

1st April 2012

North-westerly 3. Showers

The drake **GREEN-WINGED TEAL** remains on Da Water, showing better than yesterday when it was rather skittish. The 2 **White-fronted Geese** also remain.

Two Pink-footed Geese and 150 Greylags remain, along with 6 Teal, 2 Common Scoter and the first Red-breasted Merganser since February. A Grey Heron was also present, while wader counts included 126 Oystercatchers, 21 Ringed Plovers, 4 Golden Plovers, 15 Lapwings, 14 Snipe, 18 Curlew, 22 Redshank and 61 Turnstones. Bonxie numbers reached 5, though 3 of these were seen offshore, while an adult Lesser Black-backed Gull arrived along with at least 3 **Iceland Gulls**.

Two Woodpigeons arrived along with a Carrion Crow and a Chiffchaff. Further migrants included 2 Blackbirds, 22 redwings (including one singing in the Obs plantation), 1 Robin, 1 Dunnock and a **Lapland Bunting**.

Image 1 – **Twite**. Only small numbers of these delightful finches remain on the Island through the winter, with numbers slowly increasing as the spring progresses. *Photo by Jason Moss*

2nd April 2012

Northerly, force 2 with snow showers, sometimes heavy, clearing to bright sunny conditions

On a day that contained weather from all four seasons of the year, one or two bits and pieces managed to arrive. The **Green-winged Teal** remains, as do the **White-fronted Geese** with the lingering goose flock.

A female Wigeon was in the havens and 3 Common Scoter were in Furse. Bonxie numbers remain steady, with 5 present, while the breeding auks were rafting in large numbers in Fair Isle waters.

A new **Long-eared Owl** was trapped in the plantation in the morning, as was a smart male **Ring Ouzel** shortly after. On the small passerine front, 149 Skylarks suggested an arrival while other new birds included a Song Thrush, 38 Redwings (including a bird singing in the observatory garden in the morning), 3 Robins, a very smart male **Black Redstart** at Quoy, 138 Meadow Pipits, 2 Chaffinches, the first **Linnet** of the year at the Obs and a Reed Bunting.

Image – **Long-eared Owl**. *Photo by Jason Moss*

3rd April 2012

Moderate north-easterly and heavy snow, settling across the isle, but thawing too rapidly for snowmen etc! Cold

The **Green-winged Teal** remains faithful to Da Water, associating with the 6 Eurasian Teal there. A **Jack Snipe** was flushed from the irises at the Wally Burn while the lingering 2nd winter **Iceland Gull** was seen again. A high count of Ravens on Ward Hill must have included migrant birds, with 19 birds there.

A Chiffchaff was at the Obs, and the male **Ring Ouzel** remains in the vicinity of the Plantation, while other sightings included 2 Blackbirds, 25 Redwing, the male **Black Redstart** at Quoy and 2 Chaffinches.

Image- **Snow across the south.** *Photo by Jason Moss*

4th April 2012

Light W/NW. Fine and sunny, but still pretty cold

New in was a drake Wigeon in South Harbour and 3 Red-breasted Mergansers, while 2 Common Scoter were still present. An immature Cormorant and Grey Heron were in South Harbour while the islands Peregrine pair were joined by a migrant female briefly. Lapwings showed signs of arrival in the calm weather, with 24 counted.

Skylarks were on the move, with 195 logged while the Chiffchaff, **Ring Ouzel** and **Black Redstart** remain and 2 Dunnocks, 5 Pied Wagtails, 8 Snow buntings and 2 Reed Buntings arrived.

5th April 2012

Moderate north-westerlies with some showers but mostly dry and bright

A new **White-fronted Goose** arrived in amongst the Greylag Goose flock. A tricky bird to race, opinion is swayed towards Greenland, but with features relating to both races a decision is yet to be made... fascinating birds! The **Green-winged Teal** remains.

Four Bonxies were present, while 4 Black-headed Gulls and 23 Common Gulls was a slight increase in sightings. A 3rd winter Iceland Gull also arrived.

The **Ring Ouzel** and Chiffchaff remain, while a Redwing was again singing in the Obs garden. A male Wheatear arrived, as did a confiding Mealy Redpoll at Kennaby, but otherwise the island was fairly quiet.

Image - **Chiffchaff** along the Obs garden sheep fencing. *Photo by Jason Moss*

6th April 2012

North-easterly force 2/3. Overcast with showers

The immature **White-fronted Goose** remains with the lingering 115 Greylags and 2 Pink-footed Geese, while the 6 Teal also harboured their American cousin. A count of 34 Snipe was a clear increase on recent counts while Bonxie numbers reached double figures for the first time this spring. Four Lesser Black-backed Gulls were in the colony at Goorn.

