

CLWYD BIRD REPORT

1993 TO 1995

EDITED BY GEOFF NEAL

for

CLWYD BIRD RECORDING GROUP

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Ron Plummer (Representing Deeside Naturalists' Society)

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Barry Rogers (Representing Wrexham Birdwatchers)

INTRODUCTION

A number of changes have occurred in the membership of the Clwyd Bird Recording Group since the publication of the last report including the resignation of Ian Spence as Honorary Secretary, his place being taken by Andrew Gouldstone. Iolo Lloyd, Glenn Morris, Mel abOwain and John Stokes have also resigned and Cedric Lynch has also recently tendered his resignation. I would like to thank all of them for the time and effort which they have devoted to the work of the group during their period of membership. I would also like to welcome Barry Rogers on to the group, representing Wrexham Birdwatchers.

Once more I have to apologise for the lateness of appearance of this report, due mainly to the pressures of other commitments. This may be the last "Clwyd" Bird Report as due to boundary changes, the county of Clwyd (along with many other Welsh counties) no longer exists. The decision of the Welsh Ornithological Society has been to revert to the Watsonian vice-county system for bird recording, i.e. Denbighshire and Flintshire for our area. Unfortunately the boundaries of the newly-created districts of Denbighshire and Flintshire bear no resemblance to the original county boundaries. For anyone unsure of the vice-county boundaries my advice is to continue to submit records for those areas formerly regarded as being in Clwyd, any which are not relevant to the new recording area will be passed on to the appropriate county recorder. It may be that future bird reports for this area will be known as the North-east Wales bird reports.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

[This should include Len Walls for weather data, and Helen Franklin, volunteer with the RSPB Central England Office who did some of the typing up of this report]

NOTES ON THE SUBMISSION OF RECORDS

Standard recording forms are still available and it would be most useful if these could be used for the submission of all records. It would be helpful if records are submitted in either Vouss species order or date order. It would also be a big help if records could be submitted on either a monthly or quarterly basis.

In submitting records please ensure that you include the following information:-

- a) Date
- b) Location (with either O.S. Map reference or nearest town, village or landmark named on an O.S. map)
- c) Species (with details of sex and age where possible)
- d) Number of birds seen
- e) Any other relevant information, particularly with reference to breeding status

The local significance of some records may not be immediately apparent to the observer, particularly with reference to common or garden birds. Please submit reports of any unusual numbers, behaviour or occurrence outside normal habitat, as well as any interesting anecdotes which may be of use in preparing a readable report.

Please submit all records to the County Recorder promptly at the end of each year, preferably by the end of March. As mentioned above monthly or quarterly submissions would be most acceptable.

SUBMISSION OF RARITY RECORDS

There are three categories of rarity, National, Welsh and County rarities. All of these require supporting evidence from the observer before they can be accepted for publication. For all National and Welsh rarities a full description must be submitted, together with an account of the relevant circumstances of the observation. A form for such submission is available from the County Recorder (SAE appreciated) or the basic format may be copied from the transcript below. This form may also be used for the submission of County rarities.

All rarity descriptions should be submitted via the County Recorder who will forward them to the appropriate body for ratification.

National rarities

Records of National rarities are considered by the British Birds Rarities Committee (BBRC) and a list of these is published periodically in British Birds magazine.

Welsh Rarities

Records of Welsh Rarities are considered by the Welsh Records Panel. The following list now constitutes the species considered as Welsh rarities. This list will be reviewed annually:

Cory's Shearwater, Great Shearwater, Purple Heron, White Stork, Bean Goose, Ring-necked Duck, Ferruginous Duck, Surf Scoter, Montagu's Harrier, Rough-legged Buzzard, Golden Eagle, Spotted Crake, Crane, Stone Curlew, Kentish Plover, Temminck's Stint, Pectoral Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Red-necked Phalarope, Bee-eater, Short-toed Lark, Woodlark, Shore Lark, Richard's Pipit, Tawny Pipit, Bluethroat, Savi's Warbler, Aquatic Warbler, Marsh Warbler, Icterine Warbler, Melodious Warbler, Dartford Warbler, Barred Warbler, Pallas's Warbler, Red-breasted Flycatcher, Woodchat, Serin, Common Rosefinch, Cirl Bunting, Ortolan Bunting, Little Bunting.

County Rarities

With the increase in occurrence of certain species, the county rarity list has again been reviewed and a number of the "less rare" species have been removed. In future, in order to try and ensure complete accuracy in the report, records of these species will not be published without supporting evidence. The only possible exceptions to this rule (at the discretion of the group) are long-staying birds seen by a number of observers.

With apologies to the less experienced observers, it is recognised that a record from an experienced observer, having previous experience of the species concerned, may require less detail than a record from an observer unfamiliar with the species, but a basic description of at least the principal identification features should be supplied by even the most experienced of observers.

The following list constitutes the species considered as Flintshire and Denbighshire rarities from 1996 onwards. This list will also be reviewed annually:

Red-necked Grebe, Black-necked Grebe, Sooty Shearwater, Storm Petrel, Bittern, Spoonbill, Barnacle Goose, Garganey, Red-crested Pochard, Honey Buzzard, Red Kite, Corncrake, Dotterel, Wood Sandpiper, Grey Phalarope, Pomarine Skua, Long-tailed Skua, Sabine's Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Iceland Gull, Roseate Tern, Black Guillemot, Hoopoe, Wryneck, Woodlark, Water Pipit, Nightingale, Cetti's Warbler, Marsh Warbler, Yellow-browed Warbler, Firecrest, Bearded Reedling, Golden Oriole, Red-backed Shrike.

In addition the Group may request supporting descriptions for otherwise common species outside their normal habitat range, e.g. inland records of seabirds; outside the normal season, e.g. summer migrants in winter or vice versa; and for records of distinctive subspecies, e.g. Grey-headed Wagtail.

Format for submission of rarity descriptions

SPECIES

Number of birds Sex Age

PLACE

County (New)
(Old)

DATE(S) of your observations

Times
Earlier/later dates by others if known
First & last dates if known

Total Duration

OBSERVER (BLOCK CAPITALS)

Address

Telephone

OTHER OBSERVERS (BLOCK CAPITALS)

Who found it?

Who first identified it?

Who else is reporting it, if known?

Was it trapped for ringing?

Date, if known

Ringer, if known

If dead, is it preserved?

Where?

Was it photographed?

Photographer and address, if known

Optical aids used

Distance from bird

Previous experience of species

Experience of similar species

Weather conditions

Details of trapped bird to be completed by ringer

Date trapped

Ring number

DESCRIPTION: Include an account of the relevant circumstances of the observation and a detailed description of the bird(s), preferably based on notes taken at the time of the observation before reference to books. Attach original field notes where available. Attach extra sheets if necessary.

And finally, is this record 100% certain?

Any who disagree?

The following extra guidelines may be of assistance

Do not be too brief in your description of the bird, the fullest possible detail is required, plus a sketch if possible. Do not worry if you are no great artist. A simple drawing with salient features noted at the time will suffice. Insufficient detail usually guarantees rejection, but please do not put in details of features which you think should have been there if you did not see them. Notes should be written at the time of the sighting and not after you have returned home and consulted the literature. Take a notebook with you wherever you go.

If you discover a British or a Welsh rarity always try to get at least one other independent observer to see the bird and submit a description also. Please feel free to contact the County Recorder or other member of the CBRG if you wish, they may not always be able to get to see the bird themselves but should be able to arrange for someone to do so.

Some rarities seen by many observers are not always submitted, everyone leaves it to everyone else. Please submit the record even if you were only one of several observers to see the bird. The more supporting evidence received the better, and yours may be the only record received.

Weather reports.

1993 - The total rainfall for the year was 955mm, which was just above average at 108% of the normal. Generally the winter months were drier than normal, whilst the summer was very wet, with 133% of the normal expected for the time of year. The spring was fairly typical, whilst the autumn was drier than would be expected. In total, rain fell on 202 days, and the driest month was March.

Snow covered half the ground or more on ten days, whilst snow or sleet fell on 30 days, a little less than average. Thunder storms were well down, with the cooler summer. Gales occurred on 20 days. Southerly winds predominated in the winter to spring, whilst the summer was dominated by westerlies, bringing in the cold and wet weather.

January to June temperatures were generally above average - April especially so. June was also a very sunny month. The second half of the year saw temperatures below average. October and November were particularly cold with polar air predominating, though both months were sunny. The coldest spell was from 18th to 25th November, when average temperatures were -0.2(c).

1994 - The weather during this year proved to be about average, although November was the warmest since records began. January, June, August, October and November were all relatively dry months, whilst the remainder were above average. December was the wettest of the year, with Boxing Day being the wettest day. June was the driest month, and it was the driest June since 1979. Snow fell on 30 days, but was only lying for 10, e.g. last week in February.

The months of February, May, August and September were all below average for temperature, the remainder were slightly above. These months were also below average in terms of sunshine - February was a particularly dull month. Other months generally above average for sunshine, with July and December doing particularly well. The hottest day of the year was recorded on June 28th.

Gales occurred on 14 days, mostly in January and March.

1995 - The year started as it ended, with a blast of Arctic air, giving some snowfalls. In between times, it proved to be the warmest year on record - February, April, July, August and October were all significantly warmer than average. The warmest day of the year was August 11th at 29(c). The coldest was December 27th at -7.8(c). The year also exceeded all previous records in terms of hours of sunshine, although the winter months were dull.

Despite all the warm and sunny weather, rainfall was a little above average, at 936 mm for the year, falling on 182 days. The winter months were very wet indeed, whilst the summer was very dry. Snow lay on the ground on 38 days, twelve more than average.

Winds were lighter this year, with gales on only 4 days. Southerly winds occurred more than normal. Thunder was noted on 19 days, slightly fewer than normal.

Many thanks to Len Walls, Moel y Crio, for supplying these summaries of the weather.

SYSTEMATIC LIST

The following abbreviations are used in the text:

CQR Connah's Quay Reserve (Deeside Naturalists' Society)*
DP Deeside Industrial Park Water Meadows
IMF Inner Marsh Farm RSPB Reserve**
OMR Oakenholt Marsh RSPB Reserve*
POA Point of Air, including the RSPB Reserve

* These two reserves are adjacent to each other and are often combined in the report as CQR/OMR

** Inner Marsh Farm Reserve straddles the border between Clwyd and Cheshire and records from this site are only included where they are considered to have relevance to Clwyd. Where counts of commoner species are included for this site the numbers refer to the whole reserve and not just to the Clwyd section.

Note: Unless otherwise stated records from the R. Clwyd refer to the tidal section between Rhyl and Rhuddlan.

Sequence and nomenclature (including Welsh names) are as used in "Birds in Wales" by Lovegrove, Williams & Williams.

RED-THROATED DIVER *Gavia stellata* TROCHYDD
GYDDFGOCH

Passage migrant and winter visitor

1993: Present until 18/4 and from 3/9, a count of 49 between POA and Rhos Point on 7/3, 1 flew north over Gronant from inland on 13/3, maximum 73 at POA on 4/12, (58 west and 15 on the sea). 1 on the bunded pool, CQR, in October.

1994: Recorded until 25/4 and from 11/9, 1 on the Clwyd estuary on 2/3, 32 at POA on 17/9 and a maximum of 69 there on 15/11.

1995: Present to 15/4, 19 at Llanddulas on 19/3, 1 inland on Llyn Helyg from 28/1 to 11/2, an early returning bird at POA on 23/7 with 1 there on 27/8 and a maximum of 32 there on 24/9.

BLACK-THROATED DIVER *Gavia arctica* TROCHYDD
GYDDFDDU

Passage migrant and winter visitor

1993: Singles at Pensarn on 8/3, Llanddulas on 5/4, 24/4 and 24/11, POA on 17/11.

1994: All records from POA on 16/1, 17/9, 20/9, 23/10, 5/11, 15/11 (2) and 21/11.

1995: 2 at Llanddulas on 12/3 was the only record.

GREAT NORTHERN DIVER *Gavia immer* TROCHYDD MAWR
Occasional winter visitor

1993: 3 close inshore at Gronant on 7/3, 1 at Pensarn on 8/3, 1 at Llanddulas from 22 to 24/4 and 1 at POA on 4/12.

1994: 1 at POA on 1, 5 & 15/11, 1 on a small reservoir near Rhosllanerchrugog on 18/11, 1 at Gronant on 6/12.

1995: Singles at POA on 19/11 and 29/12.

LITTLE GREBE *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

GWYACH FACH

Breeding resident and winter visitor

Breeding reported from Deeside Pools, Erddig, Greenfield Valley, Gresford Flash, Llandegla, Prestatyn Golf Course, Ruabon, Wynnstay Lake and Ysceifiog. Maximum winter numbers were recorded from the R. Clwyd and occasional records from POA. An early returning bird was on the R. Clwyd on 8/7/95.

GREAT CRESTED GREBE *Podiceps cristatus*

GWYACH FAWR

GOPOG

Breeding resident and winter visitor

Breeding reported from Acton Park, Gresford Flash, Llyn Gweryd and Llyn Helyg.

1993: On 7/3 74 were counted between POA and Rhos Point, 51 were on the R. Dee at Greenfield on 25/8, building up to 97 on 26/10 and 87 were counted off POA on 9/12. Up to 16 fishing the tide at CQR, November.

1994: Only small numbers reported, maxima 30 at OMR on 7/11 and 26 in May and 23 in October at CQR.

1995: 37 off Greenfield on 30/8 with 69 on 17/10 and 109 on 3/11; 40 were off Pensarn on 10/11.

RED-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps grisegena*

GWYACH YDDFGOCH

Scarce winter visitor

The only substantiated record was of 1 at Pensarn from 7-9/3/93.

SLAVONIAN GREBE *Podiceps auritus*

GWYACH GORNIOG

Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant

1993: A summer plumage bird on Llyn Brenig from 21/3 to 14/4.

1994: 1 off Rhos Point on 2/1, 1 on Llyn Brenig on 26 & 27/3.

1995: 1 at Pensarn on 25/1, 1 at Llanddulas on 12/3, 1 in summer plumage on Llyn Brenig on 9/4 and 1 at Shotwick from 27 to 31/12.

BLACK-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps nigricollis*

GWYACH YDDFDDU

Rare winter visitor and passage migrant

The only supported records come from Gresford Flash from where there were 2 reported on 5/5/93 with 1 there on 11 & 12/5 and 2 on 22/5, then 2 there again on 2/5/94.

FULMAR *Fulmarus glacialis*

ADERYN-DRYCIN Y GRAIG

Breeding resident, summer visitor and passage migrant

Breeding was reported from Cefn-yr-Ogof, Craig-y-Forwen and Prestatyn Quarry.

Inland records include 1 in Dyserth quarry on 3/6/93, 1 over Rhuddlan on 11/6/93, 30/6/94 and 25/4/95, perching on the roof of a house for five minutes on the latter date, and 1 flying south-east over Oakenholt about three-quarters of a mile from the estuary on 1/8/93, before returning north-west.

SOOTY SHEARWATER *Puffinus griseus*

ADERYN-DRYCIN DU

Rare passage migrant
Singles off POA on 28/7/93 and Rhyl on 20/9/94.

MANX SHEARWATER *Puffinus puffinus* ADERYN-DRYCIN MANAW
Regular offshore during summer and autumn
The highest numbers were recorded off POA in June and July, the majority of birds moving west, with 360 on 31/7/93, 153 on 9/6/94, 610 on 22/6/94, 255 on 4/6/95 and 760 on 4/7/95. An unusual record was 3 off Rhyl on 24/1/93.

STORM PETREL *Hydrobates pelagicus* PEDRYN DRYCIN
Scarce passage migrant
1993: 9 off POA on 26/7, with 1 there on 27th & 28th and 1 off Gronant on 27th.
1994: 1 POA 3/6.
1995: 2 off Kinmel Bay 9/9.

