

CYPRUS

23– 30 March 2008



Desert Wheatear, 27th March 2008, Paphos Headland

© Keith Grant

Tour Leaders: Keith Grant & Graham Clark

DAILY DIARY

Choosing highlights for any trip is always difficult and will vary according to the eye of the beholder but for all of us they will include the five Pallid Harriers in off the sea, the 'mini fall' of Desert Wheatears and the gorgeous *flava* wagtails and Blue-cheeked Bee-eaters all on the first morning! The two Masked Shrikes were both stunning but in very different breeding habitats, and the two endemics - Cyprus Warbler and Cyprus Wheatear - were on territory and the males singing their hearts out. Greater Sandpipers showed very well along 'Lady's Mile', as did the very persistent Black Francolin which was finally tracked down at the Xeros Potamos river where two raucous Great Spotted Cuckoos chased each other about.

The display of orchids at a number of locations (particularly at lunchtimes!) was often quite wonderful and we finished up with a whole parade of Sylvia warblers at the bottom of the Avagas gorge on the final afternoon and a beautiful little singing Spectacled Warbler which was the last bird we saw before heading for our final slap-up lunch and flight home. All this, and of course don't forget the 'man from West Brom'! Our advice in the future would be to always check carefully in all directions before leaving one's hotel room and if someone calls "Whale!", make sure you look inland!

Our thanks must go to Deborah who prepared and Stuart who delivered our picnic lunches every morning and especially to Lenia who drove us so competently and showed up promptly for two early starts. Finally, well done to all of you for being such fun and making this trip the success it was, and we hope to see you all on another trip, sometime in the not-too-distant future.

Keith Grant & Graham Clark April 2008

Sunday 23rd March
Heat wave!

Arrival

We arrived pretty much on-time and were met by Lenia, our driver for the week, and Mary from Kalliopi Travel, our ground agents on Cyprus. **House Martins** and a **Barn Swallow** were noted around the airport buildings, much earlier arrivals here than back at home of course, before we headed for our hotel and settled in before dinner.

Monday 24th March
An easterly wind and a glorious day.

Paphos Headland

Venturing out for a pre-breakfast jaunt along the shore from our hotel, we started off with a real bang with five **Pallid Harriers** winging it in off the sea with the two males with their black primary wedges passing particularly closely overhead. A selection of migrant **Wheatears** were on the rocky coast and included **Northern**, a perky **Isabelline** and a cracking male **Black-eared**. A **Hoopoe** flopped past us, the first of the surprisingly large male **Starred Agamas** peered over a rock and **Snake-eyed Lizards** scurried about. After breakfast we ventured out to the famous Paphos headland where a super **White Wagtail** greeted us, two **Short-toed Larks** crept along amongst the sparse vegetation immediately behind the beach and a gaudy male **Cretzshmar's Bunting** perched up on the rocks. A terrific array of *flava* **Wagtails** were along the beach including a majority of **Black-headed** birds, a few nice **Blue-headed** of the nominate race and at least one hybrid resembling the '*superciliaris*' bird which breeds in south-east Russia. Moving on, a party of five dazzling **Blue-cheeked Bee-eaters** were a real find and were seen well both perched and in successful feeding flights and amazingly no less than three dinky **Desert Wheatears** hopped about on the rocks along the shore.

We took lunch at Theo's restaurant by the harbour and then ventured into the World Heritage site designated for its outstandingly well-preserved mosaics. A **Black Redstart**, three **Black-eared Wheatears** and two **Red-rumped Swallows** were around the ruins, **Zitting Cisticolas** were finally seen well by all, ten **Corn Buntings** perched up and **Persian Cyclamen** was in flower in the limestone rock fissures. The highlights were, however, two male **Cyprus Wheatears**, a male **Rüppell's**

Warbler, an unexpected **Short-eared Owl**, two more **Cretzschmar's Buntings** and a very smart male **Spanish Sparrow** in a mixed sparrow flock. Seven more **Short-toed Larks** and a **Lesser Whitethroat** completed the collection. Butterflies seen during the day included **Swallowtail**, **Eastern Dappled White**, **Red Admiral** and **Painted Lady**.

