

**Monthly report to Landsort Board by Observatory Wardens:  
Chris Sharpe & Kay Collister  
April 2017**

**Summary**

Having arrived on the island on 31<sup>st</sup> March work commenced on the 1<sup>st</sup> April, with all 30 nets at Bredmar erected ready for ringing to start on the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The first 10 days of the month had winds mainly from the SW ranging from light to very strong with winds from the NE on the 13<sup>th</sup> marking a run of seven days of wind from the E to NW with temperatures dropping to -5 degrees. From the 20<sup>th</sup> the wind was briefly from the SW but remaining strong before settling NW, again strong before finally going SE on the 28<sup>th</sup> on which day the highest number of birds of the month was caught (117).

**Ringing**

All data entered onto Fågel3 and submitted to Ringing Central.

Overall captures for the month were disappointing with just 726 new birds of 38 species, only the 10<sup>th</sup> best April figure out of the last 30 years. This underlines the late start to spring migration being experienced by many observatories within Europe.

Highlights for the month included: Varfågel (3<sup>rd</sup>), only the third spring bird caught at the Obs, a Svart rödstjärt (8<sup>th</sup>), Brandkronad kungsfågel (9<sup>th</sup>), only the 6<sup>th</sup> caught here, the third and fourth spring Vinterhämling (13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>) and the earliest record of a trapped Blåhake (female on the 27<sup>th</sup>) which is also the first record of the species in Sweden this year.

Ringing took place on 28 of the days available from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> with no ringing on the 25<sup>th</sup> due to SW winds of 14-19m/s together with snow showers.

Available days	29
Days netting	28
%age	96.55%

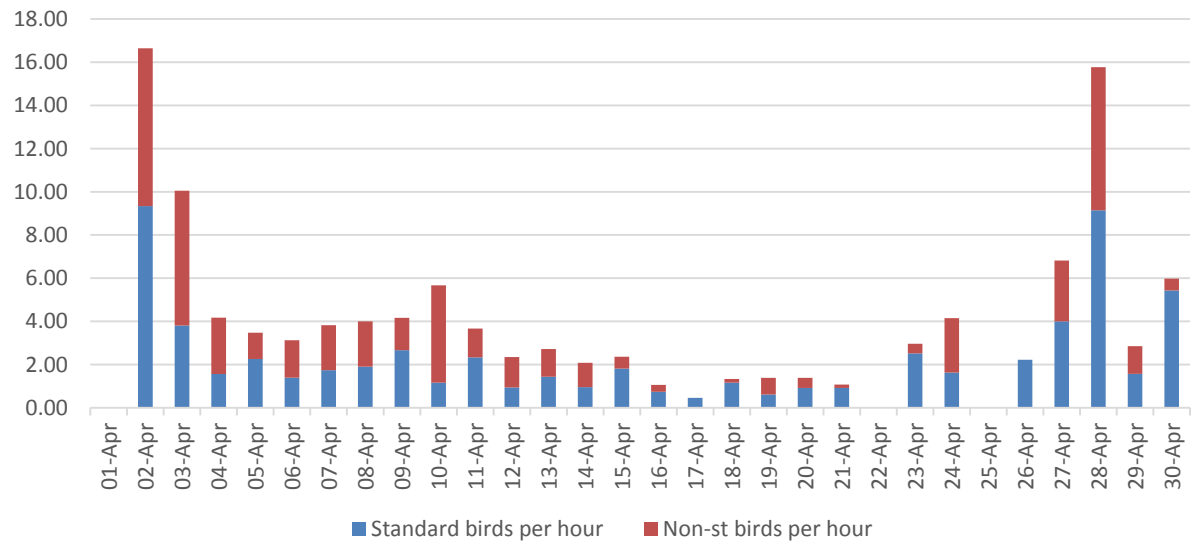
Hours netting	174
Average per day	6.21

Av birds/hr	4.2
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Total birds	726	
Standard	394	54.27%
Non-standard	332	45.73%

	metres	Av. Per day
Total net available	295	89.15%
Standard	177	85.31%
Non-standard	118	94.92%

## Birds caught per hour of netting BMAR - April 2017



### Other work on the Observatory

- 30 nets put up in Bredmar
- Repairs to boardwalks in Bredmar, including building new ones
- Old timber from boardwalks taken to Obs ready for burning (some still to do)
- Some repairs to small holes in nets undertaken
- Small amount of reduction of tree height
- New computer map prepared for end of lane and sent to Anders
- Daily diary blog created and kept up to date
- New notices for guided talks and lectures prepared and placed on noticeboards around the island.
- Small inserts about guided talks and lectures placed in leaflets and put on ferry and with other companies on the island.
- Paper to Board relating to more leaflets
- Guidings given
- Weekly cash reconciliations undertaken and record kept of over-night stays
- Summary of earliest capture dates for spring migrants prepared and sent to Board
- Complete list of Swedish birds compiled in Swedish, English and scientific name – available to Members on request
- Common areas, toilet, kitchen etc cleaned before and after each weekend
- Lab cleaned weekly

### Volunteer work on the Observatory by Chris & Kay

- Initial cleaning of observatory on arrival
- Windows cleaned
- Draught excluders fitted to all replaced windows
- Repairs to cellar steps to prevent water entering

- Tumble dryer collected from village and installed
- On-going building of nest boxes for Tornseglare – should be done soon
- New boardwalks collected and taken to SUDD
- New boardwalk at SUDD west built

Chris Sharpe & Kay Collister.

30<sup>th</sup> April 2017