



# WBC Sightings Report 2020

Compiled by Richard Walden

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## 29 December 2019 to 4 January 2020

A **Tundra Bean Goose** was present at Oulton Marshes, 4 January. **White-fronted Geese** were seen at Oulton Marshes (38) and Carlton Marshes (20), 2 January and Herringfleet Marshes (ten), 4 January and **Pink-footed Geese** at Oulton Marshes (600), 30 December, Carlton Marshes (150), 1 January, Thorpe-next-Haddiscoe (300), 3 January and Herringfleet Marshes (350), 4 January. A **Goosander** flew over Carlton Marshes and three **Pintail** were seen at the same site on 2 January.

A **Great White Egret** roosted at Carlton Marshes throughout the week with other sightings at Burgh Castle and Haddiscoe Island, 29 December and Earsham GP, 1 January. **Little Egrets** were reported from Haddiscoe Island (two), 29 December, Herringfleet Marshes and Lopham Fen, 30 December and Carlton Marshes (25) and Earsham GP (three), 1 January.

A **Peregrine** was seen at Carlton Marshes, 2 January. **Merlins** were recorded at Haddiscoe Island, 1 January, Lopham Fen, 3 January; **Marsh Harriers** at Lopham Fen, 29 December, Carlton Marshes (seven) and Beccles Marshes (two), 1 January, Thorpe-next-Haddiscoe (four), 3 January and Herringfleet Marshes (five), 4 January; **Short-eared Owls** at Haddiscoe Island (four), 29 December and Carlton Marshes (two), 31 December and **Barn Owls** at Haddiscoe Island, 29 December, Carlton Marshes, 30 December, Lopham Fen, 1 January and Oulton Marshes, 4 January.

A male **Blackcap** was seen at Beccles, 29 December and 16 **Water Pipits** at Herringfleet Marshes, 2 January. **Grey Wagtails** were noted at Earsham Mill (two) and Beccles, 1 January; **Bearded Tits** at Haddiscoe Island (30) and Burgh Castle, 29 December, Herringfleet Marshes (15), 31 December and Carlton Marshes, 4 January; **Stonechats** at Carlton Marshes (four) and Haddiscoe Island (two), 29 December, Herringfleet Marshes (four) and Lopham Fen (three), 30 December and Oulton Marshes, 2 January; **Chiffchaffs** at Carlton Marshes, 1 January and Oulton Marshes, 4 January and **Cetti's Warblers** at Carlton Marshes, 29 December, Herringfleet Marshes (two), 30 December and Lopham Fen, 1 January. A pre-roost count of 80 **Pied Wagtails** was made at Lopham Fen on 29 December.

Waders at Carlton Marshes included 500 **Lapwings** and a **Redshank**, 1 January and five **Black-tailed Godwits**, 2 January. A count of 203 **Curlews** was made at Burgh Castle, 29 December. Finally, single **Woodcock** were seen at Haddiscoe Island and Lopham Fen, 1 January.

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## 5 to 11 January 2020

Two first-winter **Great Northern Divers** were seen at No.1 Pit, Weybread from 7 to 11 January (and according to fishermen had been present since early December).

Passerine highlights included 16 **Water Pipits** and ten **Bearded Tits** at Herringfleet Marshes, 5 January. **Grey Wagtails** were recorded at Worlingham Marshes (two) and Weybread GP, 11 January; **Stonechats** at Herringfleet Marshes, 5 January, Lopham Fen, 6 January, Castle Marsh, North Cove, 7 January and Somerleyton Marshes (two), 10 January and **Cetti's Warblers** at Herringfleet Marshes (three), 5 January, Lopham Fen (two), 9 January and Carlton Marshes, 11 January.

Two **Great White Egrets** roosted at Carlton Marshes, 9 January, with one recorded on 5, 10 and 11 January and **Little Egrets** were reported from Herringfleet Marshes (three), 5 January, Weybread GP, 9 January and Carlton Marshes (26), 10 January.

**Marsh Harriers** were seen at Herringfleet Marshes and Lopham Fen, 5 January, Castle Marsh (two), 7 January, Somerleyton Marshes, 10 January and Carlton Marshes (three) and Burgh Castle (two), 11 January and five **Short-eared Owls** were hunting at Haddiscoe Island, 8 January.

**Pink-footed Geese** were noted at Herringfleet Marshes (six), 5 January and Carlton Marshes, 11 January, with 100 **Greylag Geese** at Castle Marsh, 7 January. A **Dunlin** was seen at Carlton Marshes, 5 January and 200 **Curlews** at Burgh Castle, 11 January. Finally, an adult **Yellow-legged Gull** was recorded at Carlton Marshes, 11 January.

