

U.K. tally:	332
US tally:	440
Total world:	1,587

world list

1. Abyssinian ground hornbill
2. Abyssinian longclaw
3. Abyssinian white-eye
4. Acorn woodpecker
5. African black-headed oriole
6. African drongo
7. African fish-eagle
8. African harrier-hawk
9. African hawk-eagle
10. African mourning dove
11. African palm swift
12. African paradise flycatcher
13. African paradise monarch
14. African pied wagtail
15. African rook
16. African white-backed vulture
17. Agami heron
18. Alder flycatcher
19. Alexandrine parakeet
20. Alpine accentor
21. Amazon kingfisher
22. American avocet
23. American bittern
24. American black duck
25. American coot
26. American crow
27. American dipper
28. American flamingo
29. American golden plover
30. American goldfinch
31. American herring gull
32. American kestrel
33. American magpie
34. American oystercatcher
35. American pipit
36. American pygmy kingfisher
37. American redstart
38. American robin
39. American swallow-tailed kite
40. American tree sparrow
41. American white pelican
42. American wigeon
43. American woodcock
44. Ancient murrelet
45. Andean avocet

46. Andean condor
47. Andean flamingo
48. Andean gull
49. Andean negrito
50. Andean swift
51. Anhinga
52. Anna's hummingbird
53. Antillean crested hummingbird
54. Antillean euphonia
55. Antillean mango
56. Antillean nighthawk
57. Antillean palm-swift
58. Apapane
59. Aplomado falcon
60. Arabian bustard
61. Arabian green bee-eater
62. Arcadian flycatcher
63. Arctic redpoll
64. Arctic skua
65. Arctic tern
66. Arctic warbler
67. Armenian gull
68. Arrow-headed warbler
69. Ash-throated flycatcher
70. Ashy-headed goose
71. Ashy-headed laughing thrush
72. Ashy prinia
73. Ashy storm-petrel
74. Asian black bulbul
75. Asian koel
76. Asian openbill
77. Asian palm-swift
78. Asian paradise flycatcher
79. Asian pied starling
80. Asian woolly-necked stork
81. Augur buzzard
82. Austral blackbird
83. Austral negrito
84. Austral thrush
85. Australasian pelican
86. Australasian pipit
87. Avocet
88. Azure-headed jay
89. Azure-winged magpie
90. Bahama mockingbird
91. Bahama woodstar
92. Bahama yellowthroat
93. Baillon's crake
94. Baird's sandpiper
95. Bald eagle

96. Balearic shearwater
97. Baltimore oriole
98. Bananaquit
99. Band-tailed pigeon
100. Bank myna
101. Barbuda warbler
102. Bare-eyed pigeon
103. Bare-faced ibis
104. Bare-throated tiger-heron
105. Bar-headed goose
106. Barn owl
107. Barn swallow
108. Barnacle goose
109. Barred buttonquail
110. Barred owl
111. Barred warbler
112. Barrow's goldeneye
113. Bar-tailed godwit
114. Bar-winged cinclodes
115. Bat falcon
116. Bay wren
117. Bay-backed shrike;
118. Bay-breasted warbler
119. Baya weaver
120. Bearded tit (reedling)
121. Bee-eater
122. Belted kingfisher
123. Berylline hummingbird
124. Bewick's swan
125. Bicoloured wren
126. Bimaculated lark
127. Black currawong
128. Black drongo
129. Black eagle
130. Black guillemot
131. Black kite
132. Black oystercatcher
133. Black phoebe
134. Black redstart
135. Black skimmer
136. Black stork
137. Black swan
138. Black swift
139. Black tern
140. Black vulture
141. Black-and-white monjita
142. Black-and-white warbler
143. Black-and-yellow silky flycatcher
144. Black-bellied sandgrouse
145. Black-bellied tern

146. Black-bellied whistling duck
147. Black-billed wood-hoopoe
148. Black-browed albatross
149. Black-browed reed-warbler
150. Blackburnian warbler
151. Black bush-robin
152. Blackcap
153. Black-capped chickadee
154. Black-capped donacobious
155. Black-cheeked woodpecker
156. Black-chested buzzard-eagle
157. Black-chested jay
158. Black-chinned hummingbird
159. Black-chinned siskin
160. Black-collared hawk
161. Black-collared starling
162. Black-cowled oriole
163. Black-crested bulbul
164. Black-crowned night heron
165. Black-crowned palm-tanager
166. Black-eared kite
167. Black-eared wheatear
168. Black-faced antthrush
169. Black-faced bunting
170. Black-faced grassquit
171. Black-faced ibis
172. Black-footed albatross
173. Black-fronted piping-guan
174. Black-headed cuckooshrike
175. Black-headed grosbeak
176. Black-headed gull
177. Black-headed heron
178. Black-headed ibis
179. Black-headed oriole
180. Black-headed saltator
181. Black-headed tody flycatcher
182. Black-headed weaver
183. Black-hooded sierra-finch
184. Black-naped monarch
185. Black-naped oriole
186. Black-necked grebe
187. Black-necked swan
188. Blackpoll warbler
189. Black-rumped flameback
190. Blackstart
191. Black-striped sparrow
192. Black-tailed godwit
193. Black-throated blue warbler
194. Black-throated diver
195. Black-throated green warbler

196. Black-throated grey warbler
197. Black-throated laughingthrush
198. Black-throated mango
199. Black-throated sparrow
200. Black-throated thrush
201. Black-throated trogon
202. Black turnstone
203. Black-whiskered bulbul
204. Black-whiskered vireo
205. Black-winged kite
206. Black-winged lovebird
207. Black-winged stilt
208. Blue grosbeak
209. Blue ground-dove
210. Blue jay
211. Blue magpie
212. Blue rock thrush
213. Blue tit
214. Blue-and-yellow tanager
215. Blue-black grassquit
216. Blue-black grosbeak
217. Blue-breasted bee-eater
218. Blue-cheeked bee-eater
219. Blue-crowned motmot
220. Blue-faced malkoha
221. Blue-grey gnatcatcher
222. Blue-grey tanager
223. Blue-headed vireo
224. Blue-naped mousebird
225. Blue-tailed bee-eater
226. Blue-tailed emerald
227. Bluethroat
228. Blue-winged goose
229. Blue-winged macaw
230. Blue-winged teal
231. Blue-winged warbler
232. Boat-billed flycatcher
233. Boat-billed heron
234. Boat-tailed grackle
235. Bobolink
236. Bohemian waxwing
237. Bonaparte's gull
238. Bonelli's eagle
239. Boobook
240. Booted eagle
241. Booted warbler
242. Brahminy kite
243. Brahminy starling
244. Brambling
245. Brandt's cormorant

