

## **Snow Bunting** *Plectrophenax nivalis*

(Circumpolar Arctic breeding range throughout the northern hemisphere including Scandinavia, Iceland, Northern Scotland, Russia, Siberia, Alaska, Canada and Greenland).

Winter visitor and passage migrant in variable numbers probably to all counties in Northern Ireland though there are no recent records from Co. Tyrone. The numbers present in any year is probably based on climatic factors but there appears to have been no major change in status during the 19th and 20th centuries. Favours open ground both upland and coastal. Occurs in flocks usually small but occasionally up to 1,000 birds.

Prior to 1980 details of occurrences are scant but it may have been regarded as a regular winter visitor.

In 1959 birds were reported from Drain's Bay, Larne, County Antrim in January and two at Portmuck, County Antrim in March. *USPB Bull.* No. 2. During the winter of 1960 birds were recorded from Castlerock, County Londonderry, Duncrue Street, Belfast, County Antrim, Kinturk Flats, County Tyrone, Kinnegar, Holywood, County Down and at various other locations especially in County Antrim. *USPB Bulletin* No.4.

In 1962, 200 were at Portstewart, County Londonderry in January. *Ruttledge* 1963.

In 1967 over 200 were reported from Duncrue Street, Belfast, County Antrim in January. *Ruttledge* 1968.

During the winter 1969/70 it was described as "fairly common" on the north coast with flocks of 50 regularly recorded and a flock of 200 at Dunseverick. *Marsh* 1975.

In 1970 on the north coast definite immigration was noted and a flock of 50 was reported from the Foyle and 75 near Castlerock; Longfield and Portstewart sand dunes supported flocks of 75 and again a flock of 200 at Dunseverick. *Bennett & Melville* 1971; *Marsh* 1975.

In 1971 on the north coast it was regarded as a poor year with only eight recorded; however, Marsh reports a flock of 150 at Dunseverick. *Bennett et. al.* 1972; *Marsh* 1975. In County Down 260 were at Rough Island in January. *Ruttledge* 1972.

The winter of 1973/4 produced a flock of 200 from Dunseverick with smaller numbers elsewhere. *Marsh* 1975. 150 were at Myroe, Lough Foyle, County Londonderry in November 1974. *NIBRC* 115/1975.

In 1975 36 were reported from the Balancing Lakes, County Armagh from January - March with a further 30 at Derrymacash, County Armagh in March. *AFNS Report* 1975.

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In 1977 eight were at Oxford Island, County Armagh in December. *AFNS Report* 1977.

Historical data will be updated.

Unpublished records

### **1993**

#### **Londonderry**

One: Black Rock, Portstewart, 17th January (Matthew Tickner).

### **1994**

#### **Tyrone**

One: Mullaghmore Lough, Clogherny, Barony, 10th February (Matthew Tickner).

### **1996**

#### **Antrim**

Up to ten: Ramore Head, Portrush, 30th September to 17th November (Geoff Campbell *et al.*).

Up to 12: Fair Head, Ballycastle, 1st October to 7th November (Matthew Tickner).

One: Benbane Head, 2nd October (Matthew Tickner).

Ten: Skerries, Portrush, 7th November (Anthony McGeehan).

One: Juvenile. Divis Mountain, Belfast, 10th November (Larry Toal).

One: Stoneyford Reservoir, Stoneyford, Lisburn, 21st December (Ted Rolston).

One: Beaghs Forest, Slievenorra, Antrim Hills, 22nd December (Davy Hunter).

#### **Armagh**

Two: Ardmore Point, Lough Neagh, Derrytrasna, 2nd October (David Knight).

#### **Down**

Two: Briggs Rocks, Groomsport, 5th October (George Henderson).

## **Londonderry**

Up to six: Longfield Point, Eglington, 7th October to 17th November (Dave Allen *et al.*).  
One: Castlerock, 19th October (Jeff Larkin).  
One: Roe Estuary, Lough Foyle, 19th October (Davy Hunter).  
Up to 20: Magilligan, 20th October to 17th November (Davy Hunter, Gerard McGeehan *et al.*).  
15: Binevenagh, 25th October (Theo Campbell).  
20: Barmouth, Bann Estuary, Coleraine, 26th October (Davy Hunter, Gerard McGeehan).  
One: Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle, 29th October (Dave Allen, Matthew Tickner).  
Up to three: Balls Point, Lough Foyle, Bellarena, 5th to 16th November (Dave Allen, Matthew Tickner *et al.*).  
One: Coleraine, 9th November (Anthony McGeehan).  
Four: Collonward Mountain, 28th November (John O'Boyle).  
20: Downhill, 15th December (Mervyn Guthrie).

