

SISKIN *Carduelis spinus*

There are some additional breeding records. A family party was seen at Lenihuline on 7th June 1982, and another family party was seen at Kildavanan on 29th June 1985. Now probably breeds locally in small numbers.

TWITE *Carduelis flavirostris*

Much reduced in numbers, in common with many parts of the Clyde area, but a few pairs can still be seen most years on the moors at the north end of Bute. Breeding proved in 1987, and probable in 1990 (IH).

CROSSBILL *Loxia curvirostra*

Although a few birds turn up occasionally on Bute during the periodic winter Crossbill invasions to Scotland, it is worth recording a party of at least five birds at Suidhe plantation, west of Kilchattan, on 3rd March 1984 (JAG).

CORN BUNTING *Miliaria calandra*

After a period of substantial decrease, the Corn Bunting is now certainly returning to some parts of the Clyde area, and a few birds were seen near Kilchattan Bay during summer from 1986 onwards (JAG); none seen in 1989, although one or two were again present in 1990. This must be a very local return to suitable habitat, since there have apparently been no other reports of Corn Buntings from anywhere else on the island (IH). Any additional information will be gratefully received.

References

- GIBSON, J.A., HOPKINS, I. and STEPHEN, A. (1980). Notes on the birds of the Island of Bute, 1927–1980. *Transactions of the Buteshire Natural History Society*, 21: 69–92.
- McWILLIAM, J.M. (1927). *The Birds of the Island of Bute*. London: Witherby.

In conclusion, it is well worth repeating what we said at the end of our 1980 paper, that the publication of a local bird list commonly stimulates other observers to look afresh at their own notes. So if anyone can add to the information contained in the above list, we shall be very glad to have the details. Any observations sent to us at the Buteshire Natural History Museum in Rothesay will be gratefully acknowledged.

WEATHER REPORT
1985–1989

Helen MacLeod

Detailed particulars of the daily weather may be obtained from the meteorological records at the library in the museum.

The daily readings in Bute, with the exception of the sunshine, are recorded by Mr J. Morton in the grounds of Rothesay Academy. These records are used by the Society and are also sent to the Meteorological Office in Edinburgh.