246. Brant
247. Brazilian teal
248. Brent goose
249. Brewer's blackbird
250. Brewer's sparrow
251. Bridled quail-dove
252. Bright-rumped attila
253. Bristle-crowned starling
254. Broad-billed tody
255. Broad-tailed hummingbird
256. Broad-winged hawk
257. Bronzed cowbird
258. Bronze-tailed plumeleteer
259. Bronze-winged jacana
260. Bronzy hermit
261. Brown booby
262. Brown creeper
263. Brown dipper
264. Brown jay
265. Brown noddy
266. Brown parusoma
267. Brown pelican
268. Brown scrubwren
269. Brown shrike
270. Brown skua
271. Brown snake-eagle
272. Brown thrasher
273. Brown-and-yellow marshbird
274. Brown-backed mockingbird
275. Brown-breasted flycatcher
276. Brown-capped babbler
277. Brown-chested martin
278. Brown-crested flycatcher
279. Brown-eared bulbul
280. Brown-headed barbet
281. Brown-headed cowbird
282. Brown-hooded gull
283. Brown-hooded parrot
284. Brown-necked raven
285. Brown-rumped seedeater
286. Brown-throated parakeet
287. Brunnich's guillemot
288. Buff-bellied pipit
289. Buff-breasted sandpiper
290. Bufflehead
291. Buff-necked ibis
292. Buff-throated foliage-gleaner
293. Buller's shearwater
294. Bull-headed shrike
295. Bullock's oriole

296. Burrowing owl
297. Burrowing parrot
298. Bushtit
299. Cackling goose
300. Cactus wren
301. California gnatcatcher
302. California gull
303. California quail
304. California scrub-jay
305. California towhee
306. Calliope hummingbird
307. Canada goose
308. Canada warbler
309. Canary-winged finch
310. Canivet's emerald
311. Canvasback
312. Canyon wren
313. Cape May warbler
314. Caribbean dove
315. Caribbean elaenia
316. Caribbean grackle
317. Caribbean martin
318. Carolina chickadee
319. Carolina wren
320. Carrion crow
321. Caspian gull
322. Caspian tern
323. Cassin's auklet
324. Cassin's vireo
325. Cattle egret
326. Cattle tyrant
327. Cave swallow
328. Cayman parrot
329. Cedar waxwing
330. Cerulean warbler
331. Cetti's warbler
332. Ceylon frogmouth
333. Ceylon rufous babbler
334. Ceylon woodshrike
335. Chaffinch
336. Chalk-browed mockingbird
337. Chestnut bulbul
338. Chestnut munia
339. Chestnut piculet
340. Chestnut sparrow
341. Chestnut-backed chickadee
342. Chestnut-bellied nuthatch
343. Chestnut-bellied sandgrouse
344. Chestnut-coloured woodpecker
345. Chestnut-headed oropendula

346. Chestnut-mandibled toucan
347. Chestnut-naped francolin
348. Chestnut-sided warbler
349. Chiguanco thrush
350. Chilean flamingo
351. Chilean flicker
352. Chilean giant hummingbird
353. Chilean mockingbird
354. Chilean swallow
355. Chiloé wigeon
356. Chimango caracara
357. Chimney swift
358. Chinese bulbul
359. Chinese pond-heron
360. Chipping sparrow
361. Chotoy spinetail
362. Chough
363. Chukar
364. Cinereous tit
365. Cinnamon bittern
366. Cinnamon teal
367. Cinnamon-bellied ground-tyrant
368. Cinnamon-chested bee-eater
369. Cirl bunting
370. Citrine wagtail
371. Clamorous reed warbler
372. Clapper rail
373. Clark's nutcracker
374. Clay-coloured robin
375. Clay-coloured sparrow
376. Cliff swallow
377. Coal tit
378. Cocoa thrush
379. Cocoli heron
380. Collared aracari
381. Collared crow
382. Collared dove
383. Collared treepie
384. Common black hawk
385. Common blackbird
386. Common bronzewing
387. Common bulbul
388. Common bullfinch
389. Common bush tanager
390. Common buzzard
391. Common camaroptera
392. Common chiffchaff
393. Common coot
394. Common crossbill
395. Common cuckoo

396. Common fiscal
397. Common goldeneye
398. Common grackle
399. Common grasshopper warbler
400. Common greenshank
401. Common ground-dove
402. Common gull
403. Common iora
404. Common kestrel
405. Common kingfisher
406. Common linnet
407. Common moorhen
408. Common myna
409. Common nighthawk
410. Common nightingale
411. Common parauque
412. Common pochard
413. Common poorwill
414. Common raven
415. Common redpoll
416. Common redshank
417. Common redstart
418. Common rosefinch
419. Common sandpiper
420. Common scoter
421. Common shelduck
422. Common spoonbill
423. Common swift
424. Common tailorbird
425. Common tern
426. Common tody-flycatcher
427. Common waxbill
428. Common whitethroat
429. Common wood pigeon
430. Common yellowthroat
431. Connecticut warbler
432. Copper's hawk
433. Coppersmith barbet
434. Cormorant
435. Corn bunting
436. Corncrake
437. Cory's shearwater
438. Coscoroba swan
439. Crag martin
440. Crane
441. Creamy-bellied thrush
442. Crescent honeyeater
443. Crested bobwhite
444. Crested caracara
445. Crested drongo

446. Crested duck
447. Crested finchbill
448. Crested francolin
449. Crested guan
450. Crested lark
451. Crested orependula
452. Crested serpent-eagle
453. Crested treeswift
454. Crimson rosella
455. Crimson-backed tanager
456. Crimson-crested woodpecker
457. Crimson-fronted parakeet
458. Crow-billed drongo
459. Cuban blackbird
460. Cuban bullfinch
461. Cuban crow
462. Cuban emerald
463. Cuban grassquit
464. Cuban green woodpecker
465. Cuban martin
466. Cuban pewee
467. Cuban tody
468. Cuban trogon
469. Curlew
470. Curlew sandpiper
471. D'Orbigny's chat-tyrant
472. Dark-eyed junco
473. Dark-fronted babbler
474. Dark-necked tailorbird
475. Daurian redstart
476. Dead Sea sparrow
477. Desert lark
478. Desert warbler
479. Desert wheatear
480. Dolphin gull
481. Dotterel
482. Dot-winged antwren
483. Double-collared seedeater
484. Double-crested cormorant
485. Downy woodpecker
486. Dunlin
487. Dunnock
488. Dusky antbird
489. Dusky crag martin
490. Dusky flycatcher
491. Dusky robin
492. Dusky thrush
493. Dusky warbler
494. Dusky-capped flycatcher
495. Eared dove

