



**CAIRDE EANLAITH NA GAILLIMHE
BIRDWATCH GALWAY**

www.birdwatchgalway.org
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER – EDITOR: NEIL SHARKEY
Telephone: 086 1680856 e-mail: neilsharkey@eircom.net
Issue No. 63 Nov. 2008

This is a local forum newsletter –
contributions and comments are
most welcome.
Distributed by e mail only

BRANCH MATTERS

Winter has almost surreptitiously come upon us after a wet and dreary Autumn. The nights are colder, the air is crisper and winter birds of various kinds have arrived all over the county. We feared that it would be too early to record (many Golden Plover during the survey at the end of October but good numbers were seen, particularly at Rahasane Turlough and near Glenamaddy. White-fronted Geese and Whooper Swans have now arrived at their regular winter haunts and we are looking out for the Brent Geese to make an appearance soon. Of course, we wouldn't know which birds had arrived at which locations if it wasn't for the great number of committed and keen birdwatchers in the county. You will find some interesting reports of unusual sightings in this issue of the *Newsletter*. It is not given to everyone to spot such rarities but that really does not matter. We also need people who help out with surveys, either as counters or record keepers, compile the bird reports and *Newsletters*, organise talks AND attend them, represent BirdWatch at events or on statutory bodies, plan branch events and mind general branch matters. In other words, there is always something to be done and everybody could make a contribution. The best way to become involved is to attend the monthly branch meetings on Wednesdays where we draw up plans, exchange sightings and discuss matters of interest to any Galway birdwatcher. With the month of December approaching, the branch Christmas get-together would also be a good opportunity to meet other branch members and enjoy the presentation of recent sightings by Tom Cuffe, followed by a drink and a chat. We are looking forward to seeing a lot of our members in the Anno Santo then or at any other event listed in the programme at the end of the *Newsletter*.

Marianne ten Cate

BIRDS IN POETRY

Moya Cannon, now living in Galway, was born in Donegal and has published three impressive volumes of poetry, *Oar*, *The Parchment Boat* and, in 2007, *Carrying the Songs*. In that collection the poem 'Winter Birds' is a blend of the wonder of the seasonal visitation of migratory geese (in this instance Barnacle Geese) and the experience of migratory labourers from her native Donegal.

Pat Finnegan

Winter Birds

I have frequently seen, with my own eyes, more than a thousand of these small birds hanging down on the sea-shore from one piece of timber, enclosed in their shells and already formed.

Giraldus Cambrensis, *Topographia Hiberniae*

From the cliffs of Northern Greenland the black-breasted geese come down to graze on the wind-bitten sedges of Inis Cé. They land in October, exhausted, bringing with them their almost-grown young.

No one on these shores could ever find their nests, so in early times it was concluded that they had hatched from the pupa-shaped goose barnacle – as fish, they were eaten on Fridays.

In April they gather now, restless, broody, fatted on the scant grasses of a continent's margin, ready to leave for breeding grounds in Greenland's tundra.

Watching that nervous strut and clamour – a tuning orchestra raucous before the signal to rise on the wind in a harmony old as hunger – the name grips somewhere else, my father's talk of 'winter-birds' in his class in South Donegal, the name his schoolmaster had given to big boys and girls who sat in the back seats, back from the Lagan, bound soon for Scotland, already seasoned, their migratory patterns set.

Moya Cannon

From *Carrying the Songs*, published by Carcanet Press, 2007. With kind permission from Moya.

LITTLE BLUE HERON

The arrival, in early Oct, of this spectacular bird at Letterfrack was, by any standards a major birdwatching event. All credit to Aonghus O Donaill and Dermot Breen who first followed up a local lead and then identified the bird. This American heron was a first for Ireland and England and for all practical purposes a first for Europe. Over the following days the sight was visited by hundreds of UK and Irish birdwatchers and received considerable national publicity. Congratulations to Dermot and Aonghus. Also worthy of note was the amazing list of birds recorder by Dermot Breen and others on Aran during Oct. This was really ground breaking stuff. If you want to see the full story complete with brilliant photographs just key into Google the words *Aran and punkbirders* (trust me - it works)

NS

**WESTERN SANDPIPER, Omev Strand,
Cleggan, Co. Galway, 13th September 2008.**

Saturday the 13th September hadn't gotten off to a great start. For the last few weeks there had been regular reports of American waders from the southwest. That morning there had been a report of a Semipalmated Sandpiper, a juvenile American Golden Plover and two Buff-breasted Sandpipers at Carahane Strand, Co. Kerry alone. I just couldn't understand how I hadn't managed to find a single thing here in west Galway for the last month and a half since I moved here. First port of call a small beach near the house produced nothing out of the ordinary. No hoped-for Buff-breasted Sandpiper on the adjacent golf course either. As I began to turn back to the car it started to rain - it didn't stop all weekend.