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## 12 to 18 January 2020

The two long-staying first-winter **Great Northern Divers** at No.1 Pit, Weybread were present throughout the week.

Notable wildfowl included 30 **White-fronted Geese** and 700 **Pink-footed Geese** at Haddiscoe Island, eight **White-fronted Geese** and 15 **Pink-footed Geese** at Carlton Marshes and 450 **Pink-footed Geese** at Oulton Marshes, 18 January. Two **Pintail** were also present at Carlton Marshes, 18 January.

Two **Great White Egrets** roosted at Carlton Marshes on 18 January, with one on 12 January, while one was also seen at Haddiscoe Island, 18 January. **Little Egrets** were seen at Carlton Marshes (25), Homersfield, Outney Common, Bungay and Weybread GP, 12 January.

**Water Pipits** were recorded at Herringfleet Marshes (ten), 14 January and Carlton Marshes (two), 18 January, **Grey Wagtails** at Homersfield, 12 January and Beccles, 14 January and **Stonechats** at Carlton Marshes (four), Oulton Marshes (two) and Blundeston Marshes, 18 January. A **Kingfisher** was noted at Weybread GP, 12 January, a **Chiffchaff** at Beccles, 14 January, a **Cetti's Warbler** at Redgrave Fen, 15 January and two **Bearded Tits** at Carlton Marshes, 18 January.

A **Red Kite** was seen at Waveney Forest, Fritton, 18 January, with **Marsh Harriers** reported from Lopham Fen, 15 January and Carlton Marshes (four), 18 January and **Barn Owls** from Beccles Marshes, 14 January, Lopham Fen, 15 January and Carlton Marshes, 18 January.

Finally, a **Greenshank** and three **Redshanks** were noted at Carlton Marshes, 18 January.

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## 19 to 25 January 2020

The two first-winter **Great Northern Divers** were present at No.1 Pit, Weybread on 19 January, with one remaining the following day.

**White-fronted Geese** were seen at Somerleyton Marshes (two), 24 January and Carlton Marshes (two), 25 January and **Pink-footed Geese** at Blundeston (35), 19 January, Carlton Marshes, 22 January and Somerleyton Marshes (800), 24 January. A **Brent Goose** was present at Carlton Marshes throughout the week, with counts of 220 **Greylag Geese** and 150 **Mute Swans** at the same site on 25 January. Notable counts of ducks included 17 **Pintail** at Carlton Marshes, 250 **Teal** at Haddiscoe Island and 183 **Teal** at Herringfleet Marshes, 22 January.

Two **Great White Egrets** roosted at Carlton Marshes, 19 January, with one recorded on 21, 22, 24 and 25 January and one present at Haddiscoe Island, 19 January. **Little Egrets** were reported from Haddiscoe Island (three), 20 January, Weybread GP, 22 January, Somerleyton Marshes, 24 January and Carlton Marshes (26), 25 January and a **Bittern** was seen at Oulton Marshes, 25 January.

**Water Pipits** were recorded at Herringfleet Marshes (11), 22 January and Carlton Marshes (five), 25 January; **Stonechats** at Carlton Marshes (two) and Haddiscoe Island, 19 January and Herringfleet Marshes (two), 22 January; **Cetti's Warblers** at Carlton Marshes (five), 19 January, Lopham Fen, 20 January, Herringfleet Marshes (five), 22 January and Somerleyton Marshes, 24 January and **Kingfishers** at Carlton Marshes, 19 January and Weybread GP, 22 January. A **Chiffchaff** was seen at Carlton Marshes, 19 January and six **Bearded Tits** at Herringfleet Marshes and a flock of 40 **Siskins** at nearby Herringfleet Hills, 22 January.

Six **Buzzards** were noted at Haddiscoe Island, 19 January and a **Peregrine** at Thorpe-next-Haddiscoe, 25 January, while **Marsh Harriers** were seen at Haddiscoe Island (22) and Carlton Marshes (three), 19 January, Lopham Fen (two), 20 January, Herringfleet Marshes, 22 January and Somerleyton Marshes, 24 January. Hunting **Short-eared Owls** were recorded at Haddiscoe Island (seven), 19 January and Belton Marshes, 25 January and **Barn Owls** at Haddiscoe Island (two), Carlton Marshes, Lopham Fen and Withersdale Street, 19 January, Burgh Castle, 22 January and Belton Marshes, 25 January.