LEACH'S PETREL *Oceanodroma leucorhoa* PEDRYN GYNFFON-
FFORCHOG
Regular autumn passage migrant in varying numbers
1993: 3 off POA on 14/9.
1994: 7 off POA on 10/9 with 18 on 11th, 4 off Pensarn on 15/9 and 3 POA on 1/11.
1995: 5 off POA on 29/8, 8 off POA on 24/9 with 29 there on 25th and a single up-
river at CQR/OMR on 24/9.

GANNET *Sula bassana* HUGAN
Common passage migrant
Yearly maxima recorded were 150 on 31/7/93, 368 on 22/6/94 and 570 on 16/2/95.

CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax carbo* MULFRAN
Common non-breeding visitor
Maximum numbers reported were 321 on R. Clwyd on 14/9/93, 302 there on 11/8/94 and 278 at Rhos-on-Sea on 5/11/95. Inland records came from Berwyn, Corwen, Llangollen, Llyn Brenig, Pentrefelin and Wynnstay Lake. A regular occurrence is the perching of birds on power cables at Deeside Pools.

SHAG *Phalacrocorax aristotelis* MULFRAN WERDD
Scarce visitor
Small numbers regularly seen at Rhos Point, maximum 8 on 7/3/93. The only other records received were singles at POA on 23/4 and 15/8/93, and 1 at Rhyl on 30/10/94.

BITTERN *Botaurus stellaris* ADERYN Y BWN
Rare visitor
One was at Gronant on 27/3/93 and 1 reported from Clocaenog on 20/3/94.

NIGHT HERON *Nycticorax nycticorax* CRËYR Y NOS
Rare vagrant
One (probably a first summer bird) flew over Ddôl Uchaf towards Ysceifiog at dusk on 18/6/93 (accepted by BBRC).

LITTLE EGRET *Egretta garzetta*

CRËYR BACH

Scarce visitor, increasing in frequency

1993: 1 on R. Clwyd on 21/6, then a series of records probably referring to the same bird: 1 at Flint/Oakenholt from 31/8 to 5/9, IMF from 10 to 12/9, Shotton from 16 to 19/9 and IMF on 21, 27 & 28/9 and from 7 to 17/10.

1994: Singles at IMF on 25/4, 7/11 & 14/11 and R. Clwyd on 31/5 & 30/8.

1995: 1 at IMF on 17 & 21/5, 1 at POA on 2/6 and 6/8, 1 on R. Clwyd on 25/7, then 3 at Flint on 10/8, reappearing on 23/8, then these 3 seen regularly at CQR/OMR during the last week of August.

GREAT WHITE EGRET *Egretta alba*

CRËYR MAWR GWYN

Rare vagrant

One on the Clwyd side of the border at IMF on 25/7/95, this bird being present on the Dee estuary until 25/8, frequenting Parkgate/Burton marshes.

GREY HERON *Ardea cinerea*

CRËYR GLAS

Breeding resident

Away from the area around the main Vale of Clwyd colony the maximum numbers were reported from CQR/OMR with 40 on 3/10/93 and 15 on 9/10/94 and 12/11/95.

A record number of 34 occupied nests was counted in the above colony on 1/4/95. An unusual record was of one on a roadside salt pile at Eglwyseg Crags on 1/9/93.

SPOONBILL *Platalea leucorodia*

LLWYBIG

Rare vagrant

One at IMF on 10/8/93.

MUTE SWAN *Cygnus olor*

ALARCH DÔF

Breeding resident, increasing

Successful breeding was reported from Deeside Pools, Flint, Glan-y-Wern, Greenfield Valley, Gresford Flash, Llyn Helyg, Padeswood, Pentre Mawr Park, Rhuddlan, Ruabon, St. Asaph and Shotton. Maximum winter numbers were 60 on Rhyl Marine Lake on 17/11/93, 64 at IMF on 29/12/94 and 86 on Burton Marsh on 5/2/95. In late 1995 numbers built up steadily at Shotwick, with 5 on 21/11, 21 on 4/12, 33 on 18/12, 65 on 28/12 and 80 on 31/12. A non-breeding flock was present on the R. Clwyd in both 1994 and 1995, with up to 34 present in June 1994, 36 on 8/5/95, and up to 40 present in July.

BEWICK'S SWAN *Cygnus columbianus*

ALARCH BEWICK

Winter visitor

1993: The only report was of 5 at CQR/OMR on three dates between 12/11 and 14/12.

1994: 5 at CQR/OMR on 11/1, 9 there on 13/2, 10 on 14/2 & 27/2, 9 on 2/3; 2 at POA and Gronant on 19/12 and 4 at OMR on 22/12.

1995: 5 on Burton Marsh on 5/2 and 13 at CQR/OMR on 7/2, then in the latter part of the year a flock frequented Shotwick fields and roosted at IMF, 5 on 16/11, gradually building up to 29 on 7/12, 45 on 9/12 and a maximum of 60 on 30/12. One bird present in this flock from 7/12 till the end of the year was wearing a neck collar (no. 400P) and had been ringed on the Petchora Delta, Russia on 11/9/92.

WHOOOPER SWAN *Cygnus cygnus*

ALARCH Y GOGLEDD

Uncommon winter visitor

1993: 1 on R. Clwyd on 18/10, 2 there or Rhyl Marine Lake from 26/10 to 9/11, with 5 on 10/11 and 6 on 3 & 4/12; 1 at POA on 2/11.

1994: 3 at IMF or Burton Marsh from 1/1 to 24/3, 5 on Buckley Common on 21/1, again 2 at IMF or Burton Marsh from 24/10 to 31/12, with 3 on 30/12 and 3-4 on Talacre fields from 28/12 to 5/1/95.

1995: 2 on Buckley Common on 12/2, 2 Burton Marsh from 23/10 to 31/12, 2 at Gronant on 11/11 and 2 at Shotwick from 28 to 31/12.

PINK-FOOTED GOOSE *Anser brachyrhynchus* GWYDD DROED-BINC

Winter visitor and passage migrant

1993: A flock of c.115 flew north over Penymynydd on 9/1, 1 was on R. Clwyd on 18/3 and 5 at POA from 15 to 20/10.

1994: 90 flew north-west over IMF on 15/1 and 12 flew west over the sea at POA on 23/4.

1995: 1 on Burton Marsh on 5/2 and 1 at Shotwick throughout April, 1 on R. Clwyd on 10/10, 14 west at Gronant on 12/12, 10 flew west over Llanasa on 28/12 and 26 north over IMF on 29/12.

WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE *Anser albifrons* GWYDD DALCEN-WEN

Uncommon winter visitor

1993: 7 on R. Clwyd on 7/12 and 17 there on 9/12.

1994: 26 (24 adults) flew in to POA for c.20 minutes on 12/1 before flying off west.

1995: 1 at POA on 19/3.

LESSER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE *Anser erythropus* GWYDD DALCEN-WEN LEIAF

Rare vagrant

A bird from the Swedish reintroduction scheme became semi-resident from mid 1993 at Fenn's Bank Mere. The bird was reared by Barnacle Geese in Stockholm Zoo and released in Lapland in July 1991.

GREYLAG GOOSE *Anser anser* GWYDD WYLLT

Breeding resident and winter visitor

A feral flock is well established in the Glan-y-Wern area, with maxima of 141 on 14/3/93, 100 on 27/7/94 and 149 on 5/8/95. A count of 142 there on 21/5/95 included 100 juveniles. The only other records received away from the main area were of 1 at CQR in June 1993 and three there in November 1993 and two in December 1995; Shotton on 21/8 & 11/9/94 and 2 at Shotwick on 31/12/95, presumably under-recorded.

SNOW GOOSE *Anser caerulescens* GWYDD YR EIRA

Probable escape

Several records in 1995, possibly referring to the same wandering individual: 1 at Llandegla Fisheries on 17/3, on R. Clwyd from 17 to 22/3, on Burton Marsh/Shotwick fields from 23/3 to 30/4, at Rhuddlan on 3/5 and at Gresford Flash on 10/9.

BAR HEADED GOOSE *Branta indicus*

Probable escape

Three sightings of a single bird, November and December 1995 [plus January 1996] with flock of Canada Geese, CQR

CANADA GOOSE *Branta canadensis*

GWYDD CANADA

Breeding resident and winter visitor

Breeding confirmed at Colwyn Bay, Flint, Gresford Flash, Gwysaney, Llandegla, Llyn Gweryd, Llyn Helyg, Nannerch, Northop, Rhyl and Ruabon. The maximum winter numbers were at CQR/OMR, with 285 on 20/11/93, 330 on 28/12/94 and 680 on 19/11/95, and IMF (see below). Unusual records were of 1 on the sea at POA on 23/2/93 and 10 on the beach at Gronant on 24/6/94.

IMF• J• F• M• A• M• J• J• A• S• O• N• D• • 1993• 245• 158• 62• 56• 31• 57
• 119• 470• 550• 380• 225• 247• • 1994• 253• 82• 24• 11• 40• 10• 103• 330• 4
20• 363• 325• 340• • 1995• 263• 227• 77• 17• 17• 7• 67• 415• 531• 575• 550•
575• •

BARNACLE GOOSE *Branta leucopsis*

GWYDD WYRAN

Rare visitor, some feral birds occur

Feral birds at Glan-y-Wern on 27/2/94 and Lindisfarne College Lake on 19/3/95.

RUDDY SHELDUCK *Tadorna ferruginea*

HWYADEN GOCH YR EITHIN

Rare vagrant

1994: A party of 8 birds were present at Gronant on POA on 24-25/7. They were seen again at the POA on 18/9.

SHELDUCK *Tadorna tadorna*

HWYADEN YR EITHIN

Breeding resident and common winter visitor

1993: Peak count involved 590 on 4/11 at POA and 230 on 10/01 at CQR. In late June/early July several counts of >70 juveniles were made on the R. Clwyd. Peak count from this site was of 185 on 3/5. Other records come from Gresford Flash, Penarllog, Gronant and Llyn Helyg.

1994: Peak counts at POA was of 900 on 9/10, 231 on 5/03 at CQR and on the R. Clwyd 178 on 15/6. Other records come from Oakenholt, Pont Dafydd, Pentre Mawr Park and Flint.

1995: Counts of 126 on 3/5 on R. Clwyd and 807 at POA on 24/10 and 213 at CQR (19/02). Other records came from Deeside Pools, Shotton, Northrop and Bagillt, where there was a count of 600 on 22/7.

WOOD DUCK *Aix sponsa*

HWYADEN Y COED

Occasional feral birds occur

Two reported at Dyserth on 21/5/94.

WIGEON *Anas penelope*

CHWIWELL

Winter visitor

1993: Peak count was from OMR with 410 on 25/11. On the R. Clwyd the peak was 270 on 3/12, at POA there were 15 on 6/11. Elsewhere, birds were recorded at Hanmer Mere (94 on 5/12), Rhyl brickworks, Rhyl Marine Lake and Kinnel Bay.

1994: Peak counts at IMF there were 1780 on 14/12, 360+ at R. Clwyd on 30/12 and 240 at Kinmel Bay on 20/2.

1995: Peak counts 1650 at OMR on 17/11, 350 at R. Clwyd on 18/1, 890 at IMF on 5/2 and 35 at Hanmer on 11/2.

Other records were from Gresford Flash, Ruabon and Pentre Llanrhaedr.

GADWALL *Anas strepera*

HWYADEN LWYD

Uncommon winter visitor

1993: Records of 1-4 birds from freshwater sites such as Pentre Mawr Park, Rhyl Brickworks, Llyn Helyg and also from tidal sites at POA and R. Clwyd.

1994: 1-4 birds from a variety of sites including Rhyl Brickworks, Llyn Helyg, Ysceifiog and Shotton Paper. Notable count of 18 on 29/3 at IMF.

1995: 1-5 birds recorded from Acton Park, Wrexham, Cop Hole, Shotton, Llyn Helyg, POA and IMF. Notable counts of 25 on 15/12 and 39 on 28/12 from Shotwick Lake.

TEAL *Anas crecca*

CORHWYADEN

Widespread winter visitor

1993: The most abundant wintering duck at CQR with a peak count in November of 1497. Peak counts of 196 on R. Clwyd on 17/12. Other sites included POA, Llyn Helyg, Padeswood, Dolwen reservoir, Geraint's Pond, Ruabon Moor, Gronant and OMR.

1994: Significant counts were 1,500 at IMF on 6/11, 1695 at CQR in November, 1000 at Flint on 10/11, 500 at OMR on 7/11 and 150 on the R. Clwyd on 6/12. Other records came from Greenfield Valley, Deeside Pools, Tremerschion, POA, Llangollen, Llyn Helyg and Pentre Llanrhaedr.

1995: High counts of 2067 at CQR and 1,000 at OMR on 7/11, 120 at POA on 9/12 and 40 on R. Clwyd on 3/1. Smaller records at Deeside Pools, Gresford Flash and Llyn Helyg.

MALLARD *Anas platyrhynchos*

HWYADEN WYLLT

Common breeding resident and winter visitor

1993: Largest counts by far from POA with 595 on 30/11 and counts of 200+ not uncommon. Many other sites recorded more than 20 birds e.g. Pentre Mawr Park (50), Foryd (72), Llyn Helyg (24), Llangollen (170), Ruabon (178), Kinmel Bay (80) and River Clwyd near Lleweni Hall (130).

1994: High counts of 1,000 at POA on 11/9, 690 at OMR on 31/8 and 518 on R. Clwyd on 29/9. Smaller records at Tremerschion (40), Pont Dafydd (35), Rhyl Brickworks (24), Horton Nose (120), Llyn Brenig (22), Llanasa (83) and Rhyl Splash Point (110).

1995: 800 birds recorded at OMR on 3/9, 473 at POA on 28/8, 250 on R. Clwyd on 10/9, 150 at Action Park on 1/10 and 100 on 3/11 at Lleweni Hall. Other good records during the year were 47 at Greenfield Valley, 29 at Llyn Brenig, 71 at Bodrhyddan Hall and 59 on the Deeside Pools.

PINTAIL *Anas acuta*

HWYADEN LOSTFAIN

Winter visitor in internationally important numbers

1993: There were 2,500 birds at OMR on 8/1, 2,000 at Bettisfield on 21/11, 1,300 at Bagillt on 10/12 and 383 records at POA on 30/11. Away from the Dee there were only 3 records of 1-4 birds.

1994: 5,000 birds were recorded at OMR on 5/12 and 250 at POA on 21/11 and 19/12. Away from the Dee between 1 and four birds were recorded at sites such as R. Clwyd, Kimberley Clark and the Greenfield Valley.

1995: At OMR there were 7,500 birds on 24/11, there were 4,100 birds at Bagillt on 2/11, 486 at POA on 4/1 and 12 and Hanmer Mere on 30/1. 2 other sites recorded one or two birds during the year.

GARGANEY *Anas querquedula*

HWYADEN ADDFAIN

Rare visitor

Three records of this bird were received all from POA, 2 on 5/6/93, 1 on 22/8/95 and 1 on 5/9/95.

SHOVELER *Anas clypeata*

HWYADEN LYDANBIG

Winter visitor

1993: Records of 50 on 7/1 and 30 on 24/1 at Gresford Flash and 12 on 2/11 at POA. Between 1-8 recorded from other sites e.g. Rhyl Brickworks, Foryd Bay and Llangollen, OMR and Hanmer Mere.

1994: 114 birds were seen at IMF on 23/10, 154 at Shotton Park on 9/11 and 20 at Gresford Flash on 29/12. Rhyl Brickworks, Marine Lake, R. Clwyd and CQ also produced records of between 1 and 9 during the year.