A Short-eared Owl arrived in Da Water while the Skylark count reached 190 and Chiffchaff numbers increased to 3. Further passerine migrants included 2 Blackbirds, 42 Redwings, a Robin, 135 Meadow Pipits, the Mealy Redpoll still, one Snow Bunting and the lingering Reed Bunting.

Image – **Redwing** singing in the garden. *Photo by Jason Moss*

7th April 2012

Light south-easterly winds. Fine and dry all morning, turning wet by the afternoon

One of the highlights of the morning was the sight of our resident pair of Peregrines copulating on the West cliffs. Not a common thing to witness, and hopefully the start of a successful season for the pair, having failed in 2011 due to the male being oiled by Fulmars early on in the season. The **Green-winged Teal** and **White-fronted Goose** both also remain. The juvenile Cormorant remains, while 42 Purple Sandpipers was the highest count of the year so far. Light northerly passage of Common Gulls produced 37 birds while 2 Iceland Gulls were present.

Four Goldcrests arrived and Chiffchaffs increased to 5, with one singing at Kennaby. The same **Ring Ouzel** male remains at the ringing hut, as does the same male **Black Redstart** at Quoy, while further new arrivals included a Chaffinch, steadily increasing numbers of Twite and 6 Snow Buntings. The Mealy Redpoll remains at Kennaby.

8th April 2012

Light south-westerly. Overcast with rain

The 1st winter **White-fronted Goose** remains with the Greylag flock, along with the 2 Pink-footed Geese. A Grey Heron arrived, as did a male Sparrowhawk which promptly took a Blackbird and then departed north. One Golden Plover passed overhead while both **Iceland** and **Glaucous Gulls** were seen in the south.

Three Woodpigeons arrived and hinted towards a bit of movement, but the only other new arrivals were 2 Song Thrushes, a few more Redwings, 2 male Wheatears, a Dunnock and increase in Meadow Pipits (to 157; the highest count of the year so far). The **Ring Ouzel** is also continuing to perform well by the ringing hut.

9th April 2012

Light south/south-easterly winds with showers in the morning, drying up later

A small hint of spring movement was evident in the slightly more promising conditions today, producing the first Sanderling of the year in South Harbour and the first Greenfinch in the Obs plantation.

A Shelduck in South Harbour was the second record of the year while a male Merlin was the first in a little while, as was a Woodcock. Three Black-headed Gulls arrived and a Collared Dove was also new in. Further migrants included a couple of Chiffchaffs, 3 Wheatears, 164 Meadow Pipits, a ***littoralis*** **Rock Pipit** on the cliffs, 2 Linnets and 2 Snow Buntings.

10th April 2012

North-easterly 1-2. Fine, but with occasional showers in the afternoon

The lingering goose flock consisted of 166 Greylags, 2 Pink-footed Geese and the **White-fronted Goose**, while the resident Peregrine pair remains on good vocal form. The **Green-winged Teal** also remains, having been present for over 2 weeks. Waders included 4 Golden Plovers, 20 Lapwings, a lingering Sanderling, 6 Purple Sandpipers, 12 Snipe, a Woodcock, 15 Curlew, 14 Redshank and 59 Turnstones; all fairly standard for the time of year. Bonxie pairs are now firmly on territory while 66 Common Gulls provided a good count. One each of **Glaucous** and **Iceland Gull** were also recorded.

Four Woodpigeons and a showy **Long-eared Owl** at Springfield were new in, while other migrants included 2 Goldcrests, 2 Chiffchaffs, and the first **Willow Warbler** of the year, the lingering male **Ring Ouzel** and a small influx of commoner thrushes, including one Mistle Thrush, 25 Blackbirds, 14 Fieldfares, 39 Song Thrushes and 37 Redwings. Robins also arrived, with 13 counted, and Wheatears made it to double figures for the first time this year. Further Sightings included a *Littoralis* Rock Pipit and single Chaffinch and Brambling.

Image - **Blackbird** on the Pund walls. *Photo by Jason Moss*

11th April 2011

Moderate northerlies, with occasional showers

The male Shelduck remains in South Harbour, while the first **Green Sandpiper** of the year arrived in Gilsetter. The 1st winter Glaucous Gull was seen again in the south.