496. Eastern black redstart
497. Eastern bluebird
498. Eastern great tit
499. Eastern kingbird
500. Eastern meadowlark
501. Eastern phoebe
502. Eastern screech owl
503. Eastern spot-billed duck
504. Eastern spotted dove
505. Eastern towhee
506. Eastern wood-pewee
507. Eastern yellow wagtail
508. Egyptian goose
509. Eider
510. Elegant crested-tinamou
511. Elegant euphonia
512. Elegant tern
513. Eleonora's falcon
514. Emerald toucanet
515. Ethiopian siskin
516. Eurasian scops owl
517. Evening grosbeak
518. Evermann's redstart
519. Eyebrowed thrush
520. Eye-ringed flatbill
521. Fan-tailed raven
522. Fan-tailed warbler
523. Fasciated antshrike
524. Fascinated tiger heron
525. Ferruginous duck
526. Field flicker
527. Field wren
528. Fieldfare
529. Firecrest
530. Fire-eyed diucón
531. Firewood-gatherer
532. Fish crow
533. Flame robin
534. Flame-coloured tanager
535. Flame-throated warbler
536. Forest wagtail
537. Fork-tailed flycatcher
538. Fork-tailed sunbird
539. Forster's tern
540. Fox sparrow
541. Fox-kestrel
542. Franklin's gull
543. Fulvous whistling-duck
544. Fulvous-vented euphonia
545. Fulmar

- 546. Gadwall
- 547. Galah
- 548. Gambel's quail
- 549. Gannet
- 550. Garden warbler
- 551. Garganey
- 552. Giant cowbird
- 553. Giant kingbird
- 554. Giant wood-rail
- 555. Gila woodpecker
- 556. Gilded flicker
- 557. Glaucous gull
- 558. Glaucous-winged gull
- 559. Glittering-bellied emerald
- 560. Glossy ibis
- 561. Goldcrest
- 562. Golden-bellied flycatcher
- 563. Golden-breasted starling
- 564. Golden-breasted woodpecker
- 565. Golden-collared manakin
- 566. Golden-crowned kinglet
- 567. Golden-crowned sparrow
- 568. Golden eagle
- 569. Golden-fronted woodpecker
- 570. Golden-hooded tanager
- 571. Golden parrotbill
- 572. Golden plover
- 573. Golden-spotted ground-dove
- 574. Golden-winged cacique
- 575. Golden-winged warbler
- 576. Goldfinch
- 577. Goosander
- 578. Grace's warbler
- 579. Graceful prinia
- 580. Great bittern
- 581. Great black-backed gull
- 582. Great blue heron
- 583. Great bustard
- 584. Great cormorant
- 585. Great crested grebe
- 586. Great egret
- 587. Great grebe
- 588. Great grey shrike
- 589. Great horned owl
- 590. Great kiskadee
- 591. Great northern diver
- 592. Great reed warbler
- 593. Great shearwater
- 594. Great skua
- 595. Great spotted woodpecker

596. Great tinamou
597. Great tit
598. Great white pelican
599. Great-crested flycatcher
600. Greater Antillean grackle
601. Greater blue-eared glossy starling
602. Greater coucal
603. Greater flameback
604. Greater flamingo
605. Greater racket-tailed drongo
606. Greater rhea
607. Greater roadrunner
608. Greater sand plover
609. Greater spotted eagle
610. Greater thornbird
611. Greater white-fronted goose
612. Greater white pelican
613. Greater yellowlegs
614. Great-tailed grackle
615. Green-backed tit
616. Greenfinch
617. Green hermit
618. Green heron
619. Green honeycreeper
620. Green imperial-pigeon
621. Green jay
622. Green kingfisher
623. Green parakeet
624. Green sandpiper
625. Green violet-ear
626. Green woodpecker
627. Green-backed firecrown
628. Green-backed heron
629. Green-backed sparrow
630. Green-billed coucal
631. Green-breasted mango
632. Green-crowned brilliant
633. Green-headed tanager
634. Greenish warbler
635. Green-throated carib
636. Green-winged saltator
637. Green-winged teal
638. Grenada flycatcher
639. Grey-backed shrike
640. Grey catbird
641. Grey francolin
642. Grey go-away bird
643. Grey hawk
644. Grey-headed swamphen
645. Grey heron

646. Grey hornbill
647. Grey hypocolius
648. Grey jay
649. Grey kingbird
650. Grey partridge
651. Grey phalarope
652. Grey plover
653. Grey shrike-thrush
654. Grey thrasher
655. Grey treepie
656. Grey trembler
657. Grey vireo
658. Grey wagtail
659. Grey woodpecker
660. Grey-breasted martin
661. Grey-breasted prinia
662. Grey-breasted seedsnipe
663. Grey-breasted wood wren
664. Grey-capped emerald dove
665. Grey-cheeked thrush
666. Grey-crowned palm-tanager
667. Grey-crowned rosy finch
668. Grey-headed batis
669. Grey-headed chachalaca
670. Grey-headed fish-eagle
671. Grey-headed sparrow
672. Grey-headed swamphen
673. Grey-hooded gull
674. Grey-hooded sierra-finch
675. Greyish saltator
676. Greylag goose
677. Grey-necked wood-rail
678. Grey-throated martin
679. Griffon vulture
680. Groove-billed ani
681. Groundscraper thrush
682. Guillemot
683. Guira cuckoo
684. Gull-billed tern
685. Hairy woodpecker
686. Hamerkop
687. Hammond's flycatcher
688. Harlequin duck
689. Harris's hawk
690. Hawaiian coot
691. Hawaiian duck
692. Hawfinch
693. Heermann's gull
694. Helmeted guineafowl
695. Hemprich's hornbill

