

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

**Summary**

The first three days of the month were dominated by strong NW winds before a period of lighter winds from the SW. On the 7<sup>th</sup> gales from the E prevented ringing with winds in the SE to SW gradually reducing for the next few days before a further 'no-netting' day on the 12<sup>th</sup> due to rain. Over the middle of the month a quieter period of SE to SW winds with occasional calm mornings provided good ringing opportunities until the 20<sup>th</sup> when strong winds prevented netting. Three days of light winds were a short respite before a three day period of no netting due to very strong SW winds. This is the first time in our various periods of working here that there has been three days in a row with no netting! The 30<sup>th</sup> was dominated by 20-24m/s NE winds (Severe Gale) with rain forecast all day from 1000 to give 7 days out of 30 with no netting, awful for June!!!

**Ringing**

All data entered onto Fågel3 and submitted to Ringing Central.

654 new birds of 47 species were caught in the month, making this June the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in the 30 years of the Observatory. The year total now stands at 2,897, significantly more (45%) than the 1988-2017 average as at the end of June which stands at exactly 2,000.

Ringing took place at SUDD on three mornings over two weekends, with 31 new birds of 10 species. All nets were removed from SUDD on 18<sup>th</sup> June by Bosse and Liam and will be replaced in the autumn. The figures for SUDD are included within those shown above, but are excluded from the tables at the bottom of this page and from the chart on page 2 of this report.

Captures of note included Trädpiplärka (Tree Pipit) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, the only two ever caught in June, the one on the 27<sup>th</sup> having a well-developed brood patch. Two Mindre Korsnäbb (Common Crossbill) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> were followed by further birds on 13<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> to give four for the month out of nine in the history of the Obs. Single Mindre flugsnappare (Red-breasted Flycatcher) on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> were of note as were singles of Lundsångare (Greenish Warbler) on 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> to give four for the year. Five Höksångare (Barred Warbler) in a five day period from 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> were followed by perhaps the best bird of the month, a Tofsmes (Crested Tit) on the 15<sup>th</sup>, being only the fourth caught here.

Netting took place on just 23 days, though on two of those days birds were ringed in nest boxes, to give 25 days with some sort of ringing.

<b>Available days</b>	30
<b>Days netting</b>	23
<b>%age</b>	<b>77%</b>

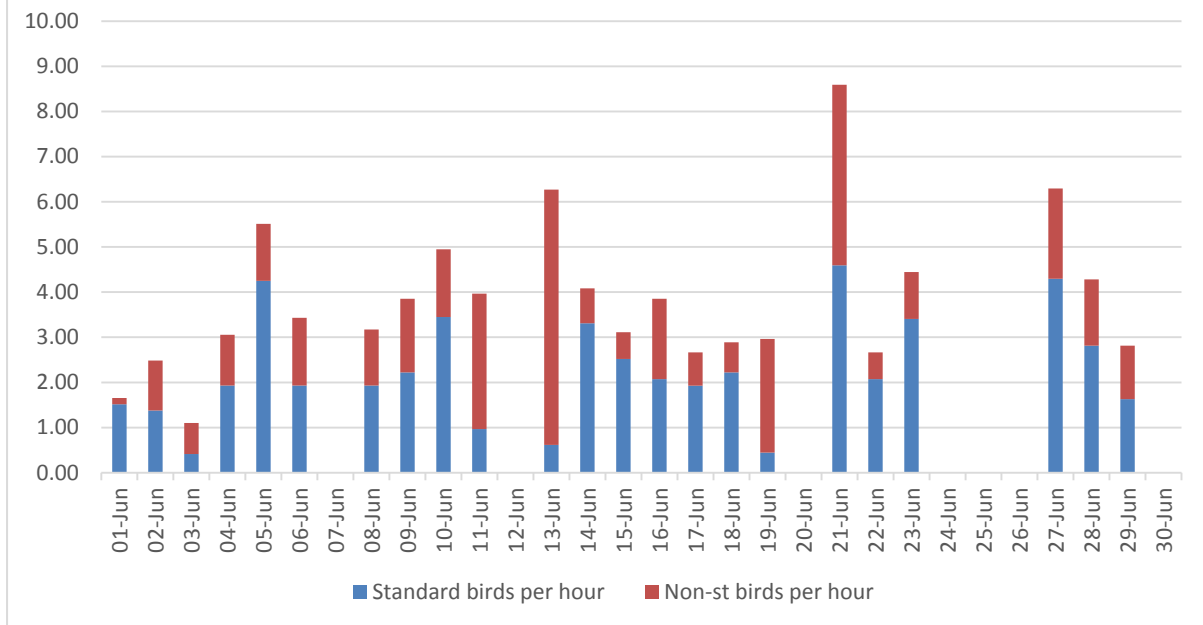
<b>Hours netting</b>	164.75
<b>Average per day</b>	7.16

<b>Av birds/hr</b>	<b>3.8</b>
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<b>Total birds</b>	623	
<b>Standard</b>	347	<b>55.70%</b>
<b>Non-standard</b>	276	<b>44.30%</b>

**Note:** 'Non-standard' birds includes birds ringed in nest boxes.

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



### Sightings of note during June

Among a range of interesting sightings for the month, mostly covered on the daily blog, the following were of note:

- 1 Enkelbeckasin (Snipe) displaying all month in Bredmar, occasionally paired;
- 1 Tretåig mås (Kittiwake), immature on 3<sup>rd</sup>;
- 1 Turkduva. Single through the month with a pair on 28<sup>th</sup>;
- 1 Ägretthäger (Great Egret), south past the island on the 4<sup>th</sup>;
- 25 Mindre Korsnäbb (Common Crossbill) feeding on 5<sup>th</sup>;
- 1 Kentsk tärna (Sandwich Tern) flying north on 10<sup>th</sup>;
- 1 Drillspäppa (Common Sandpiper) in Bredmar from the 11<sup>th</sup>, with three young on 27<sup>th</sup>;
- 2 singing male Lundsångare (Greenish Warbler) on 11<sup>th</sup>, with a further singing bird at Saltmar later in month;
- Singing male Höksångare (Barred Warbler) at Saltmar from the 17<sup>th</sup>;
- Svarthakedopping (Horned Grebe) pair present in Norrhamn all month with young seen on 24<sup>th</sup>;
- A Vaktel (Quail) 21<sup>st</sup>
- Female Kricka with two well grown, but not flying young in Jutvik
- Tornseglare – entered nest box at Obs at 1006 and remained inside until 1530, leaving briefly before returning within minutes.

### Other work on the Observatory

- Nest box checking continued through the month. Last three boxes to check in early July;
- Routine strimming of net rides and paths;
- All bird bags washed;
- Daily playing of Tornseglare tape at the nest boxes on the Obs;
- Daily diary blog kept up to date;
- 9 guided talks given;
- Weekly cash reconciliations undertaken and record kept of over-night stays;
- On-going work on work-plan and method statements covering the work of Wardens;
- Common areas, toilet, kitchen etc cleaned before and after each weekend;

- Lab cleaned weekly.

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

- On-going work on reviewing the 30 years of ringing and sightings data;
- All old timber from behind the Obs removed thanks to help from Lasse Wallin and taken to fire gully;
- All Alder from within the reed beds at Bredmar cut down. More work needed to reduce the height of the remaining stumps, which will be done after the breeding season.

Chris Sharpe & Kay Collister.

30<sup>th</sup> June 2017