



# ORIOLE BIRDING



Roseate Tern – Coquet Island – June 2021 – © Oriole Birding (Andrew Kinghorn)

## TOUR REPORT NORTH-EAST ENGLAND 1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE – 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021

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**TUESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> JUNE** – *Sunny spells with brisk but warm easterly/southerly winds, 19C*

Our annual North-east England Grand Tour kicked off again today, this was our 17<sup>th</sup> year rather than 18<sup>th</sup> due to the 2020 trip being cancelled due to Coronavirus. As is a tradition we started off with a trip to Frampton Marsh RSPB. No sooner had we got out of the car than we were enjoying our first views of **Yellow Wagtails** whilst we had our lunch. A quick stop outside of the visitor centre gave us excellent views of a **Spoonbill**, which was awake! Waders were in good attendance with great views of displaying **Lapwing** and **Ringed Plover**, whilst a **Shoveler** with chicks was skilfully picked up and we also added our only **Wigeon** of the trip. We had truly excellent views of **Black-necked Grebe** on the reserve, with these excellent views under our belts we decided to move on. Our final stop of the day was to Besthorpe Nature Reserve on the Nottinghamshire border with Lincolnshire, here we enjoyed truly spectacular views of the **Great Reed Warbler** as it sang amongst the reeds it was swaying. An evening walk produced a **Little Owl** as it went about its business outside of our accommodation.



**Black-necked Grebe – Frampton Marsh RSPB – June 2021 - © Oriole Birding (Andrew Kinghorn)**

**WEDNESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> JUNE** – *Sunny and persistent SE wind, 16C*

We headed south to the Spurn area, it is famed as a hotbed of bird migration and is 1 of the best places on the UK mainland to witness visible migration. Our first stop of the day was at the well known Kilnsea Wetlands, we had excellent views of **Sedge Warbler** and watching a **Kestrel** catch a vole was a highlight for many in the group. We had good views of our first **Little Terns** of the trip as well as some stunning summer plumage **Dunlin** with a few **Sanderlings** mixed in. We headed off down to the Bluebell Café car park and headed off toward the triangle, upon walking down we had excellent views of a pair of **Cuckoos** and an unseasonal **Dark-bellied Brent Goose** which put in an appearance! We also had good views of **Eurasian Reed Warbler** here and we were entertained with watching a **Pied Wagtail** dip in and out of the reedbed to feed its young. We headed back to the van to have some lunch and a rest before heading down beacon lane to see what we could see, it was a productive walk with excellent views of **Reed Bunting** and **Common Whitethroat** and we finally connected with **Dunnock** which up until that point had eluded us! As we were walking back, we were alerted by a birder that a flock of **Bee-Eaters** were headed our way and that by usual timings they would be with us within 20 minutes, with this in mind we made our way speedily toward the



famous Warren. Half way there we received a call they were over the triangle; a quick scan revealed the birds powering south, awesome! We hung around for a while in the hope the birds would come south again (they doubled back) but this was to no avail and we called it a day. 1 of the most memorable things about the day was the sheer number of **Swallows** powering south past the Warren and out toward the point, during the day there was an estimated 760 birds that had passed through.

**THURSDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> JUNE** – *Sunny and persistent SE wind, more overcast later in the day. 15C but felt warmer.*

With the weather still in the SE we headed to Flamborough with anticipation, we headed down toward the lighthouse and stopped to take in our first views of the cliffs. As hoped for they were alive with **Razorbills** and **Guillemots**, with **Gannets** passing offshore in a mostly northern direction. We approached a section of the cliffs where we were treated to some excellent views of **Puffins** below us, always a popular bird. By this point we had been serenaded by **Kittiwakes** pretty much since we arrived. We decided to take a walk south along Flamborough Head itself, no sooner had we begun our walk than a **Quail** burst from right beside the path, it allowed for some excellent flight views as it flew around us and off inland. The group were understandably ecstatic with it being a lifer for nearly everyone. We then pondered on just how that could be topped, when ten minutes later we found our own two **Bee-Eaters** just south of Old Fall plantation! Initially picked up on call they flew toward us and dipped down low over the field before headed off south and high out to sea. After all of this excitement we managed excellent views of a singing male **Yellowhammer** and Old Fall Plantation itself gave us views of our first **Great Spotted Woodpecker** of the week. We decided to leave Flamborough Head on our high and head for Bempton Cliffs RSPB.