1995: 53 birds were recorded at Gresford Flash on 22/1 and 67 on 7/2. Shotwick Fields had 30 birds on 28/12 and between 1-18 birds were recorded at Hanmer, Deeside Pools, POA and IMF.

POCHARD *Aythya ferina*

HWYADEN BENGGOCH

Winter visitor

1993: Maximum counts came from Rhyl Brickworks with 40 on 24/11, Llyn Helyg with 25 on 29/1, Hanmer with 24 on 5/12 and CQ with 13 on 18/4. Records also came from Greenfield Valley, Padeswood Pool, Llanddulas and Pentre Mawr Park.

1994: 65 birds were seen at IMF on 12/1, 30 at Rhyl Brickworks on 28/12, 12 at Gresford Flash on 2/3 and 15 at Kimberley Clark on 6/11. Other birds were seen at Llyn Helyg, Llandegla, Buckley Higher Common, Deeside Pools and Dol Coed Coch.

1995: Large numbers of birds at Deeside Pools – 168 on 28/12, Shotwick Fields – 112 on 10/12, 76 at Brickworks on 6/1, Dolwen Reservoir 47 on 22/1 and 50 at Gresford Flash on 19/2. Other records came from Buckley Higher Common, Greenfield Valley, Llyn Helyg, POA and Wynnstay Lake.

TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fuligula*

HWYADEN GOPOG

Breeding resident and winter visitor

1993: Records from Deeside Pools with 40 on 13/8, 38 at Llyn Helyg on 13/2, 24 from Shotton on 24/4, 21 from Gresford Flash on 31/1 and 22 from Hanmer on 5/12. Smaller counts from Rhyl Brickworks, Padeswood, Dolwen and Ruabon.

1994: 61 birds were seen at Deeside Pools on 17/1, 30 at Rhyl Brickworks on 28/12, 22 at Kimberley Clark on 9/10, 23 at Llyn Helyg on 29/11 and 17 at Llyn Bran on 11/9. Other records from Wynnstay Lake, Shotton and Greenfield.

1995: On 28/12 120 birds were seen at Shotwick Lake, on 13/8 72 were seen at Deeside Pools, 35 were seen at Gresford Flash on 14/2 and 28 were at Shotton on 21/5. Other sightings were at Erddig Pond, Cop Hole, Ysceifiog, Hanmer and Rhyl Brickworks.

COMMON SCOTER *Melanitta nigra* MÔR-HWYADEN DDU

Abundant winter visitor

1993: In what was generally a poor year, peak counts came from 430 off POA on 19/12 and 200 off Llanddulas on 30/11.

1994: 1,000 birds were seen of Splash Point, Rhyl on 13/4 and 200 at Llanddulas on 18/9. An inland record came from Llyn Helyg where a single bird was present on 7, 14 and 15/5.

1995: Good counts of 5,000 on 30/1 and 10,000 on 12/3 at Llanddulas.

Other records came from most sites between POA and Llanddulas in all three years.

GOLDENEYE *Bucephala clangula* HWYADEN LYGAD-AUR

Winter visitor

1993: More than 20 birds were seen at Abergele on 28/12. Elsewhere between 1-9 birds seen at Marine Lake (9 records), Hanmer (6 records), Rhyl Brickworks (2 records), one record from Gresford Flash and six from the R. Clwyd.

1994: 18 birds recorded at Belgrano on 7/1, 14 at IMF on 28/12 and 11 on Marine Lake on 6/12. Between 1-10 seen elsewhere at POA, Clwyd Estuary, Llyn Brenig (6 records) Llyn Bran (8 records) and OMR.

1995: The best record was of 14 on Marine Lake on 14/1 – 1-10 birds seen at POA, Dolwen, Llyn Bran and Llyn Brenig, Hanmer, Gresford Flash, Rhos-on-Sea and Llanddulas.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER *Mergus serrator* HWYADEN FRONGOCH

Rare breeding resident and common winter visitor

1993: Winter visitors included 136 at POA on 9/12, 69 at Llanddulas on 7/3, 20 at Rhos-on-Sea on 7/3 and 13 on Marine Lake on 10/1. 1-10 birds were also recorded at Oakenholt Marsh and Llanddulas. The record at Marine Lake was the only 'inland' record.

1994: Peak count of 75 off Colwyn Bay on 11/1 and 40 off Llanddulas on 8/1. There were many counts from the Marine Lake with a peak of 37 from 4-6/12. There were 20 birds at Mostyn on 24/11 and 15 on the Clwyd Estuary on 10/8. Other coastal records came from POA, Gronant, OMR and Pensarn.

1995: 132 at Rhos-on-Sea on 1/1, 44 at POA on 30/10. 17 at Greenfield on 12/1, 19 at Bettisfield on 2/11 and 10 on the Marine Lake on 8/1. Other coastal sightings were at Splash Point, Llanddulas and Pensarn. CQR had three in November and one in December.

GOOSANDER *Mergus merganser* HWYADEN DDANHEDDOG

Breeding resident and winter visitor in small numbers

1993: 32 birds were seen at Hanmer on 15/2, 12 at Wynnstay Lake on 26/12 and 12 at Llewenni Hall, R. Clwyd on 2/5. 1-7 birds recorded elsewhere included Clwyd Estuary, Rhuddlan, Llyn Helyg, Llyn Brenig and Glyndyfrdwy.

1994: 21 birds seen on the R. Clwyd/R. Elwy, south of Rhuddlan on 9/7, 15 on the Clwyd Estuary on 10/8 and a record of 11 at POA on 23/10. Other records came from Gresford Flash, Llyn Helyg, Corwen, Llyn Brenig and Pentrefelin.

1995: On 8/3 13 birds were seen at Llyn Helyg; on the 27/5 there were 12 at Rhuddlan and on 11/6 – 12 on the Clwyd Estuary. Smaller numbers were seen at Denbigh, Berwyn, Llanddulas, Gresford Flash, Dolwen and Shotwick Lake.

RUDDY DUCK *Oxyura jamaicensis*

HWYADEN GOCH

Uncommon breeding resident and winter visitor

1993: There were 10 records from 4 sites, the best being 26 birds at Hanmer on 31/1. Elsewhere between 1 and 4 records from Llyn Helyg, Shotwick and Gresford Flash.

1994: Kimberley Clark held the best total of 10 birds on the 21/8. Between 1-7 birds were recorded at Llyn Helyg, Hanmer, Gresford Flash, Shotton Paper and OMR. There were a total of 33 records from 6 sites.

1995: A total of 15 birds were seen at Hanmer on 1/4 and 11 at Kimberley Clark on 13/8. Elsewhere 1-8 birds were at Erddig Pond, Llyn Helyg, Gresford Flash, Shotton and Rhyl Brickworks. In total 9 sites produced 16 records during the year.

BLACK KITE *Milvus migrans*

BARCUD DU

Very rare visitor

Only one bird was recorded on 24/4/94 at Gronant.

HEN HARRIER *Circus cyaneus*

BOD TINWEN

Infrequent visitor

A male was recorded at CQR in January 1995.

SPARROWHAWK *Accipiter nisus*

GWALCH GLAS

Common breeding resident

1993: 57 records – many of them coastal and mostly single birds, a few were of pairs and one group of three was sighted at Gwysaney.

1994: 40 records received including a group of 3 at Clwyd Estuary.

1995: A total of 24 records.

COMMON BUZZARD *Buteo buteo*

BWNCATH

Common breeding resident in upland areas, increasingly recorded in lowland areas.

1993: 87 records were received for the year. Largest counts were 6 at Twt Hill, Rhuddlan on 14/2 and 8 at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 30/6.

1994: 64 sightings recorded in total including 6 on 4/4 at Llanfair Talhaiarn, 8 on 9/5 at Bryn Rhyd yr Arian, 6 at Rhyl on 18/8 and 7 at Rhuddlan Marsh on 9/10.

1995: 7 birds were seen at the Horseshoe Pass on 6/3, 8 birds at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 6/4 and 7 at Cilcain on 17/6. There was a total of 59 records.

KESTREL *Falco tinnunculus*

CUDYLL COCH

Locally common breeding resident

1993: 45 records received of either 1 or 2 birds and 4 birds at Llanasa on 13/3, 6 birds at Llangollen on 14/4 and 4 records from the Clwyd Estuary on 19/7.

1994: There were 17 records during the year, all of 1-2 birds.

1995: 4 records were received of between 1 and 3 birds.

MERLIN *Falco columbarius*

CUDYLL BACH

Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor

1993: There were 22 records in the year – all of single birds. Winter coastal records from OMR, POA, Splash Point, Rhyl Old Tip and Clwyd Estuary.

1994: 26 records received for the year, single records from Gronant, Clwyd Estuary, Gresford Flash, Flint foreshore, Rhuddlan and OMR. One record of 3 birds from POA.

1995: 9 records, all of one or two birds from Flint, IMF, Bagillt and Rhyl.

PEREGRINE *Falco peregrinus*

HEBOG TRAMOR

Breeding resident

1993: 60 records, mostly single birds, but a few 2-3. Winter coastal sites include POA and particularly on River Clwyd.

1994: 62 records all of 1-2 birds. Coastal records at POA, Clwyd Estuary, OMR, Flint, Gronant and Prestatyn.

1995: Total of 17 records.

RED GROUSE *Lagopus lagopus*

GRUGIAR

Breeding resident

1993: 10 records from Ruabon, 8 from World's End and between 1 and 8 from Horseshoe Pass, Esclusham Mountain and Moel Famau.

1994: 4 records, 1-5 birds at Ruabon, Minera, Esclusham Mountain and the Horseshoe Pass

1995: 6 records of 1-4 birds at Ruabon, Llandegla, World's End, Horseshoe Pass and Esclusham Mountain.

BLACK GROUSE *Tetrao tetrix*

GRUGIAR DDU

Breeding resident, apparently declining

1993: 17 records of 1-8 birds, mostly from the Clocaenog Forest, but also from 4 other sites.

1994: 30 records of 1-10 birds, mostly from the Clocaenog Forest, but also from 4 other sites.

1995: 11 records on 1-4 birds from 5 sites.

RED-LEGGED PARTRIDGE *Alectoris rufa*

PETRISEN GOESGOCH

Status uncertain due to releases

1993: 10 records of 1-5 birds from Nantglyn, Gwaenysgor, Llangollen and Talacre Warren.

1994: 2 records both from Clocaenog Forest.

1995: 3 records of 1-3 birds from Rhosesmor, Gwysaney and Minera.

GREY PARTRIDGE *Perdix perdix*

PETRISEN

Scarce breeding resident

1993: There were 13 records received of between 1 and 8 birds, mainly from Sandycroft and Ysceifiog.

1994: 9 records of 1-7 birds from Shotton Paper, Buckley and Penymyndd.

1995: 11 records of 1-4 birds from Deeside Pools.

LADY AMHERST'S PHEASANT *Chrysolophus amherstiae* FFESANT
AMHERST

Introduced breeding resident

1993: One pair present all year at Gwysaney.

1994: One pair present all year at Gwysaney and one at Halkyn churchyard on 23/1.

MOORHEN *Gallinula chloropus* IÂR DDWR

Common breeding resident

1993: 20 birds recorded on 14/11 at Shotton Paper.

1994: 51 birds recorded on 6/11 at Kimberley Clark.

1995: 27 records received from Wynnstay Lake on 24/12.

COOT *Fulica atra* CWTIAR

Breeding resident and winter visitor

1993: High counts of 151 on 10/1 at Deeside Pools and 123 on 31/10 at Llyn Helyg.

1994: A record of 153 birds at Deeside Pools on 9/10 and 112 at Kimberley Clark on 4/12.

1995: Kimberley Clark had 137 birds on 22/1; Deeside produced a record of 155 birds on 9/12 and Shotwick Lake a count of 150 on 28/12.

CRANE *Grus grus* GARAN

Very rare visitor

1995: Single birds at Lleweni Hall, R. Clwyd on 6/7, Llyn Brennig on 14/7 and Rhos on Sea on 28/9.

OYSTERCATCHER *Haematopus ostralegus* PIODEN Y MÔR

Abundant passage migrant and winter visitor, scarce breeding resident

1993: Highest counts were at POA, 20,800 on 17/9, 3,500 at OMR on 20/8 and 200 on 2/9 on the R. Clwyd Estuary. The only inland record was for 2 birds on 14/4 at Gresford Flash.

1994: 10,000 recorded at POA on 11/9 and 9/10, 4430 on 21/08 at CQR, 2,000 at OMR on 9/9, 1,000 at R. Clwyd Estuary on 4/8, 400 at Llanddulas on 13/9 and 100 on 11/12 at Pentre Mawr Park. One or two birds were present at Gresford Flash throughout April. Successful breeding at CQR with two juvs. at banded pools.

1995: Counts of 16,000 on 11/9 at POA, 8400 at CQR on 10/09, 3,500 at OMR on 13/8, 1,110 at Llanddulas on 12/2 and 275 on the Clwyd Estuary on 29/1. Successful breeding at CQR with 1 juv at Ash Pool.

STONE-CURLEW *Burhinus oedicephalus* RHEDWR Y MOELYDD

Rare vagrant

One record on fields at Tyn y Morfa on 23/7.

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius dubius* CWTIAD TORCHOG
BACH

Scarce summer visitor and passage migrant, breeds intermittently

1993: First record of the summer at POA on 8/4, then further records at Gresford Flash, CQR and Gronant.

1994: First summer visitor recorded on 27/3 at IMF, then also seen at Llangollen, Gresford Flash, Shotton and Gronant.

1995: First record at Ruabon on 7/5, also seen later at Gronant, Gresford Flash and Sealand.

RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula* CWTIAD TORCHOG

Resident, breeding in small numbers, and passage migrant

1993: High counts of 420 at POA on 15/8, 250 at Gronant on 20/8, 100 at Kinnel Bay on 28/12 and 53 at CQR on 22/08. Other records came from Pensarn, Clwyd Estuary and Rhyl.

1994: Counts of 330 at POA on 11/8, 203 at CQR on 22/08, 118 at Clwyd Estuary on 11/8, 100 at OMR on 8/8 and 50 at Gronant on 6/12 and 12/2. Smaller records were received from Kinnel and Pensarn.

1995: Good counts at POA on 10/8 (201), Bagillt on 31/8 (50), Gronant on 4/1 (40) and Flint Point on 11/2 (35). Other records came from Clwyd Estuary, Pensarn and Llangollen.

GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis apricaria* CWTIAD AUR

Scarce breeding resident, winter visitor

1993: a peak count of 36 in October at CQR. 19 birds were seen at Rhuddlan Marsh on 6-7/1. Elsewhere between 1-6 birds were recorded at Pen y Cae Reservoir, Towyn, POA, Nercwys Mountain and Splash Point.

1994: Flocks of 300 at IMF on 12/1, 250 at Shotwick Fields on 3/1, 48 at Gronant on 22/11, 35 at POA on 22/11 and 34 at OMR on 5/12. Also records of 1-2 birds on the Clwyd Estuary.

1995: There were very few records received for the year, but 50 were seen at Trelogan on 16/12, 25 at Sealand rifle range on 17/11 and 16 on Flint Marsh on 20/10. Smaller groups of 3-7 birds were recorded on the Clwyd Estuary and Bagillt.

GREY PLOVER *Pluvialis squatarola* CWTIAD LLWYD

Passage migrant and winter visitor

1993: The majority of the records were from POA where 100 were recorded on 12/3. Other records of note were 91 at Gronant on 17/10 and 15 on the Clwyd Estuary on 14/9.

1994: High counts were 103 on 6/11 and 100 on 6/12 at Gronant, 100 on 14/2 and 6/11 at POA, 20 birds at OMR on 22/12 and up to 7 birds at other times on the Clwyd Estuary.

