Sixth report of the Seychelles Bird Records Committee

Adrian Skerrett, Michael Betts, John Bowler, Ian Bullock, Tony Disley and Rob Lucking

Sixième rapport du Comité d'Homologation Seychellois. Le Comité d'Homologation Seychellois, créé en 1992, a publié des rapports quinquennaux dans Bull. ABC depuis 1996. Le sixième rapport, présenté ici, comprend les données acceptées d'espèces occasionnelles (espèces enregistrées moins d'une fois par an) pour la période du 1er janvier 2016 au 31 décembre 2021. Quatorze espèces occasionnelles ont été ajoutées à la liste des Seychelles mise à jour par le Comité. Une espèce nicheuse, le Zostérops d'Aldabra Zosterops aldabrensis, a été ajoutée après sa séparation comme espèce à part entière du Zostérops malgache Z. maderaspatanus. Une espèce a été rayée de la liste suivant l'examen de toutes les mentions de Bulweria, qui a reclassifié toutes les mentions du Pétrel de Jouanin B. fallax et toutes celles sauf une du Pétrel de Bulwer B. bulwerii comme Bulweria sp. Après examen, necessité par des révisions taxonomiques, les mentions ont été retenues du Martinet de Sibérie Apus pacificus, de l'Hirondelle de rivage Riparia riparia et de l'Alouette calandrelle Calandrella brachydactyla. Les mentions précédemment acceptées de la Bergeronnette printanière Motacilla flava ont été retenues comme telles, suivant la séparation de la Bergeronnette de Béringie M. tschutschensis comme espèce à part entière.

Summary. Seychelles Bird Records Committee (SBRC), formed in 1992, has published five reports in *Bull. ABC* at intervals of approximately five years since 1996. This sixth report summarises accepted records of vagrants (species recorded less than annually) during the period 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2021. Fourteen vagrants have been added to the Seychelles list maintained by SBRC. One breeding species, Aldabra White-eye *Zosterops aldabrensis*, has been added by separation at species level. One species has been deleted from the list following a review of all *Bulweria* records, which has reclassified all Jouanin's Petrel *B. fallax* records and all but one Bulwer's Petrel *B. bulwerii* records as *Bulweria* sp. Reviews, necessitated by taxonomic revisions, have maintained all records of Pacific Swift *Apus pacificus*, Common Sand Martin *Riparia riparia* and Greater Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla*. Furthermore, all records previously accepted as Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava* have been retained as Western Yellow Wagtail, following recognition at species level of Eastern Yellow Wagtail *M. tschutschensis*.

Seychelles Bird Records Committee (SBRC) was formed in 1992 and has published reports at intervals of approximately five years in *Bull. ABC* since 1996 (see Table 1). A summary of unverified sightings received by SBRC has been published every six months in the Recent Reports section of *Bull. ABC* in almost every issue since the journal's inception. Accepted records are reported at the website www.seychellesbirdrecordscommittee.com.

This report summarises accepted records of vagrants (species of less than annual occurrence) considered by SBRC since the publication of the fifth report (Skerrett *et al.* 2017), covering the period 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2021. During this period, SBRC members examined evidence for 476 reports. Of these, 435 (91.3%) were accepted and 41 (8.7%) rejected or regarded as unproven. A significant number of accepted records were submitted to SBRC

either unidentified or misidentified: 50 (11.5% of accepted records). A full checklist including the number of accepted records and status for each species and each island is updated bi-annually and can be downloaded from the SBRC website. Taxonomic order follows the eBird / Clements checklist (Clements *et al.* 2021).

The majority of records received by SBRC during the period (302 or 63.4%) were submitted by the staff and volunteers of local NGOs and private companies: Island Conservation Society (on Aride, Silhouette, Desroches, Alphonse and Farquhar), Seychelles Islands Foundation (Aldabra), North Island hotel (North), Cousine hotel (Cousine), Frégate Island Private (Frégate), Denis Private Island (Denis) and Save Our Seas (D'Arros). Thirty-eight records were received via eBird, 27 of which related to historical records prior to the period under review.



	- 11	,	
Report	Records accepted to	Number of species	Reference
1st report	31 December 1995	189	Skerrett (1996)
2nd report	31 December 2000	222	Skerrett et al. (2001)
3rd report	31 December 2005	237	Skerrett et al. (2006)
4th report	31 December 2010	255	Skerrett et al. (2011)
5th report	31 December 2015	269	Skerrett et al. (2017)
6th report	31 December 2021	283	This paper

Additions to the Seychelles list

Senegal Lapwing Vanellus lugubris

Two adults at the settlement to airstrip road, North, Farquhar, 19 December 2019–2 January 2020 (Fig. 1; A. Cupidon, M. Morgan).

Greater Painted-snipe Rostratula benghalensis

A female at a freshwater pool and adjacent muddy area, Île Persévérance, Mahé, 30–31 January 2016 (Fig. 2; C. Onezia, J. Souyave, A. P. Skerrett). A male at the north point, Bird, 19 November 2016 (M. Camici).

Franklin's Gull Leucophaeus pipixcan

An adult in breeding plumage at the floating dock, D'Arros, 7 May 2017 (Fig. 3; C. Keating Daly, R. Daly).

Barau's Petrel Pterodroma baraui

Eight of 15 juveniles tracked with transmitters from Réunion in 2017-18 used the Seychelles Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) on 9-17 May 2017, 17-26 May 2017, 23 August-9 September 2017, 19 April-31 May 2018, 19 April-29 May 2018, 22 April-18 May 2018, 5-30 May 2018 and 5 May-9 June 2018, respectively (UMR ENTROPIE, University of Réunion Island and CEBC-CNRS. These data were produced jointly by the LIFE+ Petrels—European Project Grant number LIFE 13 BIO/FR/000075—and the Program EARLYLIFE funded by a European Research Council Advanced Grant under the European Community's Seven Framework Program FP7/2007-2013—Grant Agreement ERC-2012-ADG_20120314 to Henri Weimerskirch. Data



Figure 1. Adult Senegal Lapwing *Vanellus lugubris*, North, Farquhar, 19 December 2019 (Anabelle Cupidon) Vanneau terne *Vanellus lugubris*, adulte, North, Farquhar, 19 décembre 2019 (Anabelle Cupidon)



Figure 2. Female Greater Painted-snipe *Rostratula* benghalensis, Île Persévérance, Mahé, 30 January 2016 (Adrian Skerrett)

Rhynchée peinte *Rostratula benghalensis*, femelle, Île Persévérance, Mahé, 30 janvier 2016 (Adrian Skerrett)

Sixth report of the Seychelles Bird Records Committee: Skerrett et al.