## **1998**

### **Antrim**

Up to 20: Star Bog Road, Cappanagh, 21st January to 8th February (Geoff Campbell, Eric Randall).  
One: Dunseverick Castle, Dunseverick, 27th January (Matthew Tickner).  
25: North of Doon Farm, Fair Head, Ballycastle, 22nd January (Matthew Tickner).  
Up to 15: Rathlin Island, 18th February to 14th May (Liam McFaul).  
31: Fair Head, Ballycastle. Eight 22nd February with 23 on 21st October (Larry Toal Matthew Tickner).  
20: Cave Hill, Belfast Hills. Four 17th March and up to 16 9th to 27th December (Larry Toal).  
Up to 13: Ramore Head, Portrush, 16th September to 29th October (Oscar Campbell, Kerry Leonard *et al.*).  
One: Runkerry (Bushfoot) Dunes, Portballintrae, 12th October (Matthew Tickner).  
Three: Divis Mountain, Belfast Hills, 9th November (John O'Boyle).  
One: Sandy Bay, Larne, 28th November (David Steele).

### **Armagh**

Two: Reedy Flats, Lough Neagh, Derrytrasna, 6th November (Oscar Campbell).  
One: Ardmore Point, Lough Neagh, Derrytrasna, 6th November (Oscar Campbell).

### **Down**

Seven: Tyrella Beach, Tyrella, Downpatrick, 26th February (C. Bell).  
13: Murlough Nature Reserve, Newcastle, 24th November (Matthew Tickner).  
Eight: Ballyquintin Point, Outer Ards Peninsula, 4th December (Dave Allen, Matthew Tickner).  
One: BP3, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, 28th December (Anthony McGeehan).

## **Londonderry**

21: Magilligan Nature Reserve, Magilligan. 15 10th January and up to six 10th October to 15th December (Jeff Larkin Davy Hunter *et al.*).  
Six: Portstewart Strand, Portstewart, 18th October (Matthew Tickner).  
Up to 10: Balls Point, Lough Foyle, Bellarena, 6th November to 8th December (Dave Allen, Mathew Tickner).  
40: Ballykelly, Lough Foyle, 15th November (Seamus Burns).  
25: Myroe, Lough Foyle, 15th November (Seamus Burns).

## **1999**

### **Antrim**

35: Lough Doo, Fair Head, 6th January (Matthew Tickner).  
25: Cavehill, Belfast. 11 11th January and 14 on 31st October (Larry Toal).  
One: Whitehead, County Antrim, 23rd January (J. Piper).  
Five: Divis Mountain, Belfast Hills, 2nd February (John O'Boyle).  
One: Fair Head, Ballycastle, 6th March (Richard Hunter).  
One: Ramore Head, Portrush, 3rd October (Ivor McDonald *et al.*).  
Four: Rathlin Island, 22nd October (Davy Hunter).  
Two: Troston, Ballycastle, 19th October (Godfrey McRoberts).

### **Armagh**

Two: Trowagh Visitors Quay, Lough Neagh, 4th November to 30th December (David Knight)

## **Down**

- 15: Greyabbey Bay, Strangford Lough, 21st January (Jeff Larkin).  
54: Gransha Point, Strangford Lough. 41 24th January with 13 on 14th November (Ivan Quail).  
Six: Killard NNR, Strangford, 6th October (H. Craig).  
One: Rockport, Holywood, 11th October (Anthony McGeehan).  
Two: Slieve Donard, Mourne Mountains, Newcastle, 3rd November (Fulton Summerville).  
Nine: Slieve Commedagh, Mourne Mountains, 11th January (Hugh Thurgate).