696. Hen harrier
697. Henslow's sparrow
698. Hermit thrush
699. Herring gull
700. Hill myna
701. Hill swallow
702. Hispaniolan lizard-cuckoo
703. Hispaniolan woodpecker
704. Hobby
705. Hoffman's woodpecker
706. Honduran emerald
707. Honey buzzard
708. Hooded crow
709. Hooded merganser
710. Hooded oriole
711. Hooded vulture
712. Hooded warbler
713. Hooded wheatear
714. Hoopoe
715. Horned puffin
716. House crow
717. House finch
718. House martin
719. House sparrow
720. House wren
721. Hudsonian godwit
722. Hume's leaf-warbler
723. Hume's wheatear
724. Hutton's vireo
725. Iberian chiffchaff
726. Iceland gull
727. Icterine warbler
728. Imperial cormorant
729. Indian cormorant
730. Indian nightjar
731. Indian peafowl
732. Indian pitta
733. Indian pond heron
734. Indian pygmy woodpecker
735. Indian robin
736. Indian roller
737. Indian silverbill
738. Indian swiftlet
739. Indigo bunting
740. Intermediate egret
741. Isabelline wheatear
742. Jabiru stork
743. Jackdaw
744. Jack snipe
745. Jamaican becard

- 746. Jamaican crow
- 747. Jamaican elaenia
- 748. Jamaican euphonia
- 749. Jamaican mango
- 750. Jamaican oriole
- 751. Jamaican tody
- 752. Jamaican woodpecker
- 753. James flamingo
- 754. Japanese pygmy woodpecker
- 755. Japanese wagtail
- 756. Java sparrow
- 757. Jay
- 758. Jerdon's bushlark
- 759. Jerdon's leafbird
- 760. Jungle babbler
- 761. Jungle prinia
- 762. Juniper titmouse
- 763. Keel-billed toucan
- 764. Kelp gull
- 765. Kentish plover
- 766. Kentucky warbler
- 767. Killdeer
- 768. King eider
- 769. King rail
- 770. Kittiwake
- 771. Kittlitz's murrelet
- 772. Knot
- 773. Kori bustard
- 774. Ladder-backed woodpecker
- 775. Laggar
- 776. Lammergeier
- 777. Lance-tailed manakin
- 778. Lapland bunting
- 779. Lappet-faced vulture
- 780. Lapwing
- 781. Large-billed crow
- 782. Large-billed leaf warbler
- 783. Lark-like bushrunner
- 784. Laughing dove
- 785. Laughing gull
- 786. Layard's parakeet
- 787. Lazuli bunting
- 788. Leach's petrel
- 789. Least bittern
- 790. Least flycatcher
- 791. Least grebe
- 792. Least sandpiper
- 793. Least tern
- 794. Legge's flowerpecker
- 795. Legge's hawk-eagle

796. Lesser Antillean bullfinch
797. Lesser Antillean Flycatcher
798. Lesser black-backed gull
799. Lesser goldfinch
800. Lesser greenlet
801. Lesser grey shrike
802. Lesser kestrel
803. Lesser kiskadee
804. Lesser nighthawk
805. Lesser redpoll
806. Lesser rhea
807. Lesser scaup
808. Lesser seed-finch
809. Lesser spotted woodpecker
810. Lesser whistling duck
811. Lesser whitethroat
812. Lesser yellow-headed vulture
813. Lesser yellowlegs
814. Lesser yellownape woodpecker
815. Levant sparrowhawk
816. Limpkin
817. Lincoln's sparrow
818. Lineated woodpecker
819. Little auk
820. Little bee-eater
821. Little bittern
822. Little blue heron
823. Little bunting
824. Little cormorant
825. Little egret
826. Little grebe
827. Little green bee-eater
828. Little gull
829. Little hermit
830. Little owl
831. Little pied flycatcher
832. Little plover
833. Little stint
834. Little swift
835. Little tern
836. Little weaver
837. Loggerhead kingbird
838. Loggerhead shrike
839. Long-billed dowitcher
840. Long-eared owl
841. Long-tailed duck
842. Long-tailed fiscal
843. Long-tailed hermit
844. Long-tailed meadowlark
845. Long-tailed shrike

- 846. Long-tailed skua
- 847. Long-tailed tit
- 848. Long-tailed tyrant
- 849. Long-winged harrier
- 850. Louisiana waterthrush
- 851. Lovely cotinga
- 852. Lucy's warbler
- 853. Maccoa duck
- 854. MacGillivray's warbler
- 855. Magellanic oystercatcher
- 856. Magnificent frigatebird
- 857. Magnolia warbler
- 858. Magpie
- 859. Magpie robin
- 860. Magpie tanager
- 861. Maguari stork
- 862. Malabar pied hornbill
- 863. Mallard
- 864. Manchurian reed-warbler
- 865. Mandarin duck
- 866. Mangrove cuckoo
- 867. Manx shearwater
- 868. Marabou
- 869. Marbled murrelet
- 870. Marico sunbird
- 871. Marsh harrier
- 872. Marsh sandpiper
- 873. Marsh tit
- 874. Marsh warbler
- 875. Marsh wren
- 876. Masked gnatcatcher
- 877. Masked lapwing
- 878. Masked laughingthrush
- 879. Masked shrike
- 880. Masked tityra
- 881. Masked wagtail
- 882. Masked yellowthroat
- 883. Meadow pipit
- 884. Mealy parrot
- 885. Melodious blackbird
- 886. Melodious warbler
- 887. Merlin
- 888. Mexican mallard
- 889. Mississippi kite
- 890. Mistle thrush
- 891. Mocking chat
- 892. Moltoni's subalpine warbler
- 893. Monk parakeet
- 894. Montagu's harrier
- 895. Montezuma's oropendula

896. Moorhen
897. Moorland francolin
898. Mosque swallow
899. Mottled duck
900. Mottled owl
901. Mottled swift
902. Mountain bluebird
903. Mountain caracara
904. Mountain chickadee
905. Mountain parakeet
906. Mountain wren
907. Mourning dove
908. Mourning warbler
909. Mourning wheatear
910. Mouse-coloured tyrannulet
911. Moustached warbler
912. Muscovy duck
913. Mute swan
914. Namaqua dove
915. Nashville warbler
916. Neotropic cormorant
917. New Holland honeyeater
918. Nicaraguan grackle
919. Nightjar
920. European nightjar
921. Northern barred-woodcreeper
922. Northern cardinal
923. Northern flicker
924. Northern fulmar
925. Northern goshawk
926. Northern harrier
927. Northern jacana
928. Northern mockingbird
929. Northern parula
930. Northern rough-winged swallow
931. Northern scrub-flycatcher
932. Northern waterthrush
933. Northern wheatear
934. Northwestern crow
935. Nuttall's woodpecker
936. Ocellated antbird
937. Olivaceous cormorant
938. Olive-backed pipit
939. Olive bee-eater
940. Olive pigeon
941. Olive-sided flycatcher
942. Olive sunbird
943. Olive-throated parakeet
944. Olive thrush
945. Orange-bellied nightingale thrush

