

Booted Warbler

Iduna caligata Category A
Very rare vagrant. 1 record

Breeds from eastern Finland east to central Russia, from western Siberia to the Yenisey valley, from Kazakhstan to Mongolia, and in western China. Winters mainly in India (Snow & Perrins, 1998, Holt *et al*, 2020).

It is a rare migrant in Britain, with 171 records to the end of 2019. There had only been seven national records prior to 1980 but it has occurred almost annually since, with sightings in all but one of the last 33 years, and with an average of about five records per annum over the last decade. Apart from five in June, all have been seen between August and mid-November (Holt *et al*, 2020, BBRC, 2021, RBA, 2021).

Following the first Kent record at Foreness in 1984, there were others in 1987 (at Dungeness) and 1988 (at Pegwell Bay), before a run of five in four years in the mid-1990s (North Foreland and the Isle of Grain in 1993, Reculver in 1994, Capel-le-Ferne in 1995 and St. Margaret's Bay in 1996). However there have been just two records since, both at Bockhill, in 2000 and 2008. Seven were recorded in September, with others in August, October and November (KOS, 2021).

The only local record relates to one seen by Dale Gibson in brambles in the Orchid Field at Capel-le-Ferne on the afternoon of the 4th September 1995.

The records by year are shown in figure 1.

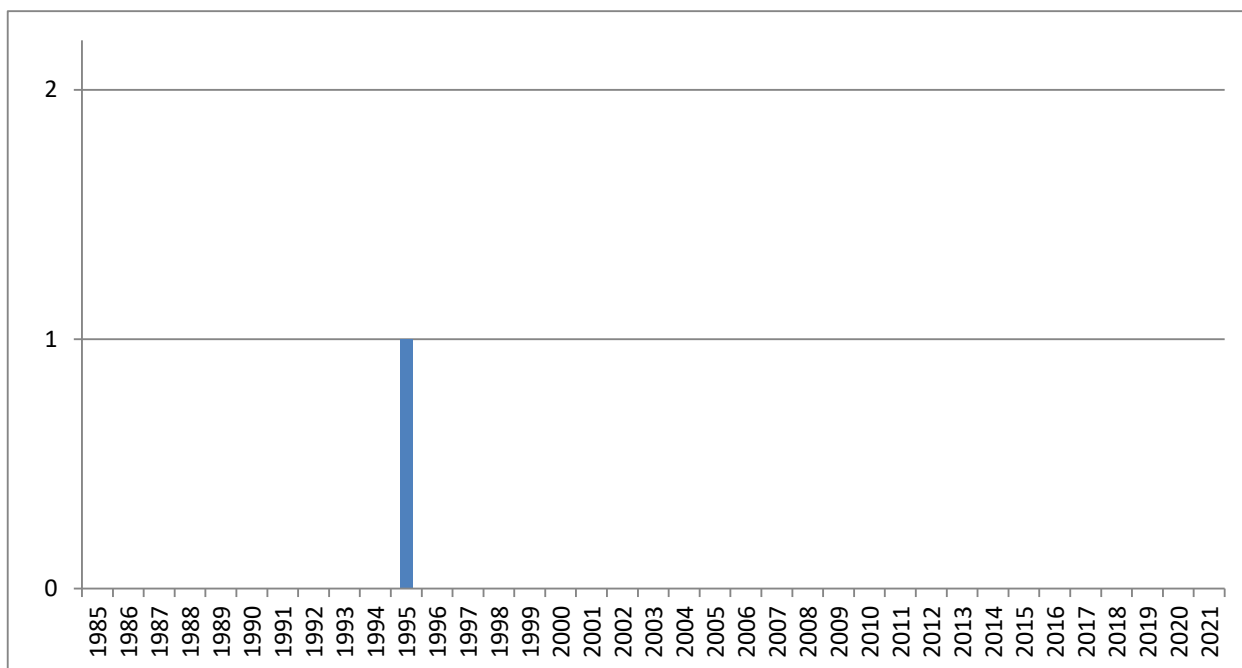


Figure 1: Booted Warbler records at Folkestone and Hythe

The records by week are given in figure 2 and figure 3 shows the distribution of records by tetrad.

