

CRETE BIRD REPORT 1989
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Compiled by:
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WEATHER

The Winter and Spring of 1988/1989 had been very dry with very little winter rain or snow. In late March a heavy storm ruined the Independence Day parade on 25th. April was mild and sunny but there were still periods of rough weather. The weather settled down after this. The Summer was very, very hot. In October the weather was mixed being cold and wet and stormy at times. This produced a disappointing migrant evidence. Amongst the hirundines there were plenty of swallows but few martins, and only one species of Wheatear was recorded. The rivers were dry and recent rain produced pools in the riverbeds but these did not attract birds.

BIRDS

The dry weather resulted in fewer records of wildfowl this Spring. However there were plenty of other records of interest with Greater Sand Plover, Pacific Golden Plover, Kittiwake, White-breasted Kingfisher, Upchers Warbler, Spectacled Warbler, Marmora's Warbler, Rock Nuthatch, Crossbill and Bullfinch amongst others being reported and Penduline Tit turned up again in October.

SYSTEMATIC LIST of BIRDS RECORDED IN 1989

Please note that some of these records are printed subject to verification.

LITTLE GREBE *Tachybaptus ruficollis* Common on open water. In April, 1 Georgioupolis 9.4. 2 there 12.4. & 15.4. At Agia 3 on 8.4 then 6 Agia reservoir 16.4. and 4 17.4. 2 Georgioupolis lake 18.4. 12 Lake Kournas 21.4. In May - 3 pairs at Lake Kournas 3.5. 1 Georgioupolis 3.5. and 2 there 4.5. 6 Agia reservoir 7.5. 2 Georgioupolis 16.5. 4 Agia reservoir 16.5. 8 Lake Kournas 4.10. 2 Georgioupolis 6.10.

GREAT CRESTED GREBE *Podiceps cristatus* No records received.

BLACK-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps nigricolus* There were only records from Kournas with c25 Lake Kournas 31.3. and c20 in the 3rd week in April. While in October there were 17 there 13.10.

CORY'S SHEARWATER *Calonectris diomedea* It was particularly good between 19.4 to 25.4. for this species, off the Creta Sun beach. Obviously a large shoal of fish came into the area as large numbers of herring gulls and local fishing boats appeared. On 20.4. there were 41 birds very close to Creta Sun Hotel in a sea fog. Then for the next three days 2,500 were to be seen off the hotel dropping to 200 on 24.4. and only 25 on 25.4. Elsewhere 5 seen just off the harbour wall Chania 14.4. and 20-30 seen off Chania 16.4. c.30 feeding offshore on 30.4. at 9.00am. In May 1 Chora Sfakion 5.5. 8 off Mirabello Beach 6.5. and 2 off Agia Marina 11.5. 30+ Platanias 13.5. 20+ there 15.5. and 6 16.5. Also described as numerous in the Gulf of Heraklion in first two weeks in August. In October 5.10 c.10 off Bali, and 6.10. 6 off Bali. 30 Georgioupolis beach 16.10. and 350 per hour west 17.10.

MANX SHEARWATER Balearic race *Puffinus puffinus* 3 seen off Creta Sun 12.4. rising to 5 15.4. 1 off Chania 16.4. During the large gathering of sea birds off Creta Sun c500 were recorded on 21st and c200 on 22nd. 1 off the south coast on boat trip to Ag. Roumeli from Chora Sfakion during early August.

CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax carbo* 3 were seen off the coast from Ag. Triada 21.4.

SHAG *Phalacrocorax aristotelis* A single flew past Chania Harbour early morning 16,17, & 18.4. also 2 Almyros 3rd week in April.

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PYGMY CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax pygmeus* 3 one in a breeding plumage at Almyros feeding at the river mouth 22.3.

WHITE PELICAN *Pelicanus onocrotalus* 1 tame Sitia 17.9.

BITTERN *Botaurus stellaris* 13 in off the sea to Plakias Bay on 4.5.

LITTLE BITTERN *Ixobrychus minutus* 1 Creta Sun 13.4. 1m Mylo river ford 16.4. 3 Agia reservoir 16.4. and 1 Agia reservoir 17.4. Recorded there 3rd week in April. 1 Lake Kournas 3.5. 1 Ierapetra beach 5.5. 1 Agia reservoir 6.5. 2+ Agia reservoir 7.5. 2m there 16.5.

NIGHT HERON *Nycticorax nycticorax* 10 Chora Sfakion 12.4. flew out to sea then returned and flew east. 8 Chora Sfakion 13.4. An adult and juvenile on 12.4 with the juvenile still present 13.4. at Creta Sun lagoons. 1 Agia reservoir 13.4. An adult and 3 juveniles roosted overnight at Creta Sun Lagoon 18./19.4. 1 juvenile 21.4. and 24.4. 1 adult 23.4. all at Creta Sun lagoon. 2 Lake Kourna 3rd week in April. 2 Creta Sun lagoons present 25.4 to 2.5. 1 Aposelemis river in first half of August.

SQUACCO HERON *Ardeola ralloides* 1 Agia 8.4. 2 Damnoni 12.4. 2 Agia reservoir 13.4. 1 Aposelemis river 13.4. 2 Mylo river ford 16.4. 1 Camping George area 16.4. 33 recorded at Aghia Triada 13.4. 32 there 21.4. 14 Damnoni 23.4. Several at most wetlands during 3rd week in April. 1-3 recorded at Creta Sun, Damnoni beach, Plakias and Aghia reservoir. 2-3 Ierapetra reservoir and migrant flocks seen along shores 19.4.- 2.5. In May recorded Elounda saltpans 8.5. and 13.5, Aghia Triada 9.5. and Georgiopolis 11.5. 1 Agia reservoir 16.5. 1 adult Aposelemis river 31.5. and 1.6. In August frequent at Aposelemis river with max 13. 12 shot dead at Keridis river 23.8 in front of one observer. 25 near Ag. Nikolaos 14.9. 1 Heraklion beach 26.9.

CATTLE EGRET *Bubulcus ibis* No records received.

LITTLE EGRET *Egretta garzetta* 2 Mylopotamos Bridge 11.4. 2 Mylo river ford 11.4. 2 there 16.4. From 12.4. onwards individuals in damp places and rocks on Rethymnon shore, 1 Georgiopolis 13.4. 8 Ag. Fothia nr Ierapetra 13.4. & 2 Agia reservoir 13.4. 3 Elounda saltpans 15.4. Thereafter recorded almost daily 2-3 Chania, 1 Souda Bay, 1-2 Agia reservoir, 1 Creta Sun 19.4, 5 Elounda, 2 Aghia Triada all between 12. to 25.4. Singles near Rethymnon, Plakias, Frangocastello, Aghia Galini and near Sitia 3rd week in April. 1-2 Ierapetra reservoir throughout late April and May. In May recorded Elounda 6.5, 8.5, 12.5, and 13.5. Kalo Horio 7.5 Agia Galini 9.5. Georgiopolis 11.5. 1 offshore Malia 14.5. 4 Camping George 19.5. 50 Agia reservoir 23.9 and other records of small numbers in September with 18 Heraklion 26.9.

GREAT WHITE EGRET *Egretta alba* 1 Plakias Bay 30.4. 1 flying past Almyros mid July. 1 en route to Lassithi 14.9. 40 at Lake Kournas 21.9.

GREY HERON *Ardea cinerea* 20 came in from the sea with 4 Little Egrets at Loutro on the south coast at the end of March. 1 amongst the Purple Herons 13.4. at Aghia Triada. Movement recorded from SW to NE 100, then 20 then 80 in 45 mins Ag. Fothia. 1 Elounda 15.4. 2 at Agia reservoir on 16.4. 1 Georgiopolis 16.4. and 1 Camping George 16.4. and 1 Bali to Rethymnon and 1 Agia reservoir 17.4. 2 amongst Purple Herons 21.4. Aghia Triada. May records from Plakias over sea 13.5, Georgiopolis 11.5. 2 Agia reservoir 16.5. 2 adults daily at Aposelemis river 31.5 to 3.6. In August 15 over the sea 18.8. Aposelemis river. September flocks 12 Sitia 17.9. & 11 on 18.9. Singles Agia reservoir 23.9. and Lake Kournas 21.9. 1 Lake Kournas 13.10. 46 east at Georgiopolis 13.10.

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PURPLE HERON *Ardea purpurea* 1 Creta Sun lagoon 12.4. and 13.4. On 21.4. a flock of large birds seen over traffic lights at Heraklion were probably this species. At Aghia Triada a sizeable 'fall' up to 138 was noted mixed with lesser numbers of Squaccos. On 21.4. 64 flew north across the Creta Sun and later in the day at Aghia Triada observers were treated to the spectacle of wave after wave coming in off the sea and landing on the beach area near the airfield. It was estimated that in 3 hours watching 500+ birds arrived. (DI & RSPB) At Ierapetra c.30 20.4. and 21.4. 1 Chora Sfakion cliff top 22.4. and 10 west near Frangocastello 23.4. In August 1 2nd week and then 10+ over the sea 18.8. Aposelemis river.

WHITE STORK *Ciconia ciconia* A flock just south of Rethymnon 25.4. and 6 flying over Power station area 28.4. 1 near Georgiopolis in August.

GLOSSY IBIS *Plegadis falcinellus* 45 high over Kourtaliotiko Gorge 3rd week in April. During first two weeks in August seven groups on migration totalling 270+.

SPOONBILL *Platalea leucorodia* No records received

GREATER FLAMINGO *Phoenicopterus ruber* No records received.

MUTE SWAN *Cygnus olor* No records received.

WIGEON *Anas penelope* No records received.

GADWALL *Anas strepera* No records received.

TEAL *Anas crecca* 1f 27.3. at Almyros.

MALLARD *Anas platyrhynchos* Pair at Lake Kourna in mid April.

PINTAIL *Anas acuta* Records received from March and October. 2m Malia marsh river mouth 25. to 27.3. 522 Georgiopolis beach and bay on 16.10. and 166 NW of Georgiopolis beach and bay on 17.10

GARGANEY *Anas querquedula* 1m at Creta Sun 12.4. 1m Agia 8.4. and 1m and 1f Agia reservoir 13.4. increasing to 2m and 1f Agia reservoir 16.4. At Creta Sun 1m 19. & 20.4. rising to 4m and 1f 23.4. 1m Ierapetra reservoir 21.4. 1 Creta Sun lagoon 25.4. to 2.5. 1 Agia reservoir 2.5.