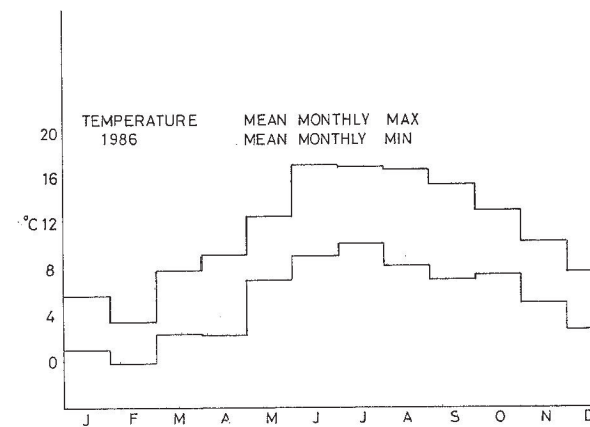
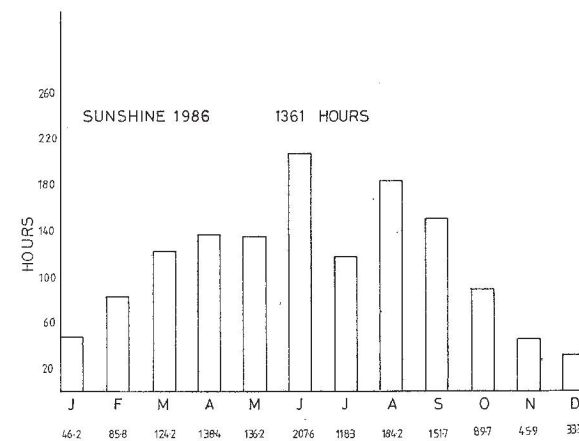
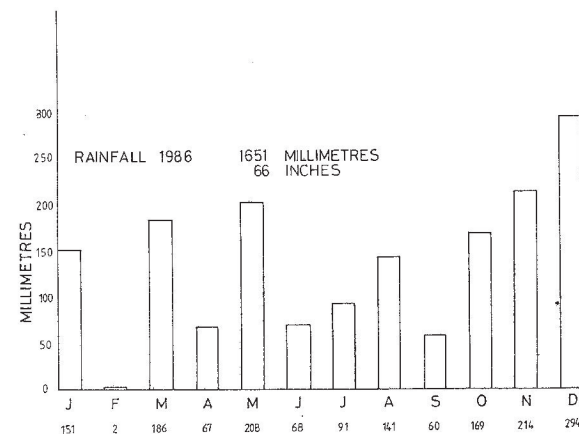
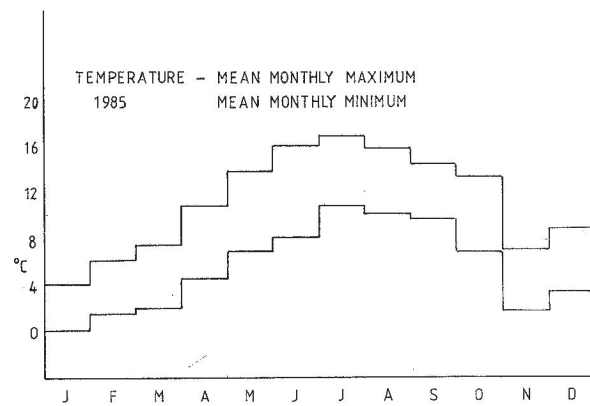
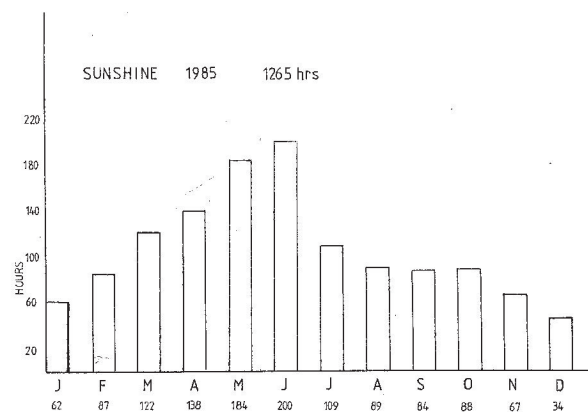
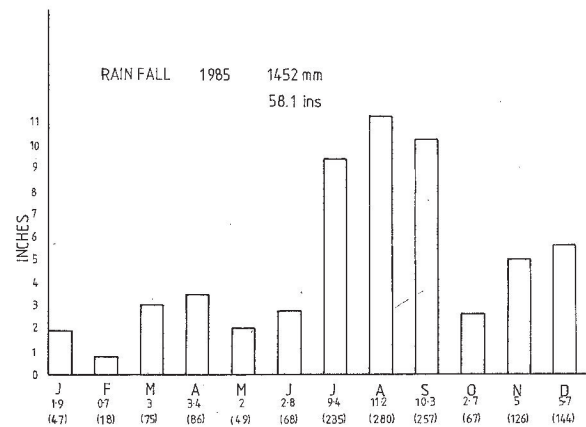
The sunshine records are collected by Mr R. Cassidy at the Dhu Loch. Until 1986 all the weather readings were also taken at the Dhu Loch and forwarded to Prestwick as well as to Edinburgh. This practice ceased in 1986 and the Dhu Loch is no longer an auxiliary weather station.