**Puffin & Kittiwake – Flamborough Head – June 2021 - © Oriole Birding (Andrew Kinghorn)**

Its fair to say that the fine weather had brought out the people in force at Bempton but the birds didn't seem to care, in particular the day hunting **Barn Owl** that was picked out almost straight away



on arrival to the reserve. As is expected here we were treated to some awe-inspiring views of **Gannets** and **Puffins** were in attendance amongst the throngs of calling **Kittiwakes**. Of course, the cliffs were also alive with the sights, sounds, and smells of **Guillemot** and **Razorbill**. We didn't have to wait long for our first **Corn Bunting** to show and we had excellent views of several to the soundtrack of **Skylark** and seabirds. It was excellent to watch the **Kittiwakes** gathering material from a nearby field to do what seemed like much needed maintenance to their nests on the cliffs. We located a **Wheatear** in a nearby crop field and watched it go about its business foraging as it gradually worked its way away from us up the field margin. News of a Rosy Starling saw us heading toward Flamborough Head to try and connect with it, on arrival we were informed we had just missed eight **Bee-Eaters** that had gone over the car park! A quick scan with the scope some five minutes later saw the **Bee-Eaters** way off in the distance, but they did the right thing and came toward us flying right over our heads showing their resplendent plumage and calling constantly. Not only had the eight returned but they had also picked up a friend and so there were now nine, surely there can't be too many British birders who can say they've seen eleven **Bee-Eaters** in a day. What an utterly fantastic way to end the day and to our visit to East Yorkshire, the **Bee-Eaters** more than made up for not seeing the Rosy Starling!



Corn Bunting – Bempton Cliffs RSPB – June 2021 - © Oriole Birding (Andrew Kinghorn)

**FRIDAY 4<sup>th</sup> JUNE** – *A bright sunny day with fresh W/NW winds, 18C but often feeling warmer*

We departed early for the two-hour run north to Scotch Corner, where we would break for coffee and toilets before continuing another fifty minutes into Upper Teesdale for our first birding stop. A **Black Grouse** put in an appearance at a well known Lek site, and a **Short-eared Owl** put on an excellent performance as it hunted alongside the hill and spent a lot of time hanging in the wind. You only had to turn around to see a **Barn Owl** that was also out hunting, and with **Lapwing** and **Snipe** it was hard to know where to look! We added our first **Mistle Thrushes** of the trip to the list before deciding to head onto another site where **Black Grouse** normally put on a show, whilst we drew a blank here, we were treated to further views of upland waders with **Curlew** bubbling and **Lapwing** actively chasing off the **Jackdaws** that were seemingly testing the **Lapwings** resolve!

We stopped for lunch in a woodland clearing where we were treated to a flyover **Marsh Harrier** which was a real bonus here, after lunch we headed off to look and listen for **Tree Pipit** and it didn't take long before we connected successfully. At a picture-perfect peaceful site, we watched a female



**Common Redstart** go about her business feeding her recently hatched young. A pitstop to look for **Ring Ouzel** was sadly unsuccessful but we did have excellent views of **Stitch** and **Wheatear** before we moved onto our final site for the day. Our final stop was around Derwent Reservoir and it turned out to be 1 of the most memorable parts of our trip, in a stretch no more than 200 yards we enjoyed excellent views of singing **Wood Warbler**, **Common Redstart** and **Pied Flycatcher**. After a truly fantastic day birding, we headed off toward our evening accommodation in Alnwick.