SHOVELER *Anas clypeata* 1m 23. & 25.4 at Creta Sun lagoon. 2 Creta Sun lagoon 25.4 to 2.5.

MARbled TEAL *Marmarenetta angustirostris* No records received

POCHARD *Aythya ferina* No records received.

FERRUGINOUS DUCK *Aythya nyroca* 1f 30.3. Agia reservoir 1m Agia 8.4. 2m at Agia reservoir 17.4. 1m Agia reservoir 3rd week in April. 1m Rethymnon Harbour 17-18.4. 1 at Agia reservoir 6.5.

TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fuligula* No records received.

HONEY BUZZARD *Pernis apivorus* 3 Kato Zakro 3rd week in April. 1 over Heraklion 27.4. 5 Phaestos 28.4. 2 at Lassithi 1.5. 1 Sitia Mts above Ferme 2.5. 1 badly shot specimen 2.5. near Lake Kourna. 1 Georgiopolis in August.

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BLACK KITE *Milvus migrans* 1 flew east over northern highway west of Bali 12.4. 1 flew west along Chania harbour early 17.4. 1 Phaestos 28.4. 1 Georgiopolis 2.5. 1 Prasses 15.5. 1 Sitia area 17.9.

RED KITE *Milvus milvus* 1 14.4. near Milatos. 1 Falasarna in first half of October.

LAMMERGEIER *Gypaetus barbatus* 1 above Peikos 30km W of Ierapetra 27.3. 1 over Gingilos late March. 1 Omalos plateau 17.4. 5 sightings (prob. 4 individuals) Omalos, 1 Kotsiphos Gorge all 3rd week in April. 1 Kourtaliotiko, 1 Samaria 24.4. and 1 Katheron plateau 29.4. 1 at Lassithi Plateau 1.5. 2 in mountains behind Lake Kournas 9.5. 1 old Moni Prevelli 11.5. 1 Kourtaliotiko 20.5. 2 Kotsiphos 20.5. 2 sightings of a single bird at Seli Ambelou Pass into Lassithi during first half of August. 2 Lassithi 14.9. In October 1 with Griffons over Bali. 6.10. 1 with Griffons over Omalos 2.10. and over Seli Ambelou Pass at the end of October.

EGYPTIAN VULTURE *Neophron percnopterus* No records received.

GRIFFON VULTURE *Gyps fulvus* 2 Bali 5.4. Widespread and frequent. 3 roosting on cliff Petres Gorge 7.4. Frequent in Lassithi and Plakias areas. 8 above Plakias 21.4. Recorded between 12 & 25.4. in suitable locations in the mountains. Seen in all the mountains but only in small numbers 3rd week in April but 13 Psychro 22.4. and 11 near Ferme 2.5.. c25-30 Lassithi Plateau 1.5. 5 Omalos plateau 6.5. 6 Arkadi 10.5. 30 old Moni Prevelli 11.5. 21 Prasses 12.5. 4 Amari 12.5. 3 Lassithi 14.5. 41 Prasses 15.4. 14 prasses 17.5. 6 Idha Mts (Anogia to Ideon Cave) 18.5. 2 Rodoupou Peninsula 19.5. 6 Kourtaliotiko Gorge 20.5. 8 there 21.5. 2 Prasses 22.5. 3 seen 31.5. around Listening post at Gouves presumed breeding there. In August 25+ recorded over Lassithi plateau and 18 Lassithi 14.9. 5 Arvi 19.9, 3 Lake Kournas 21.9. In October 3 Bali 4.10, 8 Bali 6.10, 3 Omalos 11.10, 2 Omalos 12.10, 1 near Lendas 14.10, 10 Petres Gorge 15.10, 2 Bali 16.10. 8 Turkish bridge Prevelli 12.10 and over Lassithi. Recorded from Malia between 20. & 26.10.

BLACK VULTURE *Aegypius monachus* No records received.

SHORT-TOED EAGLE *Circaetus gallicus* 1 recorded late March, early April, no site (G. Clarke). 1 near Rethymnon 25.4. 1 Akrotiri in first half of October.

MARSH HARRIER *Circus aeruginosus* 1f Agia reservoir 8.4. 1 f/imm in off the sea at Chora Sfakion 12.4. Af west past Creta Sun on 12.4. 1 Malia marsh 12.4. 1 Agia reservoir 13.4. 2f and 1m Aposelemis and Creta Sun 13.4. 1 imm.f Malia 3rd week in April and 1 imm.f Heraklion Power Station 24.4. 1 Ierapetra reservoir 25.4. 1f Phaestos 28.4. 6 at Creta Sun lagoon 29.4. 1 Creta Sun lagoon 30.4. 1 imm f Heraklion Power Station 7.5. In October 1 Agia reservoir 12.10. and 1 Georgiopolis 12.10.

HEN HARRIER *Circus cyaneus* Recorded in October 1f low over the Omalos plateau 11.10. and 1 Malia between 20. & 26.10.

PALLID HARRIER *Circus macrourus* No records received.

MONTAGU'S HARRIER *Circus pygargus* 1 flew north Kotsiphos Gorge 12.4. A m flew across the Creta Sun lagoons 13.4. Also a f /imm Frangocastelli 13.4. 1 imm m Creta Sun lagoon 25.4 & 29.4. 1f at Creta Sun lagoon 28.4.

GOSHAWK *Accipiter gentilis* No records received.

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SPARROWHAWK *Accipiter nisus* 1 Gortys 6.4. 1 on road up to Omalos Plateau 1 ad. m 26.4. 1 regularly seen in Rethymnon Pines in April. In October 1 Omalos 11.10, 1 Omalos 12.10, 1 Matala 13.10.

LEVANT SPARROWHAWK *Accipiter brevipes* 1m & 1f 26.3. near Anatoli. GC.

BUZZARD *Buteo buteo* Common recorded daily in good numbers throughout April. In May Agios Ioannis headland 4.5. and 8.5. Lassithi plateau. Singles 31.5. and 1.6. Creta Sun presumed breeding nearby. 2 near south of Rethymnon 3.6. & 4.6. In October 10 Omalos to Matala 12.10, many near Matala 13.10 down to 4 Matala 14.10 and 1 Bali 16.10. Also 1 Malia during 3rd week in October.

LONG-LEGGED BUZZARD *Buteo rufinus* 1 above Plaka 20.3. 2 Prasses Gorge 11.4. 1 at Dikti Cave, Lassithi Plateau 1.5. 1 Lassithi 14.9.

ROUGH-LEGGED BUZZARD *Buteo lagopus* 1 near Milatos 14.4.

LESSER SPOTTED EAGLE *Aquila pomarina* No records received.

SPOTTED EAGLE *Aquila clanga* No records received.

TAWNY/STEPPE EAGLE *Aquila rapax* No records received.

GOLDEN EAGLE *Aquila chrysaetos* 1 behind Omalos mountains 8.4. 1 adult Kotsiphos Gorge 12.4. 2. 26.4. 1 sub-ad. 28.4. 1 Omalos plateau 17.4. and 1 Kritsa 20.4. 2 near Rethymnon 15.4. 2 to 3 Lassithi 22.4 and 2 Katheron 29.4. 1 adult Kavousi Gorge 29.4. 2 Samaria Gorge 6.5. 1 Sitia mountains 19.9. 1 Omalos 22.9. 1 Falasarna in early October and 1 Lassithi at the end of October.

BOOTED EAGLE *Hieraaetus pennatus* 1 pale phase 28.3. Phaestos. 2 Petres River 9.4. 1 Prasses 11.4. 1 seen from Plakias 15.4. 1 Omalos 17.4.

BONELLIS EAGLE *Hieraaetus fasciatus* 1 adult above Adravisti N. of Zakros 23.3. 2 Prasses gorge 11.4. 1 soaring over Imbros Gorge 12.4. 1 breeding pair Prasses gorge, Imbros gorge and a juvenile Kotsiphos all in April. 1 Omalos 3rd week in April. 1 Lassithi plateau 4.5. 2 Prasses 12.5. 15.5 and 17.5. 2 Fourfouras 20.9. 1 Falasarna first half of October and 1 Lassithi at the end of the month.

OSPREY *Pandion haliaetus* 1 Heraklion Power Station 6.5.

LESSER KESTREL *Falco naumanni* 6 in a flock near Vai 23.3. 3 Petres Gorge 7.4. 1 pair(m calling) and another m near Myli 8.4. 1 on Lassithi entering a hole in a rockface by bridge at west end of plateau 15.4. 2 Kritsa 7.4. 4 west of Heraklion 3rd week in April. Small colony in gorge on N side of S. coast road between Mitos and Ano Viannos. In May several east of Damnoni 6.5. recorded near Sissi 8.5. 1 Petres gorge 13.5. 1 Kritsa 16.9. In October 1 in off the sea at Bali 5.10. 1 Omalos 11.10.

KESTREL *Falco tinnunculus* Frequent and widespread seen daily April & May. Pair nesting Phaestos. Singles 1.6. and 3.6. Creta Sun. Recorded as frequent in October.

RED-FOOTED FALCON *Falco vespertinus* 1m on Mt. Youchtas 22.4. 24+ inland from Heraklion power station 26.4. 1 Damnoni 6.5. 6+ on the road between Chania and Agia reservoir 7.5. 4+ c 4km east of Georgioupolis 9.5. 3 Kato Metochi 1m 2f 14.5. 1 Acra Sideros to Finikodos road 18.9. In early October records from Akrotiri and Phaestos.

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MERLIN *Falco columbarius* 1 Gouves 12.4. and 1f dashed up the Aposelemis river on 20.4. Recorded Malia between 20.to 26.10.

HOBBY *Falco subbuteo* 4 on Mt Youchtas 22.4. 1 over mountain behind Creta Sun 20.4. 1 Lake Kourna 3rd week in April. 1 Creta Sun lagoon and Damnoni 29.4. 1 Katachori 8.5. 1 Creta Sun 1.6. In first half of October recorded from Akrotiri and Phaestos.

