds of Cyprus.

Most people submit their records on a monthly basis. To be included in the Systematic List that appears in the Monthly Checklist please make sure that Jane receives your records by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the following month or are added to BirdTrack by that date. But don't worry if you miss the deadline, your sightings will still be added to the database and be used in compiling the annual Cyprus Bird Report. On occasions, you may be asked to provide extra details of rarer birds or of those seen out of season or away from their usual locations. This is something that happens to all observers and is not a reflection on anyone's bird watching skills! A list of the species for which a Rare Bird Report is required can be obtained from Jane.

There are several ways to make sure that your records count by submitting them to the BirdLife Cyprus Recorder, Jane Stylianou who will add them to the country database:

Use the Cyprus portal of BirdTrack <http://blc.birdtrack.net> or download our [reporting excel](#). The recorder is happy to receive your sightings by email but where possible please try to use either BirdTrack or the Excel form. Please contact her if you have any questions [janesytcy@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:janesytcy@yahoo.co.uk) mobile telephone 99558953.

Οι καταγραφές σας είναι σημαντικές για μας για να μπορέσουμε να κρατήσουμε τη βάση δεδομένων για τα πουλιά της Κύπρου ενημερωμένη. Για να συμπεριληφθούν οι καταγραφές σας στον Μηνιαίο Συστηματικό Κατάλογο παρακαλούμε συμπληρώστε [το έντυπο αυτό](#) και στείλτε το στην Jane την Υπεύθυνη Καταγραφών, μέχρι τις 10 του επόμενου μήνα ή ανεβάστε τις καταγραφές σας στο [BirdTrack](#) μέχρι εκείνη την ημερομηνία. Μην ανησυχείτε όμως εάν χάσετε την προθεσμία. Οι καταγραφές σας θα προστεθούν στη βάση δεδομένων και θα χρησιμοποιηθούν στην Ετήσια Ορνιθολογική Αναφορά.

Για οποιαδήποτε διευκρίνιση επικοινωνήστε με την Jane στο [janesytcy@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:janesytcy@yahoo.co.uk) ή στο 99558953.

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## CYPRUS BIRD SIGHTINGS RECORDS FOR 2018

Have you been out bird watching in Cyprus during 2018? Then please don't forget to send all your 2018 sightings in to the Recorder if you haven't already done so. They can be sent either via the Global portal of the BTO BirdTrack database <http://app.bto.org/birdtrack2/main/data-home.jsp> or on the excel form which you can either download from the BirdLife Cyprus website or the Recorder can send to you. Email lists are acceptable if you are not comfortable with either of those two methods. Users of the eBird recording scheme can download their sightings into an excel file and forward them in that format if they want.

So that the 2018 database can be completed, it would be appreciated if they are received by February 10th 2019. If you are unable to meet that deadline but still have 2018 records to submit please let the Recorder know.

Make your birdwatching count and ensure that your sightings are included in the 2018 country database. Please note that the only way for your records to be included in the database is to ensure that the Recorder receives them. Unfortunately, she is unable to include those only noted on various social media sites, 'round-robin' emails, "BirdLine" etc.

Jane Stylianou  
[janestycy@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:janestycy@yahoo.co.uk)  
BirdLife Cyprus Bird Recorder  
P O Box 24382, 1703 Nicosia, Cyprus

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## **RECENT DECISIONS OF THE CYPRUS RARE BIRDS COMMITTEE**

The Cyprus Rare Bird Committee has recently accepted the following records:

**Pacific Golden Plover** *Pluvialis fulva* One juv Larnaca Sewage Works 9 September 2017 (A Kyriacou). 10<sup>th</sup> record.

**White-eyed Gull** *Larus leucophthalmus* One Larnaca Airport Coast 23 June 2017 (J Stylianou). 1<sup>st</sup> record.

**Montagu's Harrier** *Circus pygargus* One juv Lady's Mile 7 December 2017 (V Tjernberg). Latest record of this species.

**Red-tailed (Turkestan) Shrike** *Lanius phoenicuriodes* One imm Asprokremmos Dam 18 September 2017 (A Crane)

**Bar-tailed Lark** *Ammomanes cincturus* One Larnaca Sewage Works 24 April 2017 (M Charalambides and group). 7<sup>th</sup> record.

**Eastern Stonechat** *Saxicola torquatus maurus* One Mandria (Paphos) 6 April 2017 (M Hodgson). Rare, less than annual passage migrant.

**Common Rosefinch** *Carpodacus erythrinus* One Livera 18 May 2017 (V Vasiliou, G Konstantinou) 13<sup>th</sup> record.

**Desert Finch** *Rhodospiza obsoleta* One Cape Greco 20 April 2017 (E Roualet) and two Cape Greco 30 April 2017 (N Antcliff) 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> records.

**Pine Bunting** *Emberiza leucocephalos* One Livadi tou Pashia (Troodos) 24 March 2017 (M Smith) 14<sup>th</sup> record.

**Cyprus Rare Birds Committee:** Jane Stylianou (Chair), Melis Charalambides, Stavros Christodoulides, Chris Stavrou, Martin Hellicar, Johannes Honold, Filippas Georgiades. A full list of Cyprus birds requiring rarity descriptions and rare bird report forms are available from Jane Stylianou [janestycy@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:janestycy@yahoo.co.uk) to whom claims should be sent.

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## **SCHEDULE OF BIRDLIFE CYPRUS FIELD MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES**

### **The Winter/Spring schedule 2019**

*For field trips, please don't forget your flask of coffee and sandwiches. Although their higher clearance is an advantage, 4x4s are not necessary for any of the field trips unless **stated otherwise** below. The schedule of field trips is drawn up well in advance of the actual dates. The schedule will only change due to an extraordinary event. However, it is sometimes necessary to assign a different leader. **Please note certain field trips require pre booking with the leader to ensure there are suitable conditions at the site for the time of year and sufficient participation (These will be marked Pre Book). Participants in field trips are always advised therefore to check with the BirdLife Cyprus website in case of any late changes or cancellations.** Whilst BirdLife Cyprus does not charge for attending field trips, any voluntary donation to its conservation work would be very welcome. Please present your gift to the leader on the day.*

*To assist new members and visiting birders, who have access to a GPS or Google Earth, to locate our 'meeting points more easily', **we have introduced coordinates into the following schedule.** Simply copy and paste the coordinates into the "Search bar" in "Google Earth" and click on it. For most instruments it is unnecessary to type in the degree and minute symbols (° & ') or the N and E letters.*

**Important Announcement:** Participation in BirdLife Cyprus field meetings is at one's own risk. BirdLife Cyprus accepts no liability or responsibility for accidents, illness, injury or loss or damage to property that might occur. Field trips require light to moderate exercise. Please contact the field trip leader for more information on difficulty, distances and terrain of a particular field trip.

**Σημαντική Ανακοίνωση:** Η συμμετοχή σας στις εξορμήσεις του Πτηνολογικού Συνδέσμου γίνεται με δική σας ευθύνη. Ο Πτηνολογικός Σύνδεσμος Κύπρου δεν φέρει καμία ευθύνη για τυχόν ατυχήματα, ασθένειες, απώλειες ή ζημιές σε προσωπικά αντικείμενα. Οι εξορμήσεις απαιτούν ελαφριά με μέτρια άσκηση. Παρακαλούμε επικοινωνήστε με τον εκάστοτε υπεύθυνο εξορμήσεων για περισσότερες πληροφορίες που σχετίζονται με τον βαθμό δυσκολίας, αποστάσεις και συνθήκες των εξορμήσεων.

### **January 2019**

#### **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> January: Akrotiri Peninsula**

Leader: Victor Tjernberg. Mobile: 96107299.

Wintering gulls, waterfowl and passerines.

Meet at 9.00 am, car park adjacent to the hide at Zakaki ponds off the road to Lady's Mile.

Google Maps link: <https://goo.gl/maps/nY2GENJHjfx>

#### **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January: Larnaca Sewage Works**

##### **PLEASE PRE BOOK WITH LEADER**

Leader: Martin Hellicar. Mobile: 99907893

Wintering gulls and waterfowl.

Meet at 9.00 am, Larnaca Sewage Pool hide.

Google Maps link: <https://goo.gl/maps/xW5dk5txAN62>

#### **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January: New Year get-together**

Join us for lunch after the field trip at Kitsios Restaurant at Mackenzie Beach, Larnaka at 12:00pm. The price is set to 19 euros per person for fish meze (drinks not included).

Please contact Loria Phylaki for booking on 99413383 or [loriaph@gmail.com](mailto:loriaph@gmail.com)

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January: Akrotiri Peninsula**

Leader: Victor Tjernberg. Mobile: 96107299

Waterbirds and other winter visitors.

Meet at 9.00 am, Akrotiri Marsh (Phassouri Reed beds).

Google Maps link: <https://goo.gl/maps/oaCQat3x7tH2>

**February 2019****Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February: Akhna Dam & Oroklini Marsh****PLEASE PRE BOOK WITH LEADER**

Leader: Stavros Christodoulides. Mobile: 99425050

Late winter visitors, early spring migrants and waterbirds.

Meet 09.00 am west end of Akhna Dam Wall.

Google Maps link: <https://goo.gl/maps/cYJi754DpHR2>

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February: Paphos Foothills**

Leader: Dave and Jan Walker. Mobile: 99915907

Winter thrushes and finches.

Meet at 9.00 am, roundabout Paphos end of motorway, lay-by at "Konias" exit.

Google Maps Link: <https://goo.gl/maps/qpJECsvpMHs>

**March 2019****Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March: Akrotiri Peninsula**

Leader: Victor Tjernberg. Mobile: 96107299

Late winter visitors, water birds and spring migrants.

Meet 8.30 am, (Please note the earlier start time) Viewing hide at Zakaki Marsh.

Google Maps link: <https://goo.gl/maps/nY2GENJHjfx>

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March: Paphos Lighthouse**

Leader: Ian and Kate Bloomer. Mobile: 99265661

Early Spring migrants.

Meet 8.30 am (please note the earlier start time), Entrance of Archaeological area by the Paphos

Harbour Car Park. Google Maps Link <https://goo.gl/maps/K7eKYqWh7LD2>

**Saturday 23<sup>th</sup> March: Larnaca Sewage Works & Oroklini Marsh****PLEASE PRE BOOK WITH LEADER**

Leader: Martin Hellicar. Mobile: 99907893.

Spring migrants and waterbirds.

Meet at 9.00 am, Larnaca Sewage Pool hide.

Google Maps link: <https://goo.gl/maps/xW5dk5txAN62>

**April 2019****Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April - Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April: Karpasia Peninsula**

Spring migrants and rare residents.

Leader: Melis Charalambides. Home Tel: 22632155, Mobile: 99653205

Meet 11.00 am west end of Akhna Dam Wall.

Google Maps link: <https://goo.gl/maps/cYJi754DpHR2>

**Please book in advance with Melis Charalambides.**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April: Asprokremmos Dam and Mandria**

Leader: Alan Crane. Mobile: 99276310

Spring migrants.