A Carrion Crow arrived, but other new migrants were few and far between on the island. Counts included a lingering Chiffchaff, 22 Blackbirds and single figure counts of Fieldfare, Redwing and Song Thrush, a slight increase in Robins to 20 (though these are probably birds that arrived yesterday but went unseen on the cliffs), 7 Wheatears, 2 Chaffinches and yesterday's male Brambling and a Reed Bunting.

12th April 2012

Moderate to strong northerlies, with wintry showers. Cold and 'orrible!

The male **Green-winged Teal** remains faithful to Da Water, sticking with its 6 Eurasian chums there, while a Cormorant was in the South Harbour and a female Merlin arrived. Lapwing numbers were boosted by a few migrant birds and the Green Sandpiper was still present, in the Vaadal. Common Gulls and Lesser Black-backed Gulls increased to 43 and 12 respectively, while the 1st winter Glaucous Gull remains.

Three Wood pigeons were present along with 2 Goldcrests, the Chiffchaff, small numbers of common thrushes and Robins, the male Brambling and finally, a new arrival of 2 Snow and 3 male Lapland Buntings, the latter feeding on the Skaddan.

13th April 2012

Strong northerly winds and hail

A male Merlin arrived onto the island, along with an immature Iceland Gull and a Black-headed Gull. The Green Sandpiper remains.

Two Mistle Thrushes deemed today to be a good day to arrive, as did a smart male **Black Redstart** at Barkland, but other thrush numbers remain low. Wheatear numbers dropped to 3 while also present were 194 Meadow Pipits, a Chaffinch and the 3 **Lapland Buntings**.

Image – **Wheatear**. *Photo by Jason Moss*

14th April 2012

Moderate to strong north/north-easterlies. Bright and sunny

The Shelduck remains in South Harbour, and the Green-winged Teal still resides on Da Water, while a male Red-breasted Merganser arrived in the Havens. The lingering Merlin and resident Peregrines were joined by a female Kestrel down near Utra.

Small migrant totals included small numbers of common thrushes around the isle, 13 Robins, 10 Wheatears, 9 Pied Wagtails, and a male **White Wagtail** below Malcolm's Head, 2 Chaffinches and 4 **Lapland Buntings**.

Image1 – **Kestrel** overseeing lambing at Skerryholm. *Photo by Jason Moss*

Image2 – **Kestrel**. *Photo by Jason Moss*

15th April 2012

Cold northerly winds and snow showers in the morning. Fine but cold in the afternoon

After what feels like quite a long time, we manage an interesting passerine on the isle, in the shape of a very handsome male **Hawfinch** at the Haa. About as bright as they possibly come, the bird showed well on and around Tommy's bird feeders, literally dwarfing the House Sparrows.

The Green-winged Teal is sticking around, while the Pink-footed Goose total was inflated; to 4. The Red-breasted Merganser remains while a female Merlin was logged hunting Skylarks over Gilsetter.

Two Carrion Crows were present while Skylarks increased to 106. Further migrants included a male Black Redstart at the shop, a Dunnock at the Obs, 2 White Wagtails at Malcolm's Head and 3 Chaffinches.

Image1+2 – **Hawfinch** at the Auld Haa. *Photos by Jason Moss*

16th April 2012

Light winds all day, with early snow showers petering out and leaving fine and bright, but cool conditions

The White-fronted Goose and drake Green-winged Teal remain, while Eurasian Teal increased to 8 and 3 Common Scoter arrived in the north. A female Sparrowhawk was trapped and the female Kestrel lingered. Northerly Curlew passage in the morning produced a total of 70 birds, while Common Gulls were also moving in small numbers.

A few warblers and other bits in today at last, after what have felt like never-ending northerlies! Five Woodpigeons were present, while light corvid passage produced the first 3 Rooks of the year along with 6 Ravens, 6 Carrion Crows and 16 passage Hooded Crows all apparently heading south. Warblers were represented by 12 Chiffchaffs and 3 Willow Warblers. Not many, but it felt great just to see more than one in a day! Other migrants included 8 Fieldfare, 3 Song Thrushes, 9 Redwings, a Mistle Thrush, 9 Robins, 13 Wheatears, 2 Dunnocks, 12 Pied Wagtails, a clear increase in Meadow Pipits to 223 birds, a nice arrival of 18 Siskins, a Linnet trapped at the Obs, 58 Twite, the lingering **Hawfinch**, a Snow bunting, 5 **Lapland Buntings** and a Reed Bunting.

