

Treshnish Isles Auk Ringing Group

Report for 2015



Puffin (Andrew Carter)

Compiled by
Robin M. Ward

Expedition dates:
27th June – 4th July 2015

Expedition members:
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INTRODUCTION

Since 1971, the Treshnish Isles Auk Ringing Group (TIARG) has monitored, through ringing and census work, the breeding seabird populations of the Treshnish Isles, Argyll. A summary of the early expeditions is given in *Birds on the Treshnish Isles 1971-1995* (Walker & Cooper 1996). Annual reports have been produced since 1996. This report summarises the results of the Group's 37th expedition to the Treshnish Isles, during 27th June – 4th July 2015.

As in previous years, the expedition was based around the village ruins at the northern end of Lunga. The majority of the week's fieldwork was centred upon Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil where the annual full seabird census and ringing of specific seabird colonies was carried out. The Group's activities were dictated as always by the prevailing weather conditions. The week was dominated by very favourable weather that allowed the mist netting of Storm Petrels on Lunga during several nights. The calm conditions also allowed for a night's mist netting of Storm Petrels on Fladda, our first such trip since 2009. Good use of the inflatable boat kindly loaned by the Hebridean Trust, continued by day enabling seabird census coverage of the islands north of Lunga to the islets south of Fladda. This year was the tenth year of a Shag Retrap Adult Survival study (RAS); this entails ringing each adult with its own uniquely engraved colour-ring so that it can be re-identified in the field in future years. This is part of the British Trust for Ornithology's (BTO) Integrated Population Monitoring Programme, funded by the UK Government.

All TIARG census and ringing data are submitted to two national monitoring programmes, the Seabird Colony Register (JNCC) and National Ringing Database (BTO), respectively. The data supplied are of great conservation value, being the sole means of monitoring the seabird colonies of the Treshnish Isles. The conservation importance of these islands is recognised by their designation by the UK Government as a Special Protection Area for internationally important populations of breeding Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus* and wintering Barnacle Geese *Branta leucopsis*. The islands have also been designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) for seabird breeding colonies of national importance. Financial support for the monitoring work TIARG undertook in 2015 was provided by the Hebridean Trust (www.hebrideantrust.org), owners of the islands.



Expedition participants 2015: (left to right back row) John Calladine, Tim Dixon, Shaun Micklewright, Chris Heward, Andrew Carter, (left to right front row) Stuart Brown, Robin Ward & Daniel Plunkett (*Andrew Carter*)

WEATHER

Date	Time	Wind Direction	Wind Force (Beaufort Scale)	Max Wind Speed (mph)	Average Wind Speed (mph)	Temp (°C)	Pressure (mmHG)	Cloud Cover (Oktas)	Visibility	Notes
27.06.15	19:00	SW	5					8	Eigg	
28.06.15	10:00	W	2	9.6	4.6	13.3	1002	8	Coll	Heavy rain in night
	14:00	W	2	9.5	5.9	14.4	1004	6	Ardnamurchan Point	Fine, no rain
	22:00	SSW	3	8.5	5.0	12.3	1008	8	Ardnamurchan Point	Fine and breezy
29.06.15	11:00	S	1	7.4	2.1	15.3	1011	7	Ardnamurchan Point	Light drizzle in night. Fine and bright.
	18:00	SE	1	6.5	4.5	15.8	1011	8	Ardnamurchan Point	Raining steady
	23:00	E	3+	15+	9.4	15.5	1009	8	Ardnamurchan Point	
30.06.15	09:00	E	3	19.5	10.7	15.6	1007	5	Eigg	Dry now – windy in night. Bright
	18:00	E	3+	20.3	13.2	16.5	1006	7	Eigg	Dry, strong winds all day
01.07.15	11:00	E	1	8.0	4.9	21.9	1004	4	Ardnamurchan Point	Hot and sunny. Light breeze.
	18:00	W	1	4.1	2.9	19.0	1002	8	Rum	Overcast, mild
02.07.15	11:00	SW	1	8.0	4.3	13.5	1009	8	1000 m only	Fog, light breeze
	18:00	WSW	1	7.0	4.4	14.4	1012	8	Skye / Canna	
03.07.15	05:00	E	3	8.0	5.6	13.0	1016	3	Skye / Canna	Very clear
	14:00	SE	3	14.2	8.4	17.2	1018	0	Skye / Canna	Very clear
	20:00	E	2	18.6	3.5	6.2	1016	3	Skye / Canna	Very clear
04.07.15	08:00	E	4+	18.4	31.6	14.8	1005			Very strong winds and intermittent rain in night

All readings were taken from near the cliff edge beside the Village site at the NE end of Lunga, unless otherwise noted.

Stuart Brown

SYSTEMATIC LIST OF BIRDS FOR 2015

The following systematic list describes those bird species seen during the Treshnish Isles Auk Ringing Group's presence on the Treshnish Isles, 27th June – 4th July 2015. The introductory comments (first paragraph) refer to the species' status during the breeding season as recorded by previous expeditions.

A detailed breakdown of breeding seabird numbers on Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil in 2015 is provided on page 17.

Greylag Goose *Anser anser*

Breeding noted in some years, with a moulting flock present during late summer.

The moult flock had built up to at least 272 birds by 1st July, typically most were around the islands of Sgeir an Eirionnaich, Fladda and Sgeir an Fheòir. Breeding was confirmed on Lunga where a nest was found at the south end (area 6) whilst mixed flock of adults and goslings were found on the islands between Lunga and Fladda.

Year	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Peak count	25	160	240	268	79	101	316	90	164
Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Peak count	77	80	225	160	140	50	140	196	272

Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*

Until recently a rare visitor with one pair having bred occasionally since 2003.

Single birds were noted in the vicinity of Corran Lunga, Lunga, on two dates; 28th June and 2nd July.

Eider *Somateria mollissima*

Breeds regularly in small numbers.

The only evidence of confirmed breeding were of single broods of six ducklings at the south end of Lunga and 2 in North Haven, Fladda, and a female on nest on Sgeir an Eirionnaich.

The waters between Fladda and Lunga supported small numbers of late-summer moulting birds, with a maximum of 9 birds seen.

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*

Rare visitor.

Three birds were seen in flight over the Village, Lunga on 4th July.

Corncrake *Crex crex*

Recorded almost annually and probably a regular breeder in small numbers.

No birds were recorded on Lunga. Single males were heard calling on Fladda and Sgeir a' Chaisteil during the nights of the 1st & 2nd July respectively.

The wing of a freshly killed adult Corncrake was found in the nest of a Great Black-backed Gull at the south end of Lunga.

Red-throated Diver *Gavia stellata*

Rare visitor

A single adult bird was seen in flight heading south from the north end of Lunga on 29th June.

Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*

A common breeding species. The Treshnish Isles supported 0.2% of the Great Britain population as estimated by *Seabird 2000*.

Breeding was confirmed on Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil. The breeding population for Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil was estimated at 285 pairs based upon apparently occupied sites (AOS). This represents a -19% decline in the number of breeding birds from the previous year. Over the longer term, 1994-2015, the population has shown an overall decline. This is consistent with a decline nationally which may be due to declines in offal from trawlers, representing a 're-adjustment' to more natural levels following a period of artificially elevated population size (JNCC 2013).

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*

A common breeding species. The Treshnish Isles supported 0.4% of the Great Britain population as estimated by *Seabird 2000* (1998 – 2002).

Presumed breeding birds were seen and heard at night on Lunga. During the week up to 3,000 birds were noted rafting in the evenings off Harp Rock, west coast of Lunga.

Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus*

A common breeding species. The Treshnish Isles supported 20% of the Great Britain population and between 0.7 – 1.7% of the Atlantic (north-eastern) population as estimated by *Seabird 2000*.

Many birds were heard churring from burrows on Lunga.

Several nights of light winds gave the opportunity to mist net for Storm Petrels on Lunga at the Village, the Boulder Beach (beside the Well and below the Village) and in the vicinity of known colonies above the second gully south of Corran Lunga (on the path to Harp Rock). This latter site, previously worked in 2009 and 2010, provided a catch of 138 birds when using one 18m nets (for 3¼ hours). On the Boulder Beach, traditionally ringed localities near the Well and below the Village on single nights, provided catches of 154 and 339 birds using two 12 m with a 18 m net (for 2½ hours), and two 12 m net (3¼ hours) respectively. At the Village, 196 birds were caught using three 18 m nets over two nights (for 6¼ hour period in total). Elsewhere the first opportunity since 2009 to mist net for Storm Petrels on Fladda provided a catch at South Haven of 374 birds when using two 12 m nets (for 4 hours).

Gannet *Morus bassanus*

Regularly seen offshore

Small numbers of adult birds with the occasional immature were seen daily, feeding or passing offshore of Lunga. A daily peak count of 24 birds was recorded.

Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*

A common breeding species. The Treshnish Isles supported 2.1% of the Great Britain population and between 0.8 – 0.9% of the Atlantic (northeastern) population as estimated by *Seabird 2000* (1998 – 2002).

Breeding was confirmed on Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil. The breeding populations on Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil were 180 and 8 pairs respectively, based on nest counts. Following a marked decline in the numbers of active nests in 2005 and 2006, numbers have since gradually increased with fluctuations from 73 to 180 active nests.

Large numbers of adults were in the vicinity of the colonies with up to 600 birds moving offshore from the islands in the mornings to forage. It was presumed many of these were in too poor condition to breed successfully or had failed. Of those birds that were breeding on Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil, great variation was once again found in the progress of breeding, with all stages from eggs to already fledged young noted. Brood sizes were mostly small, typically only two or three young.

2015 was the tenth year of a Retrap Adult Survival study (RAS) that entails ringing each adult with its own uniquely engraved colour-ring so that it can be identified in the field in future years. This is part of the BTO's Integrated Population Monitoring Programme funded by the UK Government (<http://www.bto.org/ringing/ringinfo/ras/index.htm>). In 2015, of the birds marked from 2006 to 2014 on Lunga, 52 were re-sighted by TIARG of a possible 267 individuals. A further 26 breeding adults were colour-ringed on Lunga in 2015.

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Rare visitor.

A single bird was seen flying east over Lunga on 2nd July.

Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*

Rare visitor.

A single immature male bird was seen to fly in from Tiree and over the southern slopes of Cruachan on the evening of the 3rd July. This sighting represents the first record by TIARG of the species on the Treshnish Isles.

Buzzard *Buteo buteo*

Until recently, one pair bred in most years.

Regular sightings suggested the presence of up to three birds on Lunga at times, with one bird an obvious moulting adult. One bird flying over the islands between Lunga and Fladda when transiting from Coll to Mull, attracted the attention of a mobbing Great Skua whilst terns rose in alarm from their colonies.

Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*

Seen most years with breeding known to occur on adjacent coasts.

A single female was seen 2nd July, with the only other signs of the species' presence being remains of a recent Manx Shearwater kill.

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*

Rare visitor.

One bird was heard calling at night and on occasions by day from a bracken covered cliff top area immediately east of the Village. This is the second record of the species on the Treshnish Isles by TIARG, and notably in the same locality as the first record in the previous year. A second bird was later heard by day on 30th June from west of the reedbed at Lunga's south end. An unexplained death was of a bird found long dead on 27th June between two wooden planks laid amongst boulders near the Village.

Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*

Breeds regularly in small numbers.

On Lunga's beaches and rocky outcrops, 10 pairs were behaving as though on breeding territory, alarming at human intruders and performing displays on the appearance of other Oystercatchers (4 pairs at Corran Lunga and single pairs in areas 2, 4, 5, 6a, 8 and 9). Confirmed breeding records were of single pairs with chicks at Corran Lunga and area 4. Away from Lunga, breeding pairs held territories on Sgeir an Eirionnaich (2 pairs, one with a single chick), Sgeir a' Chaisteil (1 pair), Fladda (1 pair with a single egg) and Sgeirean na Giusaich (1 pair).

Small flocks of presumed failed breeders/non-breeders were evident on Lunga, typically at high tide, in the area of Sgeir a' Chaisteil and Corran Lunga where there would generally be up to 17 birds roosting. A flock of 11 birds were also flushed from Sgeir an Eirionnaich during a site visit on 1st July.

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*

One or two pairs breed annually.

Typically, the only breeding pairs on Lunga were confined to Corran Lunga and the adjacent boulder beach, where one, possibly two pairs were on territory with 2 fledged juveniles.

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*

An irregular visitor.

One bird was heard calling, flying over Lunga on 28th June. One adult bird of the race *C.a.schinzii* was seen at the south end of Lunga, on 29th June.

Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*

Breeds regularly in small numbers.

Up to three birds could be heard drumming/chipping over the Village on most days. Elsewhere on Lunga, single birds were noted at Shag Alley (Area 3), drumming above the second gully south of Corran Lunga (on the path to Harp Rock) and with up to 8 heard drumming/chipping at the south end of Lunga (area 6 and 7). These data suggest a minimum population of 8+ breeding pairs.

One bird was heard drumming at South Haven during an overnight visit by TIARG to Fladda on 2nd July.

Curlew *Numenius arquatus*

An irregular visitor.

Two birds were seen on Lunga on 1st July. Single birds were later noted calling on three separate occasions during the 2nd July on Lunga. One bird was recorded during an overnight visit to Fladda on 2nd July.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

One or two pairs usually breed.

Typically, the only breeding pairs on Lunga were confined to Corran Lunga, where two pairs were on territory with chicks.

The only additional bird recorded was an adult found during an overnight visit to Fladda on 2nd July.

Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

Irregular visitor.

One bird was heard calling, flying over Lunga on 29th June.

Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus*

Small numbers seen daily, presumably from the breeding grounds on Coll.

Up to five birds at any one time, of both dark and light phases, were seen on three dates, offshore from north-west Lunga.

Great Skua *Stercorarius skua*

A small but regular breeding population has become established since the first confirmed breeding by a pair in 1998.

On Lunga no breeding was confirmed though one pair held territory on the high ground south of Tarbet (area 6), and a third bird was on occasions seen on a previously held territory immediately south of Tarbet (area 7). On 30th June, six birds were seen on Lunga south of Tarbet. Elsewhere, up to five adult birds were seen regularly flying over Lunga.

On Fladda, at least one pair of birds could be seen from Lunga to be on an apparently occupied territory where breeding has also previously occurred.

Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*

Irregular visitor.

One adult was seen flying over the Village, Lunga, on 3rd July.

Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*

A localised breeding species. The Treshnish Isles supported 0.2% of the Great Britain population as estimated by *Seabird 2000* (1998 – 2002).

Breeding was confirmed only on Lunga, where the main colony is around Harp Rock. The number of apparently occupied nests on Lunga was 325. A marked population decline of the colony from 2008 is suggested to have ended in 2011 since when numbers have widely fluctuated.

Up to 330 birds roosted on intertidal rocks off Sgeir a' Chaisteil with at times the flock more widely dispersed with over 90 birds on Sgeir an Eirionnaich.

Common Gull *Larus canus*

Irregular breeding species in small numbers.

An estimated 7 pairs (13 adults flushed) with at least 2 chicks were noted on Sgeir an Eirionnaich. A single pair incubating one egg was also found on Sgeirean na Giusaich. Three birds were seen flying over the Village, Lunga on 28th June.

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*

Regular breeding species in small numbers.

Two pair were noted within the south end gullery on Lunga, in area 8. A single bird was noted over Fladda on 26th June.

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*

A regular breeding species. The Treshnish Isles supported 0.2% of the Great Britain population as estimated by *Seabird 2000* (1998 – 2002).

Breeding was confirmed on Lunga (estimated 9 pairs). Breeding was also suggested by the presence of paired adults on territory on Sgeir a' Chaisteil (1 pair) and Fladda (1 pair in south-east; gullery not visited). No birds were occupying territories on Sgeir an Eirionnaich, Sgeirean na Giusaich and Sgeir an Fheòir or Sgeir na H-lolaire. The small numbers of birds now breeding on Lunga follows a marked decline in population during the late 1990's / early 2000's (see section "*Population changes for a selection of breeding species on Lunga, 1994 – 2014*").

One bird was seen with a rabbit that it had either scavenged or predated.

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*

A regular breeding species. The Treshnish Isles supported 2.0% of the Great Britain population as estimated by *Seabird 2000* (1998 – 2002).

From colony visits, breeding was confirmed on Lunga (10 pairs), Sgeir an Eirionnaich (estimated 21 pairs; 42 adults counted when flushed), Sgeir an Fheòir (6 pairs) and Sgeir na H-lolaire (1 pair). No birds were occupying territories on Sgeir a' Chaisteil and Sgeirean na Giusaich. The small numbers of birds now breeding on Lunga follows a marked decline in population during the early 2000's (see section "*Population changes for a selection of breeding species on Lunga, 1994 – 2014*").

One bird was seen with a rabbit that it had either scavenged or predated.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*

Irregular breeding species. The Treshnish Isles supported 0.6% of the Great Britain population as estimated by *Seabird 2000* (1998 – 2002).

Up to three birds were noted in the waters between Fladda and Lunga on 27th June. At least four birds were seen foraging in South Haven on the morning of 3rd July during an overnight visit by TIARG to Fladda.

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea*

Regular breeding species.

A ternery was present on Sgeir an Eirionnaich at its south end and the islet at the north end of Sgeir an Eirionnaich. A total of 178 nests containing 218 eggs and 100 chicks were counted in these two colonies. Elsewhere breeding was confirmed on Sgeirean na Guisaich (estimated 75 pairs; 150 adults counted when flushed) whilst Group members undertook a brief census visit on 1st July.

