

CRETE BIRD REPORT 1990
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Compiled by:

Stephanie Coghlan

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WEATHER

The Winter and Spring of 1989/1990 was very dry with very little winter rain or snow. April was mild and sunny with a wet cool period mid month.

May was more settled. The Summer was hot with some very high temperatures. There was little or no early Autumn rain and in October it was still hot and dry and there was hardly any standing water in the river beds.

RECORDS

This has been a good year for coverage and a general picture of regular birds is becoming clearer. As always with Crete the more one knows the more questions seem to need answering but with many more people visiting the island or becoming resident and submitting records, the status of some birds is becoming clearer. However, with such a large area and so many mountains and gorges to cover there are still plenty of challenges left. Caspian plover, Broad-billed sandpiper and Egyptian vulture have been amongst the excitements of the year. There have been a good range of warblers and Lesser grey and Masked shrike, and Cretzschmar's bunting have turned up again. Anything can turn up anywhere again on Crete! Thanks again to all those have given their time and submitted good clear records.

SYSTEMATIC LIST of BIRDS RECORDED IN 1990

Please note that these records are printed subject to verification.

LITTLE GREBE *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Records from the 3 largest water areas in the east of Crete. Agia Reservoir, Georgioupolis Lake and Lake Kournas. No records from Ierapetra reservoir.

April - 13 Agia 8.4, 20 at Georgioupolis 7.4. & 10.4. 4-8 Georgioupolis 8.4. 8 - 15 Agia 8.4. 15 Agia 9.4. [RSPB] and [HMC] and 8 Lake Kournas 8.4. [HMC] [JNJS]. 5 Georgioupolis 10.4. [WM] 1 on river 10.4. [MS] 6+ Agia 14.4, 1 Agia 16.4, 1 Georgioupolis 17.4 [SCSP] also common last week in April at Georgioupolis [MT].

May - 23.5. 1 Georgioupolis. [JMW].

In August there were 2 calling at Georgioupolis 3.8. and up to 10 on Lake Kournas 8.8. [CP].

In October 5+ Georgioupolis 10.10. and 11.10. 2 Geropotamos Bridge 11.10. [CH].

GREAT CRESTED GREBE *Podiceps cristatus*

1 in winter plumage Lake Kournas 7.4. [JN].

BLACK-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps nigricollis*

13 Lake Kournas 7.4. [JNJS]. 5 Elounda Bay 21.11. and 1 Heraklion Harbour 23.11 and 2 Heraklion harbour 20.12. [CJH].

CORY'S SHEARWATER *Calonectris diomedea*

This year only singles and small flocks of up to 100+ were recorded unlike the very large flocks recorded in 1989. 1 Mirtos 2.4. 20-30 off Georgioupolis 12.4. 4 Frangokastello 13.4. and 22 Rethymnon 14.4. [JNS]. 1 Creta Sun 8.4. 1 Plakias 9.4. 3+ Frangokastello 13.4. 1 Hania 16.4. [SCSP] c.100 plunge diving Sitia Bay 26.4. and 2-3

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singles on N. coast.[RDO]. 11 near Chora Sfakion 29.4. 3 off Falasarna 1.5.[MC]. 2-3 birds seen of Falasarna 5.5.[JB] Up to 20 off Plakias Bay and Moni Prevelli 7-21.8.[RA]. 2 flying north Falasarna 7.8 and 1 west at sea off Georgioupolis 10.8.[CP]. 4 from boat Samaria Gorge to Chora Sfakion 20.8.[KB]. 3 east 11.10 7.00am and c.15 5.00pm and 2 Terapetra Harbour 12.10.[CH].

MANX SHEARWATER *Puffinus puffinus yelkouan*

10 Mirtos 2.4. and 3 Georgioupolis 12.4.[JNS]. 1000+ Mirabello Bay off Almyros 5.4.[SCSP]. 2 offshore Heraklion power station 8.4.[MS]. A few singles off Creta Sun then 36 there 11.4. and 2 14. & 15.4. [RSPB]. 15 west 18.4. [RDO].

CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax carbo*

1 Hania 24.4.[MC].

SHAG *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*

Flock of 9 in Georgioupolis Bay 2.8. [CP].

PYGMY CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax pygmeus* No records received.

WHITE PELICAN *Pelicanus onocrotalus*

The tame but free flying bird in Sitia is still thriving.

BITTERN *Botaurus stellaris*

1 Agia 2.5.[MC] and possibly still there 24.5.[JMW].

LITTLE BITTERN *Ixobrychus minutus*

April records 1 male Agia reservoir 9.4.[RSPB]. 1 10.4. Georgioupolis [WM]. 1 there 11.4. and 1 15.4. [JNS] 1 River Aposelemis 11.4.[RSPB]. 1 male Georgioupolis 17.4.[SCSP]. 1 18.4. 1 20.4. 1 22.4. River Aposelemis. [CDRSPB]. and 1 there 27.4.[RDO]. 1 also 20.4 on Power station river.[MS].

In May 1 male 2.5.and 4.5. and pair 6.5. 1 male Megalopotomas river 3.5. and 2 males NW Hania 7.5.[MC]. 1 Platanes river 7-9.5.[DT]. 1 Tavronitis 4.5. Up to 10 seen at Agia Reservoir between 3-10.5. 1 Maleme 4.5.[JB].

August records - 1 male in reeds at Keridis river 7.8. [CP].

NIGHT HERON *Nycticorax nycticorax*

April records - 1 Aposelemis river 5.4. and 4 over Creta Sun 6.4. [SCSP]. A small movement on 7.4 with 11 and 31 observed moving east at Plakias.[RSPB] Further movement included 70 at Plakias 8.4. circling low over the village and settling for the night behind the village. 15 Paleochora 8.4.[MG]. 14 over Damnoni second week in April.[NP]. 14 over Chora Sfakion 13.4.[SCSP]. 2 on 8.4. Agia reservoir. and 1 there 9.4 and 1 10.4. Aposelemis river. [RSPB]. There were 7 Frangocastello 9.4. and 1 imm Georgioupolis 11.4. 1 sub adult Gouves lagoon 17.4.[JNS] and [CDRSPB]. 2 18.4, 1 20.4, 2 21.4, 2 22.4, and 1 23.4. all at Aposelemis river. [CDRSPB]. 1 imm. 18.4. and 3 including 1 imm. and 2 adults 19.4. and 21.4. at Power station marsh.[MS]. 1 adult Cretan Village Beach 18.4. 2 adults Aposelemis river 27.4. 1 imm. Elounda 24.4. and 2 adults 1 imm. Aposelemis river 3.5. [RDO]. 1 Agia Galini 28.4.[MTH].

In MAY 1 NW Hania 25.4. 5 on 3.5. and 4 on 7.5. 2 imm. Tavronitis river 1.5. and 1 ad. and 1 imm. Agia Galini 6.5.[MC].

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2 Platanes river mouth 4.- 5.5. and 1 flushed from river in Amari valley 7.5.[DT].

2 Tavronitis river 4.5.[JB] and a late flock of 16 through Elounda Salt pans 5.5.[RS].

SQUACCO HERON *Ardeola ralloides*

25 flying inland Agia Galini 9.4.[SC]. single and 2 Frangocastello 9.4. 5 there 13.4.[WM] and [JNJS] 5 over Damnoni early April.[NP]. 20+ with Little Egrets at Plakias 9.4.[SPSC]. 13 Plakias Bay 6.4. Singles Gournes 10.4 and Almyros 16.4.[RSPB]. 15 east end of Georgioupolis beach 16.4.[JNJS]. 2 Agia Galini 28.4.[MTVH]. 1-3 Aposelemis river 21-23.4.[RSPBCD] Singles Elounda 24.4. Sitia 25.4. Dimona, Malia Beach 26.4. Aposelemis river 27.4. and Cretan village Hotel 27.4.

In MAY, 1 Malia 3 & 4.5.[RO]. Up to 11 Agia reservoir 2.5. and 9 to roost Tavronitis 1.5. plus singles at Hania, 3 at Phaestos and singles Plakias and Megalopotamos first week in May.[MC].

1 Gouves lagoon 3.5. [RS]. Mixed flock of 50+ Squacco, Night and Purple Herons Plakias Bay 6.5. 1 Damnoni 7.5. 1 Petres river 12.5. [RS]. 1 Platanes river 7.5. and 1 Stavros beach, Akrotiri 10.5.[DT]. Recorded from Tavronitis, Agia Reservoir and Maleme in early May. [JB].

10-12 Agia reservoir 24.5.[JMW].

CATTLE EGRET *Bubulcus ibis* No records received this year.

LITTLE EGRET *Egretta garzetta*

Common at all beaches and river mouths in April and May as singles or small flocks of between 5 and 40. 5 small flocks totalling 29 birds Agia Triada 19.4.[CDRSPB]. Large flocks on migration of 70+ 8.4.- 24.4. and 100+ Plakias 9.4.[NP] & [SPSC]. 60 at Frangocastello also on 9.4.[JNJS].

In August 1 Plakias Bay 11.8.[RA]. 13 flying over Georgioupolis Bay 12.8.[CP]. 25 on beach east of Georgioupolis 11.10.[CH]. 1 Sitia Harbour 29.10.[DT]

GREAT WHITE EGRET *Egretta alba*

1 Tavronitis river 14.5.[RS]. 2 with flock of 13 Little Egrets 12.8. Georgioupolis Bay.[CP].

GREY HERON *Ardea cinerea*

Largest flocks 12 and 50 in Plakias between 8.-24.4.[NP]. 14 at Plakias 6.4. and 7 there 7.4.[RSPB]. Otherwise singles and up to 3 at a wide range of sites - 1 Knossos 30.4. 1 Falasarna, Tavronitis 1.5. and 7.5. 2 Agia 2.5. 4 Keridis 5.5.[MC]. Singles late April early May Elounda, Cretan Village and Aposelemis river.[MDO]. 1 Platanes river mouth 4.-9.5.[DT].

In August 1 Lake Kournas 8.8.[CP].

Winter records 3 over Ag. Nikolaos 29.10.[DT]. 2 Geropotomos bridge 11.11.[CH]. 1 Elounda salt pans 21.11.[JCH].

PURPLE HERON *Ardea purpurea*

1 Malia 4.4. and 1 Gouves 8.4.[SPSC]. 1 Matala Bay 5.4. and 2 Frangocastello 9.4.[WM]. 1 Heraklion flying N. 8.4. and one over Heraklion marsh 15.4.[MS]. 8 flying inland Ag Galini 9.4.[SC]. 8 Frangocastello 9.4. Singles Georgioupolis 5.4. and 15.4. Hania 14.4.

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Gouves 17.4. Petres river 12.4. and 2 there 13.4.[JNJS]. 1 Ag.Galini 28.4.[MT]. Flock of 11 over Damnoni between 8-15.4. and another flock of 70+ unidentified herons between 15-24.4.[NP]. 1 Aposelemis river 11-24.4.[RSPB] and 27.4.[MO]. 1 NW over Hania 28.4.[MC]. In AUGUST 2 over Georgioupolis lake 3.8. and 18 flying round Georgioupolis bay 12.8.[CP].

WHITE STORK *Ciconia ciconia* No records received this year.

GLOSSY IBIS *Plegadis falcinellus*

1 Elounda 3.4.[JNJS] and 4.4.[SPSC]. 17 at Kimbaki beach near Matala 4.4.[WM]. 2 at Heraklion marsh 14.4.-16.4. and then 1 until 21.4. [MS]. 1 Aposelemis river 4.4. & 5.4. and 10.-17.4. [RSPB] and still there 25.-27.4.[RO]. 2 among Little Egrets Plakias 6.4. and 11 on 8.4 & 9.4. at Agia reservoir [HMC],[RSPB] and [JNJS]. 40 in flock at Frangocastello 9.4.[JNJS]. Single at Kastelli in early April.[MG]. Singles Tavronitis 1.5. and 7.5. and 2 Agia reservoir 4.5.[MC]. In AUGUST return migration again noted in first two weeks. 2 Georgioupolis 8.8. and 9 there 12.8.[CP]. 38 in off sea at Rethymnon 11.8. Similar flock 40-50 birds also flying inland later in day.[KB]. 32 on 17.8. at Georgioupolis.[RA].

