



Irish Rare Birds Committee

Irish Rare Bird Report 2006

Irish Rare Bird Report 2006

Paul Milne and David G. McAdams (on behalf of the Irish Rare Birds Committee)

c/o BirdWatch Ireland, 1, Springmount, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow.

Introduction

There were two surprising additions to the Irish List during 2006: Cirl Bunting *Emberiza cirlus* (seen in Cork in the spring) and Canada Warbler *Wilsonia canadensis* (seen in Clare in the autumn). Cork also produced the second records of Hermit Thrush *Catharus guttatus*, Isabelline Shrike *Lanius isabellinus* and Baltimore Oriole *Icterus galbula* and the third record of Eastern Olivaceous Warbler *Hippolais pallida*, all in the autumn. The fourth Pallid Swift *Apus pallidus* (in Wicklow) and fourth Booted Warbler *Hippolais caligata* (in Waterford) were also recorded during the year.

Other exceptional occurrences were the third Black Tern *Chlidonias niger* of the American race *surinamensis* (in Wexford), the fourth record of Tundra Bean Goose *Anser fabalis rossicus* (in Cork) and the return of a Barrow's Goldeneye *Bucephala islandica*, the first recorded in Ireland, for its second successive winter in Down.

It was an outstanding year for American waders, with four species (American Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominica*, White-rumped Sandpiper *Calidris fuscicollis*, Baird's Sandpiper *Calidris bairdii* and Buff-breasted Sandpiper *Tryngites subruficollis*) appearing in record numbers during the autumn. Notable amongst American wildfowl were record numbers of Ring-necked Ducks *Aythya collaris*. Exceptional numbers of Bonaparte's Gulls *Chroicocephalus philadelphia*, Laughing Gulls *Larus atricilla* and Franklin's Gulls *Larus pipixcan* occurred, following on from the influx which began in late 2005 in the case of the last two species. Otherwise, however, it was a poor year for rare gulls with no new American Herring Gulls *Larus smithsonianus* found for the first time since 1995. The total of five species of Nearctic landbirds was above the recent average; in addition to the three mentioned above, Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus* and Blackpoll Warbler *Dendroica striata* were also discovered in the west during the autumn.

Other species found in record numbers during 2006 were Wryneck *Jynx torquilla*, Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta* and Red-breasted Flycatcher *Ficedula parva*. In some cases, the increase can be accounted for in part by the new recording system, put into place on 1st January 2005 (*Irish Birds* 7: 413-418), whereby numerous species (those in Appendix 2) no longer require written documentation. A number of Appendix 1 records for 2006 are still under assessment, but it is satisfying to note the lack of unaccepted records from this category in this *Report*.

Records for 2007 (and previous years) should be sent to the following:

Rarities:

See list in IRBC Report, (*Irish Birds* 7: 413 – 418). BirdWatch Ireland, Dublin.

Republic of Ireland

Paul Milne
100 Dublin Road,
Sutton,
Dublin 13

Email: pjmilne@hotmail.com

Rarity Description forms may be downloaded from the IRBC website:

http://www.irbc.ie/irbc_form.html

Northern Ireland

George Gordon
2 Brooklyn Avenue, Bangor,
Co. Down BT20 5RB

2006 Systematic List

The sequence and scientific nomenclature follows Voous KH, 1973-1977, List of Recent Holarctic bird species (*Ibis* 115:612-638; 119:223-250, 376-406) but includes the recommendations by the Taxonomic Sub-committee of the British Ornithologists' Union Records Committee (*Ibis* 149:853-857).

The two numbers in parentheses after rarer species refer respectively to (a) the total number of birds up to, but not including, the current year; totals calculated for the period beginning 1st January 1950 are marked with an asterisk; (b) the total for the current year.

Tundra Bean Goose *Anser fabalis rossicus* (8; 1)

Cork Adult, Kilcolman Reserve, 3rd to 5th March, photographed (M.Hearst *et al.*).

Only the fourth Irish record.

Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens*

Wexford Adult white phase, North Slob, 22nd October to 22nd December, photographed (A.Walsh *et al.*), presumed returning individual; adult blue phase, 4th November to 22nd December (J.Geraty, S.Geraty, N.Keogh, A. Walsh *et al.*).

The dark morph is by far the rarer of the two in Ireland, outnumbered by pale birds by about 9:1. This individual is possibly the same as the bird which wintered at the same locality in 2002/2003.

Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*

Mayo Adult, Termoncarragh, The Mullet, 24th April to 4th May (D.Suddaby), presumed to be of North American origin.

Canada/Cackling Goose *Branta canadensis/hutchinsii*

Clare One, Loop Head, 21st October photographed (J.N.Murphy, J.Rattigan, F.MaGabhann), seen earlier in Mayo, see below.

Mayo Adult, Termoncarragh, The Mullet, 20th October (D.Suddaby), seen later in Clare, see above.

This individual, considered to have been *B. hutchinsii* or a small race of *B. canadensis*, was first seen flying south on The Mullet in the company of nine Barnacle Geese. The same group of ten birds was seen the next day on Loop Head.

Black Brant *Branta bernicla nigricans*

Kerry The adult present at Blennerville from 17th December 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 4*) remained until 26th April, photographed (M.O'Keeffe).

Louth Adult, Carlingford Lough, 16th to 21st November, photographed (B.Martin *et al.*).

Mayo Adult, The Mullet, 4th February to 20th March (D.Suddaby *et al.*), presumed returning individual.

Waterford The adult present at Dungarvan since 25th November 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 4*) remained until 25th January, photographed (P.M.Walsh *et al.*), presumed returning individual; adult, Dungarvan, 1st November to 20th December (M.Cowming, R.Mundy), presumed returning individual.

Wexford Adult, North Slob, 5th March (N.Keogh, N.T.Keogh); same individual, South Slob, 9th April, photographed (K.Mullarney); adult, North Slob, 19th December, photographed (K.Mullarney), presumed returning individual.

American Wigeon *Anas americana* (112; 2)

Mayo The male present at Termoncarragh Lake since 29th September 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 5*) remained until 4th March (D.Suddaby). Male, Termoncarragh Lake, 6th December (D.Suddaby), presumed returning individual; three males, 12th to 18th December (D.Suddaby).

Wexford Male, North Slob, 22nd January (T.Kilbane *et al.*), presumed same as Tacumshin individual, 23rd to 28th December 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 5*).

American Black Duck *Anas rubripes* (12; 2)

Cork Adult male, Kilcolman Reserve, 4th to 26th March, photographed (O.Foley *et al.*).

Kerry Adult male, Ventry, 20th to 27th October, photographed (M.O'Clery *et al.*).

Mayo Adult male, Carrowmore Lake, 14th December (D.Suddaby), presumed returning individual.

Blue-winged Teal *Anas discors* (58; 3)

Down Male, Mahee Island, 19th to 22nd January, trapped and ringed; same individual, Castle Espie, 29th January (K.Mackie). Male (different unringed individual), Castle Espie, 5th May to 2nd June (K.Hamilton).

Dublin The female present at North Bull Island since 6th October 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 5*) remained until 11th January. Female, North Bull Island, 7th to 29th December, (G.Phillips *et al.*), photographed (*Birding World* 19: 5), presumed returning individual.

Tipperary Adult male, Firville Lake, Borrisokane, 1st May (P.Brennan).

These include the first for Tipperary and the first spring records since 1995.

Red-crested Pochard *Netta rufina* (57; 1)

Westmeath Female, Lough Owel, 2nd February (I.Beatty).

Ring-necked Duck *Aythya collaris* (140; 28)

Clare Male, Ballyallia Lough, Ennis, 16th January to 31st March, photographed (J.N.Murphy), in addition to female already present from 29th November 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 6*), both birds last seen on 31st March; adult male, 24th November to 14th December (F.MacGabhann); female, 28th November to 14th December (J.N.Murphy, B.O'Donoghue), all presumed returning individuals. Adult male, Lough Inchiquin, 5th to 12th February (M.Meehan); male and female, 26th December (M.Meehan, C.Meehan), male presumed a returning individual. Three females, Knockalough, 5th March, photographed (J.N.Murphy).

Cork Adult male, Doonisky, Macroom, 2nd January to 28th February, seen at The Gearagh, 5th February (N.Linehan *et al.*). Adult male, Mallow Sugar Factory Lagoons, 4th to 17th March, photographed (O.Foley *et al.*). Female, The Lough, Cork City, 14th April (R.Mundy). Female, Kilkerran Lake, 4th November, photographed (C.Barton).

Donegal Female, Dernesh Lough, Rossnowlagh, 13th January (B.Robson). First-winter male, Fern Lough, 18th November (D.Breen); adult male and two females, 25th November (D.Breen). Adult male, Inch Lough, 2nd December (D.Breen); female, 27th December (P.Lonergan, D.Charles, M.Davis *et al.*).

Galway Adult male, Lough Derg, Portumna, 10th and 11th February (P.Kelly, A.A.Kelly).

Kerry Female or immature, Lough Gill, 27th December (E.Carty *et al.*).

Limerick Adult male, Lough Gur, 16th November (T.Kelly).

Louth The adult male present at Mell Quarry, Drogheda since 20th December 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 6*) remained until 9th April, photographed (O.Foley, P.Kelly *et al.*).

Mayo Adult male, Carrowmore Lake, 14th March to 9th May (D.Suddaby *et al.*). Female or juvenile, Lough Baun, Roonagh, 1st October, photographed (P.Lonergan).