## **Londonderry**

- Up to 50: Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle, 5th January to 23rd March (Davy Hunter Matthew Tickner).  
One: Female. Castlerock, 10th January (Jeff Larkin).  
One: Female. Magilligan, 10th January (Jeff Larkin).  
Ten: Bann Estuary, Coleraine, 21st January (David Steele).  
Eight: Magilligan, 30th October (Mervyn Guthrie).  
Three: Gortmore, the Umbra, 31st October (Mervyn Guthrie).  
35: Ballykelly, 10th November (Matthew Tickner).

## **2000**

### **Antrim**

- One: Giants Causeway, Bushmills, 12th February (Clive Mellon).  
Eight: Divis Mountain, Belfast Hills, 13th February (Larry Toal).  
One: Slemish, Ballymena, 10th December (Larry Toal).

### **Armagh**

- Two: Trowagh Visitors Quay, Lough Neagh, 8th January (Brian Nelson, David Knight).

### **Down**

- One: Ringfad Point, Ardglass, 9th January (Chris Murphy).  
Three: Light House (Johns) Island, Copeland Islands, 1st November (Neville McKee).

### **Londonderry**

- One: Tamnariin Bridge, River Roe (C705045), (Godfrey McRoberts).  
Six: Myroe, Lough Foyle, 15th March (Davy Hunter).  
One: Male. Black Braes, 25th September (Godfrey McRoberts).  
One: Longfield Point, Eglington, 4th December (Matthew Tickner).

## **2001**

### **Antrim**

- 15: Cushleake Mountain, Cushendun, 9th December (Larry Toal).

## **2002**

### **Antrim**

- One: Giants Causeway, Bushmills, 18th March (Mr. Mercer).  
Two: Glendun, 16th October (Richard Gray).  
Up to five: Ramore Head, Portrush, 27th October to 15th December (Matthew Tickner, M Mercer).  
14: Cave Hill, Belfast, 10th November (Larry Toal).

### **Down**

- One: Male. Burr Point, Ballyhalbert, 3rd February (Wilton Farrelly).  
One: Female. Belfast Harbour Estate, 17th November (Walter Veale).

### **Londonderry**

- One: Gortmore, Umbra, 14th March (Geoff Campbell).  
One: Magilligan, 18th November (Gerard McGeehan).  
Three: Longfield Pont, Lough Foyle, 19th November (Matthew Tickner).

## **2003**

### **Antrim**

- Six: Cavehill, Belfast Hills, 29th January (Larry Toal).  
Four: North Foreshore Tip, Dargan Road, Belfast. Three 17th February with a single on 13th November (Cameron Moore *et al.*).  
Two: Slievenacloy, Belfast Hills, Lisburn, 27th October to 7th November (Dermot Hughes).

## **Down**

One: Briggs Rocks, Groomsport, 18th January (Kerry Leonard).

Two: On the summit of Slieve Donard, Mourne Mountains, 23rd November (Flapline).

## **Londonderry**

One: Magilligan, Lough Foyle, 12th January (Davy Hunter *et al.*).

One: Roe Estuary, Lough Foyle, 5th March (Charles Stewart).

Three: Altahullion Hill, Dungiven, 11th February (David Steele).

One: Female. Ballykelly, Lough Foyle, 9th November (J. Clark *et al.*).

## **2004**

### **Antrim**

Five: Giants Causeway, Bushmills, 30th January (J. Clark).

### **Down**

One: Light House (Johns) Island, Copeland Islands, 31st March (Neville McKee).

### **Londonderry**

Eight: Glenshane Mountain, 22nd January (Matthew Tickner).

## **2005**

### **Antrim**

20: Giants Causeway, Bushmills, 21st January (Flightline).

70: Ballywilland, Portrush, 25th January (Flightline).

One: Runkerry, Portballintrae, 25th March (Flightline).

One: Divis Mountain, Belfast Hills, 23rd October (Flightline).

Up to four: Ramore Head, Portrush, 25th October to 24th November (Flightline).

One: Browns Bay, Larne, 6th November (Flightline).

Four: Rathlin Island, 6th November (Flightline).

### **Down**

Six: Portavogie, 26th January (Flightline).

One: Briggs Rocks, Groomsport, 13th November (Flightline).

20: Cave Hill, Belfast Hills, 26th December (Flightline).