17th April 2012

Strong to gale force easterly winds. Rain from late morning, developing heavy

A tough-going, dreary day was brightened up, if very briefly, by a **FIRECREST** at lower station. The bird, sheltering besides the concrete buildings there was watched only for a matter of moments before it flitted round the corner and blew away, not to be refound in rapidly deteriorating weather.

Three Sparrowhawks arrived, joining the lingering Kestrel, Merlin and Peregrine pair. Two Woodcock also appeared, as did a Long-eared Owl which was subsequently caught in the Gully. Migrant highlights in unpleasant conditions included 4 Chiffchaffs, a slight increase in Song Thrushes, the male Black Redstart still (also trapped and ringed), a *littoralis* Rock Pipit and single Brambling and Linnet.

18th April 2012

Light to moderate easterlies. Fine and bright

The first **Barnacle Geese** of the year arrived, with 5 flying south in the morning. Nine Teal were on Da Water with the lingering **Green-winged Teal**, while a Common Scoter was in Furse. A Grey Heron was the first in over a week, while a ringtail **Hen Harrier** was a highlight of the morning as it flew north over the west cliffs. A good count of 53 Purple Sandpipers was made along with 33 Snipe and 2 Woodcock, while the Green Sandpiper reappeared. The first of this years **Arctic Skuas** arrived; a dark phase bird, while small numbers of commoner gulls arrived in the settled weather, with 30 Black-headed Gulls, 151 Common Gulls and 5 Lesser Black-backed Gulls. The adult **Iceland Gull** remains.

A decent day for new arrivals included the years first **Swallow** and **Tree Pipit**, as well as a **Great Grey Shrike** which, after initially proving elusive, was caught in the Plantation. Further sightings and arrivals included 7 Woodpigeons, the **Long-eared Owl**, 2 Short-eared Owls, 2 Goldcrests, 131 Skylarks, 4 Chiffchaffs, 2 Willow Warblers, 5 Blackcaps, 27 Blackbirds, 20 Fieldfare, 34 Song Thrushes, 27 Redwings, 24 Robins, 2 **Black Redstarts**, 65 Wheatears, 4 Dunnocks, 3 White Wagtails, 270 Meadow Pipits, 18 Bramblings, a Siskin, a flyover Redpoll sp, 2 **Lapland Buntings** and a Reed Bunting.

19th April 2012

Light easterly and fine

Highlight today was the discovery of a very flighty and elusive **CORN BUNTING** at Taft. Favoured feeding in the open, this chunky bunting was hard to approach, but will hopefully settle. A rare bird on Fair Isle, with fewer than 10 records since 1970. A **Wryneck** showed well at Lower Stonybreck and arrived only a day later than the earliest Fair Isle record

Birds continue to arrive in good conditions for migration, with our first Whooper Swan sighting since February. The Long-eared Owl remains while further migrant sightings included a Goldcrest, 4 Swallows, 8 Chiffchaffs, 3 Willow Warblers, 7 Blackcaps, a male **Ring Ouzel**, a decent spring arrival of 229 Fieldfare and 60 Robins, 91 Wheatears, 5 Dunnocks, 2 Chaffinches, 18 Bramblings still, 5 Siskins, 2 Linnets, 2 Mealy Redpolls, a summer male **Snow Bunting**, male **Lapland Bunting** and 4 Reed Buntings.

20th April 2012

Moderate easterly and 'murky' conditions, with low cloud. Dry until the afternoon

Another good day of migrant arrival, today dominated by Robins, with 204 counted across the island; more than half of which were on the cliffs in the north.

Six Barnacle Geese flew through while 3 Common Scoter and 2 Red-breasted Mergansers were present. An adult Cormorant was in the south while a handsome adult male Hen Harrier appeared at the airstrip. A Woodcock and 2 Green Sandpipers were discovered and the adult Iceland Gull remains.

Seven Woodpigeons arrived and the Long-eared Owl remains, while migrant totals included 9 Goldcrests, a Swallow, 23 Chiffchaffs, 4 Willow Warblers, 9 Blackcaps, **13 Ring Ouzels**, 98 Song Thrushes, Black Redstart, 14 Dunnocks, male **Blue-headed**-type **Wagtail**, 225 Meadow Pipits, 7 Chaffinches, 40 Bramblings, 2 Siskins, 5 Linnets, 2 Mealy Redpolls, a Lapland Bunting and 3 Reed Buntings.

21st April 2012

Light easterlies and persistent but light drizzle

A **HOOPOE** found in the Parks late afternoon would have been the undisputed highlight of the day, if it wasn't so damn elusive! Rarer in a Fair Isle context however, and by far a showier bird was a **COMMON CRANE** found near the airstrip where it sat on the hillside at Sukka Mire and roosted. The **Corn Bunting** was relocated at Taft and the **Green-winged Teal** remains.