Meath The adult male present at Ballyhoe Lake since 21st December 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 6*) remained until 8th January (P.Phillips). Adult male, Lough Sheelin, 14th January (A.G.Kelly); female, 17th December (P.Kelly).

Tipperary Adult male, Pat Reddan's Lake, 16th May (P.Brennan). Two females, on floodwater near Borrisokane, 27th December (P.Brennan).

Westmeath Male, Lough Ennell, 15th December (D.Breen). Adult male and female, Lough Owel, 16th and 17th December, photographed (D.Breen, O.Foley *et al.*).

Another excellent year for this species. The total of 28 new birds far exceeds the previous best of 12, seen in 2003, though there is in some cases the possibility of returning individuals locating to adjacent sites within a county. The much higher proportion of females in 2006, most of which were undoubtedly new birds, is however clear evidence of fresh arrivals.

Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca* (29; 0)

Galway The adult male present at Coole Lough, Gort since 24th November 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 7*) remained until 6th March, photographed (S.Geraty, J.Geraty *et al.*), presumed returning individual.

Lesser Scaup *Aythya affinis* (12; 2)

Donegal Two adult males, Inch Lough, 1st to 7th December, photographed (D.Breen *et al.*), one a presumed returning individual.

Dublin First-year female, Knock Lake, 10th November to 24th December, photographed (O.Foley, P.Kelly, E.Dempsey *et al.*).

The first Dublin record



First-winter female **Lesser Scaup** *Aythya affinis* (right, with Greater Scaup *Aythya marila*) Knock Lake, Co. Dublin, 28th November 2006. Photo: Paul & Andrea Kelly

Surf Scoter *Melanitta perspicillata* (141; 4)

Kerry Fermoyle, Brandon Bay, at least three: adult female, 1st January to 10th April, in addition to male and female present since December 2005 (*IRBR 2005*: 7) (E.Dempsey, M.O'Clery); male, 25th November; male and female 11th December; male and two female/immatures, 17th December into 2007 (E.Carty, E.Dempsey *et al.*) all presumed returning individuals. Female/juvenile, Lough Gill, 15th December (M.O'Clery).

Louth Adult male, Cruisetown Strand, Clogher Head, 1st October (E.Flynn).

Mayo First-winter, Claggan, Blacksod, 17th to 27th December (D.Suddaby).

Sligo Immature, Trá Buí, Aughris Head, 14th October (D.Cotton).

Barrow's Goldeneye *Bucephala islandica* (0; 1)

Down Adult male, Quoile Pondage, 4th November to 22nd April 2007, photographed (NIBARC), presumed returning individual.

White-billed Diver *Gavia adamsii* (9; 1)

Cork Adult, Cape Clear Island, 27th October to 2nd November, photographed (A.Cooke *et al.*).

Fea's/Zino's Petrel *Pterodroma feae/madeira* (37; 7)

Clare Bridges of Ross, three: one, 7th August (P.Crouzier); one, 21st August (J.Hanlon, M.Rossor *et al.*); one, 23rd August (A.Clifton *et al.*).

Cork One, Galley Head, 22nd August (A.Duggan). One, Cape Clear Island, 31st August (C.Cronin).

Kerry One, Brandon Point, 31st July (J.Glendenning, J.Boxton); one, 25th August (B.Richards).

The total for the year equals the record set in 2005.

Wilson's Petrel *Oceanites oceanicus* (89; 8)

Clare Bridges of Ross, three: one, 8th August (P.Crouzier); one, 25th August (many observers); one, 28th August (R.Bonser *et al.*).

Cork One, Cape Clear Island, 4th September (C.Cronin).

Kerry Two, Brandon Point, 21st June (M.O'Clery); one, 6th September (D.Brown, T.Lowe, K.Langdon). One, ca. 7 km W of Inishtearaght, 8th August, photographed (S.Enright, M.O'Clery, E.Dempsey, M.O'Keeffe, E.Carty *et al.*).

The June record is the earliest to date.

Bittern *Botaurus stellaris*

Cork One, Ballyvergan, 19th March, photographed (R.Vaughan *et al.*).

Bittern/American Bittern *Botaurus stellaris/lentiginosus*

1995 Cavan One, Lough Sheelin, 30th November (G.Power).

Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* (64; 5)

Kerry Adult, Ardfert, 17th and 18th April (D.O'Riordan *et al.*).

Wexford First-year, River Slaney, near Enniscorthy, 3rd March (S.Collins). One, near Baldwinstown, Rathangan, 21st April (R.Whelan), had been present for about two weeks. First-summer, Tacumshin, 28th May to 18th June, photographed (D.Fox *et al.*) (*Birdwatch* 170: 76 and *British Birds* 99: 389). Juvenile, North Slob, 17th to 26th November (A.Walsh *et al.*).

Great White Egret *Ardea alba* (16; 3)

Cork One, Cork City, 5th February (R.Mundy). One, Ballylickey, near Bantry, 9th October (H.Delaney *et al.*).

Wexford One, Rosslare Backstrand, 14th to 16th May, photographed (T.Griffin *et al.*); adult, presumed same individual, Tacumshin, 25th June (N.Keogh *et al.*).

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea* (20; 1)

Clare Juvenile, Lough Donnell, 1st to 3rd October, photographed (D.McNamara *et al.*).

Only the third autumn record, the last of which was also in Clare (1996), and the first juvenile ever.



Juvenile **Purple Heron** *Ardea purpurea*, Lough Donnell, Co.Clare, 1st October 2006. Photo: John Murphy.

White Stork *Ciconia ciconia* (31; 1)

Dublin One, Rathfarnham, 28th April (M.Bryan).

Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia* (192; 1)

Kerry The juvenile present at Cromane, Castlemaine Harbour since 10th November 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 10*) remained throughout 2006 and was last seen there on 8th April 2007; one, presumed same individual, Inch, 28th May (M.O'Clery). Juvenile, Trabeg, 17th and 18th October (M.O'Clery *et al.*).

Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*

Cork The bird present at Kilkerran Lake since 29th December 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 10*) remained until 17th January (K.Cronin *et al.*). One, Ballycotton, 30th September to 2nd October (D.O'Sullivan *et al.*).

Wexford One of the two birds present at Wexford Harbour since 20th November 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 10*) remained until 1st January, the other until 6th April, (N.Keogh, N.T.Keogh *et al.*).

Honey Buzzard *Pernis apivorus* (30; 1)

Wicklow One, near Coronation Plantation, Sally Gap, 7th June, photographed (R.H.Coombes).

For a census square which produced no more than four species in the Countryside Bird Survey, this sighting must have seemed like a just reward for the effort.

Red Kite *Milvus milvus* (83; 1)

Wexford The bird present at the South Slob since 30th November 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 11*) remained until 5th January, wing-tagged, apparently of Scottish origin, photographed (T.Murray *et al.*). Juvenile, Lady's Island Lake, 18th October, photographed (D.Daly).

Waterford The bird present north of Pickardstown, Tramore, since 25th December 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 11*) remained until 5th March (E.Murphy *et al.*).

Montagu's Harrier *Circus pygargus*

Cork Female, Dursey Island, 13th May (D.A.Scott).

Down Adult male, Belfast Harbour Estate, 29th April to 3rd May (the late W.M.McDowell *et al.*).

Wexford First-summer male, Tacumshin, 17th June to 16th July, photographed (T.Kilbane *et al.*) (*Birding World* 19: 269).

Wicklow Female, Killoughter, 12th May (B.Haslam).

The Down bird followed hot on the heels of the first for Northern Ireland in 2005.



First-summer male **Montagu's Harrier** *Circus pygargus*, Tacumshin, Co. Wexford, 24th May 2006.
Photo: Paul & Andrea Kelly.

Red-footed Falcon *Falco vespertinus* (22; 1)

Donegal Female, Glencolumbkille, 25th September (A.McGeehan).

Only the second autumn record; the first was in Galway in 1966.

Hobby *Falco subbuteo* (132; 10)

Cork Adult, Cape Clear Island, 29th August (C.Cronin).

Dublin Adult, Killiney, 13th June (J.Lawlor).

Waterford Juvenile, Villierstown, 17th September (M.Foley). One, Abbeyside, Dungarvan, 26th September (F.O'Connell).

Wexford Two, including one first-summer, Tacumshin, 27th May; first-summer, 29th May (T.Cully, A.G.Kelly, T.Shevlin *et al.*). First-summer, North Slob, 16th to 18th June, photographed (A.Walsh *et al.*). Juvenile, Tacumshin, 23rd September (P.Kelly). One, Lady's Island Lake, 24th September (P.Kelly, E.Dempsey).

Wicklow First-summer, Newcastle, 8th June (N.Hatch).

A record showing, following a series of poor years for this species.



First-summer **Hobby *Falco subbuteo***, North Slob, Co. Wexford, 17th June 2006. Photo: Killian Mullarney.

Crane *Grus grus* (79; 3)

Laois Juvenile, Ballycarne, Portlaoise, 7th January, photographed (I.Gillespie).

Londonderry Two adults, Lough Beg, 28th July to 4th September (R.D.Steele).

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* (41; 3)

Kerry Two, Blennerville, 31st March to 2nd April (D.Foley, M.O'Donnell).

Wexford First-winter, Tacumshin, 22nd September, photographed (E.Archer, P.Hackett *et al.*); same individual, Lady's Island Lake, 23rd September, photographed (S.Collins *et al.*).

Of the 31 individuals recorded since 1981, the Wexford bird is only the seventh to be found in autumn and the first to be aged as a first-winter.



First-winter **Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus*, Tacumshin, Co. Wexford, 22nd September 2006.

