

Booted Warbler

Iduna caligata

Category A

Very rare vagrant.

1 record

World/British distribution (Snow & Perrins 1998; Holt et al. 2021):

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.

Kent status (KOS 2021):

Rare vagrant.

British (BBRC) records to end 2020: 178

Kent (KOS) records to end 2020: 10

It is a rare but regular vagrant to Britain, with a current average around five records per annum. 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 35 years. Apart from seven in June, all have been seen between August and mid-November (Holt *et al.* 2021; BBRC no date; RBA no date).

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 no date).

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 record by year is shown in figure 1.

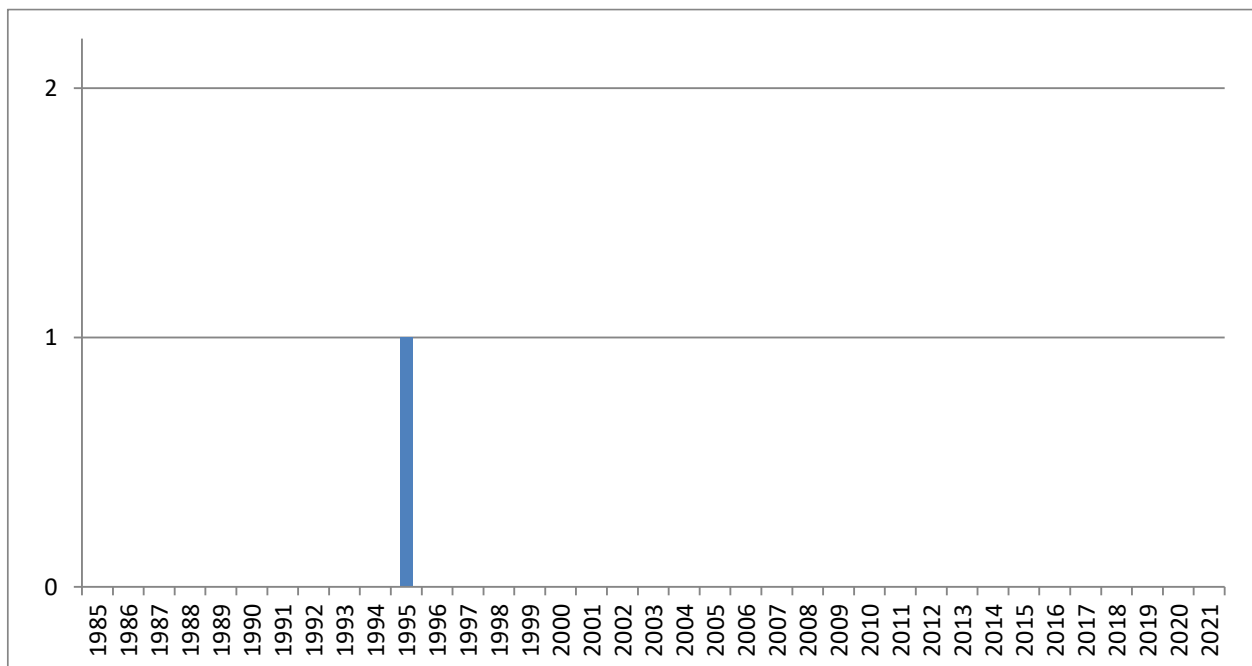


Figure 1: Booted Warbler records at Folkestone and Hythe

The record by week is given in figure 2.