Guillemot *Uria aalge*

Common breeding species. The Treshnish Isles supported 0.7% of the Great Britain population as estimated by *Seabird 2000* (1998 – 2002).

Breeding was confirmed only on Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil, with the main concentration as usual within the vicinity of Harp Rock where 7,015 adults were estimated. The total for Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil combined was 7,360. The mean count for the past five years is 6,915 birds (range 6,324-7,605). Many more well developed chicks were seen than in recent years by TIARG expeditions, with many chicks seen fledging on the evening 3rd July.

The Centre for Ecology & Hydrology (Sarah Wanless) organised a national survey in 2014 of the frequency of bridling in common guillemots, a repeat of a similar such study in the early 1980s by Tim Birkhead. TIARG contributed to and in 2015 repeated the 2014 survey by sampling 2,024 birds on Harp Rock of which 99 (4.9%) were found to be bridled.

Razorbill *Alca torda*

Common breeding species. The Treshnish Isles supported 0.8% of the Great Britain population as estimated by *Seabird 2000* (1998 – 2002).

Breeding was confirmed on Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil. The main concentration was typically located within the vicinity of Harp Rock. A total of 271 birds was counted on Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil, in addition to the birds associated with 23 chicks located amongst accessible boulder colonies. The population has yet to recover from an (as yet) unexplained marked reduction in numbers in 2009 following a period of 'comparative' stability.



Razorbill (Andrew Carter)

Black Guillemot *Cepphus grylle*

Regular breeding species in small numbers. The Treshnish Isles supported 0.4% of the Great Britain population as estimated by *Seabird 2000* (1998 – 2002).

Adults were seen around the Sgeir an Eirionnaich - Sgeir an Fheòir sea area (4 birds), Fladda (2 and 1 birds in South Haven and North Haven respectively) and Lunga (15). Breeding was confirmed by the presence of adults visiting calling young at four nest sites along the west coast (area 6a) during a census visit on 29th June. Elsewhere an adult was seen exiting a nest site on the islet at the north end of Sgeir an Eirionnaich.

Puffin *Fratercula arctica*

Common breeding species. The Treshnish Isles supported 0.3% of the Great Britain population as estimated by *Seabird 2000* (1998 – 2002).

Breeding adults occupied burrows on Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil. The estimated breeding population on Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil was 3,165 apparently occupied burrows (AOBs). For counts of birds, one bird is taken to represent one AOB (Mitchell *et al.* 2004). Numbers have since 2004 fluctuated between 2,423 and 3,165 AOBs with the exception of the comparatively low estimates of the two years 2010-2011; 1,705 and 1,611 AOBs respectively.

Rock Dove *Columba livia*

Regular breeding species in very small numbers.

Birds were seen daily on Lunga, principally along the east coast, the largest groups being of 4 birds flying over the Village, Shag Alley and south end. Most days produced one to four sightings of flocks of 2-4 birds with the odd lone bird as well.

Swift *Apus apus*

Irregular visitor

An estimated 20 and 7 birds were seen passing south over the Village, Lunga on 1st and 2nd July respectively.

Skylark *Alauda arvensis*

A regular breeding species in small numbers.

Up to four singing males were on Lunga. Two singing males were present south of Tarbet, one between Cruachan and Tarbet, and only one on the slopes of Cruachan. There was for the second year a notable absence of singing birds being heard from the Village.

Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

Irregular visitor

Single birds were seen over the Boulder beach and the Village, Lunga on the 26th June and 1st July respectively.

House Martin *Delichon urbicum*

Rare visitor

Two birds were seen over the Village, Lunga, on 1st July. Single birds were also heard calling in flight over the Village and Shag Alley (Area 3), Lunga on the 1st and 2nd July.

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*

A regular breeding species in small numbers.

Widespread breeding species on Lunga with no estimate of territories made, though probably less numerous than Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus*. Breeding was confirmed with several recently fledged juveniles caught at the Village, Lunga. At least 11 birds were recorded during a walk over the slopes of Cruachan. Elsewhere, the species was noted during a brief visit to Sgeir a' Chaisteil.

Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus*

A regular breeding species in small numbers.

Breeding birds were common along the coast of Lunga and on Sgeir a' Chaisteil. Food carrying, alarms and recently fledged young confirmed breeding on Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil. Up to 6 breeding pairs with young were estimated to be present on Corran Lunga. An early morning high tide flooding out insects from decaying seaweed deposits in the "Dirty Inlet" between Lunga and Corran Lunga, attracted numbers of Rock Pipits, a minimum of eight juveniles and an adult as established from birds caught on 3rd July.

Brief visits to adjacent islands located birds on Sgeir an Eirionnaich and Fladda.

Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba yarrelli*

An irregular breeding species.

One pair of adults was regularly seen in the vicinity of the Village, Lunga, where both birds were caught on separate dates as were indeed two juveniles. Single record occurrences elsewhere on Lunga included two birds on Corran Lunga, a singing adult on the Boulder Beach below the Village, an adult with three juveniles at Harp Rock and a bird at Shag Alley.

Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*

A regular breeding species, quite common where habitat is suitable.

As in previous years, the vast majority of records were confined to the northern half of Lunga, predominantly amongst the boulder scree and bracken-covered slopes from Cruachan down to the sea and on Corran Lunga. Casual observations indicated a minimum of five territories along the east coast footpath between the Village and Shearwater Gully; one beside Harp Rock; one in Area 6a; and singles at Corran Lunga and Area 5 in both of which were fledged juveniles.

Two singing males were recorded during a brief visit to Sgeir a' Chaisteil on 1st July. Elsewhere one bird was heard singing in South Haven on Fladda during an overnight visit by TIARG on 2nd/3rd July.

Dunnock *Prunella modularis*

Irregular breeding species.

A singing male was heard within the vicinity of the Village on 28th and 29th June. Presumably the same male bird, a ringed individual from 2014 when then a juvenile, was re-captured in the Village on 29th June.

Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*

A regular breeding species in small numbers.

Several families of adults with dependent (and presumed locally bred) young were seen on Lunga, including Area 12 (one pair) and at Harp Rock (one). A minimum of 11 birds in total and which included juveniles were recorded during a walk over the slopes of Cruachan.

Elsewhere during brief visits to adjacent islands, one bird was seen at South Haven, Fladda.

Blackbird *Turdus merula*

Rare visitor.

A male was heard singing at South Haven, on the evening of 2nd July during an overnight visit by TIARG to Fladda.

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*

Rare visitor.

A bird was seen south of the Village, Lunga on 2nd and 3rd July.

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

A scarce but almost annual visitor.

A single bird was heard singing between South and North Haven on Fladda during an overnight visit by TIARG on 2nd/3rd July.

Hooded Crow *Corvus cornix*

A regular breeding bird in small numbers.

For a second year, the frequency and number of birds recorded on Lunga was notably lower than in previous years. The species was seen on most days either on or flying between Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil, with no more two birds noted at any one time.

Raven *Corvus corax*

At least one pair breeds in most years.

At least eight individuals were seen regularly frequenting the north end of Lunga, the largest group at any one time being of six birds. At least four of the eight birds were moulting adults, with the remainder thought to be juveniles due to the absence of wing moult or abraded flight feathers.

Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

A regular breeding species in small numbers.

Small flocks of up to 25 birds were noted daily on Lunga, comprising mostly of adults. Two nests containing young were found in rocky crevices at the south end of Lunga.

Elsewhere up to 35 birds were seen on Sgeir an Eirionnaich and 14 birds on Sgeir a' Chaisteil.

Twite *Carduelis flavirostris*

Regular breeding species in small numbers

Small parties of up to five birds were noted almost daily around the northern half of Lunga. Some flocks seen were identifiable as family parties. A family party of four birds were recorded at Tarbet on occasions, with further sightings of up to two birds to the south in area 6a.

Elsewhere two birds were seen on Sgeir an Eirionnaich whilst no birds were recorded on Sgeir a' Chaisteil and Fladda probably on account of the brevity of the visits to those islands.

Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*

Rare visitor.

A single male bird was seen perched on Bracken on the cliff top to the south of Shearwater Gully on the afternoon of 3rd July. This sighting represents the first record by TIARG of the species on the Treshnish Isles.



Puffin (Andrew Carter)

SYSTEMATIC LIST OF MAMMALS FOR 2015

Otter *Lutra lutra*

Evidence of presence regularly noted.

Two animals were heard calling from the coast between the 2nd gully in Area 12 and Corran Lunga, Lunga, during the nights of the 2nd and 3rd July.

American Mink *Neovison vison*

No known occurrences.

No evidence of this species was noted on either Lunga or Sgeir a' Chaisteil.

House Mouse *Mus musculus*

Resident, apparently in small numbers.

Individual animals were seen on several occasions at the expedition base in the Village, at the north end of Lunga.