Meet at 9.00 am, Asprokremmos Dam car park.

Google Maps link: <https://goo.gl/maps/F23CnS5iZA42>



**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April: Cape Greko**  
**PLEASE PRE BOOK WITH LEADER**

Leader: Stavros Christodoulides: Mobile: 99425050  
Spring Migrants, (please note new meeting point.  
Meet 8.00 am, Capr Grko Environmental Centre  
Google Maps Link: <https://goo.gl/maps/zPRPnzJoxB2>

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April - Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April (Cypriot Easter)**

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April: Arodes and Androlikou Akamas Villages**

Leader: Dave and Jan Walker: Mobile: 99915907  
Meet 9.00 am Pano Arodes square, St. Kelandion Church  
Google Maps Link: <https://goo.gl/maps/emfrqyYToan>

**May 2019**

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May: Akrotiri Peninsula.**

Leader: Victor Tjernberg. Mobile: 96107299  
Late spring migrants and water birds.  
Meet 8.30 am, Akrotiri Marsh (Phassouri Reed beds).  
Google Maps link: <https://goo.gl/maps/oaCQat3x7tH2>

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May: End of Season Get Together Lunch**

12.30 pm at Kyrenia Restaurant, Avdimou.  
Google Maps Link: <https://goo.gl/maps/CcfiYnirUoH2>  
For booking please contact: Mrs Loria Phylakti, Tel: Mobile: 99413383, email: [loriaph@gmail.com](mailto:loriaph@gmail.com)

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**FIELD MEETING - AYIOS SOZOMENOS & ATHALASSA – 14<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

***By Martin Hellicar***

The main target species for Ayios Sozomenos, where our field trip kicked off, again proved rather hard to pin down. And the weather did not help. As we pulled in to the old village (ruins), the threat of rain turned into a reality of downpour and we spent 5 minutes sat in cars wondering if we should have stayed at home! But it eased, and the mood lifted as we spotted a **Little Owl** on the cliffs and two male and one female **Finsch's wheatears** showing well in the same area.

Other species in the area were: **Kestrel** (4 in total), **Magpie**, **Hooded crow**, **Jackdaw**, **Spectacled warbler**, **Sardinian warbler**, **Black Redstart**, **Stonechat**, a solitary **Blue Rock thrush** (female), **House sparrow**, **Meadow pipit**, **White wagtail**, **Chaffinch** and **Corn Bunting** (flying over).

We moved on from Ay. Sozomenos and headed for Athalassa Park and its small reservoir. Water levels were good and we picked up good numbers – and a nice variety – of waterbirds: **Little Grebe**, **Grey heron**, **Night heron** (4 juveniles), **Little Egret**, **Cattle Egret**, **Great Egret**, **Moorhen**, **Coot**, an impressive flock of **Cormorants**, **Kingfisher**, **Teal**, **Mallard**, **Ferruginous ducks** (5). But pride of place definitely belonged to the four **White Pelicans** floating nonchalantly among the reedy islands towards the back of the lake. We also added **Woodpigeon**, **Robin** and **Chiffchaff** to the day's list and a large Peregrine flew over – an impressive sight!

Ten people took part in the morning's outing in all, and it wasn't till we were walking back to the car park at Athalassa that the rains came down again...so even the weather was kind overall.

## FIELD MEETING – TROODOS – 17<sup>th</sup> November 2018

*By Stavros Christodoulides*

In recent years, mid-November has been the best time for birding the higher reaches of the Troodos mountains with winter finches, buntings and thrushes most regular and easiest to find. We therefore decided to bring our late Nov Troodos field trip forward a week, in order to maximize our chances of finding these species. Unfortunately however, 2018 autumn migration was somewhat delayed and in the days leading to our trip there were few reports of interesting migrants and winter visitors from Troodos. Nevertheless with hope, if slightly dented expectations, a group of some 25 members and friends met at 9 am at the Troodos Environmental Centre Parking area for the start of our trip. While waiting for potential latecomers, we walked around the Environmental Centre but saw little, a **Jay** flying over and a few **House Sparrows** in the trees and bushes around the Dolphin Restaurant tennis courts. Some **Crossbill** were heard flying over but were too high to see properly while one or two **Short-toed Treecreepers** sang in the surrounding trees, again too distant to be worth searching for.

We moved on to the Troodos Meteorological Station, just past Troodos Square. This has been one of the better places in recent years but on this occasion there was little bird activity. We heard a couple of **Mistle Thrushes** and caught a glimpse of them flying through the trees. A **Great Tit** and a small group of **Coal Tits** were the only other birds seen so we continued onto our next stop, Livadi tou Pashia Picnic Site.

We drove down to the picnic area, parked our cars and walked the track running parallel to the upland meadow. Initially, it was rather quiet, but soon things started to pick up. Our first birds were two **Wrens** chasing each other, offering good views of this often very skulking species. In the brush at the edge of the meadow were good numbers of **Blackbird** while on the trees on the opposite hillside were lots of **Coal Tits**, a few **Chaffinches** and a pair of **Siskins**. **Crossbills** were calling overhead and a couple of birds landed obligingly on the top of some black pines, giving us time for some good scope views. Buoyed by the pick-up in activity we decided that it was time for our mid-morning coffee break. While enjoying our refreshments a **Goshawk** flew over but was visible only too briefly and just a handful of us managed to catch a glimpse of it disappearing below the distant treeline.

As was the case in recent Troodos field trips, our next and final stop was Platania Picnic Site, a ten minute drive down towards Kakopetria Village. Recently, this area has been particularly productive. We parked our cars near the small stream, which strangely for the time of the year was dry and walked up the winding road towards the tree nursery at the top of the small hill. This proved to be a great walk with frequent stops and good numbers of **Coal Tits**, a flock of **Chaffinch** amongst which were two **Brambling**, **Short-toed Treecreeper**, some more **Siskin**, **Goldfinch** and **Greenfinch**. A **Goldcrest** was calling from close by but in the flurry of bird activity, frustratingly we didn't manage to locate it. Nevertheless, this ended the trip on a high with more birds seen here than anywhere else on our trip and was another reminder that perseverance often pays off, having managed to see all the Troodos specialties as well as a few interesting and uncommon winter migrants.

## FIELD MEETING - KIDASI – 1st DECEMBER

*By Dave Walker*

Despite the storms of the previous few days fifteen members turned up at Asprokremnos Dam car park on what turned out to be a bright day. Those there early enough were lucky to see a **Eurasian Sparrowhawk** fly across the dam wall. Whilst waiting in the car park a couple of **Great Cormorant** flew over heads. There were **White Wagtail**, **Collared Dove**, **Black Redstart**, several **European Greenfinch**, **Common Chaffinch** and **Great Tit** feeding in the wooded area. **Sardinian Warblers** were feeding in the bushes and **Common Stonechat** were observed flycatching.

Moving to the edge of the reservoir we were looking for the **Great Crested Grebe** that been reported a few days earlier. It was not playing ball and spending most of its time under water and only briefly showing before diving again. Also on the water **Mallard** and **Grey Heron** were seen.

We drove along the Diarizos Valley stopping off at the Extreme View Café for a coffee and cake break. As we arrived a large group of **Eurasian Jackdaw** greeted us. After our refreshments we went outside and were not to be disappointed by seeing our first **Griffon Vulture**, the numbers kept increasing as more joined and we were pleased to see a total of ten.

Arriving at Kidasi two Song Thrush were seen as we parked up. We had not been walking too long when the first male **Finsch's Wheatear** was seen. Walking further up the track we were seeing other male Finsch's Wheatears but were not absolutely sure we were not double counting. Eventually we established we could see four different birds from just one position, a real good number in one area. On the way back there was discussion whether a Eurasian Sparrowhawk had been seen but this turned out to be one of the **Common Kestrel** that were hunting in the valley.

After lunch we stopped at the large boulders and were not surprised to see a lot of water running in the river. A **grey Wagtail** was spotted feeding away from the water and Sardinian Warbler and Great Tit were seen.

A total of 29 species were seen.

## BIRD PHOTO QUIZ

*By Stavros Christodoulides*

### PHOTO # 65



Photo by Tony Reeves

### Last Month's Quiz answer

November's mystery bird is a black and white waterbird with a medium-long neck, a proportionally large head, a thin bill and a short tail. The aquatic habitat, tail-less appearance and overall shape suggest that our mystery bird is a species of Grebe, a circumpolar family of birds, five species of which occur in Cyprus.

Of the five species one is a breeding resident, two are regular but rather uncommon winter visitors while two occur as rare vagrants. The black and white colouration and red eye should eliminate our smallest and commonest species, Little Grebe, which is brownish and has a dark eye. The shape should also eliminate the two larger species: Great Crested Grebe which is an uncommon winter visitor and the vagrant Red-necked Grebe; both show a longer neck and a proportionally smaller head and longer, thinner bill. We are left with two similar species: Black-necked Grebe, a regular winter visitor in small numbers and Slavonian or Horned Grebe, a rare vagrant with just three records, the latest in November 2016. In breeding plumage the two species are very different but in winter both appear black and white, have a similar size and structure and show a striking red eye. There are however subtle differences in their shape and jizz, as well as differences in the amounts and shape of the black and white in their head pattern. Horned Grebe shows a slightly thicker, straight bill, a gently sloping forehead peaking at the back of the head and pale cheeks while Black-necked shows a pointed, slightly upturned bill, a steep forehead peaking towards the middle of the head and dark cheeks. Our mystery bird shows a dark cheek, a steeply sloping forehead and a pointed, upturned bill identifying it as a **Black-necked Grebe**.

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2η Έκδοση



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## A-Z of Cyprus Birdwatching Alpine Swifts

By June Neal

***If you wish to learn more about a topic highlight the link to a web page (underlined blue text) and copy it into your web browser.***

### **Alpine Swift, Ασπροπετροχελίδονο, *Tachymarpis melba***

This species breeds in mountains from southern Europe to the Himalayas. Like Common Swifts, Πετροχελίδονο, *Apus apus*, they are strongly migratory, wintering much further south in southern Africa. Historically Alpine Swift has been a passage migrant and breeding summer visitor to Cyprus, with breeding birds located mainly on the West and South of the island.

Alpine Swifts are distinguished from the Common Swifts by their larger size, their white belly and throat. They are almost twice as big as most other swifts in their range. Note the short forked tail and very long swept-back wings that resemble a crescent or a boomerang which may be held stretched straight out. Their flight is slower and more powerful than that of their smaller relatives, with a call that is a drawn-out twittering.



The above photograph shows the upper-parts of the Alpine Swift and was taken by Stavros Christodoulides at Akrotiri Gravel Pits on 31 August 2013. It was probably from a nearby nesting colony.

### **Historical changes in residency or breeding**

During 1988 the birds arrived from 7<sup>th</sup> April and 'From mid Apr. To late May birds were seen in small numbers (1-10) especially at the usual breeding areas of Episcopi Cliffs (Limassol), Cape Aspro, Petra tou Romiou and Pissouri'.