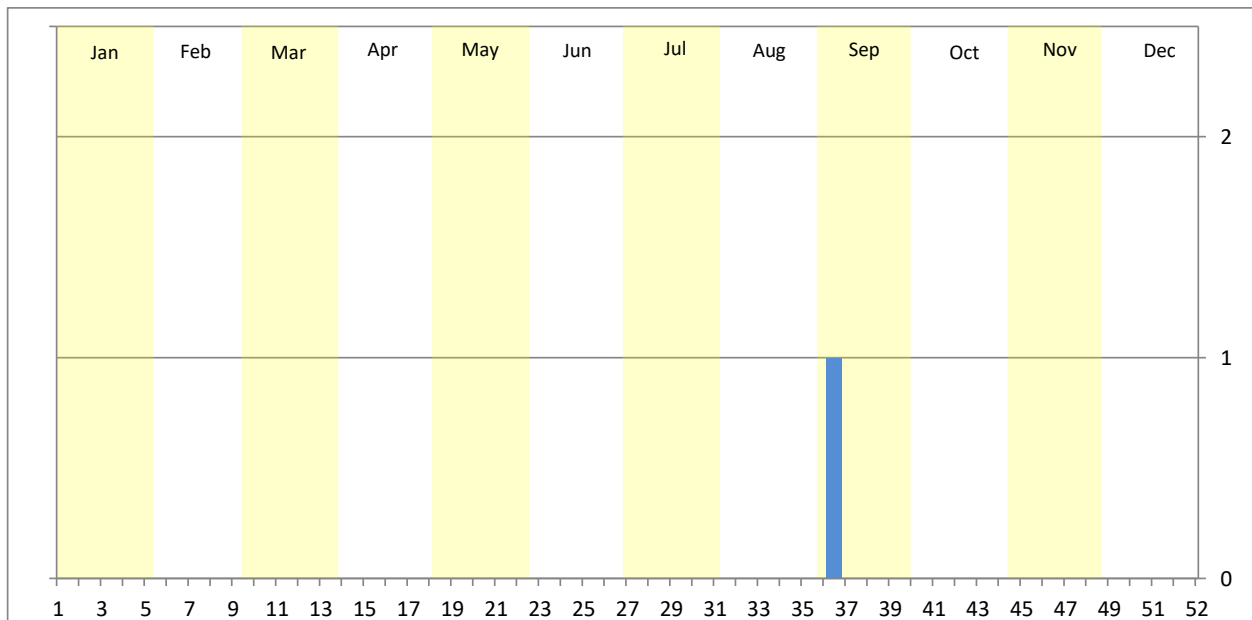


Figure 2: Booted Warbler records at Folkestone and Hythe by week



Figure 3: Distribution of all Booted Warbler records at Folkestone and Hythe by tetrad

Confirmation of the only area record is as follows:

1995 Capel-le-Ferne Orchid Field, one, 4th September (D. A. Gibson)

References

BBRC statistics: <https://www.bbrc.org.uk/main-information/statistics> (accessed 2021)

Holt, C., French, P. & the Rarities Committee, 2020. Report on rare birds in Great Britain in 2019. *British Birds*, 113: 585-655

Kent Bird Reports. Kent Ornithological Society

KOS Kent list: <https://kentos.org.uk/kent-list> (accessed 2021)

Rare Bird Alert (RBA) previous records: www.rarebirdalert.co.uk/RealData/rarityrecords.asp?id=12560 (accessed 2021, subscription required)

Snow, D. & Perrins, C.M., 1998. *The Birds of the Western Palearctic*. Oxford University Press.

Acknowledgements

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