

Machrihanish Seabird Observatory

Warden - David Millward Assistant Warden - Jo Goudie Assistant Warden - Jason Brown

Photo of the month

Greenshank

Nice to see a Greenshank pop in again this year. It arrived on 17th but didn't stay long.

Photo

Jo Goudie



July Report 2025

More work has been done on the interior of the observatory but it is a long slow process with only 2 of us on the job.

We have been watching on and off and also hosting visitors on this busy month. We have met some lovely people and had some interesting chats as they have dodged wood and tools as we worked, to see the view.

The otter has only been seen a few times, we think our females are busy with young. We have our fingers crossed.

Jo

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Photos by Jo Goudie unless otherwise stated



Common Sandpiper

Common Sandpiper – good to see the nest on the stream raised 4 chicks this year.
7th – 1, 8th – 4, 9th – 1, 16th – 10, 18th – 2, 19th – 12, 20th – 4, 22nd – 2, 23rd – 8, 24th – 6, 31st – 4.
If feel we have had more this year.

Curlew – 1st – 1, 8th – 2, 9th – 1, 10th – 2, 11th – 7, 16th – 1, 17th – 3, 18th – 3, 19th – 5, 20th – 4,
22nd – 4, 23rd – 2, 24th – 2, 30th – 3, 31st – 1.

Dunlin – 16th – 2, 18th – 7, 20th – 6, 30th – 3.

Sanderling – 11th – 1, 19th – 1, 20th – 10, 23rd – 7.

Redshank – 16th – 2, 18th – 2, 19th – 2, 23rd – 1, 24th – 1.

Ringed Plover – 2nd – 2, 7th – 3, 8th – 2, 11th – 7, 16th – 8, 17th – 8, 17th – 8, 18th – 4, 19th – 8, 20th – 5,
22nd – 1, 23rd – 10, 24th – 1, 26th – 1, 30th – 4, 31st – 3.

Red Throated Diver – 7th – 2.

Red Breasted Merganser – 26th – 3.



Mute Swan and cygnet

Both male and female have worked hard this year to raise the last cygnet left.



Common Tern

Common Tern – 23rd – 12, 30th – 3.

Sandwich Tern – 11th – 1, 20th – 2, 23rd – 3.



Oystercatcher flocking together now breeding is over.



Juvenile Black Headed Gull with its interesting plumage.

Guillemot – 1st – 23, 2nd – 27, 7th – 37, 10th – 2, 11th – 1, 16th – 1, 17th – 3, 20th – 5.

Razorbill – 1st – 2, 7th – 4, 8th – 6, 10th – 4, 16th – 3, 23rd – 1.

Manx Shearwater – 1st – 39, 2nd – 1, 7th – 55, 23rd – 39.

Kittiwake – 2nd – 9, 7th – 9, 8th – 7, 22nd – 1.



Damp Meadow Pipit after bathing in the stream

A visit to the stream by the observatory often yields birds, Gray Wagtail, Willow Warbler, Song Thrush, Sedge Warbler, Heron, House Sparrow, Linnet, Wheatear.



Male Linnet with his very vivid colours



Our male otter, out on the prowl



Juvenile Hoodie – our local pair raised 3 this year.