ELEONORAS FALCON *Falco eleonora*e 1 dark phase flew in off the sea at Creta Sun 20.4. 1 normal phase same day. 1 Agia Triada 21.4. 1 Mt Youchtas 22.4. 1 Creta Sun 23.4. 3 Heraklion, 1 Selinari, 6 Knossos 3rd week in April. 2 Kavousi Gorge 29.4. 20-30 near Ag. Georgios S. of Sitia 20.4. and a passage of c.60 in 3 hours 2.5. in Sitia Mts. 1 Creta Sun lagoon and 5+ Heraklion Power Station 2.5. 1 at Falasarna 5.5. 1 at Agia reservoir 7.5. 1 Adele Campus 10.5. 1 Prasses 12.5. 1 Hordaki (dark phase) 13.5. 1 Adele Campus 13.5. c150 over Iraklion 14.5. 2 Iraklion airport 14.5. 1 Prasses 15.5. 3 Kateriana 18.5. 1 Idha Mts 18.5. 1 Rodoupou 19.5. 2+ hunting over Creta Sun lagoons for the morning of 1.6. before heading off inland. 18 seen over Rethymnon 4.6. Common along north coast in first half of August. 1 near Sitia 17.9.and 18.9. In first half of October there was a large mixed flock of Eleonoras with Red-footed Falcon and Hobby over Phaestos. At least 100 seen hunting over the ridge at Falasarna in the evening during first part of October. Other records 1 Agia reservoir 10.10, 5 Rodopou peninsula 10.10. 1 Omalos 12.10, and 1 15.10 over Bali, also recorded Malia between 20.- 26.10.

LANNER *Falco biamicus* One over Rethymnon Pines 4.4. 1 soaring Petres Gorge 7.4. 1 behind Rethymnon flew east 11.4. 1 Prasses 11.4. 1 along the ridge at Falasarna 14.4. 1 over Lassithi at the end of October.

PEREGRINE *Falco peregrinus* 1 Lassithi plateau 21.3. 1 pair Petres Gorge 7.4. 1 Creta Sun 12.4. and 1 Plakias 15.4. 1 around the mountain behind the Creta Sun 19.4. 1 Phaestos 21.4. 1 at Kavousi Gorge 29.4. Records from Sitia Mts. in April and September. 1 Kotsiphos Gorge 4.5, 2 Falasarna 5.5. 2 Petres Gorge 5.5. 1 Petres 13.5. 1 Prasses 17.5.1 Creta Sun lagoon 31.5. 1 recorded over Lassithi at the end of October.

CHUKAR *Alectoris chukar* Heard calling in mountain areas in April. 1 calling Petres Gorge 7.4. 1 east of Bali 15.4. Males area 25.4. 2 at Akrotiri 4.5. 1 at Omalos plateau 6.5. 1 Idha Mts 18.5. In October 8 between Omalos and Kalergi refuge at c. 4,500ft. 11.10.

QUAIL *Coturnix coturnix* 2 in fields below Phaestos 13.4. 4 Lassithi plateau 24.4. 1 Malia 3rd week in April. 1m calling Phaestos 28.4. and Katheron Plateau 29.4. 1 at Falasarna 5.5. 1 Phaestos 12.5.

WATER RAIL *Rallus aquaticus* 1 Georgioupolis 12.4.

SPOTTED CRAKE *Porzana porzana* 1 Georgioupolis in ditch and on shoreline 9.4. 1 Creta Sun 23/24.4. 1 Agia reservoir 3rd week in April.

LITTLE CRAKE *Porzana parva* c6 30.3. Agia reservoir 1 Agia 8.4. 1 at dusk 4.4. Georgioupolis, a pair there 9.4. and 6 Georgioupolis 16.4. 4 Agia reservoir 16.4. and 5 17.4. and 2 Georgioupolis 18.4. 1 Agia reservoir and 1 Georgioupolis 3rd week in April. 2 at Georgioupolis m & f 3.-4.5. and until 9.5.

BAILLONS CRAKE *Porzana pusilla* No records received.

CORNCRAKE *Crex crex* No records received.

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MOORHEN *Gallinula chloropus* Several at Georgioupolis 4.4. 1 Bali 10.4. 30+ Agia reservoir 8.4. Recorded in small numbers on 13.4. and 19.4. to 25.4. at Creta Sun. Numbers rising to 28 9.4. at Georgioupolis then 35 15.4. 50-60 16.4 and down to 33 there 18.4. and present at most wetlands in 3rd week in April. c60 at Agia reservoir 16.-17.4. Several on Ierapetra reservoir in April and May. In May recorded Almyros marsh 3.5. Georgioupolis 11.5 and Platanias river 13.5. 2 Georgioupolis 16.5. 2 Agia reservoir 16.5 1 Platanias river 16.5. Singles 12.4. to 18.4. and 31.5. to 3.6. on Aposelemis river presumed breeding. Recorded in October at Georgioupolis and 1 Geropotamos bridge.

COOT *Fulica atra* In March recorded Almyros and Lake Kournas. Several Georgioupolis 4.4. 2 there 9.4. and 4 there on 12.4. but only 1 15.4. and 2 there 18.4. Recorded from Agia reservoir and Lake Kourna, and Ierapetra reservoir 3rd week in April. 2 Georgioupolis 16.5. 2 Agia reservoir 16.5.

CRANE *Grus grus* 1 at Ag. Galini in May. (M. Strickland)

BLACK-WINGED STILT *Himantopus himantopus* In April 2 Agia 8.4. 1 Camping George area 12.4. 1 Agia reservoir and Elounda 13.4. 1 at Agia reservoir 16.4. and 17.4. and 1 3rd week in April. 1 Ierapetra reservoir 21.4. In May 1 Heraklion Power Station 2. & 3.5, and up to 3 on Elounda saltpans 8.5. and 13.5.

AVOCET *Recurvirostra avosetta* No records received.

STONE CURLEW *Burhinus oedicnemus* 1 on Rethymnon Harbour wall at dawn 7.4. 5 Malia 13.4. 1 Creta Sun 19.4. and 2 there 22.4.

COLLARED PRATINCOLE *Glareola pratincola* 2 Malia 12.4. and 13.4. and 1 there 28.4. 1 Creta Sun 19.4. 1 Petres bridge 13.5.

BLACK-WINGED PRATINCOLE *Glareola nordmanni* No records received.

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius dubius* First 2 Rethymnon harbour 7.4. Then singles 8.4, 9.4. at Agia and Hersonissos, and 13.4. Malia. 2 Platanias river 11.4. 2 Georgioupolis 13.4. and 9 Rethymnon harbour 13.4. 2 Aposelemis river 15.4. 3 Elounda Saltpans 15.4. 1 Ierapetra reservoir from 19.4. Recorded from Creta Sun lagoons where they breed 3 pairs all with young/eggs, with plenty of distraction display. 2 also nesting on Geros river. May records from Platanias and Petres rivers. Recorded Souda Bay and daily on Aposelemis river in first half of August.

RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula* 1 Platanias river 15.5. 1 juvenile Rethymnon Beach 10.10. 1 Creta Sun lagoons at the end of October.

KENTISH PLOVER *Charadrius alexandrinus* 1 12.4. Creta Sun lagoons. 1 Rethymnon harbour with 9 Little Ringed Plovers 13.4.

GREATER SAND PLOVER *C. leschenaultii* 3-4 on dry plains around Hotel Stella Village Analipsis. 29.7.-18.8. When disturbed the birds flew to the rocky coast to rest. Seen at a distance of 12+ metres. L. Rudy.

PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis fulva* 1 in winter plumage at Damnoni beach 15.4. (RSPB tour)

GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis dominica* 1 on beach at Damnoni 22.4. in winter plumage very scruffy and exhausted. (J. Aley)

GREY PLOVER *Pluvialis squatarola* No records received.

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SPUR-WINGED PLOVER *Hoplopterus spinosus* No records received.

SOCIABLE PLOVER *Vanellus gregarius* No records received.

WHITE-TAILED PLOVER *Chettusia leucura* No records received.

LAPWING *Vanellus vanellus* No records received.

KNOT *Calidris canutus* No records received.

SANDERLING *Calidris alba* 1 at Creta Sun lagoon 25.4. 2 there 28.4. Up to 5 at Ierapetra reservoir from 19.4. 1 Elounda saltpans 12.5 and 13.5. 4 Petres Bridge 13.5. 1 Souda Bay in August.

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta* c4 Platanos river 11.4. 3 Mylo river ford 11.4. 10+ Creta Sun lagoons 12.4. 18+ there 13.4. 2 Agia reservoir and Rethymnon harbour 13.4. 8 later in day there. 3 Elounda 15.4. 3 at Ierapetra reservoir from 19.4. Present Plakias, Damnoni 25.4.-9.5. A good passage of this species 12-25.4. at Creta Sun lagoon, present here 25.4-2.5. max 40 on 1.5. Still up to 10 daily along the river 31.5.-3.6. Recorded from Almyros marsh 3.5. Ierapetra beach 5.5. Elounda 6.5. 8.5. and 12.5. 15 Georgiopolis 4.5. 2 Platanias 10.5, 13.5. & 15.5. 1 Plakias 11.5. 1 Agia 16.5. In August present daily on Aposelemis river max. 4.

TEMMINCK'S STINT *Calidris temminckii* 1 Georgiopolis lake 16.4. 2 at Creta Sun lagoon 25.4. to 1.5. 2 Plakias Bay 29.4. 2 Heraklion Beach 26.9.

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea* 3 Ierapetra reservoir 21.4. 1 at Creta Sun lagoon 25.4. 1 Aposelemis river in early August. 3 Elounda 8.5. 2 Heraklion 26.9.

DUNLIN *C. alpina* 2 Georgiopolis 9.4. 5 Heraklion Power Station 27.4. 1 Plakias 29.4. 2 Aposelemis river one day in first half of August. Also records from Keridis and Tavronitis rivers in August.

RUFF *Philomachus pugnax* 1 Georgiopolis and Elounda 13.4. 1-2 birds at Creta Sun lagoons throughout end of April. Up to 3 Ierapetra reservoir 19.4. 4 Creta Sun lagoon 28.4. 1 Agia reservoir 2.5. 2 Elounda 8.5. 12.5. & 13.5. Singles at Creta Sun lagoon 31.5, 1.6. and 3.6.

JACK SNIFE *Lymnocyptes minimus* No records received.

