

BIRD REPORT FOR THE SHIANT ISLANDS 22nd JUNE – 6th JULY 1985

Fulmar	First pullus seen on Mary Island on 3rd July.
Manx Shearwater	Seen only on the crossings from and to Tarbert 22nd June and 6th July
Storm Petrel	Total of 128 ringed from five night catches using tape lure on House Island. Two controls of birds ringed in Shetland.
Gannet	One adult seen on ledges with Guillemots on 26th, 28th June and 1st July at Stocanish, where seen in 1975 and 1976.
Shag	Ringed birds from 29 broods on House Island and from 348 broods on Rough Island, running out of rings after ten days.
Eider	One nest found on House Island. One female with two chicks off House Island. Four females with eight young off Mary Island.
Peregrine	Pair with two recently fledged young regularly over boulder scree on east of Rough Island.
Oystercatcher	
Snipe	At least two pairs on House Island, where four pulli ringed.
Curlew	One over House Island, 23rd June. One heard, Rough Island, 27th June.
Common Sandpiper	Singles, House Island, 25th June and 4th July and two, House Island, 28th June.
Great Skua	Four pairs breeding on Rough Island: ringed two from brood of two, one from one, one from one and one from two, where other chick dead shortly after hatching. One pair breeding on House Island, with two eggs.
Common Gull	Pair with two young in front of cottage on House Island. Territorial pair near natural arch on Rough Island.
Herring Gull	
Lesser Black-backed Gull	Estimated 25 pairs in the colony on House Island, where pulli from at least 16 broods ringed.
Great Black-backed Gull	Apparently fewer breeding on Mary Island than in 1982, but no systematic count made.

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Kittiwake	
Guillemot	See detailed counts. 15.1% of adults handled (13 out of 86) were bridled.
Razorbill	See detailed counts.
Black Guillemot	One off southern end of House Island; six north of natural arch on Rough Island; two off southern end of boulder scree on Rough Island.
Puffin	See detailed counts. An apparently successful breeding season again with pulli ringed in the first week, as in 1982.
Rock Dove	One, House Island, 23rd June. Two, House Island and one, Rough Island, 29th June. Two, House Island, 1st July.
Skylark	
Meadow Pipit	
Rock Pipit	At least one pair with two juveniles between Rough and House Island.
Wren	
Wheatear	Two pairs definitely breeding on House Island and one pair on Rough Island.
Hooded Crow	Maximum 14, Rough Island, 26th June.
Raven	Maximum two on Rough Island and one on House Island.
Starling	
Greenfinch	One, Rough Island, 24th June.

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