Notable waders at Carlton Marshes included a **Greenshank** and four **Woodcock**, 19 January, 800 **Lapwings** and 12 **Snipe**, 21 January and four **Dunlin**, 25 January.

Elsewhere, a **Redshank** was seen at Burgh Castle, 22 January, 56 **Snipe** at Somerleyton Marshes, 24 January and a **Greenshank** and 53 **Curlews**, Belton Marshes and three **Woodcock** at Thorpe-next-Haddiscoe, 25 January. Finally, an adult **Yellow-legged Gull** was noted at Carlton Marshes, 25 January.

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## 9 to 22 August 2020

Seabirds began to appear in birders reports with a **Balearic Shearwater** north off Minsmere on the 14th, also at Minsmere two **Arctic Skuas** flew north with four **Arctic Skuas** and a **Pomarine Skua** north off Lowestoft on the same day. On the 15th two **Balearic Shearwaters** flew north off Southwold and a single **Balearic Shearwater** flew north off Corton, a **Roseate Tern** and a **Great Skua** were seen flying south off Lowestoft. Another **Balearic Shearwater** and two **Black Terns** flew south off Ness Point, Lowestoft on the 19th and thirteen **Fulmars** flew south off Minsmere on the 21st.

**Great White Egrets** were noted regularly at Minsmere during the period with two together at Island Mere on the 13th, five **Spoonbills** flew south over Lowestoft on the 18th with two south over Carlton Marshes on the 20th. Records of **Red Kites** and **Hobbies** were noted during the period, **Osprey** south over Beccles on 11th and single **Honey Buzzards** over Lowestoft on 18th and Benacre on the 20th.

Waders started to return in numbers with **Wood Sandpipers** being reported at both Carlton Marshes and Minsmere, peak count for this species was six on the 13th at the rapidly developing Carlton Marshes. The afore mentioned site also hosted twenty-five plus **Green Sandpipers** on the 11th along with thirteen **Common Sandpipers** and five **Wood Sandpipers**, firmly putting this exciting reserve on the wader map. At Minsmere thirteen **Whimbrel** flew south on the 12th whilst on the afternoon of the 20th the scrapes played host to ten **Greenshank**, twenty-six **Redshank**, forty-seven **Ringed Plover**, four **Knot**, ten **Ruff**, four **Sanderling**, **Grey Plover** and **Bar-tailed Godwit**. Three **Green Sandpipers** and a **Common Sandpiper** were seen at Redgrave Fen on 16th. There were a few reports of **Little Gulls** but notable were juvenile **Caspian Gulls** observed in Southwold harbour on 12th (2) and the 21st (1).

Passerine migrants were observed in small numbers with the occasional **Pied Flycatcher**, **Whinchat**, **Yellow Wagtail** and **Crossbills** being noted. However, it all kicked off on the 15th during a period of north-easterlies when a total of 150+ **Pied Flycatchers** were found in Suffolk as a whole, peak counts in the north-east of the county were thirty around the Southwold area and twelve around the Minsmere area. A juvenile **Red-backed Shrike** was discovered by the water tower at Southwold the same day and remained on site up to and including the 20th when another juvenile was found at Minsmere.

Excitement continued on the 16th when a **Wood Warbler** was found at Gunton, observers on site then heard and saw briefly a very elusive **Greenish Warbler** which quickly disappeared, another **Wood Warbler** was discovered in Maltsters Score, Lowestoft the same day. Exotica was provided by two **Ring-necked Parakeets** around Corton and Gunton on the 14th and 15th, two parakeets which flew north over the sluice at Minsmere on the 16th were presumably this species.

Exciting as it is to see all these arrivals it must also be noted that several species have now departed, **Swifts** made their usual mass exodus and have now mostly departed from our towns and villages. The numbers of juvenile **Cuckoos** arriving at the coast preparing to follow the adults south has now decreased, whilst two late **Nightingales** were seen on Westleton Common on the 19th. Some species however are still in the throes of breeding with **Stone Curlews** with chicks and possibly even eggs being reported.

On a sad note a juvenile **Sowerby's Beaked Whale** washed up dead on Lowestoft north beach on the morning of the 22nd, the previous day this unfortunate creature had live stranded on the beach at Caister-on-sea from where it had been refloated.