SNIFE *Gallinago gallinago* Recorded in small numbers on marshes and rivers 4.4. to 17.4. 1 Geros river at Agia Triada 13.4. 1 Camping George area 16.4. 2 Ierapetra reservoir 19.4. and 1 21.4. 1 Creta Sun lagoon 1.5. 1 Aposelemis river early August. 1 Georgiopolis 15.10.

GREAT SNIFE *Gallinago media* No records received.

WOODCOCK *Scolopax rusticola* No records received.

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa limosa* No records received.

WHIMBREL *Numenius phaeopus* No records received.

CURLEW *Numenius arquata* 1 Malia 24.3. & 1 Malia 1.4. Singles Creta Sun 12.4, 31.5. and 2.6.

SPOTTED REDSHANK *Tringa erythropus* No records received.

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REDSHANK *Tringa totanus* 1 Agia 8.4. 1 Heraklion Power Station 24.4. 1 at Creta Sun lagoon 27. & 28.4. In May 2 Elounda 8.5. and 1 31.5. Creta Sun. 6 Aposelemis river early August. 1 there in late October.

MARSH SANDPIPER *Tringa stagnatilis* 1 14.4. Kato Zakros.

GREENSHANK *Tringa nebularia* 1 Mylo river ford 11.4. 1 Georgioupolis 13.4. and 16.4. Records from 13.4. and 15.4. at Creta Sun lagoons with between 1 - 4 birds present. 2 to 3 Ierapetra reservoir 19.4. 1 Creta Sun lagoon 25.4. to 2.5. 1 Ierapetra beach 5.5. 1 Elounda 8.5. 2 at Agia reservoir 7.5. and 1 Creta Sun 31.5.

GREEN SANDPIPER *Tringa ochropus* 1 Mylo river ford 11.4. 1 Agia reservoir 13.4. 1 Aposelemis river 15.4. 1 Georgioupolis Lake 3rd week in April. In May 1 Elounda 8.5. Daily on Aposelemis river 1.8. to 18.8.

WOOD SANDPIPER *Tringa glareola* Recorded in small numbers from several wetland habitats including Mylo river ford, Creta Sun, Damnoni beach, Georgioupolis, Camping George area, Souda Bay, Agia reservoir and Elounda. 4 Petres river, all in first half of April. 1 Almyros 3rd week in April. 2 or 3 Ierapetra reservoir 19.4. Present at Creta Sun lagoon 25.4.- 2.5. max.6 25.4. 1 Georgioupolis 3.5. and Almyros. 2 Elounda 6.5. and 8.5. Daily on Aposelemis river 1.8. - 18.8. Max. 17.

TEREK SANDPIPER *Xenus cinereus* No records received.

COMMON SANDPIPER *Tringa hypoleucos* Frequently recorded in ones and twos by the beginning of April. 2 Georgioupolis 9.4. 1 Rethymnon harbour 11.4. max. 3 17.4. Small passage through 16.4. Common 19.4.- 26.4. 2 Damnoni 22.4. 2-4 Ierapetra reservoir from 19.4. 1 Almyros 3.5. 6 at Georgioupolis 4.5. 1 Ierapetra beach 5.5. 1 Elounda 6.5. & 8.5. 1 Agia Triada 9.5. 2 Plakias 11.5. and 1 Georgioupolis 11.5. 1 Platania 10.5. 13.5. & 15.5. 1 Petres 13.5. 19.5. 1 Creta Sun lagoon 31.5. A few daily during 1-18.8. Aposelemis river.

TURNSTONE *Arenaria interpres* One Ierapetra beach 8.5.

GREAT BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ichthyaetus* No records received.

MEDITERRANEAN GULL *Larus melanocephalus* 7 first summer birds Rethymnon beach 5.4. 2 ad. Petres river beach, 1 1st summer Heraklion Harbour 3rd week in April. Recorded Plakias 28.4. 1 first summer Creta Sun lagoon 29.4. 1 Rethymnon 2.5. 1 immature there 12.5. 1 in late October Iraklion Harbour.

LITTLE GULL *Larus minutus* 1 adult & 3 immatures Sitia harbour 23.3. 1 first summer Sitia 3rd week in April. 1 first winter bird Rethymnon Harbour 7.4. and 18.4. Single sub-adult at Rethymnon 2.5. 1 immature there 12.5. 1 In late October Iraklion Harbour.

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ridibundus* 1 Creta Sun 12.4. 2 to 4 Ierapetra reservoir from 19.4. & Plakias 28.4.

SLENDER-BILLED GULL *Larus genei* 11 Plakias bay 7.5.

AUDOUIN'S GULL *Larus audouinii* 2+ Sitia harbour 23.3. 1 Heraklion harbour 26.9.

COMMON GULL *Larus canus* No records received.

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LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus fuscus* Some very black-backed adults 1 Rethymnon Beach 7.4. and 1 Chora Sfakion 13.4. Small numbers Heraklion Power Station 2.5. 1 Heraklion harbour 26.9. and in late October.

HERRING GULL (YELLOW LEGGED) *Larus argentatus michahellis* Widespread in small numbers Highest count 168 with shearwaters off Creta Sun 21.4. 10-12 daily offshore Creta Sun 31.5.-3.6. Common Ierapetra reservoir and at Aghios Nikolaos in early May. 70+ Malia 14.5.12 Agia 16.5. 5 Plakias 21.5. A large movement of birds from inland to the coast Rethymnon 3.6. to 4.6. Recorded in October in small numbers and from Malia between 20.10. to 26.10.

GREATER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus marinus* No records received.

KITTIWAKE *Rissa tridactyla* 1 first winter bird during southerly gale Rethymnon 6.4. (T W Dougall, G. Arbuthnot)

GULL-BILLED TERN *Gelochelidon nilotica* No records received.

CASPIAN TERN *Sterna caspia* 3 Heraklion harbour 26.9

SANDWICH TERN *Sterna sandvicensis* 2 Sitia harbour 23.3. 2 Rethymnon beach 5.4. 1 adult there 7.4, 2 immatures 8.4. and 12.4. 3 Sitia 20.4. 1 Aposelemis river 18.8. 3 Heraklion harbour 26.9.

COMMON TERN *Sterna hirundo* 1 Frangocastello 15.4.

LITTLE TERN *Sterna albifrons* 1 28.4 Plakias bay.

WHISKERED TERN *Chlidonias hybrida* 2 along beach east of Ierapetra 21.4.

BLACK TERN *Chlidonias niger* No records received.

WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN *Chlidonias leucopterus* 1 Heraklion Power Station 6. & 7.5. 1 at Agia reservoir 6.5. & 7.5.

ROCK DOVE *Columba livia* 2 Bali 8.4. Some pure looking birds in mountains and gorges. 2 in Kourtaliotiko Gorge 13.4. 6 there 14.4. and 10 15.4. 5 at Kavousi Gorge 29.4. 2 Falasarna 5.5.

STOCK DOVE *Columba oenas* 1 Amari valley 11.4.

WOOD PIGEON *Columba palumbus* 2 Anogia 8.4. 2 Phaestos 13.4. 1 Heraklion Power Station 18.4. 2 at Knossos and 2 at Mt. Yuchtas 22.4. 1 on mountain behind Creta Sun 23.4. and 2 Lassithi 14.4.1 Rethymnon, 4 Lassithi in 3rd week in April. c8 Kavousi Gorge 29.4. 1 in olive groves Plakias 30.4. Recorded as common in wooded areas in east where heard calling in late April and early May. 5+ Lassithi Plateau 1.5. 5 Lake Kournas 3.5. 3 Arkadi 10.5. 1 Omalos 12.10.

COLLARED DOVE *Streptopelia decaocto* The only records appear to be from Rethymnon 3 in square at Rethymnon 12.4. & 18.4. One or two in Rethymnon 3rd week in April. 2 around bus station 3.6. & 4.6. Probably a maximum of 6 is the highest estimate.

TURTLE DOVE *Streptopelia turtur* First Selia 12.4. 1 Moni Prevelli 14.4. 2 Aposelemis river 18.4. Small daily passage noted 19.4. to 25.4. c20 Kato Zakro in 3rd week in April. 1 Prasses 12.5. 3 enroute to Lassithi 14.9

LAUGHING DOVE *Streptopelia senegalensis* No records received.

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GREAT SPOTTED CUCKOO *Clamator glandarius* 1 adult Omalos 5.5. (E. Barnes)

CUCKOO *Cuculus canorus* First record Rethymnon 7.4. 1 feeding in olive groves Moni Prevelli 12.4. 1 14.4. nr Kato Zakros. 1 heard Plakias 20.4. One heard behind the mountain by Creta Sun 23.4. 1 Heraklion Power station 26.4. 1 Kotsiphos 28.4. 1 Katheron Plateau 29.4. 1 Creta Sun lagoon 30.4. 1 Lake Kournas 3.5. 1 at Agia Reservoir 7.5.

BARN OWL *Tyto alba* 1 in the grounds of Creta Sun 21.4. 1 Hotel Fereniki, Georgiopolis 10.10.

SCOPS OWL *Otus scops* First record 2 Rethymnon 4.4.to 18.4. Stavromenos 8.4 to 11.4. 1 Chora Sfakion 12. & 13.4. 1 Georgiopolis 15.4. 1 Creta Sun 18.4. and 2 heard by road bridge over R. Aposelemis. Calling in Ag. Nikolaos 3rd week in April. 1 Plakias late April. At least 6 calling Armeni 2.5. 2 Georgiopolis 2.5. 1 Vrisses nr Neapolis 14.5. 1 Rodoupou 19.5. 1 pair Rethymnon on southern outskirts 3.& 4.6.

TAWNY OWL *Strix aluco* No records received.

LITTLE OWL *Athene noctua* A single heard in the grounds of Creta Sun 20.4.

LONG-EARED OWL *Asio otus* No records received.

NIGHTJAR *Caprimulgus europaeus* 1 heard Tilisos 12.4. also heard Ag. Nikolaos 3rd week in April. 1 heard churring somewhere around SW of Rethymnon 3.6. 1 dead at Zaros in early August and 1 on Akrotiri in August.