Tuesday 25th March

Along the South Coast

Wind still from the east and a fine day again

We awoke to be greeted by an immaculate adult **Black-crowned Night Heron** with perfect plumes flying around outside our balconies. A pair of **Sardinian Warblers** were in the scrub adjacent to the hotel, with the male persistently song-fighting, two **Kingfishers** were on the rocks below and a **Quail** was flushed although some mistook my call as "Whale!" which led them to look in somewhat the wrong direction and this became a standing joke for the rest of the trip! After breakfast we made for the Asprokremnos pools, only one of which held any water. Here a pair of **Cyprus Warblers** were the highlight, with the singing male performing wonderfully well, two **Tawny Pipits** showed up, both male **Stonechat** and **Spanish Sparrow** perched prominently, 'eastern' **Jackdaws** were around the gorge and Keith caught a freshwater crab which had to be extracted from his thumb. We stopped for coffee where another male **Rüppell's Warbler** performed well and two **Alpine Swifts** zoomed overhead as we made our way further eastwards along the coast to our first picnic lunch stop at the Phassouri reed bed. Here there wasn't much standing water, and what there was had been disturbed by a family party, but we did manage 14 **Little Grebes**, two **Marsh Harriers**, two **Snipe** and a **Black-winged Stilt** plus a very unexpected and welcome **Spur-winged Plover**.



Cyprus Warbler



Freshwater Crab



Ophrys apifera (Bee Orchid)

Photos: © Graham Rodgers

Continuing on, the main Akrotiri salt lake was unfortunately dry, but a **Spoonbill** was on an adjacent pool, a **Great White Egret** flew across it and there was a good selection of **orchids** in the roadside scrub. At the intriguingly named Lady's Mile, there was shallow water in the lagoons, attracting three **Greenshank** and a great selection of **plovers** all hunkered down against the now strong westerly wind and including four **Little Ringed**, six **Kentish** and three very welcome **Greater Sandpipers**, one in summer dress, and all alongside each other for comparison. We finished at the Zakaki pool at the north end of this road and here the highlights were five **Greater Flamingos** (an adult and four young birds) and five **Ferruginous Ducks**. Ten **Sand Martins**, three **Green Sandpipers** and 12 **Black-winged Stilts** zipped overhead and two of the black-backed *fuscus* race of **Lesser Black-backed Gull** (breeding in northern Scandinavia and called **Baltic Gull** by some authorities) were on the open water. Three of us hadn't had quite enough by this point however so we were dropped off at Paphos headland again where five **Turnstones** were on the weedy shoreline, a female **Desert Wheatear** was again at the point and there was a terrific roost of some 120 **White Wagtails** in the car park adjacent to the World Heritage site entrance.

Wednesday 26th March

Akamas Peninsula & Baths of Aphrodite

A strong northwest wind, cool to start with, but warming up later

Our early walk produced a **Common Sandpiper** on the rocks south of the hotel and nine **Baltic Gulls** flew overhead on our return. After breakfast we headed for the Baths of Aphrodite at the base of the Akamas peninsula. Here at least six **Red-rumped Swallows** were flying about the car park, a male **Redstart** perched prominently and some four **Cyprus Wheatears** were in the rocks above the

attractive little grotto and pool, with the males singing their buzzy song and vying for the best song perches. An immature **Shag** of the Mediterranean race, *desmarestii*, was on the sea. and butterflies included **Orange-tip**, **Speckled Wood**, **Paphos Blue** and **Cleopatra**. We returned through the open parkland habitat of the caravan park where an **Eastern Bonelli's Warbler** showed very well alongside a **Chiffchaff**. Our picnic lunch site at Smigies chapel was very pleasant with a variety of **orchid** species and afterwards a short walk produced **Serin** and a lovely female **Masked Shrike**.

We continued on to a track above the Evretou reservoir where a lovely pair of **Black-eared Wheatears**, a **Tawny Pipit** and superb male **Whinchat** and **Rüppells Warbler** were all in or around the first field. A selection of raptors along the nearest ridge included an adult **Bonelli's Eagle**, an unexpected 'ringtail' **Hen Harrier** and at least five **Lesser Kestrels**. Two **Chukars** were rather distant and a terrific male **Montagu's Harrier** quartered the field system on the opposite slope before we turned for home.