'On Jun. 4<sup>th</sup> 1989 24 birds were seen at Episcopi Cliffs'. They build their nests in colonies in a suitable cliff hole or cave, laying two or three eggs. Swifts pair for life, returning to the same sites year after year rebuilding their nests when necessary.

Below is a photograph taken by Raija Howard showing the Alpine Swift's distinctive underparts.



In recent years the numbers have increased at colonies: Noted at Kensington Cliffs (Episkopi) where c50 were recorded on 5 April 2005 and in 2006 c20 birds occupied the colony. 100 were seen around the Aphrodite Trail 3 April 2005 close to the Cape Aspro breeding site.

In 2005: A colony at Asprokremmos Dam was referred to with 15 arriving 15 March and a high of 20 on 15 April. In 2012 'up to seven flying around in front of the . . . spillway' suggested the breeding colony was still present and copulating birds noted 15-Apr 2013 confirmed this.

In 2011: 200 were counted at Akanthou (Famagusta) 24-Apr and 140 on passage over Kouklia Beach Fish Farm on 13-Mar.

Elsewhere in spring: In 2005 there was only one report from the East was of up to four Akhna Dam 3-5 May 2005. In Karpasia c20 pairs were recorded at Kantara 9-May 2006 and at least 10 on cliffs at Korovia (Famagusta) 13 May 2006.

#### Autumn passage

'On Aug. 9<sup>th</sup> 1988 c60 birds were seen flying very high over Strovolos, on Sep 30<sup>th</sup> c30 at Polis and on Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> c40 at Latchi. The last record was c20 birds over Kalo Khorio Klirou on Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Autumn records in 2005 indicate a steady passage at Cape Greco between 15-September and 5 October of up to five birds daily. That year birds also departed from Armou Hills, Happy Valley (Episkopi), Koilinia, Polis Army Camp, Tsada Golf Club and Zakaki Marsh.

In 2005 it was commented that 'in the early 2000s Alpine Swift was found to be common in spring but less so in the autumn.' Reports since then indicates the variation in numbers of birds noted in autumn passage from one year to another.

In 2006 coverage from the East was suggested to be poor as 'Migration was noticeable from second week in August, *only in the West*'. Departures noted again from Armou Hills and Polis, plus Avdimou, Ezousas Valley and Kensington Cliffs.

In 2007 no nesting activity was reported and little evidence of autumn passage with a high count of 22 at Pissouri Beach 8 September 2007, whereas visible migration was substantial in 2010 with good numbers from 24-Jul to 12-Oct. On 3-Aug 2011 'An amazing 500 came off the sea Polis Chrysochou Bay . . .' and it is likely that weather conditions account for such variation annually, along with the increasing number of observers over the years.

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## SYSTEMATIC LIST FOR NOVEMBER 2018

Jane Stylianou

5645 bird records received

172 species and forms recorded November 2018, compared to 184 in November 2017.

[Please note, the list has been edited for the purposes of this newsletter and contains records that have not been corrected or corroborated. Some records for October were received late and some are entered here for interest.]

The following species were also recorded in November 2018: Chukar, Black Francolin, Northern Shoveler, Mallard, Common Teal, Little Grebe, Common Woodpigeon, Eurasian Collared Dove, Common Moorhen, Common Coot, Cattle Egret, Little Egret, Grey Heron, European Shag, Great Cormorant, Black-headed Gull, Yellow-legged Gull, Little Owl, Western Marsh Harrier, Common Kingfisher, Common Kestrel (**125** records), Eurasian Magpie, Eurasian Jackdaw, Hooded Crow (**107** records), Great Tit, Crested Lark, Zitting Cisticola, Common Chiffchaff (**162** records), Cetti's Warbler, Eurasian Blackcap (**100** records), Sardinian Warbler (**126** records), Spectacled Warbler, European Robin (**168** records), Black Redstart (**147** records), European Stonechat (**214** records), House Sparrow (**114** records), Spanish Sparrow, Meadow Pipit, White Wagtail (**104** records), Common Chaffinch (**156** records), European Greenfinch (**100** records), Common Linnet, European Goldfinch (**115** records), European Serin.

### COMMON QUAIL *Coturnix coturnix*

Ορνίθι

Paphos Sewage Plant 1 recently dead 4-Nov CR

### WHITE-HEADED DUCK\* *Oxyura*

*leucocephala* Κεφαλόπατις

Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 1 Juv.

First seen 3rd November by Sadik Azimili.

Photo on FB 9 & 21-Nov MC/CC/CR

### GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE

*Anser albifrons* Αρκόσινη



Greater White-fronted Goose, Asprokremmos Dam, 6<sup>th</sup> November. Photograph by Dave Walker.

Asprokremmos Dam 1 juvenile 2, 6, 12, 16 & 23-Nov AF/IKB/DJW/VT/CR

Larnaca Sewage Works 6 2 ads and 4 juvs 7, 12, 19, 21, 23, 24, 25 & 30-Nov DS/JS/MGr/LAC/RAT

### COMMON SHELDUCK *Tadorna tadorna*

Αλάουρτος

Akrotiri Salt Lake 1 24 & 29-Nov JN/CR  
Larnaca Sewage Works 9 30-Nov JS

### COMMON POCHARD *Aythya farina*

Κουντούρα

Agia Eirini Dam 72 20-Oct NCP

Kioneli Dam 1 f 21-Nov CR

Larnaca Sewage Works 1 21 & 25-Nov MGr/JS

Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant c6 16-Nov JS

Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 24 21-Nov CR

### FERRUGINOUS DUCK *Aythya nyroca*

Βαλιόπατις

Max count per location:

Athalassa Park 18 5-Nov JS

Bishop's Pool 1 7 & 8-Nov JN/CR

Larnaca Sewage Works 22 23-Nov LAC

Manglis Lake 1 27-Nov JS

Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant c30 16-Nov JS

Oroklini Marsh 1 male 2-Nov JWa

Ovgoros Dam 10 9-Nov MC/CC

Trachoni Pools 1 19-Oct NCP

Zakaki Marsh 1 20 & 22-Nov LAC

**TUFTED DUCK** *Aythya fuligula*

Μαυροκέφαλη Πάπια

Larnaca Sewage Works 1 Prob this species but poss hybrid. Wrong shape head for Tufted. Odd bird 12, 19 & 21-Nov JS/CR

**GARGANEY** *Spatula querquedula*

Μασσουρατζιής

Agia Varvava 1 female middle soakaways 24-Nov MJH

**GADWALL** *Mareca strepera* Κανναούρα

Asprokremmos Dam 1 28-Oct JWA

Zakaki Marsh 1 3-Nov AF

Zakaki Marsh 4 26 &amp; 28-Nov MJH/CR

Zakaki Marsh 3 30-Nov MGr

**EURASIAN WIGEON** *Mareca penelope*

Αρμαπάσσης

Bishop's Pool 1 27-Nov ABW

Larnaca Sewage Works 5 2m and 3f 19-Nov JS

Larnaca Sewage Works 3 21, 25 & 30-Nov MGr/JS

Zakaki Marsh 1 male 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 & 26-Nov MJH/LAC/ABW/JS/JN

**NORTHERN PINTAIL** *Anas acuta*

Σουβλονούρα

Max count per location:

Akhna Dam 1 male 9-Nov JS

Asprokremmos Dam 3 1m 23-Nov CR

Bishops Pool 1 5 &amp; 7-Nov AR/LAC/JN

Larnaca Sewage Works 8 4m and 4f 25-Nov JS

Macronissos Beach 1 Male flying around bay 9-Nov JS

Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 1 Female 16-Nov JS

Oroklini Marsh 4 22, 23 &amp; 30-Nov LAC/JS

Paphos Sewage Plant 14 west 4-Nov CR

Zakaki Marsh 2 1, 3, 25 &amp; 28-Nov

ABW/TRe/FM/JN/LAC/CR

**GREAT CRESTED GREBE** *Podiceps**cristatus* Σκουφοβούττης

Asprokremmos Dam 1 28-Nov DN

**BLACK-NECKED GREBE** *Podiceps**nigricollis* Μαυροβούττης

Max count per location:

Bishop's Pool 1 1, 5, 7 &amp; 8-Nov

ADT/AR/DJW/LAC/JN/CR/NA

Larnaca Sewage Works 32 19-Nov JS

Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 2 9-Nov

MC/CC

**GREATER FLAMINGO** *Phoenicopterus**roseus* Φλαμίνγκο

Max count per location:

Akrotiri Salt Lake 1750 c1500 on Salt Lake proper in N water and c250 flying over Zakaki 24-Nov JN

Karaolos Lake 295 9-Nov MC/CC

Lady's Mile 40+ fly over 16 & 28-Nov TRe

Larnaca Airport Pools South 400+ 30-Nov JS

Larnaca Salt Lake c550 23-Nov LAC

Larnaca Sewage Works 600 21-Nov CR

Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 121 9-

Nov MC/CC

Oroklini Marsh 105 mostly ads 21-Nov

CR

Phasouri Reed-beds 4 2 adults and 2 immatures in flight together along shoreline from E to W 10-Nov JN

**ROCK DOVE** *Columba livia* Αρκοπέζουνο

Apostolos Andreas 60 drinking, near monastery, running water 11:30 - 12:30 10-Nov MC/CC

Avagas Gorge c30 6 &amp; 20-Nov DJW/JS

Bishop's Pool 1 8-Nov CR

Curium 3 2 in flight and 1 in a cave 10-Nov JN

Kensington Cliffs 2 21-Nov JN

Ovgoros Dam 30 9-Nov MC/CC

**LAUGHING DOVE** *Spilopelia senegalensis*

Φοινικοτρύγωνα

Max count per location:

Agios Sozomenos 1 Immature bird on

wires towards Potamia 1-Nov JS

Aradippou Farms 2 10-Nov SC

Aradippou 2 11-Nov FGe

Kamares Larnaca Salt Lake 8 25-Nov FGe

Leivadia 1 11-Nov FGe

Mandria 4 2-Nov CR

**ALPINE SWIFT** *Tachymarptis melba*

Ασπροπετροχειλίδονο

Kamares village, Tala 7 ahead of rain showers 18-Nov CR

**WESTERN WATER RAIL** *Rallus aquaticus*  
Μαυροπουλάδα



Western Water Rail, Zakaki Marsh, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2018. Photograph by Tony Reeves.

Max count per location:

Akrotiri Marsh (Phasouri Reed-beds) 1 2, 8, 11, 12, 23 & 26-Nov JS/NA/DS/ABW  
Bishop's Pool 1 h 7 & 8-Nov JN/CR  
Goudi 1 20 & 29-Nov RAt  
Larnaca Salt Lake 4 All seen. At Kamares area 19-Nov JS  
Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 6 21-Nov CR  
Zakaki Marsh 4 7 & 8-Nov JN/CR

**SPOTTED CRAKE** *Porzana porzana*  
ΣΤΙΚΤΟΠΟΥΛΑΔΑ



Spotted Crake, Zakaki Marsh, 7<sup>th</sup> November. Photograph by Dave Walker.