SWIFT *Apus apus* Recorded daily in good numbers throughout the island from 12.4. to 25.4. particularly in and around Chania. In May small numbers in Ag. Nikolaos 3.5. and over Agia Galini and Agia Marina 9.5. 35 Platanias 13.5. 30 there 15.5. 20 Agia reservoir 16.5. 15-20 daily 31.5.to 3.6. but 40 on 3.6. A noticeable easterly movement in early mornings suggesting breeding in and around Heraklion. Up to 250 feeding over southern outskirts of Rethymnon 3. & 4.6. Small numbers in early September with 20 Agia 23.9..

PALLID SWIFT *Apus pallidus* 3 Rethymnon 5.4. 2 prospecting old building at Rethymnon harbour 11.4. and 6 there in aerial chases 17.4. 2 Prevelli 11.5. Single Creta Sun 3.6. 1 Akrotiri in August. 1 Amari valley 20.9.

ALPINE SWIFT *Apus melba* Recorded daily from 6.4. onwards then 12.4. to 25.4. Highest count 40 on 17.4. Agia Reservoir and Omalos. Daily in small numbers by 3rd week in April. In May recorded in small numbers Elounda 6.5. Georgiopolis 11.5, and 13.5. Ierapetra. 10 Kourtaliotiko gorge 11.5. 2 Moni Prevelli 11.5. 1 Phaestos 12.5. 10 Georgiopolis 16.5. 2 Agia reservoir 16.5. 8 Moni Prevelli 21.5. 3-4 daily 31.5.-3.6. at Creta Sun. Numerous in first half of August 200+ recorded over Lassithi. In early September small numbers and then 17 Amari valley 20.9.

KINGFISHER *Alcedo atthis* 1 Almyros 22.3. Daily 1.8. to 18.8 on Aposelemis river, with a max of 5. 1 Selinari Gorge first half of August. Records from Almyros, Kournas, Arvi, Sitia and Heraklion harbour in September. In October 1 Bali 6.10, 1 Geropotamos Bridge 14.10, 1 Matala 15.10, 1 Bali 15.10, Georgiopolis & Lake Kournas 13.10. also recorded from Malia, Heraklion, Chania at the end of October.

WHITE-BREASTED KINGFISHER *Halcyon smyrnensis* 1 at Agia reservoir 9.8. in mid morning seen flying across the reservoir. (N.Curry).

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BEE-EATER *Merops apiaster* 1 near beach at Gouveneto monastery. 1 Sweetwater Bay nr Plakias 14.4. 15 Creta Sun lagoon 25.4. A small flock over Mallia and 5 Phaestos 28.4. Several Plakias 28.4. 5 Creta Sun lagoon 29.4. 2 Creta Sun lagoon 30.4. In May 3 at Elounda, 2 Plakias 1.5. and 7 Frangokastello 1.5, 1 Akrotiri 4.5. and 1 Ierapetra 5.5. 12 Phaestos 12.5. 23 Adele Campus at 10.00am 21.5. 10 there 12.30pm 22.5. 23 Adele Campus 10.00am 23.5. 1 Knossos 25.9. In October 1 Matala 13.10.

BLUE-CHEEKED BEE-EATER *Merops superciliosus* No records received.

ROLLER *Coracias garrulus* 1 near Mylo Ford 9.4. 1 Plakias 30.4. 2 at Vai, 1 Exo Moulia during first half of August.

HOOPOE *Upupa epops* In March recorded at Gouveneto Monastery and as common in the olive groves south of Hania. 4 Phaestos 6.4. 1 Kritsa 7.4. 1 Georgiopolis 9.4. 1 near Vrisses 12.4. and 1 Kato Zakros 14.4. 1 Plakias beach and 1 Moni Prevelli both on 14.4. 1 resident at Ierapetra Reservoir from 19.4. 2 Creta Sun lagoon 27.4. 1 Aposelemis river during August.

WRYNECK *Jynx torquilla* 1 Malia 25.3. Singles at Creta Sun 12.4. 13.4. & 14.4. 1 Moni Prevelli 12.4 & 14.4. 1 Lassithi plain 3rd week in April.

CALANDRA LARK *Melanocorypha calandra* No records received.

SHORT-TOED LARK *Calandrella brachydactyla* 4 moving SE during a swift and hirundine movement at Rethymnon 5.4. 1 Moni Prevelli 12.4. 1 Aposelemis river 12.4. 1 Mylo River ford 16.4. 2 at Creta Sun with Red-throated pipits 12.4. & 13.4. and 1 singing in same place 22. to 25.4. Single displaying there over its territory daily 31.5. to 3.6. with 2 displaying on 3.6. 1 singing at Ierapetra Res 19.4. and 1 Malia 28.4. Several at Damnoni on 6.5.

CRESTED LARK *Galerida cristata* Recorded daily in good numbers in April. Widespread and very common. An estimated 18 pairs breeding on Creta Sun lagoons and Aposelemis river, more in surrounding fields. Recorded as common in October.

WOODLARK *Lullula arborea* Common in hills. 12 Anogia 8.4. 1 Amari Valley 11.4. 1 singing Imbros and 1 Komitades 12.4. 1 Kalamavka 13.4. 2 at Moni Prevelli 14.4. 1 Aghia Triada Monastery 16.4. 4+ Omalos 17.4. 3 Mt Youchtas 22.4. and 1 on mountain behind Creta Sun 23.4. Also recorded from Omalos and Lassithi singing during the 3rd week in April. 3 Mt Youchtas 27.4. 1 Falasarna 5.5. 1 Aghia Triada 9.5. 1 Spili 10.5. 2 Aposelemis river during first half August. In October on Omalos plateau groups of 5-10 birds seen, singles singing from wires and near Kalergi refuge several singles seen 11.10. Many on the Omalos plateau 12.10. Several recorded from the Matala to Lendas road 14.10.

SKYLARK *Alauda arvensis* 1 nr Tsoutsouros 9.4. 1 near Arkadi 10.4. Amari valley 11.4. and Creta Sun lagoons 12.4. 1 Aghios Ioannis headland 4.5, 1 Ierapetra reservoir 13.5.

SAND MARTIN *Riparia riparia* 1 Agia reservoir 13.4. 10+ Aposelemis river 15.4, 18+ there 16.4. and 18.4. c. 10+ Ierapetra reservoir 19.4. to 2.5. Elsewhere recorded everyday 12.4. to 25.4. except 18.4. A large movement recorded with 800 at Agia reservoir 16.4. and 200+ there 17.4. reducing to only a few Agia reservoir in 3rd week in April, but another large passage noted 27.4 & 29.4. Damnoni and again on 6.5. 100s at Agia 2.5. and then c.10,000 at Georgiopolis 3.5. also Almyros 3.5. 4 Panoramos 9.5. 1 Plataniyas 15.5. 1 Agia reservoir 16.5. 4 Nidha plateau 18.5. 3 daily 31.5. to 3.6. Creta Sun presumed breeding. In October 1 Bali 15.10. and 16.10.

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CRAG MARTIN *Hirundo rupestris* In March recorded at top of Samaria gorge. Frequent feeding down to sea level at Bali 4.4. to 17.4. 1 also recorded Rethymnon harbour 5.4. Topolia Gorge 6.4, Paleochora 7.4. and 20+ Dikti Cave 17.4. 6 Kourtaliotiko Gorge 15.4. 1 Mt Youchtas in April. Recorded in May on Lassithi 8.5. and 10+ at head of Samaria Gorge. 20 Kourtaliotiko gorge 11.5. 1 Omala (Idha Mts) and 2 Nidha plateau 18.5. In September moving through with other hirundines. In October Bali c.4 15.10.

SWALLOW *Hirundo rustica* Recorded daily in good numbers during 12.4. to 25.4. 250+ Damnoni 15.4. and 100+ Creta Sun on 25.4. Widespread by the 3rd week in April. In May recorded in Elounda, 20 Elevation 15.5. 60 Platani beach 16.5. 30 Moni Prevelli 21.5. 10-12 daily 31.5. to 3.6. at the Creta Sun presumed breeding. 2 noted feeding in Rethymnon 3.6 & 4.6. 100s in September at Agia reservoir with Crag, House and Sand Martins 23.9. In October many moving along the coast at Bali in parties of c.30. also recorded from Malia between 20.10. and 26.10.

RED-RUMPED SWALLOW *Hirundo daurica* A total of 5 recorded 13.4. 1 at Creta Sun 4 at Phaestos. 3 amongst a large number of hirundines at Damnoni 15.4. 1 Terapetra 14.4. 1 at Agia reservoir 17.4. 1 Creta Sun 19.4. and 21.4. 2 there 22.4. and 24.4. Widespread in small numbers by 3rd week in April including 3-4 pairs prospecting around flats in Rethymnon. 1 Prevelli 27.4. 2 Omalos 5.4. Present Creta Sun lagoon from 25.4. to 2.5. with a max.40. 2 Georgiopolis 2.5. 1 Adele Campus 10.5. 2 Arkadi 10.5. 2 Omala (Idha Mts) 18.5. 1 Plakias 20.5. 4 Selinari Gorge in August and 1 Potamis and Knossos. In September single Amari valley 20.9. 2 Agia 23.9. Last record from Knossos at the end of October.

HOUSE MARTIN *Delicon urbica* First record 1 Georgiopolis 4.4. In short supply this year between 12.4 to 25.4. 6 Moni Arkadiou 12.4. Largest record c350 Creta Sun 25.5. No large numbers at Agia reservoir but several there in the 3rd week in April and on Lassithi. 20 Panoramios 9.5. 1 Ag. Ioannis (Kedros mts) 12.5. 2 Elevation 15.5. 2 at Creta Sun lagoon 3.6. In October 1 Bali 6.10 and 15.10.

RICHARDS PIPIT *Anthus novaeseelandiae* A single heard calling and seen briefly on the ground at Creta Sun lagoons 13.4. Recorded by another party same day and probably the same individual there 18.4. 1 Moni Prevelli 15.4.

TAWNY PIPIT *Anthus campestris* c.15 Aposelemis river 25.3. 2 west Rethymnon 7.4. 1 Moni Prevelli 12.4. 2 Omalos 13.4. and 5 Frangocastello 13.4. 1 Plakias beach 14.4. 1 Aposelemis river 15.4. and 18.4. and 1 Omalos 17.4. 1 Omalos 3rd week in April. A few Malia 28.4. 1 Creta Sun lagoon 25.4. 2 Creta Sun lagoon 28.4. 1 Damnoni 29.4. 1 Creta Sun in August. In October 2 Matala 13.10.

