

Early and Late Dates of Migrants

Compiled by Geoff Dobbs

Red text = assumed first/last migrant: see notes below

SPECIES	County First Date	Year	County Last Date	Year
Garganey	16th Feb	1992	28th Dec	2008
Swift	14th March	1995	9th Dec	1979
Cuckoo	15th Feb	1945	15th Oct	1993
Turtle Dove	26th March	1972	30th Nov	1969
Little Ringed Plover	20th Feb	1982	13th Dec	2014
Whimbrel	17th Jan	1987	25th Dec	2017
Common Sandpiper	7th Feb	1982	30th Nov	1989
Wood Sandpiper	13th April	1995	27th Dec	2020
Little Tern	5th April	1886	24th Oct	1988
Black Tern	2nd April	1983	21st Nov	1954
Sandwich Tern	10th Jan	1982	10th Dec	1997
Common Tern	27th March	2006	6th Dec #	1959
Roseate Tern	28th April	1962	9th Oct	1989
Arctic Tern	20th March	2013	12th Dec	1996
Marsh Harrier	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hobby	4th April	2014	19th Nov	1982
Sand Martin	19th Feb	1990	17th Nov	1969
Swallow	18th Jan	1837	21st Dec	2011
House Martin	6th March	1879	23rd Dec	1961
Wood Warbler	5th April	1980	21st Oct	1972
Willow Warbler	8th March	2007	24th Dec	2020
Sedge Warbler	26th March	2014	29th Oct	1977
Reed Warbler	28th March	2018	14th Nov	1984
Grasshopper Warbler	9th March	2014	26th Oct	1991
Garden Warbler	2nd April	1985	31st Dec	1966
Lesser Whitethroat	18th Jan	2021	28th Dec	2008
Common Whitethroat	18th March	1948	16th Nov	2006
Ring Ouzel	2nd Jan	1996	31st Dec	2020
Spotted Flycatcher	9th April	1983	10th Nov	1984
Pied Flycatcher	6th April	2011	24th Nov	1956
Redstart	16th March	2013	29th Dec	1975
Whinchat	23rd Feb	1990	30th Dec	1987
Wheatear	25th Feb	1968	15th Dec	1959
Yellow Wagtail	27th Jan	1962	29th Nov	1964
Tree Pipit	18th March	1894	4th Nov	1982/95

*found dead

* may be unspecified tern sp.

~ "considered to be this species"

There were only Rare and Scarce Bird Reports 1998-2004 and it is possible some early/late dates in those years, other than at Spurn, have been missed.

If you are aware of any records in those years which need including, please contact the YNU.

Notes in date order

Spotted Flycatcher: 9th April, year unknown, Skipton. *Nelson (1907)*, but now matched 1983.

Swallow 1837: 18th January, three near Huddersfield, *(Nelson, 1907)*. Nelson also mentions some over-wintering birds 1895-6 near Beverley and also Masham.

Wheatear 1959: one at Swinton from 12th to 15th December, trapped, possibly a wintering individual.

Yellow Wagtail 1962: one wintering 27th January to 3rd February at Swinton near Mexborough, then Hornsea Mere, 5th-9th February 1975. In recent years, 12th March 1995

Garden Warbler 1967: one at Spurn from previous year seen on 5th January not counted as first spring migrant.

Whitethroat 1968: one on 11th November at Spurn had damaged wing

Common Sandpiper 1974: one appeared at Lindley Res on 15th November and stayed to the year end.

Common Sandpiper 1975: the bird which was at Lindley Res in VC 64 up to the end of 1974, stayed and was seen up to April. What may have been the same bird was seen up to 30th November. One in the Elland GP area from late October to December.

Redstart 1975: a late male was Fairburn Ings on 29th December.

Whinchat 1975: a late individual was at Selby on 11th December.

Common Sandpiper 1976: one in the Elland GP area up to 25th February. One at Lindley Res on several dates up to late February and one from 10th October.

Common Sandpiper 1977: the bird which wintered at Lindley Res stayed until 13th January and one was there on 10th March. At the year-end, a bird was present up to mid-November and again during the latter half of December.

Marsh Harrier 1977: bred for first time at Blacktoft and first female wintered, appearing on 23rd November and staying to the year-end.

Ring Ouzel 1977: one at Crosshills, South Yorkshire from 18th to 20th January.

Cuckoo 1977: an adult at Royd Moor on 27th October is no longer considere acceptable.

Common Sandpiper 1978: two wintered as in recent years. One frequented the Farnham GP area from 1st November to year-end. One was at Low Moor on 12th February.

Common Sandpiper 1979: Farnham/Hay-a-Park GP present on 1st January but not after.

Common Swift 1979: one at Whitby on 9th December.