Chocolate wax monitoring blocks are a method with which to attract and record the distinctive bite marks of different rodent groups e.g. mice and rats (Varnham 2008). On the evening of an overnight visit by TIARG on 2nd/3rd July to Fladda, pairs of chocolate wax monitoring blocks were positioned at five sites spread out along a 30 m transect within a Storm Petrel colony on the east side of South Haven. The chocolate wax monitoring blocks were made following the method of Varnham (2008). The chocolate wax blocks were inspected for rodent teeth marks at dawn of 3rd July. No rodents were detected by the chocolate wax blocks. Though only very small scale both spatially and temporally, the results from this use of chocolate wax monitoring blocks are neither the less encouraging that mice and rats may be absent from Fladda. This follows similar exercises on Lunga in 2012 and 2013 as reported by TIARG in their respective annual reports, when mice were detected on the Boulder Beach but not within the seabird colony along the footpath above the 2nd gully in Area 12 and in Area 10.

Brown Rat *Rattus norvegicus*

No known occurrences.

No evidence of this species was noted on either Lunga or Sgeir a' Chaisteil.

Rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus*

Resident, numbers much reduced in recent years.

No systematic monitoring took place. Casual observations on Lunga suggest that it is abundant. All sightings of black individuals were from Lunga, involving several individuals at widespread localities.

No evidence was noted of animals on Sgeir a' Chaisteil.

Grey Seal *Halichoerus grypus*

A regular breeding species, contributing just under 3% of the annual UK pup production. Numbers are regularly monitored by the Sea Mammal Research Unit (NERC, St Andrews). The conservation importance of these islands as a breeding colony is recognised by their designation by the UK Government as a Special Area of Conservation.

A maximum of 81 animals were visible from Lunga hauled out on intertidal reefs to the north and east at low tide.

Pipistrelle Bat *Pipistrellus pipistrellus* (45 kHz)

Previously regarded a rare visitor. True status uncertain.

One animal was a bycatch when mist netting Storm Petrels at the Village, Lunga, on 1st July.

This, the first animal to be caught on Lunga, is the sixth confirmed record of bats on the Treshnish Isles by TIARG, the previous records being in 2006, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014.

Harbour Porpoise *Phocoena phocoena*

Rare visitor.

At least two animals were seen off the east coast of Lunga on 2nd July.

SYSTEMATIC LIST OF LEPIDOPTERA FOR 2015

Common Blue *Polyommatus icarus*

Regular breeder

Singles were recorded on Lunga at the Village on 30th June and 3rd July, and elsewhere on the northern half of Lunga on 3rd July. Elsewhere 1 was seen on Sgeir an Eirionnaich during a brief visit on 1st July.

Peacock *Inachis io*

Occasional breeder

Two were recorded on Lunga at the Village on 1st July followed by a single on Cruachan on 3rd July.

Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta*

Migrant

Singles were recorded on Lunga at Shag Alley on 2nd July and in Area 12a on 3rd July.

Painted Lady *Vanessa cardui*

Regular migrant

Singles were recorded on Lunga at the Village on 1st July and 3rd July. Elsewhere 1 was seen on Sgeir an Eirionnaich during a brief visit on 1st July.

Six-spot Burnet *Zygaena filipendulae*

Resident

A single was recorded on Lunga at the Village on 1st July.

Garden Tiger *Arctia caia*

Resident

Three caterpillars of this species were recorded on Lunga at its south end on 29th June. Elsewhere on Lunga further single caterpillars were recorded on 27th and 29th June.

Silver Y *Autographa gamma*

Resident

Singles were recorded on Lunga at the Village on 1st July and Shearwater Gully on 3rd July.

OTHER NOTABLE WILDLIFE RECORDS

Oyster Plant *Mertensia maritima*

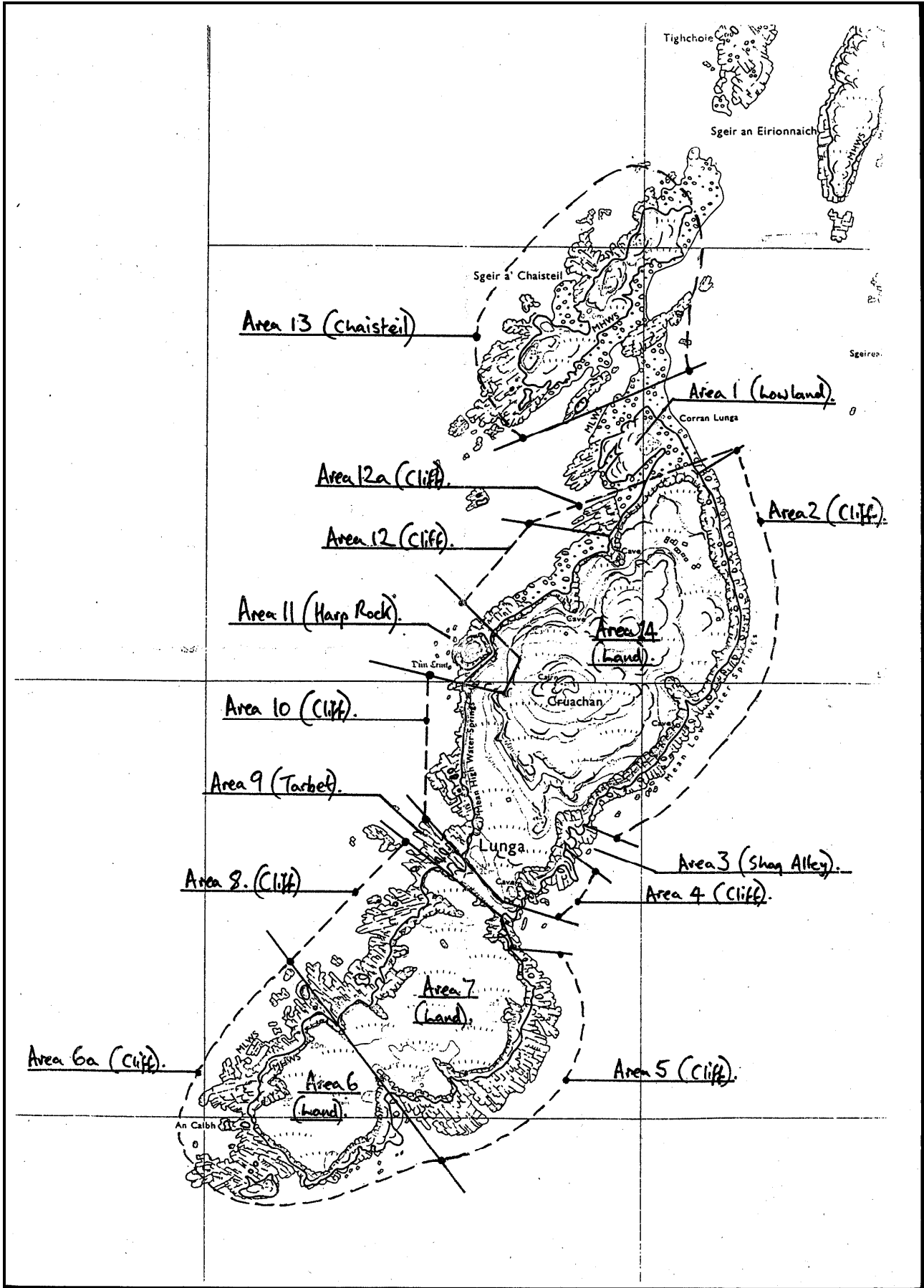
Localised species on Lunga.

At Tarbet (west) the species continues to be well established with no marked difference in abundance and coverage to that of recent years.



