

**Monthly report to Landsort Board by Observatory Wardens:  
Chris Sharpe & Kay Collister  
May 2018**

### Summary

The month was dominated by winds from the north through to the south-east, mainly from the north-east. For the first week winds were more south-west moderate to strong, producing the biggest catches of the month, although not large. From the 9<sup>th</sup> until the end of the month winds were mainly north-east, ranging in strength from almost calm to strong 8-13m/s. With the exception of rain on the morning of the 1<sup>st</sup>, the month had no rainfall, with clear to almost clear skies on most days.

### Ringling

All data entered onto Fågel3 and submitted to Ringling Central.

The totals for the month were low, with just 729 birds caught, the 22<sup>nd</sup> lowest May capture total in the 31 years of the Observatory. While the dominance of an easterly air-stream is almost certainly a significant factor it is worth noting the Falsterbo has also had a lower than average spring so far, so perhaps the causes are not solely related to local weather patterns.

Highlights for the month included: Ortolan Bunting (Ortolansparv) on the 1<sup>st</sup>, (first since 2014), 6 Whinchat (Busksvätta) on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> the first of two Collared Flycatcher (Halsbandsflugsnappare) was trapped, with the first Red-breasted Flycatcher (Mindre flugsnappare) on the 5<sup>th</sup>, one of seven caught during the month. A Greenish Warbler (Lundsångare) on the 10<sup>th</sup> was one of three for the month and the earliest ever trapped at the Observatory by thirteen days.

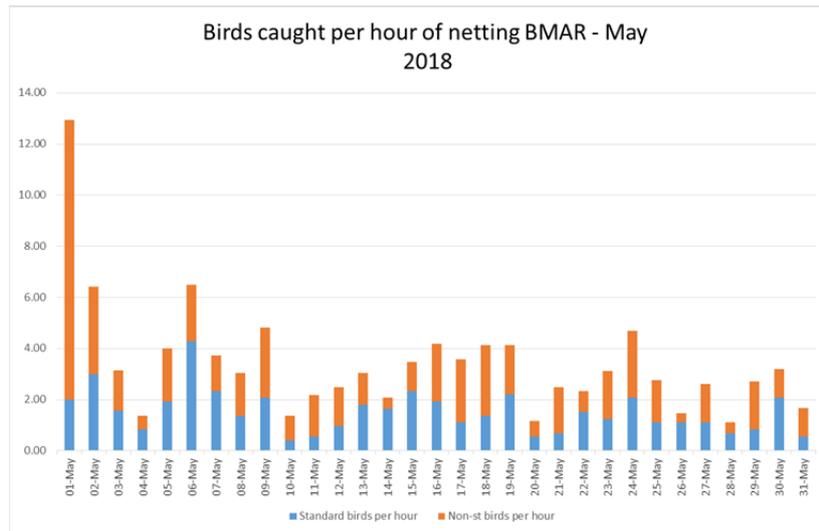
On the 14<sup>th</sup> the first fledged Greenfinch (Grönfink) of the breeding season was caught. On the 15<sup>th</sup>, the best bird of the month was trapped; a Red-flanked Bluetail (Blåstjärt), only the third ever caught here. The first Starling (Stare) young were ringed at nest boxes on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, but for this species the season seems to have been a poor one, with only 18 young ringed. Single Blyth's Reed Warbler (Busksångare) on the 24<sup>th</sup> and a Barred Warbler (Höksångare) on the 30<sup>th</sup> were the only other ringling highlights in what was a disappointing month.

Ringling took place on all 31 days.

Hours netting	231.25
Average per day	7.46

Av birds/hr	3.1
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Total birds	729	
Standard	328	45%
Non-standard	401	55%



### Sightings of note during May

For a complete review of birds reported during the month please visit: <https://artportalen.se/search/sightings/site/2074506> The following summary is compiled from a review of the daily diary and from records mentioned to us by members:

- |                         |                      |     |   |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-----|---|
| • Temmincks Stint       | Mosnäppa             | 1   | 11 <sup>th</sup>                                |
| • Great Short-toed Lark | Korttälärka          | 1   | 12 <sup>th</sup>                                |
| • Black Kite            | Brun glada           | 1   | 15 <sup>th</sup>                                |
| • Collared Dove         | Turkduva             | 2   | from 17 <sup>th</sup> , 3 on some days          |
| • Chiffchaff (tristis)  | Gransångare          | 1   | 19 <sup>th</sup>                                |
| • Marsh Harrier         | Brun kärrhök         | 1   | 19 <sup>th</sup> (and one on 20 <sup>th</sup> ) |
| • Golden Oriole         | Sommargylling        | 1   | 19 <sup>th</sup>                                |
| • Black Woodpecker      | Spillkråka           | 1   | 20 <sup>th</sup>                                |
| • Pochard               | Brunand              | 1   | 20 <sup>th</sup>                                |
| • Yellow-billed Diver   | Vitnäbbad islom      | 2   | 23 <sup>rd</sup>                                |
| • Common Cuckoo         | Gök                  | 1   | 24 <sup>th</sup>                                |
| • Great Northern Diver  | Svartnäbbad islom    | 1   | 26 <sup>th</sup>                                |
| • Brent Goose           | Prutgås              | 126 | 26 <sup>th</sup>                                |
| • Tundra Swan           | Mindre sångsvan      | 1   | 26 <sup>th</sup>                                |
| • Whooper Swan          | Sångsvan             | 2   | 26 <sup>th</sup>                                |
| • Sanderling            | Sandlöpare           | 11  | 27 <sup>th</sup>                                |
| • Red-necked Phalarope  | Smalnäbbad simsnäppa | 2   | 27 <sup>th</sup>                                |
| • Common Teal           | Kricka               | 1   | Nest with eggs                                  |
| • Horned Grebe          | Svarthakedopping     | 2   | Breeding  |
| • Common Swift          | Tornseglare          | 4   | In nesting habitat                              |
| •                       |                      |     |   |

### Other work on the Observatory

- Grass and vegetation around nets and Obs cut;
- 13 guided talks given;
- Most nest boxes have had first visit, young ringed and notes made of dates for follow up visits to nests that had small young or eggs;

- Tape of Common Swift (Tornseglare) played daily from 20<sup>th</sup> to attract birds to the nest boxes;
- All three outside seats and benches treated with preserving oil;
- Alder cut back in reed beds;
- Some work done to identify breeding birds by plotting the presence of singing males;
- Weekly cash reconciliations undertaken and record kept of over-night stays;
- Membership list and bank statements kept up to date and sent to Pelle;
- Common areas, toilet, kitchen etc cleaned before and after each weekend;
- Lab cleaned weekly;
- Bird bags washed.

Chris Sharpe & Kay Collister.

31<sup>st</sup> May 2018