**SATURDAY 5<sup>th</sup> JUNE** – *Sunny morning and afternoon with little cloud for most of the day, SW winds, 17C*

After a hearty breakfast, we headed north to Wooler and then into the Cheviot Hills along the beautiful Harthope Valley, this is a spectacular valley with breath-taking scenery and the birds to go along with it. On the way down we had excellent views of a roadside **Whinchat** and it was hard to miss **Red-legged Partridge**. A look onto the river quickly provided us with our first views of **Grey Wagtail** in the valley and a whilst we waited for the **Dipper**, we had close range views of foraging **Lesser Redpoll** and also had **Siskin** calling overhead. We had a walk along the edge of the river and had excellent views of both an adult and recently fledged **Dipper**. A short way on **Common Sandpipers** put in a show and we had a very quick glance into its beautifully simple nest before leaving the birds in peace. A walk up the valley a short way revealed **Northern Wheatear** and **Red Grouse**, a short way on we saw **Grey Wagtail** feeding some recently fledged young. A **Common Cuckoo** serenaded us whilst we attempted to locate the male **Common Redstart**, eventually most of the group got views of the bird as it sang high up in a conifer. However, our star of the valley came in the form of a male **Ring Ouzel** that sat up proudly surveying his territory on a dry-stl wall.



Whinchat – Harthope Valley – June 2021 - © Oriole Birding (Andrew Kinghorn)

We headed for the Farne Islands out of Seahouses at 2PM, the Farne's are an excellent place to get some truly awe-inspiring views of seabirds and this boat trip didn't disappoint! We had superb views of **Puffin** and it's always fun to sift through the throng of **Guillemots** to look for a bridled bird. The always stunning deep black **Razorbills** put on a performance and the glossy bottle green **Shags** were all in attendance. On the tern front we enjoyed the sounds and sights of **Sandwich Tern** and **Arctic Terns** whilst there was a single **Roseate Tern** was also present on Brownsman. We had a few

**Gannets** cutting from north to south and of course **Eider** was seen in the harbour, **Kittiwakes** were a constant feature throughout the islands. As we were heading back to harbour the group skilfully picked out a flock of roosting **Knot** which contained a lovely red bird, a really nice bonus. When we got back to the harbour a celebratory Ice Cream was on the cards!

Our final stop of the day was the Long Nanny tern colony, it is always a treat to see this impressive 500 strong nesting colony. Upon arrival we were treat to excellent views of **Arctic Tern** and within seconds we were watching a summer plumage **Black Tern** as it went about its business flying over our heads and calling. Amongst the throng of roosting **Arctic Terns** on the beach we were treated to our first **Common Gulls** of the trip and we had some **Little Terns** showing well. Some summer plumage **Sanderling** were also a treat here. What a way to end yet another memorable day.



Black Tern -Long Nanny – June 2021 - © Oriole Birding (Andrew Kinghorn)

**SUNDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JUNE** – *A sunny day, cooler at 14c most of the day with winds from NE/E direction.*

We started the day off by visiting the Blyth estuary in Northumberland where Britain's 8<sup>th</sup> record of **Red-necked Stint** had been discovered the previous evening. On arrival we were almost instantly on the bird as it fed amongst **Ringed Plover** and **Dunlin**. The stunningly marked coverts and throat were very apparent in the scope, its not often a group get a chance to see such an amazingly rare bird and so this was 1 of the trip highlights. After here we headed off to see what we could find at Cresswell Pond, it was largely quiet but **Avocet** put in an appearance and some distant **Buzzards** were interesting to watch against the backdrop of distant wind turbines. We then headed off to Amble to catch the boat over to Coquet Island, on the way over we were treated to some excellent views of **Puffins** heading toward the island and upon arrival its hard not to be impressed with Coquet! A glance at the island is just amazing, with seabirds absolutely everywhere! Its hard to look somewhere and not see **Arctic Tern** and there is a constant turnover of **Sandwich Terns** flying in off the sea and up onto the tops of the islands to feed their young. The real prize here is **Roseate Terns**, and it wasn't long before we were having our first views of birds coming in and out of the colony. There were also quite a few birds roosting on the rocks, with some birds adorning their lovely rosy pink flush that gives them their name.