Photo: Paul Hackett.

Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta* (133; 2)

Wexford First-winter, Bannow Bay, 29th January to 8th April (S.Collins *et al.*). First-winter, Tacumshin, 12th February (H.Delaney, S.Jaquier, N.Keogh, N.T.Keogh).

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius* (58; 4)

Clare Juvenile, Lough Donnell, 9th and 10th September, photographed (J.N.Murphy *et al.*).

Cork The bird present at Ballymacoda since 16th December 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 13*) remained until 6th January, photographed (C.Cullen *et al.*); one, presumed same individual, Ballycotton, 21st January to 19th March, photographed (P.Davis *et al.*).

Wexford Adult male, Tacumshin, 14th May, photographed (N.T.Keogh, N.Keogh *et al.*). Juvenile, Lady's Island Lake, 26th August to 3rd September, photographed (T.Shevlin *et al.*). One, North Slob, 3rd September (S.Geraty, J.Geraty *et al.*).

The third successive winter in which birds have occurred in Cork. The Clare record is the first for the county and only the second from the west coast. A report of successful breeding in Co. Cork in 2006 (*British Birds* 100:232, *Irish Birds* 8:254) remains unsubstantiated.

Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus* (252; 7)

Donegal Male, Sheskinmore, 29th April (B.Robson *et al.*).

Mayo Juvenile, Erris Head, 17th September (D.Suddaby).

Tipperary Four juveniles, Galtee Mountains, 8th October (A.Robinson).

Wicklow Juvenile, Cloghernagh Mountain, 1st October, photographed (S.Pierce).

American Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominica* (66; 19)

Clare Juvenile, Doonbeg, 11th to 16th October, photographed (D.McNamara *et al.*).

Cork Juvenile, Ballycotton, 18th September (G.Walsh *et al.*). Juvenile, Rosscarbery, 15th October to 20th November, photographed (E.Dempsey *et al.*).

Galway Juvenile, Ballyconeely, 29th September to 1st October, photographed (A.Ó Dónaill *et al.*).

Kerry Ballyferriter/Smerwick area, two: juvenile, Ferriter's Cove, 19th September, photographed (J.Gilroy, I.Maclean *et al.*); juvenile, Baile an Reannaigh, 28th September (D.Brown, T.Lowe); two juveniles, Smerwick, 30th September (R.Bonser). Juvenile, Carrahane Sands, 1st October (D.O'Sullivan, G.Walsh *et al.*); juvenile, 18th October (M.O'Clery). Juvenile, Caherfealane Marsh, Castlemaine, 2nd October (M.O'Clery). Juvenile, Blennerville, 12th November (M.Hanafin).

Londonderry Juvenile, Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle, 4th to 8th October (J.Larkin).

Mayo Two juveniles, Annagh Beach, The Mullet, 28th October to 3rd November; juvenile, presumed to be one of previous birds, 8th November (D.Suddaby).

Tipperary Juvenile, Ashton's Callows, 30th September (P.Brennan).

Wexford Juvenile, Tacumshin, 17th to 24th September, photographed and sound-recorded (K.Mullarney *et al.*) (*Birding World* 19: 360). Juvenile, Rosslare Backstrand, 29th September, photographed (K.Mullarney, J.N.Murphy *et al.*). Juvenile, Bannow Bay, 24th October (E.Dempsey). Juvenile, Lady's Island Lake, 3rd and 4th November, photographed (K.Mullarney *et al.*); presumed same individual, Tacumshin, 9th November (K.Mullarney).

The total of 19 sets a new record, well exceeding the twelve of 2003. Late autumn occurrences continue to increase in frequency: prior to 2004, there were only three November records but over the past three years, no less than ten birds have been seen in that month.



Juvenile **American Golden Plover** *Pluvialis dominica*, Tacumshin, Co. Wexford, 19th September 2006.

Photo: Killian Mullarney.



Juvenile **American Golden Plover** *Pluvialis dominica*, Doonbeg, Co. Clare, 14th October 2006. Photo: Paul Hackett.

Semipalmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla* (81; 11)

Cork Juvenile, Ballycotton, 2nd and 3rd September (G.Walsh). Juvenile, Lissagriffin, 2nd to 10th September, photographed (N.Linehan, A.Duggan *et al.*).

Kerry Smerwick, four: juvenile, 3rd to 14th September, photographed (M.O'Keeffe *et al.*) (*Birding World* 19: 359); juvenile, 4th to 14th September, photographed (D.Brown, T.Lowe, R.Moores, K.Langdon); juvenile, 8th September, photographed (D.Brown); juvenile, 25th and 26th September, photographed (D.Brown, T.Lowe); juvenile, Ferriter's Cove, Ballyferriter, 11th September (E.Carty *et al.*), presumed to be one of the Smerwick individuals. Juvenile, Blennerville, 5th and 6th September, photographed (M.O'Clery *et al.*).

Mayo Juvenile, Cross Beach, The Mullet, 21st October (D.Suddaby *et al.*).

Waterford Juvenile, The Cunnigar, 23rd September, photographed (D.Clarke *et al.*).

Wexford Juvenile, Rosslare Backstrand, 8th to 30th September, photographed (K.Mullarney *et al.*). Juvenile, The Cull, 22nd September (K.Mullarney, M.Maddock).

Although eleven is a high annual total, it falls well short of the record 18 seen in 1999. Ireland clearly gets a disproportionately large share of vagrant Semipalmated Sandpipers: most unusually for a Nearctic wader, the total found in Ireland to date exceeds that in Britain. The only other wader in this category is the much rarer Short-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus griseus*.

White-rumped Sandpiper *Calidris fuscicollis* (191; 28)

Clare Juvenile, Shannon Airport Lagoons, 6th September (J.N.Murphy).

Cork Ballycotton, five: adult, 7th to 13th September, photographed (O.Foley *et al.*); juvenile, 7th October (D.O'Sullivan *et al.*); one, 20th and 21st October (N.Linehan); two juveniles: one, 31st October (G.Walsh), two, 2nd to 13th November, with one remaining until 27th December, photographed (N.Linehan, J.A.Coveney *et al.*).

Down Two juveniles, Cloghy Bay, Outer Ards, 14th to 17th October, photographed (D.Charles).

Kerry Adult, Burnham Lagoon, 3rd September, photographed (M.O'Keeffe). Adult, Trabeg, 5th September, photographed (D.Brown, T.Lowe, K.Langdon). Adult, Blennerville, 7th September (F.King *et al.*). Adult, Ventry, 7th September, photographed (D.Brown, K.Langdon, T.Lowe). Adult, Carrahane Sands, 9th September (E.Carty). Juvenile, Blackrock Strand, 11th to 30th October, photographed (K.Mullarney, M.Hanafin *et al.*).

Louth Juvenile, Lurgangreen, 30th October (E.Larrissey).

Mayo Juvenile, Annagh Beach, The Mullet, 16th October (D.Suddaby); juvenile, 6th November (D.Suddaby).

Sligo One, Scurmore, Enniscrone, 14th October (D.Cotton).

Waterford One, Kinsalebeg, 26th September (P.Smiddy).

Wexford Tacumshin, at least seven: adult, 16th to 21st September, photographed (B.Haslam, K.Mullarney *et al.*) (*Birding World* 19: 359); two juveniles, 7th October; five, 15th October; six, 4th November; four 9th November, photographed (A.G.Kelly, T. Kilbane, N. Keogh, E.A.MacLochlainn *et al.*). Juvenile, North Slob, 26th November (N.Keogh).

Wicklow Juvenile, Kilcoole, 9th to 20th November (B.Haslam).

An astonishing total, leaving the previous record of twelve (in 1995 and 2000) in the shade. The gathering at Tacumshin in November is also the largest number ever seen at one site, improving on the peak of five present there on 8th-10th October 1996. The above series also includes the long overdue first for Waterford, as well as the first for Louth and second records for Clare and Sligo.



Adult **White-rumped Sandpiper** *Calidris fuscicollis*, Ballycotton, Co. Cork, 13th September 2006. Photo: Sean Cronin.

Baird's Sandpiper *Calidris bairdii* (84;10)

Kerry Juvenile, Ferriter's Cove, Ballyferriter, 7th to 30th September, photographed (T.Lowe, D.Brown, K.Langdon *et al.*). Juvenile, Cashen Estuary, 10th September, photographed (S.Enright). Juvenile, Inch Strand, 11th to 13th September (M.O'Clery). Juvenile, Carrahane Sands, 16th September, photographed (M.Lopez); juvenile, 25th September, photographed (T.Lowe, D.Brown).

Londonderry Juvenile, Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle, 29th September to 1st October (R.D.Steele).

Mayo Juvenile, Annagh Beach, The Mullet, 12th September (D.Suddaby). Juvenile, Cross Lough, The Mullet, 18th to 24th September, photographed (D.Suddaby *et al.*) (*Birding World* 19: 359).

Wexford Juvenile, Lady's Island Lake, 26th to 27th August (S.Mitchell). Juvenile, Tacumshin, 14th to 30th September, photographed (N.Keogh *et al.*).

A record total. This species shows a stronger southern and southwestern bias to records than most other Nearctic waders. The Londonderry record is only the fourth for Northern Ireland (and the first since 1987), while the Mayo records are the second and third for that county.



Juvenile **Baird's Sandpiper**, *Calidris bairdii*, The Mullet, Co. Mayo, 24th September 2006. Photo: Pat Lonergan.

Broad-billed Sandpiper *Limicola falcinellus* (22; 1)

Wexford One, Tacumshin, 13th to 16th May, photographed (P.Kelly *et al.*).