On to Omev Strand next. Omev Strand is technically a tombolo, a wide sandbar connecting Omev Island with the mainland at low tide. The best numbers of "smalls" in west Galway are usually found here. My first scan through the mixed Ringed Plover and Sanderling flock caused me no excitement. However, as I went through the flock for a second time a small calidrid wader jumped out at me. It was obviously a species I had never seen before. The combination of a very long fine bill, partial webbing between the toes, the remnants arrow head markings along the flanks especially on the right and some retained bright chestnut upper scapulars got my heart racing as I knew I was surely looking at a Western Sandpiper! I had been hoping to add Semipalmated Sandpiper to my finds list but was not expecting this, to say the least. I rang Aonghus O'Donaill but due to dire mobile reception in the area he couldn't make out what I was saying. He obviously knew I had picked something up, why else would I be ringing him at this time in the morning. All I could do was shout "WESTERN SANDPIPER OMEV ISLAND" down the phone. I eventually managed to get a text out to people and got talking to Killian Mullarney to discuss the identification over the phone. I got some record shots of the bird with my phone and sent these onto Killian and a few others. I was later joined by a few birders, one of whom managed to get some good photographs.

Later on in the day, as the tide approached, we had to make a quick escape were we not to get trapped out there. While going through the flock from the mainland I picked up an interesting wader flying in. I remarked to the lads "What's this flying in? - Buff-breasted Sandpiper!" Thankfully it landed but only remained just in time for everyone to get a quick look before it was off again.

The Western Sandpiper remained in view for most of the day, spending a lot of time sleeping next to or behind clumps of seaweed. The bird was last seen at 1630hrs as high tide finally moved it out of the area. It was seen very briefly the next day in



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atrocious weather. A grand total of nine people saw the bird, which just goes to show how different things are here compared to the UK. This was the fourth record for Ireland, the last being at Ballydehob, Cork in 1999.

Dermot Breen

**PEREGRINES, COURTING COUPLES
AND RAVEN(S)**

Before I moved to County Galway in September 1998, I lived in the city of Bristol in the southwest of England. Bristol is a city of close to 1m inhabitants with two football teams (come on Rovers!) and, best of all, a pair of Peregrines in the Avon Gorge.

For those of you who don't know Bristol, the River Avon runs through the city centre, under the Clifton Suspension Bridge, through the Avon Gorge and out into the River Severn at Avonmouth. Isambard Kingdom Brunel built the city's floating harbour and designed the Clifton Suspension Bridge, which wasn't completed until after his death. It stands as a suitable monument to a man who changed western civilisation. I digress, however...

When I was growing up, I used to do a lot of birding around the woodland of Blaise Castle estate and the rivers Frome and Avon. I had always suspected Peregrines were using the Avon Gorge, but had never seen a one there. It seems that they had bred there many years ago, but disappeared from the gorge when populations crashed due to pesticides and persecution.

A pair of breeding Peregrines returned to the gorge in 1990. Local birders were horrified when a man was observed clambering down the rock face to the nest; he proceeded to batter two of the chicks to death with a pool cue before anyone could intervene.

As a result, the Bristol Ornithological Club organised a formal Peregrine Watch when a pair nested in 1991. A new fangled mobile phone was obtained, and the numbers of local police and English Nature wardens programmed in to it just in case. The watch was also equipped with a telescope belonging to the BOC and a logbook, in which volunteers were asked to record all Peregrine activity and anything else of interest.

The watch site has always been on the Clifton side of The Downs for ease of access, and looks across to Leigh Woods. It is a spectacular spot, and, needless to say, the array of weirdoes in birding gear in the middle of summer and their telescopes generate a lot of interest from members of the public using The Downs for recreation.

I first got involved with the Watch in 1994. Patrols on the watch were usually two to three hours, depending on the number of volunteers available for that particular day. My first patrol was on a Sunday afternoon, and was notable for a complete lack of Peregrine activity. As a result we focussed the scopes on a Raven's nest, which held a couple of near-fledged youngsters. One man commented to me that he thought Ravens only existed in Britain at

the Tower of London, which was about the only memorable part of the day.