### **Londonderry**

Two: Binevenagh (C689311) 5th January (Flightline).

Four: Magilligan, Lough Foyle, 15th November (Flightline).

## **2006**

### **Antrim**

One: Altnahinch Dam, Bush River, Antrim Hills, 22nd January (Flightline).

26: Cave Hill, Belfast Hills, 27th January (Flightline).

One: Causeway Hotel, Giants Causeway, Bushmills, 22nd March (Flightline).

Two: Females. Ballintoy Demesne, 1km East of White Park Bay, 31st March (Flightline).

35: White Park Bay, Ballintoy, 5th February (Flightline).

One: Fair Head, Ballycastle, 28th October (Flightline).

### **Down**

Four: Tyrella, 12th January (Flightline).

One: Ballyholme Bay, Bangor, 5th November (Flightline).

### **Londonderry**

One: Glenshane Pass, on farm track near the Ponderosa, Sperrin Mountains, 12th November (Flightline).

## **2007**

### **Antrim**

18: Glenhead, Antrim Hills, 11th February (Flightline).

Two: Dunseverick, 27th September (Flightline).

One: Male. Whitehead, 31st October to 4th November (Cameron Moore *et al.*).

Up to four: Ramore Head, Portrush, 3rd to 10th November (Flightline).

## **Down**

One: Male. Orlock, Groomsport, 27th December (Flightline).

Seven: Kircubbin Bay, Kircubbin, Strangford Lough, 31st December (Flightline).

## **2008**

### **Antrim**

Eight: Criagahulliar Road, Portrush, 6th February (Flightline).

Three; Ramore Head, Portrush. Two: 11th February One: 10th November (Flightline).

One: Ballyboley Reservoir, Ballyboley, Larne, 18th October (Flightline).

Three: Slemish Mountain, Ballymena, 16th November (Flightline).

50: Beaghs Forest, Slievanorra, Antrim Hills, 3rd December (Flightline).

27: Divis Mountain, Belfast Hills, 6th December (Flightline).

Five: Skerry Hill, Antrim, 16th December (Flightline).

30: Hightown, Balyvaston, Glengormley, 24th December (Flightline).

### **Down**

15: Slieve Bearnagh, Mourne Mountains, Newcastle, 17th March (Flightline).

Five: Slieve Commedagh, Mourne Mountains, Newcastle, 27th March (Flightline).

Five: Slieve Donard, Mourne Mountains, Newcastle, 15th April (Flightline).

### **Londonderry**

27: Binevenagh, Benone, 6th March (Flightline).

## **2009**

### **Antrim**

Up to 31: Shanes Hill, Killwaughter, Larne, 26th January to 6th February (Flightline).

35: Carnal Ridge, Portrush, 27th January (Matthew Tickner).

One: Portballintrae, 7th October (Flightline).

Four: Rathlin Island, 8th October (Neal Warnock).

One: Star Bog Road, Larne, 10th October (John Lovatt).

One: Ramore Head, Portrush, 11th October (Flightline).

### **Down**

Up to 35: Briggs Rocks, Groomsport, 4th to 7th February (Neal Warnock *et al.*).

Up to 70: Moira Road, Ballinderry, Moira, 6th to 14th February (Flightline).

### **Londonderry**

30: Slieve Donard, Mourne Mountains, Newcastle, 16th February (Flightline).

One: Male. Longfield Point, Lough Foyle, 5th April (Flightline).

One: Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle, 25th October (Neal Warnock).

### **Tyrone**

One: Kinrush Airfield, Ardboe, 8th November (Flightline).

## **2010**

### **Antrim**

Two: Ballintoy One: 28th April One: 26th October (Patrick Barton *et al.*).

Up to two: Ramore Head, Portrush, 18th September to 23rd October (Richard Hoy *et al.*).

Three: Blackmountain, Belfast, 20th September (Dave Allen).

Two: Rathlin Island, 17th October (Geoff Campbell).

25: Garron Plateau, Carnlough, 9th November (Geoff Campbell).

One: Female. East Strand, Portrush, 11th November (Matthew Tickner).

One: Sandy Bay, Larne, 16th November (Cameron Moore).

One: Coleraine, 24th December (Keith Bennett).