Northern Marsh Orchid (Andrew Carter)

MAP OF CENSUS ZONES – LUNGA AND SGEIR A' CHAISTEIL



2015 BREEDING SEABIRD CENSUS DATA FOR LUNGA, SGEIR A' CHAISTEIL AND ISLETS

Sector	Count unit	Lunga	Sgeir a' Chaisteil	Sgeirean na Giusaich	Sgeir an Fheoir	Sgeir an Eirionnaich	Sgeir na h-Iolaire
Fulmar	AOS	262	23				
Manx Shearwater	No census	+					
Storm Petrel	No census	+					
Shag	AON	180	8			3	
Great Skua	AOT	1					
Lesser B-b Gull	AOT	2					
Herring Gull	AOT	9	1				
Great B-b Gull	AOT	10			6**	10**	1
Common Gull	AOT					7**	
Common Gull	AON			1			
Kittiwake	AON	325					
Arctic Tern	AON			75**		178	
Razorbill	IND	267	4				
Razorbill	AON	23					
Guillemot	IND	7257	103				
Black Guillemot	IND	15				4	
Puffin	SEA	591					
Puffin	IND	1245					
Puffin	AOB	1920	187				

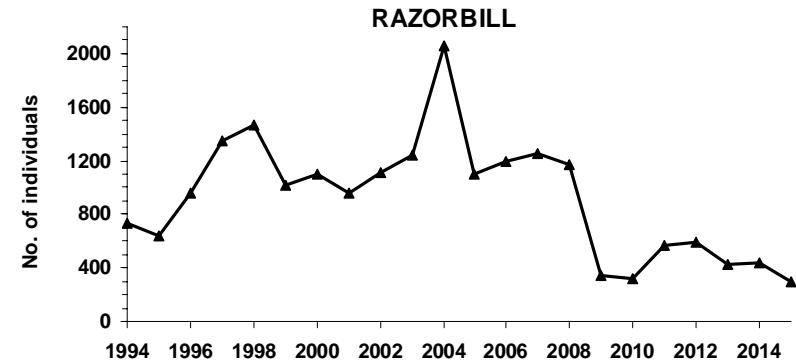
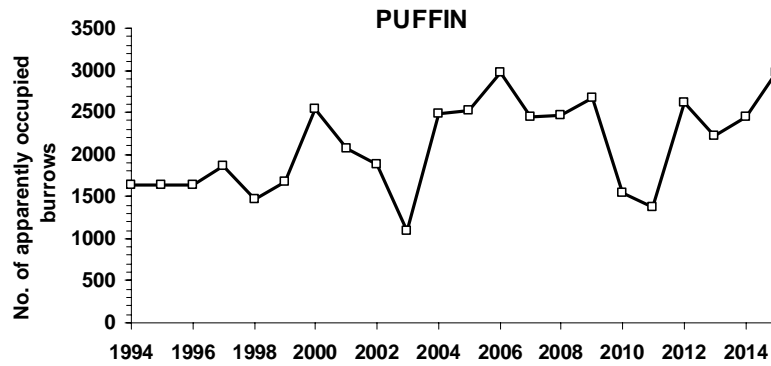
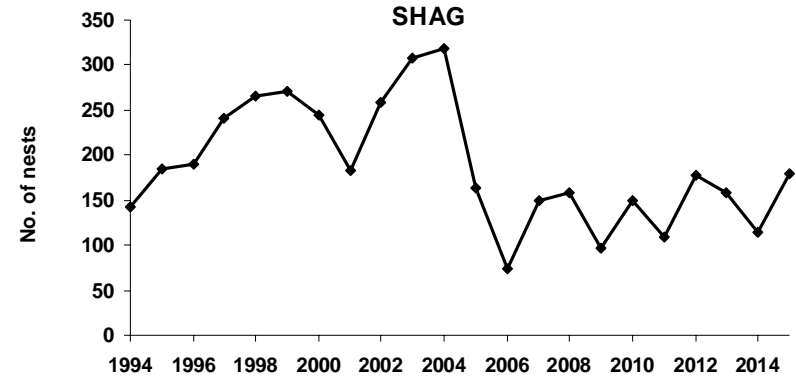
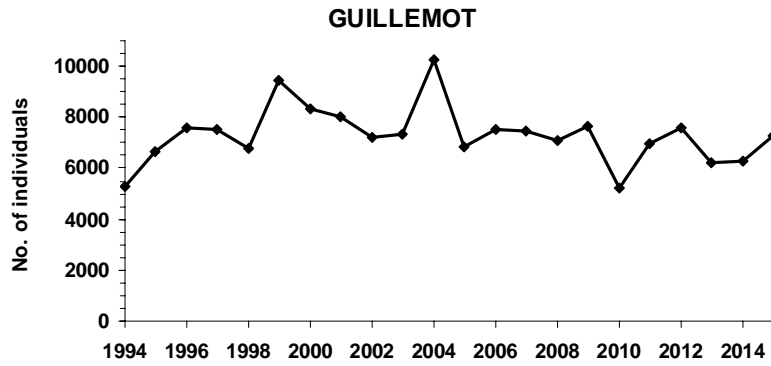
Key to count unit codes: AON/AOT/AOB = apparently occupied nest/territory/burrow IND = Individuals on land
 SEA = individuals on sea within 200m of colony PRS = Pairs nc = no count + = breeders present
 **Estimated from flush counts with the number of adults divided by two

Totals for each Census Zone of Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil

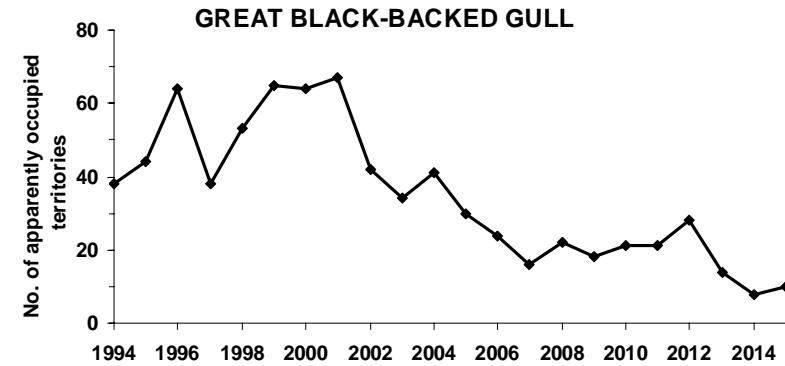
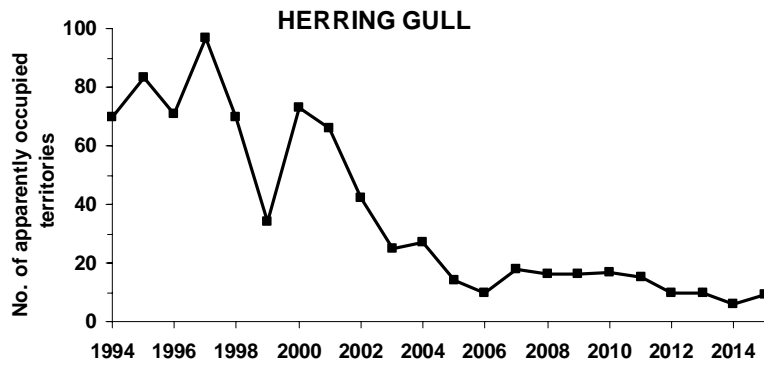
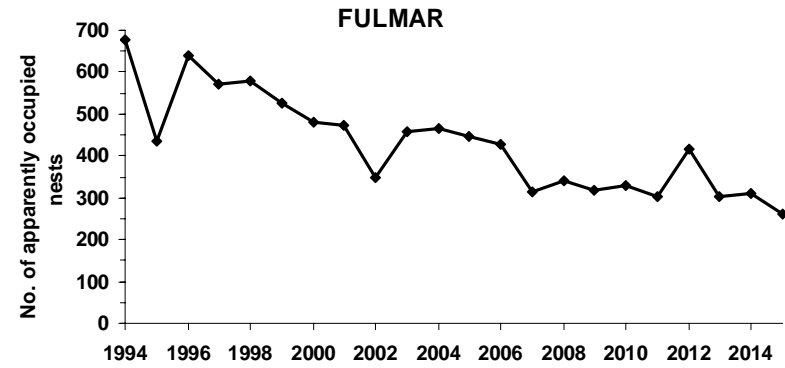
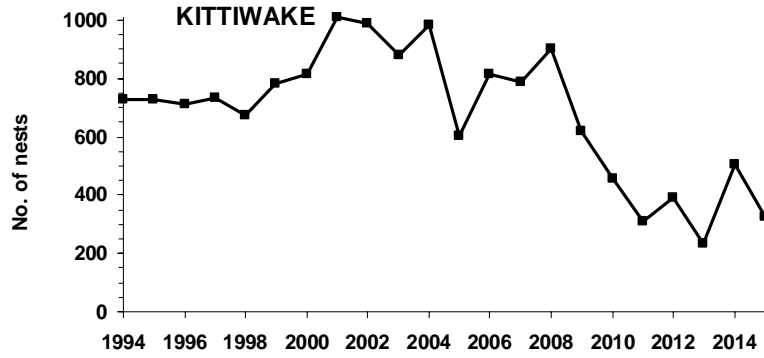
Sector	Count Unit	Count Sectors on Lunga (1 – 12a) and Sgeir a' Chaisteil (13)														Lunga & Chaisteil Totals	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	6a	7	8	9	10	11	12	12a		13
Fulmar	AOS		28		6	43		18		35		3	27	95	7	23	285
Shag	AON		19	38		30		1		17		19	20	35	1	8	188
Great Skua	AON						1										1
Lesser B-b Gull	AOT									2							2
Herring Gull	AOT									8				1		1	10
Great B-b Gull	AOT	3					6		1								10
Kittiwake	AON											9	288	28			325
Razorbill	IND		37	19				16		12		9	88	54	32	4	271
Razorbill	AON					17		4		2							23
Guillemot	IND					8						59	7015	138	37	103	7360
Black Guillemot	IND							14		1							15
Puffin	SEA		21	170										400			591
Puffin	IND		170	9	340	11								715			1245
Puffin	AOB											185	513		1035	187	1920