Figure 3. Adult breeding Franklin's Gull *Leucophaeus pipixcan*, D'Arros, 7 May 2017 (Clare Keating Daly) Mouette de Franklin *Leucophaeus pipixcan*, adulte en plumage nuptial, D'Arros, 7 mai 2017 (Clare Keating Daly)



Figure 5. First-calendar-year Eurasian Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia*, Aride, 30 December 2015 (Nicholas Pluchon) Spatule blanche *Platalea leucorodia*, 1ère année, Aride, 30 décembre 2015 (Nicholas Pluchon)

extraction and analysis: Claire Cécile Juhasz, FEDER SMAC).

Mascarene Petrel Pseudobulweria aterrima

Nine tracked with GLS technology between October 2017 and January 2020 entered the Seychelles EEZ between April and August. Four passed through the EEZ towards the northern Indian Ocean and five remained for part of their non-breeding season (observations kindly provided by UMR ENTROPIE, University of Réunion Island. These data are courtesy of a European Project: LIFE+ Petrels—Grant number LIFE 13 BIO/FR/000075. Data extraction and analysis: Audrey Jaeger).



Figure 4. Adult African Spoonbill *Platalea alba*, Mahé, 14 November 2016 (Adrian Skerrett)
Spatule d'Afrique *Platalea alba*, adulte, Mahé, 14 novembre 2016 (Adrian Skerrett)

African Spoonbill Platalea alba

One at several locations along a 5 km-stretch of tidal flats from Providence, Mahé to l'École française, Victoria, Mahé, 5 October 2016–24 November 2016 (Fig. 4; L. Soerensen, N. Bomholt, M. van Dinther, C. Onezia, J. Souyave, S. Agricole, A. P. Skerrett, A. Rocamora).

Eurasian Spoonbill Platalea leucorodia

A first-year over the plateau, Aride, 30 December 2015 (Fig. 5; N. Pluchon, M. Curran, J. Michel, U. Samedi, E. Palmer).

Oriental Honey Buzzard Pernis ptilorhynchus

A second-calendar-year male at Desroches, late 2020 to at least 31 December 2021 (A. Commetant, E. Levorato, J.-C. Camille, W. McNeely; see pp. 230–231 of this issue).

Common Buzzard Buteo buteo

One, race *vulpinus* (Steppe Buzzard), at Cascade, Mahé, 6 April 2019 (C. Brewster).

Pied Kingfisher Ceryle rudis

An adult female at La Gigi, Picard, Aldabra, 1–11 May 2021 (Fig. 6; M. van Rooyen, L. A'Bear).

Eurasian Reed Warbler Acrocephalus scirpaceus

One, race *fuscus* ('Caspian Reed Warbler'), on a skiff in St François lagoon, 11 November 2015 (Fig. 7; W. Haselau).

184 – Bull ABC Vol 29 No 2 (2022)





Figure 6. Adult female Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis*, La Gigi, Picard, Aldabra, 11 May 2021 (Martin van Rooyen) Martin-pêcheur pie *Ceryle rudis*, femelle adulte, La Gigi, Picard, Aldabra, 11 mai 2021 (Martin van Rooyen)



Figure 7. Eurasian Reed Warbler / Rousserolle effarvatte *Acrocephalus scirpaceus fuscus*, St François Atoll, 11 November 2015 (Wayne Haselau)



Figure 8. Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin / Agrobate roux *Cercotrichas galactotes familiaris*, Cousine, 7 November 2019 (Stuart Dunlop)



Figure 9. Female or first-calendar-year Black-headed Bunting *Emberiza melanocephala*, Bird, 4 November 2016 (John Phillips)

Bruant mélanocéphale *Emberiza melanocephala*, femelle ou 1ère année, Bird, 4 novembre 2016 (John Phillips)

African Plain Martin Riparia paludicola

One at Point Dot, Alphonse, 9 November 2018, accepted with the caveat that Asian Plain Martin *R. chinensis* could not be eliminated (P. Nogués, C. Narty). One at Basin Cabris, Picard, Aldabra, 15 March 2020, accepted without caveat (M. van Rooyen).

Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas galactotes* One, probably race *familiaris*, on the south side of Cousine, 6–7 November 2019 (Fig. 8; S. Dunlop, B. Dunlop).

Black-headed Bunting Emberiza melanocephala A female or first-year on Bird, 22 October–11 November 2016 (Fig. 9; P. Bailey *et al.*).

Aldabra White-eye Zosterops aldabrensis

Confined to Aldabra and traditionally viewed as a race of Madagascar White-eye *Z. maderaspatanus*, Aldabra White-eye and other members of this large grouping are now generally separated at species level on the basis of strong genetic differences (Martins *et al.* 2020).

In addition, SBRC accepted the first record of an albatross from Seychelles but was unable to confirm the species:

Sixth report of the Seychelles Bird Records Committee: Skerrett et al.

Albatross sp., probably Black-browed Albatross

Thalassarche melanophris or Shy Albatross T. cauta One at the southern boundary of Seychelles EEZ at c.11°S 50°E (75 nautical miles south-west of Farquhar), 9 June 1966, to 07°S 52°E (30 miles west of Alphonse) on 10 June 1966 (L. Warren).

The number of species recorded in Seychelles at 31 December 2021 is 283, comprising 63 breeding species, 30 annual migrants, 180 vagrants and ten extinct species (four of which were introduced but have been eradicated or died out naturally). In addition, three groups of sightings unidentified to species level have been accepted that include species as yet unidentified in Seychelles: albatross sp., *Bulweria* sp. and *Ficedula* sp.

Taxonomic reviews

Bulweria petrels

Two species of Bulweria occur in the Indian Ocean and are likely visitors to Seychelles waters: Jouanin's Petrel B. fallax, which breeds at Socotra and probably other localities in the Arabian Sea, and Bulwer's Petrel B. bulwerii, a much more widespread species with breeding populations in the tropical and subtropical Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The latter travels west from Pacific waters in the non-breeding season, with some visiting the Indian Ocean. Recently, what may prove to be a third form of *Bulweria* has been photographed in waters around the Comoros (Shirihai & Bretagnolle 2015). These birds are intermediate in some features between Jouanin's and Bulwer's and make the identification of Bulweria petrels around Seychelles even more challenging. SBRC reviewed records and concluded that for now, in the absence of a specimen or measurements, it will treat all sight records of Bulweria petrels as Bulweria sp. until the situation around the Comoros is clarified. As a result, the SBRC archive now contains 17 records accepted as Bulweria sp., one record of Bulwer's Petrel accepted with a caveat re the 'Comoros Petrel' and no records of Jouanin's Petrel, which has been deleted from the Seychelles list.