Thursday 27th March

Troodos Mountains

A south-westerly breeze in the morning and mist and rain at the Troodos summit

We arranged for Lenia to take us to the Paphos headland early, finding four **Turnstones**, a first winter **Grey Plover** and a **Kingfisher** along the beach and another female **Desert Wheatear** at the point. After breakfast, we returned to the Asprokremnos pools, adding a fine male, though brief, **Little Bittern** and ten **Tree Pipits**. Above the dam a lovely pair of **Cyprus Wheatears**, a terrific male **Black-eared Wheatear**, a **Woodchat Shrike**, a **Large Wall Brown** and an **Egyptian Locust** all showed well and the **Linnet** flock numbered 150. Continuing on, a **Griffon Vulture** – apparently one of only 14 now left on Cyprus – cruised past and a flock of some 30 **Spanish Sparrows**, including some nice males, were at our coffee stop in the Dhiarizos valley. A little higher up we took our picnic lunch on a hillside, where again there was a fine selection of **orchids**, but we were in cloud and it was raining when we reached the high tops of the Troodos at Mount Olympus although we did manage half-a-dozen rather brown **Coal Tits** (ssp. *cypristes*) and a **Short-toed Treecreeper** (ssp. *dorothea*) on the way down. Another **Griffon Vulture** was alongside the bus on our return journey.



Ophrys israelitica
Omega Orchid



Ophrys (?)funerea
Funereal Bee-orchid



Ophrys sicula
Small Yellow Bee-orchid



Neotinea maculata
Dense-flowered Orchid



Ophrys mammosa
Mammose Orchid



Ophrys lapethica
'Cyprus Woodcock Orchids'



Ophrys umbilicata



Ophrys levantina
Levantine Orchid

Photos: © Keith Grant (top row), © Graham Rodgers (lower row)

Friday 28th March**Coastal scrub & into the Troodos foothills**

A light southerly breeze this morning and pleasant temperatures throughout the day

A probable, but very early, unexpected and purposeful **Eleonora's Falcon** motored through early on, but it was beyond us before we actually picked it up, so didn't get quite enough on it to clinch it. Then a **Zitting Cisticola** perched up well but it was no real consolation! In some coastal scrub near the Akti hotel after breakfast a pair of **Black Francolins** were eventually found and a male **Stonechat** showed a lot of white. We stopped at a track in the Anarita Park where a male **Cyprus Warbler** was very lively, 12 **Tawny Pipits** were on the track, a **Lesser Kestrel** and three **Alpine Swifts** zoomed around, another lovely male **Black-eared Wheatear** showed very well and a **Subalpine Warbler** was finally pinned down. Our lunch stop was beside the nearly dry bed of the Xeros Potamos river near Nata, where there was a nice patch of **Loose-flowered Orchids** but also a singing **Black Francolin** on a rock and two noisy **Great Spotted Cuckoos** dashing about. Having heard a **Stone-curlew** calling from downstream, we ambled in that direction after lunch, eventually having good if distant views of the bird through the telescopes. We then drove on to the mature pine forest just beyond Pano Panagia, finding it very quiet apart from a magnificent male **Masked Shrike**.



Black-eared Wheatear



'Cyprus' Coal Tit



Masked Shrike



Spectacled Warbler

All photos: © Keith Grant

Saturday 29th March**Cape Drepanum & Avagas Gorge**

A south-westerly breeze this morning, a fierce thunderstorm immediately after lunch and then a quite beautiful afternoon

Venturing back to Paphos headland early on, a line of at least 100 **Greater Flamingos** moved north past the headland, then two parties of 30 and nine **Garganey** and two **Gull-billed Terns** followed them and another **Quail** was very adjacent. After breakfast, we moved to Cape Drepanum, the other main headland on the west coast, where three **Isabelline Wheatears**, 15 **Short-toed Larks** and a big male **Starred Agama** were by the beach and a party of 12 **Black-headed** and three summer adult **Slender-billed Gulls** were on the sea. A **Wryneck** was glimpsed before we took coffee in a café overlooking the sea and my wife's continuing results service from home gave the welcome news for some – St. Helen's 10 Leeds Rhinos 14! Further north, at the foot of the Avagas gorge and with the west side of the Akamas Peninsula stretched out before us, a **Hoopoe** was on the cliff face before we enjoyed an impromptu game of football and another lovely picnic lunch before waiting in the bus for the thunderstorm to clear. We were then treated to a magnificent display of *sylvia* warblers out in the open, drying off after the rain. The selection included **Blackcaps** in double figures, half-a-dozen **Lesser Whitethroats**, **Sardinian Warblers**, two pairs of **Rüppells Warblers**, the males quite wonderful, a **Subalpine Warbler** and a female **Whitethroat**. In the evening we enjoyed a sumptuous meze dinner at a taverna in a hillside village.