### **Down**

Ten: Slieve Commedagh, Mourne Mountains, Newcastle, 7th March (Flightline).

Two: Slieve Donard, Mourne Mountains, Newcastle, 19th November (Patrick Lynch).

### **Fermanagh**

31: Cuilcagh Mountain, Marble Arch. One, 11th October with 30 on 5th December (Brad Robson).

## **Londonderry**

One: Termain Hill, Garvagh, 24th November (David Steele).

Three: Ballykelly, Lough Foyle, 27th November (Tyrone Nelson).

## **Tyrone**

One: Slieve Beagh, Fivemiletown, 3rd November.

## **2011**

### **Antrim**

Three: Agnews Hill, Larne, 8th February (Brian Porter).

Twelve: Greenisland, 17th February (Gerard McGeehan).

One: Hightown, Glengormley, 18th December (Larry Toal).

One: Ramore Head, Portrush, 10th to 31st October (Matthew Tickner *et al.*).

One: Cushendall, 1st November (Colin Guy).

Four: Slemish, Ballymena, 3rd November (Neal Warnock).

Two: Rathlin Island, 5th November (Neal Warnock).

One: Rasharkin, 14th November (Kerry Leonard).

### **Down**

One: Newry, 1st to 6th January (A. McEvoy).

Up to eight: Slieve Donard, Mourne Mountains, Newcastle, 24th March to 5th April (Dan Bailie *et al.*).

Two: Luke's Point, Bangor, 14th October (Robert Taylor).

One: Orlock Point, Groomsport, 20th October (Ron Price)

### **Londonderry**

Two: Magilligan, Lough Foyle. Singles on 24th February and 14th to 15th October (Andrew Croy *et al.*).

Two: Balls Point, Lough Foyle. One 25th February and one 19th October (George Henderson).

One: Benbradagh, 23rd March (Tyrone Nelson).

Two: Benone, Castlerock, 10th October (Charles Stewart)

## **2012**

### **Antrim**

68: Hightown, Glengormley. Up to 40 2nd January to 10th March and 28 1st to 9th December (Larry Toal *et al.*).

Eight: Cavehill, Belfast Hills, 17th March (Larry Toal).

Seven: Giants Causeway, Bushmills. Five 18th March and two at the Visitor Centre, 11th December (Neal Warnock, Hill Dick, Peter Robinson).

Five: Ramore Head, Portrush. One 26th March and four on 5th November (Stephen Maxwell, Alastair Prentice).

Up to five: Fair Head, Ballycastle, 6th to 31st October (Richard Donaghey *et al.*).

Up to eight: Ballintoy Harbour, 27th October to 13th November (Colin Guy, Ian Dickey *et al.*).

Five: Four at West Light and one at Kebble, Rathlin Island, 30th October (Liam McFaul *et al.*).

One: Runkerry Head, Portballintrae, 15th November (Colin Guy).

30: Glendun, 11th November (Larry Toal).

25: Wolf Hill, Belfast Hills, 1st December (Larry Toal).

Up to 100: Causeway Coastal Path, Bushmills, 5th to 8th December (Roger Woodward *et al.*).

40: Portrush, 5th to 9th December (Ian Dickey).

Up to 60: Bengore Head, Dunseverick, 10th and 11th of December (Ronald Surgenor).

Three: Slievenacloy, Belfast Hills, 24th December (Dermot Hughes).

### **Armagh**

Ten: Ardmore, Lough Neagh, 25th November (Derek Charles, Majella Callaghan).

### **Down**

One: Ben Crom, Mourne Mountains, Newcastle, 7th January (Dan Bailie).

Nine: Slieve Donard, Mourne Mountains, Newcastle, 11th January (Patrick Lynch).

Five: Commedagh, Mourne Mountains, Newcastle, 23rd March (Dan Bailie).

Up to 12: Kearny, Outer Ards Peninsula, 19th to 20th October (Mike Crossley *et al.*).

## **Londonderry**

One: Letterlogger Hill, 1st January.

20: Magilligan, Lough Foyle. Up to 19 17th January to 22nd February and one 16th to 23rd October (George Henderson, Christine Cassidy *et al.*).

Four: Longfield, Lough Foyle, 14th February (Brad Robson, Mathew Tickner, Gareth Bareham).