Akrotiri Marsh 1 11-Nov DS  
Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 2 19, 21 & 23-Oct NCP  
Zakaki Marsh 1 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 & 20-Nov  
TRe/FM,LSa/AR/DJW/JN/DS/CR/MGr/ABW/NA/MJH

**COMMON CRANE** *Grus grus* Γερανός

Akrotiri Salt Lake 1 1-Nov TRe/FM  
Cape Drepanum 1 flying west 10-Nov DJW  
Ladies Mile 8 5-Nov AR  
Oroklini Marsh 1 3-Nov AR/JWa/JS

**WHITE STORK** *Ciconia ciconia* Λευκός

Πελαργός

Fresh Water Lake 3 Immature birds.  
Landed in front of us. Appeared thirsty 9-Nov MC/CC  
Oroklini Marsh 1 3-Nov AR/JS

**COMMON LITTLE BITTERN** *Ixobrychus minutus* Νανορωδιάς



Common Little Bittern, Akrotiri Marsh, 7<sup>th</sup> November. Photograph by Jan Walker.

Akrotiri Marsh 1 juv 1, 2, 7, 11 & 12-Nov  
JWa/JS/ABW/DJW/LAC/JN/DS

**BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON**

*Nycticorax nycticorax* Νυχτοκόρακας

Akrotiri Marsh 1 imm 1-Nov JWa  
Athalassa Dam 1 Juv 5-Nov JS  
Athalassa Dam 2 juvs 15-Nov AKy  
Athalassa Dam 4 24-Nov LAC/JS  
Kioneli Dam 5 calling and flying in at dusk 20-Nov CR

**SQUACCO HERON** *Ardeola ralloides*

Βορτακοφάς

Akhna Dam 1 3-Nov JS  
Zakaki Marsh 1 1 & 3-Nov TRe/FM/AF

**GREAT WHITE EGRET** *Ardea alba*

Χανούμισσα



Great White Egret, Athalassa Dam, 16<sup>th</sup> November. Photograph by Jane Stylianou.

Max count per location:

Athalassa Park 2 24-Nov LAC/JS  
 Fresh Water Lake 1 9-Nov MC/CC  
 Germasogeia Dam 8 2-Nov JS  
 Kioneli Dam 7 21-Nov CR  
 Larnaca Salt Lake 1 12 & 19-Nov JS  
 Oroklini Marsh 2 7-Nov DS  
 Zakaki Marsh 1 5-Nov AR

**GREAT WHITE PELICAN** *Pelecanus onocrotalus* Ροδοπελεκάνος



Great White Pelican, Akhna Dam, 3<sup>rd</sup> November.  
 Photograph by Jane Stylianou

Akhna Dam 1 Juvenile 3, 9, 10 & 20-Nov  
 JS/SC/STI  
 Athalassa Park 4 24-Nov LAC/JS  
 Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 3 9-Nov  
 MC/CC  
 Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 4 All juvs  
 16 & 21-Nov JS/CR  
 Oroklini Marsh 1 Juvenile 2-Nov VB  
 Zakaki Marsh 1 1-Nov TRE/FM

**EURASIAN THICK-KNEE** *Burhinus oedicnemus* Τρουλλουριά

Mandria Village 3 Heard after dusk 25-  
 Nov LAC  
 Mandria Village 1 Heard after dusk also on  
 30th November 28-Nov LAC  
 Pyla 21 23-Nov VT

**BLACK-WINGED STILT** *Himantopus himantopus* Καλαμοκαννάς

Max count per location:  
 Karaolos Lake 25 9-Nov MC/CC  
 Kioneli Dam 3 20-Nov CR  
 Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 4 16 &  
 21-Nov JS/CR  
 Oroklini Marsh 5 22, 23 & 25-Nov LAC/VT

**GREY PLOVER** *Pluvialis squatarola* Στακτοπλουμίδι



Grey Plover, Lady's Mile, 8<sup>th</sup> November.  
 Photograph by Tony Reeves.

Lady's Mile 2 6-Nov TRE/FM  
 Lady's Mile 1 non-breeding plum 8, 16, 19  
 & 20-Nov CR/NA/TRE/JS/AKY  
 Spiro's Pool 2 25-Nov LAC  
 Zakaki Marsh 1 fly over 22-Nov TRE

**EURASIAN GOLDEN PLOVER** *Pluvialis apricaria* Χρυσοπλουμίδι



Eurasian Golden Plover, Paphos Headland.  
 Photograph by Andy Waller.

Max count per location:  
 Coral Bay 1 10-Nov DJW  
 Lady's Mile 2 20-Nov LAC/DJW  
 Mandria 4 on beach 26-Nov MJH  
 Paphos Headland 51 29-Nov LAC  
 Spiros Pool c40 Flock in flight over area  
 25-Nov JS

**COMMON RINGED PLOVER** *Charadrius hiaticula* Αμμοπλουμίδι

Agios Loukas Marsh 2 9-Nov MC/CC  
 Larnaca Salt Lake 2 23-Nov LAC  
 Larnaca Salt Lake 6 30-Nov JS  
 Meneou Pools 2 25-Nov RA  
 Oroklini Marsh 2 2 & 3-Nov JWa/JS  
 Oroklini Marsh 1 7-Nov DS  
 Oroklini Marsh 3 21-Nov CR  
 Oroklini Marsh 5 22-Nov LAC

**LITTLE RINGED PLOVER** *Charadrius**dubius* Λιμνοπλουμίδι

Aradippou Slurry Pits 6 10-Nov SC  
Kioneli Dam 3 20 & 21-Nov CR  
Oroklini Marsh 1 juv 21-Nov CR  
Zakaki Marsh 3 probably this species in distance, feeding between run-off and salt lake edge 24-Nov JN

**KENTISH PLOVER** *Charadrius**alexandrinus* Ναυοπλουμίδι

Akrotiri Salt Lake 30 8 & 28-Nov CR  
Kioneli Dam 1 unusual location, so far inland 21-Nov CR  
Lady's Mile 48 20-Nov DJW  
Larnaca Airport Pools South 15 19-Nov JS  
Larnaca Salt Lake 87 30-Nov JS  
Macronissos Beach 18 9-Nov JS  
Silverbeach 58 One colour ringed bird ringed in Ukraine 22-Oct NCP  
Zakaki Marsh 6 24-Nov JN

**GREATER SANDPLOVER** *Charadrius**leschenaultii* Βραχοπλουμίδι

Greater Sandplover, Paphos Headland, 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Photograph by Ian Bloomer.

Max count per location:

Kermia Beach, Agia Napa 2 9-Nov JS  
Macronissos Beach, Agia Napa 7 11-Nov FGe  
Paphos Headland 4 8, 10, 19, 24 & 29-Nov LAC/CR/ABW/TT

**NORTHERN LAPWING** *Vanellus vanellus*

Γιαννής

Largest counts:

Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant c40 16-Nov JS  
Oroklini Marsh 51 Number increasing daily 24-Nov LAC  
Paphos Sewage Plant 14 14-Nov NA

**SPUR-WINGED LAPWING** *Vanellus**spinus* Πελλοκατερίνα

Largest counts:

Karaolos Lake 30 9-Nov MC/CC  
Kioneli Dam 16 21-Nov CR  
Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 90 21-Nov CR  
Oroklini Marsh 50+ 7-Nov DS  
Paphos Sewage Plant c40 6-Nov IKB

**WHIMBREL** *Numenius phaeopus*

Φαιομπεκάτσα

Paphos Headland 1 13, 15, 19, 23 & 24-Nov LAC/IKB/DJW/CR

**RUDDY TURNSTONE** *Arenaria interpres*

Χαλίκονεραλλίδι

Paphos Headland 1 10, 13, 15, 24 & 25-Nov CR/LAC/IKB/CR/MJH

**RUFF** *Calidris pugnax* Μαχητής

Max count per location:

Lady's Mile 6 2-Nov JS  
Larnaca Sewage Works 1 19 & 21-Nov JS/MGr  
Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 1 21-Nov CR  
Oroklini Marsh 3 23-Nov LAC  
Zakaki Marsh 7 3-Nov JN

**TEMMINCK'S STINT** *Calidris temminckii*

Σταχτονεραλλίδι

Akrotiri Salt Lake 2 8-Nov CR  
Akrotiri Salt Lake 3 28-Nov CR  
Kioneli Dam 3 20-Nov CR  
Kioneli Dam 1 21-Nov CR  
Larnaca Salt Lake 1 Kamares area 12-Nov JS  
Leivadia 6 3-Nov AR  
Oroklini Marsh 2 9-Nov JS  
Oroklini Marsh 1 23-Nov LAC

**DUNLIN** *Calidris alpina* Λασπονεραλλίδι

Dunlin, Paphos Headland, 23<sup>rd</sup> November. Photograph by Dave Walker.

Largest counts:



Akrotiri Salt Lake 30 est 28-Nov CR  
Lady's Mile 26 28-Nov CR  
Larnaca Sewage Works 9 19-Nov JS

**LITTLE STINT** *Calidris minuta*

Νανονεραλλίδι

Largest counts:

Akrotiri Salt Lake c30 28-Nov CR  
Lady's Mile 44 25-Nov LAC  
Larnaca Sewage Works c25 3-Nov AR  
Oroklini Marsh 18 9-Nov JS

**COMMON SNIPE** *Gallinago gallinago*

Πικατσόφι



*Common Snipe, Goudi, 2<sup>nd</sup> November.*  
*Photograph by Ray Atkinson*

Largest counts:

Kioneli Dam 8 20-Nov CR  
Larnaca Salt Lake 13 19-Nov JS  
Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 52 21-Nov CR

**JACK SNIPE** *Lymnocyptes minimus*

Κουφοπικάτσονο

Oroklini Marsh 1 21 & 25-Nov CR/RAT  
Zakaki Marsh 1 3, 20 & 24-Nov JN/TRe

**COMMON SANDPIPER** *Actitis hypoleucos*

Ακτίτης

Largest counts:

Leivadia 2 3-Nov AR  
Macronissos Beach 2 9-Nov JS  
Paphos Headland 3 24 & 29-Nov CR/LAC

**GREEN SANDPIPER** *Tringa ochropus*

Δασονεραλλίδι

Largest counts:

Agia Varvara 2 6-Nov NA  
Kioneli Dam 2 21-Nov CR  
Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 8 21-Nov CR  
Zakaki Marsh 2 24-Nov JN

**SPOTTED REDSHANK** *Tringa erythropus*

Μαυρονεραλλίδι

Akrotiri Gravel Pits 2 10-Nov MGr  
Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 1 16-Nov JS  
Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 5 21-Nov CR  
Oroklini Marsh 1 14-Nov MH

**COMMON GREENSHANK** *Tringa*

*nebularia* Πρασινονεραλλίδι

Akhna Dam 1 9-Nov JS  
Akhna Dam 2 25-Nov RAT  
Kamares, Larnaca Salt Lake 2 25-Nov FGe  
Karaolos Lake 1 9-Nov MC/CC  
Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 2 9-Nov MC/CC