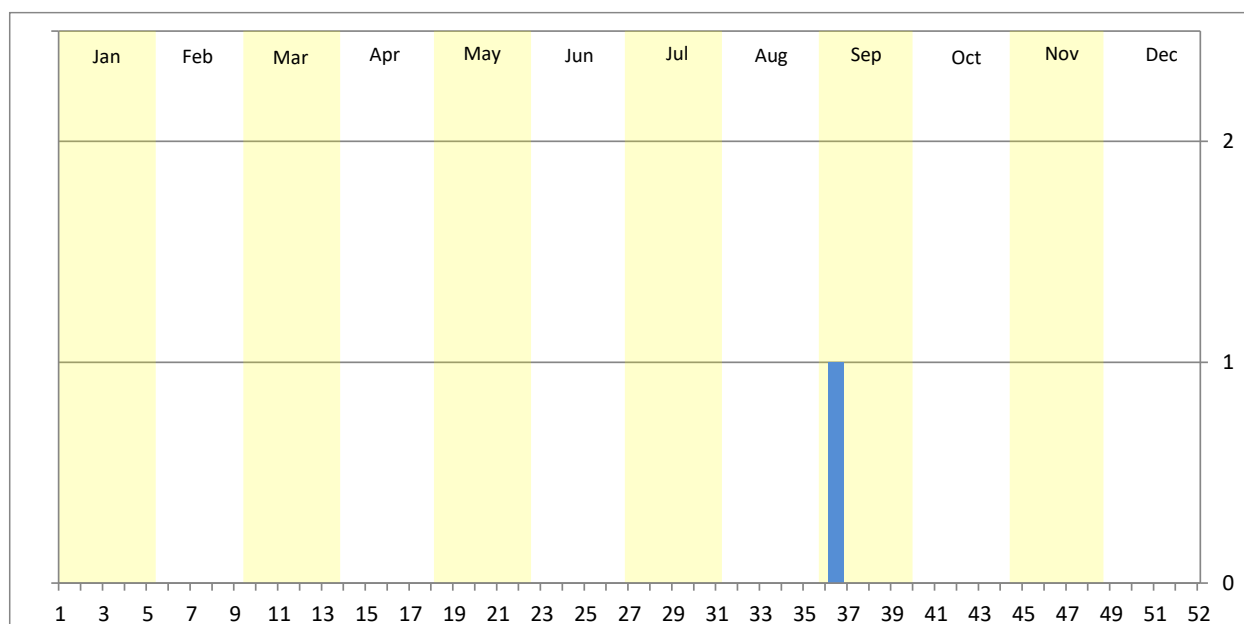


Figure 2: Booted Warbler records at Folkestone and Hythe by week

Figure 3 shows the location of the record by tetrad.

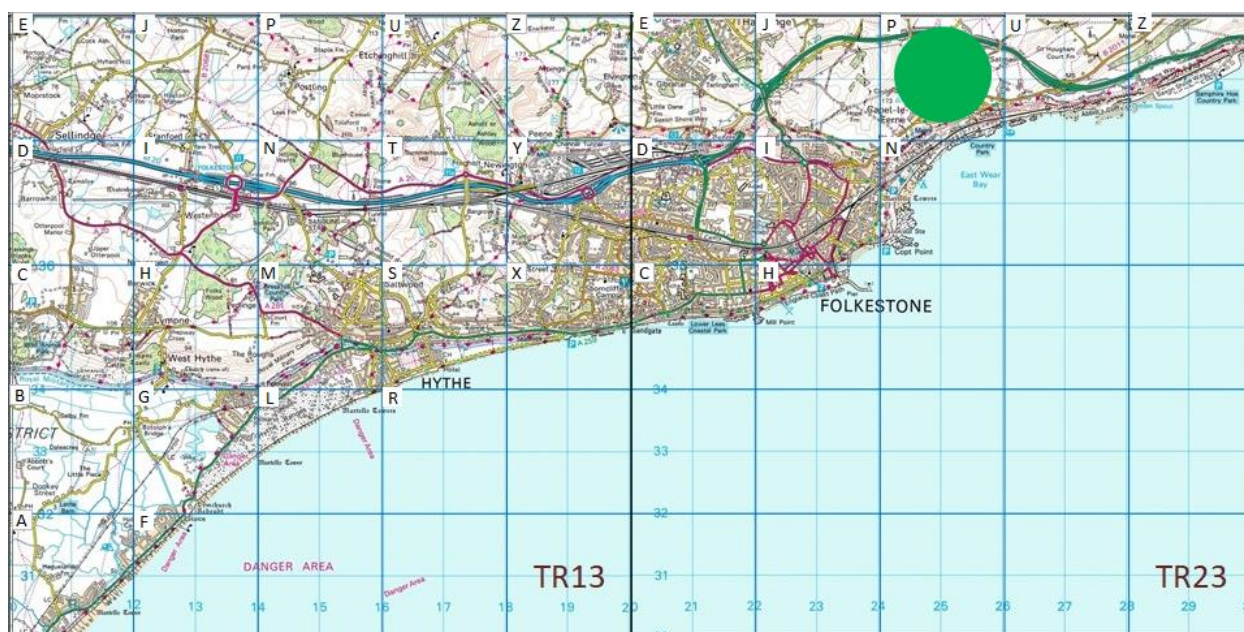


Figure 3: Distribution of all Booted Warbler records at Folkestone and Hythe by tetrad

Confirmation of the only area record is as follows:

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

References

British Birds Rarities Committee (BBRC). Statistics. www.bbrc.org.uk/main-information/statistics (accessed 2021).

Holt, C., French, P. & the Rarities Committee 2021. Report on rare birds in Great Britain in 2020. *British Birds* 114: 570-628.

Kent Ornithological Society (KOS). 1953-2021. *Kent Bird Reports*. Kent Ornithological Society.

Kent Ornithological Society (KOS). The Kent List. <https://kentos.org.uk/index.php/recording/the-kent-list> (accessed 2021).

Rare Bird Alert (RBA) Previous Records. www.rarebirdalert.co.uk/RealData/recordshome.asp (accessed 2021).

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

Acknowledgements

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