The Ravens nested in the gorge each year, and it was interesting to see how close the Peregrines would nest to the Raven's nest site. Ravens often nest close to Peregrines because Peregrines keep food in caches (holes in the rock, usually) around their nest site, and Ravens try to learn where the caches are so they can raid them.

I ended up doing the early shift every Sunday morning for five years. This involved getting to the watch site at dawn, after picking up the club scope, log book, phone and other sundry items from the tollbooth on the Suspension Bridge. Then I'd get everything set up and wait for the first activity, either from members of the public or the local wildlife.

One Sunday, after getting the scope into position, I was alerted to a rustling sound from the bushes to the right of the watch site. When I turned around, I was amused to see a young couple in evening dress emerge, red-faced and clutching a bottle of champagne, presumably students on the way home after the ball.... On another occasion, loud music was coming from one of the old quarries on the Leigh Woods side. It turned out there had been a rave there the previous evening, and I just caught the end of the music.

The main attraction was, naturally enough, the Peregrines, and throughout my years on the watch, they always amazed and excited me. The adults had regular perches, and I would always check each of them on my arrival to see which adult was out and about, and which was on the eggs. More often than not, neither adult would be in view, but occasionally one would surprise me and put in an early appearance. On one occasion, the male was perched on my side of the gorge, a matter of yards below the watch site. On another, I watched in fascination as one of the adults flew low and fast from the nest site to our side of the gorge, grabbed a young Jackdaw out of its nest and headed back to its own young.

The great shame was that an organised watch was necessary to stop the falcons being persecuted. Bristol has a large number of pigeon-fanciers that held the gorge Peregrines responsible whenever one of their birds disappeared. The attacker in 1991 was assumed to be a fancier, although it was never proved. One even went so far as to bring one of his birds to the watch site, which he claimed had been hit and injured by a Peregrine. I always felt they were asking for trouble by keeping birds which are prime prey for a number of raptors, but given the amount of money one racing pigeon can fetch, it is easy to understand the frustrations of the fanciers. In fairness, they may have had a point, as leg rings from racers were found around the Peregrine nest sites.

Over the years on the Watch, I had fabulous views of Peregrines, learnt a lot about them as a species, spoke to loads of interesting people and saw other birds that you may not usually expect so close to a city centre. I also forged friendships, one of which

survives to this day. It was a great experience, and one, which was hard to leave behind when I moved to Galway. Luckily, the Peregrine at Rahasane Turlough ensures I get my regular fix of this spectacular bird.

The history below shows the successes and failures from the start of the watch to my final year. The information is taken from the BOC web site, <http://www.boc-bristol.org.uk/>.

- 1998 One young fledged on the Clifton side.
- 1997 Four young fledged on the Clifton side.
- 1996 Two young fledged on the Leigh Woods side.
- 1995 Two young fledged on the Leigh Woods side.
- 1994 Four young fledged on the Leigh Woods side.
- 1993 Four eggs laid on the Clifton side but did not hatch due to being left to cool too long.
- 1992 Two young fledged on the Clifton side.
- 1991 Protection watch started by the Bristol Ornithological Club, three young fledged on the Leigh woods side.

Pete Capsey

CONTRIBUTIONS

These are always welcome – please keep them coming in. Next deadline – End Jan 09. **NS**

FORTHCOMING PROGRAMME

Saturday 8 November, Corrib Count. For further details contact Marianne (091) 552519.

Wednesday 12 November, branch meeting, Anno Santo Hotel, Threadneedle Rd, Salthill, 8pm. **All branch members are welcome to attend these monthly meetings.**

Saturday 15 November, Galway Bay Count. For details contact Chris at 091 – 862566.

Friday 21 November, Talk by Sarah Clarke - *Antarctic Oasis*. Anno Santo Hotel, 8pm.

Saturday 6 December, Short outing with Tim Griffin *et al.* at Nimmo's Pier, 10.30am.

Friday 12 December, Christmas get-together for all branch members. Anno Santo, 8pm.

Saturday 13 December, Atlas Tetrad at Ballyloughan. Meet in the car park at 10.30am.

Wednesday 17 December, branch meeting, Anno Santo Hotel, 8pm.

Saturday 3 January, Short outing with Tim Griffin *et al.* at Nimmo's Pier, 10.30am.