Key to count unit codes: AON/AOT/AOB = apparently occupied nest/territory/burrow IND = Individuals on land
SEA = individuals on sea within 200m of colony PRS = Pairs nc = no count + = breeders present

POPULATION CHANGES FOR A SELECTION OF BREEDING SPECIES ON LUNGA, 1994 – 2015



POPULATION CHANGES FOR A SELECTION OF BREEDING SPECIES ON LUNGA, 1994 – 2015 (con't)



TRESHNISH RINGING TOTALS FOR 2015

Site	Species	New birds			Recaptures		Total
		Adult	Juvenile	Pulli	Retraps	Controls	
Lunga	Manx Shearwater	13			3	1	17
	Fulmar	1					1
	Storm Petrel	636			124	32	792
	Shag	22		120	62		204
	Great Black-backed Gull			7			7
	Herring Gull			3			3
	Lesser Black-backed Gull			4			4
	Kittiwake	12			2		14
	Guillemot	154			15	3	172
	Razorbill	23			5		28
	Puffin	239			15	1	255
	Dunnock				1		1
	Wheatear	3	8				11
	Meadow Pipit		5				5
	Rock Pipit	1	10				11
	Pied Wagtail	2	2				4
	Starling		1				1
Wren		1		1		2	
Fladda	Storm Petrel	342			20	8	370
Sgeir a' Chaisteil	Shag	2		4			6
Sgeir an Fheòir	Great Black-backed Gull			1			1
Sgeirean na Guisaich	Arctic Tern			29			29
Sgeir an Eirionnaich	Oystercatcher			1			1
	Great Black-backed Gull			8			8
	Common Gull			1			1
	Arctic Tern			75			75
Treshnish Isles	Grand total for 2015	1450	27	253	248	45	2023

Note: All rings used in 2015 were registered to *Treshnish Auk Ringing Group* with the exception of 50 rings used on Arctic Tern that were registered to Robin Ward.



Rock Pipit (Andrew Carter)

TRESHNISH RINGING TOTALS 1971 – 2015

SPECIES	1971	1974	1976	1977	1978	1980	1982	1984	1986	1989	1991	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Eider																		
Fulmar	17	6	4		8	21	14	18	7	21	15		4	27	38	7	24	23
Manx Shearwater		2	13		4	4	1	8					9	1		2	1	4
Storm Petrel		254	22		1	283		203	800	411	975	75	440	536	331	1104	741	732
Shag	150	7	10	10	24	80	50	160		40	10		10	59	96	99	150	100
Buzzard						1	2											
Corncrake																		
Oystercatcher		1				1	4	2										2
Ringed Plover																		
Common Sandpiper																		1
Great Skua																		1
Kittiwake						1	1	1	2	2	4		6	10	1	50	41	23
Common Gull																		4
Lesser Black-b Gull																		
Herring Gull	6	1			14	46	35	56	4	4	3		5	24	19	52	73	39
Great Black-b. Gull	3	6	3	7	6	22	14	35		22	15		6	25	16	48	19	16
Guillemot	32	20	14		66	502	137	364	180	250	306		109	498	349	472	503	507
Razorbill	65	72	90		115	266	218	236	151	103	64		81	101	105	98	112	102
Black Guillemot																		1
Puffin	70	198	271		203	200	208	182	174	160	114		358	236	301	267	398	274
Hooded Crow																		
Willow Warbler														1				
Wren														3				
Starling																		
Stonechat																		
Wheatear			12					1	3						5	24	37	22
Pied Wagtail													1	3	2			
Meadow Pipit														4		1		
Rock Pipit									5	1				2	4	2	4	2
Twite																2		
TOTAL	343	567	439	17	441	1427	684	1266	1326	1014	1506	75	1029	1530	1267	2229	2109	1846

NOTES: (1) Data for 1971 - 1995 extracted from Walker & Cooper (1996). This may not include all rings used.
(2) Ringing data for a three day visit in 1972 are not available.

TRESHNISH RINGING TOTALS 1971 – 2015 (continued)

SPECIES	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Eider					1												1
Fulmar	12	25	22	25	47	14	15	8						1		1	424
Manx Shearwater	4			2		1	1	2		4	9	3	18	3	13	13	122
Storm Petrel	814	1030	15	360	83	491	962	21	118	403	293	202	212	191	448	978	13529
Shag	59	37	97	99	200	77	35	141	124	53	116	67	120	115	90	148	2658
Buzzard																	3
Corncrake						1						2					3
Oystercatcher		1						4				2	2	1	2	1	23
Ringed Plover						1		1									2
Common Sandpiper							1	1	1								4
Great Skua			1	1		1			2	4		2			2		14
Kittiwake	13	11	3	2	21	15	14	16	3	4	3	8			16	12	282
Common Gull	5	11	11	6		16	8								4	1	67
Lesser Black-b Gull									1		2	2				4	9
Herring Gull	15	11	11	8	11	8	1	11	7	20	11	8	7	3	4	3	520
Great Black-b. Gull	2	27	5	21	18	12	3	4	13	12	15	10	4	1	2	15	427
Common Tern							1										1
Arctic Tern															44	104	148
Guillemot	892	312	425	261	800	141	172	123	1	51	53	169	46	8	145	154	8064
Razorbill	133	31	110	56	147	37	33	34	5	6	7	8	2	2	32	23	2649
Black Guillemot		1															2
Puffin	389	214	351	244	226	151	272	195	327	32	38	68	301	71	128	239	6878
Hooded Crow								1									1
Willow Warbler												1					2
Whitethroat												1					1
Sedge Warbler												2					2
Wren		1			2	4	2		2	1	1	2	6		2	1	23
Starling								3								1	4
Stonechat							2		1								3
Wheatear	50	24	2	2	2	7	1	2	4	2	4	5	10	4	7	11	241
Dunnock												1		1	1		3
Pied Wagtail								4				3	1			4	18
Meadow Pipit	12	1	4	1	3	5	1		4		1	2	15	3	1	5	63
Rock Pipit	1	2	2	2	2		3	21	10	1	2	4	3	1	2	11	87
Twite			1					1	1	1		3	1				10
TOTAL	2401	1739	1060	1090	1563	982	1527	593	624	594	555	575	748	405	943	1730	34516

RECENT RINGING RECOVERIES

STORM PETREL

TIARG have in the past year received details of 19 recoveries of birds ringed within Britain and Ireland in the months July - September and controlled by TIARG on Lunga in June - July 2014. These recoveries are summarised in the table below; all birds were ringed as adults (Euring code 4).

Ringing Site	No. of controls at:		Time interval (days)		Distance Km	Direction (degrees)
	Lunga		min	Max		
Twinyess, North Ronaldsay	2		326	1071	396	217
Eilean nan Ron, Highland	1			334	262	209
Faraid Head, Highland	1			1038	255	203
Eilean An Taighe, Western Isles	1			1824	156	182
Sanda Island, Kintyre	2		5451	6548	146	339
Ballyreagh, Londonderry	1			346	146	007
Tullagh Point, Donegal	5		321	2540	148	27
Sheepland Harbour, Ardglass	2		688	690	251	348
Harrington, Cumbria	1			3277	276	320
Calf of Man, Isle of Man	1			322	290	340
Annagh Head, Bellmullet, Mayo,	2		329	345	342	043

STORM PETREL RECOVERIES

Details are given below of a bird originally ringed in Portugal and recovered on the Treshnish Isles and two birds ringed on the Treshnish Isles and recovered elsewhere.

Abbreviations used:

Age 1 - Pullus
 4 - Hatched before this calendar year, exact year unknown
 6 - Hatched before previous calendar year, exact year unknown
 8 - Hatched more than two calendar years before year of ringing

Manner of recovery

R - Caught and released by a ringer
 X - Found dead
 XF - Found freshly dead or dying
 SR - Sick or injured, released with ring
 S - Sick or injured, fate unknown
 O - Ring read on bird in field by non-ringer

Storm Petrel

1417035	6	23/6/2008	Lunga		
	R	21/9/2014	South Ballachulish, Highland	78 km	74 degs 2281 days

Storm Petrel

2624962	6	05/7/2014	Lunga			
	R	18/7/2014	Ceann Ear, Western Isles	136 km	329 degs	13 days

Storm Petrel

N05253	6	16/6/2010	Ponta de Almadena, Faro, Portugal			
	R	29/6/2012	Lunga	2165 km	05 degs	13 days

Storm Petrel recoveries relating to the Treshnish Isles as either birds ringed or controlled there, now number 611 (relating to 581 birds) of which many have been of birds from the Isle of Man & Sanda (66 & 151 respectively). The above retraps of birds ringed on the Treshnish Isles, were attracted in by tape lure on recapture and are therefore likely to have been wandering immatures (up to 4 years old) or failed breeders. Only 74 birds ringed on the Treshnish Isles have been recaptured elsewhere, 12.7% of all recoveries. This figure is remarkably close to the overall probability of 15% that Ratcliffe *et al.* (1998) found for non-breeder colony attendance in late June/early July.