**COMMON REDSHANK** *Tringa totanus*

Κοκκινονεραλλίδι

Largest counts:

Larnaca Sewage Works 6 19-Nov JS  
Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 9 16-Nov JS  
Oroklini Marsh 10 2-Nov JWa

**WOOD SANDPIPER** *Tringa glareola*

Λάσπονεραλλίδι

Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 8 9-Nov MC/CC  
Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 12 21-Nov CR  
Oroklini Marsh 1 23-Nov VT

**SLENDER-BILLED GULL** *Larus genei*

Λεπτόραμφος Γλάρος



*Slender-billed Gull, Lady's Mile, 21<sup>st</sup> November.*  
*Photograph by Tony Reeves.*

Max count per location:

Lady's Mile 4 22 & 28-Nov TRe/CR  
Larnaca Sewage Works 2 25-Nov JS

**PALLAS'S GULL** *Larus ichthyaetus*

Αετόςγλαρος



*Pallas's Gull, Lady's Mile, 20<sup>th</sup> November.*  
*Photograph by Dave Walker.*

Lady's Mile 1 19, 20, 21 & 24-Nov  
ABW/TRe/DJW/MJH/LAC/NA/JN

**MEDITERRANEAN GULL** *Larus melanocephalus* Μαυροκέφαλος Γλάρος



*Mediterranean Gull, Lady's Mile, 6<sup>th</sup> November.*  
*Photograph by Tony Reeves.*

Lady's Mile 1 1, 6, 16, 19, 20, 21, 23 & 28-Nov  
JWa/TRe/FM/DJW/JS/CR  
Lady's Mile 2 22, 24 & 29-Nov TRe/JN

**AUDOUIN'S GULL** *Larus audouinii*

Νησόςγλαρος

Kermia Beach, Agia Napa 1 3-Nov JS  
Macronissos Beach, Agia Napa 1 9-Nov JS

*Baltic Gull* *Larus fuscus*

Μελανόγλαρος Βαλπικής

Larnaca Sewage Works 1 One juv 19 & 24-Nov JS/RAt

**ARMENIAN GULL** *Larus armenicus*

Γλάρος Αρμενίας

Max count per location:

Lady's Mile c15 23 & 24-Nov JS/JN  
Larnaca Sewage Works c30 30-Nov JS  
Zakaki Marsh 1 immature 3-Nov JN

**CASPIAN GULL** *Larus cachinnans* Γλάρος

Κασπίας

Max count per location:

Lady's Mile 10 juvs 8-Nov CR  
Larnaca Sewage Works c8 incl 2 ads 4-Nov JS

**WHISKERED TERN** *Chlidonias hybrida*

Λιμνογλάρονο

Akhna Dam 1 3-Nov JS

Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 1 9-Nov MC/CC

**SANDWICH TERN** *Thalasseus*

*sandvicensis* Χειμωνογλάρονο

Lady's Mile 2 20-Nov JS

Lady's Mile 1 21 & 29-Nov TRe

Lady's Mile 3 28-Nov CR

**OSPREY** *Pandion haliaetus* Ψαραετός

Mandria Beach 1 28-Nov LAC

**GRIFFON VULTURE** *Gyps fulvus* Γύπας

Apollyon Hylates Sanctuary 5 10-Nov JN

Curium 9 10-Nov JN

Episkopi 3 4-Nov AR

Kensington Cliffs 2 11-Nov DS

Kensington Cliffs 9 20-Nov MJH

Kensington Cliffs 6 21-Nov JN

Kensington Cliffs 10 Circling over cliffs

ahead of oncoming storm 23-Nov JS

Kensington Cliffs 7 on ledge area 24-Nov JN

Kensington Cliffs 12 in air together 26-Nov MJH

**BONELLI'S EAGLE** *Aquila fasciatus*

Σπιζαετός – Περτικοσίαχνο



*Bonelli's Eagle, Agios Sozomenos, 8<sup>th</sup> November.*  
*Photograph by Jane Stylianou.*

Agia Varvara 1 distant 18-Nov CR

Agios Sozomenos 2 pair on cliffs being mobbed by pair of Peregrine Falcon 8-Nov JS

Akrotiri Marsh 2 juvs 1-Nov JWa  
 Akrotiri Marsh 1 15-Nov DS  
 Anarita Park 1 15, 20 & 22-Nov MJH/TT  
 Armou Hills 1 juv 29-Nov CR  
 Arodes 2 14 & 15-Nov Rat/DJW  
 Aspro Reservoir 1 being mobbed by male  
 Hen Harrier slopes of reservoir 22-Nov  
 MJH  
 Avakas Gorge 1 12-Nov VT  
 Evretou Dam 1 imm 1-Nov CR  
 Evretou Dam 2 4-Nov IKB  
 Goudi 1 7-Nov RAT  
 Kidasi 2 14-Nov IKB  
 Kotchatis 1 adult 2-Nov FGe  
 Zakaki Marsh 1 fly over 5-Nov TRe

### **HEN HARRIER** *Circus cyaneus*

Ορνιθοσιάχινο  
 Agia Varvava 1 ringtail 27-Nov MJH  
 Agios Sozomenos 1 ring tail 24 & 27-Nov  
 JS  
 Akrotiri Marsh (Phasouri Reed-beds) 1  
 Ring tail 8-Nov NA/CR  
 Akrotiri Marsh (Phasouri Reed-beds) 1  
 male 10-Nov DN  
 Akrotiri Salt Lake 1 7 & 28-Nov DJW/CR  
 Aspro Reservoir 1 male mobbing Bonelli's  
 Eagle slopes above reservoir 22-Nov MJH  
 Curium 1 hunting female 10-Nov JN  
 Kouklia (Paphos) 1 12-Nov IKB  
 Lady's Mile 1 21-Nov TRe  
 Larnaca Sewage Works 1 23-Nov LAC  
 Trachoni Pool 1 male 21-Nov CR  
 Zakaki Marsh 1 Ring tail 6, 23 & 24-Nov  
 TRe/FM/JS/JN

### **EURASIAN SPARROWHAWK** *Accipiter nisus* Ξεφτέρι

Agia Varvava 2 pair displaying 27-Nov  
 MJH  
 Akhna Dam 1 9-Nov JS  
 Akrotiri Marsh (Phasouri Reed-beds) 1 3-  
 Nov AF  
 Akrotiri Salt Lake 1 8-Nov CR  
 Avakas Gorge 1 Flew over putting  
 Jackdaws and Rock Doves 20-Nov  
 JS/AKy/TT  
 Evretou Dam 1 6 & 18-Nov CR  
 Germasogeia Dam 1 3-Nov JWa  
 Kioneli Dam 1 21-Nov CR  
 Kornos 1 Over motorway near Kornos exit  
 23-Nov JS  
 Kritou Tera 1 seen briefly, probably female  
 sparrowhawk but could have been goshawk  
 seen previously in area 13-Nov LSA  
 Lower Ezousas 1 17 & 18-Nov MJH

Mandria Beach 1 6-Nov VT  
 Marathounta 1 27-Nov CR  
 Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 1 21-Nov  
 CR  
 Paphos Sewage Plant 1 5, 7, 12 & 18-Nov  
 LAC/NA  
 Souni 1 male disturbed flew over N ridge  
 near cleared area 22-Nov JN  
 Tsada north valley 1 11-Nov CR  
 Zakaki Marsh 1 Female 23-Nov JS

### **NORTHERN GOSHAWK** *Accipiter gentilis*

Διπλοσιάχινο  
 Goudi, river 1 juvenile 29-Nov RAT  
 Kritou Tera 1 2-Nov LSA  
 Livadi tou Pashia, Troodos 1 17-Nov  
 DJW/JN/SC/BC field trip  
 Mavrokolymbos Dam 1 3-Nov DJW

### **BLACK KITE** *Milvus migrans* Γυτογεράκα

Agia Varvava 2 9-Nov NA  
 Kamares village, Tala 1 heading east  
 14.00h 18-Nov CR

### **EURASIAN BUZZARD** *Buteo buteo*

Γερακίνα  
 Agios Therissos 1 9-Nov MC/CC  
 Akrotiri Marsh (Phasouri Reed-beds) 1 15,  
 20 & 23-Nov DS/MJH/ABW  
 Armou Hills 1 4-Nov IKB  
 Arodes 2 4-Nov IKB  
 Konia 1 looking for roost at dusk 14-Nov  
 CR  
 Mandria Village 1 27-Nov LAC  
 Phasouri 1 mobbed by 2 Hooded Crows  
 10-Nov JN  
 Souni 1 disturbed from a pine tree by a  
 Hooded Crow, then it took flight 13-Nov  
 JN  
 Zakaki Marsh 1 7 & 21-Nov JN/TRe

### *Steppe Buzzard* *Buteo buteo vulpinus*

Στεππογερακίνα  
 Evretou Dam 2 ad, juv 6-Nov CR



**LONG-LEGGED BUZZARD** *Buteo rufinus*  
Διπλογέρακο



Long-legged Buzzard, Goudi, 6<sup>th</sup> November.  
Photograph by Ray Atkinson.

Singles reported throughout the month from usual locations. Reports of 2+ below:

Anarita Park 2 1-Nov RAT  
Armou Hills 2 17-Nov CR  
Evretou Dam 2 pr 1-Nov CR  
Kritou Tera 2 12 & 21-Nov LSA

**COMMON HOOPOE** *Upupa epops*  
Πουπουύζιος



Common Hoopoe, Asprokremmos Dam, 2<sup>nd</sup>  
November. Photograph by Kate Bloomer.

Asprokremmos Dam 1 2 & 15-Nov IKB  
Dekeleia Garrison 1 20-Nov STi  
UN buffer zone, Nicosia airport 1 20-Nov VV

**EURASIAN WRYNECK** *Jynx torquilla*  
Θερκοπούλλι

Arodes 1 15-Nov DJW  
Kamares Larnaca Salt Lake 1 25-Nov FGE

**ELEONORA'S FALCON** *Falco eleonora*  
Μαυρομμάτης  
Akrotiri Salt Lake 1 1-Nov TRE/FM  
Bishop's Pool 2 7-Nov LAC/JN  
Curium 2 1 on a cliff ledge and 1 in flight  
10-Nov JN

**MERLIN** *Falco columbarius* Νανοφάλλκονο  
Cape Greco 1 Flew over area chasing thrush spp 9-Nov JS  
Larnaca Sewage Works 1 Being chased by hooded crows 4-Nov JS  
Mandria 1 male 5-Nov NA  
Paphos Sewage Plant 1 14-Nov NA  
Syngrasi Dam 1 10-Nov MC/CC

**EURASIAN HOBBY** *Falco subbuteo*  
Δεντροφάλλκονο  
Mandria Beach 1 2-Nov LAC

**PEREGRINE FALCON** *Falco peregrinus*  
Ζάβογς



Peregrine Falcon, Agios Sozomenos, 8<sup>th</sup>  
November. Photograph by Jane Stylianou.