Sunday 11 January, Galway Bay Count. For further details contact Chris at 091 – 862566.

Wednesday 14 January, branch meeting and AGM, Anno Santo, 8pm. **Do come along!**

Friday 16 January, Talk by Barry O'Donoghue – *The Hen Harrier in Ireland*. Anno Santo Hotel, 8pm.

Saturday 7 February, Atlas Tetrad at Ballyloughan. Meet in the car park at 10.30am.

BirdWatch Galway (Branch of BirdWatch Ireland)

A QUARTERLY BIRD REPORT BY TIM GRIFFIN & CHRIS PEPPIATT

DATE OF ISSUE: 16th November 2008

2nd July: Arctic Skua & 15 Storm Petrel, Silver Strand, Galway City (Tim Griffin).
6th-7th July: 4 (2 Ad., 2nd Sum. & Juv.) Mediterranean Gull, south Co. Galway (Pat Lonergan, Michael Davis & Aonghus O'Donail).
10th July: 2 Arctic Skua, Silver Strand, Galway City (Tim Griffin).
10th July: Corncrake, 6 calling males, Inishbofin (Nuala Griffin).
11th July: 2 Storm Petrel, Silver Strand, Galway City (Tim Griffin).
12th July: 3 Common Sandpiper, Lough Atalia, Galway City (John Carey).
13th July: 110 Curlew, 108 Lapwing & 115 Black-headed Gull, Rahasane Turlough (Pete Capsey).
19th July: Ad. Sum Mediterranean Gull, Rahasane Turlough (Pete Capsey, John Carey, Neil Sharkey & Tom Cuffe).
20th July: Ad. Mediterranean Gull, Nimmo's Pier, Galway City (Michael Davis).
20th July: Spotted Redshank & 11 Greenshank, Kilcaimin (Michael Davis).
24th July: Garganey, Mount Ross, Lough Corrib (Neil Sharkey & Paul Hillis).
25th July: Barn Owl, Kilcornan, Clarinbridge (David Fallon & Chris Peppiatt).
26th July: 2 Gannet, Black Head, Co. Clare (Colin McCay).
27th July: 2 Ad. Spotted Redshank & Black-tailed Godwit, Kilcaimin (Michael Davis).
28th July: Ad. Ring-billed Gull, Nimmo's Pier, Galway City (Tom Cuffe).
28th July: Soft-plumaged Petrel (presumed Fea's), west of Slyne Head (John Brittain).
29th July: 6 Sandwich Tern, 10 Common Tern, Little Stint & 11 Common Sandpiper, Nimmo's Pier/South Park, Galway City (Samuel Progin).
30th July: 1st Sum. Little Gull, Nimmo's Pier, Galway City (Michael Davis).
30th July: 3 Storm Petrel & Arctic Skua, Silver Strand, Galway City (Tim Griffin).
30th July: Juv. Mediterranean Gull, Rinvyle Point, Nr. Tully (Dermot Breen).
30th July: Whimbrel & Little Egret, Rusheen Bay, Galway City (John Carey & Tom Chadwick).
1st August: 2 Ad. Mediterranean Gull, Nimmo's Pier, Galway City (Samuel Progin).
2nd August: 5 Little Egret, Rahasane Turlough (Michael Davis).
3rd August: 2,000 Manx Shearwater, feeding off Bunowen head (Dermot Breen).