946. Orange-bellied trogon
947. Orange-billed babbler
948. Orange-billed sparrow
949. Orange-breasted green-pigeon
950. Orange-chinned parakeet
951. Orange-crowned warbler
952. Orangequit
953. Orchard oriole
954. Oriental darter
955. Oriental magpie-robin
956. Oriental reed warbler
957. Oriental skylark
958. Ortolan
959. Osprey
960. Ostrich
961. Ovenbird
962. Oystercatcher
963. Pacific black duck
964. Pacific diver
965. Pacific golden plover
966. Pacific wren
967. Pacific-slope flycatcher
968. Paddyfield pipit
969. Painted stork
970. Pale martin
971. Pale-billed flowerpecker
972. Pale-billed woodpecker
973. Pale-crested woodpecker
974. Palestine sunbird
975. Pale-vented pigeon
976. Pallas's grasshopper warbler
977. Pallas's warbler
978. Pallid harrier
979. Pallid swift
980. Palmchat
981. Palm warbler
982. Panama flycatcher
983. Patagonian sierra-finch
984. Pearly-eyed thrasher
985. Pectoral sandpiper
986. Pelagic cormorant
987. Penduline tit
988. Peregrine
989. Phainopepla
990. Pheasant
991. Pheasant-tailed jacana
992. Pied bushchat
993. Pied flycatcher
994. Pied kingfisher
995. Pied wagtail

- 996. Pied-billed grebe
- 997. Pigeon guillemot
- 998. Pileated woodpecker
- 999. Pine siskin
- 1000. Pine warbler
- 1001. Pink-backed pelican
- 1002. Pink-footed goose
- 1003. Pink-footed shearwater
- 1004. Piñon jay
- 1005. Pintail
- 1006. Pin-tailed sandgrouse
- 1007. Piratic flycatcher
- 1008. Plain chachalaca
- 1009. Plain prinia
- 1010. Plain wren
- 1011. Plain xenops
- 1012. Plain-brown woodcreeper
- 1013. Plain-colored tanager
- 1014. Planalto woodcreeper
- 1015. Plumbeous ibis
- 1016. Plum-headed parakeet
- 1017. Plush-crested jay
- 1018. Pomarine skua
- 1019. Prairie warbler
- 1020. Prong-billed barbet
- 1021. Prothonotary warbler
- 1022. Ptarmigan
- 1023. Puffin
- 1024. Puna hawk
- 1025. Puna plover
- 1026. Puna rhea
- 1027. Puna yellow-finch
- 1028. Purple gallinule
- 1029. Purple finch
- 1030. Purple heron
- 1031. Purple sandpiper
- 1032. Purple sunbird
- 1033. Purple-rumped sunbird
- 1034. Purple-throated carib
- 1035. Purple-throated euphonia
- 1036. Purple-throated fruitcrow
- 1037. Purple-throated mountain gem
- 1038. Pygmy nuthatch
- 1039. Pyrrhuloxia
- 1040. Radde's warbler
- 1041. Rainbow lorikeet
- 1042. Razorbill
- 1043. Red grouse
- 1044. Red kite
- 1045. Red shoveler

1046. Red-backed hawk
1047. Red-backed shrike
1048. Red-bellied woodpecker
1049. Red-billed blue magpie
1050. Red-billed firefinch
1051. Red-billed hornbill
1052. Red-billed leiothrix
1053. Red-billed pigeon
1054. Red-billed scythebill
1055. Red-billed streamertail
1056. Red-billed tropicbird
1057. Red-breasted blackbird
1058. Red-breasted flycatcher
1059. Red-breasted goose
1060. Red-breasted merganser
1061. Red-breasted nuthatch
1062. Red-capped lark
1063. Red-capped manakin
1064. Red-cheeked cordon-bleu
1065. Red-chested sunbird
1066. Red-crested cardinal
1067. Red-crested finch
1068. Red-crested pochard
1069. Red-crowned ant-tanager
1070. Red-crowned woodpecker
1071. Reddish egret
1072. Red-eyed dove
1073. Red-eyed vireo
1074. Red-faced cormorant
1075. Red-faced malkoha
1076. Red-flanked bluetail
1077. Red-footed booby
1078. Red-footed falcon
1079. Red-gartered coot
1080. Red-headed sapsucker
1081. Red-headed woodpecker
1082. Red-knobbed coot
1083. Red-legged honeycreeper
1084. Red-legged partridge
1085. Red-legged thrush
1086. Red-lored amazon
1087. Red-masked parakeet
1088. Red-naped ibis
1089. Red-necked falcon
1090. Red-necked grebe
1091. Red-necked phalarope
1092. Red-necked pigeon
1093. Red-rumped cacique
1094. Red-rumped swallow
1095. Red-shouldered blackbird

1096. Red-shouldered hawk
1097. Red-tailed comet
1098. Red-tailed hawk
1099. Red-tailed shrike
1100. Red-tailed wheatear
1101. Red-throated ant-tanager
1102. Red-throated diver
1103. Red-throated flycatcher
1104. Red-throated pipit
1105. Red-vented bulbul
1106. Red-wattled lapwing
1107. Red-whiskered bulbul
1108. Redwing
1109. Red-winged blackbird
1110. Red-winged starling
1111. Reed bunting
1112. Reed cormorant
1113. Reed warbler
1114. Rhinoceros auklet
1115. Richard's pipit
1116. Ridgway's hawk
1117. Ring ouzel
1118. Ring-billed gull
1119. Ringed kingfisher
1120. Ringed plover
1121. Ring-necked dove
1122. Ring-necked duck
1123. Ring-necked parakeet
1124. River tern
1125. Roadside hawk
1126. Robin
1127. Robust woodpecker
1128. Rock dove/Feral pigeon
1129. Rock martin
1130. Rock pipit
1131. Roller
1132. Rook
1133. Roseate spoonbill
1134. Roseate tern
1135. Rose-breasted grosbeak
1136. Rose-coloured starling
1137. Rose-ringed parakeet
1138. Rosy-patched bush-shrike
1139. Rouget's rail
1140. Rough-legged buzzard
1141. Royal tern
1142. Ruby-crowned kinglet
1143. Ruby-throated hummingbird
1144. Ruby-topaz hummingbird
1145. Ruddy duck