Broad-billed Sandpiper *Limicola falcinellus*, Tacumshin, Co. Wexford, 13th May 2006. Photo: Paul & Andrea Kelly.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper *Tryngites subruficollis* (252; 27)

Cork Two juveniles, Dursey Island, 16th and 17th September (A.Robinson).

Kerry Carrahane Sands, five: three juveniles, 6th September, photographed; five juveniles, 8th September, photographed; two juveniles, 16th September; juvenile 25th September (E.Carty, T.Lowe, D.Brown, R.Bonser, M.Lopez, H.Delaney *et al.*). Juvenile, Smerwick, 10th to 20th September (M.O'Clery, J.Crosher, C.Bradshaw *et al.*). Juvenile, Inch Strand, 12th September, photographed (M.O'Clery). Juvenile, Baile An Reannaigh, 19th September, photographed (J.Gilroy, I. MacLean).

Londonderry Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle, five: two juveniles, 24th September; three juveniles, 1st October; five juveniles, 2nd October; four juveniles, 8th October (J.Larkin *et al.*).

Mayo Juvenile, Annagh Head, The Mullet, 6th September (D.Suddaby).

Waterford Juvenile, Clonea Beach, 13th September, photographed (M.Cowming *et al.*). Juvenile, Ballinard, Dungarvan, 1st October, photographed (M.Cowming *et al.*).

Wexford Tacumshin, nine: adult, 5th and 6th August, photographed (K.Grace *et al.*); juvenile, 5th and 6th September; five juveniles, 9th September; eight juveniles, 13th September; seven juveniles, 3rd October; juvenile, 7th October, photographed (S.Collins, E.Dempsey *et al.*).

Yet another Nearctic wader found in record numbers.



Juvenile **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** *Tryngites subruficollis*, Clonea Beach, Co. Waterford, 13th September 2006.
Photo: Colum Flynn.

Long-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus scolopaceus* (81; 6)

Clare Adult, Shannon Airport Lagoons, 28th July to 17th September, photographed (A.Holgensson, S.Magnusson *et al.*).

Cork Juvenile, Lough Beg, Cork Harbour, 30th September to 1st October, photographed (J.Diggin *et al.*).

Londonderry Two juveniles, Lough Beg, 30th September to 20th October; same individuals, Mullagh, 15th November (R.D.Steele). Juvenile, Bann Estuary, 11th to 23rd October, photographed (H.Dick).

Wexford Juvenile, The Cull, 17th October (M.Maddock).

Long-billed/Short-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus scolopaceus/griseus*

Kerry One, Carrahane Sands, 12th October (J.Hanlon).

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularia* (17; 4)

Clare Juvenile, Kilbaha, Loop Head, 7th October, photographed (K.Mullarney, J.N.Murphy, T.Tarpey, F.MacGabhann, D.McNamara).

Galway Adult, River Corrib, Menlo, 19th May (C.Peppiatt).

Limerick Juvenile, Ballysteen, 22nd August, photographed (F. López).

Wexford Juvenile, Nethertown, 5th to 19th September, photographed (K.Mullarney *et al.*)(*Birdwatch* 173: 69 and *Birding World* 19: 360).

Another good year. Nine birds (almost half of the total) have been found since 2003. The August record from Limerick is the first for that month.



Juvenile **Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularia*, Nethertown, Co. Wexford, 12th September 2006. Photo: Killian Mullarney.



Juvenile **Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularia*, Loop Head, Co. Clare, 7th October 2006. Photo: Killian Mullarney.



Juvenile **Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularia*, Loop Head, Co. Clare, 7th October 2006. Photo: Killian Mullarney.

Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes* (105; 8)

Clare One, Doonbeg, 3rd September (M.Meehan, C.Meehan).

Cork The first-winter present at White's Marsh, Inchydoney since 10th September 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 19*) remained until 19th February, photographed (A.Robinson *et al.*). Juvenile, Lissagriffin, 6th to 10th September, photographed (D.Ballard *et al.*). Juvenile, Lough Beg, Cork Harbour, 20th to 28th September, photographed (O.Foley *et al.*). First-winter, Rosscarbery, 13th October to 30th December, photographed (E.Dempsey *et al.*). One, White's Marsh, Inchydoney, 21st October (A.Robinson, G.Gordon).

Down Juvenile, Dundrum Inner Bay, 25th August to 5th November, photographed (A.Crory, C.Gillespie).

Mayo Juvenile, Belderra and Cross Lough, The Mullet, 27th September to 16th October, photographed (D.Suddaby *et al.*).

Wexford Juvenile, Rosslare Backstrand, 21st September (K.Mullarney), photographed.



First-winter **Lesser Yellowlegs** *Tringa flavipes*, Lissagriffin, Co. Cork, 10th September 2006. Photo: Michael O'Keeffe.

Wilson's Phalarope *Phalaropus tricolor* (81; 1)

Clare First-winter, Loop Head, 23rd September, photographed (J.N.Murphy, B.Finnegan, A.Cooney *et al.*).

Only the second for Clare and, remarkably, the only record to date from the west coast north of Kerry.



First-winter **Wilson's Phalarope** *Phalaropus tricolor*, Ross Bay, Bridges of Ross, Co. Clare, 24th September 2006.
Photo: John Murphy.

Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus*

Wicklow Juvenile, Kilcoole, 1st to 4th October, photographed (A.G.Kelly, E.A.MacLochlainn *et al.*).



juvenile **Red-necked Phalarope** *Phalaropus lobatus*, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow, 1st October 2006. Photo: Aidan G. Kelly.

Long-tailed Skua *Stercorarius longicaudus* (614; 28)

Clare Bridges of Ross, four: juvenile, 23rd August (A.Clifton *et al.*); juvenile, 28th August (R.Bonser, A.Clewes, A.Clifton *et al.*); juvenile, 19th September (J.N.Murphy); juvenile, 6th October (K.Mullarney, J.N.Murphy).

Cork Adult, Galley Head, 8th July (N.Linehan, J.Diggin *et al.*). Cape Clear Island, six: adult, 11th July (S.Wing); three, 17th July (A.McGeehan); two, 21st October (D.O'Sullivan, G.Walsh).

Mayo Four adults, Annagh Head, The Mullet, 27th May (D.Suddaby *et al.*); adult and juvenile, 19th September (D.Suddaby). Adult, Kilcummin Head, 10th August (B.Robson); two adults and six juveniles, 29th August (M.Darlaston).

Waterford Immature, Helvick Head, 20th September (P.M.Walsh); juvenile, 23rd September (C.Flynn).

Bonaparte's Gull *Chroicocephalus philadelphia* (35; 6)

Antrim First-winter, Whitehouse Lagoon, 26th April to 5th May, photographed (D.Charles), also seen previously in Down, see below.

Down First-winter, Belfast Harbour RSPB Reserve, 25th April (A.McGeehan); same individual, Kinnegar, 25th April, photographed (D.Charles), also seen later in Antrim, see above.

Cork Adult, Cobh, 16th January to 18th March, photographed (C.Cronin *et al.*); adult, Cobh, 28th December to 18th February 2007, photographed (C.Cronin, P.Rowe *et al.*), presumed returning individual.

Kerry First-summer, Blennerville, 28th May to 3rd June, photographed (E.Carty *et al.*); adult, 18th December to 6th March 2007 (E.Carty *et al.*). Adult, Castlemaine Harbour, 13th September to 18th October, photographed (J.Gilroy *et al.*). Adult, Castlegregory, 19th September to 24th October, photographed (M.O'Clery *et al.*).

Six in a year exceeds the previous record set in 2003. Unlike the previous two species, the new arrivals occurred later in the year.

Laughing Gull *Larus atricilla* (31; 8)

Cork Adult, Rosscarbery and Owenahincha, 29th January to 5th February, photographed (D.G.McAdams *et al.*); same individual, Ring, 28th February to 14th March, photographed (M.Hoit, S.Piner, K.Langdon, T.Lowe *et al.*). First-winter, The Lough, Cork City, 18th February to 15th April, photographed (R.Mundy *et al.*) (*Birding World* 19: 52); same individual, Bachelor's Quay, Cork City, 21st February (R.Mundy); same individual, Lee Fields, 5th March, photographed (M.Shorten). Adult, Ballydehob, 2nd to 8th April, photographed (D.Perry).

Donegal First-summer, Bunbeg Harbour, 28th May, photographed (J.Larkin); First-summer, Dungloe, 7th and 8th June, photographed (G.Charles).

Dublin The adult present at North Bull Island since 16th December 2005 (*IRBR* 2005: 21) remained to 3rd January, photographed (Sh.Farrell *et al.*).

Galway The second-winter present at Nimmo's Pier from 3rd December 2005 (*IRBR* 2005: 21) remained until 17th March 2006, photographed (D.Breen *et al.*) (*Birdwatch* 166: 68). Adult, Waterside, Galway City, 4th to 11th May, photographed (T.Cuffe *et al.*).

Kerry Adult, Aquadome, Tralee, 1st and 2nd January, photographed (E.Carty). First-winter, Dingle, 1st to 12th March (M.Hoit, S.Piner, K.Langdon, T.Lowe, B.Simpson), presumed same as first-winter, 15th December 2005 (*IRBR* 2005: 21).

Wicklow Adult, Arklow Town, 25th January, photographed (B.Haslam *et al.*).

Eight more following the twelve seen in 2005. All were found in the first half of the year, presumably having arrived with Hurricane Wilma the previous autumn.