Agios Sozomenos 2 Male and female mobbing a pair of Bonell's Eagle who were perched on cliffs near to Peregrine's nest site 8-Nov JS  
Agios Sozomenos 1 17 & 24-Nov JS  
Asprokremmos Dam 1 23-Nov CR  
Athalassa Park 1 Over area 24-Nov JS  
Episkopi, Ezousas Valley 1 male on cliff 13-Nov CR  
Evretou Dam 1 6-Nov CR  
Kensington Cliffs 1 on N cliff ledge 24-Nov JN  
Kensington Cliffs 2 female on cliff joined by male; copulated and male flew off 26-Nov MJH  
Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 1 very large, fly past possible calidus 21-Nov CR  
Paphos Sewage Plant 1 male 14-Nov NA  
Rizokarpasos to Cape Andreas 1 10-Nov MC/CC

**RED-BACKED SHRIKE** *Lanius collurio*  
Κεφαλάς

Akrotiri Marsh (Phasouri Reed-beds) 1 11-Nov DS  
Kouklia (Paphos) 1 male 30-Nov CDL

**EURASIAN JAY** *Garrulus glandarius* Κίσσα



*Eurasian Jay, Livadi tou Pashia, 5<sup>th</sup> November.  
Photograph by Dave Walker.*

**Largest counts:**

Almyrolivado 4 13-Nov JS  
Leventis Botanical Garden 4 20-Nov CR  
Livadi tou Pashia 6 13-Nov JS  
Troodos Forest 6 14-Nov IKB

**COAL TIT** *Periparus ater cypriotes*  
Πέμπετσος



*Coal Tit, Livadi tou Pashia, 5<sup>th</sup> November.  
Photograph by Dave Walker.*

**Largest counts:**

Livadi tou Pashia 20 20-Nov CR  
Troodos Forest 14 14-Nov IKB

**EURASIAN PENDULINE TIT** *Remiz pendulinus* Υφάντρα



*Eurasian Penduline Tit, Mavrokolympos Dam, 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Photograph by Dave Walker.*

**Max count per location:**

Akrotiri Marsh (Phasouri Reed-beds) 3 12-Nov ABW  
Kamarea Larnaca Salt Lake 3 25-Nov FGe  
Mavrokolympos Dam 6 1 & 2-Nov DJW  
Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 1+ Heard 16-Nov JS  
Phasouri Bee Hives 1 Watched for ages right at the road side 7-Nov LAC  
Polis Reedbeds 4 5-Nov BCRS  
Zakaki Marsh 4 seen 2-Nov JS

**CALANDRA LARK** *Melanocorypha calandra* Μαυροτράσιηλος  
Mandria 18 2-Nov CR

**LESSER SHORT-TOED LARK** *Alauda rufescens* Ερημοτρασιηλούδα  
Asprokremmos Dam 1+ 2-Nov AF  
Cape Greco 1+ One flew over calling but possibly also another heard on ground but not seen 9-Nov JS

**GREATER SHORT-TOED LARK** *Calandrella brachydactyla* Τρασιηλούδα  
Mandria 1 amongst large skylark flock 15-Nov MJH

**WOODLARK** *Lullula arborea*  
Πευκοτρασιήλα



*Woodlark, Paphos Headland, 17<sup>th</sup> November.  
Photograph by Ian Bloomer.*

**Largest counts:**

Agios Phylonas old church 15 10-Nov MC/CC  
Armou Hills 42 22-Nov CR  
Curium Archaeological Site 18 feeding together 21-Nov JN  
Kritou Tera 16 21-Nov LSa  
Marathounta Hills 15 19-Nov CR  
Souni 28 9-Nov JN

**EURASIAN SKYLARK** *Alauda arvensis*

Τρασιήλα

Largest counts:

Mandria Beach 300+ 3-Nov LAC

Spiros Pool 100+ 30-Nov JS

**MOUSTACHED WARBLER** *Acrocephalus**melanopogon* Μουστακομουγιανούδι

Moustached Warbler with missing tail, Zakaki Marsh. Photograph by Andy Waller.

Max count per location:

Akhna Dam 1 3-Nov JS

Akrotiri Salt Lake 2 28-Nov CR

Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 1 14-Oct NCP

Zakaki Marsh c5 23-Nov JS

**SEDGE WARBLER** *Acrocephalus**schoenobaenus* Σχοινομουγιανούδι

Goudhi 1 2 &amp; 7-Nov RAT

**EURASIAN REED WARBLER***Acrocephalus scirpaceus* Akrotiri Marsh 2 2 & 7-Nov ABW/JN

Akrotiri Marsh 1 in flight 10-Nov JN

Chrysochou River, Skoulli 2 6-Nov CR

Mandria 1 thought at first Marsh warb 2-Nov CR

Polis Reedbeds 9 1-Nov BCRS

Polis Reedbeds 6 5-Nov BCRS

Zakaki Marsh 1 4, 5 &amp; 8-Nov FM/AR/CR

Zakaki Marsh 2 6 &amp; 7-Nov

TRe/FM/LAC/JN

**SAVI'S WARBLER** *Locustella luscinioides*

Καλαμοτριλιστής

Polis Reedbeds 1 5-Nov BCRS

**BARN SWALLOW** *Hirundo rustica* Χελιδόνι

Akrotiri Marshes 1 26-Nov MJH

Kermia Beach, Agia Napa 1 9-Nov JS

**EURASIAN CRAG MARTIN** *Ptyonoprogne**rupestris* Βραχοχελιδόνο

Evretou Dam c15 4-Nov IKB

Evretou Dam 40 all congregated when Sparrowhawk came over, 11.20h 6-Nov CR

Kritou Tera 3 14-Nov LSa

**WILLOW WARBLER** *Phylloscopus**trochilus* Θαμνογιαννούδι

Akrotiri Marsh (Phasouri Reed-beds) 1 11-Nov DS

Akrounta 2 together in one tree 3-Nov JN

Anthoupolis Sewage Works Fields 4 2-Nov FGe

Kotchatis, Nicosia 2 2-Nov FGe

Kritou Tera 6 2-Nov LSa

Larnaca Sewage Works 1 19-Nov JS

Pano 1 1-Nov LSa

Paphos Sewage Plant 6 6-Nov IKB

Polis Camp site 2 3-Nov BCRS

Polis Reedbeds 3 1-Nov BCRS

Souni 1 feeding in golden oak near to track 22-Nov JN

**GARDEN WARBLER** *Sylvia borin*

Κηποσυκαλλίδι

Akrounta 1 feeding with Blackcaps 3-Nov JN/JWa

Armou Hills 1 not seen well, possible only 5-Nov CR

Souni 1 very late migrant seen feeding close to track in golden oak bush, then in flight 13-Nov JN

**LESSER WHITETHROAT** *Sylvia curruca*

Συκαλλίδι

Akrounta 1 flew down into a bush 3-Nov JN

Kotchatis 1 2-Nov FGe

Souni 3 2 feeding (one a male) and 1 other in flight 8-Nov JN

Souni 1 feeding male 12-Nov JN

**CYPRUS WARBLER** *Sylvia melanothorax*

Τρυπομάζης

Max count per location:

Apostolos Andreas 2 near monastery, running water 11:30 - 12:30 10-Nov MC/CC

Armou Hills 1 11-Nov CR

Cape Greco 1 male 2 &amp; 9-Nov JWa/JS

Kourio Stadium 2 10 &amp; 23-Nov JN/JS

Mavrokolymbos Dam 1 1 &amp; 15-Nov DJW

Mavrokolymbos Dam 2 male and female 2-Nov DJW

Panagia Stazousa 3 2m and 1f 30-Nov JS

Pano 1 1-Nov LSa

Secret Valley Golf Club 2 8-Nov PBr  
Souni 10 13 & 22-Nov JN

**SHORT-TOED TREECREEPER** *Certhia  
brachydactyla* Δενδροβάτης  
Almyrolivado (Troodos) 1 heard 17-Nov  
JN

Giant Juniper, Troodos 2 17-Nov DJW  
Livadi tou Pashia 1 5, 6, 12 & 13-Nov  
DJW/JS  
Livadi tou Pashia 2 heard 17-Nov JN  
Platania 2 17-Nov LAC/DJW  
Troodos Environmental Centre 1 + heard  
only 17-Nov SC with BirdLife Cyprus  
Group  
Troodos Forest 2 14-Nov IKB  
Troodos Meteorological Station c3 heard  
only 17-Nov SC with BirdLife Cyprus  
Group  
Troodos 4 17-Nov DJW

**WALLCREEPER** *Tichodroma muraria*  
Τοιχοδρόμος



Wallcreeper, Avakas Gorge, 6<sup>th</sup> November.  
Photograph by Dave Walker.

Avakas Gorge 1 6, 12, 20 & 21-Nov  
DJW/VT/JS/AKy/TT/MJH

**NORTHERN WREN** *Troglodytes  
troglodytes* Τρυποκάρυδο



Northern Wren, Troodos, 14<sup>th</sup> November.  
Photograph by Ian Bloomer.

Almyrolivado (Troodos) 1 5-Nov DJW

Avakas Gorge 3 6 & 10-Nov DJW  
Avakas Gorge 2 20-Nov JS  
Delikipos Village Reservoir 1 seen 12-  
Nov JS  
Livadi tou Pashia 3 5, 17 & 20-Nov DJW  
Livadi tou Pashia 1 6 & 13-Nov JS  
Livadi tou Pashia 2 12-Nov DJW  
Pano 1 1-Nov LSa  
Troodos Forest 1 14-Nov IKB  
Tsada north valley 1 11-Nov CR

**COMMON STARLING** *Sturnus vulgaris*  
Λαζούρι



Common Starling, Lady's Mile, 22<sup>nd</sup> November.  
Photograph by Tony Reeves.

Largest counts:

Akrotiri c150 22-Nov ABW  
Lady's Mile 400+ 25-Nov LAC  
Paphos Sewage Plant 60+ 22-Nov NA

**MISTLE THRUSH** *Turdus viscivorus*  
Τριζάρα

Almyrolivado 2 6-Nov JS  
Almyrolivado 1 13-Nov JS  
Giant Juniper, Troodos 9 perched together  
12-Nov DJW  
Kritou Tera 1 15-Nov LSa  
Livadi tou Pashia 4 12-Nov DJW  
Livadi tou Pashia 1 13 & 17-Nov  
JS/SC/BC field trip  
Livadi tou Pashia 3 5-Nov DJW  
Livadi tou Pashia 2 6-Nov JS  
Souni 1 flying low over from S to N 23-  
Nov JN  
Troodos 3 17-Nov DJW

**SONG THRUSH** *Turdus philomelos*  
Τζήγκλα

Largest counts:  
Agios Phylonas old church 10 10-Nov  
MC/CC  
Armou Hills 11 22-Nov CR  
Kritou Tera 13 23-Nov LSa



**EURASIAN BLACKBIRD** *Turdus merula* ♂

Μαυρόπουλλος (♀ Μαυρότζίικλα)

Largest counts:

Kritou Tera 5 19-Nov LSa

Livadi tou Pashia c6 17-Nov SC with

BirdLife Cyprus Group

Souni 4 13-Nov JN

**BLUETHROAT** *Cyanecula svecica*

Γαλαζολάιμης



Bluethroat, Zakaki Marsh. Photograph by Andy Waller.