The male **Hen Harrier** was still floating around the north and an immature female Peregrine arrived, as did our first **Moorhen** of the year. A Jack Snipe was also discovered.

Common migrants continue to arrive in favourable conditions, leaving us with a day that wouldn't feel out of place in late September. The main feature was provided by a count of **407 Robins**; one of the highest Fair Isle spring counts. Further sightings included a Short-eared Owl, **Wryneck** in Gilsetter, a Carrion Crow, 6 Goldcrests, 4 Swallows, **43** Chiffchaffs, 13 Blackcaps, **23 Ring Ouzels**, 72 Fieldfares, 112 Song Thrushes, 24 Redwings, 2 Mistle Thrushes, male Black Redstart, **76 Dunnocks**, the male Yellow Wagtail (thought to be a possible Blue-headed/Grey-headed intergrade), 3 White Wagtails, 3 Tree Pipits, 12 Chaffinches, 44 Bramblings, Siskin, 4 Linnets, 4 Mealy Redpolls and 3 Reed Buntings.

22nd April 2012

Light north-easterly. Fine

Two Pink-footed Geese arrived and joined the lingering Greylag flock, totalling 43 at the moment. Grey Herons increased to 3, as did Sparrowhawks. New for the year were 2 Whimbrel in the south, while the adult Iceland Gull remains.

A total of 11 Woodpigeons arrived and the Long-eared Owl was seen again in the north. The **Wryneck** was seen again at Midway. Further migrants included a Jackdaw, 9 Carrion Crows, 2 Goldcrests, 9 Swallows, 36 Chiffchaffs, 2 Willow Warblers, 11 Blackcaps, 2 Ring Ouzels, 20 Blackbirds, 81 Fieldfare, 82 Song Thrushes, 11 Redwing, 1 Mistle Thrush, **389** Robins, 2 Black Redstarts, 67 Dunnocks, the lingering Yellow Wagtail, the first Grey Wagtail of the year, 8 White Wagtails, 3 Tree Pipits, 24 Bramblings, 6 Siskins, 5 Linnets, a **Lesser Redpoll** trapped in the evening, 2 Mealy Redpolls, 2 Lapland Buntings and 3 Reed Buntings.

23rd April 2012

Moderate north-easterlies. Cold

The first **Bar-tailed Godwit** of the year arrived over Kennaby, while the 2 Whimbrel lingered. An arrival of Common Gulls saw 277 pass north, along with 7 Black-headed Gulls and 6 Lesser Black-backed Gulls.

Thirteen Woodpigeons were an increase on recent days and a Short-eared Owl was in the south and the **Wryneck** was at the Chapel. The **Corn Bunting** was also still present in the Taft area, though it remains very elusive. Further notable migrants included 5 Goldcrests, a decrease to 15 Chiffchaffs, 8 Blackcaps, 10 **Ring Ouzels**, 2 **Mistle Thrushes**, a drop in Robin numbers to 200 birds (still impressive though!), 1 female **Black Redstart**, 29 Dunnocks, 2 Tree Pipits, 7 Chaffinches, 21 Bramblings (with most on the Obs feeder).

24th April 2012

Moderate North-easterly with showers. Overcast.

A Red-breasted Merganser arrived along with a Cormorant and 2 Moorhens in Hjukni Geo. 70 Purple Sandpipers was also a high count while a Black-tailed Godwit also arrived. The Iceland Gull remains.

Fifteen Woodpigeons were present along with a Long-eared Owl and 2 Short-eared Owls. A **Wryneck** remained at the Chapel while the **Great Grey Shrike** was also still roaming the isle. Small migrant counts included 2 Swallows, similar numbers of Chiffchaffs and Blackcaps to recent days, the first Grasshopper Warbler of the year at Burkle, 8 Ring Ouzels, 16 Blackbirds, 63 Fieldfares, 78 Song Thrushes and 26 Redwings (a general increase), a decrease to 137 Robins, the first Redstart of the spring, 88 Wheatears, slightly smaller numbers of Dunnocks, 2 lingering Tree Pipits, 42 Bramblings, a Greenfinch, 5 Siskins, 3 Linnets, a single Snow Bunting and 2 Reed Buntings.

25th April 2012

Moderate northerlies. Cold.