Second-winter **Laughing Gull** *Larus atricilla*, Nimmo's Pier, Co. Galway, 8th January 2006. Photo: Tom Cuffe.



First-winter **Laughing Gull** *Larus atricilla*, The Lough, Cork City, 21st February 2006. Photo: Sean Cronin.

Franklin's Gull *Larus pipixcan* (10; 6)

Antrim First-winter, Dargan Bay, 21st February (P.Loneragan, K.Mullarney), photographed; same individual, Whitehouse Lagoon, 4th March, photographed (D.Charles), also seen previously in Down, see below. Second-summer, Whitehouse Lagoon, 5th and 6th August, photographed (J.Lamont).

Down First-winter, Dundrum Inner Bay South, 28th and 29th January photographed (W.Farrelly); same individual, Minervestown, 31st January to 3rd February (C.Murphy), also seen later in Antrim, see above.

Cork First-winter, Carrigaline, 29th and 30th January (R.O'Driscoll), presumed same as first-winter at Blackrock Castle, 22nd December 2005 (*IRBR* 2005: 23); first-winter, presumed same, Rosscarbery, 12th to 26th March, photographed (D.Fitzpatrick, K.Cronin *et al.*). Adult, Belgooly, 31st May, photographed (B.Lynch *et al.*).

Louth First-winter, Cruisetown Strand, Clogher Head, 19th March, photographed (D.Hodgers, E.Flynn *et al.*).

Wicklow First-winter, Wicklow Harbour, 18th to 25th March, photographed (D. Foley, A.McMillan, R.H.Coombes *et al.*) (*Birding World* 19: 95); same individual, Kilcoole, 28th March to 3rd April (B.Haslam *et al.*).

The total of six sets a new record. The pattern of this series closely mirrors that of Laughing Gull *Larus atricilla* in several respects, both species having been displaced by Hurricane Wilma, though there is a stronger easterly bias to these Franklin's Gull records.



First-winter **Franklin's Gull** *Larus pipixcan*, Wicklow Harbour, Co. Wicklow, 19th March 2006. Photo: Paul & Andrea Kelly.

Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis*

Birds showing characters of the Atlantic island form *L. m. atlantis*, in particular the somewhat more distinctive Azorean population.

Dublin One, Sandymount Strand, 6th December to 10th January 2007, photographed (N.Keogh, E.Archer *et al.*).

Kerry One, Carrahane Sands, 6th September to 15th October, photographed (T.Lowe, K.Langdon, D.Brown *et al.*) (Lowe 2006).



Adult **Yellow-legged Gull** *Larus michahellis*, showing characters of the Atlantic island form *L. m. atlantis*, Carrahane Strand, Co. Kerry, 4th October 2006. Photos: Chris Batty (left) and Phil Palmer (right).

The Azorean form of Yellow-legged Gull is characterised by having, on average, more pronounced and extensive head-streaking in adult non-breeding plumage and slightly darker upperparts than the nominate form, while birds on the Canary Islands and Madeira (currently grouped with *atlantis*) are somewhat intermediate in their appearance. As with so many of the subtly distinguished large gull taxa that have attracted attention in recent times, further study is required in order to establish reliable means of identifying putative out-of-range vagrants resembling Azorean *atlantis*, which is believed to have occurred in North America on at least one occasion (Howell & Dunn 2007). In view of the current uncertainties, these and other records of 'Azorean Yellow-legged Gull' should be considered provisional, pending further study. A good photographic record may be essential for the proper evaluation of claims.

Caspian Gull *Larus cachinnans* (6; 1)

Wexford Adult, Duncannon, 9th to 15th January, photographed (K.Mullarney *et al.*).

This is the first to be found on the south coast of Ireland.

American Herring Gull *Larus smithsonianus* (73; 0)

Galway The third-winter present since 29th December (*IRBR 2005: 24*) remained until 16th April 2006, photographed (P.Lonergan, J.N.Murphy *et al.*) (*Birding World* 18: 496; 19:8; 19:142; *Dutch Birding* 28: 48).

The long-staying individual, originally discovered as a first-winter on 13th January 2004 (*Irish Birds* 8:115). For the first time since 1995, no new arrivals were noted, a fact which is all the more surprising in view of the record numbers of smaller North American gulls found during the year.

Kumlien's Gull *Larus glaucoides kumlieni* (78; 1)

Donegal Adult, Killybegs, 12th to 26th March, photographed (D.Charles, D.A.Hunter) (*Birdwatch* 167: 68).

Galway The third- winter present at Nimmo's Pier since 31st December 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 25*) remained until 20th February, photographed (M.Davis, P.Lonergan, J.N.Murphy, T.Griffin *et al.*) (*Birding World* 19:51; *Dutch Birding* 28: 40).

A very poor year, mirroring the pattern of American Herring Gull *Larus smithsonianus*.



Adult **Kumlien's Gull** *Larus glaucoides kumlieni*, Killybegs, Co. Donegal, 12th March 2006. Photo: Derek Charles.

Gull-billed Tern *Sterna nilotica* (15; 1)

Cork Adult, Womanagh River, near Ballymacoda, 20th and 21st May, photographed (O.Foley *et al.*).

This species has become more regular in recent years, with nine individuals recorded since 2000.

Forster's Tern *Sterna forsteri* (23; 3)

Cork First-winter, Ballycotton, 11th to 18th February; same individual, Ballyvergan, 29th January and 28th February, photographed (S.Fleming, P.Davis *et al.*), later seen in Waterford, see below.

Galway The adult present at Nimmo's Pier since 26th November 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 28*) remained until 11th May 2006, photographed (P.Lonergan *et al.*)(*Birding World* 19: 5 and 19: 96), presumed returning individual.

Louth Adult, Cruisetown Strand, Clogher Head, 8th October to 26th November, photographed (G.O'Neill, D.Hodgers *et al.*).

Waterford First-winter, Dungarvan, 17th to 19th March, photographed (M.Cowming, C.Flynn *et al.*), previously seen in Cork, see above.

Wexford First-summer, Lady's Island Lake, 22nd May and 22nd July, photographed (P.Archer, K.Mullarney *et al.*).

These include the long-overdue first for Cork.



First-winter **Forster's Tern** *Sterna forsteri*, Ballycotton, Co. Cork, 22nd January 2006. Photo: Sean Cronin.

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida* (17; 2)

Kerry Two adults, Blennerville, 1st June (E.Carty).

The first record of two together, and also the first for Kerry.

American Black Tern *Chlidonias niger surinamensis* (2; 1)

Wexford First-summer, Lady's Island Lake and Carnsore Point, 16th July to 1st August, photographed (D.Daly, K.Mullarney *et al.*) (Mullarney 2006).

The two previous records involved autumn juveniles in Dublin in 1999 and Kerry in 2003.



First-summer **American Black Tern** *Chlidonias niger surinamensis*, Lady's Island Lake, Co. Wexford, 16th July 2006.
Photo: Killian Mullarney.

White-winged Black Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus* (78; 3)

Dublin Adult, North Bull Island and Sandymount, 21st July, photographed (K.Dooney *et al.*).

Westmeath Two adults, Lough Owel, 4th and 5th May (I.Beatty).

The Westmeath record is the first for the county.

Snowy Owl *Bubo scandiacus*

Donegal Second calendar-year female, Dooley Point, 8th to 12th October, photographed (F.Carroll *et al.*).

Galway Female/immature, near Spiddal, 31st January (A.Ó Dónaill).

Mayo Second calendar-year female, Blacksod, The Mullet, 9th September to 7th October, photographed (D.Suddaby *et al.*) (*Birdwatch* 173:68; *Birding World* 19:362 and 407).

Westmeath Juvenile, near Athlone, 13th February, photographed (J.Dunning); same individual, Ballynahona Bog, near Athlone, 6th March (A. Copland, B. Caffrey, J. Lusby).

A bird which considerably enlivens the dull landscape of western blanket bog. The increase in sightings is very encouraging for a species which has already attempted to breed (*Irish Birds* 7:378).



Second-year female **Snowy Owl** *Bubo scandiacus*, The Mullet, Co. Mayo, 9th September 2006. Photo: Michael Davis.

Pallid Swift *Apus pallidus* (3; 1)

Wicklow One, Bray, 27th and 28th March, photographed (S.Wing *et al.*).

All four to date have occurred on the east coast.

Alpine Swift *Apus melba* (61; 7)

Cork One, Lissagriffin, 5th April (D.Ballard). One, Ballycotton, 7th to 18th April, photographed (S.Fleming *et al.*).

Waterford One, Dungarvan, 3rd April, photographed (M.Cowming *et al.*).

Wexford One, North Slob, 3rd April (per C.J.Wilson).

Wicklow One, Kilcoole, 7th April (R.H.Coombes, S.Jordan); one, 13th and 14th April (N.Hatch *et al.*). Two, including the Kilcoole bird, Newcastle, 8th April (B.Haslam *et al.*). One, Five-Mile-Point, 9th April (N.Keogh, N.T.Keogh). Three, Bray Head, 15th to 20th April, photographed (R.Vaughan, R.H.Coombes *et al.*).

A good spread of records in early April. In the totals, the Wicklow sightings are assumed to have involved three individuals, though clearly, more may have been present.



Alpine Swift *Apus melba*, Ballycotton, Co. Cork, 17th April 2006. Photo: Sean Cronin.



Adult **Bee-eater** *Merops apiaster*, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, 28th May 2006. Photo: Tansy Bliss.

Bee-eater *Merops apiaster* (49; 1)

Donegal Adult, Rathgory, near Letterkenny, 28th May, photographed (T.Bliss, J.Bliss).