Pacific Swift Apus pacificus

SBRC has accepted 18 records of Pacific Swift. However, the species comprises several races, which have been treated by some authorities as four species: Pacific Swift *A. pacificus*, Blyth's Swift *A. leuconyx*, Cook's Swift *A. cooki* and Salim Ali's Swift *A. salimali* (Leader 2011). Anderson & Shimal (2020) suggested that sightings from the Maldives are likely to refer to Blyth's Swift, the only one of these taxa recorded in Peninsular India, as Pacific Swift breeds much further east and is a long-distance migrant to Australia.

SBRC reviewed all records, concluding that the descriptions of none was sufficient to distinguish between the four species. However, Cook's and Salim Ali's were ruled out as extremely unlikely because they are not long-distance migrants. It was noted that Pacific Swift is the only long-distance migrant of the four species and as such could reach Seychelles; indeed, it has been recorded in Britain nine times to 2019 (Holt, French & the Rarities Committee 2020). However, Blyth's also migrates to some extent and is a possibility. SBRC has decided to retain all records as Pacific Swift with a caveat that Blyth's Swift cannot be ruled out.

Greater Short-toed Lark Calandrella brachydactyla and Mongolian Short-toed Lark C. dukhunensis

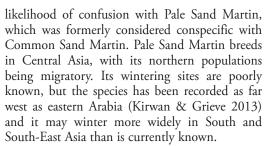
Mongolian (or Eastern) Short-toed Lark breeds on the steppe of eastern Mongolia and neighbouring parts of China and Russia, and winters mainly in southern India (Alström & Gombobaatar 2021). It was previously treated as a race of Greater Short-toed Lark, but molecular data show that it is long diverged from the latter and is more closely related to Hume's Lark *C. acutirostris* (del Hoyo & Collar 2016, Stervander *et al.* 2016). Additionally, the song, calls and song-flight vocalisations markedly differ. The species of *Calandrella* recorded in the Maldives, formerly accepted as Greater, has now been accepted as Mongolian (Anderson & Shimal 2020).

SBRC reviewed records of Greater Short-toed Lark prior to its 2020 Annual Meeting. Most were supported by good photographs showing features consistent with Greater and ruling out Mongolian Short-toed Lark. All records have been retained without caveat as Greater Short-toed Lark.

Common Sand Martin Riparia riparia and Pale Sand Martin R. diluta

Anderson & Shimal (2020) highlighted that the identification of Common Sand Martin is not straightforward in the Maldives, due to the

186 - Bull ABC Vol 29 No 2 (2022)



SBRC reviewed its photo archive of records during its 2021 Annual Meeting. Many records were accompanied by photographs and where it was possible to make a judgement (the majority of photo records), all showed a broad breast-band consistent with Common Sand Martin, with none showing a narrow diffuse centre to the breast-band consistent with Pale Sand Martin. All records have been retained as Common Sand Martin without caveat.

Western Yellow Wagtail Motacilla flava and Eastern Yellow Wagtail M. tschutschensis

These two taxa were considered conspecific until recently, but are remarkably distinct genetically and vocally, whilst showing no constant diagnostic plumage characters (Badyaev *et al.* 2020). Eastern Yellow Wagtail is possible in Seychelles, as a long-distance migrant notable for undertaking long, non-stop movements over deserts and water. However, as migrants in Seychelles are generally silent, separation will be challenging without a specimen or a genetic sample. At the 2020 Annual Meeting, SBRC agreed to retain all records as Western Yellow Wagtail.

Summary of accepted vagrant records other than additions 2016–21

Numbers in parentheses represent, first, the total number of accepted records to date and, second, the number of records accepted during the six-year period. The abbreviation 1cy/2cy, etc., is used to indicate birds aged as first/second-calendar year etc. for birds breeding in the Northern Hemisphere (the vast majority of vagrants). This system works less well in the Southern Hemisphere as the breeding season may span two calendar years, and for these species immature/juvenile is used.

Sixth report of the Seychelles Bird Records Committee: Skerrett et al.

White-faced Whistling Duck Dendrocygna viduata (6, 1)

Eleven, Alphonse, 29 January 2016, four remaining to 1 February 2016 (A. Fernández, W. Haselau, P. Nogués).

Northern Shoveler Anas clypeata (16, 3)

Female, Mahé, 10–11 December 2017 (M. Betts, A. P. Skerrett, T. Knuth, S. Agricole). Adult male, Mahé, 3 February 2018 (S. Ansell, R. Thompson). One, Alphonse, 30 October 2020 (C. Narty, L. Delpech).

Tufted Duck Aythya fuligula (2, 1)

Female, Mahé, 25 November–9 December 2017 (E. Urbanski, S. Hugheston-Roberts. J. Millett, A. P. Skerrett, M. Betts).

European Turtle Dove Streptopelia turtur (12, 2) One, Bird, 6–11 November 2016 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). One, Alphonse, 23 February 2017 (C. Narty, A. Fernández).

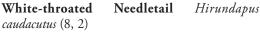
Great Spotted Cuckoo *Clamator glandarius* (3, 1) One, Aride, 7 December 2016 (L. Stirand).

Jacobin Cuckoo Oxylophus jacobinus (19, 7) 1cy, Desroches, 2–5 December 2016 (P. Holden). One, Desroches, 8 January 2017 (A. Commetant). 1cy, Denis, 12–18 December 2017 (J. A. Michel). One, Farquhar, 5 March 2018 (T. Collier, M. Cosson). 2cy, Bird, 10 February 2018 (D. Isaac). 1cy, Aride, 17 December 2018 (T. Lansley, N. Khan). 2cy, Alphonse, 15–28 January 2021 (G. Fordham, G. Curd).

Lesser Cuckoo *Cuculus poliocephalus* (25, 3) Adult female, Aride, 11–14 April 2017 (A. Belmont, M. Curran, J. Michel). 1cy, Denis, 12 December 2017 (J. A. Michel). Adult, Desroches, 18 December 2019 (C. Nisbet).

Cuckoo sp. Cuculus sp. (36, 4)

One, Alphonse, 27 November 2017 (S. Balderson). One, Desroches, 8 February 2019 (A. Cupidon). Female or 1cy, Alphonse, 3 December 2019 (K. Day). One, probably Madagascar Cuckoo *C. rochii*, Aldabra, 15 September 2020 (M. van Rooyen).



Three, Desroches, 19 November 2019 (C. Nisbet, F. Clair). One, Desroches, 25 November 2019 (C. Nisbet, F. Clair).

Common Swift Apus apus (47, 12)

One, Desroches, 26 January 2016 (J. Bluemel). One, Mahé, 27 March–15 May 2016 (A. P. Skerrett). One, Alphonse, 7–10 January 2017 (P. Nogués, A. Fernández). Two, Alphonse, 6–13 January 2018 (P. Nogués). One, Desroches, 18 June 2019 (C. Nisbet). One, Bird, 2 October 2019 (K. Seymour). One, Desroches, 17 November 2019 (C. Nisbet, F. Clair). One, Alphonse, 3 December 2019 (K. Day). One, Farquhar, 30 December 2019 (M. Morgan, A. Cupidon). At least two, Farquhar, 13–14 October 2020 (M. Morgan, A. Cupidon). One, Farquhar, 1 February 2021 (M. Morgan, A. Cupidon).