Max count per location:

Agia Varvara 2 12-Nov NA

Akrotiri Marsh (Phasouri Reed-beds) 2 7-Nov LAC

Akrotiri Salt Lake 1 28-Nov CR

Kioneli Dam 2 fems 21-Nov CR

Larnaca Salt Lake 2 Kamares area 12 & 19-Nov JS

Larnaca Sewage Works 1 7, 19 & 21-Nov DS/JS/MGr

Lower Ezousas 1 29-Nov NA

Mandria 1 2 & 6-Nov CR/VT

Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 10 21-Nov CR

Oroklini Marsh 1 3-Nov AR/JS

Paphos Sewage Plant 1 30-Nov NA

Polis Reedbeds 1 1-Nov BCRS

Trachoni Pool 1 21-Nov CR

Zakaki Marsh 3 7, 8, 20 & 23-Nov JN/CR/NA/JS

**COMMON NIGHTINGALE** *Luscinia*

*meigarhynchos* Αηδόνη

Kritou Tera 1 This species or thrush nightingale gave a burst of song from dense cover 23-Nov LSa (Confirmation needed of this unseasonal report)

**COMMON REDSTART** *Phoenicurus*

*phoenicurus* Κοτσινονούρης

Akrounta 2 1 perched female and 1 feeding in different areas 3-Nov JN

Apostolos Andreas 1 male. near monastery, running water 11:30 - 12:30 10-Nov MC/CC

Armou Hills 1 f 14-Nov CR

Paphos Sewage Plant 1 f 15-Nov CR

Souni 1 female in flight 2-Nov JN

**BLUE ROCK THRUSH** *Monticola solitarius*

Γαλαζοκότσουφος

Agios Sozomenos 1 24-Nov LAC/JS

Almyrolivado (Troodos) 1 male in flight 17-Nov JN

Anarita Park 1 2 & 21-Nov IKB/TT

Anarita Park 2 9-Nov LAC

Apollyon Hylates Sanctuary 1 female 10-Nov JN

Avakas Coast 1 6-Nov DJW

Cape Greco 1 Female 9-Nov JS

Curium Archaeological Site 1 male seen on rocks on approach road as leaving 21-Nov JN

Evretou Dam 1 6 & 15-Nov CR/DJW

Giouti Cliffs, Eptakomi 2 Male and Female 16-Oct NCP

Pano 1 1-Nov LSa

Paphos Headland 1 14, 16 & 18-Nov

FGe/LAC/JS/RA/TT

Phinikas 1 6, 24 & 27-Nov VT/DJW

Tala, Paphos 1 8, 10 & 11-Nov DJW

**NORTHERN WHEATEAR** *Oenanthe*

*oenanthe* Σταχτοσκαλιφούρτα



Northern Wheatear, Anarita Park, 3<sup>rd</sup> November. Photograph by Frank Mogford.

Agios Sozomenos 1 1-Nov JS

Anarita Park 1 3-Nov FM

Atalante Trail 1 1-Nov AF

Kotchatis, Nicosia 1 2-Nov FGe

Larnaca Sewage Works area 1 3-Nov AR

Mandria 2 2-Nov IKB

**ISABELLINE WHEATEAR** *Oenanthe isabellina* Αμμοσκαλιφούρτα  
Cape Greco 1 2-Nov AR (Confirmation needed for this late record)

**CYPRUS WHEATEAR** *Oenanthe cyprica* Σκαλιφούρτα  
Akrounta 1 perched adult 3-Nov JN  
Kotchatis, Nicosia 1 2-Nov FGe  
Souni 1 on wires E ridge, probable immature 8-Nov JN

**FINSCH'S WHEATEAR** *Oenanthe finschii* Βουνοσκαλιφούρτα



*Finch's Wheatear female, Paphos Headland, 17<sup>th</sup> November. Photograph by Filippos Georgiades.*

Max count per location:

Agia Varvara 2 males together 7-Nov CR  
Agios Sozomenos 5 3m and 2f 24-Nov JS  
Anarita Park 3 All males 4-Nov LAC  
Avdellero 1 17-Nov STi  
Germasogeia 1 2-Nov DS  
Leonarisso 1 9-Nov MC/CC  
Marathounta Hills 2 m,f 19-Nov CR  
Nea Dimmata beach 1 m 16-Nov LSa  
Paphos Headland 1 female 15, 16 & 17-Nov RSh/NA/JS/DJW/CR/SC/FGe  
Phinikas, Paphos 4 male 24 & 27-Nov DJW

**GOLDCREST** *Regulus regulus*

Χρυσοβασιλίσκος  
Almyrolivado (Troodos) 1 heard 17-Nov JN  
Giant Juniper, Troodos 1 17-Nov DJW  
Livadi tou Pashia 5 together in young cedars 20-Nov CR  
Troodos Forest 1 14-Nov IKB

**DUNNOCK** *Prunella modularis* Θαμνοψάλτης  
Agios Nikolaos – Mandria 1 calling, seen well then same or another seen across the road 20-Nov C R  
Kritou Tera 1 21 & 23-Nov LSa

**ROCK SPARROW\*** *Petronia petronia* Πετρόστρουθος  
Paphos Headland 1 Possibly this species 15-Nov RSh

**RED-THROATED PIPIT** *Anthus cervinus* Κοτσινογαλούδι  
Largest counts:  
Agia Varvara 12 12-Nov CR  
Agios Sozomenos 25+ 17-Nov JS  
Paphos Sewage Works 20+ 11-Nov LAC

**WATER PIPIT** *Anthus spinoletta* Νερογαλούδι



*Water Pipit, Mandria, 6<sup>th</sup> November. Photograph by Ian Bloomer.*

Max count per location:

Agios Sozomenos 1 17-Nov JS  
Akrotiri Salt Lake 2 Zakaki run off area 1-Nov TRe/FM  
Anarita Mast 1 12-Nov LAC  
Kioneli Dam 6 20-Nov CR  
Larnaca Salt Lake 4 Kamares area 19-Nov JS  
Larnaca Salt Lake NE corner 8 25-Nov FGe  
Larnaca Sewage Works 2 19-Nov JS  
Mandria Beach 6 6 & 14-Nov VT/LAC  
Mia Milia Water Treatment Plant 10+ 16-Nov JS  
Oroklini Marsh 3 9-Nov JS  
Paphos Headland 1 1-Nov AF  
Paphos Sewage Plant 40 mostly out of view in fodder field 4-Nov CR  
Zakaki Marsh 2 21-Nov TRe

**RICHARD'S PIPIT** *Anthus richardi*

Διπλογαλούδι

Mandria 1 5-Nov NA

**TAWNY PIPIT** *Anthus campestris*

Ωχρογαλούδι

Paphos Sewage Plant 2 22-Nov NA

**WESTERN YELLOW WAGTAIL** *Motacilla flava* Τζιτρινοζευκαλάτης

Larnaca Sewage Works 1 7 & 12-Nov DS/JS

Larnaca Sewage Works 2 23-Nov LAC

Mandria 1 2, 3 & 21-Nov CR/LAC/MJH

Oroklini Marsh 2 25-Nov LAC

Paphos Sewage Plant 2 juvs 4-Nov CR

Phasouri Reed Beds 1 20-Nov LAC

Phasouri Reed Beds 3 23-Nov JS

Phasouri Reed-beds 2 10-Nov JN

Zakaki Marsh 1 1 & 24-Nov TRe/FM/JN

Zakaki Marsh 4 3-Nov JN

*Grey-headed Wagtail* *Motacilla flava*

thunbergi Γκριζοκέφαλος Ζευκαλάτης

Paphos Sewage Works 1 15-Nov LAC

**GREY WAGTAIL** *Motacilla cinerea*

Σταχτοζευκαλάτης



*Grey Wagtail, Paphos Headland, 23rd November.*  
Photograph by Dave Walker.

Singles reported at suitable locations throughout the month. Reports of 2+ below:

Avakas Gorge 2 15-Nov NA

Bishops Pool 2 5 & 8-Nov AR/CR

Evretou Dam 2 15-Nov DJW

Goudi 2 2-Nov RAT

Paphos Sewage Plant 2 7, 8, 11 & 19-Nov CR/LAC/NA

Souni 4 2 in flight together followed by 1 other and a further 1 elsewhere on a roof 5-Nov JN

**CITRINE WAGTAIL** *Motacilla citreola*

Κίτροζευκαλάτης



*Citrine Wagtail, Zakaki Marsh, 7th November.*  
Photograph by Kate Bloomer.

Akrotiri Salt Lake 1 Zakaki run off area 1-Nov TRe/FM

Larnaca Sewage Works 1 19 & 23-Nov JS/LAC

Larnaca Sewage Works 2 21-Nov MGR

Zakaki Marsh 1 1st winter type 1, 2, 4, 5, & 7-Nov

JWw/ABW/TRe/FM/JS/AR/LAC/DJW/JN/DS

Zakaki Marsh 2 6-Nov TRe/FM

**BRAMBLING** *Fringilla montifringilla*

Χειμωνόσπινος

Agia Varvara 1 6-Nov NA

Agios Sozomenos 1 Male in with flock of chaffinches 24-Nov JS

Armou Hills 1 non-br plumage 26-Nov CR

Livadi tou Pashia 1 Female 13-Nov JS

Paphos Sewage Works 1 11 & 29-Nov LAC

Platania 2 17-Nov LAC/DJW/SC/JN

Souni 1 flew into pine tree with Chaffinch flock - probable male 22-Nov JN

**HAWFINCH** *Coccothraustes*.

*coccothraustes* Τζιεφαλόσπινος



*Hawfinch, Livadi tou Pashia, 5th November.*  
Photograph by Dave Walker.

Livadi tou Pashia 1 5-Nov DJW

**RED CROSSBILL** *Loxia curvirostra*

Σταυρομούττης

Almyrolivado 3+ Three seen, others heard  
6-Nov JS

Almyrolivado 2 2 heard calling then one  
seen in flight 17-Nov JN

Livadi tou Pashia 1+ Heard 6-Nov JS

Livadi tou Pashia 2+ two seen and others  
heard 13-Nov JS

Livadi tou Pashia c6 17-Nov SC with  
BirdLife Cyprus Group

Livadi tou Pashia 11 incl 2 juvs bathing at  
well 20-Nov CR

Psilo Dendro 1 in flight from pool area 17-  
Nov JN

Troodos Meteorological Station 2 + 17-  
Nov SC with BirdLife Cyprus Group

Troodos 2 17-Nov DJW/JN

**RED-FRONTED SERIN\*** *Serinus pusillus*

Μαυροκανάρινο



Red-fronted Serin, Akrounta, 2<sup>nd</sup> November.  
Photograph by John East.