3rd August: Cuckoo (hepatic colour phase), Ballyconneely (Dermot Breen).
4th August: Ad. Ring-billed Gull, Nimmo's Pier, Galway City (Tim Griffin).
4th August: 30+ Common Scoter, Silver Strand, Galway City (Tim Griffin).
4th August: Pair Roseate Tern (metal rings on both legs), Rusheen Bay, Galway City (Tom Cuffe).
6th August: Juv. Mediterranean Gull, Nimmo's Pier, Galway City (Michael Davis & Tom Cuffe).
9th August: 3 Juv. Mediterranean Gull, Rusheen Bay, Galway City (Michael Davis).
9th August: Corncrake, 'pair with young', Ardahan (Rachael McCall).
10th August: Juv. Mediterranean Gull (4th individual bird seen in area), 1st Sum. Little Gull & Juv. Black-tailed Godwit, Nimmo's Pier, Galway City (Michael Davis).
10th August: 8 Knot, Treanlaur Bay, Rinville, Nr. Oranmore (John Carey).
10th August: 2 Common Sandpiper, Lough Atalia, Galway City (John Carey).
10th August: Sooty Shearwater & 2 Great Skua, Baile na hAbhainn (Aonghus O'Donail).
10th August: Storm Petrel, Rusheen Bay, Galway City (Dermot Breen).
10th August: Wigeon, Rahasane Turlough (Tim Griffin).
11th August: Sooty Shearwater, Great Skua, 3 Arctic Skua & 20+ Storm Petrel, Baile na hAbhainn (Aonghus O'Donail & Michael Davis).
16th August: Peregrine, Claregalway (Jim Glennon).
17th August: Great White Egret, Baranny, Lough Corrib (Aonghus O'Donail). (1)
19th August: Fem./Juv. Whinchat, Lehanagh Lough, Nr. Recess (Dermot Breen).
21st August: ringtail Hen Harrier, Angliham, Lough Corrib (Tim Griffin).
23rd August: Ad. Mediterranean Gull & Ad. Ring-billed Gull, South Park, Galway City (Tom Cuffe).
24th August: 15 Manx Shearwater, Common Tern, 20 Sandwich Tern, 5 Black Guillemot, 5 Little Egret, 60 Turnstone, Knot, Black-tailed Godwit, 6 Bar-tailed Godwit & 120 House Sparrow, Traught (Pete Capsey & John Carey).
24th August: 8 Arctic Skua, 2 Pomarine Skua, 4 Sooty Shearwater & 30+ Storm Petrel, Baile na hAbhainn (Aonghus O'Donail, Tom Cuffe & Tom Chadwick).
24th August: Wilson's Petrel, 5 Great Shearwater, 7 Sooty Shearwater, 3 Great Skua, Storm Petrel, Manx Shearwater, Fulmar & Gannet, pelagic trip off Inishbofin (Craig Nash, Magnus Robb, Anthony McGeehan <i>et al.</i>).
24th August: 2 Sooty Shearwater, 3 Arctic Skua & Great Skua, Lettermullan (Dermot Breen).
25th August: Great Shearwater, off Inishbofin (per BINS).
25th August: Balearic Shearwater, 100 Manx Shearwater, 2 Leach's Petrel, 16 Storm Petrel, Great Skua & 4 Arctic Skua, Baile na hAbhainn (Tim Griffin).