Pacific Swift Apus pacificus (18, 2)

One, Alphonse, 1 December 2015 (W. Haselau, J. Hosegood). One, Desroches, 4 December 2019 (F. Clair).

Little Swift *Apus affinis* (12, 5)

One, Farquhar, 5 February 2016 (R. Jeanne). One, Farquhar, 8 October 2018 (L. Calabrese. T. Collier). One, Cousin, 4 February 2019 (C. Tagg). One, Cousine, 2 February 2020 (S. Dunlop, B. Dunlop). Four, Alphonse, 20 January 2020 (C. Narty).

Corncrake Crex crex (6, 2)

Adult male, Bird, 27 September 2019 (O. Zesch, C. J. Feare). One, Bird, 31 January 2020 (C. Nisbet).

Spotted Crake *Porzana porzana* (3, 1) 1cy, Rémire, 26 October 2020 (G. Savy).

Allen's Gallinule *Porphyrula alleni* (10, 2) Adult, Mahé, 15–20 August 2019 (M. Bonfatti, A. Domass). One, Alphonse, 17 December 2020– 5 January 2021 (G. Curd, G. Fordham).

Caspian Plover *Charadrius asiaticus* (19, 4) One, Bird, 15–17 November 2015 (T. Inticknap). Male, Mahé, 20 October 2017 (S. Agricole). 1cy, D'Arros, 23 October 2017 (C. Keating Daly). Adult, Alphonse, 24 October 2019 (C. Narty).

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius* (12, 1) One, Desroches, 22–25 January 2020 (C. Nisbet, F. Clair).

Oriental Plover Charadrius veredus (7, 2) One, Praslin, 19 October 1982 (W. Nezadal). One, Farquhar, 31 October 2020 (M. Morgan, A. Cupidon).

Little Curlew *Numenius minutus* (3, 1) 1cy, Alphonse, 8 October 2020 (G. Curd).

Black-tailed Godwit Limosa limosa (12, 4)
One, Bird, 11–14 November 2016 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips. A. P. Skerrett, J. Burrell). One, Desroches, 26 November 2019 (C. Nisbet, F. Clair, J. Prosper, A. Rylance). Up to six, Farquhar, 23 December 2019–4 March 2020 (M. Morgan, A. Cupidon). 1–2, Farquhar, 20 November 2020–10 March 2021 (A. Cupidon, M. Morgan).

Ruff Calidris pugnax (41, 7)

Female, Praslin, 27 March 1990 (J Nilsson). Adult, Bird, 25 October 2015 (D. Milsom). 1cy male, Alphonse, 7 November 2017 (C. Narty, P. Nogués, A. Fernández). Adult male, Alphonse, 1 November 2018 (P. Nogués). Adult, Frégate, 4 January 2019 (R. Baxter). 1cy female, Desroches, 10 November 2019 (C. Nisbet, F. Clair). Adult, Alphonse, 19 October 2020 (C. Narty).

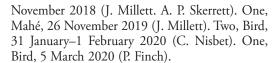
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata* (7, 2) 2cy, Curieuse, 9 February 2017 (G. Holm). One, Mahé, 2 October–19 November 2018 (J. Millett, A. P. Skerrett).

Pintail Snipe *Gallinago stenura* (4, 1) One, Desroches, 17–20 November 2019 (C. Nisbet, F. Clair).

Common Snipe Gallinago gallinago (28, 8)

One, Île Persévérance, 30 October–7 November 2015, then two to 20 February 2016 (C. Onezia, J. Souyave, A. P. Skerrett, M. Betts). Three, Mahé, 14 February 2016 (A. P. Skerrett, S. Agricole). One, Grande Sœur, 23–25 November 2016 (G. Rocamora). One, North, 12 October 2018 (C. J. Havemann, T. Retief). One, Mahé, 2 October–19

188 – Bull ABC Vol 29 No 2 (2022)



Snipe sp. *Gallinago* sp. (14, 2) One, Desroches, 17 January 2020 (C. Nisbet, F. Clair). One, Farquhar, 4 December 2021 (C. Musgrave).

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus* (10, 2) 1cy, Mahé, 27–28 November 2019 (I. Forsyth). One, Desroches, 25 December 2019–17 February 2020 (C. Nisbet).

Grey-tailed Tattler Heteroscelus brevipes (8, 4) Adult, Mahé, 4 October 2016 (L. Soerensen, N. Bomholt). One, Alphonse, 23 October 2019–31 March 2021 (C. Narty, K. Day). One, Farquhar, 28 November 2020 (M. Morgan, A. Cupidon). One, Alphonse, 6 October 2021 (C. Narty).

Marsh Sandpiper Tringa stagnatilis (15, 3) One, Mahé, 26 September 1993 (K. Cowton). One, Mahé, 7 February 2016 (A. P. Skerrett, P. Kaestner). One, Desroches, 3–5 January 2018 (M. Morgan).

Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola* (33, 16) Adult, Bird, 25 October 2015 (D. Milsom). Adult, Frégate, 26 October-18 November 2016 (S. Houben, N. Lambrikx). Adult breeding plumage, Bird, 7-14 November 2016 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). Adult non-breeding, Bird, 10-14 November 2016 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips, A. P. Skerrett, J. Burrell). Adult partial breeding plumage, Bird, 16 November 2016 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). Three adults, Bird, 18–24 November 2016 (M. Camici). Five, Alphonse, 5-6 October 2017, increasing to seven (three 1cy and four adults) by 16 October (A. Fernández, P. Nogués, C. Narty). One, North, 24 September-11 October 2018 (C. J. Havemann, G. Rocamora, J.-E. Hay). 1cy, Bird, 6-7 October 2018 (G. R. Goodall, C. Goodall, A. P. Skerrett). 1cy and adult, Bird, 6-13 October 2018 (G. R. Goodall, C. Goodall, A. P. Skerrett). Three adults, Alphonse, 31 October-1 November 2018 (P. Nogués). One, Frégate, 1 December 2018 (R. Baxter). Adult breeding, Desroches, 16 April-6 May 2019 (C. Nisbet, M. Morgan, A. Cupidon).

1cy and one adult, Alphonse, 12–14 October 2020 (G. Curd, C. Narty, G. Fordham). Adult, Farquhar, 16 November 2020, joined by second adult, 19–27 November 2020 (M. Morgan, A. Cupidon). Adult, Alphonse, 1 November 2021 (G. Curd).