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## 23 August – 20 September 2020

Seabirds again dominated the reports from this period, **Sooty Shearwaters** and **Manx Shearwaters** were recorded on several dates with a peak of 10 south and 3 north off Corton for the latter species. **Balearic Shearwater** was recorded on 17th September with 2 north at Southwold and 3 north at Lowestoft, which included the 2 reported earlier at Southwold. Also on the 17th September a **Cory's Shearwater** flew south off Lowestoft

and on the 19th a **Great Shearwater** flew north at Southwold 08:40-08:50 and then off Lowestoft 09:58, in total five species of shearwater were recorded off the Suffolk coast in three days, a rare event! On the 18th September a **Leach's Storm Petrel** flew north close inshore at Minsmere, a real treat for the few lucky observers present to see it. **Great White Egrets** were seen on several dates during the period with peak counts of 3 at the Dunwich shore pools on 2nd and 4 at Minsmere on 15th, both September. **Ospreys** were noted at a few sites on several dates with 2 lingering at the favoured stopover site of the Blyth estuary 6th to 10th September and a single remaining thereafter, sea watchers reported the occasional raptor offshore with **Merlins** making landfall at Dunwich on 27 August and Southwold on the 30th August with another seen at Benacre on the 10th September. A **Common Crane** flew west over Lowestoft on the 16th September and shortly after 2 were seen flying over Carlton Marshes.

Wader migration gathered pace during the period with many of the regular species being reported but no real rarities were discovered, though some wader hot spots were suffering from reduced water levels after the long hot end to the summer. **Curlew Sandpipers** were well represented with peak counts of 12 reported at Minsmere on the 12th September and 8 on the Blyth estuary on the 14th, most were juveniles. **Little Stints** were also seen at a few sites with 4 at Minsmere on the 17th September and a particularly obliging individual at Easton Broad 12th-19th September, Wood Sandpiper numbers fell after the peak of the previous period with 2 at Carlton Marshes on 31 August along with 4 **Little Ringed Plovers**.

Sea watching produced several reports of skuas with all four regular species being recorded. **Long-tailed Skuas** were particularly evident during the period though that may involve a small amount of duplication. Reports were as follows, 1 north at Corton and 2 north at Southwold on 27th August with an juvenile on the Lucky pool at Minsmere on the same day, 3 north at Southwold on 29th, 6 at Southwold, 2 at Corton and 1 at Covehithe on 30th, 1 off Covehithe on 17th September and 1 off Minsmere on the 18th. 3 **Great Skuas** flew south at Lowestoft on the 17th and a **Pomarine Skua** flew south at Southwold on the same day. There were also a few scattered reports of **Arctic Skuas**. Notable gull records were 2 **Caspian Gulls** and 37 **Yellow-legged Gulls** in the pig fields at Blythburgh 23rd August, 3 first winter **Caspian Gulls** at Lowestoft north beach on 6th September. Sea watchers logged a juvenile **Sabine's gull** north at Lowestoft and an adult **Sabine's gull** north at Southwold, both on the 30th August. Tern numbers were very low by the end of the period with most reports being of birds passing offshore, 2 juvenile **Arctic Terns** flew south at Southwold on 30th August. Coastal birders also began reporting the first **Short-eared Owls** beginning to arrive off the sea during this period. Passerine migration was also in full swing with records of **Pied Flycatchers**, **Whinchats** and **Common Redstarts** amongst the reports. Less common birds observed included a first winter **Red-backed Shrike** at Minsmere on the 23rd August with another first winter seen at Gunton on 24th and 28th. A **Wood Warbler** was seen in the north bushes at Minsmere on 28th August and a typically skulking **Barred Warbler** was seen in brambles along Lowestoft north beach on 8th September. Sightings of **Ravens** are increasing in the county generally and in our recording area there were three reports during September, a single over Southwold on the 1st, 2 over Minsmere on the 4th and another single at Benacre on the 8th.

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## 21 September – 31 October 2020