The first for Donegal since 1830 or 1831.

Wryneck *Jynx torquilla* (182; 24)

Cork Dursey Island, three: one, 13th August (B.Finch); one, 14th and 15th September (D.A.Scott); one, 12th October (A.A.K.Lancaster, K.Grace). One, Ballycotton, 7th and 8th September (O.Foley *et al.*). One, Mizen Head, 9th September, photographed (M.O'Keeffe); one, 17th October, photographed (D.Ballard). Cape Clear Island, eight: one, 9th September; four, 11th September; two, 14th September; one, 30th September; two, 7th October, one, 20th October, photographed (C.Cronin, S.Wing, G.Gordon, J.F.Dowdall *et al.*). One, Galley Head, 17th September (M.O'Sullivan). One, Old Head of Kinsale, 24th September (R.O'Driscoll). One, Clogheen Marsh, 3rd October (G.Walsh). One, Lehanemore, West Beara, 17th October (A.A.K.Lancaster, K.Grace). One, Baltimore, 21st October (A.G.Kelly).

Waterford One, Brownstown Head, 2nd to 10th October, photographed (M.A.Duggan *et al.*).

Wexford Two, Great Saltee Island, 17th to 24th September, photographed (J.F.Dowdall, J.E.Fitzharris, T.Shevlin *et al.*). One, Carnsore Point, 26th to 30th September, photographed (V.Toal *et al.*).

Wicklow One, Newcastle, 10th September (A.P.Kelly).

An outstanding total, more than double the previous best of eleven in 2002. The Wicklow record is particularly notable; only eight have been found away from southern and southwestern coasts since 1970.

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major* (116; 5)

Down Male, Finnebrogue, present for six weeks in January and February (W.Love, per C.Murphy). One, Inch Abbey, 2nd February (L.G.R.Evans). One, Mount Stewart, 23rd March (D.J.Kelly).

Dublin Female, Deer Park Hotel and Evora Park, Howth, 18th to 25th February, photographed (A.G.Kelly, P.Kelly, G.O'Neill, T.Shevlin *et al.*) (*Birdwatch* 166: 68).

Meath One, Kilmessin, near Dunsany, 14th February (J.Curtis).

Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla* (57; 1)

Wexford One, Tacumshin, 5th June, in song (H. Gallagher, K.Mullarney).

On a warm, still summer's morning this bird hardly seemed out of place as it made one pass overhead, in full song-flight, before seeming to come down some distance away. Efforts to relocate it failed and it was not seen or heard subsequently. There is no previous record of the species having been heard singing in Ireland but one did spend almost a month at the same Wexford location in the summer of 2003 (*Irish Birds* 7: 563).

Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica* (21;2)

Cork One, Cape Clear Island, 6th to 8th May, photographed (S.Wing *et al.*). One, Old Head of Kinsale, 14th and 15th May (P.Rowe *et al.*).

Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi* (81; 3)

Cork One, Cape Clear Island, 2nd October (E.Dempsey). One, Galley Head, 12th October (C.Barton).

Wexford One, Hook Head, 29th October (K.Grace).

Tawny Pipit *Anthus campestris* (33; 1)

Wexford First-winter, Tacumshin, 19th to 29th September, photographed (B.Haslam *et al.*) (*Birdwatch* 173: 68); one, presumed same, 15th October (N.Keogh).



First-winter **Tawny Pipit** *Anthus campestris*, Tacumshin, Co.Wexford, 22nd September 2006. Photo: Paul Hackett.

Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus* (28; 3)

Cork One, Dursey Island, 16th October (K.Grace). One, Cape Clear Island, 16th and 17th October (C.Cronin, C.Barton *et al.*).

Dublin One, Rogerstown, 24th December to 20th January 2007, photographed (P.Kelly *et al.*).

Winter records of this species north of the Mediterranean basin are extremely rare.



Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus*, Rogerstown, Co. Dublin, 6th January 2007. Photo: Paul & Andrea Kelly.

Scandinavian Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus littoralis* (20; 1)

Waterford One, Annestown, 22nd March, photographed (C.Flynn).

Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta* (49; 12)

Dublin One, Rogerstown, 24th December (P.Kelly).

Wexford Tacumshin, seven: four, 4th January (K.Mullarney *et al.*); one, 15th January (K.Mullarney); three, 11th March (K.Mullarney); five, 21st March (K.Mullarney); four, 7th April (K.Mullarney); two, 28th October (P.Kelly); one 4th to 9th November (P.Kelly).

Waterford One of the two birds present at Kilmeaden Ponds since 4th December 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 33*) remained until 15th March, the other until 21st March, photographed (C.Flynn, M.Cowming, R.Mundy *et al.*).

Wexford One present at the North Slob since 27th December 2005 (*IRBR 2005: 33*) remained until 1st January 2006, photographed (H.Hussey, A.Robinson *et al.*).

Wicklow One, Blackditch, East Coast Nature Reserve, 4th February to 1st March (R.H.Coombes *et al.*). One, Broadlough, 5th March (A.McMillan). Two, Kilcoole, 9th November (N.Keogh, N.T.Keogh).



Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta*, Kilmeaden Pools, Co. Waterford, 18th January 2006. Photo: Sean Cronin.

Blue-headed Wagtail *Motacilla flava flava* (51; 1)

Wexford One, Tacumshin 23rd September, photographed (P.Kelly *et al.*).

This bird was part of an exceptionally large flock of up to 40 Yellow Wagtails *Motacilla f. flavissima* that descended on some of the fields bordering the lake, their arrival coinciding with that of a Tawny Pipit *Anthus campestris* and a Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* at the same location.



'Blue-headed' Wagtail *Motacilla flava flava*, Tacumshin, Co. Wexford, 23rd September 2006. Photo: Paul & Andrea Kelly.

Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola* (12; 3)

Kerry First-winter, Derrymore, 25th and 26th September, photographed (M.O'Clery *et al.*).

Wexford First-summer female, Tacumshin, 1st and 2nd June, photographed (P.Archer *et al.*); first-winter, Tacumshin, 16th and 17th September, photographed (K.Mullarney *et al.*).

These include the second for Kerry and the first in spring; with the exception of the latter bird, all to date have been found in September or October.



First-summer female **Citrine Wagtail** *Motacilla citreola*, Tacumshin, Co. Wexford, 2nd June 2006. Photo: Alyn Walsh.



First-winter **Citrine Wagtail** *Motacilla citreola*, Tacumshin, Co. Wexford, 16th September 2006. Photo Killian Mullarney.

Bluethroat *Luscinia svecica* (34; 1)

Waterford First-winter female, Brownstown Head, 22nd October (P.M.Walsh).

An overdue addition to the Waterford list.

Hermit Thrush *Catharus guttatus* (1; 1)

Cork First-winter, Cape Clear Island, 19th and 20th October, photographed (C.Cronin *et al.*) (*Birding World* 19: 412).

The second Irish record, the first having been in 1998. One of the star birds of the year, obliging all who witnessed it with memorable views and the photographers among them with prized shots. This is one of the rarest of the North American thrushes to have occurred in Europe, with only 7 records in Britain compared with 45 Grey-cheeked *Catharus minimus* and 24 Swainson's *Catharus ustulatus*, up to the end of 2006 (Dudley *et al* 2006).



First-winter **Hermit Thrush** *Catharus guttatus*, Cape Clear Island, Co. Cork, 19th October 2006. Photo: Derek Charles.



First-winter **Hermit Thrush** *Catharus guttatus*, Cape Clear Island, Co. Cork, 20th October 2006. Photo: Paul & Andrea Kelly.



First-winter **Hermit Thrush** *Catharus guttatus*, Cape Clear Island, Co. Cork, 20th October 2006.
Photos: Ciaran Cronin.

Eastern Olivaceous Warbler *Hippolais pallida* (2; 1)

Cork One, Cape Clear Island, 24th September to 1st October, photographed (G.Gordon *et al.*)(*Birding World* 19: 364).

The third Irish record following records in 1977 and 1999.



Eastern Olivaceous Warbler *Hippolais pallida*, Cape Clear Island, Co. Cork, 1st October 2006. Photo: Michael O'Keeffe.

Booted Warbler *Hippolais caligata* (3; 1)

Waterford First-winter, The Cunnigar, Dungarvan, 26th and 27th August, photographed (C.Flynn, M.Cowming *et al.*).



First-winter **Booted Warbler *Hippolais caligata***, The Cunnigar, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford, 27th August 2006. Photo: Micheal Cowming.

The 4th Irish record – all have occurred in the past four years. The bird occurred in an otherwise quiet period and at a time when most observers would be pursuing waders or seabirds. It was by far the best rare passerine of the early part of the autumn and the earliest record to date, although the species has been increasingly recorded in late August in Britain in recent years. The bird frequented a sandy pasture area along the Cunnigar dune system in Dungarvan Bay where it favoured an area heavily vegetated with Ragwort *Senecio jacobaea* in seed.

The ratio of records of Booted Warbler to Eastern Olivaceous Warblers *Hippolais pallida* (4:3) compared with the equivalent figures for Britain (105:11) (Rogers *et al* 2006) is difficult to explain, but the occurrence of all four Booteds in just three years suggests that the species was being overlooked, possibly even being dismissed as 'Willow/Chiffs' *Phylloscopus trochilus/collybita*, prior to a good number of observers getting their 'eye in' on the species since the first, in 2003.