1995: Only 5 records were received in the year all from Gronant or POA, the highest being 112 at POA on 23/12 and 13 at Gronant on 15/1.

LAPWING *Vanellus vanellus* CORNCHWIGLEN

Breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor

1993: Good flocks of winter birds included 3350 at CQR on 8/02, 1,850 at Rhuddlan Marsh on 7/1, 1,000 at Towyn on 5/1 and 800 on the Clwyd Estuary on 28/1. Other flocks >200 were seen at POA, Pen y Cae Reservoir, Rhyl Marine Lake and Ruabon.

1994: Records of winter flocks came from CQR (4480 on 26/11 and 2660 on 11/12 and 2620 on 16/01), Shotwick on 6/2 (1,200), Clwyd Estuary on 25/11 (1,200), OMR on 5/12 (800), Deeside Pools on 25/2 (500) and Rhyl Marine Lake on 28/12 (500). Flocks of more than 200 were also seen at Ruabon and POA.

1995: a maximum count of 5411 was recorded at CQR on 2/12; 2,500 birds were recorded at Clwyd Estuary on 18/1, 1,000 at Sealand RR on 17/11, 800 on Flint Marsh

on 20/12, 950 at IMF on 5/2, 310 at POA on 25/11 and 920 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 14/1. Trelogan, Whitesands Bay, OMR and Bagillt also held flocks of >200 birds during the winter.

KNOT *Calidris canutus*

PIBYDD YR ABER

Passage migrant and winter visitor

1993: 4,000 birds seen at OMR on 30/12 and 3,000 at POA on 15/10 and 17/11.

There were also small numbers at Kinnel Bay, Clwyd Estuary and Pentre Mawr Park.

1994: Large flocks included 5,800 at POA on 10/11, 2,000 at OMR on 20/10 and 500 on the Flint Marsh on 8/11. Birds were also recorded at Gronant, Rhos-on-Sea and Clwyd Estuary.

1995: Very few records were received for the year one notable one being for 5,350 birds at POA on 4/1.

SANDERLING *Calidris alba*

PIBYDD Y TYWOD

Passage migrant and winter visitor

1993: Records came from Gronant – 486 on 14/11, Kinnel Bay – 81 on 10/1, Towyn – 58 on 13/11 and 18 at POA on 26/7.

1994: Gronant produced records of 1,163 birds on the 6/11 and 1,100 on the 4/12.

200 were seen at Rhyl on 16/11, 20 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 16/1 and 40 at POA on 6/12.

1995: 324 birds were recorded at Gronant on 23/3, 165 at POA on 4/1, 33 at Rhyl on 8/11 and 30 at Kinnel Bay on 23/11.

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta*

PIBYDD BACH

Uncommon passage migrant

1993: Thirteen records from POA, Clwyd Estuary, Gronant and OMR. All records between 2/8 and 4/10, highest count 9 birds at Gronant on 17/9.

1994: Fourteen records from Gronant, IMF, POA and the Clwyd Estuary, including several May records, e.g. 4 at IMF on 20/5, last record involved 4 birds at Gronant on 19/9.

1995: Four records from Gronant and OMR, highest count at Gronant of 4 on 17/9.

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea*

PIBYDD CAMBIG

Uncommon passage migrant

1993: A total of 16 records for the period 15/8 to 17/10 – all of between 1-5 birds, e.g. POA 5 birds on 8/9. Other sites were Clwyd Estuary and Gronant.

1994: Thirteen records between 18/7 and 25/11 of up to 8 birds, e.g. 8 on 21/8 at POA, the earliest record at IMF and three more records at the Clwyd Estuary.

1995: Only three records from between 3 – 28 September of 1-2 birds all at POA.

PURPLE SANDPIPER *Calidris maritima*

PIBYDD DU

Winter visitor in small numbers

1993: 7 records from Rhos-on-Sea, peak of 11 on 11/2. Single bird at Rhyl on 30/10.

1994: 7 records from Rhos-on-Sea with a peak of 19 on 18/1. Unusual record of a single bird at IMF on 12/11.

1995: 2 records from Rhos-on-Sea with 10 on 27/11.

DUNLIN *Calidris alpina*

PIBYDD Y MAWN

Common passage migrant and winter visitor

1993: Flocks of 6,000 at POA and 2,000 at OMR on 31/12, 2000 at CQR on 8/02, 133 on Clwyd Estuary on 7/1 and 150 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 4/1. Other records came from Gronant, Kinnel Bay and Rhos-on-Sea.

1994: Good flocks of 5,300 at POA and 2,000 at OMR on 5/12, 2800 at CQR on 13/02, 1,000 at Gronant on 6/12, 300 at Flint Marsh on 14/11, 300 at Rhyl Marine Lake on 25/11 and 250 on the Clwyd Estuary on 24/8.

1995: 6,200 birds were counted at POA on 1/2, 4476 at CQR on 22/01, 1,500 at Gronant on 4/1, 1,000 at OMR on 16/2, 500 at Bagillt on 31/8, 400 at Walwen on the Dee Estuary on 18/1, 450 on the Clwyd Estuary on 3/3, 350 at IMF on 5/2 and 5 at Gresford Flash on 8/5.

RUFF *Philomachus pugnax*

PIBYDD TORCHOG

Uncommon passage migrant and occasional winter visitor

1993: On the Clwyd Estuary there were 21 birds on 21/9, there were 8 at POA on 30/9, 8 at Gronant on 1/9 and 3 at OMR on 8/10 and 31/12.

1994: 22 birds were seen on Clwyd Estuary on 24/8 and 5 at POA on 5/9. There was a good run of records for the Clwyd Estuary from mid-July to the end of November, with up to 6 recorded regularly with 22 being the peak.

1995: Only six records this year, all either at IMF (with a peak of 65 on 4/5) or the Clwyd Estuary with never more than 2 birds.

JACK SNIBE *Lymnocyptes minimus*

GÏACH FACH

Scarce winter visitor

1993: 12 records of between 1-4 birds from Ruabon, Moors, Gronant, Geraint's Pond and Clocaenog Forest.

1994: 15 records of between 1-4 birds from Flint, IMF, Gronant, Ruabon Moors, POA, Towyn and Clwyd Estuary.

1995: Only 5 records, 4 of them from Gronant with a high of 7 on 5/2 and a single record from Pentre Llanrhaeadr.

SNIBE *Gallinago gallinago*

GÏACH GYFFREDIN

Passage migrant and winter visitor, scarce breeder

1993: Records came from Gronant, POA, Geraint's Pond and the Clwyd Estuary. The peak count came from Gronant on 18/1.

1994: Recorded from Clwyd Estuary, Gronant, Llyn Helyg, POA, Flint, Ruabon Moors, Gwysaney and Pentre Llyn Cymer. Peaks of 177 on 16/12 at POA, 56 on 12/11 at Gronant and 70 on 4/12 at IMF.

1995: Birds recorded at Walwen on the Dee Estuary, POA, Clwyd Estuary, Gronant, Kimberley Clark, Deeside Pools, Llyn Brenig and Minera. Best records came from Gronant on 5/2 – 144, POA on 14/3 – 48 and 25 birds at Pentre Llanrhaedr on 28/12.

WOODCOCK *Scolopax rusticola*

CYFFYLOG

Uncommon breeding resident and winter visitor

1993: 15+ birds were seen at Llyn Helyg on 19/6. Other records came from Llangollen, Gwysaney, Nercwys Mountain, Ruabon and Clocaenog.

1994: Between 1-8 birds were recorded at Ruabon Moors, Bont Newydd, Padeswood Pool, Nercwys Mountain, Clocaenog and Gronant.

1995: 12 birds were recorded at Hawarden on 2/6 and smaller numbers were seen at Clocaenog, Llyn Helyg, Leeswood, Glyndyfrdwy and Llandegla.

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa limosa* RHOSTOG GYNFFONDDU

Passage migrant and winter visitor

1993: Peak counts included 2,250 and 1,500 from OMR on 17/10 and 10/1, 1,800 at Flint on 3/10. Up to 8 noted on the Clwyd Estuary and 5 at POA.

1994: Peak numbers were a maximum of 1607 birds on 24/09 at CQR (with >1000 birds recorded on three separate occasions), 1,500 at OMR on 7/11, 1,100 at Flint on 8/11 and 543 at IMF on 8/12. There was a summering flock of 343 observed at IMF on 24/7 and up to 20 on the Clwyd Estuary and 6 at POA.

1995: Peak counts included 880 at IMF on 5/2 and 1,200 at Bagillt on 31/10 and 1100 on 8/10 at CQR. Summering birds included 320 off Flint Point on 10/8, 50 on Clwyd Estuary on 29/1 and up to 14 at POA.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa lapponica* RHOSTOG GYNFFONFRITH

Passage migrant and winter visitor

1993: All records were from POA except for a single bird seen at Gronant. Record highs of 400 birds on 10/1 and 13 on 12/9.

1994: 100 birds were recorded at POA on 4/12 and 85 at OMR on 13/2. Up to 4 were seen on the Clwyd Estuary and 1-2 birds at Gronant at IMF.

1995: Only 4 records were received, one of 59 birds at POA on 11/9, 3 at Clwyd Estuary and 7 at Flint Point.

WHIMBREL *Numenius phaeopus* COEGLFINIR

Passage migrant

1993: First record from Flint on 23/4 and last on 12/9. 37 birds were seen at Clwyd Estuary on 2/5, 7 at Llyn Helyg on 28/4 and 21 at POA on 6/5 and three at CQR on 9/05. Other records were from Splash Point, Walwen on the Dee Estuary and Gronant.

1994: Earliest record on 20/4 at Flint and last on 5/10. 34 birds were seen at POA on 27/7, 30 at Rhyl Old Tip on 8/5 and 25 on the Clwyd Estuary on 25/4 and five at CQR in May. Other records were from Shotton, Bagillt, Walwen on the Dee Estuary, Llanerch-y-Mor and Llyn Helyg. A winter record of a single bird on 20/2 at POA.

1995: First record on 21/4 and last on 8/11. Up to 8 birds recorded at CQR, POA, Shotton, Bagillt, Llanerch-y-Mor and the Clwyd Estuary.

CURLEW *Numenius arquata* GYLFINIR

Breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor

1993: 1,600 at POA on 15/9, 480 at Clwyd Estuary on 11/3, 150 at Gronant on 10/2, 116 at Llanddulas on 6/12 and 70 at Ruabon on 19/3. Other records from Rhos-on-Sea, Llanarmon yn Ial, Llandegla, Sealand, Rhydtalog and Bryneglwys.

1994: c.2,000 at POA on 11/9 and 1,456 at the same place on 5/9, 496 at Clwyd Estuary on 1/1, 84 at Hen Wrych on 6/3, 51 at Llanddulas on 21/1 and 40 on 2/4 at Llyn Helyg. Also seen at Sandycroft.

Passage migrant and breeding summer visitor

1993: Clwyd Estuary had 24 birds on 16/7 and OMR had 11 on 11/7. A maximum of 10 at CQR on 19/09. Records also at Llyn Brenig, Gresford Flash, Greenfield, Llangollen, Sealand rifle range and POA. Winter records on the Clwyd Estuary of singles in January, February and December and at Shotton Paper in November.

1994: Clwyd Estuary had 63 birds on 13/7. CQR had ten on 14/07. There were no other records of >10. OMR had 8 birds on 10/7. Others also seen at Gresford Flash, Rhyl Brickworks, IMF, Llyn Helyg, Higher Common Buckley, Corwen and Pentrefelin.

1995: Best numbers at Clwyd Estuary – 35 on 8/7 and 10 at Shotwick on 23/4. Others included CQR (four on 16/07), Llyn Gweryd, Borrass, Llangollen, Pendinas, Llyn Brenig and Walwen on the Dee Estuary.

TURNSTONE *Arenaria interpres*

CWTIAD Y TRAETH

Winter visitor

1993: 124 birds were recorded at Llanddulas on 7/3, 60 on the Clwyd Estuary on 27/1 and 59 in Kinmel Bay on 17/11. Also seen at Rhyl Marine Lake, Mostyn Docks, Walwen on the Dee Estuary, Rhos-on-Sea, Rhyl and Prestatyn.

1994: Largest count at Rhos-on-Sea of 50 birds on 23/20, 45 at Rhyl on 11/1 and 30 at Llanddulas on 13/9. Also at Rhyl Marine Lake, POA, Mostyn and a single at IMF on 4/5.

1995: 132 recorded at Llanddulas on 12/2, 54 at Kinmel Bay on 23/11 and 44 at Towyn on 23/11 – also at Walwen on the Dee Estuary, POA and Rhyl Marine Lake.

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE *Phalaropus lobatus* LLYDANDROED

GYDDFGOCH

Rare vagrant

Two birds were recorded at Rhos-on-Sea on 2/7/94 and one at Whixall Moss on 1-3/7/95.

GREY PHALAROPE *Phalaropus fulicarius*

LLYDANDROED LLWYD

Rare vagrant

One sighting at POA recorded on 10/9/94 and one at Gresford Flash on 7-8/10/95.

POMARINE SKUA *Stercorarius pomarinus*

SGIWEN FRECH

Uncommon passage migrant

1993: Two birds at POA on 3/9, 11/9 and 14/11.

1994: Between one and three birds at POA on 10, 11, 16 and 20/9.

1995: Between one and three birds at POA on 4/6, 25/8 and 9 and 24/9.

ARCTIC SKUA *Stercorarius parasiticus*

SGIWEN Y GOGLEDD

Passage migrant

1993: All records from POA, Gronant and Rhyl between 23/6 – 26/9. Largest numbers were 23 at POA on 31/9 and 17 at the same site on 11/9.

1994: All records from POA, Gronant and Rhyl between 3/6 – 14/11 except one bird at OMR on 3/10. Largest numbers were 30 at POA on 17/8 and 32 at the same site on 11/9.

1995: Sighting only from POA and Rhyl between 20/5 – 15/10. High count of 27 at POA on 25/8.

LONG-TAILED SKUA *Stercorarius longicaudus* SGIWEN LOSTFAIN
Scarce passage migrant
All records came from POA; 2 on 26/7 and 1 on 5/8 in 1993, 1 on 12/8, 10/9 and 16/9 in 1994 and 1 on 27/8 and 24/9 in 1995.

GREAT SKUA *Stercorarius skua* SGIWEN FAWR
Uncommon passage migrant
1993: A single bird seen on two dates in January at POA and again on 20/7 and 20/8 and 4 birds on 3/9. One bird was also seen at Rhyl on 15/9.
1994: Single birds on 6/8 and 10/9 and three on 17/9 all at POA. One also seen at Pensarn on 15/9.
1995: 9 records of between 1-3 birds from POA, OMF and Rhyl Splash Point between 27/8 and 30/10.

MEDITERRANEAN GULL *Larus melanocephalus* GWYLAN MÔR Y CANOLDIR
Uncommon visitor, increasing in frequency
1993: Ten records of single birds seen in January, February, June, August, September, October and November, at Gronant, POA, OMR and Pentre Mawr Park and 2 at POA on 24/6.
1994: 17 records, mostly from POA, but also from Gronant, Rhos-on-Sea, Rhuddlan and Llyn Helyg – usually 1-2 birds but up to 4 at POA e.g. 21/6.
1995: 20 records from POA, Gronant, Rhos-on-Sea and Clwyd Estuary. 5 birds at POA on 18/3 and 17/6.

LITTLE GULL *Larus minutus* GWYLAN FECHAN
Scarce visitor
1993: 1-2 birds at IMF on 2/4, 5/4 and 30/5.
1994: Single birds at POA on 5/1, 9/9 and 15/10. 2 at Shotwick Lake on 21/4.

SABINE'S GULL *Larus sabini* GWYLAN SABINE
Rare visitor
1993: Single birds at POA on 25/8 and 30-31/8.
1994: One bird at POA on 8/8.
1995: One bird at POA on 25/8.