TREE PIPIT *Anthus trivialis* Frequent 4.4. to 17.4. 2 Creta Sun and 1 Malia 12.4. 7+ Aposelemis river 13.4. to 18.4. 6+ Moni Prevelli 14.4. 1 Plakias cliff walk 15.4. 3+ Souda Bay and 1 Aghia Triada monastery 16.4. 1 Omalos 17.4. 2 Petres river 18.4. 1 Creta Sun 19.4. 8 there 25.4. c30 Malia during third week in April. and 28.4. 25.4. to 2.5. passage noted at Creta Sun lagoon with max. 50 birds. Same passage noted 26.4, 28.4. & 29.4. and 6.5. with small groups recorded as common during end of April beginning of May. 2 at Georgiopolis 2.5. 10+ Akrotiri 4.5. In October 1 Omalos in 12.10. and at the end of the month at Creta Sun lagoons.

MEADOW PIPIT *Anthus pratensis* c15 moving through on 25.3. 1 Aposelemis river 16.4. and 18.4. 1 Plakias and 1 Petres river 3rd week in April. 1 Damnoni 6.5. Recorded Malia between 20.10. to 26.10.

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RED-THROATED PIPIT *Anthus cervinus* 1 Malia 26.3. 9 Aposelemis river 12.4. 10+ there 13.4. 2 Camping George 16.4. There was a marked passage recorded at the Creta Sun with counts of 30, 40, and 84 on 23.4. 24.4. & 25.4 respectively. Several Malia 3rd week in April and Ierapetra reservoir Several Damnoni 6.5.

WATER PIPIT *Anthus spinoletta* 1 Almyros 22.3. 1 Skoutelonas river 31.3. 2 Omalos 2.5.

ROCK PIPIT *Anthus petrosus* 1 at Chania harbour 16.4.

YELLOW WAGTAIL *Motacilla flava* Very good numbers *flava* c50 Malia 12.4. 200+ there 13.4. and c75 Damnoni beach 14.4. Small numbers at Creta Sun 19.4. 22.4. & 23.4. Flocks of 30+ 4.4. to 17.4. *flavissima*. Recorded daily 14.4. to 25.4. *feldegg* 25+ Malia 12.4. 30+ Creta Sun 13.4. and 6+ Damnoni 15.4. c20 Malia (*flava, thunbergi, feldegg*) 3rd week in April. c.65 Falasarna 5.5. In August 3 on Aposelemis river. In October small group in Bali 4.10 and recorded Malia between 20.10 & 26.10.

GREY WAGTAIL *Motacilla cinerea* 1 Agia reservoir 10.10. and then more frequent than Yellow 20.10. to 26.10. Recorded Malia between 20.10 to 26.10.

WHITE WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba* Common. Recorded 12.4. to 25.4. in small numbers at most suitable habitats. Widespread by the 3rd week in April. A pair with 1 juvenile daily on Aposelemis river presumed bred in area. In May 1 Kourtaliotiko Gorge 11.5. 1 Plakias 11.5. 4 Petres 19.5. In October 1 Bali 4.10 and 8 Matala 13.10 and recorded Malia between 20.10. & 26.10.

PIED WAGTAIL *Motacilla a. yarrelli* 1 adult at Damnoni beach 25.4. 1 Almyros marsh 3.5.

WREN *Troglodytes troglodytes* Recorded in small numbers in low hills in open scrub. 1 Kourtaliotiko Gorge 13.4. 2 there 15.4. 4+ at head of Samaria Gorge 17.4. 2 from mountain behind Creta Sun 19.4. 3 above Psychro 24.4. Singing Lassithi 3rd week in April. 5 Lassithi 1.5. 5 Idha Mts 18.5. 4 Rodoupou peninsula 19.5. In October recorded in uplands and at Kalergi refuge at 4,500ft.

DUNNOCK *Prunella modularis* No records received.

ALPINE ACCENTOR *Prunella collaris* No records received.

RUFOUS BUSH CHAT *Cercotrichas galactotes* No records received.

ROBIN *Erithacus rubecula* 1 Rethymnon in garden 4.4. but not found again. In October 6 Bali 15.10, also recorded Malia between 20.10. & 26.10.

THRUSH NIGHTINGALE *Luscinia luscinia*. No records received.

NIGHTINGALE *Luscinia megarhynchos* 1 en route to Falasarna 6.4. 1 Mylo River 11.4. and 16.4. 1 Falasarna 14.4. 10 recorded along beach at Plakias and Moni Prevelli 14.4. 2 at Aghia Triada Monastery. 1 Petres river 18.4. 1 Creta Sun 19.4. Recorded as heard only twice during 3rd week in April. 3 noted singing in SE of island after 19.4. 1 at Lake Kournas 3.5. 2 Aghia reservoir 6.5. 2 Katachori 8.5. 2 Apostoli (Amari Plain) 12.5. 1 Mili 12.5. 1 Mourtzana 18.5. 1 Kourtaliotiko gorge 20.5. 3 Ag. Ioannis 21.5.

BLACK REDSTART *Phoenicurus ochrurus* Recorded Malia and Elounda between 20.10. & 26.10.

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REDSTART *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* 1 Aposelemis river 25.3. 1f at Malia 12.4. 4f at Moni Preveli 14.4, 1m Camping George 16.4. and Souda Bay Cemetery 18.4. and 1 Lassithi 24.4. 1 singing Kato Zakros 27.4. 1 Adele 10.5. In October 1 Georgiopolis 6.10. 1 Bali 9.10. and 1 Rodopou 10.10. 2 Moni Preveli 12.10 also recorded Malia between 20.-26.10.

WHINCHAT *Saxicola rubetra* First record 1m 1.4. Malia. Records from most areas in April. Highest counts 11 Creta Sun 24.4. and c10 Malia 3rd week in April. Common Malia 28.4. 1 Ierapetra reservoir 5.5. 1 Spinalonga island 6.5. 15 Damnoni 6.5. 5 Adele Campus 10.5. Recorded as common in October. Last record from Malia between 20.10. & 26.10.

STONECHAT *Saxicola torquata* Widespread already breeding in April. At least 3 pairs breeding Creta Sun 31.5. to 3.6. Common in May. Recorded Malia in October.

ISABELLINE WHEATEAR *Oenanthe isabellina* 1 Aposelemis river 25.3. 1 nr. Rami N. of Chania 30.3. 1 Bali 6.4. 2 along beach road Petres bridge to Episkopi road junction and 2 others in a ploughed field nearby 7.4. after 2 days of strong S winds. 1 Frangocastello 3rd week in April.

WHEATEAR *Oenanthe oenanthe* Small numbers recorded on most days 4.4. - 25.4. Highest count was 21 on Omalos 17.4. Widespread in all mountains by mid April and on passage at Malia. May records from Agios Ioannis headland 4.5. and Omala 18.5. In August recorded on Lassithi plateau and Aposelemis river. In October a few birds recorded on Omalos plateau, Kalergi refuge 11.10. and Omalos 12.10 and 13.10 at Matala and at Malia between 20.10. & 26.10.

BLACK-EARED WHEATEAR *Oenanthe hispanica* First record 1 Paleochora 7.4. 2 pairs Ideon Antron 8.4. 1 pair Tsoutsouros 9.4. Small numbers recorded most days from suitable habitat 12. 4 to 25.4. Birds were noted in song display at Moni Preveli, Mount Yuchtas and Petres river. Widespread in all mountains by 3rd week in April. 1 Creta Sun lagoon 27.4. 1 Mt Yuchtas 27.4. In May recorded on Agios Ioannis headland 4.5. and Omalos 11.5. 2 Prasses 11.5. 3 Lassithi 14.5. 2 Omala 18.5. widespread in Idha Mts 18.5. and common on Rodou pou 19.5. In August 1 Ag. Roumeli.

DESERT WHEATEAR *Oenanthe deserti* 1 Kato Zakros 14.4. (W. Mann)

PIED WHEATEAR *Oenanthe pleschanka* Recorded from a beach west of Chania after a storm, a fine m late March. (Les Cloutman). A pair Lassithi 27.4. (I Manester)

ROCK THRUSH *Monticola saxitilis* No records received.

BLUE ROCK THRUSH *Monticola solitarius* In March 4 males spaced out on track to Gouveneto monastery. Common on hillsides and in gorges. In April recorded as frequent, on coast favours partially built buildings as song post. 2 Kourtaliotiko gorge 13.4, 5 Moni Preveli 14.4. including pair feeding young in Monastery. 2 Plakias cliffs 15.4. 3 Omalos plateau head of Samaria Gorge 17.4. 1 Petres river and 1 on roadside between Rethymnon and Heraklion 18.4. 1 on Mt. behind Creta Sun 19.4. and 23.4. 1 Spinalonga 20.4. 2 Mt Yuchtas 22.4. 2 Kavousi Gorge 29.4. May records 1 Akrotiri 4.5. 1 Falasarna 5.5. 1 Omalos Plateau 6.5. 2 Katachori 8.5. and Omalos 11.5. and Moni Preveli, Kourtaliotiko 11.5. Petres 13.5. Milo 17.5. Idean cave 18.5. 3 Moni Preveli 21.5. September records from between Heraklion and Malia 13.9. and en route to Lassithi from Ag. Nikolaos 14.9. In October 1 Lendas 14.10.

RING OUZEL *Turdus torquatus* 1 recorded Malia between 20.10 & 26.10.

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BLACKBIRD *Turdus merula* Recorded daily in April. Widespread. At least 25 pairs breeding in Creta Sun grounds. Common in May. Recorded Malia between 20.10. & 26.10. Recorded as high as Kalergi refuge in October.

FIELDFARE *Turdus pilaris* 1 Malia 24.3. 3 Malia 25.3. 1 Malia 26.3.

SONG THRUSH *Turdus philomelos* No records received.

MISTLE THRUSH *Turdus viscivorus* No records received.

CETTI'S WARBLER *Cettia cetti* Very common and widespread throughout the island including 1 resident halfway up Mt Youchtas. The highest counts were at Agia reservoir on 18.4 when 10m held territory in a short section. Common in May records from Almyros, Kalo Horio and Agia Galini, Ag. Ioannis Platanias, Petres, Malia and Agia. In October recorded from Agia reservoir 10.10, Geropotamos Bridge 14.10. and Malia between 20.10 & 26.10.