Four: Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle, 13th to 20th December (Derek Charles *et al.*).

## **Tyrone**

Two: Tullycar, Hill, Killeter, 12th January (David Steele).

## **2013**

### **Antrim**

20: Fair Head, Ballycastle, 3rd January (Ronald Surgenor).

Up to 25: Hightown Quarry, Glengormley, 16th February to 30th March (Larry Toal *et al.*)

Two: Wolfs Hill, Belfast Hills, 23rd February (Larry Toal).

One: Shane's Hill, Kilwaughter, Larne, 26th February (Joe Lamont).

Up to ten: Portstewart Dunes, Portstewart, 7th to 10th March (Paul Toner John Clarke).

One: Ramore Head, Portrush, 28th September to 2nd October (Matthew Tickner *et al.*).

Two: Rathlin Island, 8th October to 6th November (Colin Guy *et al.*).

One: Agnew's Hill, Kilwaughter, 26th October (Keith Bennett).

One: Carrick-a-Rede, Ballintoy, 30th October (Ronald Surgenor).

Three: Islandmagee, 1st November (Kerry Leonard).

### **Down**

Four: Slieve Donard, Mourne, Newcastle. One 2nd February with three, two males and one female on 31st October (Keith Bennett *et al.*).

One: Groomsport, 15th February (Ivan Dalglish).

One: Briggs Rocks, Groomsport, 20th February (Colin Guy).

Two: Copeland Bird Observatory, 17th March (Kerry Leonard).

One: Slieve Gullion, Newry, 17th December (David Knight).

### **Londonderry**

Two: Donnybrewer, Lough Foyle 25th November (Matthew Tickner, Gareth Bareham).

## **2014**

### **Antrim**

Up to nine: Rathmore Golf Course, Portrush, 15th January to 28th February (Colin Guy).

Three: East Strand, Portrush, 1st to 16th February (John Clarke *et al.*).

16: Slieveanee, Dunaghy, Barony, Glenarm, Antrim Hills, 6th February (Dave Allen *et al.*).

One: Ramore Head, Portrush, 11th October to 15th November (Matthew Tickner *et al.*).

Two: White Rocks Portrush, 20th October (Colin Guy).

Two: Rathlin Island, 5th November (Colin Guy).

Three: Divis Mountain, Belfast Hills, Belfast, 7th to 15th November (Aide McElduff).

44: Ballygally, Antrim Hills, 23rd November (Richard Donaghey).

### **Down**

Three: Slieve Commedagh, Mourne Mountains, Newcastle, 25th January (Matthew Scott).

Up to three: Briggs Rocks, Groomsport, 23rd November to 11th December (Colin Guy).

One: Orlock Point, Groomsport, 30th December (Richard Weyl).

### **Londonderry**

Three: Castlerock. Two 20th February, with a single 8th to 9th October (Alex Tinley, John Clarke, Christine Cassidy *et al.*).

One: Bann Estuary, Coleraine, 22nd October (Theo Campbell).

One: Slieve Gullion, Sperrin's, 25th December (John Spratt).

## **2015**

### **Antrim**

One: Rathlin Island, 13th October (Colin Guy).

One: Ramore Head, Portrush, 20th October (Colin Guy).

## **Down**

One: Orlock Point, Groomsport, 11th January (Richard Weyl).

One: Camlough Mountain, Newry, 8th November (David Knight).

One: Killard Point, Strangford, 22nd November (James O'Neill).

## **Fermanagh**

Four: Knockmore, 17th October (Brad Robson).

## **Londonderry**

Up to 33: Benbradagh Mountain, Dungiven, 3rd to 6th January (Peter McAllister, Donna Rainey).

Up to three: Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle. 29th September to 31st October (David Hill *et al.*).

## **Tyrone**

One: Dunnaree Hill, 4th November (Clive Mellon).

## **2016**

### **Antrim**

One: Ramore Head, Portrush, 5th October to 11th November (Matthew Tickner *et al.*).

One: Rathlin Island, 20th October (Neal Warnock).

One: Female. Dunsevrick, 26th October (Colin Guy).

One: White Park Bay, Ballintoy, 20th November (Wilton Farrelly).

14: Skeery Hill, Altnahinch Road, Antrim Hills, 28th November (David Steele).