BONAPARTE'S GULL *Larus philadelphia* GWYLAN BONAPARTE
Rare visitor
One bird was recorded at IMF from 1-16 June 1994.

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ridibundus* GWYLAN PENDDU
Common breeding resident and winter visitor
1993: Largest numbers were 1,000 at POA on 3/9, 800 at Prestatyn on 16/11, 500 at Gronant on 10/2, 450 on the Clwyd Estuary on 2/9 and 350 at Gresford Flash on 31/1.
1994: 1,000 birds at Gronant on 1/2, 2,045 at POA on 8/8 and 800 on Clwyd Estuary on 10/8.
1995: on 29/1 there were 2,800 birds on the Clwyd Estuary, Padeswood Pool held 2,500 on 1/1 and 800 were seen at Gronant on 9/1.

RING-BILLED GULL *Larus delawarensis* GWYLAN FODRWYBIG
Rare vagrant
1993: There were 11 birds at Gronant on 16/1.
1994: Single birds reported at Rhyl Brickworks and once from Rhyl Marine Lake between 18/3 and 12/4.
1995: One bird reported at POA from 13-18/6.

COMMON GULL *Larus canus* GWYLAN Y
GWEUNYDD
Passage migrant and winter visitor
1993: A flock of 3,000 birds at POA on 25/1, 700 at Gronant on 13/2 and regularly at Llanarmon-yn-Ial with a peak of 350.
1994: 3,000 birds at Gronant on 6/2, 1,600 at Llanddulas on 21/1 and 2,900 at POA on 31/1.
1995: 10,000 at Gronant on 13/1, 3,500 at Bagillt on 6/2, 1,500 at Pentre Llanrhaedr on 14/3 and 1,300 at POA on 16/2.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus fuscus* GWYLAN GEFNDDU
LEIAF
Breeding resident and passage migrant
1993: Counts of 120 at Gresford Flash on 16/2 and 105 at OMR on 21/10.
1994: 230 birds present at Gresford Flash on 19/12 and 125 at OMR on 23/6.
1995: 13 birds at Gresford Flash on 11/2.

YELLOW-LEGGED GULL *Larus argentatus cachinnans* GWYLAN GOES
FELEN
Rare visitor
Single birds at POA on 13/6/94 and 8/8/94 and at Gronant on 16/7/94.

HERRING GULL *Larus argentatus* GWYLAN Y PENWAIG
Breeding resident, passage migrant and common winter visitor
1993: c.2,000 at Llanddulas on 14/10 and 900 at Gronant on 13/2.
1994: 3,200 seen at POA on 31/1 and 500 at Gronant on 1/2.
1995: 2,600 recorded on the Clwyd Estuary on 29/1.

ICELAND GULL *Larus glaucoides* GWYLAN YR ARCTIG
Rare visitor
1994: Seen at POA 27/3 and 25/4, then several dates early September and early October.
1995: Single bird early January at Pensarn and Gronant then later on 22/3.

GLAUCOUS GULL *Larus hyperboreus* GWYLAN Y GOGLEDD
Scarce visitor
1993: 22 records were received in total all from POA, Gronant and the Clwyd Estuary. Single birds were seen most months between February and December.
1994: 16 records all from Gronant and the Clwyd Estuary, with 2 at Gronant on 5/11 and 18/12.
1995: 13 records, mostly from Gronant, POA and Clwyd Estuary, with 3 at Gronant on 8/1, 5/2, 4/3 and 1/10.

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus marinus* GWYLAN GEFNDDU FWYAF
Passage migrant and winter visitor
1993: 212 birds recorded at Gronant on 16/11.
1994: 145 at POA on 5/9 and 138 at OMR on 7/11.
1995: 64 birds recorded at Rhyl on 23/11.

ROSS' GULL *Rhodostethia rosea* GWYLAN ROSS
Rare visitor
Single reported at OMR on 5/2/95.

KITTIWAKE *Rissa tridactyla* GWYLAN GOESDDU
Passage migrant and non-breeding visitor
1993: 420 birds off Prestatyn on 31/5, 250 at POA on 11/9 and 159 at Gronant on 15/12.
1994: 1,300 at POA on 1/11, 100 at Gronant on 5/8 and at IMF 1-2 birds were noted occasionally in March, May and June.
1995: Only 3 records with a peak of 12 off Rhyl on 27/3.

GULL BILLED TERN *Gelochelidon nilotica* MORWENNOL
YLFINBRAFF
Rare visitor
Single bird at POA on 5/6/93.

SANDWICH TERN *Sterna sandvicencis* MORWENNOL
BIGDDU
Passage migrant
1993: First records from POA on 6/4 and last at Llanddulas on 29/10. Maximum at POA – 1,400 on 23/7. Peak period between 10/7 and 4/9. Only at Gronant, Clwyd Estuary and POA were there more than 100 birds.
1994: Earliest record for the year was at POA on 28/3 and latest at Rhos-on-Sea on 18/9. POA had 1,500 birds present on 17/8. Peak period was from 15/7 to 8/9. Only Gronant, Clwyd Estuary and POA >100.
1995: Fewer records were received during the year, earliest on 10/4 at POA and latest 27/10 also at POA. Largest counts 650 at POA on 31/7 and 530 on 20/8 at Gronant.

ROSEATE TERN *Sterna dougallii* MORWENNOL WRIDOG
Rare visitor
1994: One bird at POA on 23/8.
1995: One bird at Pensarn on 1/9.

COMMON TERN *Sterna hirundo* MORWENNOL GYFFREDIN
Breeding summer visitor and passage migrant
1993: Earliest record 24/4 from Shotton and latest 30/9 from POA. High count of 230 from POA on 2/8 and 184 in June at CQR.
1994: First seen at POA on 25/4 and last seen on 11/9 and POA. Best record was of 600 on 6/8. Inland birds were also seen at Hawarden, Higher Common Buckley and Llyn Helyg. At Shotton, 301 pairs fledged c300 young.

1995: First arrival recorded on 24/4 at OMR and last to leave 9/10 at POA. Highest count 240 at POA on 31/7. The Shotton colony fledged 400+ young from 421 pairs.

ARCTIC TERN *Sterna paradisea* MORWENNOL Y GOGLEDD

Uncommon passage migrant, has bred

1993: Single bird recorded on 15/8 and 3 on 19/8 both at POA.

1994: 9 birds at IMF on 18/6. 1-4 birds on 3 dates between 17/7 and 13/8 at POA.

1995: One record at POA on 10/7.

FORSTER'S TERN *Sterna forsteri* MORWENNOL FORSTER

Rare visitor

Single bird at POA on 5/8/93.

LITTLE TERN *Sterna albifrons* MORWENNOL

FECHAN

Breeding summer visitor and passage migrant

1993: Recorded at Gronant between 8/5 and 10/8. The colony here numbered 45 pairs, with 45+ young raised. Eight seen flying down the river at CQR on 13/08.

1994: Records between 1/5 at Gronant and 11/9 at POA. 300 birds at Gronant on 22/7, 200 at POA at 11/8 and a single at IMF in late May. The Gronant colony had an excellent year, fledging 120-140 young from 77 pairs. 2 seen at CQR in July.

1995: The colony at Gronant contained 65 pairs, which fledged an estimated 35-40 young.

BLACK TERN *Chlidonias niger* CORSWENNOL DDU

Uncommon passage migrant

1993: All 6 records of between 1-4 birds at IMF between 29/4 and 28/5.

1994: 11 records in total. Only spring record on 23/5 at IMF, then summer records (between 6/8 and 23/9 mostly) at POA, IMF and OMR. One record from POA of 6 birds on 10/9.

1995: Only two records, 1 at POA on 15/7 and 2 at Flint Point on 4/9.

WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN *Chlidonias leucopterus* CORSWENNOL

ADEINWEN

Rare visitor

One bird was present at IMF on 20-21/7/93.

GUILLEMOT *Uria aalge* GWYLOG

Regular non-breeding visitor

1993: Several records of 1-5 birds from coastal sites between Llanddulas and POA.

1994: Notable counts of 50 off Rhyl on 30/10 and 560 off POA on 15/11.

1995: Few records, e.g. from Rhos-on-Sea and POA, with 110+ off Rhyl, Splash Point on 30/10.

RAZORBILL *Alca torda* LLURS

Uncommon non-breeding visitor

1993: One or two birds from Llanddulas, Rhyl and OMR.

1994: Only recorded at Rhyl and POA, with 20 at Rhyl on 31/3 and 200 at POA on 15/11.

BLACK GUILLEMOT *Cepphus grylle* GWYLOG DDU
Rare visitor
Single birds at POA on 12/8/94 and Rhos-on-Sea on 17-18/12/94.

LITTLE AUK *Alle alle* CARFIL BACH
Rare winter visitor
1993: Single record on 13/1 and 2 on 16/12 both at POA.
1994: Single birds on 16/1 and 2/5 at Llanddulas.
1995: Single birds at Rhos-on-Sea on 1/1 and at Llanddulas on 28/10.

PUFFIN *Fratercula arctica* PÂL
Rare visitor
Single bird at POA on 22/6/94.

STOCK DOVE *Columba oenas* COLOMEN WYLLT
Breeding resident and probable winter visitor
1993: Recorded at various sites including 110 at Shotwick Fields on 24/1, 35 at Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 23/3 and 14 at Hanmer Mere on 31/1.
1994: Various sites including 14 at both Shotwick and Tremerchion, also at Loggerheads, Clocaenog Forest and Llyn Helyg
1995: 24 seen at Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 8/1, 22 at Shotton on 30/6 and 18 at Mynydd Glyn-Lws on 21/6.

WOODPIGEON *Columba palumbus* YSGUTHAN
Abundant breeding resident
1993: Notable counts included 120 at Llandegla on 14/3/93 and 100 at Llyn Helyg on 29/3/93.
1994: counts included 65 at Llandulas on 10/2 and 100 at Llandegla on 20/2.
1995: the only notable record was of 48 at Llandegla on 17/3.

COLLARED DOVE *Streptopelia decaocto* TURTUR DORCHOG
Common breeding resident
Recorded in all three years with several counts of 30+ from Twt Hill, Rhuddlan. Peak count of 62 from Sandycroft on 26/2/94.

TURTLE DOVE *Streptopelia turtur* TURTUR
Rare summer visitor
1993: Singles at POA on 17/6 and 11/8. Three recorded at IMF on 12/9.
1994: Only record involved a single bird at POA on 31/5.
1995: Two were at Tyn-y-Morfa on 12/5, and three were present at POA on 20/5.

CUCKOO *Cuculus canorus* COG
Breeding summer visitor
1993: First noted on 10/4 at IMF, then a total of nineteen records from locations such as Gwysaney, Ysceifiog, Penarlag, Nercwys and Prion. Two were noted at Fenns Moss.

1994: The first was at POA on 23/4, then 17 records, e.g. Horseshoe Pass, Pantymwyn, Caerwys and Eglwyseg,
1995: The first was on 20/4, then 13 records from sites such as Brynford, Ruabon, and Llyn Brenig.

BARN OWL *Tyto alba* TYLLUAN WEN
Scarce breeding resident
1993: Only five records, e.g. at Rhosllanerchrugog, Sealand and Llangollen.
1994: Eleven records, e.g. at Clocaenog, Llangollen and Rhyl.
1995: Nine records including ones from Clocaenog, Rhualt and POA.

LITTLE OWL *Athene noctua* TYLLUAN FACH
Breeding resident
1993: Twenty one records through the year, mostly singles, occasional records of two birds.
1994: Sixteen records.
1995: Fourteen records.

TAWNY OWL *Strix aluco* TYLLUAN FRECH
Common breeding resident
1993: Thirteen records, mostly of singles, but with 2 birds noted at Prion, Llanrhydd, Nercwys, Clocaenog, Summerhill and Pantymwyn.
1994: Ten records.
1995: Nine records.

LONG-EARED OWL *Asio otus* TYLLUAN GORNIOG
Rare resident, possible winter visitor
Birds reported from a site in the south of the county in all three years.

SHORT-EARED OWL *Asio flammea* TYLLUAN GLUSTIOG
Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor
1993: A total of seventeen records, most of which were winter records from the Rhyl Old Tip and Clwyd Estuary area - 3 were present here on 20/1. Other records came from Ruabon, POA, and Pentre, on Deeside.
1994: Again, most of this years thirteen records came from the Clwyd Estuary, and also POA. Others from Carrog, Ruabon, Clocaenog and IMF.
1995: Ten records, mostly from the Clwyd Estuary, Rhuddlan and Towyn areas - 3 were present at Rhuddlan Marsh on 16/1. Two records came from Gronant, and others from Ruabon and Esclusham.

NIGHTJAR *Caprimulgus europaeus* TROELLWR
Breeding summer visitor
1993: Seven records from Nercwys, Clocaenog and Pentre Llyn Cymer. A bird was also noted in the Warren at the POA on 13/8.
1994: Fourteen records from Nercwys, Clocaenog and Pentre Llyn Cymer. Also reported from the Ruabon area.
1995: Five records, all from Nercwys, Clocaenog and Pentre Llyn Cymer.

SWIFT *Apus apus* GWENNOL DDU

Common breeding summer visitor and passage migrant

1993: First recorded at IMF on 21/4, with the last record of the year on 16/9 at Nercwys. Notable counts between these dates included 250 at IMF on 10/5, 120 over the Clwyd Estuary on 3/7, 260 at the POA on 20/7, and 540 at IMF on 8/8. Noted in groups of up to 300 over CQR.

1994: First and last dates were 24/4 (IMF) and a late record of 11/11 (Hawarden). Notable counts between these dates included 1000 at IMF on 29/5, and 50 over Corwen on 1/5.

1995: First and last dates were 22/4 (IMF) and 9/9 (Twt Hill). The only noteworthy counts included 40 at Shotwick on 23/4, and 200 at Rhuddlan Marsh on 15/7.

KINGFISHER *Alcedo atthis*

GLAS Y DORLAN

Breeding resident

1993: One to two birds were regular on the Clwyd Estuary. Other records came from Pentrefelin, IMF, Glan y Wern, Loggerheads, POA, Worlds End, Oakenholt Marsh, Pen y Cae, Berwyn, Four Crosses, Greenfield Valley and Mostyn.

1994: One to two birds were regular on the Clwyd Estuary. Also noted at Llangollen, POA, Deeside, Greenfield Valley and the Rhyl Brickworks pools.

1995: Regular on the Clwyd Estuary. Also noted at Holt, Lleweni Hall, Gresford, POA, Oakenholt Marsh and Glan y Wern.

BEE-EATER sp *Merops* sp.

[GWYBEDOG Y GWENYN]

Rare vagrant

A single bird was reported from Gronant on 8/6/93.

HOOPOE *Upupa epops*

COPOG

Vagrant

Two records, both in 1994, and both of single birds, in the Vale of Clwyd on 15/8, and at Tremerchion on 9/9.

GREEN WOODPECKER *Picus viridis*

CNOCELL WERDD

Breeding resident

1993: Thirty one records through the year, mostly of single birds. Four were present at Llangollen on 4/8. Other sites included Clocaenog, Dyserth, Moel Arthur, Rhyd y Foel and Fenns Moss.

1994: Eleven records, mostly of singles. Three were at Llangollen on 11/5, with other records coming from Loggerheads, Rhyd y Foel and Bettws yn Rhos.

1995: Nineteen records, mostly of singles. Three were noted at Hawarden on 30/4.

Other records came from

Llanfair Talhaiarn, Llysfaen and the Dulas Valley.

GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER *Dendrocopus major* CNOCELL FRAITH
FWYAF

Breeding resident

1993: Forty records through the year of mostly single or two birds. Such records came from Cefn Meriadoc, Hendre, Cilcain, Llyn Helyg, Bont Newydd, Maeshafn and Nercwys Mountain.