Roseate Tern & Common Terns– Coquet Island – June 2021 – © Oriole Birding (Andrew Kinghorn)

After we were back on dry land, we headed off to East Chevington NWT to have a look around, on arrival we saw our second **Great Reed Warbler** of the trip (there's something you won't see often in a UK report!). We headed on down to the hide where we had brief views of calling **Bearded Tit** but fabulous views of **Marsh Harrier**. On the pond itself 1 of the group skilfully picked out a **Goosander** and we managed to hear both **Lesser Whitethroat** and **Grasshopper Warbler**. Another quick look was had at the **Great Reed Warbler** before we headed off to Druridge Pools. Upon arrival we headed for the Budge Screen and had excellent views of both **Bar-tailed** and **Black-tailed Godwits** and had a look at 2 **Ruddy Shelducks**. Our final stop of the trip was Cresswell Pond once again where we had some excellent views of foraging **Little Gulls**, what a way to end a memorable trip.

**MONDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE** – A largely sunny and warm day but with some rain showers, 18c

Purely a travelling day today, as we departed Rothbury and headed to Great Ryburgh.

## SYSTEMATIC LIST

| Key           |                                                                                                                  |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mega          | Exceptionally rare bird, around 1 to 3 records record every 10 years across the UK or less.                      |
| Rare          | Often annual, if not the species is to be expected to be found somewhere in the UK over a period of a few years. |
| Scarce        | Annual in the UK, normally more than 10 records nationwide.                                                      |
| Common        | A common or localised bird.                                                                                      |
| Uncategorised | Currently does not form part of the British List, though likely to be added to category C in the future.         |
|               |                                                                                                                  |
| Species List  | Comments                                                                                                         |
| 1. Mute Swan  | Seen on 4 of the 6 birding days, seen on most water bodies with ease.                                            |

|                          |                                                                                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. Greylag Goose         | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species.                                                                                                      |
| 3. Canada Goose          | Seen on every day bar 1 (Durham uplands), a common and widespread species.                                                                                                 |
| 4. Brent Goose           | A single dark-bellied race was seen at Spurn sitting on the sea.                                                                                                           |
| 5. Shelduck              | Seen on 3 days, mostly near estuarine habitats where they breed.                                                                                                           |
| 6. Ruddy Shelduck        | A total of 2 birds seen at Druridge Pools from the Budge Screen in Northumberland.                                                                                         |
| 7. Mallard               | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species.                                                                                                      |
| 8. Gadwall               | Seen on 3 of the 6 days birding, a species associated with waterbodies and lacking from upland areas.                                                                      |
| 9. Shoveler              | Seen on 2 of the 6 days, on larger water bodies close to the sea. Ducklings witnessed at Frampton Marsh RSPB.                                                              |
| 10. Wigeon               | Seen on only 1 day (Frampton Marsh RSPB), does breed in the Durham uplands rarely but not seen on this trip.                                                               |
| 11. Eurasian Teal        | Seen on only 1 day on large water bodies near the coast in Northumberland.                                                                                                 |
| 12. Pochard              | Seen on 1 day only at Frampton Marsh RSPB.                                                                                                                                 |
| 13. Tufted Duck          | Seen on 3 days, always where extensive bodies of water were present.                                                                                                       |
| 14. Common Eider         | Seen on 2 days in Northumberland, a bird associated with harbours and estuarine habitat. The world's first ever bird to be given protection by decree of the Pope in Rome. |
| 15. Goosander            | A single bird on East Chevington NWT.                                                                                                                                      |
| 16. Red Grouse           | Seen on 2 of the 6 days, all sighting around heather moorland that are mostly managed for the purposes of grouse shooting.                                                 |
| 17. Black Grouse         | Seen on 1 day only in Durham, a species that can be found amongst upland flower meadows and sheep pasture with extensive tussocks.                                         |
| 18. Red-legged Partridge | Seen on 3 of the 6 days, nearly always around areas with farmland where they are released for shooting interests.                                                          |
| 19. Quail                | A trip highlight for many, a single bird burst from cover near the path at Flamborough Head lighthouse.                                                                    |
| 20. Common Pheasant      | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species.                                                                                                      |
| 21. Black-necked Grebe   | A single bird was seen at Frampton Marsh RSPB.                                                                                                                             |
| 22. Little Grebe         | Seen on 3 of the 6 days, a species associated with extensive bodies of water.                                                                                              |
| 23. Great Crested Grebe  | Seen on 2 of the 6 days, a species associated with extensive bodies of water.                                                                                              |
| 24. Fulmar               | Seen on 3 of the 6 days, a localised breeder around seabird colonies and cliffs along most of the UK coast.                                                                |
| 25. Northern Gannet      | Seen on 3 of the 6 days, a localised breeder around seabird colonies and cliffs along some parts of the UK. Forms large coastal colonies.                                  |
| 26. Great Cormorant      | Seen on every day with the exception of 1 (Durham uplands).                                                                                                                |
| 27. European Shag        | Seen on 2 days, common bird around the Farne and Coquet Islands.                                                                                                           |
| 28. Little Egret         | Seen on 3 of the 6 days, an increasing species across most of England and likes lowland areas with extensive water bodies.                                                 |
| 29. Grey Heron           | Seen on 3 of the 6 days, a common and widespread species but can be secretive during the breeding season.                                                                  |
| 30. Eurasian Spoonbill   | A single bird was seen at Frampton Marsh RSPB, bird was an immature and also woke up to show the group its bill!                                                           |