Lesser Whitethroat 1981: one of eastern races seen on 2nd November at Spurn (*Mather*). November records are now commonplace.

Common Sandpiper 1985: one over-wintered Broomhead Res 2nd to 17th January and one was at Howden Res on 6th January, then one was at Riccall from 17th November to the end of year.

Willow Warbler 1985: one at Pugneys CP on 7th December, was latest until 2020.

Turtle Dove 1988: one over-wintered at Osgodby near Scarborough has not been included in the tables.

Yellow Wagtail 1989: one at Burniston on 21st February had possibly over-wintered.

Common Sandpiper 1990: birds had over-wintered at Eccup Res, Fairburn Ings/Knostrup SF, Ripon Racecourse and along the R. Ure (three individuals). At end of year at Rother Valley CP to the year-end and Fairburn Ings in November and December.

Common Sandpiper 1991: singles at Swinsty Res in January and February, Rother Valley CP and Givendale in January and Eccleshall Woods in February.

Sedge Warbler 1993: reported from Elland GP from 11th to 23rd December.

Garganey 1993: one over-wintered from 31st December 1993 into early months 1994 at Worsborough/Wintersett.

Common Sandpiper 1995: one was on R Rother at Beighton 29th January.

Ring Ouzel 1996: January records at Barden on the 2nd; Flamborough from 2nd to 3rd; Skelton Castle from the 3rd until 10th and Port Mulgrave on the 10th.

Whimbrel 2007: one over-wintered at Saltwick Nab into 2008.

Wheatear 2007: one remained through the winter to 28th February 2008 at Cromer Point, Burniston.

Whimbrel 2017: one over-wintered at Long Nab, Burniston to March 2018.

Willow Warbler 2020: one in garden at Collingham, possibly damaged left wing

Ring Ouzel 2020: one wintered at Bampton Cliffs RSP into 2021

The Birds of Yorkshire: John R Mather, 1986.

remains the first/last record

Mather		Mather	
First Date	Year	Last Date	Year
5th March	1978	5th Nov	1975
17th April	1949	9th Dec	1979
15th Feb	1945	27th Oct	1977
26th March	1972	30th Nov	1969
20th Feb	1982	29th Oct	1973
2nd Feb*	1947	10th Dec	1961
26th Feb	1976	N/A	N/A
16th April	1966	31st Oct	1981
13th April	1979	19th Oct	1962
N/A	N/A	21st Nov	1954
3rd March	1980	N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A	6th Dec #	1959
28th April	1962	N/A	N/A
24th March	1978	19th Nov	1967
2nd Feb*	1984	3rd Oct	1975
February	1894	8th Nov ~	1950
12th March	1981	17th Nov	1969
18th Jan	1837	17th Dec	1955
6th March	1879	23rd Dec	1961
5th April	1980	27th Sept	1973
24th March	1977	11th Nov	1982
8th April	1961	21st Oct	1961
13th April	1976	7th Nov	1982
9th April	1961	N/A	N/A
7th April	1948	29th Dec	1966
2nd April	1976	2nd Nov	1981
18th March	1948	11th Nov	1968
18th Jan	1977	25th Dec	1855
16th April	1976	29th Oct	1966
12th April	1952	13th Nov	1976
31st March	1956	29th Dec	1975
7th April	1974	11th Dec	1975
25th Feb	1968	29th Nov	1984
27th Jan	1962	29th Nov	1964
18th March	1894	30th Oct	1960

The Birds of Spurn: Andy Roadhouse, 2016.

Roadhouse		Roadhouse	
First Date	Year	Last Date	Year
20.03	1981	30.09	1971
4.04	2001	26.11	2006
12.04	1989	24.10	1883
13.04	1979	5.11	1983
24.03	2012	23.09	1972
2.02	1947	20.12	1992
1.04	1994	30.10	1954
21.04	1996	9.10	1956
5.04	1886	19.10	1962
14.04	1962	25.10	2012
17.03	2013	30.11	2004
4.04	2012	14.11	2009
6.05	2011	1.10	1967
31.03	1999	9.11	2005
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
16.04	2013	5.11	2009
9.03	1994	17.11	1969
22.03	1947	25.11	1984
20.03	2004	28.11	1991
17.04	1957	21.10	1972
25.03	1999	19.11	2011
9.04	2011	27.10	1975
22.04	2000	8.11	2000
9.03	2014	26.10	1991
12.04	2000	31.12	1966
13.04	2009	23.11	1999
6.04	1961	11.11	1968
25.02	1893	31.12	2000
25.04	2006	10.11	1984
19.04	1971	24.11	1956
31.03	1968	23.11	2014
11.04	1968	29.11	2014
9.03	1990	23.11	1966
23.03	2013	21.11	2004
2.04	1956	4.11	1982