RECOVERIES OF OTHER SPECIES

All other recoveries relating to the Treshnish Isles received since the previous TIARG report are listed below.

Shag

1417035	6	23/6/2008	Lunga			
	X	21/9/2014	South Ballachulish, Highland	78 km	74 degs	2281 days

Puffin

EW50249	6	26/6/2011	Lunga			
	XF	10/2/2014	Le Croisic, Loire-Atlantique, France	960 km	166 degs	1057 days
			Found freshly dead on beach after storms			

Puffin

EW50254	8	25/6/2008	Lunga			
	XF	28/2/2014	La Tremblade, Charente-Maritime, France	1247 km	163 degs	2074 days
			Found freshly dead on beach after storms			

Guillemot

R31786	6	21/6/2004	Lunga			
	R	09/7/2014	Isle of Canna, near Mallaig, Highland	64 km	354 degs	3670 days

REFERENCES

JNCC 2013. *Seabird Population Trends and Causes of Change: 1986-2012 Report* (<http://www.jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-3201>). Joint Nature Conservation Committee. Updated July 2013. Accessed 04/09/13.

Mitchell, P.I., Newton, S.F., Ratcliffe, N. & Dunn, T.E., 2004. *Seabird populations of Britain and Ireland: results of the Seabird 2000 census*. T. & A.D. Poyser, London.

Ratcliffe, N., Vaughan, D., Whyte, C. & Shepherd, M., 1998. The development of playback census methods for Storm Petrels (*Hydrobates pelagicus*) *Bird Study* 45:302-312.

Walker, S. & Cooper, D., 1996. *Birds on the Treshnish Isles 1971-1995*. Unpublished report by the Treshnish Isles Auk Ringing Group.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Firstly we would like to express our appreciation to the owners of the Treshnish Isles, THE HEBRIDEAN TRUST (www.hebrideantrust.org) for permission and funding to allow our continuing studies to be made on these fascinating islands.

We thank Iain Morrison and his family, for providing our transportation between Mull and Lunga (<http://www.turusmara.com/>), and are grateful for his continuing advice, co-operation and help.

Any comments on this report, and suggestions for improvements for relaying information required by conservation agencies, are much welcomed.



Colin Morrison on the bridge of Turus Mara's Island Lass (Andrew Carter)

THE EXPEDITIONS 1971 – 2015

A list of participants through the years, with brief notes on the work performed

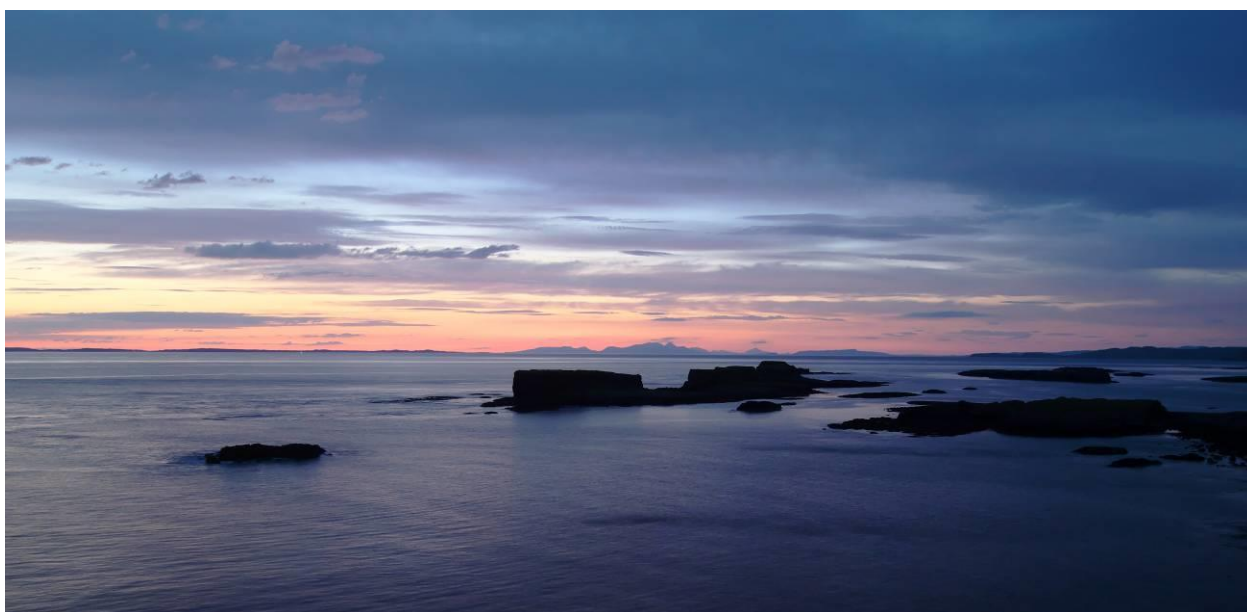
- 1971** Barry Lawson, Peter Deans, John Eatough, Shiela Anderson, Dick Hansford.
Full census and ringing.
This was the first trip and the Treshnish Isles were included in a “mopping up” of islands not fully covered during the 1969/70 “Operation Seafarer” National Seabird Census.
- 1972** Barry Lawson, Geoff Ward, Bevan Craddock.
Part census and ringing
Forced to leave after three days due to bad weather.
- 1973** Barry Lawson, Peter Deans, John Hodson, Geoff Cope.
Trip abandoned – unable to land due to rough seas
- 1974** Barry Lawson, Peter Deans, Geoff Ward, John Hodson, Geoff Cope, Tom Pool.
Census of Lunga and ringing
An RAF Helicopter landed a photographer onto Harp Rock, causing many bird casualties.
- 1976** Barry Lawson, Peter Deans, Geoff Ward, John Hodson, Geoff Cope, Tony Kilgallen.
Full census Lunga – Fladda and ringing.
Very hot summer.
- 1977** Barry Lawson, John Hodson.
Ringing only.
Called in on “Corryvreckan” boat cruise.
- 1978** Barry Lawson, Peter Deans, John Hodson, Simon Walker.
Full census Lunga and Sgeir a’ Chaisteil and ringing.
- 1980** Barry Lawson, Peter Deans, John Hodson, Simon Walker, David Lawson.
Ringing only
- 1981** Geoff Ward, Geoff Cope.
Part census and photography
- 1982** Barry Lawson, Peter Deans, John Hodson, Simon Walker, Andrew Lawson.
Ringing only.
- 1984** Barry Lawson, Peter Deans, John Hodson, Simon Walker.
Ringing only.
- 1986** Barry Lawson, Peter Deans, Geoff Ward, John Hodson, Simon Walker, Andrew Lawson.
Full census with ringing
- 1989** Barry Lawson, Peter Deans, John Hodson, Simon Walker.
Ringing only.
- 1991** Barry Lawson, Peter Deans, Simon Walker, David & Andrew Lawson, Jan Densham.
Ringing only.
- 1993** Roger Broad *et al.* (Scottish Natural Heritage charter)
Full census of The Dutchman’s, Lunga, Sgeir a’ Chaisteil and Fladda.
Chris Redfern *et al.*
Storm Petrel ringing.