FAN-TAILED WARBLER *Cisticola juncidis* Locally common. 1 Platanos river 11.4. 1 Creta Sun 12.4, 13.4. & 15.4. 3 Malia marsh 12.4. 1 Georgioupolis 13.4. 1 Agia reservoir 16.4. & 17.4. c8 Malia and 1 near Ag. Nikolaos 3rd week in April. 1 pair breeding Plakias late April. 3 Phaestos 28.4. 5 Georgioupolis 2.5. 2 there 3.5. 2 Agia reservoir 6.5. 1 there 7.5. 2 Malia 16.5. 1 Georgioupolis 16.5. Platanos 15.5. & 16.5. 1 Misiri 21.5. In August max.3 Aposelemis river.

SAVI'S WARBLER *Locustella luscinioides* 1 heard and then seen Aposelemis river 16.4.

MOUSTACHED WARBLER *Acrocephalus melanopogon* c20 at Agia reservoir 30.3. Singles at Creta Sun 19.4. & 21.4. 1 Agia reservoir 9.8.

AQUATIC WARBLER *Acrocephalus paludicola* No records received.

SEDGE WARBLER *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* c10 Agia reservoir 30.3. Small numbers at Creta Sun, Malia 12. & 14.4. 1 Creta Sun lagoon 15.4. and 16.4. Agia reservoir 16. & 17.4. c20 Malia and Heraklion Power Station 3rd week in April. 2+ pairs breeding Aposelemis valley 31.5. to 3.6.

MARSH WARBLER *Acrocephalus palustris* 1 in good song in mid afternoon 4.6. Lake Kourna.

REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus scirpaceus* 2+ Creta Sun 12.4 & 13.4. 1 Aposelemis river 15.4. & 16.4. and 1 Georgioupolis lake 15.4. to 18.4. 2 Agia reservoir 17.4. 1 Creta Sun 19.4.

GREAT REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* 1 Mylopotamos bridge 11.4. 2 Damnoni 15.4. and 2 Aposelemis river 12.4, 15.4. and 16.4. 1 - 4 daily at Creta Sun from 19.4. to 25.4. 1 Agia reservoir, & 1 Malia, & 3 Almyros all during 3rd week in April. Many passage birds at Malia 28.4. Single birds again late April beginning of May at Plakias. 3 Petres 13.5. 1 Agia reservoir 16.5. In October recorded from Malia between 20.10. & 26.10.

OLIVACEOUS WARBLER *Hippolais pallida* 1st record at St Stephens Church Episkopi 5.4. 1 Moni Prevelli 27.4. 1 Agia reservoir 2.5. 5+ singing at Lake Kournas 3.5. 2 Georgioupolis 3.5. 10+ Georgioupolis 4.5. 2 at Agia reservoir 7.5. 1 Prevelli 11.5. 1 Adele Campus 23.5. 1 Aposelemis river 1.8 to 18.8. 1 Chania in first half of October in tamarisks by the swimming pool.

UPCHERS WARBLER *Hippolais languida* 1 Damnoni 6.5. extremely shy. with major fall of migrants (E. Barnes)

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OLIVETREE WARBLER *Hippolais olivetorum* 1 Elounda 3.5. 1 Damnoni 6.5. 1 Akrotiri in August. 3 Souda Bay 24.9.

ICTERINE WARBLER *Hippolais icterina* 3 Akrotiri 4.5. 1 Damnoni in tamarisks 12.4. 3 Falasarna 5.5. 5 Souda Bay 24.9. October record from Chania in tamarisks by the swimming pool.

SPECTACLED WARBLER *Sylvia conspicillata* 1m Moni Preveli 12.4. (CH)

MARMORA'S WARBLER *Sylvia sarda* 1m Arkadi 10.5. 1 Georgiopolis 4.10, and 1 near road to Lake Kournas and 1 Georgiopolis also in October.

SUBALPINE WARBLER *Sylvia cantillans* 1 Platanes river 11.4. 10 at Moni Preveli on 14.4. 1 Plakias mid April.

SARDINIAN WARBLER *Sylvia melanocephala* Resident. Abundant breeding over most of the island by April. About 10 pairs breeding at Creta Sun 31.5. to 3.6.

RÜPPELL'S WARBLER *Sylvia rüppelli* 1m 24.3. Malia. 1 Afrata 5.4. 1 singing m Moni Preveli 12.4. and Imbros Gorge also 12.4. 2 m at the seaward end of the valley at Moni Preveli 14.4. 1 Plakias mid April. 1 singing Chora Sfakion 3rd week in April. 2f singing above Kritsa. Breeding Sweetwater Bay, Preveli and Frangocastello in late April. 1 near Sitia 17.9.

ORPHEAN WARBLER *Sylvia hortensis* 1 Lassithi 7.4. Recorded Malia between 20.10. & 26.10.

BARRED WARBLER *Sylvia nisoria* 1 adult at Moni Preveli 14.4. 1 Chania in first half of October at the swimming pool tamarisks.

LESSER WHITETHROAT *Sylvia curruca* 1 near Anatoli 26.4. 1 Platanes river 11.4. 1 Malia 3rd week in April. 1 Plakias mid April. In October 1 Bali 9.10.

WHITETHROAT *Sylvia communis* 1 Akrotiri late March, 1 at Malia 12.4. and 1 Moni Preveli 12.4. 5+ Moni Preveli 14.4. 1 near Damnoni 15.4. 1 at archaeological site at Agia Triada 21.4. 2 near Creta Sun 23.4. and 4 on Lassithi plateau 24.4. 1 Plaka 4.5. Then described as common after 5.5. In October 1 Bali 9.10.

GARDEN WARBLER *Sylvia borin* 1 Kato Zakros 14.4. 1 Kalamavka 14.4. 2 Falasarna 5.5.

BLACKCAP *Sylvia atricapilla* 1 Kato Zakros 27.4.

BONELLI'S WARBLER *Phylloscopus bonelli* 1 Kato Zakros 14.4. 1 singing Osmalos between 19.4 & 2.5.

WOOD WARBLER *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* 3 at Moni Preveli on 14.4. 2+ at Souda Bay and 3+ at Agia reservoir 16.4. c.20 Kato Zakros 27.4. 5+ Phaestos 28.4. 2 Kritsa 29.4. Large falls Plakias 26.4. and 29.4. In October seen in Chania and recorded from Malia and Aposelemis river between 20.10. & 26.10.

CHIFFCHAFF *Phylloscopus collybita* Only two spring records 1 Paleochora 7.4. and 1 Selia 28.4. In Sept 2 Almyros and 3 Elounda 15.9. 5 near Sitia 19.9. 2 Souda Bay 24.9. 2 Knossos 25.9. In October 1 Bali 6.10 and from Chania swimming pool tamarisks in the first half of the month. Recorded at Malia between 20.10. & 26.10.

WILLOW WARBLER *Phylloscopus trochilus* 2 Tavronitis 5.4. 3+ Moni Preveli

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14.4. and 1 singing at Phaestos 13.4. 1 Aposelemis river 15.4. and 1 Creta Sun 23.4. A few heard and seen from 19.4. to 2.5. In October many moving through Bali 3.10 to 5.10. also recorded Chania, Elounda and Malia.

GOLDCREST *Regulus regulus* 1 heard calling between the monasteries on Akrotiri 21.4. and 1 at Phaestos 21.4.

FIRECREST *Regulus ignicapillus* 2 Samaria Gorge 5.5.

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa striata* 1 Ag Nikolaos 3rd week in April. Migrants noted in the east 27.4. 30+ Georgioupolis 4.5. Singles Agios Ioannis headland 4.5, Spinalonga 6.5, and Georgioupolis 11.5. 15 at Akrotiri 4.5. 20 Falasarna 5.5. 20 Moni Preveli 11.5. Regular in first half of August and singles up to mid September. In October several recorded in Bali 3.10. to 5.10. and at Malia in 3rd week.

RED-BREASTED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula parva* 1 Elounda 15.9. 2 Amari valley 20.9.

Ficedula Flycatcher 1 Mt Yuchtas 27.4.

COLLARED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula albicollis* 2 Moni Preveli 15.4. Males at several south coast sites from 23.4. Matala, Frangokastelli, Moni Preveli. One f Moni Preveli 23.4. In late April many Pied/Collared f along south coast. 1 Preveli 27.4. and 3.5. where up to 12 present. 3 Kato Zakros 27.4. 1m Phaestos 28.4. One male Georgioupolis in May and Spinalonga 6.5.

SEMI-COLLARED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula semitorquata* 1m Rethymnon and 1f possibly this or Collared at the same site.

PIED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula hypoleuca* 1 Falasarna 6.4. 5+ Moni Preveli 14.4. and 2 at Souda Bay 16.4. Very large falls 26.4. and 29.4. Plakias. A few migrants noted in the east 27.4.

SOMBRE TIT *Parus lugubris* No records received.

COAL TIT *Parus ater* 1 heard Topolia gorge 6.4. 1 Samaria 5.5.

BLUE TIT *Parus caeruleus* Common in hills. Widespread but present only in small numbers. Seen in Georgioupolis 11.5. In October several recorded as high as Kalergi refuge 11.10. and from Malia between 20.10. & 26.10.

GREAT TIT *Parus major* Common and widespread in April and May in lowlands and uplands. In October recorded Bali 5.10. and Malia.

ROCK NUTHATCH *Sitta neumayer* 1 Samaria Gorge during first half of October. (DMM)

SHORT-TOED TREECREEPER *Certhia brachydactyla* 1 in woods at Kanevos above Plakias 20.4. 1 singing Imbros Gorge 12.4. 3 Samaria 5.5. and 1 Samaria Gorge 6.5.

PENDULINE TIT *Remiz pendulinus* 1 at Creta Sun in the last week in October.

GOLDEN ORIOLE *Oriolus oriolus* 1 singing from wood Agia Vasilios 12.4. 1m Mylo river ford 16.4. 1 Plakias mid April and 2 to 3 every day Plakias in late April. 2+ Geros river 21.4. 1 Kato Zakro 3rd week in April and 27.4. 1 Creta Sun lagoon 27.4. c10 Phaestos 28.4. Heard above Kritsa near Anatoli 29.4. 1 Lassithi Plateau 1.5. 1 Georgioupolis 4.5. and Plaka, 1 Pargos 7.5. 3 Katachori 8.5. 3 Preveli 11.5. In September 1f 19.9. near Sitia.