1994: Twelve records through the year of mostly single or two birds. Three were present at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 22/5. Also recorded at Penbedw, Cyffyliog and alongside the River Elwy.

1995: Sixteen records. Three were noted at Twt Hill on 10/6. Other records through the year came from Bodrhyddan Hall, Greenfield Valley, Ysceifiog and Kelsterton College.

LESSER SPOTTED WOODPECKER *Dendrocopus minor* CNOCELL FRAITH
LEIAF

Local breeding resident

1993: Of ten total records, repeat observations came from Acton Park in Wrexham, Llangollen and Twt Hill. All records involved single birds.

1994: Only five records in this year. Two birds were noted at Glan y Wern on 18/4, and Twt Hill on 14/7.

1995: Twelve records of single birds. Repeat observations came from Acton Park and Twt Hill.

SKYLARK *Alauda arvensis* EHEDYDD

Breeding resident and winter visitor, declining

1993: Small numbers reported from a variety of sites across the county. Notable counts included 20+ at POA on 10/10, 60 at Gronant on 17/10, and 13 in the Warren on 22/11.

1994: Small numbers reported from a few sites across the county. Notable counts included 150 at Shotwick on 6/2, 15 on the Clwyd Estuary on 24/3, and 96 at the POA on 18/10.

1995: Only 5 records during the year e.g. 120 at Bagillt on 2/11, and 90 at POA on 7/11. Thirty were noted at Oakenholt Marsh on 19/11.

SHORE LARK *Eremophila alpestris* EHEDYDD Y TRAETH

Rare winter visitor

1993: The only record involved a single at the POA on 30/11.

1994: There were three records of a single at POA between 5-8/11. Then 1-2 birds noted on seven dates at Gronant between 26/11 and 26/12.

1995: All records came from Gronant. Up to 7 birds noted on ten dates between 2/1 and 15/4 - e.g. peak of 7 on 15/1, 3 on several dates in early February and 4 on 1/4.

SAND MARTIN *Riparia riparia* GWENNOL Y
GLENNYDD

Breeding summer visitor and passage migrant

1993: Recorded between 12/3 (POA) and 3/11 (POA). Notable counts included 30 Lleweni Hall on 2/5, and 60 at Nannerch on 22/5.

1994: First and last dates were 26/3 at the Rhyl Brickworks pool, and 19/9 at IMF. Notable counts included 110 at POA on 23/4, 60 at Trevor Uchaf on 26/4, and 40 at Nannerch on 25/6 and 1/8.

1995: Recorded between 22/3 (Rhyl Brickworks) and 17/9 (Twt Hill). Notable counts between these dates included 40 at Pentre Llanrhaedr on 5/4, 106 at Llyn Helyg on 10/4, 80 at Trevor Uchaf on 16/6 and 150 at Rhosesmor on 24/6.

SWALLOW *Hirundo rustica*

GWENNOL

Common breeding summer visitor and passage migrant

1993: First noted on 20/3 over Talacre Warren, and last record for the year was 3/11, also at the POA. Counts between these dates included 150 at POA on 11/5, 30 on the Clwyd Estuary on 24/6, and 34 at POA on 17/9.

1994: Recorded between 24/3 (Gronant) and 17/10 (IMF). Several very notable counts included 400 going through the POA on 23/4, and 1300 over Rhyl Old Tip on 4/8. Ninety-six were over Berwyn on 8/9.

1995: Recorded between 22/3 (POA) and 4/10 (Twt Hill). The only notable count was of 15 on the Clwyd Estuary on 19/9.

HOUSE MARTIN *Delichon urbica*

GWENNOL Y BONDO

Common breeding summer visitor and passage migrant

1993: First noted at Froncysyllte on 19/3, and finally at Twt Hill on 14/10. Notable counts between these dates included 250 IMF on 27/5, 45 Gwaenysgor on 4/6, 45 at Twt Hill on 27/7, 100 over Llanasa on 12/8, and 120 at IMF on 15/9.

1994: Recorded between 29/3 (Tyn y Morfa) and 6/10 (Twt Hill). Several particularly sizeable counts were 500 IMF on 8/8, 1000+ at Gwysaney on 10/9, and 150 over Llangollen on 21/9.

1995: Recorded between 6/4 (Twt Hill) and 6/10 (also Twt Hill). Notable records included 30 at Rhualt on 24/4 and 100+ at Cilcain on 30/9.

RICHARDS PIPIT *Anthus novaeseelandiae*

CORHEDYDD RICHARD

Rare visitor.

Only record involved a single on the shore of the Dee Estuary at Ffynnongroyw, on 11-12/10/94.

TREE PIPIT *Anthus trivialis*

CORHEDYDD Y COED

Breeding summer visitor and passage migrant

1993: Most records were of passage birds at the POA, e.g. 18 on 21/4. Records also received from Ruabon Moors, Penarlag, Fenn's Moss and Pendinas.

1994: Only 4 records. Thirty were noted at the POA on 23/4, otherwise singles from Eglwyseg Crags, World's End and Nercwys Mountain.

1995: Notable records included 6 at the POA on 21/4, 5 at Flint Marsh on 25/4 and 9 near Llangollen on 27/4.

MEADOW PIPIT *Anthus pratensis*

CORHEDYDD Y WAUN

Common breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor

1993: Widely recorded, with notable counts including 500 at the POA on 28/3, 300 on Rhuddlan Marsh on 13/4, and 200 at the POA on 12/9.

1994: Most records came from the Clwyd Estuary, e.g. 54 on 2/2, and POA e.g. 90 on 28/3 and 163 on 23/4.

1995: No records.

ROCK PIPIT *Anthus petrosus*

CORHEDYDD Y

GRAIG

Winter visitor

1993: Only 2 records, of 1-2 birds at the POA on 26/9 and 17/11.

1994: All records came from POA, Oakenholt Marsh and Rhos on Sea. Highest count was of 7 at Oakenholt on 27/2. 2 at CQR in December.

1995: Recorded at POA (6 on 29/1), Oakenholt Marsh, Rhos on Sea and Flint Marsh.

WATER PIPIT *Anthus spinoletta*

CORHEDYDD Y DWR

Rare winter visitor

Single at Gronant on 15/1/95, and 2 at Flint Marsh on 27/3/95.

YELLOW WAGTAIL *Motacilla flava*

SIGLEN FELEN

Rare breeding summer visitor and passage migrant

1993: Recorded between 4/4 (IMF) and 19/9 (IMF again). Most records came from the Sandycroft, Sealand and IMF area, with a few POA to Prestatyn coastal records. Most were of single birds, but 10 were recorded at POA on 20/4, IMF on 27/4, and Sandycroft Fields on 11/8.

1994: Recorded between 10/4 at IMF, and 22/9 at the POA. Records were quite scattered, though again largest counts from Shotwick (12 on 13/5) and IMF (12 on 19/4).

1995: First noted on 21/4 at POA, and last at Horseshoe Pass on 15/9. Most records came from Shotwick Fields, e.g. 40 here on 23/4, and Deeside Pools, with 5 here on 28/5.

GREY WAGTAIL *Motacilla cinerea*

SIGLEN LWYD

Common breeding resident

1993: Records were widely scattered, e.g. Greenfield Valley, Bont Newydd, Llanddulas, Loggerheads and Llangollen. Usually of 1-2 birds, occasionally 3, but 6 on the River Elwy on 3/7 was exceptional.

1994: Records were widely scattered, e.g. Betws yn Rhos, Worlds End and the Connahs Quay banded pools. Up to three birds usual, with 13 at Terrig on the River Alun on 30/4.

1995: Again 1-3 at a number of locations e.g. Padeswood Pool, Dolwen reservoir, Kimmel Bay and Rhyd y Foel. Peak count was of 5 at Loggerheads on 14/5.

PIED WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba*

SIGLEN FRAITH

Common breeding resident and passage migrant

1993: Widely reported, with notable counts including 42 at St Asaph on 19/2, 85 on the Clwyd Estuary on 5/9 and 40 in Prestatyn on 17/9.

1994: Notable counts included 50+ at Gresford Flash on 21/3, 30+ in Prestatyn on 7/9, and 25 in Acton Park on 27/9.

1995: Notable counts included 23 on Oakenholt Marsh 11/2, 80+ on Pen y Cae reservoir on 7/9, 40 at Twt Hill on 7/10, and 250 at Bodelwyddan on 13/11.

WHITE WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba alba*

SIGLEN FRAITH

Regular passage migrant.

1993: All records were coastal, between 9/3 (IMF) and 15/5 (Gronant). Twenty were at Gronant on 23/4, and 30 at POA the same day - same birds or different ?.

1994: Noted first at Cilcain on 19/3, and finally at POA on 29/4. Highest count was of 8 at IMF on 26/4.

1995: Recorded between 27/3 (Flint Marsh) and 15/9 (Horseshoe Pass). On 23/4, 100 were present on the Shotwick Fields, and 15 were at Gronant on 2/5.

WAXWING *Bombycilla garrulus*

CYNFFON SIDAN

Rare winter visitor

Only one record, of a single bird at Abergele on 23/11/93.

DIPPER *Cinclus cinclus*

BRONWEN-Y-DWR

Widespread breeding resident

1993: Recorded from 13 different sites, usually with 1-2 birds involved. Four were present at Lleweni Hall on 2/5, and 6 at Llangollen on 4/8 and Lleweni Hall on 27/11.

1994: Recorded from 17 sites, usually with 1-2 birds involved. Six were at Terrig on the Alun on 30/4, and 4 were at Glan y Wern on 14/8.

1995: Recorded from 12 sites, usually with 1-2 birds involved. Five were at Glan y Wern on 3/11.

WREN *Troglodytes troglodytes*

DRYW

Common breeding resident

Notable counts included 7 at Llyn Helyg on 13/2/93, and 25 in the Warren at the POA on 22/11/93.

DUNNOCK *Prunella modularis*

LLWYD Y GWRYCH

Common breeding resident

The only notable count included 15 in the Warren at the POA on 22/11/93.

ROBIN *Erithacus rubecula*

ROBIN GOCH

Common breeding resident and partial migrant

Notable counts included 10 at Llyn Helyg on 13/2/93 and 29/3/93, and 10 in the Dulas Valley on 3/3/95.

NIGHTINGALE *Luscinia megarhynchos*

EOS

Scarce passage migrant.

Only two records, one at the POA on 21/4/93, and one at St Asaph on 30/4/95.

BLACK REDSTART *Phoenicurus ochruros*

TINGOCH DU

Rare winter visitor

1993: A single bird present at the POA on 8/4, and then the following day a bird was present at the Horseshoe Pass. A single bird was noted in Towyn on 24/11, and then two were present here on 26/11.

1994: Singles were present at Towyn on 6/1, Mostyn on 7/12 and 14/12 - a bird was also reported from Flint on 14/12.

1995: Two records of single birds from Mostyn, on 4/1 and 2/3.

REDSTART *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

TINGOCH

Fairly common breeding summer visitor and passage migrant

1993: Recorded between 11/4 (Llangollen) and 11/9 (Llanarmon yn Ial). Notable records involved 5 at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 30/5, and 6 at Glan y Gors on 29/8.

1994: First noted on 23/4 in Llangollen, with the last record received being on 22/6 at Cilcain. The most notable count was of 6+ at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 12/6.

1995: Noted between 10/4 at Eglwyseg Crag, and 4/8 in the Dulas Valley. Six were at Cilcain on 14/5, and 8 at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 10/6.

WHINCHAT *Saxicola rubetra*

CREC YR EITHIN

Fairly common breeding summer visitor and passage migrant

1993: Recorded between 14/4 at Talacre Warren (passage) and 22/8 on the Clwyd Estuary. One to two birds noted at a variety of coastal passage sites, with inland breeding-ground records coming from Cyffyliog, Ruabon, Llandegla and Moel Famau.

1994: First recorded on the Clwyd Estuary on 23/4, and finally at IMF on 29/9. A notable count of 7 came from Clocaenog on 27/6, with other inland records coming from Horseshoe Pass, Bylchau and Cilcain.

1995: The first record of the year came from Gronant on 25/4, and the last from the Shotwick Fields on 10/9. All records of 1-2 birds.

STONECHAT *Saxicola torquata*

CLOCHDAR Y CERRIG

Breeding resident

1993: Recorded from sites such as Llyn Brenig, Pen y Cloddiau,, Nercwys, Ruabon and Talacre Warren. There were 6 at the latter site on 1/4, and also 6 at Bettws yn Rhos on 1/8.

1994: Sites included Rhyl Old Tip, Ruabon, Cilcain, Horseshoe Pass, Llantysilio and Waun y Llyn Country Park. Ten were recorded at Horseshoe Pass on 1/4, and also at Ruabon on the same day. None were present in the Warren this year.

1995: Sites included Prestatyn golf course, Minera, Bwlch Pen Barras, Llanefydd and Glyndyfrdwy. Highest count was of 8 at Cilcain on 14/5.

WHEATEAR *Oenanthe oenanthe*

TINWEN Y GARN

Common breeding summer visitor and passage migrant

1993: Recorded between 12/3 (Rhyl) and 29/10 (Llanddulas). Most records were of coastal passage birds, with few inland breeding records received. Notable counts included 12 at Oakenholt Marsh on 22/3, 96 at the POA on 21/4 and 20 in Talacre Warren on 1/5.

1994: First seen at the Horseshoe Pass on 14/3, with the last record coming from Gronant on 22/10. Notable counts included 19 on the Clwyd Estuary on 27/3, and 49 at the POA on 23/4.

1995: Recorded between 11/3 (Prestatyn) and 11/10 (also Prestatyn). Ten were at Cilcain on 14/4, and 20+ at the POA on 29/4.

RING OUZEL *Turdus torquatus*

MWYALCHEN Y

MYNYDD

Breeding summer visitor in small numbers

1993: Only two records, with a single at Glyndyfrdwy on 4/4, and 2 at the Horseshoe Pass on 14/4.

1994: Seven records, three of which came from the Horseshoe Pass, with 6 here on 18/4. Other sites included Glyndyfrdwy, Llantysilio (4 here on 21/4), Eglwyseg Crag and Prestatyn.

1995: Seven records, again three of which came from the Horseshoe Pass, all of single birds. Six plus were at Cilcain on 14/4, 2 at Eglwyseg Crag on 29/4, a single at Worlds End, and 3 at Esclusham on 16/6.

BLACKBIRD *Turdus merula*

MWYALCHEN

Common breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor
Only notable records involved 20 in Talacre Warren on 3/10/93, and 24 here on 22/11/93.

FIELDFARE *Turdus pilaris*

SOCAN EIRA

Common winter visitor and passage migrant

1993: Notable flocks included 100 at Llandegla on 6/4, 100 at Sealand on 13/4, 100 at Nercwys on 15/10, 200 at Twt Hill on 19/10, 500 on the Clwyd Estuary on 23/10, and 100 at Geraint's Pond on 27/10.

1994: Larger flocks included 94 at Llanfihangel-Glyn-Myfyr on 13/2, 150 at Shotton Paper on 13/2 and a later record of 100 at Llandegla on 5/4.

1995: Notable flocks of 850 at Llyn Helyg on 7/1, 150 at Pentre Llanrhaedr on 14/3, and a later record of 70 at Cilcain on 14/4.

SONG THRUSH *Turdus philomelos*

BRONFRAITH

Common breeding resident and winter visitor

1993: Fourteen scattered records during 1993, with the only notable count being 5 at Nercwys Mountain on 14/10.

1994: Only three records of single birds.

1995: No records received.