THE EXPEDITIONS 1971 – 2015 (continued)

- 1994** Simon Walker, Mike Smith, Dennis Cooper, Jan Densham, Danny Lenain.
Full census Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil and ringing.
Chris Redfern *et al.*
Storm Petrel ringing.
- 1995** Simon Walker, Mike Smith, Dennis Cooper, Jan Densham, Fergus Henderson.
Full census of Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil and ringing.
- 1996** Simon Walker, Mike Smith, Dennis Cooper, Danny Lenain, Robin Ward
Full census of Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil and ringing.
- 1997** Simon Walker, Dennis Cooper, Robin Ward, Damian Offer, Steve Willis, Chris Spray
Full census of Lunga – Fladda and ringing.
- 1998** Simon Walker, John Hodson, Dennis Cooper, Robin Ward, Damian Offer, Steve Willis,
Steve Worwood
Full census of Lunga – Fladda and ringing.
- 1999**
Week 1 Simon Walker, Dennis Cooper, Steve Willis, John Osbourne.
Week 2 Simon Walker, John Hodson, Dennis Cooper, Robin Ward, Damian Offer, Jan
Densham
Full census of the Treshnish Isles for *Seabird 2000* and ringing
- 2000**
Week 1 John Hodson, Dennis Cooper, Damian Offer
Full census of Manx Shearwater on Lunga for *Seabird 2000*. Limited passerine ringing. (May).
Week 2 Simon Walker, John Hodson, Dennis Cooper, Robin Ward, Steve Willis, Andrew Carter,
Steve Woodward
Full census of Lunga, Sgeir a' Chaisteil and the islands between Lunga – Fladda. Tern census for
Seabird 2000. Ringing.
- 2001** Simon Walker, John Hodson, Dennis Cooper, Robin Ward, Damian Offer, Andrew Carter
Completion of census for *Seabird 2000*. Full census of Lunga, Sgeir a' Chaisteil and the islands
between Lunga – Fladda. Ringing.
- 2002** Simon Walker, Robin Ward, Andrew Carter, Phil Bone, Sara Brown, Jackie Hay.
Full census of Lunga, Sgeir a' Chaisteil and the islands between Lunga – Fladda. Ringing.
- 2003** Simon Walker, John Hodson, Dennis Cooper, Robin Ward, Andrew Carter, Jackie Hay, Matt
Smith.
Full census of Lunga, Sgeir a' Chaisteil and the islands between Lunga – Fladda. Ringing.
- 2004** Simon Walker, Robin Ward, Andrew Carter, John Calladine, Tim Dixon, Shaun Micklewright,
Tina Wiffen.
Full census of Lunga, Sgeir a' Chaisteil and the islands between Lunga – Fladda. Ringing.
- 2005** Simon Walker, Robin Ward, Andrew Carter, Shaun Micklewright, Gareth Harris, George
Henderson, Tracé Williams.
Full census of Lunga, Sgeir a' Chaisteil and the islands between Lunga – Fladda. Ringing.
- 2006** Simon Walker, Dennis Cooper, Robin Ward, Andrew Carter, Shaun Micklewright, John
Calladine, Tim Dixon, George Henderson.
Full census of Lunga, Sgeir a' Chaisteil, Cairn na Burgh More, Cairn na Burgh Beg and the islands
between Lunga – Fladda. Ringing.

THE EXPEDITIONS 1971 – 2015 (continued)

- 2007** Simon Walker, Robin Ward, Andrew Carter, Shaun Micklewright, George Henderson, Tim Dixon, Tracé Williams.
Full census of Lunga, Sgeir a' Chaisteil and the islands between Lunga – Fladda. Ringing.
- 2008** Simon Walker, John Hodson, Robin Ward, Andrew Carter, Shaun Micklewright, George Henderson, Tim Dixon, John Calladine.
Full census of Lunga, Sgeir a' Chaisteil and the islands between Lunga – Fladda. Ringing.
- 2009** John Hodson, Robin Ward, Dennis Cooper, Andrew Carter, Shaun Micklewright, Tim Dixon, Jurjen Annen, Claire Dovey.
Full census of Lunga, Sgeir a' Chaisteil and the islands between Lunga – Fladda. Ringing.
- 2010** John Hodson, Robin Ward, Andrew Carter, Shaun Micklewright, Tim Dixon, Tracé Williams, Jurjen Annen, Claire Dovey.
Full census of Lunga, Sgeir a' Chaisteil and the islands between Lunga – Fladda. Ringing.
- 2011** John Hodson, Robin Ward, Andrew Carter, Shaun Micklewright, Tim Dixon, George Henderson, Jurjen Annen, Claire Dovey.
Full census of Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil. Ringing.
- 2012** John Hodson, Robin Ward, Dennis Cooper, Tim Dixon, Steve Willis, Jurjen Annen, Claire Dovey, Richard Barnes, Simon Roberts.
Full census of Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil. Ringing.
- 2013** John Hodson, Robin Ward, Dennis Cooper, Andrew Carter, Tim Dixon, Shaun Micklewright, Jurjen Annen, George Henderson.
Full census of Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil. Ringing.
- 2014** John Hodson, Robin Ward, Andrew Carter, Tim Dixon, Shaun Micklewright, Jurjen Annen, Claire Dovey, Cerian Thomas.
Full census of Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil. Ringing.
- 2015** Robin Ward, Andrew Carter, Tim Dixon, Shaun Micklewright, John Calladine, Stuart Brown, Chris Heward, Daniel Plunkett.
Full census of Lunga and Sgeir a' Chaisteil and the islands between Lunga – Fladda. Ringing.



View north from harp Rock at sunset twilight (Andrew Carter)

RING SERIES USED ON THE TRESHNISH ISLES SINCE 1927*

SHAG RINGS	A2 RINGS	E RINGS	F RINGS	G RINGS	H RINGS	RAZORBILL RINGS	GUILLEMOT RINGS	MISC. RINGS
1078761 – 800	2010581 – 583	EF75001 – 500	FB22601 – 700**	GH21301 – 350	HT03619	K10701 – 1000**	R07001 – 100	1F4094 - 097
1080101 – 110	2101991 – 2000	EG23501 – 700	FB23401 – 500**	GN85301 – 400**	HT09001 – 004	K13001 – 300 [#]	R19401 – 20200	C331894 - 900
1087111 – 120	2121401 – 500	EG23721 – 780	FC52551 – 558	GJ35401 – 500	HT17871 – 890	M36341 - 350	R24001 – 26350	E196501 - 520
1105561 – 570	2167051 – 068	EG23801 – 999	FC52571	GJ76001 – 800**	HT17931 – 940	M46501 – 800	R31601 – 900	JB44316
1123531 – 540	2170201 – 203	EG61000 – 500	FC74501	GJ99081 – 082	HT34021 – 030	M55001 – 500	R51501 – 2000	K039209 - 230
1123541 – 550	2238501 – 600	EG88501 – 9000	FH36101 – 200	GK34351 – 354	HT68201 – 210	M72451 – 800	R65501 – 6000**	K419290 - 295
1123671 – 690	2261001 – 2350	EH33377 – 380	FR13606 – 636	GK50214 – 220	HT68221 – 226	M85501 – 800	R72501 – 4000**	NA84296 - 299
1123961 – 970	2284001 – 5000 [#]	EH54501 – 55000	FR14401 – 500	GK50551 – 570	HT80301 – 400	M88001 – 300	T14001 – 5000**	KX83101 - 106
1159651 – 700	2309901 – 10000	EH89256	FR56351 – 400	GK62985 – 990	HW05351 – 360	M92501 – 700**	R73001 – 4000**	KX83116 - 118
1163701 – 740	2311301 – 400	EH89260	FS21478	GK90821 – 840	HW06951 – 7000		T82001 – 300	RF10011-020 [#]
1168001 – 100	2311501 – 2000	EH98001 – 300	FS51016 – 500	GK91471 – 490	HW08994 – 09000		X39501 – 40000	LA59201-300**
1170601 – 700	2348001 – 500	EK29501 – 900	FS87001 – 100	GM78756	HW37361		X56501 – 57000	DD90261-270 [#]
1187901 – 950	2236801 – 7000	EK72657 – 660	FV10611 – 620	GP13416 – 450	HW42996 - 3000		X63001 – 500	CBV601-700**
1237401 – 450	2369301 – 400	EK91471 – 490	FV10646 – 650	GP47917	HW68101 – 110		X67501 – 68000	V711401-500**
1322951 – 960	2405001 – 6000	EL19801 – 276	FV54446 – 460	GP62201 – 207	HW68161 – 170		X79501 – 80000	TJ18901-9000 [#]
1328481 – 490	2430701 – 900	EL52501 – 3000	FV62410	GP74501 – 75000	HW74971 – 990		X99001 – 500	BT09481-490**
1350801 – 900	2436501 – 7000	EN22001 – 500	FV62416 – 226		HW87211 – 225			NV42851-860**
1357901 – 8000	2444501 – 5000	EP85608 – 612	FV96681 – 684		HW96181 - 200			SR49601-700**
1366901 – 7000	2446202 – 233	EP85687 – 700	SS96101 – 300		HW94907 – 913			A297482-500
1373751 – 3900	2455501 – 6000	ER03701 – 800			MA12551 – 600**			B229951-992
1378401 – 8500	2480001 – 500	ER48401 – 404			MA15801 – 900**			BV70669
1399601 – 700	2513501 – 4000	ES64018 – 189						SV58551-600
1408301 – 500	2538001 – 800	ET19501 – 700						
1414301 – 500	2542001 – 3000	ET52501 – 3000						
1421701 – 800	2554001 – 500	ET80001 – 500						
1417001 – 7100	2560001 – 1000	EX12501 – 3000 [#]						
1445601 – 800**	2579001-80000	EW18001 – 500						
1491001 – 100	2605001 – 5500**	EW50001 – 500**						
	2624001 – 5000**	EZ30001 – 1000						
	2650101 – 61000							

*All rings series known (to TIARG) to have been used on the Treshnish Isles are documented irrespective of ring ownership.

** Ring series still in use

[#] Ring series purchased but yet to be used