Sunday 30th March**Larnaca Lagoons & departure**

An easterly wind this morning and heavy rain on the way to Larnaca where it very conveniently brightened up

A **Quail** (or Whale!) zipped past the restaurant window at breakfast before we headed off east towards the airport. Having driven through a belt of heavy rain, the weather cleared as we approached

Larnaca. Arriving at the salt-pans near Meneou, we were disappointed to find them largely dry with only three **Kentish Plovers** in the far distance, but three **Grey Herons** spiralling down drew us to two artificial ponds to the east where there was a bird hide and a whole range of new and interesting species. Three **Cretzschmar's Buntings** were on overhead wires on the approach and a **Cormorant**, a drake **Pintail**, 200 **Shoveler**, 150 **Shelduck**, five **Wigeon**, 120 **Coot** and 30 **Black-winged Stilts** were immediately evident on our arrival at the hide. Other particularly interesting species picked out included seven **Ferruginous Ducks**, six **Ruff**, 30 **Little Stints**, two delicate **Marsh Sandpipers**, a **Redshank** and a **Collared Pratincole** and two **Greater Sandplovers** landed briefly. On the causeway ahead of us were three **Baltic Gulls** and a greyer bird which was either *graellsii*, which we see at home, or more likely *intermedius*, the southern Scandinavian race of **Lesser Black-backed Gull**. We concluded with a terrific singing male **Spectacled Warbler** in the low saline scrub and then a delicious lunch at a very popular taverna before reluctantly parting company with Lenia at the airport. Our flight left a bit late but made up time and arrived at Heathrow on schedule where we parted company at the baggage carousel and made our individual ways home.



Short-eared Owl, 24th March 2008, Paphos Headland

Photos: © Keith Grant

SPECIES LISTS: BIRDS

Chukar Partridge *Alectoris chukar* : Noted on 6 days with 1 Larnaca Airport on landing on 24th, 1 passed the vehicle en route on 25th, 2 Akamas 2 Evretou Reservoir on 26th, several on 27th, 4 on 28th, heard Avagas Gorge on 29th.

Black Francolin *Francolinus francolinus* : Noted on 2 days with birds heard distantly Akamas & Evretou Reservoir on 26th, a pair near hotel plus 2 males Nata on 28th.

Common Quail *Coturnix coturnix* : Singles flushed regularly or calls heard most days.

Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna* : ca.150 Meneou Pools on 30th.

Eurasian Wigeon *Anas penelope* : 5 Meneou Pools on 30th.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* : Noted on 2 days, 3 Zakaki Pool on 25th, ca.30 Meneou Pools on 30th.

Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata* : at least 200 Meneou Pools on 30th.

Northern Pintail *Anas acuta* : a male Meneou Pools on 30th is our only record.

Garganey *Anas querquedula* : Noted on 2 days with ca.20 Phassouri Reedbed on 25th, ca.40 N past Paphos Headland on 29th.

Eurasian Teal *Anas crecca* : Noted on 2 days with 4 Phassouri Reedbed on 25th, ca.12 Meneou Pools on 30th.

Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca* : Noted on 2 days, 5 Zakaki Pool on 25th, 7 Meneou Pools on 30th.

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* : Noted on 2 days with at least 14 Phassouri Reedbed 6 Zakaki Pool on 25th, ca.20 Meneou Pools on 30th.

Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus roseus* : Noted on 2 days with 1 adult 4 immatures Zakaki Pool on 25th, at least 100 flying N past Paphos Headland on 29th.

Eurasian Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia* : 1 Akrotiri Salt Lake on 25th is our only record.

Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus* : a male Asprokremnos Pools on 27th.

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* : 1 early morning Cynthiana Hotel on 25th.



'The Gang'

Photos: © Keith Grant

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea* : Noted on 2 days with 2 Zakaki Pool on 25th, 3 Meneou Pools on 30th.

Great [White] Egret *Ardea alba* : 1 Akrotiri Salt Lake on 25th.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* : Noted on 4 days with 1 Paphos Headland on 24th, several singles during day on 25th, 1 Paphos harbour on 29th, 1 Meneou Pools on 30th.