REDWING *Turdus iliacus*

COCH DAN-ADEN

Common winter visitor and passage migrant

1993: Notable counts included 500 at Pen y Cae reservoir on 12/2, 98 at IMF on 10/10, 100+ at Nercwys Mountain on 15/10, 130 at Penarlag on the same day, 200 at Twt Hill on 19/10 and 350 at the POA on 3/11.

1994: IMF recorded good numbers, with over 2300 on 16/10, and 1000 the following day. Fifty were noted at Summerhill on 26/12.

1995: Notable counts included 700 at Gwaenysgor on 21/10, 250 at IMF the same day, and also 700 at Twt Hill on the same day. On 20/11, 500 were present at IMF.

MISTLE THRUSH *Turdus viscivorus*

BRYCH Y COED

Common breeding resident

Notable counts included 19 at Prestatyn on 6/10/93, 14 in Abergele on 31/1/94, and the same number at Glan y Wern on 29/6/94 and POA on 5/11/94. During 1995, the only sizeable record received involved 5 birds at Twt Hill.

GRASSHOPPER WARBLER *Locustella naevia*

TROELLWR BACH

Local breeding summer visitor in variable numbers

1993: Seventeen records received from 6 sites. This included 8 in the Warren on 21/4, with other records coming from Padeswood Pool, POA, Rhyl Old Tip, Ruabon and Llyn Helyg.

1994: Twenty three records from 8 sites. Most records came from Rhyl Old Tip. Four birds were noted in the Warren on 23/4.

1995: Thirteen records from 8 sites. On 27/4, as many as 17 were noted around the POA, and on 2/5, Prestatyn golf course held 10+ birds.

SEDGE WARBLER *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

TELOR YR HESG

Common breeding summer visitor

1993: First noted on the Clwyd Estuary on 22/4. In total 19 records received from 10 sites. At Shotton, 5 were present on 24/4, with other records coming from Gronant, POA, Pentre Mawr Park and Penarlag.

1994: Only eight records from 7 sites. The first was reported on 25/4 in Talacre Warren. Ten were present at Gronant on 30/4, and again on 9/5.

1995: First bird recorded was at POA on 29/4. In total, 14 records were received from 8 sites. In Prestatyn golf course on the 2/5, an estimated 35+ were present. Ten were noted at Deeside Pools on 19/5, and 11 at the Cop Hole on 20/6.

REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus scirpaceus* TELOR Y CYRS

Scarce breeding summer visitor

1993: No records.

1994: Only two records, with a single in Pentre Mawr Park on 13/5, and three at Shotton on 29/5.

1995: Only 6 records, with 1-4 birds at Gresford Flash, Rhuddlan Marsh, Deeside Pools, Bagillt and Shotton. Seven were at the Cop Hole on 20/6.

Whilst certainly scarce in the county, these records must represent under-recording of this species.

LESSER WHITETHROAT *Sylvia curruca* LLWYDFRON FACH

Breeding summer visitor

1993: Singles noted at sites such as Loggerheads, Flint, Penarlag, POA, CQR and Gresford. Six were present around the Sandycroft Fields area on 18/6.

1994: Only four records, from Hope, Twt Hill, Gwysaney and Nercwys Mountain.

1995: Singles were recorded at Flint, POA and Buckley. Three were at Twt Hill on 7/7.

WHITETHROAT *Sylvia communis* LLWYDFRON

Common breeding summer visitor

1993: Notable records involved 19 at Talacre Warren on 4/5, and 5 around the Sandycroft fields on 18/5. Other records came from the Clwyd Estuary, Flint, Llyn Helyg and Bwlch Pen Barras.

1994: Eight were in Talacre Warren on 30/4. Also recorded from Gwysaney, Cyffyliog and Ruabon.

1995: On 4/5, 21 were in Talacre Warren. Other records came from Gresford, Hawarden and Gronant.

GARDEN WARBLER *Sylvia borin* TELOR YR ARDD

Common breeding summer visitor

1993: A total of 18 records, of 1-2 birds, e.g. Bontuchel, Pentre Llyn Cymer, Bwlch Pen Barras and Cynwyd. Four were present at Llyn Helyg on 30/4.

1994: Eleven records, all of 1-2 birds, e.g. Gwysaney, Maeshafn, Llanfair Talhaiarn and the upper Dulas Valley.

1995: Only 6 records, but three of these all came from Twt Hill. The others were from Gwysaney, Loggerheads and the Dulas Valley. All records were of single birds.

BLACKCAP *Sylvia atricapilla* TELOR PENDDU

Common breeding summer visitor, scarce winter visitor

1993: Records received throughout the year. Highest count was of 5 at Prion on 11/5. Other records came from Llanasa, Pentre, Acton Park, Penarlag, Nannerch and Llanddulas.

1994: Again, recorded throughout the year, e.g. Pantymwyn, Llyn Helyg and Acton Park. Highest count came from POA on 16/10, when 4 were present.

1995: Recorded throughout the year, with the highest count being of 6 at Loggerheads on 14/5. Other records included Pentre, Llanasa and Llanddulas.

YELLOW-BROWED WARBLER *Phylloscopus inornatus* TELOR AELFELYN

Rare vagrant

1993: No records.

1994: A single bird recorded in Clocaenog forest on 22/10.

1995: Two records from the POA, both of single birds during December, on the 11th and 24th.

WOOD WARBLER *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* TELOR Y COED

Breeding summer visitor

1993: Fourteen records received from ten sites, between 23/4 and 27/6. Passage birds noted at Shotton, POA and Talacre Warren. Birds in possible breeding locations included loggerheads, Llangollen, Hendre and Cynwyd. Six were at Pantymwyn on 16/5.

1994: Twelve records from 9 sites, between 25/4 and 27/6. No coastal passage records this year, but others from Pentredwr, Eglwyseg Crag, Llanfair Talhaiarn and Corwen. Four were at Pantymwyn on 2/5.

1995: Recorded from 7 sites, with a total of 11 records between 29/4 and 21/6. Again, no coastal passage records. Six were at Pantymwyn and Loggerheads on 7/5 and 14/5 respectively. Also recorded from Coed Uchaf, Horseshoe Pass, Nannerch and Llanfair Talhaiarn.

CHIFFCHAFF *Phylloscopus collybita* SIFF-SAFF

Common breeding summer visitor, rare winter visitor

1993: Recorded between 12/3 and 31/10, with most records involving 1-2 birds. Four were at Tremostyn on 17/4. Other records came from Flint, Penarlag, Hendre, Y Graig, Geraints Pond and Acton Park.

1994: Recorded between 12/3 and 24/10, and then a winter record at the POA on 6/12. Seven were noted at Llanddulas on 16/5. Also recorded from Llangollen, Clocaenog Forest, Twt Hill, Penbedw and Pantymwyn.

1995: Notably more winter records than spring and summer records this year. These included Twt Hill on 14/1 and POA on 5/2. Several records during November and December, including at Twt Hill, and 10 at POA on 8/11 and 5 here on 11/12.

WILLOW WARBLER *Phylloscopus trochilus* TELOR YR HELYG

Common breeding summer visitor

1993: Noted between 29/3 (Acton Park) and 23/9 (Twt Hill). Records usually involved 1-3 birds, but on 21/4 an estimated 170 passed through the POA. Other records came from Gwysaney, Llandegla, Waun y Llyn, Shotton and Cilcain.

1994: First record came from Twt Hill on 9/4, and the last from POA on 14/8. Twenty birds noted in Talacre Warren on 25/4, with other records coming from Llangollen, Ruabon and Penbedw.

1995: First noted at Acton Park on 3/4, and finally at Twt Hill on 16/9. On 21/4, 100+ were estimated to be present around the POA. Records also came from Berwyn, Pentre Mawr Park.

GOLDCREST *Regulus regulus*

DRYW EURBEN

Common breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor

1993: Records of 1-3 birds received from sites such as Gwych Woods, Pen y Cloddiau and Hendre. A particularly high count involved 62 at Glan y Gors on 29/8, 10 were at the POA on 26/9, and 8 at Llyn Helyg on 29/12.

1994: Only two records, of singles at Llanddulas and Llanfair Talhaiarn.

1995: Only five records, of up to 8 birds, with the highest count coming from Bodrhyddan Hall on 9/2.

FIRECREST *Regulus ignicapillus*

DRYW PENFFLAMGOCH

Rare visitor

A single bird recorded at Llanarmon yn Ial on 14/3/95.

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa striata*

GWYBEDOG MANNOG

Fairly common breeding summer visitor

1993: Recorded between 11/5 on Prestatyn golf course, and 16/9 at Twt Hill. Most records involved 1-2 birds, and came from sites such as Corwen, Rhuthun and Dyserth. Five were in Talacre Warren on 28/5.

1994: First noted on 6/5 at Corwen, with the last record coming from 9/9 in Acton Park. Records came from Llyn Helyg, Gwysaney, Mold, Nercwys Mountain, upper Dulas Valley, Cilcain and Llangollen.

1995: First recorded at Twt Hill on 13/5, and finally at Gresford Flash on 10/9. Records involved 1-3 birds, from sites such as Loggerheads, Llandegla, Llanasa and Brithdir Fawr.

PIED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula hypoleuca*

GWYBEDOG BRITH

Common breeding summer visitor

1993: Recorded between 9/4 (Pen y Cae reservoir) and 14/11 (Gwysaney). Other sites included Llangollen, Ysceifiog, Cefn Meiriadog and Prion. Notable counts included 12 at Hendre on 15/5, 88 at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 16/5 and 96 here on 30/5.

1994: First recorded at Llangollen on 14/4, with the last record received being from Acton Park on 14/7. At Penbedw on 14/5, 22 were present, and 80 were noted at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 22/5 and 1/6.

1995: Recorded between 9/4 (Garthewin) and the last record received being from Twt Hill on 14/7. Notable counts came again from Llanfair Talhaiarn, with 80 here on 21/5, and 102 on 1/6. At Nannerch, 14 were present on 27/5 and 1/6. Also recorded at Llanarmon, Loggerheads and Llandegla.

LONG-TAILED TIT *Aegithalos caudatus*

TITW GYNFFON-HIR

Common breeding resident

1993: Of the 37 records received, notable counts included 20 at Llanddulas on 19/5, 20+ at Twt Hill on 27/7, 18 at Cilcain on 3/10, 20 at CQR on 15/11 and 20 at Bettws yn Rhos on 20/11.

1994: Notable counts included 16 at Loggerheads on 8/1, 25+ in Acton Park on 14/10, and 17 at Summerhill on 23/12.

1995: Notable counts included 20 at Twt Hill on 6/1, 20 in the Dulas Valley on 31/8 and 26/9, and 27 at Penarlag on 15/10.

MARSH TIT *Parus palustris*

TITW'R WERN

Fairly common breeding resident

1993: Twenty records of 1-3 birds, e.g. Llanarmon yn Ial, Cefn Meiriadog, Bontuchel, Tremostyn, Pant DU and Coed y Fron-wyllt.

1994: Thirteen records of 1-2 birds, e.g. Llanddulas, Cyffylliog, Llyn Helyg and Penbedw.

1995: Nine records of 1-2 birds, e.g. Bodrhyddan Hall, Dulas Valley, Twt Hill and Llyn Helyg.

WILLOW TIT *Parus montanus*

TITW'R HELYG

Uncommon breeding resident

1993: Nine records in total, mostly of 1-2 birds, e.g. Plas Kimmel, Ysceifiog, Nercwys Mountain, Llyn Helyg, Coed y Fron-wyllt and Llangollen. Four were present at Glan y Gors on 29/8.

1994: Four records, of 1-2 birds, from Pantymwyn, Llangollen, Horseshoe Pass and Marford Quarry.

1995: Only one record, from Ruabon Moor on 8/7.

COAL TIT *Parus ater*

TITW PENDDU

Common breeding resident

1993: Most records typically of 2-4 birds. Others included 5 at Llyn Helyg on 13/2, 10 here on 29/3, and 14 at Glan y Gors on 29/8.

1994: Few records, only notable being 4 at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 4/4.

1995: Six records of 1-5 birds.

BLUE TIT *Parus caeruleus*

TITW TOMOS LAS

Abundant breeding resident

1993: Notable counts included 20 at Llyn Helyg on 29/3, 12 at Glan y Gors on 29/8, 35 at Coed y Fron-wyllt on 20/11, and 21 in Talacre Warren on 22/11.

1994: Eleven at Llanddulas on 1/2.

1995: Eighty-five at the POA on 8/10.

GREAT TIT *Parus major*

TITW MAWR

Common breeding resident

1993: Notable counts included 10 at Llyn Helyg on 29/3, and 23 at Coed y Fron-wyllt on 20/11.

1994: The only record (!) came from Llangollen.

1995: Notable counts included 15 at Bodrhyddan Hall on 5/1, and 10 at the POA on 8/10.

NUTHATCH *Sitta europaea*

DELOR Y CNAU

Common breeding resident

1993: Nineteen records of 1-2 birds, e.g. Cefn Meiriadog, Greenfield Valley, River Elwy and Bod Petruel. Four were at Hendre on 20/3, and 6 at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 6/6.

1994: Eight records of 1-2 birds e.g. Bodrhyddan Hall, Llanddulas, Penarlag and Cyffyllog.

1995: Only three records. of 1-3 birds, from the Greenfield Valley, Garthewin and Llanfair Talhaiarn.

TREECREEPER *Certhia familiaris*

DRINGWR BACH

Common breeding resident

1993: All the nine records involved 1-2 birds, and came from sites such as Llandegla, Nannerch, Llyn Helyg, and Bod Petruel.

1994: The four records involved 1-2 birds - Bodrhyddan Hall, Halkyn and two records from Llanddulas.

1995: Several records from Bodrhyddan Hall involved 3-4 birds. Other records of 1-2 birds came from the Greenfield Valley and Penbedw.

GOLDEN ORIOLE *Oriolus oriolus*

EURYN

Rare visitor

A single bird reported from the POA on 13/5/94.

RED-BACKED SHRIKE *Lanius collurio*

CIGYDD CEFNGOCH

Rare passage migrant

A single bird reported on Moel Famau on 6/6/93.

GREAT GREY SHRIKE *Lanius excubitor*

CIGYDD MAWR

Rare passage migrant and winter visitor

1993: A single bird reported from Ffynnongroyw on 9/3. In Clocaenog Forest, a single was present on 2/11, 9/11 and 18/11.

1994: Seven records of a single bird from Clocaenog Forest, on 5/1, 17/1, 4/2, 4/11, 22/11, 1/12, 2/12 and 6/12

1995: Three records, two from Clocaenog on 2/2 and 3/2, and then a bird reported at the POA on 28/4. All records involved singles.

JAY *Garrulus glandarius*

YSGRECH Y COED

Fairly common breeding resident

1993: A total of 15 records of 1-3 birds, e.g. from Llyn Helyg, the Greenfield Valley, Glan y Gors and Llanarmon yn Ial. Highest count was of 6 at Northop Hall on 21/4.

1994: Only 4 records for the year, all of 1-2 birds, from Llanddulas, Betws yn Rhos and Llanfair Talhaiarn.

1995: Only two records, from Bodrhyddan Hall and the Greenfield Valley.

MAGPIE *Pica pica*

PIODEN

Very common breeding resident

1993: Peak count of 35 in Talacre Warren on 22/11.

1994: No records received.

1995: No records received.

CHOUGH *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*

BRÂN GOESGOCH

Rare visitor, has bred

1993: Up to 2 birds recorded on four occasions, at a site in the south of the county.

1994: No records received.

1995: No records received.

JACKDAW *Corvus monedula*

JAC-Y-DO

Common breeding resident and partial migrant

1993: Largest count was of 2000 birds at Gwysaney on 17/1.

1994: Notable counts included 550 at Shotwick on 6/2, 200 on the Sandycroft Fields on 26/2 and 350 at Twt Hill on 29/10.