Oriental Pratincole Glareola maldivarum (28, 8)
One, Praslin, 24 October–24 November 1982
(W. Nezadal, N. J. Phillips). 1cy, Frégate, 9
October 2016 (S. Houben). One, Poivre, 17
November 2016 (P.-A. Adam). Adult, Frégate, 20
October 2017 (J. van de Crommenacker, M. van
Dinther). 1cy, Frégate 20 November 2018 (R.
Baxter). Adult, Alphonse, 15 October 2019 (C.
Narty). Adult, Desroches, 14–28 November 2019
(F. Clair, C. Nisbet). Adult, Alphonse, 11–13
November 2020 (C. Narty).

Black-winged Pratincole *Glareola nordmanni* (24, 10)

One, Alphonse, 12 March 2009 (J. Wells & Victor Emanuel Nature Tours group). 1cy, Bird, 21–23 October 2013 (T. & T. Enticknap). 1cy, D'Arros, 31 October–1 November 2016 (C. Keating Daly, R. Daly, D. van den Heever). Adult, North, 1 November 2016 (C. J. Havemann, T. Havemann). Adult and 1cy, Bird, 6–9 November, 1cy to 13 November 2016 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips, A. P. Skerrett, J. Burrell). Adult, Frégate, 9 October 2016 (S. Houben). Adult, Frégate, 20 December 2016 (S. Houben). Adult, Farquhar, 8 March 2017 (R. Jeanne, A. Duhec). Three adults, Alphonse, 21 October 2017 (P. Nogués, A. Fernández). Adult, Alphonse, 5–20 April 2021 (G. Curd).

Madagascar Pratincole *Glareola ocularis* (4, 1) Adult, Farquhar, 12–19 September 2017 (T. Collier).

Pratincole sp. *Glareola* sp. (20, 1) One, Desnœufs, 30 April 2016 (G. Marie, A. Duhec).

South Polar Skua *Catharacta maccormicki* (5, 1) One, Aldabra, 25 June 1988 (J. Imani).

Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus* (6, 1) 2cy, Desroches, 18 February 2016 (P Holden).

Sixth report of the Seychelles Bird Records Committee: Skerrett et al.

Lesser Black-backed Gull Larus fuscus (16, 4)
One, Cousine, 16–20 December 2017 (B. Hodgkiss, T. O'Brien). 3cy–4cy, Desroches, 26–31 January 2018, probably race barabensis but heuglini not ruled out (M. Morgan, A. Cupidon). 2cy, race heuglini, Mahé, 2 June–7 August 2018 (C. J. Feare, A. P. Skerrett, M. Betts, S. Agricole). Subadult, race fuscus, Moyenne, 7 June 2014 (I. Hoareau).

Lesser Black-backed (Steppe) Gull *Larus fuscus barabensis* or **Caspian Gull** *L. cachinnans* (3, 1) 2cy, Desroches, 16 January 2021 (J.-C. Camille).

Little Tern Sternula albifrons (4, 2)
Two adults, Mahé, 6 March 2015, and one 7

Two adults, Mahé, 6 March 2015, and one 7 March 2015 (T. Hibbert, L. Booth). Adult, Farquhar, 18 July 2017 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne).

Gull-billed Tern Gelochelidon nilotica (18, 5) One, Mahé, 18 November 1992 (B. Batchelor). Adult, Mahé, 10 February 2017 (D. Richards, S. Agricole). One, Mahé, 23 October 2017 (M. Mills, J. Lehnert, C. Rogers, H. Batjes). One, Mahé, 17 April 2018 (S. Agricole, H. Kunze). 2cy, Mahé, 7 May 2019 (C. Brewster).

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida* (9, 1) One, Mahé, 27 March–15 May 2016 (A. P. Skerrett).

White-cheeked Tern Sterna repressa (4, 1) 2cy, La Digue, 27 April 2018 (D. Winzeler).

Red-billed Tropicbird Phaethon aetherus (14, 3) One, race indicus, Bird, first week September 2018–12 October 2018 (D. Isaac, J. Soares, N. Savy, G. R. Goodall, C. Goodall). One, Bird, 27 May–15 June 2019 (D. Isaac, C. J. Feare). One, race indicus, 27 May–14 July 2021 (C. J. Feare, C. Larose).

Wilson's Storm-petrel Oceanites oceanicus (18, 6) Four, 07°S, 52°E, 10 June 1966 (L. Warren). One, c.100 nautical miles north of Mahé, 7 November 1984 (M. G. Creighton). Five, north of D'Arros, 8 April 2017; three, 19 April 2017; two, 26 April 2017 (C. Keating Daly). One, St François, 18 April 2020 (A. Forsyth, G. Fordham).

White-faced Storm-petrel Pelagodroma marina (7, 2)

2–4, 12 nautical miles east of Desroches, 18 May 2017 (P. Nogués, A. Fernández). Two, off Mahé, 24 August 2019 (O. Langrand, J. MacKinnon).

Black-bellied Storm-petrel *Fregetta tropica* (4, 1) Two, 09°19S, 51°31'E, 26 September 2007 (A. Hacking, S. Hacking).

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* (2, 1) 1cy, Bird, 4 December 2017, possibly as early as October 2017, to at least July 2021 (T. Knuth and many others).

Eurasian Bittern Botaurus stellaris (12, 5)

One, Denis, 3 December 2015 (M. van Dinther). One, Denis 2 March–17 May, found dead 9 June 2016 (J. van de Crommenacker, M. van Dinther). Adult, Frégate, 12–16 October 2017 (J. van de Crommenacker, M. van Dinther). One, D'Arros, 28 October, found dead 2 November 2017 (C. Keating Daly, B. Luckman). 1cy, Desroches, 20 October 2018 (M. Morgan). Adult, Cousine 8–9 November 2018 (S. Dunlop, B. Dunlop).

Little Bittern Ixobrychus minutus (2, 1) 1cy, Bird, 12–18 November 2016 (N. J. & V. E. Phillips, A. P. Skerrett, T. & T. Enticknap).

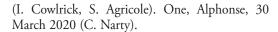
Great Egret *Ardea alba* (25, 6)

One, La Digue, 13 February 2012 (E. Askum). One, Bird, 15–24 November 2016 (Y. Coatanéa, N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips, J. Burrell, T. & T. Enticknap, M. Camici). One, Frégate, 18 October 2016–31 January 2017 (S. Houben). One, Grand Terre, Aldabra, 21 September 2020 (M. van Rooyen, B. Souyana). One, Aldabra, 26–28 June 2021 (M. van Rooyen). One, Bird, 27 May–19 July 2021 (C. J. Feare, C. Larose).