|                              |                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 31. Red Kite                 | Seen on 2 days, whilst travelling in Norfolk and also in the Durham uplands.                                                                               |
| 32. Marsh Harrier            | Seen on 2 of the 6 days, a bird in the Durham uplands was the most unexpected. We also saw birds on the Northumberland coast at East Chevington NWT.       |
| 33. Common Buzzard           | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species.                                                                                      |
| 34. Eurasian Sparrowhawk     | Seen on two days only.                                                                                                                                     |
| 35. Kestrel                  | Seen on every day bar 1, we failed to see 1 on our last day.                                                                                               |
| 36. Water Rail               | Heard on a single day at East Chevington NWT.                                                                                                              |
| 37. Common Moorhen           | Seen on 4 of the 6 days, a common and widespread bird in the right habitat.                                                                                |
| 38. Eurasian Coot            | Seen on 3 of the 6 days, requires water bodies for breeding and feeding.                                                                                   |
| 39. Oystercatcher            | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species.                                                                                      |
| 40. Avocet                   | Seen on 3 of the 6 days, an ever-increasing bird and can now be found across most of England.                                                              |
| 41. Ringed Plover            | Seen on 4 of the 6 days, most notable being displaying birds at various sites.                                                                             |
| 42. Northern Lapwing         | Seen on 5 of the 6 days, still a common and widespread bird but sadly on the decline.                                                                      |
| 43. Knot                     | A roosting flock were seen from the boat on Inner Farne.                                                                                                   |
| 44. Sanderling               | Seen on two dates, most notable birds being on the beach at the Long Nanny where they were coming into summer plumage.                                     |
| 45. Dunlin                   | Seen on 2 of the 6 days, with all birds adorning their stunning summer plumage.                                                                            |
| 46. Common Sandpiper         | Seen on only a single day in the Harthope Valley, but also a nest with eggs was noted.                                                                     |
| 47. Common Redshank          | Seen on 4 of the 6 days, breeding birds seen at both upland and lowland sites.                                                                             |
| 48. Black-tailed Godwit      | Seen alongside Bar-tailed Godwit at the Budge Screen on Druridge Pools.                                                                                    |
| 49. Bar-tailed Godwit        | Seen alongside Black-tailed Godwit at the Budge Screen on Druridge Pools.                                                                                  |
| 50. Eurasian Curlew          | Seen on 4 of the 6 days, most notable birds breeding those on their breeding territories in the uplands of Durham.                                         |
| 51. Common Snipe             | Seen on 1 day only, in the Durham uplands where they breed.                                                                                                |
| 52. Red-necked Stint         | Only the 8 <sup>th</sup> record for Britain, an exceptionally rare bird.                                                                                   |
| 53. Black-headed Gull        | Seen on 4 of the 6 days, breeds in colonies in suitable areas with water availability.                                                                     |
| 54. Common Gull              | Seen on 1 date only, non-breeding birds seen on the beach at the Long Nanny.                                                                               |
| 55. Herring Gull             | Seen on 4 of the 6 days, a bird that is on the red list and is in decline.                                                                                 |
| 56. Lesser Black-backed Gull | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species.                                                                                      |
| 57. Great Black-backed Gull  | Seen on 4 of the 6 days and always on the coast, most notable birds being breeding birds on the Farne's and loafing birds at Spurn.                        |
| 58. Little Gull              | At least 3 1 <sup>st</sup> summers witnessed at Cresswell Pong NWT on the evening of our final days birding.                                               |
| 59. Kittiwake                | Seen on 3 of the 6 days, chiefly a coastal species breeding on cliffs. Excellent views on the Farne Islands, Bempton Cliffs RSPB, and at Flamborough Head. |