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RED-BACKED SHRIKE *Lanius collurio* A few in early August 1.8 to 18.8. but no juveniles recorded. Then 2 en route to Lassithi 14.9. 4 Kritsa 16.9. 1 near Sitia 19.9. 4 Amari valley 20.9. In October 2-3 juveniles recorded Bali 4.10. and 3 6.10. also recorded Akrotiri, Falasarna. Malia between 20.10 & 26.10.

LESSER GREY SHRIKE *Lanius minor* During 11.8. & 18.8. 5 separate sightings recorded throughout island. 1 between Heraklion and Malia 13.9.

WOODCHAT SHRIKE *Lanius senator* 2 Hersonissos 5.4. & 6.4. 1 Bali 7.4. & 8.4. 2 there 10.4. 1 Selia 12.4. 1 Agia reservoir 13.4. 1 Kato Zakros 14.4. 6+ everyday 12.4. to 25.4. Widespread by 3rd week in April. 1 Spinalonga 6.5. 1 Lassithi 14.5. In August a few recorded 11.8 to 18.8. no juveniles among them.

MASKED SHRIKE *Lanius nubicus* No records received.

JAY *Garrulus glandarius* Several in the hills in SE. in April. 2 Imbros Gorge 12.4. 1 Fourfouras 4.5. September Omalos 22.9. October records of 1 Samaria and 4 Omalos 11.10.

MAGPIE *Pica pica* No records received.

ALPINE CHOUGH *Pyrrhocorax graculus* 4+ Linoseli col 29.4. Recorded on Omalos plateau 11.5. 6 pairs Nidha Plateau 18.5. In October c.20 Kalergi refuge 11.10.

CHOUGH *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax* In late March a pair displaying overhead at top of Samaria Gorge. Up to 45 recorded around head of Samaria Gorge and Omalos plateau 17.4. Several Samaria and Kourtaliotiko Gorge 3rd week in April. 4 flying west over summit of Mt Youchtas. On Lassithi 2 from cliff face by bridge at west end of plateau 15.4. and 16 seen from car park for Dictean cave on Lassithi 24.4. 4 at Kavousi Gorge 29.4. 10 at Omalos Plateau and the Samaria Gorge 6.5. 2 Lassithi 13.5. 8 pairs Nidha 18.5. 5 Omalos 22.9. In October c.10 Omalos 11.10 and 12.10.

JACKDAW *Corvus monedula* Groups of c10 4.4. to 17.4. by cliff faces. 6 Petres Gorge 7.4. 3 Veneratos and 2 Heraklion 10.4. 12 recorded on 13.4. of which 2 were on roadside between Heraklion and Gortyna and 8-10 in Kourtaliotiko Gorge. 7 there 15.4. 7 seen from Creta Sun 21.4. and more on roadside between Heraklion and Gortyna made a total of 12 for 21.4. 97 counted over Mt Youchtas 22.4. and 7 over Creta Sun 25.4. also recorded as widespread in the mountains. 30 Kourtaliotiko 11.5. 6 Kotsiphos 11.5. 6 Mirthios 21.5.

HOODED CROW *Corvus corone cornix* Common throughout the island. Recorded daily in April in small numbers. Common in May. Frequent in October.

RAVEN *Corvus corax* Present in all the mountains. Recorded in late March Omalos and then daily in April. Recorded in May from Ag. Ioannis headland 6.5. 4 Prasses 12.5. 2 Hordaki 12.5. Regular in August. In October records from Akrotiri, 2 Bali 4.10 and 2 Lendas 14.10. and Malia between 20.10. to 26.10.

STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris* In October flock c.30 going to roost at Georgeoupolis 15.10. 88 Rodopou peninsula 10.10. also from Malia between 20.10. & 26.10.

HOUSE SPARROW *Passer domesticus* Recorded near Heraklion and Rethymnon in small numbers. House sparrow is commonest breeder at Creta Sun with c50 birds 31.5. to 3.6. Common in Ag. Nikolaos in May. Frequent in October and from Malia between 20.10. to 26.10.

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ITALIAN SPARROW *Passer domesticus italiae* Commoner than House Sparrow. Recorded in reasonable numbers throughout the island. A roost was recorded on River Aposelemis, on 23.4. 325 counted in a 1½ hour period. At least one pair breeding in Creta Sun grounds 31.5. to 3.6. Small numbers in May in Ag. Nikolaos.

SPANISH SPARROW *Passer hispaniolensis* c20 Kotsiphos Gorge 12.4. 1 near Istron late April. 1 Plakias 30.4. 1 Georgioupolis 2.5.

TREE SPARROW *Passer montanus* 3 at Souda Bay 16.4. 1 at Georgioupolis 2.5. and 11.5.

ROCK SPARROW *Petronia petronia* No records received.

CHAFFINCH *Fringilla coelebs* Widespread and abundant throughout year.

SERIN *Serinus serinus* Recorded at St Stephens Church Episkopi 6.4. 2 recorded at Knossos 12.4. 10 Lassithi Plateau 1.5. 1 Plaka 4.5. 6 Adele Campus 10.5.1 Matala 13.10.

GREENFINCH *Carduelis chloris* Fairly common. Up to 40 daily and several breed in Creta Sun grounds 31.5.- 3.6. Common in May in east. Frequent in October.

GOLDFINCH *Carduelis carduelis* Very common. Charms seen throughout the island in April. A pair daily 31.5. to 3.6. Aposelemis valley. Common in May. Frequent in October.

SISKIN *Carduelis spinus* No records received.

LINNET *Carduelis cannabina* 2 Tsoutsouros 9.4. Recorded in small numbers at suitable sites 12. 4 to 25.4. Seen 3 days only 3rd week in April. Frequent in October.

CROSSBILL *Loxia curvirostra* 3+ Omalos Plateau/Samaria gorge 6.5. (MC & NNT tour)

TRUMPETER FINCH *Bucanetes githagineus* No records received

BULLFINCH *Pyrrhula pyrrhula* 1 Sweetwater Bay near Plakias 14.4. (J&R Aley) and (M&J Nalder). Two separate parties appear to have recorded the same bird.

HAWFINCH *Coccothraustes coccothraustes* No records received

YELLOWHAMMER *Emberiza citrinella* No records received.

CIRL BUNTING *Emberiza cirlus* In small numbers regularly near Bali & Kera 4-17.4. 1f Souda Bay 16.4. 1 Agia reservoir and Lassithi 3rd week in April. 1m Lassithi 11.5. 1m Nidha 18.5. 1m Kourtaliotiko 20.5. Common near Armeni in April In August recorded from Lassithi. In October 1 Omalos plateau 12.10, 1 pass to west of Omalos 12.10. Recorded Malia between 20.10 & 26.10.

ROCK BUNTING *Emberiza cia* No records received.

ORTOLAN *Emberiza hortulana* 1 Frangocastello 13.4. 6 at Moni Prevelli 14.4. Recorded Plakias 11.4. to 24.4. common there late April/early May on steep slopes. 1 Torsernas in August.

CRETZSCHMAR'S BUNTING *Emberiza caesia* 1m Nidha Plateau 18.5.

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REED BUNTING *Emberiza schoeniclus* No record received.

BLACK-HEADED BUNTING *Emberiza melanocephala* 1m at Lassithi Plateau 1.5.

CORN BUNTING *Miliaria calandra*. Locally common. 1 7.4. Lassithi, 1 11.4. Falasarna. Recorded from coastal fields between Bali & Rethymnon 4.4.to 17.4. 10 Moni Preveli 14.4. 6 Damnoni 15.4. 20+ Lassithi 24.4. Common Plakias late April. 5m singing at Georgioupolis 2.5. 5 at Lake Kournas 3.5. 1 Phaestos 9.5. 4 Phaestos 12.5. 3 Lassithi 14.5. 4 Angouseliana 21.5. Record from Gordor in August and Malia in October.

ESCAPES.

RING NECKED PARAKEET 1 in Bali 4.10. and 9.10.

BUTTERFLIES

Swallowtail *Papilio machaon*
Scarce Swallowtail *Iphidides podalirius*
Eastern Festoon *Zerynthia cerisyi*
Apollo *Parnassus apollo*
Large White *P. brassicae*
Small White *Artogeia rapae*
Bath White *Pontia daplidice*
Clouded Yellow *Colias crocea*
Comma *Polygonia c-album*
Brimstone *Gonepteryx rhamni*
Powdered Brimstone *G. farinosa*
Painted Lady *V. cardui*
Red Admiral *V. atalanta*
Meadow Brown *Maniola jurtina*
Cretan Small Heath *C. pamphilus thynsis*
Speckled Wood *P. aegeria aegeria*
Wall Brown *Lasiommata megera*
Small Copper *Lycnera phlaes*
Small Blue *Cupido minimus*
Holly Blue *Celastrina argiolus*
Common Blue *Polyommatus icarus*
Skipper sp. *Pyrgus*

MOTHS

Humming Bird Hawk Moth *Macroglossum stellatarum*

REPTILES

Stripe-necked Terrapin *Mauremys caspica*
Marsh Frog *Rana ridibunda*
Turkish Gecko *Hemidactylus turcicus*
Ocellated Skink *Chalcides ocellatus*
Balkan Green Lizard *Lacerta viridis*
Erhards Wall Lizard *Podarcis erhardii*
Balkan Whip Snake *Coluber gemonensis*
Dice Snake *Natrix tessellata* swimming in the sea next to an observer.

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INSECTS

Grasshopper sp.
Praying Mantis *Geomantis larvoides*
Locust *Locusta migratoria*
Bush Cricket sp.
Ground Bug *Lygaeus saxatilis*
Spider *Cresus niger*

MAMMALS

Bat sp.
Eastern Hedgehog *Erinaceus concolor* 1 found dead Plakias.
Cretan Wild Goat *Capra aegagrus* Samaria Gorge. 22.9.
Weasel *Mustela nivalis* 1 Kavousi Gorge 29.4, 2 sightings Plakias 11.4. & 24.4, 1 at Akrotiri 4.5.

Acknowledgments

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Stephanie Coghlan.

This report is a re-formatted version of the original report.
The text is unchanged apart from minor amendments.

JJ Coghlan
February 2012