Little Egret Egretta garzetta (45, 8)

One, Curieuse, 7 October 2015 (K. Petersen). One, Alphonse, 10 December 2015 (C. Narty, P. Nogués, A. Fernández). One, Mahé, 16 April–4 May 2016, two, 4 May (T. Baker, S. Agricole). One, Mahé, 5 October 2016 (L. Soerensen, N. Bomholt). One, Mahé, 12 July 2018 (A. Plumb, T. Plumb, P. Constance). One, Mahé, 23 April 2019 (C. Brewster). One, Mahé, 14 June 2019

190 – Bull ABC Vol 29 No 2 (2022)



Squacco Heron Ardeola ralloides (19, 6) Adult breeding, Mahé, 14 February 2016 (A. P. Skerrett, S. Agricole). Adult breeding, Desroches, 27–28 December 2017 (M. Morgan). Adult, Desroches, 14–16 January 2018 (M. Morgan, S. Contoret, A. Cupidon). Adult, Bird, 7–17

S. Contoret, A. Cupidon). Adult, Bird, 7–17 November 2018 (A. P. Skerrett, N. Savy). One, possibly two, Mahé, 10 December 2020 (S. Agricole). 2cy, North, 13 April–2 May 2021 (A. Sanders, T. Havemann).

Indian Pond Heron Ardeola grayii (9, 6)

One, Denis, 22 November 2017 (J. Michel). One, Desroches, 12–19 June 2019 (C. Nisbet, F. Clair, R. Cumming, A. Commetant). One, Denis, 19–23 November 2019 (R. M. Mason). Adult, La Digue, 23 February 2020 (D. C. Jardine). Adult, Denis, 13 June 2018 (F. Barberini). Adult, Desroches, 21 September–10 November 2021 (E. Levorato, W. McNeely, A. P. Skerrett).

Osprey Pandion haliaetus (6, 4)

Juvenile, Bird, 30 October–9 November 2016 (A. Bailey, P Bailey, N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips, T. R. Bresson, J. Burrell). One, Mahé, 3 June 2017 (C. J. Feare, C. Larose). One, Grand Sœur, 12 December 2021 (C. Gouraud). 1cy, Silhouette, 13 December 2021 (E. Levorato, W. McNeely, N. Khan).

Eurasian Marsh Harrier Circus aeruginosus (5, 2) 2cy, Mahé, 6–11 February 2016 (A. P. Skerrett, P. Kaestner). Female or 2cy male, Silhouette, 3–15 December 2017 (F. Baguette, L. Calabrese, T. Baboorun, S. Harryba).

Black Kite *Milvus migrans* (8, 3)

2cy, Picard, Aldabra, 8 February 2020 (C. Sanchez *et al.*). 2cy, Malabar, Aldabra 24–25 February 2020 (M. van Rooyen, M. Bielsa, L. A'Bear). Adult, Aldabra, 22 May–3 June 2020 (M. van Rooyen, M. Esparon).

Yellow-billed Kite *Milvus aegyptius* (10, 2) Adult, Aldabra, 11–13 September 2020 (M. van Rooyen, M. Bielsa, M. Esparon, L. A'Bear). Immature, Aldabra, 25 September 2020 (M. van Rooyen). Eurasian Scops Owl Otus scops (9, 1) One, North, 31 December 2018 (H.-G. Lang).

European Bee-eater *Merops apiaster* (4, 1) Three, Picard, Aldabra, 19 March 2020 (M. van Rooyen).

Lesser Kestrel Falco naumanni (13, 4)

2cy male, Alphonse, 28–31 March 2016 (P. Nogués, A. Fernández, C. Narty). 1cy male, Desroches, 4 December 2017 (M. Betts, M. Morgan). 1cy male, Poivre, 7 December 2017 (M. Betts). Adult male, Mahé, 6 April 2021 (D. Delpech, S. Morel, A. Pothin, D. Labiche, A. Dias, S. Jeremie, E. Racombo).

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* (4, 1) One, probable 2cy, Denis, 8 January 2016 (J. van de Crommenacker, M. van Dinther).

Eleonora's Falcon Falco eleonorae (53, 13)

2cy, Aldabra, 9 January 2016 (K. Chong Seng, J. Hoareau, A. J. Burt). 2cy, Alphonse, 1 January 2017 (P. Nogués, A. Fernández). One, Denis, 6 January 2017 (R. Resola). 1cy pale morph, Farquhar, 25-30 December 2017 (T. Collier, L. Calabrese). 1cy, Farquhar, 28 November 2017 (M. Betts). Dark morph, Farquhar, 12 November 2018 (T. Collier). Adult female and one other, Farquhar, 12 November 2018 (L. Calabrese). 2cy, Cousin, 1 January 2019 (C. Mahoune). 1cy, Farquhar, 19 December 2019 (A. Cupidon, M. Morgan). Palemorph adult and three 2cy, Farquhar, 7 January 2020 (M. Morgan). 2cy, Aldabra, 9 March 2020 (M. van Rooyen). Adult female dark morph, adult male pale morph and 2cy, Aldabra, 5 April 2020 (M. van Rooyen). One, probable 2cy, Aldabra, 19 November 2020 (M. von Rooyen).

Eurasian Hobby *Falco subbuteo* (34, 6)

1cy, Praslin, 16 November 2009 (E. Lehtovirta). 2cy, Alphonse, 11–19 January 2016 (A. Fernández, C. Narty, P. Nogués). Adult, Bird, 12–14 November 2016 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips, T. & T. Enticknap). Two 1cy, 13–19 November 2016, one to 24 November 2016 (N. J. Phillips. V. E. Phillips, A. P. Skerrett, J. Burrell, T. & T. Enticknap, M. Camici). 1cy, Denis, 12 November 2016 (M. Robinson). 1cy, Aride, 27 November 2017 (M. Todesvin, U. Samedi, M. Curran).



One, Aldabra, 22 February 2018 (J. van de Crommenacker, J Appoo). Adult male, Aldabra, 28 October 2018 (B. Stephenson *et al.*).

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio* (11, 2)

1cy, Bird, 16 October 2017 (M. Rajasekaran). Adult female, Cousine, 2 December 2019 (S. Dunlop, M. Keeley).

Greater Short-toed Lark Calandrella brachydactyla (11, 4)

One, Bird, 10–11 November 2016 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). One, Bird, 13–24 November 2016 (J. Burrell, N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips, A. P. Skerrett, Y. Coatanéa). One, Desroches, 14 January 2018 (M. Morgan, S. Contoret, A. Cupidon). One, Bird, 1–4 December 2019 (J. Dodd).