Icterine Warbler *Hippolais icterina* (202; 6)

Cork One, Cape Clear Island, 21st August (C.Cronin). One, Dursey Island, 14th September (D.A.Scott). One, Ballycotton, 23rd and 24th September (G.Walsh *et al.*). One, Knockadoon Head, 26th September, photographed (P.Moore).

Dublin One, Howth Head, 24th September (M.Stewart *et al.*).

Wexford One, Churchtown, near Carnsore Point, 1st October, photographed (R.Vaughan *et al.*).

Melodious Warbler *Hippolais polyglotta* (171; 5)

Cork First-winter, Dursey Island, 14th to 25th September (D.A.Scott); first-winter, 30th September and 1st October (D.A.Scott, A.Robinson). One, Mizen Head, 8th October (N.Linehan *et al.*).

Wexford First-winter, Tacumshin, 2nd and 3rd September, photographed (T.Kilbane *et al.*). One, Carnsore Point, 14th September (N.Keogh).

Barred Warbler *Sylvia nisoria* (111; 5)

Cork First-winter, Cape Clear Island, 10th September (C.Cronin); first-winter, 13th October, photographed (C.Cronin *et al.*). First-winter, Mizen Head, 14th October, photographed (A.Duggan, P.Wolstenholme *et al.*). First-winter, Old Head of Kinsale, 20th October, photographed (G.Gordon *et al.*).

Donegal First-winter, Tory Island, 5th October (J.F.Dowdall *et al.*).



First-winter **Barred Warbler** *Sylvia nisoria*, Old Head of Kinsale, Co. Cork, 20th October 2006. Photo: Sean Cronin.

Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans* (32; 3)

Cork First-winter, Cape Clear Island, 10th October, photographed (S.Wing *et al.*); female, 13th October (C.Cronin *et al.*). First-winter, Old Head of Kinsale, 15th October (H.Hussey, P.Rowe *et al.*).



First-winter **Subalpine Warbler** *Sylvia cantillans*, Cape Clear Island, Co. Cork, 10th October 2006.
Photo: Michael O'Keeffe.

Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides* (22; 4)

Cork First-winter, Cape Clear Island, 14th to 19th September, photographed (H.Hussey *et al.*). One, Old Head of Kinsale, October, exact date unknown (K.Preston).

Kerry One, Valencia Island, 7th to 9th October (S.Dodgson *et al.*).

Waterford First-winter, Brownstown Head, 3rd to 5th September (P.M.Walsh *et al.*).

These include the first for Kerry and only the second for Waterford.

Pallas's Warbler *Phylloscopus proregulus* (30; 1)

Wexford One, Churchtown, near Carnsore Point, 30th October (N.T.Keogh, N.Keogh *et al.*).

Red-breasted Flycatcher *Ficedula parva* (210; 14)

Clare First-winter, Kilbaha, Loop Head, 9th to 11th October, photographed (V.Cashera *et al.*).

Cork Cape Clear Island, six: first-winter, 9th October, photographed (M.O'Donnell *et al.*); adult, 15th October and 16th October, photographed; three first-winters, 16th October (P.Kelly, A.A.Kelly *et al.*); adult female, 17th October (C.Cronin). First-winter, Lissagriffin, 14th to 17th October, photographed (D.Ballard, K.Mullarney *et al.*). First-winter, Mizen Head, 17th October, photographed (D.Ballard, K.Mullarney *et al.*); four first-winters, 19th October (P.Wolstenholme). One, Dursey Island, 27th October (D.Cooke). First-winter, Ballymacrown, 29th to 31st October, (O.Foley *et al.*)

A record total



Adult **Red-breasted Flycatcher** *Ficedula parva*, Cape Clear Island, Co. Cork, 16th October 2006.
Photo: Michael O'Keeffe.



First-winter **Red-breasted Flycatcher** *Ficedula parva*, Cape Clear Island, Co. Cork, 16th October 2006.
Photo: Paul & Andrea Kelly.



First-winter **Woodchat Shrike** *Lanius senator*, Hook Head, Co. Wexford, 1st October 2006. Photo: Killian Mullarney.



Juvenile **Rose-coloured Starling** *Sturnus roseus*, Cape Clear Island, Co. Cork, October 2006.
Photo: Paul & Andrea Kelly.

Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus* (191; 8)

Cork First-summer male and female, Dursey Island, 10th to 18th May (D.A.Scott); first-summer male, 15th May (D.A.Scott). Female, Cape Clear Island, 11th May (S.Wing); female, 17th May (C.Cronin *et al.*).

Wexford Female, Great Saltee Island, 16th May (B.Haslam *et al.*). Two, South Slob, 23rd May (F.Tennant *et al.*).

Isabelline Shrike *Lanius isabellinus* (1; 1)

Cork First-year, Old Head of Kinsale, 17th to 20th October, photographed (S.Cronin, H.Hussey *et al.*).

The second Irish record and, as with the first in 2000, considered to involve the race (*L.i. isabellinus*) or 'Daurian Shrike'.



First-winter **Isabelline Shrike** *Lanius isabellinus*, considered to be a 'Daurian Shrike' *L.i.isabellinus*, Old Head of Kinsale, Co. Cork, 20th October 2006. Photo: Sean Cronin.

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio* (138; 8)

Cork Two first-years, Mizen Head, 13th to 25th September (D.Ballard); first-year, 12th October, photographed (B.Haslam *et al.*). First-year, Firkeel, 30th September (A.Robinson). First-year, Dursey Island, 2nd to 12th October (D.A.Scott). First-year, Cape Clear Island, 12th to 17th October, photographed (M.Cowming *et al.*); first-year, 19th October, photographed (C.Cronin *et al.*). First-year, Old Head of Kinsale, 12th and 13th October, photographed (G.Gordon *et al.*).

Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator* (65; 6)

Cork One, Mizen Head, 27th March (R.Neal); first-year, 25th September (D.Ballard). Male, between Trallispeen and Tragumna, 28th March (T.Rule). First-year, Old Head of Kinsale, 12th to 21st October, photographed (G.Gordon *et al.*). First-year, Ballymacrown, near Baltimore, 20th to 22nd October, photographed (O.Foley *et al.*).

Wexford First-year, Hook Head, 23rd September to 1st October, photographed (K.Grace, A.A.K.Lancaster *et al.*).

The total equals the record set in 1958, when six were seen on Great Saltee (Wexford). Geographically, a very typical spread of records along the south coast but, with only two previous records in March and one in October, all these records were either unusually early or unusually late.

Rose-coloured Starling *Sturnus roseus* (114; 3)

Cork Juvenile, Cape Clear Island, 13th September to 15th October, photographed (H.Hussey *et al.*).

Kerry Juvenile, Smerwick, 5th and 6th September (R.Moores).

Waterford Juvenile, Brownstown Head, 9th October (S.Collins, P.M.Walsh).

Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus* (43; 2)

Clare First winter, Kilbaha, Loop Head, 7th to 14th October, photographed (J.N.Murphy, F.MacGabhann, A.Cooney, T.Tarpey, K.Mullarney *et al.*) (*Birding World* 19: 419).

Mayo One, Termon, The Mullet, 5th to 7th October, photographed (D.Suddaby *et al.*).



First-winter **Red-eyed Vireo** *Vireo olivaceus*, Loop Head, Co. Clare, 7th October 2006. Photo: Killian Mullarney.



First-winter **Red-eyed Vireo** *Vireo olivaceus*, Loop Head, Co. Clare, 9th October 2006. Photo: Stuart Elsom.

Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus* (131; 6)

Clare Juvenile, Loop Head, 9th October (D.O'Sullivan *et al.*).

Cork Juvenile, Dursey Island, 5th September (D.A.Scott). Cape Clear Island, three: juvenile, 8th to 12th October, photographed (M.O'Keeffe *et al.*); juvenile, 11th and 12th October, photographed (J.F.Dowdall *et al.*); juvenile, 20th October, photographed (P.Kelly *et al.*).

Mayo Juvenile, Blacksod, The Mullet, 30th September and 1st October, photographed (S.Dodgson).

Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes* (160; 1)

Dublin One, Dublin Zoo, 11th March (P.Pierce per P.Phillips).

The Phoenix Park, where Dublin Zoo is located, was a regular wintering site for this species in the 19th century.

Blackpoll Warbler *Dendroica striata* (6; 1)

Cork One, Dursey Island, 10th October (D.A.Scott *et al.*).

Like many rarities on Dursey in the past, this bird remained for just a few hours, though an ever-present Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus* may have played a role in its rapid disappearance.

Canada Warbler *Wilsonia canadensis* (0; 1)

Clare First-year, Kilbaha, Loop Head, 8th to 13th October, photographed (M.Hanafin, S.Enright *et al.*) (Hanafin 2006).

The first Irish record and the eleventh species of American warbler to be found in Ireland. The only previous Western Palearctic record concerns one seen in Iceland in September 1973.



First-winter **Canada Warbler** *Wilsonia canadensis*, Loop Head, Co. Clare, 11th October 2006. Photos: Kit Day.



First-winter **Canada Warbler** *Wilsonia canadensis*, Loop Head, Co. Clare, 11th October 2006.
Photos: Kit Day (top, bottom left) Michael O'Keeffe (bottom right).

Cirl Bunting *Emberiza cirlus* (0; 1)

Cork Female, Mizen Head, 8th and 9th May, video recorded (D.Ballard *et al.*).

In view of the largely sedentary nature of this species, a very unexpected addition to the Irish list. This individual, however, stayed on the move and eluded all those who travelled to see it.



Female **Cirl Bunting** *Emberiza cirlus*, Mizen Head, Co. Cork, 8th May 2006. Video-grab: D.Ballard.

Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana* (102; 2)

Cork First-winter, Cape Clear Island, 15th September, photographed (C.Cronin *et al.*). One, Dursey Island, 24th September (D.A.Scott).

Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla* (32; 2)

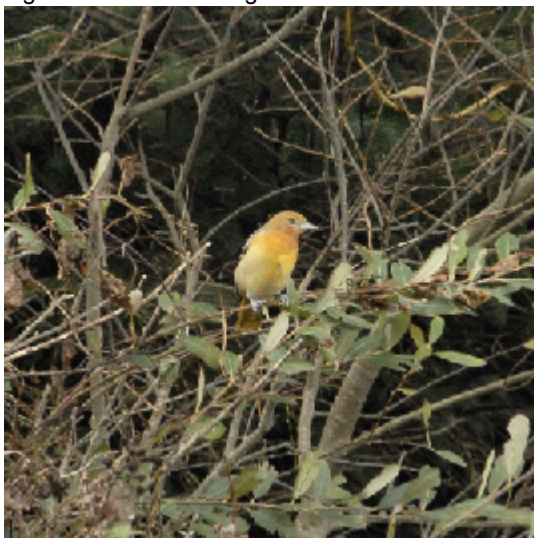
Cork One, Dursey Island, 11th October (K.Grace). One, Cape Clear Island, 17th October (C.Cronin).

Cape Clear and the West Beara area have together accounted for almost half of the Irish records of this species.

Baltimore Oriole *Icterus galbula* (1; 1)

Cork First-winter, Cape Clear Island, 12th to 19th October, photographed (R.H.Coombes, F.O'Connell *et al.*) (*Birding World* 19: 419).

The second Irish record. In spite of its bright colouration this bird proved very elusive throughout its week-long stay and few of the many who saw it enjoyed any kind of sustained view. The first record, in 2001, was long overdue considering that there have been over twenty recorded in Britain since the first there in 1958.



First-winter **Baltimore Oriole** *Icterus galbula*, Cape Clear Island, Co. Cork, 17th October 2006.
Photos: Paul & Andrea Kelly.

Appendix 1: Category D records

Records of individuals considered to be probable or certain escapes from captivity.

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*

Louth One, Lurgangreen, 14th June (S.McKeever, T.Reilly).

Wexford Five adults, North Slob, 12th to 21st July (A.Walsh, C.J.Wilson *et al.*).

Appendix 2: Contributors

J.Adamson, E.Archer, P.Archer, D.Ballard, C.Barton, C.Batty, I.Beatty, C.Bell, S.Blain, J.Bliss, T.Bliss, R.Bonser, J.Boxton, C.Bradshaw, D.Breen, M.Breen, P.Brennan, D.Brown, M.Bryan, F.Carroll, J.Carter, E.Carty, V.Caschera, D.Charles, G.Charles, D.Clarke, A.Clewes, A.Clifton, S.Collins, A.Cooke, R.H.Coombes, A.Cooney, A.Copeland, D.F.Cotton, J.Coveney, M.Cowming, C.Cronin, K.Cronin, S.Cronin, A.Crory, J.Crosher, P.Crouzier, T.Cuffe, C.Cullen, T.Cully, J.Curtis, D.Daly, M.Darlaston, M.Davis, P.Davis, K.Day, H.Delaney, E.Dempsey, J.Devlin, H.Dick, J.Diggin, S.Dodgson, K.Dooney, J.F.Dowdall, A.Duggan, M.A.Duggan, J.Dunning, B.Egan, S.Elsom, S.Enright, L.G.R.Evans, K.Fahy, Sh.Farrell, W.Farrelly, B.Finnegan, J.E.Fitzharris, D.Fitzpatrick, S.Fleming, D.Flint, P.Flint, C.Flynn, E.Flynn, D.Foley, M.Foley, O.Foley, D.Fox, E.Furlong, D.Galbraith, H.Gallagher, J.Gallagher, J.Geraty, S.Geraty, C.Gillespie, I.Gillespie, J.Gilroy, J.Glendenning, J.Gonin, M.Goodman, G.Gordon, K.Grace, T.Griffin, P.Hackett, N.Hallam, K.Hamilton, M.Hanafin, J.Hanlon, B.Haslam, N.Hatch, M.Hearst, D.Hodgers, M.Hoit, A.Holgensson, D.A.Hunter, H.Hussey, S.Jaquier, S.Jordan, J.Kehoe, A.A.Kelly, A.G.Kelly, A.P.Kelly, D.J.Kelly, P.Kelly, T.Kelly, N.Keogh, N.T.Keogh, T.Kilbane, F.King, A.Krätzel, K.Krätzel, J.Lambert, J.Lamont, A.A.K.Lancaster, K.Langdon, J.Larkin, E.Larrissey, J.Lawlor, D.Lindberg, N.Linehan, P.Lonergan, M.Lopez, F.López, T.Lowe, B.Lynch, J.Lynch, F.MacGabhann, K.Mackie, I.Maclean, E.A.MacLochlainn, M.Maddock, S.Magnusson, B.A.E.Marr, B.Martin, D.G.McAdams, the late W.M.McDowell A.McGeehan, S.McKeever, A.McMillan, D.McNamara, C.Meehan, M.Meehan, M.Mighell, R.T.Mills, S.Mitchell, C.Moning, P.Moore, R.Moores, K.Mullarney, R.Mundy, C.Murphy, E.Murphy, J.N.Murphy, T.Murray, R.Neal, S.Nixon, S.Nugent, M.O'Clery, F.O'Connell, A.O'Domhnaill, M.O'Donnell, B.O'Donoghue, R.O'Driscoll, D.O'Hare, M.O'Keeffe, F.O'Neill, G.O'Neill, D.O'Riordan, D.O'Sullivan, M.O'Sullivan, C.Peppiatt, D.Perry, G.Phillips, P.Phillips, P.Pierce, S.Pierce, S.Piner, K.Preston, B.Quinn, J.Rattigan, T.Reilly, B.Richards, M.Robb, A.Robinson, B.Robson, M.Rossor, P.Rowe, S.Roynane, T.Rule, L.Ryan, D.A.Scott, J.R.Sheppard, T.Shevlin, M.Shorten, P.Smiddy, R.D.Steele, M.Stewart, D.Suddaby, T.Tarpey, S.Tautz, R.Taylor, F.Tennant, V.Toal, R.Vaughan, A.Walsh, G.Walsh, P.M.Walsh, P.Walsh, G.Walshe, R.Whelan, C.J.Wilson, J.Wilson, S.Wing, P.Wolstenholme.

IrishBirding.com

Birds of Ireland News Service (BINS)

BirdWatch Ireland

Cape Clear Bird Observatory (CCBO)

Northern Ireland Birdwatchers' Association (NIBA)

Appendix 3: List of anonymous records

The following reports concern Appendix 2 rarities which were entered in the Provisional List of Rare Bird Sightings during 2005 but where the observers have to date remained unknown. Some or all of these reports may yet qualify for publication in a future IRBR, should the observers become known to the IRBC and be prepared to validate the claim.

Ruddy Shelduck <i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	Kilcoole, Wicklow, 28th June
Surf Scoter <i>Melanitta perspicillata</i> December	Three, Fermoy, Brandon Bay, 20th to 28th
Fea's/Zino's Petrel <i>Pterodroma feae/madeira</i>	Bridges of Ross, Clare 8th August and 29th August
Crane <i>Grus grus</i>	Srahtaggle, Mayo, 2nd to 3rd April
American Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis dominica</i>	Blennerville, Kerry, 29th December
Baird's Sandpiper <i>Calidris bairdii</i>	Lady's Island, Wexford, 2nd September
Buff-breasted Sandpiper <i>Tryngites subruficollis</i>	Kilcoole, Wicklow, 3rd September Tacumshin, Wexford, 5th and 6th September Ferriter's Cove, Ballyferriter, Kerry, 14th September Ballycotton, Cork, 22nd December
Long-billed Dowitcher <i>Limnodromus scolopaceus</i>	Clogheen Marsh, Cork, 1st October
Lesser Yellowlegs <i>Tringa flavipes</i>	The Mullet, Mayo, 30th September
Wilson's Phalarope <i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>	Bridges of Ross, Clare, 20th August
Long-tailed Skua <i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	three, Brandon Point, Kerry, 4th September Penrose Quay, Cork, 10th to 16th May Sherkin Island, Cork, 22nd November
Laughing Gull <i>Larus atricilla</i>	Mizen Head, Cork, 13th to 24th September Mizen Head, Cork, 26th October Crookhaven, Cork, 9th October
Wryneck <i>Jynx torquilla</i>	Firkeel, Cork, 30th and 31st October Mizen Head, Cork, 3rd October Inishbofin, Galway, 29th October
Red-breasted Flycatcher <i>Ficedula parva</i>	
Common Rosefinch <i>Carpodacus erythrurus</i>	

References

- Dudley S.P, *et al.* 2006 The British List: A Checklist of Birds of Britain (7th edition) *Ibis* 148 (3), 526–563
Hanafin M, 2006. The Canada Warbler in Co Clare. *Birding World* 19:429-434.
Howell S.N.G, and Dunn J, 2007. Gulls of the Americas. Houghton Mifflin Company, New York.
Lowe T, 2006. An Atlantic Gull in Ireland. *Birding World* 19:391-392.
Mullarney K, 2006. The American Black Tern in Co. Wexford. *Birding World* 19:279-282.
Rogers, M.J, *et al.* 2006. Report on rare birds in Great Britain in 2006. *Brit. Birds* 100: 694 – 754.