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* : 1 Meneou Pools on 30th is our only record.

European Shag *Leucocarbo aristotelis* : 1 immature in the bay below the caravans, Akamas, on 26th.

Lesser Kestrel *Falco naumanni* : Noted on 2 days with a group of at least 5 distantly at Evretou Reservoir on 26th, 1 Anarita Park on 28th.

Common/Eurasian Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* : Noted each day.

Eleonora's Falcon *Falco eleonora* : a dark plumaged falcon N over Cynthiana Hotel on 28th was probably this species.

- Griffon Vulture** *Gyps fulvus* : 2 singles Diarisos Valley on 27th is our only record.
- [Western] **Marsh Harrier** *Circus aeruginosus* : at least a pair Phassouri Reedbed plus 1 Zakaki Pool on 25th.
- Hen/Northern Harrier** *Circus cyaneus* : a female over Evretou Reservoir on 26th.
- Pallid Harrier** *Circus macrourus* : 2m3f in off the sea over Cynthiana Hotel on 24th.
- Montagu's Harrier** *Circus pygargus* : a male over Evretou Reservoir on 26th is our only record.
- Common Buzzard** *Buteo buteo* : Noted on 5 days with 1 en route on 25th, 1 en route on 26th, 3 Diarisos Valley on 27th, 1 en route on 28th, 1 en route 1 Avagas Gorge on 29th.
- Bonelli's Eagle** *Aquila fasciatus* : 1 adult near Evretou Reservoir on 26th is our only record.
- Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus* : 1 Phassouri Reedbed on 25th is our only record.
- Eurasian/Common Coot** *Fulica atra* : Noted on 3 days with several Asprokremnos Pools Pool on 25th, ca.12 Evretou Reservoir on 26th, ca.120 Meneou Pools on 30th.
- Eurasian Stone-curlew** *Burhinus oediconemus* : 1 Xeros Potamos River on 28th is our only record.
- Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus* : Noted on 2 days with 1 Phassouri Reedbed ca.12 Zakaki Pool on 25th, ca.30 Meneou Pools on 30th.
- Spur-winged Lapwing/Plover** *Vanellus spinosus* : 1 Phassouri Reedbed on 25th.
- Grey/Black-bellied Plover** *Pluvialis squatarola* : 1 nbp Paphos Headland on 27th.
- Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius* : 4 Lady's Mile lagoons on 25th.
- Kentish Plover** *Charadrius alexandrinus* : Noted on 2 days with 6 Lady's Mile lagoons on 25th, 3 on Meneou Salt Lake on 30th.
- Greater Sand Plover** *Charadrius leschenaultii* : Noted on 2 days with 3 Lady's Mile lagoons on 25th, 2 Meneou Pools on 30th.
- Common Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago* : 2 Phassouri Reedbed on 25th.
- Common Redshank** *Tringa totanus* : 1 Meneou Pools on 30th.
- Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis* : 2 Meneou Pools on 30th.
- Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia* : Noted on 2 days with 1 Akrotiri Salt Lake 3 Lady's Mile lagoons on 25th, heard Meneou Pools on 30th.
- Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus* : Noted on 3 days with 3 Zakaki Pool on 25th, 1 Xeros Potamos River on 28th, 1 Meneou Pools on 30th.
- Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos* : Noted on 2 days with 1 on coast near Cynthiana Hotel on 26th & 30th.
- Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres* : Noted on 2 days with 5 Paphos Headland on 25th, 4 Paphos Headland on 27th.
- Little Stint** *Calidris minuta* : ca.30 Meneou Pools on 30th.
- Ruff** *Philomachus pugnax* : 6 Meneou Pools on 30th.
- Collared Pratincole** *Glareola pratincola* : 1 Meneou Pools on 30th.
- Yellow-legged Gull** *Larus michahellis* : Noted most days.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull** *Larus fuscus* : Noted on 3 days with 2 adult *fuscus* Zakaki Pool on 25th, 9 *fuscus* N past Cynthiana Hotel on 26th, 3 *fuscus* 1 *intermedius/graellsii* Meneou Pools on 30th.
- Black-headed Gull** *Larus ridibundus* : Noted on 3 days with 1 Zakaki Pool on 25th, 12 Cape Drepanum on 29th, ca.10 Meneou Pools on 30th.
- Slender-billed Gull** *Larus genei* : 3 adults on the sea off Cape Drepanum on 29th is our only record.
- Gull-billed Tern** *Gelochelidon nilotica* : 2 N Paphos Headland on 29th.
- Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon** *Columba livia* : Noted each day.