Common Sand Martin *Riparia riparia* (50, 13) One, Poivre, 17 November 2016 (P.-A. Adam). At least three, Bird, 13-14 November 2016 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips, A. P. Skerrett). One, D'Arros, 28 November 2017 (C. Keating Daly). One, Bird, 4 December 2017 (T. Knuth). Two, Bird, 2 November 2018 (C. Courtaux, D. Isaac). Two, St François, 21 January 2020 (C. Narty, G. Fordham, G. Curd). 2cy, Desroches, 24 January 2020 (C. Nisbet). One, Alphonse, 2 April 2020 (G. Curd, G. Fordham, T. Russell). One, Alphonse, 2-4 May 2020 (C. Narty, G. Curd). One, Alphonse, 23 October 2020 (C. Narty). One, Farquhar, 13 January 2021 (M. Morgan, A. Cupidon). Three, Aldabra, 2 March 2021 (M. van Rooyen). Adult, Alphonse, 28-31 May 2021 (G. Fordham, G. Curd).

Mascarene Martin Phedina borbonica (21, 5)
One, Alphonse, 25 February 2019 (C. Narty).
One, St François, 12 March 2020 (G. Curd, G. Fordham). One, Farquhar, 23–24 November 2020 (A. Cupidon, M. Morgan). One, Farquhar, 13 January 2021 (A. Cupidon, M. Morgan).
One, St François, 2 November 2021 (G. Curd, G. Fordham).

Common House Martin Delichon urbicum (30, 9) One, Alphonse, 24 June 2015 (L. Martin, S. Balderson). One, Denis, 14 March 2017 (T. Mahoune, A. Walter). One, Desroches, 27 May 2019 (C. Nisbet). 1cy, Bird, 5 November 2019 (Y. Coatanéa). Adult, Bird, 1 December 2019 (R. J. Dodd, J. Dodd). Adult and 2cy, Alphonse, 6 March 2020 (C. Narty). Up to three, Alphonse, 4 and 7 June 2020 (G. Curd, G. Fordham). One, St François, 2 November 2021 (G. Curd, G. Fordham). One, Assumption, 2 December 2021 (C. Gouraud).

Wattled Starling Creatophora cinerea (7, 2)
Female or non-breeding male, Bird, 8 October 2018 (G. R. Goodall). Adult male, Alphonse, 9 March 2020 (G. Curd).

Rosy Starling Pastor roseus (6, 2) 1cy, Alphonse, 8 November 2019 (C. Narty). Adult, Bird, 1 February 2020 (C. Nisbet).

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata* (50, 3) One, Bird, 7–12 November 2016 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips, J. Burrell). One, Alphonse, 15 March 2017 (C. Narty). One, Alphonse, 7 March 2018 (P. Nogués, A. Fernández).

Common Redstart Phoenicurus phoenicurus (21, 3) One, Bird, 13 November 2016 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). Male, Desroches, 13 November 2016 (P. Holden, J. Bluemel). Female or 1cy, North, 27 November 2021 (C. J. Havemann, T. Havemann, A. Saunders).

Common Rock Thrush *Monticola saxatilis* (5, 1) Female, Alphonse, 28 October 2016 (P. Nogués, A. Fernández, C. Narty).

Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina* (10, 2) One, Bird, 27–28 October 2014 (T. R. Bresson, T. Inticknap). 1cy, Alphonse, 28 December 2020 (C. Narty).

Pied Wheatear Oenanthe pleschanka (8, 3) Adult male, Bird, 1–2 November 2018 (C. Courtaux, J. Courtaux, D. Isaac). 1cy male, North, 12–14 November 2019 (T. Havemann, C. J. Havemann, D. Pietersen). Adult male, Alphonse, 3 December 2019 (C. Narty).

Grey Wagtail Motacilla cinerea (11, 2)

One, Alphonse, 8 October 2016 (P. Nogués, A. Fernández, A. Greiser, J. Prosper). One, Desroches, 3 November 2017 (M. Morgan, A. Cupidon, J.-C. Camille).

192 – Bull ABC Vol 29 No 2 (2022)



Adult male, Farguhar, 11–14 December 2015 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). Adult, Providence, 21 March 2016 (A. P. Skerrett, U. Tatarinov, P. Matyot). One, Bird, 6-16 November 2016 (N. J. Phillips, T. R. Bresson, V. E. Phillips, J. Burrell, A. P. Skerrett, Y. Coatanéa). Male, Desroches, 28 November 2016 (J. Bluemel, P. Holden). One, Bird, 11 December 2016 (L. Stirand). Adult, Alphonse, 27 December 2016 (C. Narty). One, Desroches, 27 December 2016 (M. Jones). 1cy, Aride, 7 November 2017 (M. Curran). 1cy, Alphonse, 27 November 2017 (P. Nogués, C. Narty, A. Fernández). One, Cousine, 13 November 2018 (S. Dunlop). One, Bird, 3 December 2019 (J. Dodd). One, Silhouette, 4 December 2019 (T. Baboorun). Male, Aldabra, 18 April 2021 (M. van Rooyen, J. Brice, L. A'Bear).

Red-throated Pipit Anthus cervinus (39, 10)

One, Bird, 7–16 November 2016 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips, J. Burrell, Y. Coatanéa, A. P. Skerrett). One, Bird, 11 November 2016 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). One, Alphonse, 16 December 2016 (C. Narty). One, Desroches, 20 November 2017 (M. Morgan, J.-C. Camille, A. Cupidon). One, Alphonse, 28 November 2017 (C. Narty, A. Fernández). Probable adult female, Desroches, 25 November 2019 (C. Nisbet). Adult, Desroches, 23 January 2020 (C. Nisbet). Adult male-type, Alphonse, 2–3 March 2020 (C. Narty, G. Curd). 1cy, Aldabra, 22 November 2020 (M. van Rooyen). Adult, 1cy, and unaged, Alphonse, 2 December 2020 (G. Curd).

Vagrants to southern atolls (annual visitors north of Farquhar Group)

White-winged Tern Chlidonias leucopterus (9, 1) Adult, Farquhar, 18 December 2020 (A. Cupidon, M. Morgan).

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea* (2, 1)

1–2cy, Farquhar, 17 November 2020–8 March 2021 (A. Cupidon, M. Morgan).

Amur Falcon Falco amurensis (4, 4)

Male, Farquhar, 13–17 December; female, 17–20 December and 25 December 2017–January 2018 (T. Collier, L. Calabrese). Adult female, 1cy, and one other, Aldabra, 9–24 December 2017 (J. Letori, V. Alis, L. Cook, C. Sanchez, J. van de

Crommenacker, J. Appoo). Two females, Farquhar, 17 February–5 March 2018 (T. Collier). 1cy, Aldabra, 23 December 2019 (M. Bielsa, L. A'Bear).