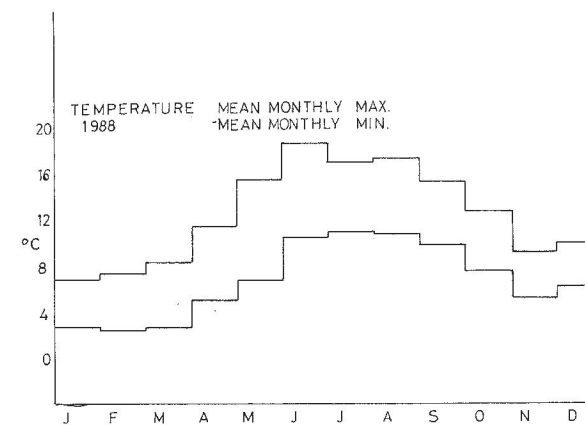
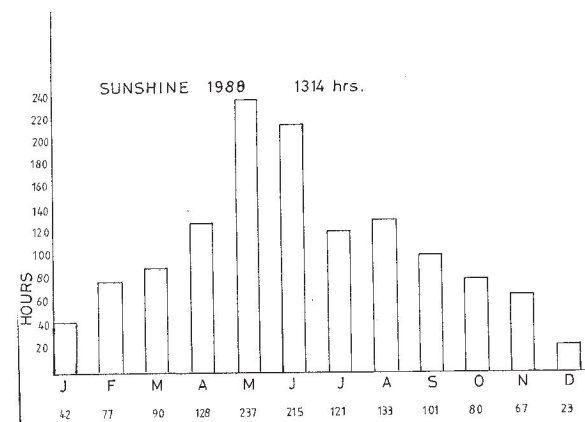
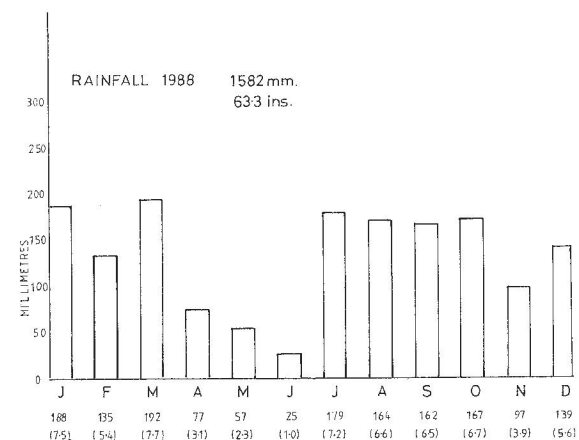
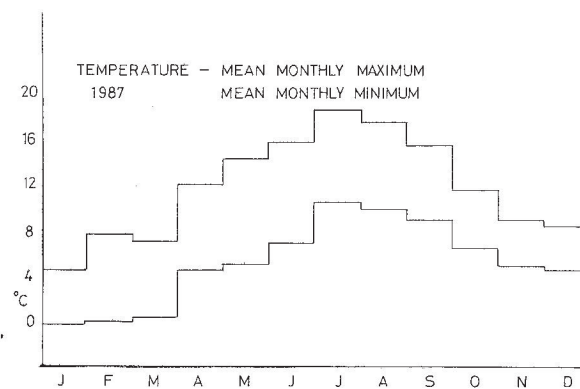
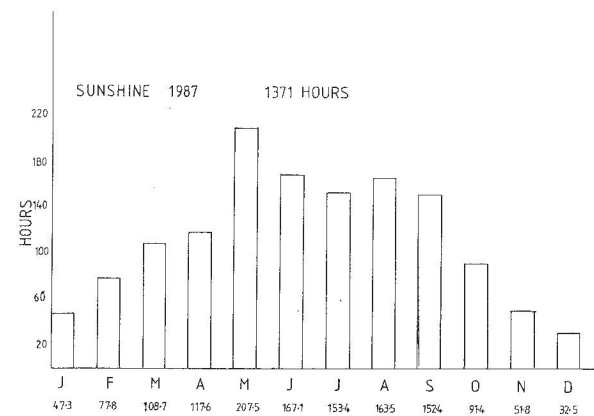
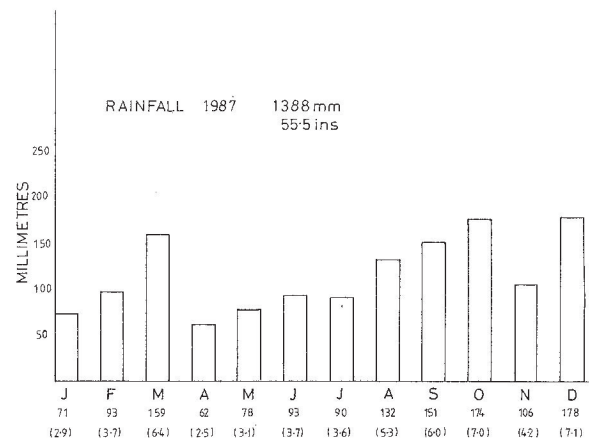
To comply with metrication the rainfall readings are now recorded in millimetres. Totals since 1986 are now marked in millimetres. Conversions to inches are still included.