What was arguably, for a small group of people at least, bird of the period if not the year, was the adult **Black-browed Albatross** that flew south on the afternoon of the 28th September. Seen by about seven lucky people at 4 locations between Lowestoft and Thorpeness this bird remained, sadly for most, distant on the horizon. Other less astonishing seabird reports involved **Sooty Shearwaters** with singles north at Dunwich (12 Oct) and Minsmere (14 Oct), a **Leach's Petrel** flew north off Southwold on 2 Oct. **Great White Egrets** were reported from a few mainly coastal sites and a **Cattle Egret** flew south over Reydon on the 26 Sept. There were very few reports of less common raptors over the period mainly involving **Ospreys**, a **Honey Buzzard** south over Lowestoft north beach on the 3 October was notable. Wader migration was now beginning to slow to a trickle with the occasional **Little Stint** and **Curlew Sandpiper** being reported, more exciting was the very showy **Grey Phalarope** present at Benacre pit on the afternoon of 27 September and remaining until the afternoon of the following day. Another **Grey Phalarope** was seen flying south offshore from Benacre on the 5 Oct. On the afternoon of the 27 September a juvenile **Sabine's Gull** was discovered on the beach pools at Kessingland and showed very well for its short stay, another juvenile flew north close in at Minsmere stopping briefly on the scrape on the 2 October, an adult north off Southwold on the same day was more typically distant. At Benacre Broad 11 **Caspian gulls** were noted on the 23 September with 15 **Yellow-legged Gulls** present there the next day, an adult **Baltic Gull** was seen in the pig fields at Covehithe on the 6 Oct. The only tern of note was a winter adult **White-winged Black Tern** seen briefly at North Warren on 4 Oct, whilst on the 14th **Arctic**, **Pomarine** and **Long-tailed skuas** were all seen at Minsmere. A lack of really stormy weather during the period resulted in few reports of auks, 2 **Puffins** north off Gunton on 26 September and 2 **Little Auks** north off Southwold on 15 October and one south on the 16th were the pick.

At the end of September passerines began to figure in reports with a **Barred Warbler** south of Minsmere sluice on 21st, a probable **Siberian Chiffchaff** at Kessingland on the 29th and a probable **Eastern Yellow Wagtail** heard at Walberswick on the 30th, interestingly at the same location as last years bird. But it was in October that the action really kicked off starting on the 3rd with the discovery of a **Rustic Bunting** in Lowestoft by the Links Road car park early morning. Initially elusive in beach Marram before flying to roadside brambles where it became more showy, it then flew down on to the tarmac road where it amazed admirers by feeding down to within a few feet. Also on the 3rd a **Radde's Warbler** was seen along the Gunton old railway track, a **Booted Warbler** was discovered in the Sycamores in front of the Sizewell A station and **Great Grey Shrikes** were seen at Kessingland and Southwold. On the 4th the **Rustic Bunting** was present early morning only before flying off south, another **Radde's Warbler** was discovered at Southwold campsite, the **Booted Warbler** was seen again at Sizewell, the **Great Grey Shrike** remained at Kessingland and a second bird was discovered nearby at Benacre. This second shrike was photographed and after later viewing of the images was re-identified as Suffolk's third record of **Steppe Grey Shrike**. On the 5th both shrikes remained at Benacre, the **Great Grey Shrike** having relocated to south of the river with the **Steppe Grey Shrike** showing very well in a hedgerow near Beach Farm. Another **Radde's Warbler** was found in the north bushes at Minsmere and the Southwold campsite bird remained, a **Red-breasted Flycatcher** was seen briefly at Lowestoft north denes. Both shrikes remained at Benacre 6-7th but the **Steppe Grey Shrike** had departed on the 8th, both **Radde's Warblers** remained on the 6th and a **Pallid Swift** was

seen over Walberswick and Southwold harbour on the 8th. The Southwold **Radde's Warbler** remained up to and including the 11th, although frequently elusive towards the end of its stay it occasionally gave prolonged and close views. Reports of **Yellow-browed Warblers** became too numerous to list them all here, **Pallas's Warblers** also began to appear with the following birds reported at Corton new sewerage works on 14th and 17th, Corton old rail track and Gunton old rail track on 16th, Gordon Street Lowestoft on 17th, in a Kirkley garden on 22nd and Pakefield park on 23rd. On the 15-16th a **Great Grey Shrike** was at Benacre to the west of Beach Farm, a new bird or the bird remaining from earlier in the month? A possible **Dusky Warbler** was heard along the Gunton old rail track on 16th and a **Siberian Chiffchaff** was seen on the Lowestoft north denes, a **Dusky Warbler** was discovered in the sluice bushes at Minsmere. On the 17th the **Dusky Warbler** was seen again at Minsmere, a **Barred Warbler** was seen at Dunwich and on the 22nd a female **Parrot Crossbill** flew over Dip Farm Lowestoft.