1146. Ruddy ground-dove
1147. Ruddy quail-dove
1148. Ruddy shelduck
1149. Ruddy-tailed flycatcher
1150. Rueppel's black chat
1151. Rueppel's griffon
1152. Rueppel's long-tailed starling
1153. Rufescent tiger-heron
1154. Ruff
1155. Rufous hornero
1156. Rufous hummingbird
1157. Rufous motmot
1158. Rufous-and-white wren
1159. Rufous-bellied thrush
1160. Rufous-capped babbler
1161. Rufous-capped warbler
1162. Rufous-collared sparrow
1163. Rufous-crowned sparrow
1164. Rufous-naped lark
1165. Rufous-naped wren
1166. Rufous-sided warbling-finch
1167. Rufous-tailed hummingbird
1168. Rufous-tailed shrike
1169. Rufous-tailed solitaire
1170. Rufous treepie
1171. Russet-throated puffbird
1172. Rufous turtle dove
1173. Rustic bunting
1174. Rusty blackbird
1175. Rusty flower-piercer
1176. Rusty-collared seedeater
1177. Rusty-margined guan
1178. Sabine's gull
1179. Sacred ibis
1180. Sad flycatcher
1181. Saffron finch
1182. Saffron-billed sparrow
1183. Sage sparrow
1184. Sand martin
1185. Sanderling
1186. Sandhill crane
1187. Sandwich tern
1188. Sardinian warbler
1189. Savanna hawk
1190. Savannah sparrow
1191. Say's phoebe
1192. Sayaca tanager
1193. Scale-crested pygmy-tyrant
1194. Scaly-breasted munia (aka Nutmeg manakin)
1195. Scaly-breasted thrasher

1196. Scaly-headed parrot
1197. Scaly-naped pigeon
1198. Scarlet minivet
1199. Scarlet tanager
1200. Scarlet-headed blackbird
1201. Scarlet-rumped cacique
1202. Scaup
1203. Scott's oriole
1204. Scrub tit
1205. Seaside sparrow
1206. Sedge warbler
1207. Sedge wren
1208. Semipalmated plover
1209. Semipalmated sandpiper
1210. Sepia-capped flycatcher
1211. Serendib scops-owl
1212. Serin
1213. Shag
1214. Sharpbill
1215. Sharp-shinned hawk
1216. Sharp-tailed grouse
1217. Shelley's starling
1218. Shikra
1219. Shore lark
1220. Short-billed dowitcher
1221. Short-billed minivet
1222. Short-billed pigeon
1223. Short-eared owl
1224. Short-toed eagle
1225. Short-toed lark
1226. Short-winged grebe
1227. Shoveler
1228. Siberian stonechat
1229. Silvereye
1230. Silvery-cheeked hornbill
1231. Siskin
1232. Skylark
1233. Slate-coloured seedeater
1234. Slaty-legged crake
1235. Slaty-tailed trogon
1236. Slavonian grebe
1237. Slender-billed gull
1238. Small minivet
1239. Small-billed elaenia
1240. Smew
1241. Snail kite
1242. Snipe
1243. Snow bunting
1244. Snow goose
1245. Snowy egret

1246. Snowy owl
1247. Snowy-bellied hummingbird
1248. Social flycatcher
1249. Socotra cormorant
1250. Socotra sparrow
1251. Solitary black cacique
1252. Solitary sandpiper
1253. Sombre rock-chat
1254. Sombre tit
1255. Song sparrow
1256. Song thrush
1257. Sooty gull
1258. Sooty robin
1259. Sooty shearwater
1260. Sooty tyrannulet
1261. Sooty-fronted spinetail
1262. South American snipe
1263. South American stilt
1264. South American tern
1265. Southern lapwing
1266. Southern nightingale-wren
1267. Southern screamer
1268. Spanish sparrow
1269. Sparrowhawk
1270. Speckled mousebird
1271. Speckled pigeon
1272. Spectacled bulbul
1273. Spectacled tyrant
1274. Spectacled warbler
1275. Spot-billed duck
1276. Spot-billed pelican
1277. Spot-breasted plover
1278. Spot-flanked gallinule
1279. Spotted antbird
1280. Spotted crane
1281. Spotted dove
1282. Spotted flycatcher
1283. Spotted nothura
1284. Spotted owl
1285. Spotted redshank
1286. Spotted sandpiper
1287. Spotted towhee
1288. Spotted treecreeper
1289. Spot-winged pigeon
1290. Spot-winged thrush
1291. Spur-winged goose
1292. Spur-winged lapwing
1293. Squacco heron
1294. Squirrel cuckoo
1295. Sri Lanka barbet

1296. Sri Lanka hanging-parrot
1297. Sri Lanka junglefowl
1298. Sri Lanka myna
1299. Sri Lanka red-backed woodpecker
1300. Sri Lanka scimitar-babbler
1301. Sri Lanka spurfowl
1302. Sri Lanka thrush
1303. Sri Lanka white-eye
1304. Sri Lanka wood pigeon
1305. Starling
1306. Steller's jay
1307. Steppe eagle
1308. Stock pigeon
1309. Stonechat
1310. Stone-curlew
1311. Storm petrel
1312. Straited heron
1313. Strange-tailed tyrant
1314. Streaked saltator
1315. Streak-headed woodcreeper
1316. Streaky seedeater
1317. Streamer-tailed tyrant
1318. Stripe-crowned spinetail
1319. Striped cuckoo
1320. Striped-tailed hummingbird
1321. Stripe-throated hermit
1322. Strong-billed honeyeater
1323. Stub-tailed spadebill
1324. Subalpine warbler
1325. Sulphur-crested cockatoo
1326. Summer tanager
1327. Superb fairy-wren
1328. Surf scoter
1329. Swainson's hawk
1330. Swainson's thrush
1331. Swainson's warbler
1332. Swallow-tailed manakin
1333. Swallow-tanager
1334. Swamp sparrow
1335. Tacazze sunbird
1336. Tawny eagle
1337. Tawny owl
1338. Tawny pipit
1339. Tawny-shouldered blackbird
1340. Teal
1341. Temminck's cormorant
1342. Temminck's seedeater
1343. Temminck's stint
1344. Tengmalm's owl
1345. Tennessee warbler