SPOONBILL *Platalea leucorodia* No records received this year.

GREATER FLAMINGO *Phoenicopterus ruber* No records received this year.

WIGEON *Anas penelope* No records received this year.

GADWALL *Anas strepera* No records received this year.

TEAL *Anas crecca*

1 Agia 14.5.[RS]. 20+ east past Geropotamos bridge 11.10. 1 on Mylo river in small remaining pool 13.10.[CH].

MALLARD *Anas platyrhynchos*

5+ east Geropotamos bridge 11.10. 10 Ierapetra reservoir 12.10.[CH].

PINTAIL *Anas acuta*

1f Tavronitis 30.3.[AJR]. 1m Aposelemis river 8.4.- 23.4.[SCSP] & [CDRSPB]. [JNJS] & [RDO].

GARGANEY *Anas querquedula*

3 Plakias 3.4.[HMC] 2 Aposelemis river 3.4. m & f. 2m 1f there 5.4. 25 Plakias bay 9.4.[SCSP]. 180 off Plakias bay evening 6.4.[RSPB]. Pair Georgioupolis lake 5.4. with 4 there 6.4.-11.4. 3 drakes 1 female. 35 of Frangocastello 10.4.[JNJS]. Records from Heraklion Marsh 1m 8.4. and 7 including 2m 8.4. 2m 14.4. 1f and 1m 19.4. and 1f 21.4.[MS]. Single on Aposelemis river 17.4.-25.4.[CDRSPB] & [RDO]. 9 Agia reservoir 8.4.[HMC] 1m Tavronitis and Skoutelonas rivers 7.4.[MC] and 1m 21.5. Keridis river bridge.[JMW]. 2 m at Platanos river mouth 4-9.5.[DT]. 1 on 20.8. Plakias.[RA] and 1 at Damnoni 23.8.[AJR]. In October 30+ Ierapetra reservoir 12.10.[CH].

SHOVELER *Anas clypeata* No records received this year.

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MARbled TEAL *Marmaronetta angustirostris* No records received.

POCHARD *Aythya ferina* No records received this year.

FERRUGINOUS DUCK *Aythya nyroca*

1f Georgioupolis 6-8.4.[JNJS] and single drakes there 7.4. & 10.4.
[RSPB]. 1 Agia reservoir 6.4. and 8.4.-12.4.[JB]. and [HMC]&[JNJS]. 2
Agia 14.5.[RS]. 5 Ierapetra reservoir 12.10.[CH].

TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fuligula*

One very late at Agia reservoir 14.5.[RS].

DUCK Species.

Large flock 200+ off Rethymnon 11.8.[KB].

HONEY BUZZARD *Pernis apivorus*

1 from Gouves lagoons 11.4. and 2 from there on 14.4. plus 1 over
"Mickey Mouse Ears"- Mt Edhery 15.4.[RSPB]. 1 Heraklion to Phaestos
road 14.4. and 1 in gorge near power station 19.4.[MS]. 1 Knossos
30.4.[MC]. 1 Amari valley 8.5.[RS].

BLACK KITE *Milvus migrans*

1 west at Plakias 6.4. and 2 over "Mickey Mouse Ears" 14.4.[RSPB]. 1
18.4. Gouves lagoons.[CDRSPB]. 1 Mt Yuchtas 19.4.[RDO]. 2 near
Armeni 28.4.[MT].

In August 1 over fields east of Maleme 9.8.[CP]. 1 west of Plakias
20.8.[RA].

RED KITE *Milvus milvus* No records received this year.

LAMMERGEIER *Gypaetus barbatus*

1 Kourtaliotiko Gorge 11.4.[SC]. 1 juv. and 1 adult above Kera 6.4.
and 1 Phalasarna 15.4.[SCSP]. 1 mature bird above Kera 3.5.[RDO]. 1
Omalos 8.4. and 1 from the mountain road to Askyfou 10.4. and 1
Kourtaliotiko Gorge 13.4.[JNJS]. 1 Lassithi 9.4.[HMC]. 1 immature
over Kourtaliotiko Gorge third week in April.[NP]. 1 near Armeni
28.4.[MT]. 1 above Imbros Gorge together with Griffon vultures 8.5.
[JB]. In August 2 over Samaria Gorge. [RP]. 1 adult east of Plakias
over Kourtaliotiko Gorge 18.8.[KB].

EGYPTIAN VULTURE *Neophron percnopterus*

1 sub adult flew low southwards through Petres Gorge 6.5.[DT]

GRIFFON VULTURE *Gyps fulvus*

Common in gorges and in the mountains but also recorded at sea level
at Petres Gorge. Usually in groups of 2-15. 22 Lassithi 6.4.[SCSP].
22 in a stack over Amari Valley 11.8.[CP].

SHORT-TOED EAGLE *Circaetus gallicus*

1 near Kalo Horio nr. Ag. Nikolaos in the second half of October.
[SMH].

MARSH HARRIER *Circus aeruginosus*

Single females Aposelemis river 4.4. 11.4. & 13.4. plus 2 females
there 10.4.[RSPB] 1 at Agia reservoir 8.4. 9.4. and 10.4.
[JNJS]&[RSPB]. 1 Agia reservoir 14.4.[SCSP]. Singles at Georgioupolis

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6.and 7.4. and 11.4. 15.4. 16.4.[JNJS]. 1 Moni Asomaton, and 1 Amari valley 14.4. and 7 east of Agia Deka quartering the fields of wheat and feeding in a field of stubble 16.4.[WM]. 1 female at Cretan Village hotel 17.4. and 1 Aposelemis river 27.4.[RDO]. 1 adult female over Heraklion Power station marsh 9.4.- 21.4.[MS].
3 females/imm. Agia reservoir 2.5.[MC]. 1 Agia Reservoir 6.5.
[JB]&[MC].
1 Malia 2.5, 1 Amari valley 8.5, 1 Agia Reservoir and 1 Tavronitis river 14.5, 1 Frangocastello 16.5.[RS].
1 male and 1 juvenile between Heraklion and Fodele 9.10.[CH]. 1 Fodele beach marsh area 27.11.[JCH].

HEN HARRIER *Circus cyaneus* No records received this year.

PALLID HARRIER *Circus macrourus*
1 nr Fourfouras 14.4.[WM].

MONTAGU'S HARRIER *Circus pygargus*
1 male west past Gouves lagoons 14.4. and a very pale almost sandy ringtail thought to be a second year male 15.4.[RSPB]. 1 over Gouves lagoons 18.4.[CDRSPB] 1 Frangocastello 16.5.[RS].
Harrier sp. 1 ringtail 22.5.[JMW].

GOSHAWK *Accipter gentilis* No records received this year.

SPARROWHAWK *Accipter nisus*
1 Gouves lagoons 4.4. 1 Knossos 7.4. 1 Gouves lagoons 8.4. and 1 Gortys 9.4.[SCSP]. 1 male and female hunting along River Geropotamus below Aghia Triada 5.4.[RSPB]. 1 near Gortys site car park 16.4.[WM].
1 Petres Gorge 11.10 and 1 Kera 15.10.[CH].

LEVANT SPARROWHAWK *Accipter brevipes*
2 soaring in valley below Phaestos 24.8.[AJR].

BUZZARD *Buteo buteo*
Common, recorded throughout the year and daily in good numbers throughout April. Records from Rethymnon Pines, Amari valley, Knossos, Mt Youchtas, Psychro, Kronios, Agia Triada, Agios Nikolaos to Sitia road, Kritsa, Kalo Horio (Pediados), Gouves, Latsida, Lyttos, Potamies, Lassithi, Plakias, Elounda. Lake Kournas.

LONG-LEGGED BUZZARD *Buteo rufinus*
1 near Kera 29.4.[MT]. 2 west of Sitia 26.4.[MDO]. 1 near Knossos 9.4. 1 near Aghia Triada 10.4. and 2 near Rethymnon 17.4.[MS]. 2 Lassithi 4.5.[RS]

ROUGH-LEGGED BUZZARD *Buteo lagopus*
1 near Rethymna Beach hotel second half of October.[MSH].

GOLDEN EAGLE *Aquila chrysaetos*
2 Heraklion Phaestos road 3.4.[AJR]. 1 Kotsiphos Gorge 19.8.[RA]. 1 Agia Galini flying inland 5.4. and 1 in Kourtaliotiko Gorge 11.4. [SC]. 2 in Kourtaliotiko gorge 5.4. 1 Omalos plateau 9.4. and 3 including a pair mating in Kourtaliotiko gorge 15.4.[RSPB]. 1 above Kera 6.4. and 2 Phalasarna 13.4.[SCSP]. 1 edge of Lassithi plateau 13.4.[MS]. 1 above Matala 16.4.[WM]. 2 Samaria Gorge 29.4. and 2

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Fourfouras 6.5.[MC]. 1 Kourtaliotiko gorge 26.4. and 1 Meso pass 3.5. [RDO].

1 Amari valley 7.5. and 1 Imbros gorge 8.5.[DT]. 1 Kotsiphos gorge 7.5.[RS].

1 over Hania to Georgiopolis road 31.7. Pair there 4.8. Pair over Rethymnon woods 6.8.[CP]. 1 over Kotsiphos gorge 10.8 and 12.8.[KB]. 1 Lassithi 25.10 and 1 over Mesa Mouliana 29.10.[DT]. 2 over Vai third week in October.[MSH].

BOOTED EAGLE *Hieraaetus pennatus*

2 near Sitia 5.4.[AJR]. 1 light phase Geropotamus valley 5.4. and 1 dark phase over "Mickey Mouse Ears" 14.4.[RSPB]. 1 Aptera 10.4.[WM]. 1 Polyrhinia 15.4.[SCSP]. 1 Georgiopolis 25.4.[MT]. 1 dark phase west of Sitia 3.5.[MDO]. 1 Phaestos 17.5.[RS].

A pair (dark phase) over Chania-Georgiopolis road 9.8. and a pair (light phase) over Amari valley 11.8.[CP].

BONELLIS EAGLE *Hieraaetus fasciatus*

Pair in Prasses Gorge 10.4. and 16.4.[JNJS]&[SC]. 1 2nd year between Heraklion and Phaestos 11.4. and 1 2nd year in gorge behind Heraklion Power station 19.4. and 1 adult there 21.4.[MS].

OSPREY *Pandion haliaetus* No records received this year.

LESSER KESTREL *Falco naumanni*

4 near Moni Prevelli 13.4.[JN]. 8 in Aposelemis Gorge 22.4.[RSPB]. 1 pair and a single above Kritsa 20.4. 1 Meso pass, Lassithi 21.4. 3+ pairs in cliff above Kritsa 4.5.[RDO]. 2 Petres Gorge 6.5.[DT]. 3 over Theriso Gorge 9.8.[CP]. 1 Prevelli new Monastery 25.8.[AJR].

KESTREL *Falco tinnunculus*

Frequent and widespread and seen daily in April. Small nos. in August. Regarded as scarce in October, 1 Moni Prevelli 13.10. November records from Kalo Horio, Pediados and Malia. December records from Malia, Lassithi and Lyttos.[CJH].

RED-FOOTED FALCON *Falco vespertinus*

1 imm. male over hotel 10.4.[MS]. 2 Skoutelonas and 3 Tavronitis 1.5. 10 Phaestos 6.5.[MC]. 20+ perching on wires and flying around near cemetery at Maleme in strong north wind 3.5. Numbers decreased during the following week.[JB]. 5 at Frangocastello 16.5.[RS]. 40+ Red-footed falcons hawking for insects with some Hobbies over Tavronitis river 14.5.[RS]. 7 on wires near the shore at Platanes 4-8.5. and a party of 9 Agia Triada Monastery 10.5.[DT]. 2m Georgiopolis beach 15.5. 3 there 16.5.[JNJS].

MERLIN *Falco columbarius* No records received this year.

HOBBY *Falco subbuteo*

1 road to Omalos 27.3.[AJR] 1 above Chora Sfakion 13.4. and in May with Red-footed Falcons at Tavronitis river.[RS]. 1 Petres Gorge 12.4.[JN]. 1 Aghia Triada 6.5.[MC]. 1 over Plakias with 2 buzzards 21.8.[KB].