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## 1 November – 30 November 2020

Suffolk sea watchers have experienced an excellent year for unusual sightings as a glance at previous reports will attest, this month it was the 'one that got away'. On the 1st a possible **Brown Booby** was seen flying south off Southwold, there have now been a few records of this species in British and European waters so hopefully this is a good candidate for the future. Arguably as exciting but rather more expected, was the increase in winter wildfowl with several reports of **Velvet Scoters** and **Long-tailed Ducks** offshore, the latter species was also recorded on coastal waters including Benacre, Covehithe and Minsmere. The first seasonal records of **Bewick's Swans** and **Whooper swans** began to appear along with those of **European White-fronted Geese** and **Goosanders**, top count of the latter was 19 on Minsmere east scrape early morning on the 30th. Most interesting was a southerly movement of **Greater Scaup** during the morning of the 29th, 56 were reported off Ness Point, Lowestoft including flocks of 25 and 19 whilst further south at Southwold 81 were recorded the same day but over a slightly longer timescale. **Great Egrets** continue to be reported with maximum counts being 4 at Dunwich shore pools on the 14th and 2 at Carlton Marshes on the 26th. On the 4th 3 **Glossy Ibis** flew south over Dunwich during the morning, subsequent records probably involving these same birds were 2 at Carlton Marshes on the same afternoon and sporadically until the 29th, a single at Burgh Castle from 4th until 7th. Overwintering raptors were recorded from several sites, these included **Merlins** and the now scarce **Hen Harrier**, only one sighting so far this winter of **Rough-legged Buzzard** involved a single seen at Burgh Castle on the 8th. On the 4th a possible **Eastern Yellow Wagtail** was reported along the shore pools at Dunwich/Walberswick, the next day 2 birds were found to be present including a male and a first winter bird. These two birds were frequenting the same area that hosted Suffolk's first record of this species last year, both birds were seen regularly up to the 19th. Birders who took their lockdown exercise along the beach to see these birds during the first couple of days they were present, found themselves repeating the process when a **Greater Yellowlegs** was discovered on the Dunwich shore pools on the 7th, this attractive Nearctic wader remained until the 19th frequently showing very well. Apart from the Yellowlegs there were very few wader reports with just the occasional **Spotted Redshank** and **Jack Snipe** and 11 **Purple Sandpipers** at Ness Point, Lowestoft on the 2nd. No unusual gulls were reported during the period with just a scattering of **Caspian Gulls** and **Yellow-legged Gulls**, **Great Skuas** were logged on several dates with 8 off

southwold on the 17th along with 2 **Pomarine Skuas**, on the 21st a total of 23 **Great Skuas** were seen off Lowestoft though this probably included some duplication, further south at Thorpeness a total of 8 **Pomarine Skuas** was reported on the same day, 5 **Pomarine Skuas** were reported off Minsmere on the 19th. Alcids this month included **Little Auks** at Lowestoft on the 20th (1), Thorpeness on the 21st (1) and Minsmere On 23rd (2). A few **Short-eared Owls** were seen during the month, the only sighting of a **Long-eared Owl** involved an individual perched on a groyne at Lowestoft, obviously a freshly arrived migrant.

On the 14th 2 **Shorelarks** were discovered by the saline pools on Kessingland north beach, 3 birds were reported on the 16th, then 2 birds again on the 17th and 18th. Late **House Martins** were seen at Aldeburgh on the 17th (2) and Hen reedbeds on 20th (1). Another male **Eastern Yellow Wagtail** was found on Peto's marsh at Carlton Marshes on 25th, frequently very elusive and viewed at great distance, this bird remained to the months end, up to 10 **Water Pipits** were also seen at this location. As is frequently the case, November provided a final flourish of late autumn migrant warblers from much further east. On the 7th a **Pallas's Warbler** was located in the sluice bushes at Minsmere, a favourite of most birders this stripey sprite remained on the 8th. Also on the 8th a **Hume's Warbler** was found at Gunton meadow, though mostly elusive with patience good views could be obtained, in Lowestoft a **Yellow-browed Warbler** was seen in Warrenhouse wood. The next day (9th) 2 **Dusky Warblers** were located, one adjacent to Southwold camp site and the other on Lowestoft north denes, the Southwold bird was still present the next day and the Lowestoft bird remained until the 15th. Just to prove that unusual birds can turn up anywhere, on the 7th a **Penduline Tit** was seen and photographed at Bramfield, keep watching your gardens! **Hawfinches** were seen in Sotterley Park on 20th (3) and 22nd (4), **Snow Buntings** were reported from a few coastal sites with a maximum of 20 at Dunwich on the 28th, a **Lapland Bunting** was also seen at Dunwich on the 5th and 6th. **Twite** were also reported from Dunwich, a traditional location for this species, with a maximum count of 9 on the 11th.

A merry Christmas to you all!