Vagrants east of Aldabra Group (where annual visitors)

Broad-billed Roller Eurystomus glaucurus (33, 8) One, Farquhar, 2–17 January 2016 (R. Jeanne, A. Duhec). One, Desroches, 2–5 December 2016 (P. Holden, J. Bluemel). Two, Poivre, 5–6 December 2017 (M. Betts, D. Plows, J. Lowe, J.-C. Camille). One, Alphonse, 11 December 2017 (C. Narty). One, Farquhar, 30 October 2018 (T. Collier, L. Calabrese). One, Alphonse, 21 November 2018 (C. Narty). Adult, Farquhar, 4 January 2021 (A. Cupidon). One, D'Arros, 3 November 2021 (E. Moulinie, R. Rose).

Breeding species outside their normal range

SBRC considers records of breeding species seen on islands outside their normal breeding range. These are not listed in full here, but notable records are:

Dimorphic Egret Egretta dimorpha

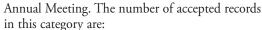
First record east of the Aldabra Group: one, St François, 13–14 November 2018 (P. Nogués, L. Martin, A. Fernández).

Seychelles Kestrel Falco araeus

First documented records from La Digue: one, 3 March 2015 (T. Hibbert, L. Booth), reported sporadically until two from 10 August 2018 (G. Meeus).

Annual visitors

SBRC defines a species as annual in Seychelles if it has been recorded in at least eight of the previous ten years with an average of at least two records per annum. Records of some species that satisfy this criterion are still assessed if they are commonly confused with vagrants or (in the case of Western Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*) for interest in which races occur in Seychelles and possible future taxonomic splits. The status of Little Stint *Calidris minuta* was changed from annual to vagrant at the 2015 SBRC Annual Meeting, following a huge decline in the number of reports, but returned to the list of annual species at the 2021 SBRC



Common Cuckoo Cuculus canorus (73, 21) Little Stint Calidris minuta (105, 14) Northern Wheatear Oenanthe oenanthe (84, 14) Western Yellow Wagtail Motacilla flava (64, 15).

Acknowledgements

This paper is dedicated to the contribution of David Fisher to SBRC over a period of 30 years. He was a founding member of the committee and Chairman for 24 years, from 1997 until his death from cancer in 2021. We are also grateful to John Phillips, a founding member of SBRC, who retired in 2020. We thank all of the observers who submitted records to SBRC during the period, in particular the staff and volunteers of Island Conservation Society and Seychelles Islands Foundation. We also thank our consultants who contributed to record adjudication during the period covered by this paper, namely Dick Forsman (raptors), John Marchant (waders), Klaus Malling Olsen (gulls), Tony Palliser (seabirds) and Robert Prŷs-Jones (museums).

References

- Alström, P. & Gombobaatar, S. 2021. Mongolian Short-toed Lark (*Calandrella dukhunensis*), version 2.0. In Billerman, S. M. & Keeney, B. K. (eds.) *Birds of the World*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell Lab of Ornithology. https://doi.org/10.2173/bow.sstlar4.02.
- Anderson, R. C. & Shimal, M. 2020. A checklist of birds of the Maldives. *Indian Birds Monogr.* 3: 1–52A.
- Badyaev, A. V., Kessel, B., Gibson, D. D., del Hoyo, J. & Collar, N. 2020. Eastern Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla tschutschensis*), version 1.0. In Billerman, S. M. (ed.) *Birds of the World.* Ithaca, NY: Cornell Lab of Ornithology. https://doi.org/10.2173/bow.eaywag.01.
- Clements, J. F., Schulenberg, T. S., Iliff, M. J., Billerman, S. M., Fredericks, T. A., Gerbracht, J. A., Lepage, D., Sullivan, B. L. & Wood, C. L. 2021. The eBird/Clements checklist of Birds of the World: v2021. https://www.birds.cornell.edu/ clementschecklist/download/.
- Holt, C., French, P. & the Rarities Committee. 2020. Report on rare birds in Great Britain in 2019. *Br. Birds* 113: 585–655.
- del Hoyo, J. & Collar, N. J. 2016. HBW and BirdLife International Illustrated Checklist of the Birds of the World. Vol. 2. Barcelona: Lynx Edicions.

- Kirwan, G. M. & Grieve, A. 2013. Unravelling Meinertzhagen-generated confusion concerning the occurrence of Pale Sand Martin *Riparia diluta* in Egypt and the Near East, with a review of the species' status in the Middle East. *Sandgrouse* 35: 114–125.
- Leader, P. J., 2011. Taxonomy of the Pacific Swift *Apus pacificus* Latham, 1802, complex. *Bull. Br. Ornithol. Club* 131: 81–93.
- Martins, F. C., Cox, S. C., Irestedt, M., Prŷs-Jones, R. P. & Day, J. J. 2020. A comprehensive molecular phylogeny of Afrotropical white-eyes (Aves: Zosteropidae) highlights prior underestimation of mainland diversity and complex colonisation history. *Mol. Phyl. & Evol.* 149:106843.
- Safford, R. J. & Hawkins, A. F. A. (eds.) 2013. *The Birds of Africa*. Vol. 8. London, UK: Christopher Helm.
- Shirihai, H. & Bretagnolle, V. 2015. *Bulweria* petrels off the Comoros, south-west Indian Ocean. *Bull. Br. Ornithol. Club* 135: 348–351.
- Skerrett, A. 1996. The first report of the Seychelles Bird Records Committee. *Bull. ABC* 3: 45–50.
- Skerrett, A. & Seychelles Bird Records Committee. 2001. The second report of the Seychelles Bird Records Committee. *Bull. ABC* 8: 23–29.
- Skerrett, A., Betts, M., Bullock, I., Fisher, D., Gerlach, R., Lucking, R., Phillips, J. & Scott, B. 2006. Third report of the Seychelles Bird Records Committee. *Bull. ABC* 13: 170–177.
- Skerrett, A., Betts, M., Bowler, J., Bullock, I., Fisher, D., Lucking, R. & Phillips, J. 2011. Fourth report of the Seychelles Bird Records Committee. *Bull. ABC* 18: 182–192.
- Skerrett, A., Betts, M., Bowler, J., Bullock, I., Fisher, D., Lucking, R. & Phillips, J. 2017. Fifth report of the Seychelles Bird Records Committee. *Bull. ABC* 24: 63–75.
- Stervander, M., Alström, P., Olsson, U., Ottosson, U., Hansson, B. & Bensch, S. 2016. Multiple instances of paraphyletic species and cryptic taxa revealed by mitochondrial and nuclear RAD data for *Calandrella* larks (Aves: Alaudidae). *Mol. Phyl. & Evol.* 102: 233–245.

Seychelles Bird Records Committee, PO Box 336, Victoria, Mahé, Seychelles or Hazeley Brook, Keele Road, Keele, Staffs, ST5 5AL, UK. E-mail: sbrcsecretary@gmail.com

Received 31 December 2021.