- [Common] Wood Pigeon** *Columba palumbus* : Noted in small numbers on 6 days.
- European Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia turtur* : Noted on 2 days with 1 Paphos Headland on 24th, 2 Xeros Potamos River on 28th.
- Eurasian Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decaocto* : Noted most days.
- Great Spotted Cuckoo** *Clamator glandarius* : Noted on 2 days with 1 in off the sea early morning past Cynthiana Hotel on 25th, at least 2 Nata & Xeros Potamos River on 28th.
- Short-eared Owl** *Asio flammeus* : 1 Paphos Headland on 24th is our only record.
- Alpine Swift** *Tachymarptis melba* : Noted on 2 days with 2 past the bus near Episkopi on 25th, 3 over Anarita Park on 28th.
- Common Swift** *Apus apus* : Noted most days in small numbers.
- Pallid Swift** *Apus pallidus* : 2 call-chasing Pano Platres on 27th.
- Common Kingfisher** *Alcedo atthis* : Noted on 2 days with 2 along the shore early morning Cynthiana Hotel on 25th, 1 Paphos Headland on 27th.
- Blue-cheeked Bee-eater** *Merops persicus* : 5 Paphos Headland on 24th.
- Eurasian Hoopoe** *Upupa epops* : Noted on 6 days with 1 Cynthiana Hotel on 24th, 1 Asprokremnos Pools on 25th, 1 Smygies Chapel on 26th, 1 Pana Panagia on 28th, 1 Avagas Gorge on 29th, 2 Meneou Pools on 30th.
- Eurasian Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla* : 1 Cape Drepanum on 29th is our only record.
- Woodchat Shrike** *Lanius senator* : 1 Asprokremnos Pools Dam on 27th is our only record.
- Masked Shrike** *Lanius nubicus* : Noted on 2 days with a female plus another Smygies Chapel on 26th, a pair Monashilakis Picnic Site on 28th.
- Eurasian Magpie** *Pica pica* : Noted most days.
- Western Jackdaw** *Corvus monedula* : Noted on 6 days.
- Hooded Crow** *Corvus cornix* : Noted each day.
- Coal Tit (endemic ssp)** *Periparus ater cypriotes* : Noted on 2 days with several Pano Platres on 27th, and Pano Panagia on 28th.
- Great Tit** *Parus major* : Noted regularly in small numbers on 5 days.
- Sand Martin / Bank Swallow** *Riparia riparia* : ca.10 Zakaki Pool on 25th is our only record.
- Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica* : Noted each day.
- [Common] House Martin** *Delichon urbicum* : Noted each day.
- Red-rumped Swallow** *Cecropis daurica* : Noted on 4 days with 3 Paphos Headland on 24th, at least 10 Akamas on 26th, 2 Nata on 28th, 2 Paphos Headland on 29th.
- Greater Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella brachydactyla* : Noted on 3 days with at least 9 Paphos Headland on 24th, ca.30 Asprokremnos Pools on 25th, 2 Paphos Headland & ca.15 Cape Drepanum on 29th.
- Crested Lark** *Galerida cristata* : Noted most days.
- Zitting Cisticola** *Cisticola juncidis* : Noted most days.
- Cetti's Warbler** *Cettia cetti* : Noted most days.
- Sedge Warbler** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* : 1 Zakaki Pool on 25th is our only record.
- [Eurasian] Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus* : Asprokremnos Pools & Zakaki Pool on 25th.
- Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus* : Noted on 2 days with 1 Paphos Headland on 24th, heard Zakaki Pool on 25th.
- Common Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus collybita* : Noted on 3 days with 1 Paphos Headland on 24th, several Akamas on 26th, 1 singing on 27th.
- Eastern Bonelli's Warbler** *Phylloscopus orientalis* : 1 Akamas on 26th is our only record.