Akrounta 1 31-Oct & 2-Nov  
SS/TRe/JS/JE/CR/JWa

**EURASIAN SISKIN** *Spinus spinus*

Θκιολαρούδι

Episkopi, Ezousas Valley 1 calling 13-Nov  
CR

Evretou Dam 2 1-Nov CR

Livadi tou Pashia 2 17-Nov DJW/SC/BC  
field trip/LAC

Platania 10 at least 20-Nov CR

Platania Picnic site 1 17-Nov DJW/SC/BC  
field trip

Psilo Dendro 10 5 females feeding and 4  
males on Strawberry Tree berries (*Arbutus  
andrachne*) and 1 perched female 17-Nov  
JN

**CORN BUNTING** *Emberiza calandra*

Τσακρόστρουθος

Largest counts:

Agios Sozomenos 33 27-Nov JS

Armou Hills 160 2 big flocks at sunset 29-  
Nov CR

Kioneli Dam 150 roost 20-Nov CR

**YELLOWHAMMER** *Emberiza citrinella*

Χρυσοππιλλά

Apostolos Andreas 1 near monastery,  
running water 11:30 - 12:30 10-Nov  
MC/CC

**REED BUNTING** *Emberiza schoeniclus*

Καλαμοππιλλά



Reed Bunting, Akrotiri, 25<sup>th</sup> November.  
Photograph by Agamemnon Loutsios.

Akrotiri Marsh (Phasouri Reed-beds) 1 15-  
Nov DS

Larnaca Salt Lake 3 19-Nov JS

Paphos Sewage Works 1 11 & 15-Nov  
LAC

Zakaki Marsh 1 5, 26 & 30-Nov  
TRe/MJH/MGr

Zakaki Marsh 2 7 & 20-Nov  
DJW/TRe/LAC

Zakaki Marsh 12+ 21-Nov TRe

Zakaki Marsh 5 22-Nov TRe

Zakaki Marsh 3 23-Nov JS

*Escapees:*

*Muscovy Duck* Evretou Dam 1 18-Nov  
RA†

*Muscovy Duck* Zakaki Marsh 1 26-Nov  
RA†



## CONTRIBUTORS

ABW	Andy Waller
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AF	Alexander Foki
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CDL	Chris & Denise Lamsdell
CR	Colin Richardson
DJW	Dave & Jan Walker
DN	Dave & Eileen Nye
DS	Danny Schmeits
FGe	Filippos Georgiades
FM	Frank Mogford
IKB	Ian & Kate Bloomer
IM	Ian Murray
JN	June Neal
JS	Jane Stylianou
JWa	Jonathan Wasse
LAC	Lynn & Alan Crane
LS	Lefkios Sergides
LSa	Lawrie Sampson
MC	Melis Charalambides
MGr	Michael Green
MH	Martin Hellicar
MJH	Mike Hamzji
MSS	Matt Smith
NA	Neil Alderson
NCP	Nick Pegler
PBr	Peter Bromley
RA	Ray Archer
RAt	Ray Atkinson
RoB	Roger Bailey
RSh	Robert Shiret
SC	Stavros Christodoulides
SS	Spyros Spyrou
TRe	Tony Reeves
TT	Tom Tams
VB	Vivien Barnes
VT	Victor Tjernberg
VV	Vasos Vasiliou

## **MONTHLY WATERBIRD COUNT**

**November 2018**

**Markos Charalambides**

*The BirdLife Cyprus waterbirds monitoring programme has been running since 2005 and covers around 70 wetlands and other waterbird sites around the island. All sites are covered at least every January (mid-winter count) and every May (breeding season count), while the more important sites are also covered in March, September and November. Key Important Bird Area (IBA) wetlands such as the island's two salt lakes, which attract large numbers of birds, are covered on a monthly basis. The monitoring programme is based on the voluntary work of a team of dedicated and experienced recorders and preliminary results are presented in the Monthly Checklist.*

For September, 11 recorders covered 21 wetlands (including two coastal sites) across the island where a total of 5074 birds, of 49 different species were recorded.

The most abundant species was the Black-Headed Gull with 1781 individuals. The second most abundant species was the Greater Flamingo with 1235 individuals followed by the teal with 344 individuals.

The wetland holding the most birds, was Akrotiri Lady's mile with 1700 individuals. Larnaka Sewage Works was second in terms of number of individuals recorded as well as being the highest in terms of species abundance with 1422 individuals from 22 different species.

Akrotiri Meras only had 2 individuals recorded at the whole site.

Akrotiri Marsh had no waterbirds present.

## Site coverage for the November 2018 Waterbird Count

Site	Recorder	Date	Water level
Paphos Lighthouse	Ian and Kate Bloomer	15-11-18	Coastal
Akrotiri Marsh	Christina Ieronymidou	30-11-18	
Akrotiri Meras	Christina Ieronymidou	30-11-18	
Akrotiri Salt Lake	Christina Ieronymidou	30-11-18	
Akrotiri Lady's Mile	Christina Ieronymidou	30-11-18	
Bishop's Pool	Christina Ieronymidou	30-11-18	
Zakaki Pond	Christina Ieronymidou	30-11-18	
Larnaka Salt Lake	Jane Stylianou	19-11-18	Coastal
Larnaka Sewage Works	Jane Stylianou	19-11-18	
Oroklini Marsh	Martin Hellicar	14-11-18	
Achna Dam	Nikolas Papanikolas	24-11-18	
Agia Thekla – Liopetri Coast	Filippos Georgiades	11-11-18	
Paralimni Lake	Filippos Georgiades	11-11-18	
Evretou Dam	Dave & Jan Walker	15-11-18	
Asprokremmos Dams & Pools	Dave & Jan Walker	16-11-18	
Athalassa Dam	Martin Hellicar	24-11-18	
Aradippou (Partenitis) Dam	Stavros Christodoulides	10-11-18	
Aradippou Slurry Pits	Stavros Christodoulides	10-11-18	
Mavrokolymbos Dam	Dave & Jan Walker	15-11-18	
Kannaviou Dam	Dave & Jane Walker	15-11-18	
Manglis Dam	Jane Stylianou	27-11-18	
Strakka Pools	Markos Charalambides	16-11-18	

WETLAND BIRD COUNT NOVEMBER 2018	Little Grebe	Black-necked Grebe	White Pelican	Cormorant	Night Heron	Cattle Egret	Little Egret	Great White Egret	Grey Heron	Greater Flamingo	White-fronted Goose	Common Shelduck	Wigeon
Paphos Lighthouse													
Akrotiri Meras	1												
Akrotiri Salt lake									1	684		1	
Akrotiri Lady's Mile				4					10	133			
Bishop's Pool	4												
Zakaki Pond	2								4				
Larnaka Salt Lake							1	1					
Larnaka Sewage Works	19	32		15						361	6		5
Oroklini Marsh										57			
Achna Dam			1				2		1				
Agia Thekla - Liopetri Coast							1						
Paralimni Lake	4												
Evretou Dam				1					1				
Asprokremnos Dam & pools				37					2		1		
Athalassa Dam	19		4	110	4	1	1	2	3				
Aradippou (Partenitis) Dam	4												
Aradippou slurry pits						1							
Mavrokolymbos Dam	4			2					1				
Kannaviou Dam				4					1				
Manglis Dam									1				
Strakka Pools	5			6				1	3				
<b>TOTAL</b>	62	32	5	179	4	2	5	4	28	1235	7	1	5

WETLAND BIRD COUNT NOVEMBER 2018	Teal	Mallard	Gadwall	Pintail	Shoveler	Ferruginous Duck	Tufted Duck	Marsh Harrier	Peregrine Falcon	Water Rail	Moorhen	Coot	Lapwing
Paphos Lighthouse	2												
Akrotiri Meras													
Akrotiri Salt lake		1						1					
Akrotiri Lady's Mile					2								
Bishop's Pool	23	3			3	2						4	
Zakaki Pond	15	9			7						3	2	
Larnaka Salt Lake										4	2		
Larnaka Sewage Works	210	284		2	234	17	1					25	7
Oroklini Marsh	45	30		3	16						3	16	11
Achna Dam												9	
Agia Thekla - Liopetri Coast													
Paralimni Lake											8	10	
Evretou Dam	5	12										2	9
Asprokremnos Dam & pools	22	47											
Athalassa Dam	2	6				5			1		4	6	
Aradippou (Partenitis) Dam											2		
Aradippou slurry pits													
Mavrokolymbos Dam	2	1										1	
Kannaviou Dam	18												
Manglis Dam			1			1					7	7	
Strakka Pools		18									3	3	
<b>TOTAL</b>	344	411	1	5	262	25	1	1	1	4	32	85	27

WETLAND BIRD COUNT NOVEMBER 2018	Spur-winged Lapwing	Kentish Plover	Greater Sand Plover	Little Ringed Plover	Little Stint	Dunlin	Ruff	Snipe	Whimbrel	Spotted Redshank	Redshank	Common Sandpiper	Ruddy Turnstone
Paphos Lighthouse			2			1			1			2	1
Akrotiri Meras													
Akrotiri Salt lake		170			123								
Akrotiri Lady's Mile		26			14	1							
Bishop's Pool													
Zakaki Pond													
Larnaka Salt Lake	8	15						13			3		
Larnaka Sewage Works					11	8	1				6		
Oroklini Marsh	19				6	1		1		1	3		
Achna Dam													
Agia Thekla - Liopetri Coast		12	7										
Paralimni Lake	2												
Evretou Dam													
Asprokremnos Dam & pools													
Athalassa Dam													
Aradippou (Partenitis) Dam	2												
Aradippou slurry pits				6									
Mavrokolymbos Dam													
Kannaviou Dam													
Manglis Dam													
Strakka Pools													
<b>TOTAL</b>	31	223	9	6	154	11	1	14	1	1	12	2	1

WETLAND BIRD COUNT NOVEMBER 2018	Mediterranean Gull	Black-headed Gull	Slender-billed Gull	Yellow-legged Gull	Caspian Gull	Armenian Gull	Sandwich Tern	Kingfisher	Grey Wagtail	Unidentified Species	TOTAL	Species Count
Paphos Lighthouse				6							15	7
Akrotiri Meras				1							2	2
Akrotiri Salt lake		70		4							1055	9
Akrotiri Lady's Mile	1	1500	2	2	4		1				1700	13
Bishop's Pool											39	6
Zakaki Pond		40									82	8
Larnaka Salt Lake								2			49	9
Larnaka Sewage Works		150	1	26		1					1422	22
Oroklini Marsh		21									233	15
Achna Dam								1			14	5
Agia Thekla - Liopetri Coast								1			21	4
Paralimni Lake											24	4
Evretou Dam									2		32	7
Asprokremnos Dam & pools											109	5
Athalassa Dam								2			170	15
Aradippou (Partenitis) Dam											8	3
Aradippou slurry pits											7	2
Mavrokolymbos Dam											11	6
Kannaviou Dam								1			24	4
Manglis Dam											17	5
Strakka Pools										1	40	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	1	1781	3	39	4	1	1	7	2	1	5074	49



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