1995: At Twt Hill on 15/11 and 28/11, 500 were present.

ROOK *Corvus frugilegus*

YDFRAN

Common breeding resident

1993: Largest count out of only 5 records involved 120 at Abergele on 20/11.

1994: At Shotwick on 6/2, 850 were present, and 160 were noted at Horseshoe Pass on 20/6.

1995: highest count for the year involved 200 at Llantysilio on 17/6, and then 40 at Llanefydd on 26/9.

CARRION CROW *Corvus corone corone*

BRAN DYDDYN

Common breeding resident

1993: Few records, with high counts including 25 at the POA on 22/3, and 35 here on 10/10.

1994: Only record for the year involved 94 at the POA on 1/6.

1995: No records received.

HOODED CROW *Corvus corone cornix*

BRAN LWYD

Rare visitor

Singles recorded at Llangollen on 1/9/94, and POA on 11/10/94.

RAVEN *Corvus corax*

CIGFRAN

Fairly common breeding resident, spreading into lowland areas

1993: Fifty-one records through the year, usually of 1-5 birds. Highest count was of 10 at Dudleston Heath on 1/11. Records came from places such as Oakenholt Marsh, Llanarmon yn Ial, Dolwen Reservoir, Ruabon Moors, Corwen, Pen y Cloddiau, Berwyn, Cilcain, Loggerheads, Nercwys Mountain, Rhyd y Foel, Cefn Meiriadog and Hendre.

1994: A total of 36 records, usually of 1-2 birds, but with 5 reported from Worlds End, Cilcain and Llanarmon yn Ial. Thirty were noted in Clocaenog Forest on 4/11. Other records came from Moel y Parc, Llanddulas, POA, Bont Newydd and Shotton.

1995: Twenty-five records through the year. The highest count was of 27 at Cilcain on 15/11. Typically records were of 1-2 birds, but Rhosesmor, Worlds End, Llanddulas and the Clwyd Estuary all recorded 4-5 birds. Other sites include Coed Uchaf, Garthewin, Penarlag, Bwlch Pen Barras and Pentre Llanrhaeadr.

STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris*

DRUDWEN

Very common breeding resident and winter visitor

1993: Notable counts included c600 at Plas Uchaf on 28/2, 2000 on the Clwyd Estuary on 11/3, and 2500 here 10/11, and 1300 on 24/12.

1994: Foryd Bay held 750 on 23/8, and Pen y Cae reservoir held c2000 on 19/10.

1995: Only two counts, with 2600 on the Clwyd Estuary on 29/1, and 1800 at the POA on the same day.

HOUSE SPARROW *Passer domesticus*

ADERYN Y TÔ

Common breeding resident

1993: Twenty at Penymynydd on 1/4.

1994: Thirty on the Clwyd Estuary on 7/7.

1995: No records received.

TREE SPARROW *Passer montanus*

GOLFAN Y MYNYDD

Local breeding resident and winter visitor

1993: Twenty-seven records from 10 different sites. A flock of 24 regularly noted in Llanasa during November. Between 8 and 20 birds noted several times from Sandycroft Fields - peak count on 30/7. The only other site with double figures was 12 on the Clwyd Estuary on 3/7. Other sites were Llyn Helyg, Shotwick Fields, Sealand, Flint, Gwaenysgor, Twt Hill and POA.

1994: Twenty-two records from 10 sites. A total of 72 birds noted at Llyn Helyg on 6/2, and 40+ were noted here on 31/3. The Clwyd Estuary/Rhuddlan Marsh/River Clwyd south of Rhuddlan area (counted as one site for the purposes of this summary) recorded between 1 and 40 birds on a number of dates, especially during the period October to December. Twenty were noted near Queensferry on 16/7, and 15+ at Borrás on 10/10. The other sites, with counts less than 10, were Llanasa, POA, Bryn Rhyd yr Arian, Gwysaney, Twt Hill and Rhos Isaf Bryn common.

1995: Sixteen records were received from 9 sites. Llyn Helyg held 50 on 2/2, as did Llanasa on 29/12. The only sizeable count from the Clwyd Estuary/Rhuddlan Marsh/River Clwyd south of Rhuddlan area this year was 22 on 3/2. The Connahs Quay/Oakenholt Marsh area had 15 on 24/6, and POA had 12 on 8/10. The other sites were Llanarmon yn Ial, Hawarden, Twt Hill and Rhosesmor.

CHAFFINCH *Fringilla coelebs*

JI-BINC

Common breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor

1993: Notable counts included 290 at POA on 30/10, 200 in Llanasa on 11/11 and 400 here on 19/11 and 26/11.

1994: Notable counts included c250 at Llyn Helyg on 6/2, and 150 at Tremerchion the following day. POA held 200 on 24/12.

1995: POA held 150 on 3/1, and 100 were at Llyn Helyg on 2/2. IMF held 308 on 7/10.

BRAMBLING *Fringilla montifringilla*

PINC Y MYNYDD

Winter visitor in varying numbers

1993: Notable counts in what was a good first winter period included 280 in Pentre Mawr Park, Abergele, on 2/1, and 100 here the following day. On 8/1, 100 were in the Greenfield Valley, and 300 were here on 28/1. Clocaenog Forest held 70 on 7/2, and 80 were at Llanddulas on 8/3. Cilcain held 300 on 20/3, and Oakenholt Marsh had 30 on 28/3. The only notable counts in the second winter period were 30 at POA on 30/10 and 30 at Llanasa on 26/11.

1994: The first half of this year remained quiet, with notable counts including 40+ at Pen y Cae reservoir on 16/1, 100 here on 10/4, and 30+ on 17/4. The same site held 40+ on 29/11, and c50 were in Pentre Mawr Park on 9/12.

1995: Several days in the first week of January saw 30-60 birds at the POA. A flock of 50 was present at Llyn Helyg on 2/2. On 17/2, 30 were in Talacre Warren, and 100+ were noted in Prestatyn on 21/10.

GREENFINCH *Carduelis chloris*

LLINOS WERDD

Common breeding resident

1993: Notable counts included 500 on the Shotwick Fields on 24/1, and 500 on Ruabon on 24/7. A flock of 30 were regularly present around the POA during October and November.

1994: A flock of 80+ were present on Ruabon on 12/7, whilst c100 were in Talacre Warren on 10/12, and 215 were present around the POA on 20/12.

1995: No records received.

GOLDFINCH *Carduelis carduelis*

NICO

Common breeding resident

1993: Sites with more than 10 birds included Acton Park, Twt Hill, Padeswood Pool, Llangollen, POA, Penymynydd and the Clwyd Estuary. Peak count was of 40 birds at Twt Hill on 8/2.

1994: Several large counts reported, with sites with more than 10 birds including the Clwyd Estuary (50 on 4/1), Shotwick (90 on 6/2), POA (251 on 23/4), Deeside Pools, Oakenholt Marsh, Talacre Warren and Summerhill.

1995: The largest count was of 100+ at Llyn Brenig on 29/9. Other sites with 10 or more birds included Twt Hill, Gronant, Penarlag (55 on 6/9), the Clwyd Estuary and Rhos on Sea.

SISKIN *Carduelis spinus*

PILA GWYRDD

Common winter visitor, local breeding resident

1993: Recorded in all months except August. Notable counts included 100 in Clocaenog Forest on 13/2 and 19/2, 300 at Gwysaney on 3/3, and 150 here on 7/3.

Rhuddlan Marsh held 100 on 7/3, 10 were at Bont Newydd on 29/3, 100 were recorded at POA on 10/10 and 15/10, 45 were at Twt Hill on 11/10, 40 at Maeshafn on 16/10, and 70 at POA on 17/11.

1994: Recorded in all months except July, August and September. Notable counts included 40 at Gwysaney on 8/3, 22 at Glyndyfrdwy on 12/3, c60 at Berwyn on 20/10, 70 here on 7/11 and c100 at Glan y Wern on the River Clwyd on 21/12.

1995: Recorded January to June, then not again until December. Peak counts included 45 at Padeswood Pool on 1/1, 30 at Twt Hill on 1/2, 20 at Sodom on 12/2, and c70 at Pentre Llanrhaeadr on 28/12.

LINNET *Carduelis cannabina*

LLINOS

Common breeding resident

1993: Most notable counts came from POA, e.g. 100 on 25/1, and 22/2, 167 on 29/8, 100 on 15/9, 200 on 10/10 and 15/10, and 100 on 31/12. Other sites with notable counts included Shotwick fields with 600 on 24/1, 40 at Kinmel Bay on 20/9, 60 at Llanasa on 11/11, and 200 here on 10/12.

1994: Notable counts included 110 at POA on 29/1, 100 at Tremeirchion on 1/4, 44 at Nannerch on 2/4, 285 at POA on 5/9, 153 on the Clwyd Estuary on 24/9, 150 at the POA on 21/11, c200 at Llanasa on 2/12, and 300 at the POA on 19/12.

1995: Few records. Notable counts included 100 at POA on 22/1, 200 at Llanasa on 29/1, 100 at Rhyl Old Tip on 7/2, 300 at POA on 6/10, and 200 at Gronant on 12/11.

TWITE *Carduelis flavirostris*

LLINOS Y MYNYDD

Uncommon winter visitor and rare breeder

1993: Only 6 records. The only record for the first winter period involved Oakenholt Marsh, with 20 on 10/1. Rhyl Marine Lake and Towyn both then recorded single birds during November and December respectively. On 14-16/12, POA recorded 2-3 birds.

1994: Nineteen records, thirteen of which from the POA, where up to 5 recorded in the first winter period, and then up to 12 (on 3/12) in the second. Peak count was of 25 at Flint on 27/1, and during December, 17 were reported twice from Flint. Inland records involved 2 at Cilcain on 22/6, and 3 in Clocaenog Forest on 1/11.

1995: Eleven records, from 3 sites, with 7 of these records from Flint. Notable counts included 15 at POA on 2/1, 20+ at Flint on 4/1, 12 at Gronant on 12/11, and 80 at Flint on 8/12, and 40 here on 19/12.

REDPOLL *Carduelis flammea*

LLINOS BENGOCH

Breeding resident, summer visitor and passage migrant

1993: Notable counts included 60 at Glyndyfrdwy on 6/3, 50 at Gwysaney on 23/3 and 35+ at Mynydd Du on 31/10. Other sites included Llyn Helyg, Clocaenog Forest, Moel Famau and Prion.

1994: The only counts in double figures were 14 at POA on 23/4 and then c20 at Llansannan Woods on 28/5. Other records came from Twt Hill, Llangollen, Llandegla and Penbedw.

1995: Forty were in Clocaenog Forest on 2/3, c40 at Llyn Helyg on 17/12, and c60 at Pen y Cae reservoir on 23/12. Other records were received from Padeswood Pool, Corwen and Flint Marsh.

CROSSBILL *Loxia curvirostra*

GYLFIN GROES

Scarce breeding resident and irruptive winter visitor

1993: Most records came from Clocaenog Forest, with 51 here on 22/2, 10 on 24/8, and 40 on 7/11 for example. Only two other sites recorded over ten birds, namely Carrog with 30 on 24/10, and Nercwys Mountain with 18 on 1/11. Other sites included Worlds End, Gwysaney, Bwlch Pen Barras and POA.

1994: Most records again came from Clocaenog Forest, though no counts over ten from here - the peak was of 6, on 6 and 13/2. Gwysaney held 10 on 26/12, and other records came from Pen y Cae reservoir, Horseshoe Pass, Ruabon Moors and POA.

1995: Only 5 records received, three of which came from the Ruabon Moors, with 1-2 birds. The highest count was of 9 at Llandegla on 13/11. The other record came from Llyn Brenig, with 2 here on 12/8.

BULLFINCH *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

COCH Y BERLLAN

Fairly common breeding resident

1993: Peak count was of 10 birds in Clocaenog Forest on 12/1. Ten other sites recorded 1-6 birds, e.g. Llandegla, Bont Newydd, Llyn Helyg, Penymynydd and Cefn Meriadoc.

1994: Only 6 records, of 1-7 birds from 6 different sites, e.g. Abergele, Nannerch and Summerhill.

1995: Up to 6 birds reported from 8 sites, e.g. Padeswood Pool, Sodom, Llysfaen, POA and the Dulas Valley.

HAWFINCH *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*
Scarce breeding resident
No records received.

GYLFINBRAFF

LAPLAND BUNTING *Calcarius lapponicus*
Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor

BRAS Y GOGLEDD

1993: A total of 13 records, with the peak of 19 coming from Gronant on 17/10. All records were between October and December, and came from POA, IMF, Clwyd Estuary and Kinnel Bay. Records involved mostly 1-2 birds, but with 4 at Gronant on 31/10.

1994: Five records. A single bird at POA on 21/3, then four records from Gronant in October and November, of 1-3 birds.

1995: Only three records, with 2 at Gronant on 10/10, and then singles at the POA on 15/10 and 27/10.

SNOW BUNTING *Plectrophenax nivalis*
Regular winter visitor in small numbers

BRAS YR EIRA

1993: Recorded in both winter periods, but only from Kinnel Bay in the first half of the year, with 1-7 birds reported here until 3/3. From 17/11 through to the end of December, 1-8 were regularly recorded at Gronant, Pensarn or POA (8 here on 9/12).
1994: Up to 6 recorded around the POA and Gronant in the first winter period, until 28/2. They reappeared at the POA on 19/11, and then from 20/11 to 2/12, 3-9 were present at Gronant.

1995: Up to 9 birds regularly at Gronant and Pensarn until 5/3, then they reappeared at Gronant on 5/11, when 1-5 were present here, POA and Towyn until the years end.

YELLOWHAMMER *Emberiza citrinella*
Breeding resident, decreasing in some areas

MELYN YR EITHIN

1993: Notable counts included 22 at Llangollen on 1/1, 15 here on 11/4, 16 at Llanasa on 11/11, and 44 here on 26/11. Other sites with records of up to 5 birds included Padeswood Pool, Gwaenysgor, Pen y Cloddiau, Llanarmon yn Ial, Sandycroft Fields, Y Graig, Fenns Moss, Cilcain, Twt Hill and POA.

1994: Only count in double figures was 12 at Llanasa on 2/12. Other records came from POA, Twt Hill, Tremostyn and Cyffyllog.

1995: Notable counts included 16 at Gresford Flash on 19/2, and 40 at Llanasa on 4/3, and 10 at the Shotwick Lake on 10/12. Other records came from Pontblyddyn, Hawarden, Dyserth and Twt Hill.

REED BUNTING *Emberiza schoeniclus*
Fairly common breeding resident

BRAS Y CYRS

1993: Ten records from ten different sites. Ten birds were at Gronant on 19/10, and 14 were in the Warren on 22/11. Other sites recording 1-5 birds included CQR, Rhyl Brickworks Pool, Deeside Pools, Kinnel Bay and Geraint's Pond.

1994: Seven records, from only 3 sites - namely Shotton, POA and Pentre Mawr Park. POA recorded 16 on 28/2 and 5/11.

1995: The two records received were 17 at Deeside Pools on 19/5, and 12 on the nearby Cop Hole on 20/6.

CORN BUNTING *Miliaria calandra*

BRAS YR YD

Uncommon breeding resident, very localised

1993: All records came from the IMF, Sealand, Sandycroft, Shotton and Deeside Pools area. A winter flock of 20 was noted at Sealand on 7/1. An RSPB corn bunting survey of this area during 1993 identified 22 singing males. This is thought to represent the entire Welsh population.

1994: Six records, all of only 1-2 birds, from the IMF, Shotton, Shotwick, Sandycroft and Queensferry area again.

1995: Six records, again from the same area, with a notable count of 17 on 3/4 at the Cop Hole, Shotton. One record from just outside this area included a single bird at Oakenholt Marsh on 16/5.