### **Down**

Four: 17th December Slieve Gullion, Newry (David Knight).

### **Londonderry**

Two: Carntogher Mountain, Sperrin Mountains, 18th November (David Morrow).

Eight: Keady Mountain, 8th December (David Steele).

## **2017**

### **Antrim**

Up to two: Ramore Head, Portrush, 4th October to 10th November (Matthew Tickner *et al.*).

Up to six: Rathlin Island, 12th October to 11th November (Ric Else, Hazel Watson, Neal Warnock).

One Runkerry, Portballintrae, 9th November (Colin Guy).

### **Down**

One: Slieve Gullion, Newry 2nd November (David Knight).

One: Female / immature. Tyrella Beach, Tyrella, 12th November (Dermot Hughes).

One: Kearney, 14th November (Heather Parker).

20: Slieve Comedagh, Mourne Mountains, Newcastle, 7th December (Fergal O'Connor).

### **Londonderry**

Five: Binevenagh, 19th January (Dick Glasgow).

22: Keady Mountain, Limavady, 10th February (David Steele).

Up to five: Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle 27th to 29th November (Christine Cassidy, Lyndsey Hodges).

## **2018**

### **Antrim**

Four: Rathlin Island. One, 1st to 6th January, one, 30th March and up to two, 13th to 31st October (Ric Else, Hazel Watson *et al.*).

One: Ramore Head, Portrush, 4th January (Colin Guy).

Two: Kilroot, Larne, 19th January (Stephen Drake)

Two: Glenarm Rowing Club, Glenarm, 12th February (Paul Tout).

One: Scawt Hill, Cairncastle, Antrim Plateau, Larne, 18th October (David Steele).

Two: Islandmagee. One, male, 7th November and a female on 11th November (David Galbraith).

Three: Royal Portrush Golf Club, 4th December (Colin Guy).

### **Londonderry**

Five: Old School Hotel, Portstewart, 1st March (Gary Wilkinson).



## 2019

### Antrim

At least 29: Rathlin Island; one Keeble 19th February, one 8th -13th April, 20 16th November, four 17th November, one 22nd November, seven 24th November, 13 27th November, three 29th November – 1st December with a single at Keeble, 30<sup>th</sup> December (Ric Else, Hazel Watson).

One: Fair Head, Ballycastle, 6th October (Stephen Dunbar).

At least 4: Ramore Head, Portrush; three 15th – 20th October, four 22nd October, two 26th-27th October with one to 2nd November (Colin Guy, Matthew Tickner *et al.*).

Eleven: Whitepark Bay, Ballycastle, 16th November (Patrick Barton).

150: South end of Garron Plateau, Antrim Hills, 29th November (David Steele).

### Down

Up to six: Slieve Guillion, Newry, 29th October – 16th November one remaining to 29th November (David Knight).

One: Slieve Muck, 29th October (Stephen Bingham).

### Fermanagh

One: Fermanagh Uplands, 27th November (Fionbarr Cross).

### Londonderry

Two: Binnevenagh, Castlerock, 24th October (Jonny Rossborough).

One: Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle, 30th October – 18th November (Jeff Larkin *et al.*).

One: Altikeeragh, Castlerock, 15th November (Richard Donaghey).

One: Tapped. Bann Estuary, Coleraine, 24th November (Richard Donaghey).

Five: Portstewart Strand, Portstewart, 29th November (Steve Fyffe).

### Tyrone

Two: Mullaghcarn Mountain, County Tyrone, 15th November (Dermot Hughes).

## 2020

### Antrim

30: Shilnavogym 12th January (Davy Hunter *et al.*).

One: Armoy, 23rd January (Dave Allen, Clive Mellon).

Nine: Glenwherry Hill Farm, 27th January with five remaining to 30th January (Derek Charles *et al.*).

One: Ramore Head, Portrush, 31st January (John Clarke, Richard Donaghey)

One: Divis Mountain, Belfast Hills, 1st February (Paul Toner, Noel McKernan).

48: West end of Rathlin Island, 5th February (Ric Else, Hazel Watson).

### Fermanagh

Two: Knockmore, 24th January (Brad Robson).



Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis* Portrush October 2010. Geoff Campbell