The cold northerlies saw to it that new arrivals were mostly few and far between, but a few bits did make it, including 27 Greylag Geese, 4 Sparrowhawks, 3 Woodcock, and another **Wryneck** at Double Dyke joining the lingering Utra bird, 3 Swallows, 2 Mistle Thrushes and another male **Hawfinch** at the Haa. The **Corn Bunting** is still present at Taft.

The numbers of most warblers, thrushes and other lingering species tended to dwindle slightly, but still good numbers present, including 7 Ring Ouzels, 142 Robins, 8 White Wagtails, 207 Meadow Pipits, 8 Chaffinches and 23 Bramblings.

26th April 2012

Moderate north/north-westerly and frequent rain and showers.

A Teal arrived, although 2 Common Scoter were slightly more notable in Furse. A Kestrel also made an appearance along with an immature Peregrine. Twenty Golden Plovers were noted along with a Whimbrel.

Woodpigeons increased to 18 while the **Great Grey Shrike** remains in the south of the island, terrorising any lingering Robins (of which there were 96). Two Willow Warblers managed to arrive in poor conditions for migration, joining 7 Chiffchaffs and 3 Blackcaps on the island. Seven Ring Ouzels remain, while Redwings increased to 18, having dwindled in number along with all other thrushes on the isle. Dunnocks saw a slight increase to 21, while the first Yellow Wagtail of the year also arrived (an unraced fly-over). Twenty-nine Bramblings were present along with Lingering Chaffinches and Greenfinch, while a Mealy Redpoll also arrived.

27th April 2012

Moderate north/north-westerlies. Overcast.

One Teal became 3 today while a Grey Heron arrived along with another Sparrowhawk joining the lingering 3. A **Wryneck** at Schoolton was probably a lingering bird while a couple of new Chiffchaffs and Blackcaps arrived along with an additional 2 Ring Ouzels joining the lingering 7. Song Thrushes increased to 42, with Robins also topping 130 and a Black Redstart arriving. Three Tree Pipits also made an appearance along with another **Hawfinch** at the Haa; this time a female. A Lapland Bunting and 4 Reed Buntings were also noted, along with the lingering **Corn Bunting**.

28th April 2012

Fine and bright, light winds.

Two Pink-footed Geese were noted along with a Common Scoter and Goldeneye. Four Cormorants flew north and the first Dunlin in a while arrived along with 20 Curlew.

A Long-eared Owl at the Obs was new in while the **Great Grey Shrike** continues its protracted stay on the island. Light corvid passage included 9 Carrion Crows and a Rook north, along with 12 Hoodies and 3 hybrid crows. Common small migrants included a Goldcrest, 4 Swallows, 10 Chiffchaffs, 13 Ring Ouzels, 19 Blackbirds, 37 Fieldfares, a lingering Black Redstart, 28 Dunnocks, the first Goldfinch of the year, 4 Siskins, 4 Linnets and a Lapland Bunting.

29th April 2012

Fine with light winds.

A fine and bright day that was highlighted by the arrival of an immature **White-tailed Eagle** that was seen first over Ward Hill before gaining height over the Obs and steadily drifting towards Shetland, where it was soon picked up again.

Two Woodcocks made an appearance, as did the first 2 Common Sandpipers of the year, while a first winter Iceland Gull also arrived. A flock of 16 Woodpigeons were present along with a Collared Dove and a single Short-eared Owl. Three Jackdaws arrived, while notable small migrant counts included 7 Willow Warblers, the first Garden Warbler of the year, 20 Ring Ouzels, a Mistle Thrush, 114 Robins, 3 Black Redstarts and a female Lapland Bunting.

30th April 2012

Light easterly. Warm but overcast.

Main surprise of the day was the rediscovery of the drake Green Winged Teal on Da Water. Having not been seen since the 22nd, who knows where its been (or whether it's the same one?...).

Five Black-tailed Godwits arrived; all in stunning summer plumage. Another Collared Dove appeared, as did a new **Wryneck** at Dutfield. Chiffchaff numbers increased to 20, while 11 Blackcaps also arrived along with a Grasshopper Warbler and the first Sedge Warbler of the year. Ring Ouzels continued to increase, with 24 Across the west of the island, while other migrants included a Redstart, 160 Wheatears, 12 Dunnocks, 7 Pied Wagtails, 7 White Wagtails, 2 Tree Pipits, a good passage of 476 Meadow Pipits, 6 Chaffinches, 10 Bramblings, the lingering Greenfinch at the Obs, 4 Siskins, a female **Hawfinch** at the Obs and a Lapland Bunting.