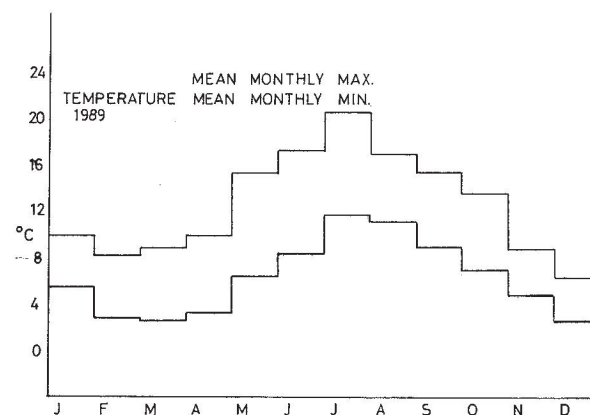
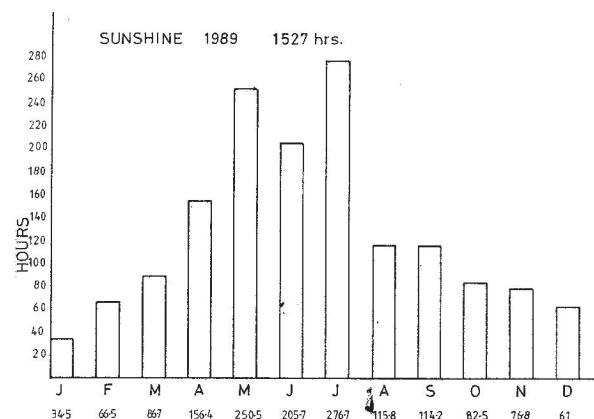
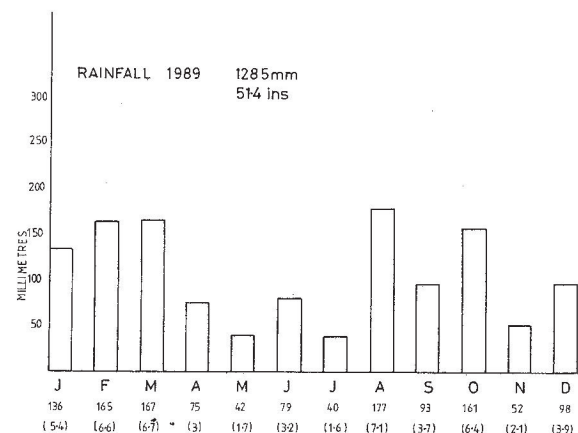
The average annual rainfall for the period 1985–1989 was 1471mm. This compares unfavourably with the long-term average of 1317mm (1951–1980).

The average annual sunshine recorded for the same period was 1368hrs which compares more favourably with the 1951–1980 average of 1333hrs.

In the period under review 1989 was the outstanding year with only 1285mm rain and 1527hrs sunshine hours.







CUMULATIVE INDEX, VOLUMES 1 TO 23 (1908 to 1990)

J.A. Gibson and Jean Fyfe

The last Cumulative Index to the Society's *Transactions* was published in Volume 14 (1955), but since then the number of contributions to the *Transactions* has virtually doubled. The previous method of Index presentation — listing full titles of papers under each of the various subject headings — although suitable at one time, is therefore now too cumbersome, particularly since many papers cover more than one subject, a fact frequently not obvious from the titles. A new method of presentation had therefore to be devised, and after detailed discussion it has been decided to present the Cumulative Index in the following three sections:

A. Contents of Volumes

The detailed contents of every volume, from Volume 1 (1908) to Volume 23 (1990), are listed in full, with a separate number assigned to each paper or other item contained within each volume. This permits reference to the contents by simple code-number without the necessity to repeat full titles, and also facilitates multiple reference under different subject headings.

B. Subject Index

Meteorology and Weather have always been subjects of great interest to the Society. Virtually every volume contains a summary of the records, and indeed meteorological recording represented the entire publishing venture of the Buteshire Natural History Society's predecessor, the Archaeological and Physical Society of Bute. The other main subjects occupying the greater part of the Society's *Transactions* have been Natural History in its many forms, Local History, and Archaeology. These subjects therefore form the main bulk of the Subject Index, but many smaller or more detailed subject headings have also now been added to assist research. These smaller subjects are usually also re-listed within the larger subject headings.

All references are coded under volume-number and item-number, as indicated above.

C. Author Index

As an aid to research an Author Index can be simply invaluable, but no such index has previously appeared in any of the Society's