|                              |                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 60. Little Tern              | Seen on 2 of the 6 days, seen at breeding sites at Spurn and the Long Nanny.                                                                                                          |
| 61. Sandwich Tern            | Seen on 2 of the 6 days, seen well on the Farne Island, Coquet Island, and the Long Nanny in Northumberland.                                                                          |
| 62. Common Tern              | Seen on 3 days, birds showed well on Frampton Marsh RSPB as well as at on Coquet Island.                                                                                              |
| 63. Arctic Tern              | Seen on 2 of the 6 days, showed well on the Farne Islands and at Long Nanny Burn. Birds also seen on Coquet Island, but much more focus on looking at Roseate Terns.                  |
| 64. Roseate Tern             | Seen on 2 days, a brief bird on Brownsman island (Farne's) but many showed well amongst their breeding colonies on Coquet Island.                                                     |
| 65. Black Tern               | Seen at Long Nanny in amongst the Arctic Terns, this particular individual has returned now for a number of years.                                                                    |
| 66. Atlantic Puffin          | Seen well at Flamborough, Bempton, Coquet Island, and the Farne Islands. Also known in Northumberland as both the 'Tommy Noddy' and 'Sea Parrot'.                                     |
| 67. Guillemot                | Seen well at Flamborough, Bempton, Coquet Island, and the Farne Islands                                                                                                               |
| 68. Razorbill                | Seen well at Flamborough, Bempton, Coquet Island, and the Farne Islands                                                                                                               |
| 69. Feral Pigeon (Rock Dove) | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species.                                                                                                                 |
| 70. Stock Dove               | Seen on 4 of the 6 days, mostly around farmland areas.                                                                                                                                |
| 71. Woodpigeon               | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species.                                                                                                                 |
| 72. Collared Dove            | Seen on 4 of the 6 days, common around towns and villages.                                                                                                                            |
| 73. Common Cuckoo            | Seen or heard on 4 of the 6 days, birds are still very vocal at this time of year.                                                                                                    |
| 74. Short-eared Owl          | A single bird witnessed at a site in the Durham uplands.                                                                                                                              |
| 75. Barn Owl                 | Seen on 3 of the 4 days, with birds seen at Bempton Cliffs RSPB, Aldbrough, and Durham uplands. All were day hunting birds that were likely feeding young.                            |
| 76. Little Owl               | Seen on 2 days, same bird at Aldbrough.                                                                                                                                               |
| 77. Common Swift             | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species.                                                                                                                 |
| 78. European Bee-Eater       | A total of 11 to 13 Bee-Eaters seen over 2 days, with 2 birds seen at Spurn, 2 birds found by our party at Flamborough head, and a further 9 seen on the same evening at Flamborough. |
| 79. Green Woodpecker         | A single bird was heard to 'yaffle' in the Durham uplands.                                                                                                                            |
| 80. Great Spotted Woodpecker | Seen or heard on 4 of the 6 days, a widespread and common bird.                                                                                                                       |
| 81. Skylark                  | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species. Sadly, the species is still in decline.                                                                         |
| 82. Sand Martin              | Seen on 5 of the 6 days, the species was not seen in the Durham uplands.                                                                                                              |
| 83. Swallow                  | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species.                                                                                                                 |
| 84. House Martin             | Seen on 5 of the 6 days, the species was not seen on day 1 where we were mainly at Frampton Marsh RSPB.                                                                               |
| 85. Meadow Pipit             | Seen on 5 of the 6 days, the species was not seen on day 1 where we were mainly at Frampton Marsh RSPB.                                                                               |
| 86. Tree Pipit               | Seen on 1 day only in the Durham uplands.                                                                                                                                             |
| 87. Pied Wagtail             | Seen on 5 of the 6 days, the species was not seen on day 1 where we were mainly at Frampton Marsh RSPB.                                                                               |



|                            |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 88. Western Yellow Wagtail | Seen or heard on 2 of the 6 days, good views were had of many at Frampton Marsh RSPB.                                                                                                    |
| 89. Grey Wagtail           | Seen on only 1 day in the Harthope Valley, no suitable locations were checked in the Durham uplands when we visited.                                                                     |
| 90. Dipper                 | Seen on only 1 day in the Harthope Valley, no suitable locations were checked in the Durham uplands when we visited                                                                      |
| 91. Dunnock                | Seen or heard on 4 of the 6 days, a common and widespread species.                                                                                                                       |
| 92. Robin                  | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species.                                                                                                                    |
| 93. Common Redstart        | Seen on 2 of the 6 days, unsurprisingly both those days were in upland areas of Durham and Northumberland.                                                                               |
| 94. Northern Wheatear      | Seen on 2 of the 6 days, unsurprisingly both those days were in upland areas of Durham and Northumberland.                                                                               |
| 95. Whinchat               | Seen on only 1 day, a single male was seen well in the Harthope Valley in Northumberland.                                                                                                |
| 96. Common Stonechat       | Seen on one day only in the Durham uplands.                                                                                                                                              |
| 97. Song Thrush            | Seen on 5 of the 6 days, a widespread and common bird but on the decline.                                                                                                                |
| 98. Mistle Thrush          | Seen on 3 of the 6 days, mostly witnessed in the uplands where the species is fairly common and easy to see.                                                                             |
| 99. Blackbird              | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species.                                                                                                                    |
| 100. Ring Ouzel            | Seen on 1 day only in the Harthope Valley in Northumberland.                                                                                                                             |
| 101. Garden Warbler        | Seen on 1 day only, brief view but spectacular to listen to.                                                                                                                             |
| 102. Eurasian Blackcap     | Seen or heard on every single day, a common and widespread species.                                                                                                                      |
| 103. Common Whitethroat    | Seen or heard on 5 of the 6 days, a common and widespread species.                                                                                                                       |
| 104. Lesser Whitethroat    | A single male was heard singing at East Chevington NWT.                                                                                                                                  |
| 105. Sedge Warbler         | Seen on 3 of the 6 days, most notable bird being a singing male which showed well on Beacon Lane at Spurn.                                                                               |
| 106. Grasshopper Warbler   | A single bird was heard singing distantly at East Chevington NWT.                                                                                                                        |
| 107. Eurasian Reed Warbler | A species that is far easier to hear than to see, however we did end up seeing a few Reed Warblers during our trip. Seen or heard on 3 of the 6 days.                                    |
| 108. Great Reed Warbler    | Astonishingly 2 birds seen on the trip! First was a showy singing male at Besthorpe in Nottinghamshire, the second a more distant singing male at East Chevington NWT in Northumberland. |
| 109. Willow Warbler        | Seen or heard on 5 of the 6 days, a fairly widespread bird north of the Humber, becoming harder to come by in the SE.                                                                    |
| 110. Wood Warbler          | Seen on a single date singing in old woodland in Durham.                                                                                                                                 |
| 111. Chiffchaff            | Seen or heard on 5 of the 6 days, a fairly widespread bird in the UK.                                                                                                                    |
| 112. Goldcrest             | Heard singing on 1 day only in the Harthope Valley.                                                                                                                                      |
| 113. Wren                  | Despite being a common and widespread bird, we didn't hear or see 1 on 1 day.                                                                                                            |
| 114. Spotted Flycatcher    | Seen at Great Ryburgh in Norfolk before departing on day 1.                                                                                                                              |
| 115. Pied Flycatcher       | Only on the day we visited the Durham uplands, multiple birds seen.                                                                                                                      |
| 116. Coal Tit              | Only noted on a single date in the Durham uplands.                                                                                                                                       |
| 117. Blue Tit              | Seen on 5 of the 6 days, largely a common and widespread bird                                                                                                                            |
| 118. Great Tit             | Seen on 3 of the 6 days, but largely a common and widespread bird.                                                                                                                       |

|                        |                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 119. Long-tailed Tit   | Seen and heard on 2 of the 6 days, parties of birds on both occasions.                                                                                                             |
| 120. Bearded Tit       | A male bird showed and called at East Chevington NWT.                                                                                                                              |
| 121. Eurasian Nuthatch | A bird showed well in ancient woodland in the Durham uplands.                                                                                                                      |
| 122. Magpie            | Seen on 5 of the 6 days, though likely also seen on the other day from the vehicle but likely not recalled.                                                                        |
| 123. Jay               | A single bird on the last day of the trip in thick woodland as we drove back to our accommodation.                                                                                 |
| 124. Jackdaw           | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species.                                                                                                              |
| 125. Rook              | Seen on 4 of the 6 days, though likely also seen on the other 2 days from the vehicle but likely not recalled.                                                                     |
| 126. Carrion Crow      | Seen on most days, but lacking from upland areas where crows are managed for keeping interests.                                                                                    |
| 127. Starling          | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species, but is still on the decline.                                                                                 |
| 128. House Sparrow     | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species, but it is still on the decline.                                                                              |
| 129. Tree Sparrow      | Seen on 4 of the 6 days, a pretty localised species in areas in which it occurs.                                                                                                   |
| 130. Chaffinch         | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species.                                                                                                              |
| 131. Linnet            | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species.                                                                                                              |
| 132. Lesser Redpoll    | Seen on 1 day only in the Harthope Valley, though it is interesting to see the species in its upland breeding haunts rather than lowland areas where many are used to seeing them. |
| 133. Goldfinch         | Seen on every day without exception, a common and widespread species.                                                                                                              |
| 134. Greenfinch        | Seen on 2 of the 6 days, nearly always around gardens or villages.                                                                                                                 |
| 135. Siskin            | Seen on 2 of the 6 days, in the breeding season this is chiefly an upland species and as such was seen in Durham and Northumberland.                                               |
| 136. Reed Bunting      | Seen on 5 of the 6 days, not seen in the Durham uplands due to unsuitability of habitat visited on that day.                                                                       |
| 137. Yellowhammer      | Seen on 3 of the 6 days, a bird associated with arable farmland.                                                                                                                   |
| 138. Corn Bunting      | Seen on only 1 day (Bempton Cliffs RSPB), birds sing from the fenceposts and outposts situated on the reserve perimeter.                                                           |

\*Checklist includes species seen on journey