1346. Thekla lark
1347. Thick-billed crow
1348. Thick-billed raven
1349. Three-striped warbler
1350. Three-toed woodpecker
1351. Thrush-nightingale
1352. Toco toucan
1353. Townsend's solitaire
1354. Townsend's warbler
1355. Treecreeper
1356. Tree pipit
1357. Tree sparrow
1358. Tree swallow
1359. Tricoloured blackbird
1360. Tricoloured heron
1361. Tri-coloured munia
1362. Tristram's starling
1363. Tropical boubou
1364. Tropical kingbird
1365. Tropical mockingbird
1366. Tropical parula
1367. Tropical peewee
1368. Trumpeter swan
1369. Tufted duck
1370. Tufted puffin
1371. Tufted titmouse
1372. Tundra bean goose
1373. Turkey vulture
1374. Turnstone
1375. Turquoise-browed motmot
1376. Turtle dove
1377. Twite
1378. Two-banded warbler
1379. Unicolored blackbird
1380. Upland goose
1381. Upland sandpiper
1382. Variable antshrike
1383. Variable seedeater
1384. Variable sunbird
1385. Varied thrush
1386. Varied tit
1387. Veery
1388. Velvet-fronted nuthatch
1389. Velvet scoter
1390. Venezuelan troupial
1391. Verdin
1392. Vermilion flycatcher
1393. Vervain hummingbird
1394. Vesper sparrow
1395. Village weaver

1396. Vinous-breasted myna
1397. Vinous-throated parrotbill
1398. Violaceous euphonia
1399. Violaceous trogon
1400. Violet sabrewing
1401. Violet-bellied hummingbird
1402. Violet-green swallow
1403. Virginia rail
1404. Vitelline warbler
1405. Von der Decken's hornbill
1406. Wandering tatler
1407. Warbling vireo
1408. Warbling white-eye
1409. Water pipit
1410. Water rail
1411. Wattled ibis
1412. Wattled jacana
1413. Wedge-billed woodcreeper
1414. Wedge-tailed eagle
1415. West Indian whistling-duck
1416. West Indian woodpecker
1417. Western bluebird
1418. Western grebe
1419. Western gull
1420. Western kingbird
1421. Western meadowlark
1422. Western sandpiper
1423. Western slaty-antshrike
1424. Western spindalis
1425. Western swampphen
1426. Western tanager
1427. Western turtle-dove
1428. Western wood-pewee
1429. Whimbrel
1430. Whinchat
1431. White ibis
1432. White monjita
1433. White stork
1434. White wagtail
1435. White-backed black tit
1436. White-banded mockingbird
1437. White-barred piculet
1438. White-bearded manakin
1439. White-bellied antbird
1440. White-bellied drongo
1441. White-billed starling
1442. White-breasted nuthatch
1443. White-breasted waterhen
1444. White-browed bulbul
1445. White-browed crane

1446. White-browed fantail
1447. White-browed wagtail
1448. White-browed sparrow-weaver
1449. White-capped water redstart
1450. White-cheeked pintail
1451. White-cheeked starling
1452. White-cheeked turaco
1453. White-chinned thrush
1454. White-collared manakin
1455. White-collared pigeon
1456. White-collared seedeater
1457. White-collared swift
1458. White-crowned parrot
1459. White-crowned pigeon
1460. White-crowned sparrow
1461. White-crowned wheatear
1462. White-eared bulbul
1463. White-eyed parakeet
1464. White-eyed buzzard
1465. White-eyed vireo
1466. White-faced ibis
1467. White-faced whistling-duck
1468. White-fronted parrot
1469. White-fronted swift
1470. White-headed buffalo-weaver
1471. White-headed marsh-tyrant
1472. White-headed munia
1473. White-headed woodpecker
1474. White-necked jacobin
1475. White-necked puffbird
1476. White-rumped sandpiper
1477. White-rumped shama
1478. White-rumped swallow
1479. White-rumped swift
1480. White-shouldered tanager
1481. White-tailed eagle
1482. White-tailed emerald
1483. White-tailed hawk
1484. White-tailed plover
1485. White-tailed starfrontlet
1486. White-tailed trogon
1487. White-throated dipper
1488. White-throated hummingbird
1489. White-throated kingfisher
1490. White-throated magpie-jay
1491. White-throated sparrow
1492. White-throated swift
1493. White-tipped dove
1494. White-tufted grebe
1495. White-whiskered puffbird

1496. White-winged becard
1497. White-winged black tern
1498. White-winged cliff chat
1499. White-winged coot
1500. White-winged dove
1501. White-winged parakeet
1502. White-winged snow finch
1503. Whooper swan
1504. Wigeon
1505. Wild turkey
1506. Willet
1507. Williamson's sapsucker
1508. Willow flycatcher
1509. Willow sparrow
1510. Willow tit
1511. Willow warbler
1512. Wilson's phalarope
1513. Wilson's plover
1514. Wilson's snipe
1515. Wilson's storm petrel
1516. Wilson's warbler
1517. Winding cisticola
1518. Wire-tailed swallow
1519. Woodcock
1520. Wood duck
1521. Wood nuthatch
1522. Wood sandpiper
1523. Wood stork
1524. Wood thrush
1525. Wood warbler
1526. Woodchat shrike
1527. Woodcock
1528. Woodhouse's scrub-jay
1529. Woodland kingfisher
1530. Woodlark
1531. Worm-eating warbler
1532. Wren
1533. Wrenlet
1534. Wryneck
1535. Yellow "mangrove" warbler
1536. Yellow flycatcher
1537. Yellow oriole
1538. Yellow wagtail
1539. Yellow warbler
1540. Yellow wattlebird
1541. Yellow-backed oriole
1542. Yellow-bellied elaenia
1543. Yellow-bellied flycatcher
1544. Yellow-bellied sapsucker
1545. Yellow-bellied seedeater