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ELEONORAS FALCON *Falco eleonorae*

1 flew north over Gouves lagoons 11.4.[RSPB]. 2 Phaestos 17.4.[RS]. 1 east of Heraklion airport 17.4.[JS]. 1 near Sisses 23.4.[MT]. 1 Agia reservoir 2.5.[MC]. 1 north coast 1.5. 1 Cretan Village hotel 2.5. 1 Lassithi Meso pass 3.5. 1 above Kritsa and 4 east of Kritsa 4.5. [RDO]. A single flew across Plakias Bay 9.5.[DT]. Some over Keridis 18.5. and large flock over Falasarna 19.5. Seen near Paleochora 21.5 and 23.5, over the Amari valley and over Agia reservoir 24.5.[JMW]. 1 dark phase on ridge behind Souda 5.8. and 1 over Petres Gorge 8.8. [CP]. 1 in Samaria gorge 20.8.[KB]. 1 Heraklion to Bali 9.10, 1 Rethymnon 10.10, 1 Geropotamos bridge 11.10, and 3 over Ierapetra reservoir 12.10.[CH]. 1 in off the sea from Dia 30.10.[DT]. 2 Aposelemis river 15.11.[JCH].

LANNER *Falco biamicus*

1 Phalasarna 1.5.[MC]. 1 Petres gorge 6.5. mobbing a buzzard.[DT]. 1 soaring with Griffons over Kera 25.10.[DT].

PEREGRINE *Falco peregrinus*

1 above Kera 8.4.[SCSP]. 1 over Mt Edhery, "Mickey Mouse Ears" 14.4. and 2 in Aposelemis gorge 15.4. 1f Prasses Gorge southern race 10.4. and 1f Ag. Varvara 13.4. again southern race.[SC]. 1 Petres Gorge 12.4. and 13.4. possibly breeding.[JNJS]. 1 above Kritsa 20.4. and 4.5. and 1 west of Sitia 25.4.[RDO]. 1 east of Platania 24.4.[MT]. 1 Heraklion 30.4.[MC]. 1 single over Agia Triada monastery 10.5.[DT]. 1 at Kourtaliotiko gorge 15.8.[KB]. 1 near Skopi 29.10.[DT]. 1 Heraklion Power station 27.11.[JCH].

CHUKAR *Alectoris chukar*

1 near Mirtos 3.4.[JNJS]. 2 below Mt Psiloritis 14.4. and 2 in gorge behind Heraklion Power station 19.4.[MS]. Heard at Omalos 5.5.[MC]. Calling Petres Gorge 6.5. and 1 flushed Imbros Gorge 8.5.[DT]. 1 heard Imbros Gorge 8.5.[JB].

QUAIL *Coturnix coturnix*

1 female seen at Camping George near Georgioupolis 11.4.[JS]. 1 heard calling at Phaestos 6.5.[MC]. 1 Damnoni 23.-25.8. during bad weather. [AJR].

WATER RAIL *Rallus aquaticus*

1 in the stream at base of Gortys acropolis 11.4.[WM].

SPOTTED CRAKE *Porzana porzana*

1 Aposelemis river 4.4. & 9.4.[RSPB]&[SCSP]. 1 at Agia reservoir 10.4. 5 there on 12.4. and 2-3 14.4.[JNJS]. 1 Power station marsh 20.- 21.4.[MS]. 1+ at Agia reservoir 6.5. [JB]

LITTLE CRAKE *Porzana parva*

Recorded on floating vegetation on river by power station 2f 9.4. 1f 10.4. 1m 11.4. 1m 1f 12.4. 1f 15.4. 1m 18.4.[MS]. 4 Georgioupolis lake 5.4. 6 there 6.4. 3 10.4. and 4 11.4. plus two by the beach. 3 Agia reservoir 10.4. and 5 there 12.4.[JNJS]. 1 river Geropotamos below Aghia Triada 5.4. 5 at Georgioupolis lake 7.4. 2 at Agia reservoir 8.4. and 3 there 9.4. 1 Georgioupolis lake 10.4.[RSPB]. 1m Agia reservoir 14.4.[SCSP]. 1 Aposelemis river 18.4. and 19.4. [CDRSPB]. 1 at Georgioupolis lake 25.4.[MT]. Several recorded at

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Aghia reservoir 5.5 and 6.5. [JB]&[MC]. 2m & f Tavronitis river 7.5. [MC]. 3 at Agia 14.5.[RS].

BAILLONS CRAKE *Porzana pusilla*

1 on Aposelemis river 5.4.[RSPB] and 23.4.[CDRSPB]. 1 Agia reservoir 12.4.[JNJS]. 1f at Georgioupolis lake 5.5.[MC].

CORNCRAKE *Crex crex* No records received this year.

MOORHEN *Gallinula chloropus*

Recorded from most wet areas and river mouths but large counts of 60-74+ from Georgioupolis lake 6.-15.4.[JNJS] & [RSPB] and 83 Agia reservoir 9.4.[RSPB]. Records from Heraklion marsh and Power station river, Giorifos river, Almyros, Aposelemis river where 13 was the maximum count, Georgioupolis lake, Keridis, Agia reservoir, stream below Gortys, Platanos river mouth, Geropotamos bridge, Malia and Moni Prevelli.

COOT *Fulica atra*

2 Almyros 5.4. and 4 Agia 14.4.[SCSP]. 8 Agia Reservoir 8.4.[HMC]. 1 Georgioupolis lake 6.4. and 7.4. and 3 there 11.4. 1 on sea Georgioupolis 25.4.[MT]. 30-40 Lake Kournas 11.4.[JNJS]. 2 at Almyros 16.4.[RSPB]. 2 Georgioupolis Lake 3.8. and 3 Lake Kournas 8.8.[CP]. 300+ Ierapetra reservoir 12.10.[CH]. 2 Almyros 21.11.[JCH].

CRANE *Grus grus* No records received this year.

BLACK-WINGED STILT *Himantopus himantopus*

4 Plakias 3-4.4.[HMC]. 1 there walking along main road in a thunderstorm in early April.[NP]. 2 Gouves lagoons 5.4. and 10-17.4. and up to 6 there 18.4.[CDRSPB]. 2 Heraklion power station marsh 15.-16.4. and 20.4.-21.4.[MS]. 2 on small pool near Gournes and 1 River Geropotamos 12.4.[RSPB]. 11 Frangocastello 9.4.[JNJS] and [WM]. 2 Aposelemis river 20.4.[RDO]. 1 female Tavronitis 7.5.[MC]. 1 Agia 24.5.[JMW].
In August 15 Georgioupolis Bay 4.8.[CP]. A family of 6 flew in north of Rethymnon 11.8.[KB]. 2 on rocks on seaward side of Chania harbour 17.8.[RA].

AVOCET *Recurvirostra avosetta* No records received this year.

STONE CURLEW *Burhinus oedicnemus*

2-3 at Malia 5.4.[JN]. 3 at Gouves lagoons 17.4. and 21.4. 2 there 11.4. and singles there 4.4. 10.4. 14.4. 18.4. and 19.4.[CDRSPB]. 1 Malia beach 27.4. and 1 Cretan Village Hotel west 29.4.[MDO]. 1 Frangocastello 16.5.[RS].

COLLARED PRATINCOLE *Glareola pratincola*

1 pratincole flushed 4.4. Gouves lagoons probably this species. [RSPB].

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius dubius*

1 Kimbaki beach near Matala 4.4.[WM]. 5 at Elounda 3. & 5.4. 4 at Malia 5.4. 4 Georgioupolis lake 6.4. 5 Frangocastello 13.4.[JNJS]. 3-6 Heraklion marsh 9.4.-21.4. 9+ Gouves lagoons 12.4. rising to 16 on 20.4.[CDRSPB]&[MS]. 1 Petres river 17.4.[SCSP]. 1 at Platanias 24.4.

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[MT]. Pair holding territory at Platanes first week in May.[DT]. 4 Tavronitis river 4.5.[JB]. 5 Keridis 5.5. singles Hania, Skoutelonas and Tavronitis.[MC]. 2+ Keridis river 19.5 and 21.5.[JMW]. 10 inside harbour Rethymnon 11.8.[KB].

RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula* 2 Kimbaki beach near Matala 4.4.[WM]. 1 Aposelemis river 17.4.[RSPB]. 2 Cretan Village hotel west 2.5. 2 Aposelemis river 3.5. and 2 Cretan Village 4-7.5.[RDO]. 1 Keridis river 7.8.[CP].

KENTISH PLOVER *Charadrius alexandrinus* No records received this year.

CASPIAN PLOVER *C. asiaticus* 1 coming into summer plumage at Malia on a dry area opposite the beach cafe 23.4. to 24.4. [GP] and [RDO]. Photographs and descriptions submitted to recorder for Greece.

GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis dominica* No records received this year

GREY PLOVER *Pluvialis squatarola* No records received this year.

SPUR-WINGED PLOVER *Hoplopterus spinosus* No records received this year.

SOCIABLE PLOVER *Vanellus gregarius* No records received this year.

WHITE-TAILED PLOVER *Chettusia leucura* No records received this year.

LAPWING *Vanellus vanellus*
2 Malia 14.11. and 1 Karteros river 21.11.[CJH].

KNOT *Calidris canutus* No records received this year.

SANDERLING *Calidris alba*
2 Aposelemis river 5.4.[SCSP]. 1 18.4. Gouves lagoons [CDRSPB]. 1 Sitia Bay 25.4.[RDO].

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta*
Common migrant in April and May. Records also from December.

TEMMINCK'S STINT *Calidris temminckii*
Small passage noted late April early May. 2 NW Hania 28.4. 3 Tavronitis 1.5. and 1 Agia reservoir 4.5.[MC]. 1 Aposelemis river 3.5.[RDO]. 2 Skoutelonas 8.5.[MC]. 1 Plakias 7.5.[RS]. 1 7.5. Platanes.[DT].

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea*
1 starting to moult into summer plumage on Aposelemis river 17.4. rising to 3 20.4. 2 still there 22.4.[RSPB]. 3 Sitia 25.4.[RDO]. 8 Tavronitis 1.5. and 1 Keridis river 5.5.[MC].

DUNLIN *C. alpina*
2 Gouves lagoons 10.4.[RSPB]. 10+ there 20.4. 1 Malia beach 23.4. and 2 Cretan Village west 2.5. & 4.5.[RDO]

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1 Karteros river 15.11. 2 Elounda saltpans 21.11.[JCH].

BROAD-BILLED SANDPIPER *Limicola falcinellus*

1 18.8. Damnoni between 9.00am to 9.15am. Record submitted to records committee.[AJR].

RUFF *Philomachus pugnax*

Small numbers passing through all April. 1-2 Heraklion power station marsh 9.4-21.4. rising to 4 15.4.[MS]. Movement through the Gouves lagoons with 2-13 there everyday 4.-21.4.[RSPB]&[CDRSPB]. 3 Tavronitis 1.5. 3 Georgioupolis lake 5.5. Singles Skoutelonas, Agia Reservoir and Plakias and Keridis in May. 5 Platanes river mouth 7.5. [DT].

JACK SNIFE *Lymnocyptes minimus*

1 Gouves lagoons 3.5.[RS]

SNIFE *Gallinago gallinago*

2 Agia reservoir 8.4. and 12.4. 1 Georgioupolis area 12.4.[JNJS]. 3 Gouves lagoons 4.4. 2 Geropotamus river 5.4. 2 Agia reservoir 8.4. and 1 there 9.4.[RSPB]. 1 Sitia Bay 25.4. and 1 Aposelemis 3.5.[RDO]. Singles at Tavronitis and Agia between 3-10.5.[JB]. 1 Platanes 7.5. [DT]. Singles Megalopotamos, Keridis and Tavronitis early May.[MC]. 1 Giorifos river 23.11. and 1 Fodele beach marsh 27.11. [CJH] 1 Lassithi 22.12.[CJH].

GREAT SNIFE *Gallinago media*

1 flushed from the back of the beach at rivermouth 2 miles east of Georgioupolis 17.4. [JNJS]. 1 Heraklion Power station marsh 15.4. 2 there 16-18.4. 1 19.-20.4.[MS]. 1 in a meadow at Agia reservoir 2.5. [MC].

WOODCOCK *Scolopax rusticola* No records received this year.

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa limosa*

1 in summer plumage in small pool at Gournes 4.4. 3 Geropotamus river 5.4. and 3 Gouves lagoons 10.5.[RSPB]. 1 in summer plumage Karteros 7.4.[SCSP]. 1 summer plumage and 1 injured at Malia beach 24-27.4. [RDO].

WHIMBREL *Numenius phaeopus*

1 Frangocastello beach 13.4.[JS].

CURLEW *Numenius arquata*

1 Gouves lagoons 4.4.[SCSP].

SPOTTED REDSHANK *Tringa erythropus* No records received this year.

REDSHANK *Tringa totanus*

Singles at Frangocastello 8.4, 9.4. and 13.4.[JNJS]. 1 Plakias 26.4. [MT]. 1 Platanes rivermouth 7.5.[DT]. 1 Elounda saltpans 27.10.[DT]. 2 Elounda saltpans 15.10.[CH]. 1 Karteros river 15.11 and 3 Elounda saltpans 21.11.[CJH].

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MARSH SANDPIPER *Tringa stagnatilis*

1 near Karteros in April.[JS]. 1 Gouves lagoons 13.4. and 17.4 and 2 there 24.4.[RSPB]&[CDRSPB]. 1 Damnoni in August 23.8.[AJR].

GREENSHANK *Tringa nebularia*

1 Elounda 3.4. 2 Agia reservoir 8.4. 1 Georgioupolis 7.4. and 10.4. [JNJS]. Singles at Maila Gouves lagoons and Gournes 4.4. 1 Geropotamus 5.4. and Georgioupolis 7.4.[RSPB] 2-3 Agia reservoir 8.4.& 9.4.[RSPB] & [MC]. 1 Tavronitis 9.4.[MG]. 1 or 2 Gouves lagoons 3-8.4. 1 Karteros 17.4.[SCSP]. 2 Gouves lagoons 12.4. & 14.4. and 1 there 16.4.[RSPB]. 1 NW Hania 25.4.[MC] 1 Plakias 26.4.[MT]. 1 Malia beach 23.4.[RDO] and 2 Keridis 5.5.[MC].

GREEN SANDPIPER *Tringa ochropus*

2 on Aposelemis river 4-5.4. 2 Agia 8.4. 1 there 9.4. 2 Aposelemis 11.4. and 1-2 there 17.4, 18.4, 20.4.[RSPB]. 1 at Malia 5.4. and Petres and Georgioupolis 6.4. Frangocastello 13.4. 3 Agia 8.4.[HMC] and 4 there 12.4.[JNJS]. 1 Georgioupolis and 2 Sitia Bay 25.4. [MT]&[RDO]. 1 Agia 4.5.[MC].

WOOD SANDPIPER *Tringa glareola*

3 Georgioupolis lake 10.4.[WM]. Up to 7+ 3-8.4. Gouves lagoons, 30+ Agia reservoir 14.4. Common elsewhere in small numbers in April [SCSP] and May [JB] with 30 Tavronitis 1.5. 25 Agia 2.5. and 20 4.5. 15 Georgioupolis lake 4.5. 12 Skoutelonas 7.5.[MC]. with singles further east at Malia, Elounda, Aposelemis and Sitia in late April and early May.[RDO].

TEREK SANDPIPER *Xenus cinereus* No records received this year.

COMMON SANDPIPER *Tringa hypoleucos*

Singles at various river mouths late April and early May. Single Aposelemis river 3.4-4.4. and 6+ Agia reservoir 14.4.[SCSP]. 8 there 8.4.[JNJS]. Up to 6 Gouves lagoons 17.-23.4.[CDRSPB]. Up to 3 Plakias 8-24.4.[NP]. In May 8 Tavronitis 1.5. 7 Keridis 5.5. and up to 5 NW Hania , Georgioupolis and Agia Galini.[MC] 1 daily at Cretan Village Hotel on grass and under tamarisk trees.[RDO]. In August 1 Georgioupolis lake 3.8.[CP]. 3 Plakias Bay mid August [RA] and 1 Damnoni 23.8.[AJR]. Up to 3 Almyros marsh late October. [DT]. 1 Almyros marsh 21.11. [CJH].

TURNSTONE *Arenaria interpres*

1 Aposelemis river 3.5. [RDO].

GREAT BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ichthyaetus* No records received this year.

MEDITERRANEAN GULL *Larus melanocephalus*

2 1st and 2nd summer 14.4. and 1 1st year on 15.4. at Rethymnon. [JNJS]. 1 2nd winter offshore 10.4. and 1 1st winter 18.4. Heraklion power station.[MS]. 2 first winter Ag. Nikolaos harbour 24.10 and 28.10.[DT].

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LITTLE GULL *Larus minutus*

1 very worn 1st year past Hania harbour 8.4. and 1 possibly 2nd year past Creta sun 14.4.[RSPB]. 5 all 1st winter/summer Rethymnon 15.4. [JNJS]. 1 immature Malia beach 23.4. 2 adults flying east there 24.4. 3 adults 1 immature Sitia harbour 25.4.[RDO].

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ridibundus* 1-3 offshore Heraklion power station 9.4.-21.4.[MS]. 4+ Almyros 5.4.[SCSP]. 2 adult and 1st year at Georgioupolis beach 11-13.4.[JNJS].
6 Ag. Nikolaos 28.10 and 50+ roosting at Almyros 28.10.[DT]. 1 Heraklion harbour 20.11.[CJH].

SLENDER-BILLED GULL *Larus genei* No records received this year.

AUDOUIN'S GULL *Larus audouinii*

1-2 Hania harbour 25.3-31.3.[AJR]. 1 Malia 4.4.[SCSP]. 3 2nd summer off Heraklion power station 15.4. in strong onshore winds.[MS]. 1 Heraklion harbour 23.8.[AJR]
1 adult Sitia Harbour 29.10.[DT].

COMMON GULL *Larus canus* No records received this year.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus fuscus*

1 near Ag. Nikolaos 3.4.[JNJS]. 1-2 near sea last week in April.[MT]. 9 Sitia bay 25.4.[RDO]. 1 adult Plakias Bay 9.5.[DT]. 1 adult Ag Nikolaos harbour 28.10.[DT].

HERRING GULL (YELLOW LEGGED) *Larus argentatus michahellis*

Up to 20 Plakias 8-24.4.[NP]. In April 130+ off Almyros and 250+ over Chora Sfakion rubbish tip.[SCSP]. 98 off Frangocastello 10.4.[JNJS]. 250+ recorded off Heraklion Power station in April.[MS]. In May recorded as common in small numbers with max. 20 off Chora Sfakion. [MC].
In August only small numbers 2 at Damnoni and 1 off Rethymnon 9.8. and 11.8.[KB]. 1 in Georgioupolis Bay 2.8.[CP].
Numerous all along the coast in late October from Elounda onwards. 200+ over cliffs near Istros 29.10.[DT]. Otherwise recorded on small nos in October [CH]. 1 Malia 18.12 and common on Aposelemis river 30.12.[CJH]. Common at Karteros river and Heraklion harbour 20.11. and 23.11.[CJH].

GREATER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus marinus*

1 immature Ag Nikolaos harbour 28.10. 3 over the sea Almyros 24.10. [DT]..

KITTIWAKE *Rissa tridactyla* No records received this year.

GULL-BILLED TERN *Gelochelidon nilotica*

1 Gouves lagoons 5.4.[SCSP] & [RSPB].

CASPIAN TERN *Sterna caspia*

2 over sea by Creta Sun 21.12.[CJH].

SANDWICH TERN *Sterna sandvicensis*

2 Hania harbour 8.4. and singles there 9-10.4.[RSPB]. 5 offshore 15.4. Heraklion Power Station.[MS]. 4 Sitia harbour 25.4.[RDO].

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COMMON TERN *Sterna hirundo* No records received this year.

LITTLE TERN *Sterna albifrons* No records received this year.

WHISKERED TERN *Chlidonias hybrida*

1 Georgioupolis lake 5.5. and Tavronitis 7.5.[MC]. 2 Georgioupolis 23.5.[JMW].

BLACK TERN *Chlidonias niger* No records received this year.

WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN *Chlidonias leucopterus*

May records with 7 at Skoutelonas 1.5. 13 at Agia 2.5. 4 there 4.5. and 2.5. 15 on 6.5. 15 at Phaestos 6.5.[MC]. 2 Platanes 4.5. both in full summer plumage.[DT]. About 20 Tavronitis 4.5.[JB].

ROCK DOVE *Columba livia* 1

Mt. Psiloritis 14.4. and 2 in gorge behind Heraklion power station 21.4.[MS]. 3 17.4. and 2 18.4. Aposelemis gorge.[CDRSPB]. 4 in Kourtaliotiko Gorge 5.4. 3 there 7.4. and 16.4.[RSPB]. 1 Kotsiphos gorge 9.5.[DT]. 3 at Plakias 6.8.[CP].

STOCK DOVE *Columba oenas*

2 Aposelemis gorge 18.4.[CDRSPB].

WOOD PIGEON *Columba palumbus*

1 Mirtos 3.4. and 2 Lassithi 4.4.[JNJS]. 3+ Lassithi 6.4. and 2 Lassithi 23.4.[CDRSPB]. Occasional singles in late April.[RDO]. 2 pairs believed to be breeding in Aposelemis gorge 15.4. and 7 behind Dikti Cave on Lassithi.[RSPB]. 1 Knossos 30.4.[MC]. 4 at lake Kournas 8.8.[CP]. 1 in Samaria Gorge 20.8.[KB]. 1 Almyros marsh 28.10.[DT].

COLLARED DOVE *Streptopelia decaocto*

Records this year away from the centres of Rethymnon and Hania as well as from those towns. 1 Frangocastello 10.4.[JNJS]. 2 not far from centre of Rethymnon 15.4.[RSPB] 1 there 17.4.[SCSP]. 1 not far from Moxos 3.5.[RDO] 1 Hania 28.4.[MC]. 1 in Rethymnon 6.8. & 11.8. [CP]&[KB]. 3 there 17.8.[RA]. 1 Knossos 23.8.[AJR].

TURTLE DOVE *Streptopelia turtur*

1 Heraklion power station marsh 18.4.[MS]. Singles from 17.4. at Gouves lagoons rising to 9 23.4.[CDRSPB]. 1 Georgioupolis 25.4.[MT]. 1 Agia Triada 22.4. 6 Malia beach 23-24.4. 2 Aposelemis river 27.4. 12 Malia beach 27.4. 1 Cretan Village west 7.5.[RDO]. 1 Tavronitis 7.5. singles Kolumbari, Amari and Aghia Triada 7.5.[MC]. 1 Petres Gorge 6.5.[DT]. 5 Amari valley 11.8.[CP].

CUCKOO *Cuculus canorus*

1 Aghia Triada 4.4. and 1 16.4. Matala [WM]. 1 Lassithi 4.4. and 1 Askyfou 10.4.[JNJS]. Singles Phaestos 5.4. Gouves lagoons 12.- 14.4. [RSPB]. 1 Gouves lagoons 17.4.[CDRSPB]. 1 heard on Omalos 16.4.[SCSP]. 1 Heraklion marsh 19.-21.4.[MS]. 1 Spili 28.4.[MT]. 1 above Kritsa 4.5. [RDO]. Singles Hania, Agia reservoir and en route to Omalos with 3 near Theriso 4.5.[MC].

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1 Hepatic bird on Omalos plateau 6.5.[JB]. 1 from Damnoni 23.8.[AJR].

BARN OWL *Tyto alba*

1 over Creta Sun hotel 13.4.[RSPB]. 1 Siva nr. Ptsidia 14.4.[WM]. 1 on the southern outskirts of Hania 5.5.[MC]. 1 Platanos 24.5.[JMW]

SCOPS OWL *Otus scops*

2 Mirtos 2.4. 2-3 Georgioupolis 5-16.4.[JNJS]. 2 Matala 4.4. 1 Siva nr. Ptsidia 14.4.[WM]. 1 heard at Ag. Constantides, Lassithi 6.4. [SCSP]. Heard 15.4. in Aposelemis gorge and at Creta Sun 17.4. 18.4. and 22.4.[CDRSPB]. 1 17.4. and 3.5. near Cretan Village hotel [RDO]. Heard Platanos 4-10.5.[DT]. 1 near Ag. Nikolaos 28.10.[DT].

TAWNY OWL *Strix aluco*

1 in grounds of Creta Sun 15.4.[RSPB]

LITTLE OWL *Athene noctua* No records received this year.

LONG EARED OWL *Asio otus* No records received this year.

NIGHTJAR *Caprimulgus europaeus*

1 roosting in an olive tree Phaestos 17.4.[RS].

SWIFT *Apus apus*

Recorded from 9.4.- 21.4. with max. 50+ Heraklion Power station.[MS]. Frequent from 17.4.[RDO]. Recorded daily in good numbers throughout the island from 4.4. to 17.4. particularly in and around Chania with 750 there and a similar number over Agia reservoir, 8.4.[RSPB]. About 1400 at Agia reservoir 14.4.[JNJS]. 150 over Creta Sun 15.4.[RSPB]. Common in early May. 10 in Chania harbour 4.8.[CP].

PALLID SWIFT *Apus pallidus*

5 Phalasarna 1.5. 200 Agia reservoir 2.5 with a few common swifts but only a few on 5.5. 50 at Airport 8.5.[MC]. 1 at Agia with thousands of Swifts 14.4.[JNJS]. 20 round Hania harbour 14.8.[KB].

ALPINE SWIFT *Apus melba*

First record 8 Aghia Triada 4.4.[WM]. Small numbers in early April with 10 at Georgioupolis 11.4.[JNJS]. 1 9.4. 2 10.4. and 4 11.4. all at Heraklion power station.[MS]. 50 over Mt Edhery and Gouves lagoons 20.4.[CDRSPB]. 20+ Kritsa 20.4. 2-3 Moni Prevelli 26.4.[RDO]. Small numbers from 4-17.4. with 20+ over Plakias headland on 7.4. and 15+ Kourtaliotiko 15.4.[RSPB]. In early May between 2-20 daily. In August 3 over Hania 4.8. & 3 at Phalasarna 7.8.[CP]. 1 Plakias 8.8. 1 Hania 14.8. 4-5 Kourtaliotiko 15.8. 8-25 at Plakias over the Kakomouri peninsula 16.8. 50 over Plakias over Kotsiphos 17.8.[KB] & [RA] and over Damnoni 23.8.[AJR]. In October 1 Agia reservoir 11.10. and 2 south over Mylo river ford 13.10.[CH]. 12 flew SW over Ag. Nikolaos 24.10.[DT].

KINGFISHER *Alcedo atthis*

1 at Agia reservoir 8.4.[RSPB] & [HMC]. Common in August along coast at Agia Galini, Moni Prevelli and Plakias.[RA]. 2 at Georgioupolis lake 3.8. In October 1 Geropotamos bridge 11.10. and 1 Elounda salt pans 15.10. as well as regular around Bali in October.[CH].

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Common Almyros, Ag Nikolaos harbour, Elounda and Sitia in late October. [DT]
2 Agios Nikolaos harbour 16.11 and 1 Aposelemis river 29.11. [CJH].

BEE-EATER *Merops apiaster*

4-6 Agia reservoir 8.4. [HMC] & [JN]. 15-20 over Cretan village 18.4. heard Phaestos 22.4. and 12 Malia beach 27.4. [RDO]. 1 Rethymnon pines 26.4. 2 Gourverneto monastery 2.5. 15 Agia reservoir 4.5. [MC]. 12 Malia 2.5. 12 Phalasarina 15.5. [RS].

BLUE-CHEEKED BEE-EATER *Merops superciliosus* No records received this year.

ROLLER *Coracias garrulus*

1 Elounda saltpans 5.4. 1 Frangocastello 16.4. [RS]

HOOPOE *Upupa epops*

1 Creta Sun gardens 4.4. 1 Agia Triada 9.4. 1 Plakias 11.4. and 1 Frangocastello 13.4. Singles at Georgioupolis lake and beach, Lake Kournas, Askyfou and Frangocastello in early April. [JNJS]. 1 Heraklion power station marsh 11.-12.4. [MS]. 1 22.4. Gouves lagoons. [CDRSPB]. 1-2 Moni Preveli Turkish bridge 26.4. [RDO]. A good year for records. 2 Moni Preveli 6.4. 2 Plakias to Damnoni 7.4. 1 Souda bay, Agia Triada 8.4. 1 Aposelemis 12.4. & 14.4. 1 Moni Preveli 15.4. [RSPB] 1 Amari valley 7.5. [DT]

WRYNECK *Jynx torquilla* 1 between Plakias and Damnoni 7.4. 1 Aposelemis river 11.4. 1 Geropotamus river below 12.4. and 1 Moni Preveli 15.4. [RSPB]. 1 at Frangocastello 13.4. [JS] & [SCSP]. 1+ near Psychro in the orchards 21.4. [RDO].

CALANDRA LARK *Melanocorypha calandra*

1 flushed near Gournes 30.10. [DT].

SHORT-TOED LARK *Calandrella brachydactyla*

Singles and small flocks of up to 20 in April and early May. 3 Elounda and 20 at Malia 5.4. 35+ arrived off the sea at Frangocastello 13.4. [JNJS]. 1 at Damnoni 7.4. A pair on territory at Aposelemis river. 35+ at Gouves lagoons 14.4. and 2-15 there 16.4.-23.4. [RSPB]. c20 flock over Heraklion power station and 8-12 Malia 12.4. [MS]. 3 Rethymnon pines 26.4. NW Hania 18.4. & 7.5. 2 Omalos 5.5. [MC]. 1 on 3.5. Gouves lagoons [RS]. Recorded from Damnoni during bad weather 23.-25.8. [AJR].
1 Malia archaeological site 29.11. and 1 Heraklion power station marsh 30.11. [CJH].

LESSER SHORT-TOED LARK *Calandrella rufescens*

1 28.4. and 2 29-30.4. Cretan Village hotel. [RDO]. Record submitted to recorder.

CRESTED LARK *Galerida cristata*

Common resident. Frequent in May [JB]. Common in August. 12 Phalasarina 7.8. 2 Amari valley 11.8. 6 in car park Souda bay cemetery 5.8. [CP]. In October records from Heraklion to Bali road, Geropotamus bridge 11.10. Georgioupolis 11.10. and Moni Preveli 13.10. [CH]. Regarded as uncommon in October but common in November. In December

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Malia 1.12. & 18.12. Many at Anapolis (Pediados) 23.12. 1 Karteros river 30.12. [CJH].

WOODLARK *Lullula arborea*

Common in high rocky country. Records of 6+ Lassithi 4.4. [JNJS] and Mt Yuchtas 7.4. Agia 12.4. and 2+ Omalos 16.4. [SCSP]. Recorded from Omalos plateau 13.5. [RS] and as high as 5,500ft at Kallergi refuge 5.5. [MC].

Seen at Damnoni during bad weather 23.-25.8. [AJR]. In October several at west end of Lassithi plateau and several at eastern pass, 15.10. [CH].

SKYLARK *Alauda arvensis*

1 Malia beach 27.4. [RDO]. 1 Aposelemis river 21.11. [CJH].

SAND MARTIN *Riparia riparia*

In Plakias in small groups of up to 20 during mid April. [NP]. 200+ Agia 8.4. [JNJS]. 1000 there 9.4. [RSPB]. 50+ Agia reservoir 14.4. [SCSP]. At Heraklion power station small numbers over marsh daily c200 there 20.4. [MS]. In May 300+ 4.5. and 100+ Agia 5.5. 100+ Georgioupolis lake 5.5. 50 at Airport 8.5. [MC].

In August at Damnoni during bad weather 23.-25.8. In October 50+ Agia reservoir 11.10. [CH].

CRAG MARTIN *Hirundo rupestris*

1 pair nesting Lendas 7.4. very pale with whitish throats. [WM]. 20+ Agia 8.4. [HMC]. Small numbers recorded from gorges and Kakomouri headland Damnoni, 10+ in Kotsiphos and Kourtaliotiko gorges near Plakias in April. 20 Omalos 8.4. [JNJS]. Recorded in Lassithi 29.4. [MT]. In May several still at sea level round Petres bridge, [DT] as well as small numbers in Samaria near Therisou and above Omalos. [MC]. 3 Kotiphos gorge 19.8. and 3 near Plakias 20.8. [RA]. 5 in Theriso gorge 9.8. 2 Amari valley 11.8. [CP]. Plentiful in lower Samaria gorge 20.8. [KB]. 5+ Moni Prevelli 13.10. [CH]. 3 Lyttos area 28.12. [CJH].

SWALLOW *Hirundo rustica*

Common in mid-late April. 200-300+ Agia 8.4, [HMC] & [JNJS] with 5000 there later the same day, and 350+ there 9.4. [RSPB]. Frequent in May. Widespread in August on north coast [CP] and [KB] with less on the south coast. In October records from 11.10. Geropotamus bridge at 7.00am. c50 east. Agia reservoir c100 same day. [CH]. Several over Almyros marsh 24.10. and light SW passage along coast south of Ag Nikolaos during afternoon of 27.10. [DT].

RED-RUMPED SWALLOW *Hirundo daurica*

Small numbers recorded daily during the first week in April. 3 Creta Sun & 2 Knossos 4.4. 2 Geropotamus 5.4. 6 over Agia 8.4. and 4 Gouves 11.4. 2 Phaestos and 2-3 Geropotamus /Aghia Triada 12.4. [RSPB]. 2+ seen Plakias in mid April. [NP]. 1 Agia 8.4. & 12.4. [SCSP] & [HMC]. 8 Georgioupolis 9.4. [JNJS]. 5 Knossos 30.4. 1 Amari 6.5. [MC]. 1 Amari valley 8.5. [RS].

3 regularly along cliffs at Plakias and drinking from the swimming pool at Alianthos Beach Hotel in August. [RA]. Record at Alianthos Beach Hotel breeding in corridor. 2 young fledged, but only one escaped through the glass door which the parents used. The birds used

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the hotel pool to bathe and drink.[KB]. 2 at Arkadi Monastery 10.8.
[CP].
Several Karteros river 23.12. and 3 there 30.12.[CJH].

HOUSE MARTIN *Delicon urbica*

40 drinking at the trout lake at Zaros 8.4.[WM]. Large groups passing through Plakias mid-April.[NP]. 300+ Agia 8.4.[RSPB]. Main movement from 9.4. onwards. 500+ Georgioupolis lake and 700+ Agia 14.4.[JNJS]. A few Lassithi and Knossos late April.[MT]. In May very numerous at Agia Triada monastery 10.5.[DT]. 50+ airport 8.5. recorded as high as 5,500ft. at Kallergi refuge.[MC].
In August 10 Arkadi monastery 10.8.[CP].
In October still a few Heraklion to Bali road 9.10.[CH].

TAWNY PIPIT *Anthus campestris*

4 near Ag, Nikolaos and 2 Malia 5.4. 1 Georgioupolis beach 11.4.
[JNJS] 2 Plakias mid April.[NP]. 3 Plakias area 7.4. 1 Omalos 9.4. 1 Gouves lagoons 16.4. and 17.4.[RSPB]. 1 Omalos 16.4.[SCSP] 1 15-18.4. Heraklion Power station.[MS]. 2+ Omalos plateau 13.5.[RS] 1 Elounda saltpans 15.10.[CH]
1 Damnoni during bad weather 23.-25.8.[AJR].

TREE PIPIT *Anthus trivialis*

Small numbers from 5.4. onwards.[JNJS]. Up to 8 Plakias between 8-23.4. [NP]. 1 Gortys 9.4. 1 Agia 14.4. 1 Omalos 16.4. [SCSP]. 15 Askyfou 9.4. and 10 Frangocastello 9.4.[JNJS]. Main pipit passage from 17.-22.4.[RDO].
1 Platanos beach 7.5.[DT]. In October 50+ Elounda saltpans 27.10. [DT].

MEADOW PIPIT *Anthus pratensis*

1 Gouves lagoon 4.4.[RSPB]. 2 near Ag. Nikolaos and 4 Elounda 5.4. 1 Georgioupolis 6.4.[JNJS]. 100's in fields near Elounda saltpans may have been grounded by overnight thunderstorm 27.10.[DT].

RED-THROATED PIPIT *Anthus cervinus*

6 Malia 5.4. 1 Georgioupolis 9.4. 6 Agia 12.4. and 1 there 14.4. [JNJS]. 1 Agia 14.4.[SCSP]. 30-50 daily through Gouves lagoons 10-23.4. [RSPB]. 3 NW Hania 25.4. and 4 there 28.4. 5 Skoutelonas 7.5. [MC]. Small flocks with up to c80 Malia beach 27.4.[RDO]. 3 with other pipits 27.10.[DT]. Small flock at Karteros river 20.11. and 1 Heraklion power station marsh 27.11.[CJH].

WATER PIPIT *Anthus spinoletta*

1 Elounda saltpans 27.10.[DT].

YELLOW WAGTAIL *Motacilla flava*

In April flocks of up to 10 most days of several races at Plakias. [NP]. Elsewhere small flocks during early April, larger flocks 50-200 recorded from 11.4. onwards.[SCSP]. The races mainly black-headed with some blue and grey-headed and ashy-headed forms. 100 black-headed at Agia 8.4. and 80 there 12.4. 200 at Georgioupolis lake on 9.4. all black-headed.[JNJS]. 2 black-headed along Platanos beach 7.5.[DT]. Records from Damnoni during bad weather 23.-25.8.[AJR]. 6 on irrigated turf at Souda Bay Cemetery 11.10. 1 Damnoni 13.10.[CH]. 1 Elounda 27.10.[DT].

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GREY WAGTAIL *Motacilla cinerea*

1 river in Kourtaliotiko gorge in April.[NP]. 1 Geropotamus bridge 11.10. 1 at Moni Prevelli feeding at a water trough 13.10. and 1 Bali 16.10.[CH]. 2 Kritsa 26.10 2 Almyros marsh 27.10. and 4+ Sitia harbour 29.10.[DT]. 1 Malia 14.11. 1 Giorifos river 23.11. 1 power station river 27.11. 2 Fodele village 27.11. 1 power station river 30.11. [CJH].

WHITE WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba*

Small numbers recorded daily in April and May from all suitable locations. 10+ Gouves lagoons 4.4.[SCSP]. 3-4 Elounda 2 Petres 6.4. [JNJS]. 1 at Phalasarna 5.5.[JB]. 1 Kotsiphos Gorge 9.5.[DT]. 5 at Phalasarna in August 7.8.[CP]. Frequently seen on the beach at Plakias during August.[KB].

In October seen Heraklion to Bali road 9.10. 1 adult 1 juv. Geropotamos bridge 11.10. Several juvs. at Georgioupolis lake 11.10. [CH]. Common in carparks at Ag. Nikolaos and Elounda. Max 15 at municipal beach Ag. Nikolaos.[DT]. Common in November and December.[CJH].

PIED WAGTAIL *Motacilla a. yarrelli*

1 on Kourtaliotiko river 5.4.[RSPB]. 2 Frangocastelli 9.4.[JNJS]. 1 Stavros beach 10.5.[DT].

WREN *Troglodytes troglodytes*

Common in upland areas and gorges in April and May. 3 at Georgioupolis 3.8.[CP]. 1 Vidiani Moni Lassithi 13.11.[CJH].

DUNNOCK *Prunella modularis* No records received.

ALPINE ACCENTOR *Prunella collaris*

1 at head of Samaria gorge 9.4.[RSPB]. 2 Kallergi refuge at 5,500ft 5.5.[MC].

RUFOUS BUSH ROBIN *Cercotrachus galactotes* No records received.

ROBIN *Erithacus rubecula*

1 Petres gorge 11.10.[CH]. 2 Almyros marsh 27.10.[DT]. Common in November and 1 Lassithi 22.12. 1 upper Aposelemis valley 24.12. and several near Potamies 31.12.[CJH].

NIGHTINGALE *Luscinia megarhynchos*

1 Plakias 6.4. 4 at Moni Prevelli 6.4. 1 near Aghia Triada monastery 8.4. 1 Gouves lagoons area 15-17.4. and 3 Moni Prevelli 15.4.[RSPB]. Up to 4 singing at Plakias in mid-April.[NP]. 2 Gouves lagoons 8.4. 1 Megalopotamos river 12.4. and 1 Phalasarna 15.4.[SCSP]. 4 Frangocastelli 9.4 singles there 10.4. & 13.4. 2 Moni Prevelli 15.4. [JNJS]. 1 Heraklion power station gorge 21.4.[MS]. 1 Aghia Triada 22.4. and 1 above Kritsa 4.5.[RDO]. 1 Phalasarna 1.5.[MC]. 1 en route to Omalos 6.5.[JB]. 1 Amari valley 7.5.[DT].

BLACK REDSTART *Phoenicurus ochrurus*

In October recorded from Ag Nikolaos hotel garden 27.10. Up to 6 on concrete blocks forming new harbour near Bus station 29.10.[DT] Also recorded from Rethymnon fortress 25.10.[MSH]. Common in November and December.[CJH].

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REDSTART *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

Small numbers passing through from April onwards. 2m & 2f Moni Preveli 6.4.[RSPB]. 1m 1f Plakias area 7.4. and 1f Souda Bay and 1 Akrotiri 8.4.[RSPB]. In mid-April 1f Plakias.[NP]. 1m Damnoni 10.4. 4+ Moni Preveli 12.4. 2 Agia 14.4.[SCSP]. 1m Frangocastello 10.4. 1f Petres 13.4. and 2-3 Moni Preveli 15.4.[JNJS]. 1m Malia 27.4.[RDO]. In October 1f 1m Georgiopolis 11.10. 1 Lassithi plateau 15.10.[CH].

WHINCHAT *Saxicola rubetra*

1+ 8.-10.4. Plakias [SCSP]. Singles and small numbers noted from 8.4. Maximum count of 11 in one field at "Camping George" Georgiopolis 11.4.[JNJS]. 1 Heraklion power station marsh 9.4. and 1 Malia marsh 12.4.[MS]. Movement noted during 17-24.4. at Plakias.[NP]. In May common migrant 6 Phalasarna 1.5.and 5 Omalos 5.5.[MC].

STONECHAT *Saxicola torquata*

Common and widespread resident. In May described as numerous everywhere but exceptionally so round Petres gorge.[DT]. In October recorded as many Petres gorge, Georgiopolis 11.10. and Bali 16.10.[CH]. Common in November and December.[CJH].

ISABELLINE WHEATEAR *Oenanthe isabellina*

1 at Rethymnon 26.4.[MT]. 1 Damnoni 27.8. arrived with several common and black-eared wheatears.[AJR].

WHEATEAR *Oenanthe oenanthe*

4 Lendas 7.4.[WM]. 1 Gouves lagoons 4.4. 10+ Omalos plateau 16.4. [SCSP]. 1 Malia marsh 12.4.[MS]. Small numbers recorded moving through steadily throughout April. Common in remote areas like Omalos and Theriso and up to 5,500' at Kallergi refuge, higher than Black-eared species. 1 en route to Imbros gorge 8.5.[DT]. Pair at Kourtaliotiko gorge 6.8. [CP]. 1 Kotsifos gorge 10.8.[KB].

BLACK-EARED WHEATEAR *Oenanthe hispanica*

Widespread in small numbers in mountain areas. 1m 1f Mt Yuchtas 7.4. [SCSP] 1 7.4. Lendas and 1 Matala 16.4.[WM] 3 Petres Gorge 6.5. 1 near Imbros Gorge 6.5.[DT]. In August frequent in olive groves and gorge at Plakias [RA]. 1 m Arkadi monastery 6.8. 2m 1f Petres gorge 8.8. and 1f Theriso gorge 9.8.[CP]. 1m black throated form 9.8.[KB].

ROCK THRUSH *Monticola saxitilis*

1 female at Georgiopolis reed beds 1.8.[CP].

BLUE ROCK THRUSH *Monticola solitarius*

Widespread in rocky country. 4+ Plakias 10.-12.4.[SCSP]. Records from Kolumbari, Phalasarna, Gouvernetou Moni, Moni Preveli and above Omalos, Plakias, Mt Yuchtas, Mt Edhery-"Mickey Mouse Ears" Gouves and Aposelemis gorge in April. 1 nest with 7 eggs in gorge behind Heraklion power station 19.4.[MS].

In May numerous in the Kourtaliotiko gorge where some of them were using the up draught to perform a classic song display as described in BWP by folding their wings and hanging sometimes for up to 20 secs in the wind rocking to and fro until they lost the wind. Then they

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would drop many feet until landing on a ledge singing all the time their limited fluty song.[DT].

In August common Kotsiphos Gorge and Kakomauri peninsula 7-21.8.[RA]. Plakias, Petres gorge and Arkadi monastery.[CP]&[KB].

1 Bali 10.10 and 1 Moni Prevelli 13.10.[CH]. 1 Almyros marsh 24.10.[DT].

1 Milatos cave 16.11. and 1 in gorge N. of Latsida 16.11.[CJH]. 1 near Anapolis(Pedialos) 23.12.[CJH].

BLACKBIRD *Turdus merula*

Widespread and common in April. In August 8 at Souda Bay cemetery 5.8. widespread elsewhere.[CP]. 1 Kotsiphos gorge 10.8.[KB].

In October record only of singles from Bali 11.10. and Moni Prevelli 16.10. Geropotamus bridge 11.10.[CH]. 1 Almyros marsh 24.10.[DT].

Common in November. 1 Malia 18.12. Frequent on Lassithi 22.12. and 1 Lyttos area 28.12. 1 Aposelemis valley nr Potamies 31.12.[CJH]

SONG THRUSH *Turdus philomelos*

1 Elounda 5.4.[JNJS]. 1 Bali 16.10.[CH]

CETTI'S WARBLER *Cettia cetti*

Very common and widespread throughout the island often in Giant Reed *Arundo donax* but not confined to this habitat. Believed to be slightly reduced in numbers this year by dry winter. 2 at Agia displaying and mating 14.5.[RS].

In October records from Georgioupolis lake 10.10. Geropotamos Bridge 11.10. Petres Gorge 11.10. and Georgioupolis lake 11.10.[CH].

December records from Potamies 31.12 and Kalo Horio(P).[CJH].

FAN-TAILED WARBLER *Cisticola juncidis*

Locally common. Records from Agia, Platanos, Damnoni, Heraklion power station marsh, Aposelemis river, Mt Youchtas, Aghia Triada, Malia, Tavronitis, Plataniyas and Georgioupolis.

GRASSHOPPER WARBLER *Locustella naevia*

1 at Aposelemis river 5.4.[RSPB] and 1 still singing there 9.4. [SCSP].

SAVI'S WARBLER *Locustella lusciniodes*

1 singing behind Georgioupolis beach 17.4.[JS].

MOUSTACHED WARBLER *Acrocephalus melanopogon*

1-2 Georgioupolis lake 11.4.[JNJS]. 1 singing Malia marsh 12.4. and 1 Heraklion power station marsh 20.4.[MS]. Common at the end of April beginning of May at Skoutelonas 1.5. and Agia 2.5.[MC].

AQUATIC WARBLER *Acrocephalus paludicola* No records received.

SEDGE WARBLER *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

10+ Georgioupolis lake 6.4. 10+ Agia reservoir 12.4. and 30+ there 16.4. 1 Frangocastello 13.4.[JNJS]. Common Heraklion power station marsh 9.-21.4.[MS]. 2+ Aposelemis river 4.4.[RSPB] and 2 there 8.4. and 1 Agia 14.4.[SCSP]. 1-4 Aposelemis river 17.-23.4.[CDRSPB]. 4+ in small fall at Agia Triada 22.4. and 2 Aposelemis river 27.4.[RDO]. 1 Agia 14.5.[RS]. 1 Agia 6.5.[JB]. 1 sometimes singing Damnoni 24.8. [JR].

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MARSH WARBLER *Acrocephalus palustris*

1 singing Heraklion power station marsh 19.4.90.[MS].

REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

1 Tavronitis 30.3.[JR]. 1 Phaestos 6.4.[SC]. 1 Agia reservoir 8.4. and 2 there 9.4.[RSPB]. 1 Frangocastello 10.4.[JN]. 1 in reeds Heraklion power station marsh 19.4.[MS]. 2 Aposelemis river 20.4. and 1 there 21.-23.4.[CDRSPB]. 1 singing Keridis 5.5.[MC]. 1 Heraklion power station 27.11, 1 Fodele beach marsh 27.11.[CJH].

GREAT REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*

Several singing Tavronitis 30.3.[JR]. 1 Georgioupolis lake 6.4. 2 Frangocastello 10.4. 1 Agia reservoir 13.4. & 2 there 12.4.[MC]. 1 Damnoni 7.4. 3 Agia 8.4. Singles Aposelemis 12,14,15.4. and 2 there 16.4.[RSPB]. 1 15.4. and then 1-2 15.4.-21.4. at Heraklion power station marsh.[MS]. 1-2 Aposelemis river 17.-23.4.[CDRSPB]&[RDO]. 1+ Malia 23.4-4.5.[RDO]. 1 Maleme 4.5.[JB]. 1 Damnoni 7.5. & 1 Agia 14.5.[RS].

OLIVACEOUS WARBLER *Hippolais pallida*

1 Damnoni during bad weather 23.-25.8.[JR]. 3 in Tamarisk trees near hotel Ag. Nikolaos 28.10.[DT].

OLIVETREE WARBLER *Hippolais olivetorum* No records received this

year.

ICTERINE WARBLER *Hippolais icterina*

1 heard at Plakias 17-24.4.[NP]. 1 Souda beach west of Plakias 12.8. [RA]. Up to 3 in tamarisks near Ag. Nikolaos cemetery 30.10.[DT].

SPECTACLED WARBLER *Sylvia conspicillata* No records received

this year.

MARMORA'S WARBLER *Sylvia sarda* No records received this year.

SUBALPINE WARBLER *Sylvia cantillans*

3m at Mirtos 3.4. 2 at Damnoni 3.4. 1 Imbros gorge 5.4.[HMC]. 1 Frangocastello 9.4. and 13.4. 2-3 there 10.4. and 1 Moni Prevelli 13.4. and 15.4.[JNJS]. 1 male Creta Sun grounds and 1 Malia 4.4. 4m and 3fs Moni Prevelli 6.4. 3 Plakias/Damnoni 7.4. and 1 Petres river 7.4. 3m Akrotiri near Aghia Triada monastery 8.4. and 6+ ms Moni Prevelli 15.4.[RSPB]. 1 Plakias 10.4.[SCSP]. 1 Frangocastello 13.4.[SCSP]. 3 single males at Plakias area between 8-24.4.[NP]. One singing Samaria Gorge 29.4.[MC]. 1 adult on railings sea wall above new harbour Ag. Nikolaos 27.10.[DT].

SARDINIAN WARBLER *Sylvia melanocephala*

Common. Abundant breeding over most of the island by April.

RÜPPELL'S WARBLER *Sylvia rüppelli*

1 male Mirtos 3.4. and 2 at Moni Prevelli 13.4. and 1 there 15.4. [JNJS]. 4 males at Moni Prevelli 6.4. and 1 there 15.4. seen in song and collecting nest material.[RSPB]. 2+ Moni Prevelli 12.4.[SCSP]. 2 singing males near Moni Prevelli 16.4.[MS] Single males on 3 occasions in Plakias area 8-24.4.[NP]. 3 Kourtaliotiko gorge 6.8. and 2m Phalasarna 7.8.[CP].

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Good sightings of adults feeding young near Frangocastello 7.5.[JB].

ORPHEAN WARBLER *Sylvia hortensis*

2 Ag. Galini 9.4.[SC]. 1 near Aghia Triada monastery 10.5.[DT].

LESSER WHITETHROAT *Sylvia curruca*

1 in olive groves between Plakias and Damnoni 7.4.[RSPB]. 1 Cretan village hotel 6.5. The day the spotted flycatchers arrived.[RDO]. 1 Turkish bridge in Prevelli valley 25.8.[JR]. 1f Theriso gorge 9.8. [CP].

WHITETHROAT *Sylvia communis*

2 above Stalis 5.4.[JR]. 4 Plakias /Damnoni 7.4. 1 Aghia Triada monastery 8.4.[RSPB]. 8 Ag. Galini 9.4. and 2 Moni Prevelli 11.4. [SC]. 1 Petres gorge 12.4. and 13.4. and one near Moni Prevelli 13.4. [JNJS]. 1 Lassithi plateau 13.4.[MS]. 2 Plakias 10.4. and heard Omalos 16.4.[SCSP]. Recorded on 6 occasions Plakias 8-24.4.[NP]. 20-30 Moni Prevelli 15.4.[RSPB]. 1 Matala 16.4.[WM]. One late bird in October 1 Bali 16.10.[CH]. 1 Kalo Horio(P) 17.11. and 1 Aposelemis river 21.11. 1 Kalo Horio(P).[CJH].

GARDEN WARBLER *Sylvia borin* 1 Plakias between 8-24.4.[NP]. 1

Moni Prevelli 15.4.[RSPB]. 1 Agia reservoir 2.5.[MC]. 1 Maleme 7.5. [JB]. 1 Plakias 16.8.[RA]. 1 Milatos 16.11.[CJH].

BLACKCAP *Sylvia atricapilla*

1 Gortys 5.4. 1 Plakias 6.4. and pair at Moni Prevelli 6.4. 1m 9.4 at head of Samaria gorge. Several in ravine at Kera 15.10.[CH].

BONELLI'S WARBLER *Phylloscopus bonelli* No records received.

WOOD WARBLER *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*

2 on 6.4. and 10+ 15.4. Moni Prevelli. 1 Aghia Triada monastery 8.4. 2 Agia 2 8.4. and 1 9.4. 6+ Aghia Triada near Phaestos 8.4.[RSPB]. 1-2 on 4 occasions Plakias 8-24.4.[NP]. 2 Agia reservoir 8.4. 2 Frangocastello 10.4. 1 there 13.4. and 3 at Moni Prevelli 13.4. 20 at Moni Prevelli 15.4.[JNJS]. 1 near Plakias 16.4. and 1 in gorge near Heraklion power station 21.4.[MS]. 5 Phaestos 19.4. 3 Aghia Triada 19.4. and 4 22.4. Aposelemis river. [CDRSPB]. 6+ Aghia Triada 22.4. [RDO]. 1 Moni Prevelli 3.5. at Kallergi at 5,500 feet 5.5. and 1 at Moni Prevelli 3.5. 1 Maleme 4.5.[JB]. 1 in trees near Ag. Nikolaos municipal beach 27.10.[DT]. 1 in olive groves at Souda Bay Cemetery 11.10.[CH].

WARBLERS spp.

Elounda salt pans 27.10. after overnight storm. Fields on sea side alive with hundreds of *Phylloscopus* warblers nearly all juveniles [DT].

CHIFFCHAFF *Phylloscopus collybita*

1 Agia 14.4.[SCSP]. 1 at Moni Prevelli 15.4.[JNJS]. Common in December at Aposelemis river 22.12.[CJH].

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WILLOW WARBLER *Phylloscopus trochilus*

1 Plakias 10.4. 3+ Moni Prevelli and river Megalopotamos 12.4. 1 Frangocastello 13.4. and 2 Phalasarna 15.4.[SCSP]. 2 birds of Eastern race (*yakutensis*) at Moni Prevelli 15.4.[RSPB]. 1 singing at Plakias during 17-24.4.[NP]. 1 Cretan village Hotel nr. Hersonnisos 17.4. [RDO]. 1 20.4. and 22.4. Aposelemis river [CDRSPB]. 1 Petres Gorge 11.10.[CH].

GOLDCREST *Regulus regulus*

2 at Phaestos 5.4.[RSPB].

FIRECREST *Regulus ignicapillus* No records received.

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa striata*

Abundant in the first week in May.[JB]&[MC]. 3+ Hersonnisos 6.4. [RDO]. In May records from Platanos and Amari valley.[DT]. 3 Keridis river 7.8. & 2 Theriso gorge 9.8.[CP]. 1 20.8. in Samaria gorge.[KB]. 1 Melidoni Cave 14.10. and 3 Bali 16.10.[CH].

RED-BREASTED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula parva* No records received this year.

COLLARED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula albicollis*

1 m Moni Prevelli 12.4.[SCSP]. 3m and 2f Moni Prevelli 15.4.[RSPB]. 1-2 Plakias 21-24.4.[NP]. Male at Tavronitis 4.5.[JB].

SEMI-COLLARED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula semitorquata* No records received

PIED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula hypoleuca*

3ms in olive groves below Aghia Triada 12.4. and 4+ Moni Prevelli 15.4.[RSPB]. 6+ Moni Prevelli and Megalopotamos river 12.4.-15.4. 1 Frangocastello 13.4. and 2 Phalasarna 15.4.[SCSP]&[JNJS]. 1-2 Plakias between 8-24.4.[NP]. 1 Visari 14.4. and 2 Matala 16.4.[WM]. 1-2 Aposelemis river 20.4-23.4.[CDRSPB]. 1 in gorge near Heraklion power station 21.4.[MS]. 5 near Kolumbari 27.4. 1 Phalasarna 1.5. and 1 Moni Prevelli 3.5.[MC]. 1 male north of Kritsa 4.5.[RDO].

COAL TIT *Parus ater*

1 Samaria Gorge 16.4.[SC]. Several Imbros gorge 22.8.[JR].

BLUE TIT *Parus caeruleus*

Common in hills. Widespread but present only in small numbers. Records from Bali 10.10.[CH].

GREAT TIT *Parus major*

Common and widespread in lowlands and uplands. Recorded Bali 10.10 and Moni Prevelli 13.10.[CH].

ROCK NUTHATCH *Sitta neumayer* No records received.

SHORT-TOED TREECREEPER *Certhia brachydactyla*

2 Samaria Gorge 16.4.[SC]. Heard near Xyloskala Samaria gorge 20.8. [KB].

PENDULINE TIT *Remiz pendulinus* 2 Agia reservoir 8.4.[RSPB].

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GOLDEN ORIOLE *Oriolus oriolus*

1 21.4. Aposelemis river. [CDRSPB]. 2-3 Agia Galini 28.4. [MT]. 1 male Hersonissos 17.4. 1 Aghia Triada 22.4. and 1 near Kritsa 4.5. [RDO]. A small movement through the island during late April and the first half of May. 1 Gouves lagoons 3.5. 1 Elounda & Malia 6.5. 1 Amari valley 8.5. 2 Tavronitis river 14.5. [RS]. Seen while driving 3-10.5. and 1 good sighting Frangocastello 7.5. [JB].

RED-BACKED SHRIKE *Lanius collurio*

Unusual Spring records of 1 female at Frangocastello 13.4. [JNJS] and 1 adult male Malia 24.4. [RDO]. 1 juv. on cliffs west of Plakias 12.8. 1f Moni Prevelli 13.8. 1m Plakias 18.8. [RA]. 1 immature Damnoni 24.-27.8. and 1 adult male Mariou 28.8. [JR]. 1 juvenile Moni Prevelli 13.10. & 1 juvenile Georgioupolis 11.10. [CH]. 2 power station marsh 27.11. [CJH].

LESSER GREY SHRIKE *Lanius minor*

1 Omalos plateau 16.4. [SC]. 1 Cretan Village 18.4. [RDO]. 1m Georgioupolis lake 3.8. [CP]. 2 adults and 1 juv. Plakias 12.8. possibly still on territory. [KB]. 1 juv. on 12.8 and 18.8. at Plakias. 1 adult there 13.8. 14.8. and 21.8. 1 adult Kotsiphos Gorge 19.8. [RA]. 1 Damnoni 24.8. and 2 there 25-27.8. [JR].

WOODCHAT SHRIKE *Lanius senator*

Common in Spring in a variety of habitats usually singles. 1 Malia 4.4. 1 Elounda 5.4. 6+ Gouves lagoons 8.4. 2 Moni Prevelli 10.4. 3 Agia 12.4. and 1 Phalasarna 15.4. [SCSP]. 1 Zaros 8.4. 2 Visari 14.4. and 1 Matala 16.4. [WM]. 1 Souda Bay cemetery 15.4. [RS]. 2-4 Aposelemis river area 20.-27.4. [CDRSPB] & [RDO]. Recorded from Plakias area 8-24.4. [NP]. 1 above Kritsa 20.4. 1 Lassithi 21.4. 1 Malia 24.4. and 3 there 27.4. 1 Meso pass 3.5. [RDO]. 1 near Imbros gorge 6.5. [DT]. 1 Phalasarna 5.5. [JB]. 1M 1f Akrotiri 5.8. [CP]. 1 adult Damnoni 14.8. 1 juv. Plakias 16.8. 2 18.8. 1 adult and 1 juv. 20.8. 1 juv. cliffs west of Plakias 20.8. [RA].

MASKED SHRIKE *Lanius nubicus*

1 on road Mesa Lassithi and Mesa Potami 16.4. [RSPB].

JAY *Garrulus glandarius*

1 at Lake Kournas 12.4. [JNJS]. 1 at Visari 14.4. [WM]. 2 Omalos 16.4. [SCSP]. 1 Meso Pass to Lassithi 3.5. [RDO]. 1 Samaria Gorge 20.8. [KB].

MAGPIE *Pica pica* Singles reported from two areas in April but the magpie has somewhat mystery status on Crete. Status is regarded as released only. Detailed notes required please.

ALPINE CHOUGH *Pyrrhocorax graculus*

Flock at Omalos 27.3. [JR]. 2 above entrance to Samaria gorge in April. [NP]. 2 Mt Psiloritis 14.4. [MS]. 1 Omalos 16.4. [SCSP]. Small party over Samaria gorge 20.8. [KB]. 1 Petres gorge 8.8. [CP].

CHOUGH *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*

34 over Samaria gorge in April 9.4. [RSPB]. 10 Lassithi 4.4. [JNJS]. 20 around Aposelemis gorge 14.-15.4. & at least 4 at Diktaion cave 16.4. [RSPB]. 1 Lassithi plateau 13.4. and 4 Mt Psiloritis 14.4. [MS]. 20+ Omalos 16.4. [SCSP]. 2-3 Lassithi 29.4. [MT]. Single Lassithi 3.5.

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[RDO]. Several over Omalos plateau 6.5.[JB]. 2 Kourtaliotiko gorge 15.8.[KB].
25 over Tzermiado on Lassithi 25.10.[DT]. 2 over east end of Lassithi 15.10.[CH] and 13.11.[CJH].

JACKDAW *Corvus monedula*

50-85+ nesting in aqueduct near Knossos 7.4. & 50+ Chora Sfakion 11.4. and 20 pairs in Aposelemis gorge 15.4. [SCSP]&[RSPB]. 1 pair nesting at Profit Ilias 11.4.[WM]. 3-4 around Akti Zeus in April. [MS]. Breeding in holes in cliffs at Petres gorge in May.[DT].

HOODED CROW *Corvus corone cornix*

Common throughout the island. c20 Ierapetra reservoir 12.10.[CH].

RAVEN *Corvus corax* Common.

2 Selinari gorge 5.4. 1 Lassithi 6.4. and pairs throughout the island.[SCSP]. 1 Mt Psiloritis 14.4. and 2 in gorge near Heraklion power station 19.4.[MS]. 4 Aposelemis river 18.4. and 6 there 22.4. [CDRSPB]. 2-3 Spili 28.4.[MT]. 1 Moni Preveli 13.10. and 2 Bali 16.10.[CH].

STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris*

20 flying east to roost at Plakias 12.8.[KB]. 50+ Almyros marsh 24.10.[DT]. Common in Heraklion in November.[CJH]. A small flock Karteros river 30.12.[CJH].

HOUSE SPARROW *Passer domesticus*

1 male recorded Plakias in April.[NP]. Common around Akti Zeus hotel in April.[MS]. A roost of 1000's in Ag. Nikolaos square in October. [DT].

ITALIAN SPARROW *Passer domesticus italiae*

Commoner than House sparrow in most areas including Akti Zeus hotel near Heraklion.[MS]. and Cretan Village hotel Hersonnisos.[RDO].

SPANISH SPARROW *Passer hispaniolensis*

A good year for records. A small flock Malia 4.4.[SCSP]. 250 Georgioupolis beach 14.4. 100 there 15.4. and 25 Petres 16.4.[JNJS] Flock of 20+ at Damnoni in April.[NP]. 20+ Samaria Gorge 16.4.[SC]. 100+ Gouves lagoons 10.4. and smaller numbers there afterwards but only 1 Aposelemis river 18.4.[RSPB] & [CDRSPB]. 1-3 flocks of 10-40 birds on dawn walks at Aposelemis river, Cretan village and Malia 16.4.- 7.7.[RDO]. Resident and common Damnoni in August.[JR].

TREE SPARROW *Passer montanus*

Common around Akti Zeus hotel 9.-21.4.[MS].

ROCK SPARROW *Petronia petronia*

1 opposite Rythimna Beach hotel 24.10.[MSH].

CHAFFINCH *Fringilla coelebs*

Widespread and abundant. Recorded Petres Gorge 11.10.[CH].

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SERIN *Serinus serinus*

Local mainly on north coast. 2 Agia reservoir 12.4.[JNJS]. 2 at Knossos 4.4. 3 river Geropotamus 5.4. and 2 Moni Prevelli 6.4.[RSPB]. Several near Aghia Triada monastery 10.5.[DT]. 3 near municipal beach in tamarisks 28.10. Ag. Nikolaos.[DT].

GREENFINCH *Carduelis chloris*

Fairly common. Records from Heraklion to Bali road 9.10 and Bali 16.10. [CH]. Recorded on passage migration 30.10. in flocks of 250+ until 14.00pm. flocks included 60% Greenfinches, 30% Goldfinches and 10% Siskins.[DT].

GOLDFINCH *Carduelis carduelis* Very common in April and May.

Recorded in October Heraklion to Bali road 9.10 and Petres gorge 16.10.[CH].

SISKIN *Carduelis spinus*

1 in hills behind Platanias 28.5.[JMW]. Large numbers on 30.10. in a passage migration over Ag. Nikolaos.

LINNET *Carduelis cannabina*

Single Elounda 5.4. 10+ Mt Yuchtas 7.4. Small flocks in the mountains. [SCSP]. and at sea level, Aposelemis river.[CDRSPB]. Small flocks in Plakias area in April.[NP]. Record flock of 100+ on Akrotiri peninsula 8.4.[RSPB]. Records from Petres gorge 11.10. and Georgioupolis lake 11.10.[CH]. and Aposelemis river 22.12.[CJH].

CROSSBILL *Loxia curvirostra*

2 9.00am. 18.8 probably juvenile appeared to arrive from the sea pausing briefly before moving inland.[RA]. 10-20 Rethymnon fortress 25.10.[MSH].

HAWFINCH *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

1 Gerakari 10.4.[SC].

CIRL BUNTING *Emberiza cirlus*

Fairly numerous on the inner slopes of Lassithi plateau and also pass west of Sitia and on the old Elounda -Neapolis road.[RDO]. 1 near Lassithi plateau 13.4.[MS]. Single male Omalos 16.4.[SCSP]. 1 m south of Armeni 6.8.[CP]. Several near Kera 15.10. and Lassithi at west end feeding in bare fields 15.10.[CH].

ROCK BUNTING *Emberiza cia* No records received.

ORTOLAN *Emberiza hortulana*

4+ on five occasions 8-24.4. Plakias [NP]. 2 males Askyfou/Imbros 10.4. 1 Petres 12.4. and 1 male there 13.4.[JNJS]. May records from near Omalos and around Imbros gorge 6.5.[JB]. 4 near Theriso 4.5. [MC].

CRETZSCHMAR'S BUNTING *Emberiza caesia*

1 Kotsiphos gorge 7.5. 1 Amari valley 8.5.[RS]

REED BUNTING *Emberiza schoeniclus* No record received.

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BLACK-HEADED BUNTING *Emberiza melanocephala*

1 Gouves lagoons 4.5. 1 Tavronitis river 14.5. and 1 Phalasarna 15.5.
[RS]. 1m at Lassithi Plateau 1.5.

CORN BUNTING *Miliaria calandra* Locally common.

10 singing males recorded Plakias area 8-24.4.[RSPB] & [NP]. Heard at Spili 9.4. 10+ Plakias - Damnoni area 10.4. Small numbers in the west.[SCSP]. 2 Visari 14.4.[WM]. Common in the Gerapotamos valley inland from Rethymnon in April.[MS]. Common Lassithi.[RDO]. Recorded near Chora Sfakion 7.5.[JB].

BUTTERFLIES

Swallowtail *Papilion machaon* April.[RSPB] & [SCSP].
Scarce Swallowtail *Iphiclides podalirus* April.[RSPB] & [SCSP].
Eastern Festoon *Zerynthia cerisyi f. cretica* April.[RSPB] & [SCSP]
Small White *Artogeia rapae* April.[RSPB] & [SCSP]
Large White *Pieris brassicae* April.[RSPB] & [SCSP]
Bath White *Pontia daplidice* April.[RSPB] & [SCSP]
Dappled White *Euchloe simplonia* April.[RSPB]
Clouded Yellow *Colias hecla* April.[RSPB] & [SCSP]
Pale Clouded Yellow *Colias hyale* Several Stalis in early April.[AJR].
Cleopatra *Gonepteryx cleopatra* April.[RSPB] & [SCSP]
Brimstone *Gonepteryx rhamni* April.[RSPB]
Large tortoiseshell *Nymphalis polychloris* April.[RSPB]
Comma *Polygonia c-album* April.[RSPB]
Southern Comma *P egea* April.[RSPB]
Painted Lady *Cynthia cardui* April.[RSPB] & [SCSP]
Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta* April.[RSPB] & [SCSP]
Southern Speckled Wood *Pararge aegeria aegeria* April.[RSPB] & [SCSP]
Wall Brown *Lasiommata megera* April.[RSPB] & [SCSP]
Small Copper *Lycaena phlaes* April.[RSPB] & [SCSP]
Chapmans Blue *Plebicula thersites* Common Plakias in late August.[AJR]
Holly blue *Celastrina argiolus* April.[RSPB]
Grass jewel *Freyeria trochylus* April.[RSPB]
Common Blue *Polyommatus menelaos* April.[RSPB] & [SCSP]
Mediterranean Skipper *Genes nostradamus* 11.4. Plakias. [SCSP]
Mallow Skipper *Carcharodus alceae* 2 Plakias 26.8.[AJR]
Pygmy Skipper *Genes pumilo* Abundant on south coast in August.[AJR].

MOTHS

Humming Bird Hawk Moth *Macroglossum stellatarum*
Silver Y *Autographa gamma*

REPTILES

Common tree frog *Hyla arborea*
Green toad *Bufo viridis*
Stripe-necked Terrapin *Mauremys caspica*
Marsh Frog *Rana ridibunda*
Turkish Gecko *Hemidactylus turcicus*
Ocellated Skink *Chalcides ocellatus*
Balkan Green Lizard *Lacerata viridis*
Erhards Wall Lizard *Podarcis erhardii*
Balkan Whip Snake *Coluber gemonensis*
Dice Snake *Natrix tessellata*

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MAMMALS

Eastern Hedgehog *Erinaceus concolor*
Greater white-toothed shrew *Crocidura russula*
Bat sp.
Ship rat *Rattus rattus*
Beech marten *Martes foina bunites*
Weasel *Mustela nivalis*

INSECTS

Mining bees *Andrena spp.*
Carpenter bee *Xylocopa violacea*
Egyptian Grasshopper *Anacridium aegyptium*
Grasshopper spp.
Bush Cricket spp.
Ground Bug *Lygaeus saxatilis*
Beefly *Bombylius major*
Spider *Argiope brunnechi*

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Stephanie Coghlan.

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CJH- Chris & John Henshall
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WM- Wendy Mann
RDO- Robert Oades
CP- Chris Pittam
GP- Granville Potter
NP- Nigel Pierce
RP- Roderick & Sheila Plowman
AJR- John Richards
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This Report is a reformatted version of the original report.
The text is unchanged apart from minor amendments.
JJ Coghlan. February 2012