26th August: 4 Arctic Skua, Inish Meain (Tom Cuffe).
31st August: Ad. Long-tailed Skua, Pomarine Skua, 6-8 Arctic Skua, 8-10 Great Skua, Juv. Sabine's Gull, Leach's Petrel, c.100 Storm Petrel, Grey Phalarope, 10-15 Sooty Shearwater, Manx Shearwater, Fulmar, Gannet, Kittiwake, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Herring Gull & Guillemot, pelagic trip, (L/37855/56519) 12 nautical miles (14 miles) off Cleggan (Aonghus O'Donaill, John Brittain, Neil Sharkey, Dermot Breen, Tom Cuffe, John Carey, Tom Chadwick, Gerard Walshe & Chris Peppiatt).
1st September: 6 Ruff, Rahasane Turlough (Michael Davis).
2nd September: 3 Black Tern, Rahasane Turlough (Michael Davis).
2nd September: 3 Arctic Skua, Sooty Shearwater & 50 Storm Petrel, Baile na hAbhainn (John Murphy).
3rd September: 3 Arctic Skua & Pomarine Skua, Baile na hAbhainn (Tim Griffin).
3rd September: Ad. Sabine's Gull, 6 Great Skua, 2 Grey Phalarope & Swift, Rossadilask, Cleggan (Dermot Breen).
4th September: Pomarine Skua, Silver Strand, Galway City (Tim Griffin).
6th September: Great Skua & 2 Grey Phalarope, Rossadilask, Cleggan (Dermot Breen).
6th September: 5 Great Skua & 3 Grey Phalarope, Inishbofin (Brad Robson).
7th September: 15 Arctic Skua, 2 Great Skua, Pomarine Skua, 9 Grey Phalarope, 350 Kittiwake & 100 Sandwich Tern, Barr na Phointe, Inishmore (Dermot Breen).
9th September: 2 Pomarine Skua & 8 Arctic Skua, Baile na hAbhainn (Aonghus O'Donaill).
10th September: 2 Wheatear, Tuam Road, Galway City (John Carey).
11th September: Juv. Curlew Sandpiper, Doonloughan, Nr. Ballyconneely (Dermot Breen).
11th September: Gannet, found recently dead at Tuam wastewater treatment plant (Dervla O'Dowd & Pat Roberts).
11th September: 3 Great Skua & 14 Arctic Skua, Baile na hAbhainn (Aonghus O'Donaill).
11th September: Grey Phalarope, Baile na hAbhainn (Tim Griffin).
13th September: Western Sandpiper, Juv. Buff-breasted Sandpiper & 4 Curlew Sandpiper, Omev Island (Dermot Breen). (2)
13th September: 3 Little Egret, Rusheen Bay (Tom Cuffe).
14th September: 8 (Ad. & 7 Juv.) Curlew Sandpiper, Kilcaimin (Michael Davis).
14th September: Peregrine, Marine Institute, Rinville, Oranmore (Ger O'Donohoe).
15th September: 6 Brent Goose, Baile na hAbhainn (Tim Griffin).
16th September: Juv. Hen Harrier, Curraghline, Lough Corrib (John Keogh).
16th September: Swift, 2 House Martin & Peregrine, Rinville Harbour, Oranmore (Stephen McCleary).
19th September: Juv. Little Stint, Mannin Bay, Ballyconneely (Dermot Breen).
19th September: 2 Juv. Curlew Sandpiper, Crompaun Bay, Ballyconneely (Dermot Breen).
19th September: 4 Curlew Sandpiper, Kilcaimin (Tim Griffin).
20th September: Kingfisher, Ballylee River, Thoor Ballylee, Nr. Gort (Colin McCay).
20th September: Black Tern, Menlo (Tim Griffin).
21st September: Juv. Spotted Redshank, 3 Turnstone, 20 Dunlin & 1st Win. Mediterranean Gull, Rahasane Turlough (Dermot Breen).
21st September: 2 Juv. Curlew Sandpiper, Kilcaimin (Dermot Breen).
21st September: 50 Wigeon, 197 Black-tailed Godwit & Sparrowhawk, Rahasane Turlough (Pete Capsey).
22nd September: Ringtail Hen Harrier, Silver Strand, Galway City (Tim Griffin).
24th September: 2 Juv. Pectoral Sandpiper, Doonloughan, Nr. Ballyconneely (Aonghus O'Donaill). (3)
24th September: Pied Flycatcher & 10 Crossbill, Cloosh (Tim Griffin).
24th September: Little Blue Heron, Barnaderg, Ballynakill Harbour (Dermot Breen & Aonghus O'Donaill). (4)
25th September: Whooper Swan, over Knocknacarra, Galway City (Tim Griffin).
25th September: Whimbrel, Inverin (Tim Griffin).
26th September: possible Great Spotted Woodpecker, Ardnasillagh, Oughterard (Marianne ten Cate).
27th September: Reed Warbler, Spotted Flycatcher, 3 Chiffchaff, Coal Tit & Pintail, Inishmore (Dermot Breen).
27th September: Long-billed Dowitcher, Juv. Pectoral Sandpiper & 2 Spotted Redshank, Rahasane Turlough (Aonghus O'Donaill).
28th September: 3 Reed Warbler, 3 Garden Warbler, 3 Blackcap, Yellow-browed Warbler, 3 Spotted Flycatcher, Pied Flycatcher, 2 Chiffchaff, 3 Willow Warbler & 7 Coal Tit, Inishmore (Dermot Breen).
28th September: Long-billed Dowitcher, 4 Pectoral Sandpiper, 2 Ruff, 2 Curlew Sandpiper, 2 Spotted Redshank & 2 colour-marked Black-tailed Godwit, Rahasane Turlough (Tom Cuffe & Aonghus O'Donaill).
28th September: White's Thrush, Inishbofin (Anthony McGeehan).
28th September: possible Great Spotted Woodpecker, Callownamuck, Roscahill (per Marianne ten Cate).
29th September: Long-billed Dowitcher, Pectoral Sandpiper, Ruff, Curlew Sandpiper, Greenshank, Oystercatcher, 300 Lapwing, 500 Golden Plover, 40 Dunlin, 60 Snipe, 250 Black-tailed Godwit, 1,500 Wigeon, 2 Shoveler & 8 Swallow, Rahasane Turlough (Pete Capsey).

NOTES:

- (1) This bird was also present on the 18th and 19th of August.
- (2) This bird was also present on the 14th of September.
- (3) These birds were also present on the 26th of September.
- (4) This bird (first for Western Palaearctic) was still present at the end of the quarter.