- Blackcap** *Sylvia atricapilla* : Noted most days in small numbers, many in the Avagas Gorge on 29th.
- Lesser Whitethroat** *Sylvia curruca* : Noted on 4 days with 1 Paphos Headland on 24th, 1 Zakaki Pool on 25th, ca.6 Avagas Gorge on 29th, 2 in front of hide Meneou Pools on 30th.
- Common Whitethroat** *Sylvia communis* : 1 Avagas Gorge on 29th is our only record.
- Spectacled Warbler** *Sylvia conspicillata* : Noted on 2 days with 1 briefly Anarita Park on 28th, a very nice male Meneou Pools on 30th.
- Subalpine Warbler** *Sylvia cantillans* : Noted on 2 days with a male Anarita Park on 28th, another male Avagas Gorge on 29th.
- Sardinian Warbler** *Sylvia melanocephala* : Noted regularly on 5 days.
- Rüppell's Warbler** *Sylvia rueppelli* : Noted on 5 days with a male & a female Paphos Headland on 24th, 1 near Aphrodite's Rock during the coffee stop on 25th, a male Evretou Reservoir on 26th, a male & female Asprokremnos Pools on 27th, ca.6 Avagas Gorge on 29th.
- Cyprus Warbler** *Sylvia melanothorax* : Noted on 4 days with several Asprokremnos Pools on 25th & 27th, at least 2 pairs Anarita Park on 28th, several Cape Drepanum & Avagas cliffs on 29th.
- Short-toed Treecreeper (endemic ssp)** *Certhia brachydactyla dorothea* : excellent views Pano Platres on 27th.
- Common Blackbird** *Turdus merula* : 1 Pano Platres on 27th.
- Song Thrush** *Turdus philomelos* : Noted on 2 days with 2 Paphos Headland on 24th, 1 Avagas Gorge 29th.
- Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros* : Noted on 2 days with single birds Paphos Headland on 24th & Asprokremnos Pools on 27th.
- Common Redstart** *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* : a male Akamas on 26th.
- Whinchat** *Saxicola rubetra* : a male Evretou Reservoir on 26th.
- European/Common Stonechat** *Saxicola rubicola* : Noted on 2 days with a nice male Asprokremnos Pools on 25th, a pair in the field near hotel on 28th.
- Isabelline Wheatear** *Oenanthe isabellina* : Noted on 4 days with ca.5 Paphos Headland on 24th, 2 during day on 25th, 1 Evretou Reservoir on 26th, several on 29th.
- Northern Wheatear** *Oenanthe oenanthe* : Noted on 5 days with ca.8 Paphos Headland on 24th, 2 Paphos Headland on 25th, several on 27th, a male Anarita Park on 28th, several Paphos Headland & Cape Drepanum on 29th.
- Cyprus Wheatear** *Oenanthe cypriaca* : Noted on 5 days with 2 males Paphos Headland on 24th, at least 8 Akamas on 26th, regularly seen Asprokremnos Pools plus en route on 27th, several en route on 28th, regular on 29th.
- Eastern Black-eared Wheatear** *Oenanthe hispanica melanoleuca* : Noted on 5 days with 4m Paphos Headland on 24th, 1 Asprokremnos Pools on 25th, at least 5 Evretou Reservoir on 26th, an excellent male Asprokremnos Pools Dam on 27th, 3m 1f Anarita Park on 28th.
- Desert Wheatear** *Oenanthe deserti* : Noted on 3 days with at least 3 Paphos Headland on 24th, 1 Paphos Headland on 25th, 1 Paphos Headland on 27th.
- House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus* : Noted each day.
- Spanish Sparrow** *Passer hispaniolensis* : Noted on 6 days with amale amongst other sparrows Paphos Headland on 24th, a male Asprokremnos Pools on 25th, at least 30 Paphos Headland plus same again at the coffee stop in Dhiarizos Valley on 27th, several on 28th, at least 1 male with buntings Paphos Headland on 29th, 1m Cynthiana Hotel on 30th.
- Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava* : Noted on 5 days.

The European race **Blue-headed Wagtail** *M. f. flava* noted as follows: a male Paphos Headland on 24th, a male Paphos Headland on 25th, several Paphos Headland on 27th, several males Paphos Headland & Cape Drepanum on 29th.

Birds showing characteristics of 'superciliaris' (or hybrid Blue-headed x Black-headed) noted as follows: singles Paphos Headland 24th-25th, Cynthiana hotel 26th, 2 Paphos Headland 27th.