1546. Yellow-bellied waxbill
1547. Yellow-billed babbler
1548. Yellow-billed blue magpie
1549. Yellow-billed cardinal
1550. Yellow-billed cuckoo
1551. Yellow-billed duck
1552. Yellow-billed pintail
1553. Yellow-billed siskin
1554. Yellow-billed tern
1555. Yellow-breasted chat
1556. Yellow-browed bulbul
1557. Yellow-browed warbler
1558. Yellow-crowned night heron
1559. Yellow-eared toucanet
1560. Yellow-eyed babbler
1561. Yellow-faced grassquit
1562. Yellow-fronted barbet
1563. Yellow-green tyrannulet
1564. Yellowhammer
1565. Yellow-headed blackbird
1566. Yellow-headed caracara
1567. Yellowish pipit
1568. Yellow-legged gull
1569. Yellow-naped amazon
1570. Yellow-rumped cacique
1571. Yellow-rumped siskin
1572. Yellow-rumped warbler
1573. Yellow-tailed black cockatoo
1574. Yellow-tailed oriole
1575. Yellow-tailed warbler
1576. Yellow-throated euphonia
1577. Yellow-throated honeyeater
1578. Yellow-throated petronia
1579. Yellow-throated vireo
1580. Yellow-throated warbler
1581. Yellow-winged blackbird
1582. Yellow-winged tanager
1583. Yucatán vireo
1584. Yucatán woodpecker
1585. Zebra dove
1586. Zenaida dove
1587. Zone-tailed hawk

United Kingdom list

1. Mute swan
2. Bewick's swan
3. Whooper swan
4. Tundra bean goose

5. Pink-footed goose
6. White-fronted goose
7. Greylag goose
8. Canada goose
9. Barnacle goose
10. Brent
11. Red-breasted goose
12. Egyptian goose
13. Shelduck
14. Mandarin duck
15. Wigeon
16. American wigeon
17. Gadwall
18. Teal
19. Green-winged teal
20. Mallard
21. Pintail
22. Garganey
23. Blue-winged teal
24. Shoveler
25. Red-crested pochard
26. Canvasback
27. Pochard
28. Ring-necked duck
29. Ferruginous duck
30. Tufted duck
31. Greater scaup
32. Lesser scaup
33. Eider
34. Long-tailed duck
35. Common scoter
36. Velvet scoter
37. Goldeneye
38. Smew
39. Red-breasted merganser
40. Goosander
41. Ruddy duck
42. Red-legged partridge
43. Red grouse
44. Grey partridge
45. Pheasant
46. Red-throated diver
47. Black-throated diver
48. Great northern diver
49. Black-browed albatross
50. Fulmar
51. Cory's shearwater
52. Great shearwater
53. Sooty shearwater
54. Manx shearwater

55. Balearic shearwater
56. Wilson's storm petrel
57. European storm petrel
58. Gannet
59. Red-footed booby
60. Cormorant
61. Shag
62. Bittern
63. American bittern
64. Squacco heron
65. Black-crowned night heron
66. Cattle egret
67. Little egret
68. Great egret
69. Grey heron
70. Purple heron
71. Black stork
72. White stork
73. Glossy ibis
74. Spoonbill
75. Little grebe
76. Great crested grebe
77. Red-necked grebe
78. Slavonian grebe
79. Black-necked grebe
80. Honey buzzard
81. Red kite
82. White-tailed eagle
83. Marsh harrier
84. Hen harrier
85. Pallid harrier
86. Goshawk
87. Sparrowhawk
88. Buzzard
89. Rough-legged buzzard
90. Golden eagle
91. Osprey
92. Water rail
93. Spotted crane
94. Corncrake
95. Moorhen
96. Coot
97. Crane
98. Stone-curlew
99. Black-winged stilt
100. Avocet
101. Oystercatcher
102. Grey plover
103. Golden plover
104. American golden plover

105. Pacific golden plover
106. Dotterel
107. Ringed plover
108. Little ringed plover
109. Lapwing
110. White-tailed lapwing
111. Kentish plover
112. Whimbrel
113. Curlew
114. Black-tailed godwit
115. Bar-tailed godwit
116. Turnstone
117. Knot
118. Ruff
119. Curlew sandpiper
120. Temminck's stint
121. Sanderling
122. Dunlin
123. Purple sandpiper
124. Little stint
125. White-rumped sandpiper
126. Buff-breasted sandpiper
127. Pectoral sandpiper
128. Western sandpiper
129. Wilson's phalarope
130. Red-necked phalarope
131. Grey phalarope
132. Common sandpiper
133. Spotted sandpiper
134. Green sandpiper
135. Spotted redshank
136. Greenshank
137. Lesser yellowlegs
138. Marsh sandpiper
139. Wood sandpiper
140. Redshank
141. Jack snipe
142. Long-billed dowitcher
143. Woodcock
144. Snipe
145. Wilson's snipe
146. Pomarine skua
147. Arctic skua
148. Long-tailed skua
149. Great skua
150. Puffin
151. Black guillemot
152. Razorbill
153. Guillemot
154. Little tern

155. Gull-billed tern
156. Caspian tern
157. Black tern
158. White-winged black tern
159. Sandwich tern
160. Common tern
161. Roseate tern
162. Arctic tern
163. Sabine's gull
164. Kittiwake
165. Bonaparte's gull
166. Black-headed gull
167. Little gull
168. Mediterranean gull
169. Common gull
170. Lesser black-backed gull
171. Herring gull
172. Yellow-legged gull
173. Caspian gull
174. Iceland gull
175. Glaucous gull
176. Great black-backed gull
177. Rock dove/Feral pigeon
178. Stock dove
179. Woodpigeon
180. Collared dove
181. Turtle dove
182. Rufous turtle dove
183. Cuckoo
184. Barn owl
185. Little owl
186. Tawny owl
187. Long-eared owl
188. Short-eared owl
189. Nightjar
190. Swift
191. Alpine swift
192. Hoopoe
193. Bee-eater
194. Roller
195. Kingfisher
196. Wryneck
197. Green woodpecker
198. Great spotted woodpecker
199. Lesser spotted woodpecker
200. Kestrel
201. Red-footed falcon
202. Merlin
203. Hobby
204. Eleonora's falcon

205. Peregrine
206. Ring-necked parakeet
207. Red-backed shrike
208. Great grey shrike
209. Woodchat shrike
210. Masked shrike
211. Chough
212. Magpie
213. Jay
214. Jackdaw
215. Rook
216. Carrion crow
217. Hooded crow
218. Raven
219. Goldcrest
220. Firecrest
221. Penduline tit
222. Blue tit
223. Great tit
224. Coal tit
225. Marsh tit
226. Willow tit
227. Bearded tit
228. Woodlark
229. Skylark
230. Shore lark
231. Sand martin
232. Crag martin
233. Swallow
234. House martin
235. Red-rumped swallow
236. Cetti's warbler
237. Long-tailed tit
238. Pallas's warbler
239. Yellow-browed warbler
240. Hume's leaf-warbler
241. Radde's warbler
242. Dusky warbler
243. Wood warbler
244. