

Recent reports

Compiled by Barry Nightingale and Harry Hussey

This summary of unchecked reports covers early June to early July 2012.

Headlines In the midsummer period it is often quality rather than quantity that stands out and 2012 was no exception. Crowd-pleasers included a lingering Little Swift in Cheshire & Wirral, a Little Bittern in Hertfordshire and a Pacific Golden Plover in Norfolk, while Black-eared Wheatear in Lincolnshire and Trumpeter Finch on St Kilda were less easy to connect with. Rare warblers in Shetland included Arctic, River, Paddyfield and Great Reed, while at the 'scoter hotspot' of Blackdog, in North-east Scotland, a Black Scoter and up to six Surf Scoters were on view, along with a King Eider. A widespread influx of Rose-coloured Starlings reached most regions, and there was a typically good selection of waders and terns reported.

American Wigeon *Anas americana* Loch of Strathbeg (North-east Scotland), 17th–26th June; Graemeshall Loch (Orkney), 7th July. Blue-winged Teal *Anas discors* Tacumshin (Co. Wexford), 30th June to 8th July. Common Eider *Somateria mollissima* North American race *dresseri*, Malin Head (Co. Donegal), long-stayer to at least 16th June. King Eider *Somateria spectabilis* Blackdog (North-east Scotland), long-stayer to 1st July; Gibraltar Point (Lincolnshire), 1st July. Surf Scoter *Melanitta perspicillata* Long-stayers at Blackdog to 8th July, with up to six in this period, and Burray (Orkney), to 19th June; Monifieth (Angus & Dundee), 1st–6th July. Black Scoter *Melanitta americana* Blackdog, 14th June to 6th July. White-billed Diver *Gavia adamsii* Fetlar (Shetland), 10th–11th June. Wilson's Storm-petrel *Oceanites oceanicus* Off Scilly, one 13th June, two 2nd July.

Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus* Stocker's Lake (Hertfordshire), 10th–17th June. Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* Pennington (Hampshire), long-stayer to 21st June; Holy Island (Northumberland), 25th June; Sand Voe (Shetland), remains found, 28th June; Hampton (Greater London), 1st July. Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides* Seaford (Sussex), 21st June; Welney (Norfolk), 30th June to 1st July. Great White Egret *Ardea alba* Records from Cheshire & Wirral, Cornwall, Isle of Wight, Somerset and Sussex. Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea* Dungeness (Kent), long-stayer to 14th June; Grove Ferry (Kent), 29th June to 1st July. Black Stork *Ciconia nigra* Loch Fleet (Highland), 6th July. White Stork *Ciconia ciconia* Long-staying, wandering group of four Somerset, 13th–18th June, then in Caernarfonshire on 19th June and Derbyshire on 28th June; also three in Sussex, 20th–30th June. Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* Long-stayers in Hampshire, Pembrokeshire (with presumably another on Skokholm,



Mark Rayment

268. First-summer female Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus*, Stocker's Lake, Hertfordshire, June 2012.

Adrian Kettle



Adrian Kettle

269. Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*, Cley, Norfolk, June 2012.

8th July), Suffolk and Sussex; two at Combsich (Somerset), 11th June; Upper Lough Erne (Co. Fermanagh), 13th–19th June; Cahore (Co. Wexford), 24th June; Tacumshin, 25th–30th June, then two to 8th July; Clogheen Marsh (Co. Cork), 1st July.

Black Kite *Milvus migrans* Lincoln (Lincolnshire), 17th June; Shetland (various localities), 18th–27th June; St John's Loch (Highland), 19th June; Stonehenge (Wiltshire), 23rd June; Buckden (Cambridgeshire), 23rd June. **Red-footed Falcon** *Falco vespertinus* Tealham Moor (Somerset), long-stayer to 11th June; Kinpurney Hill (Angus & Dundee), 11th June; Tophill Low (Yorkshire), 13th–15th June; Slemish Mountain, 14th–18th June, then Montiagh's Moss (both Co. Antrim), 26th–27th June; Crimdon Dene (Co. Durham), 16th June.

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* Welney, 13th–18th June. **American Golden Plover** *Pluvialis dominica* Landguard (Suffolk), 11th June. **Pacific Golden Plover** *Pluvialis fulva* Cley (Norfolk), 22nd–27th June. **White-rumped Sandpiper** *Calidris fuscicollis* Frampton Marsh (Lincolnshire), 7th July; Rosslare (Co. Wexford), 7th July. **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** *Tryngites subruficollis* North Somercotes (Lincolnshire), 11th June; Nosterfield (Yorkshire), 15th–16th June; Inishkeas (Co. Mayo), 2nd July. **Long-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus scolopaceus* Greenabella Marsh (Cleveland), 13th–17th June; Ouse Fen (Cambridgeshire), 8th July. **Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularius* Scaling Dam Resr (Cleveland), 18th June; Hilfield Park Resr (Hertfordshire), 24th June. **Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis* Tavy Estuary (Devon), 5th July; Virkie, then Loch of Hillwell (both Shetland), 7th July.

Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus* Coombe Hill Meadows (Gloucestershire), long-stayer to 5th July; Hornsea Mere (Yorkshire), 11th June; Benbecula (Outer Hebrides), two, 14th June; Backworth Ponds (Northumberland), 1st July; Minsmere (Suffolk), 2nd July.

Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica* Loughor (Gower), 24th–27th June; Lodmoor (Dorset), 29th June; Dungarvan (Co. Waterford), 29th June. **Caspian Tern** *Hydroprogne caspia* Minsmere, 6th July; Brownsea Island (Dorset), 6th July; Wissington beet factory (Norfolk), 7th July. **White-winged Black Tern** *Chlidonias leucopterus* Ranworth Broad (Norfolk), 14th June; Swillington Ings, 18th June, then Fairburn Ings (both Yorkshire), 19th–20th June; Leighton Moss (Lancashire & N Merseyside), 23rd June; Staines Resr (Surrey), 25th June; Grove Ferry, 25th June; Cotswold Water Park (Wiltshire), 27th June; Shapwick Heath (Somerset), 28th June; Lodmoor, 8th July. **Forster's Tern** *Sterna forsteri* long-stayer, Tacumshin, to at least 1st July.

Snowy Owl *Bubo scandiacus* North Uist, long-stayer to 11th June, same St Kilda (both Outer Hebrides), 13th June. **Alpine Swift** *Apus melba* Bempton (Yorkshire), 29th June to 2nd July; Blakeney Point, then Walsey Hills (both Norfolk), 30th June; Spurn (Yorkshire), 1st July. **Little Swift** *Apus affinis* New Brighton (Cheshire & Wirral), 22nd–29th June. **European Bee-eater** *Merops apiaster* Climping Beach, four, 14th June, Hastings, five, 17th June, then Blackham (all Sussex), 18th June; also singles in Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Norfolk, Pembrokeshire and Suffolk. **European Roller** *Coracias garrulus* Aldbrough (Yorkshire), long-stayer to 14th June.

Recent reports

Steve Young/Birdwatch



270. Juvenile Little Swift *Apus affinis*, New Brighton, Cheshire & Wirral, June 2012.

Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator* Long-stayers at Winterton (Norfolk) and Great Orme (Caernarfonshire), both to 14th June; John O'Groats (Highland), 13th June; Gunton (Suffolk), 19th–20th June; Sneatonthorpe (Yorkshire), 26th June. Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla* Lundy (Devon), two long-stayers to 14th June; the Cull (Co. Wexford), 23rd–24th June; Blakeney Point, 8th July.

Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides* Bardsey (Caernarfonshire), 30th June. Arctic Warbler *Phylloscopus borealis* Whalsay (Shetland), 27th June. Western Bonelli's Warbler *Phylloscopus bonelli* North Ronaldsay (Orkney), 1st July. Iberian Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus ibericus* Long-stayers at Kenidjack (Cornwall) to 21st June and Porlock (Somerset) to 8th July. River Warbler *Locustella fluviatilis* Fair Isle, 11th–13th June, again 24th June to 8th July. Savi's Warbler *Locustella luscinioides* Blacktoft Sands (Yorkshire), 14th June to 5th July;

Topsham (Devon), 21st–23rd June; Tacumshin, 25th–30th June. Paddyfield Warbler *Acrocephalus agricola* Fair Isle, 30th June to 8th July. Great Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* Boddam (Shetland), 28th June.

Rose-coloured Starling *Pastor roseus* Stockton-on-Tees (Cleveland), 10th June; Severn Beach (Gloucestershire), 10th–11th June; Saltholme (Cleveland), 11th June; Spanish Point (Co. Clare), 13th June; Skelligs (Co. Kerry), 15th June; Whitley Bay (Northumberland), 16th June; Rhos-on-Sea (Caernarfonshire), 16th–24th June; Minions (Cornwall), 17th June; Valley (Anglesey), 18th–24th June; near Wicklow Head (Co. Wicklow) 18th June to 4th July; Frampton Marsh, 20th–25th June; Scratby (Norfolk), 21st June; Mizen Head (Co. Cork), 24th–28th June; Llangefni (Anglesey), 25th June; St Martin's (Scilly), 3rd July; Ynyslas (Ceredigion), 5th July; Newbiggin-by-the-Sea (Northumberland), 5th July; Malin Beg (Co. Donegal), 6th July. Black-eared Wheatear *Oenanthe hispanica* Frampton Marsh, 12th June.

Trumpeter Finch *Bucanetes githagineus* St Kilda, 10th June. Black-headed Bunting *Emberiza melanocephala* Ystalyfera, 17th June, then Porthyrhyd (both Carmarthenshire), 18th–24th June; North Uist, 19th June.



Gary Thoburn

271. Male Iberian Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus ibericus*, Porlock, Somerset, June 2012.