Black-headed Wagtail *Motacilla [flava] feldegg* : Noted on 4 days with ca.10 Paphos Headland on 24th, increasing to at least 30 on 25th & 27th, ca.40 Paphos Headland & ca.10 Cape Drepanum on 29th. *Most authorities now consider this taxon, breeding in south-eastern Europe, a species rather than a subspecies of Yellow Wagtail.*

White Wagtail *Motacilla alba* : Noted regularly in small numbers on 5 days, also a roost of ca.120 near the Mosaics Entrance on 25th.

Tawny Pipit *Anthus campestris* : Noted on 5 days with 3 Asprokremnos Pools on 25th, 1 Evretou Reservoir on 26th, at least 5 during day on 27th, at least 12 Anarita Park plus others on 28th, several Paphos Headland & at least 10 Cape Drepanum on 29th.

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis* : Noted on 5 days with at least 10 Paphos Headland on 24th, several Asprokremnos Pools on 25th, then several on 27th - 29th.

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis* : Noted on 2 days with at least 10 Asprokremnos Pools on 27th, at least 2 Anarita Park on 28th.

Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus* : heard flying overhead Asprokremnos Pools on 25th is our only record.

Common Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs* : Noted on 2 days with several Pano Platres on 27th, Pano Panagia on 28th.

European Serin *Serinus serinus* : Noted on 2 days with at least 4 Smygies Chapel on 26th, heard singing Agios Nikolaos on 27th.

European Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris* : Noted most days.

European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis* : Noted most days.

Common Linnet *Carduelis cannabina* : Noted on 6 days with 2 Paphos Headland on 24th, several Asprokremnos Pools on 25th, several Akamas on 26th, ca.150 Asprokremnos Pools on 27th, small numbers on 28th & 29th.

Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra* : Noted on 5 days with 10 Paphos Headland on 24th, at least 20 Paphos Headland on 27th - 29th, 1 Meneou Pools on 30th.

Cretzschmar's Bunting *Emberiza caesia* : Noted on 2 days with 3m Paphos Headland on 24th, 2m1f Meneou Pools on 30th.

MAMMALS

Red Fox *Vulpes vulpes* : Roadkills noted on 2 days, 23rd & 25th.

Eastern Hedgehog *Erinaceus concolor* : Roadkill noted on 25th.

AMPHIBIANS

Levant Water Frog *Rana bedriagae* : Many heard, several seen, Asprokremnos Pools on 25th & 27th.

REPTILES

Starred Agama (endemic ssp) *Laudakia stellio cypriaca* : Noted on 4 days, Paphos Headland, several in the ancient olive trees in the caravan park, Akamas, on 26th, several Asprokremnos Pools Dam on 27th, & 29th.

Snake-eyed Lizard *Ophisops elegans* : Noted on 5 days.

Montpellier Snake *Malpolon monspessulanus* : a 3-4ft specimen found dead near Asprokremnos Pools on 25th.

BUTTERFLIES

Swallowtail *Papilio machaon* : Noted on 4 days.

Large White *Pieris brassicae* : Noted on 3 days.

Small White *Pieris rapae* : Noted on 5 days.

Orange-tip *Anthocharis cardamines* : Noted on 3 days.

Eastern Dappled White *Euchloe ausonia* : Noted on 2 days.

Clouded Yellow *Colias crocea* : Phassouri Reedbed on 25th is our only record.

Cleopatra *Gonepteryx cleopatra* : Noted on 2 days.

Paphos Blue *Glaucopsyche paphos* : Noted on 4 days.

Common Blue *Polyommatus icarus* : Noted on 3 days.

Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta* : Noted on 3 days.

Painted Lady *Vanessa cardui* : Noted on 3 days.

Speckled Wood *Pararge aegeria* : several Akamas on 26th is our only record.

Large Wall Brown *Lasiommata maera* : Noted on 2 days with 2 Asprokremnos Pools Dam on 27th, 1 Anarita Park on 28th.

Cyprus Meadow Brown *Maniola cypricola* : Avagas Gorge on 29th is our only record.

DAMSELFLIES & DRAGONFLIES

Vagrant Emperor *Anax ephippiger* : Noted on 2 days with several Paphos Headland on 24th, common Akamas on 26th.

OTHER SELECTED TAXA

Egyptian Locust *Anacridium aegyptium* : 1 Asprokremnos Pools on 27th is our only record.

Mediterranean Freshwater Crab *Potamon potamios* : Noted on 2 days with 2 Asprokremnos Pools on 25th, 1 Asprokremnos Pools on 27th.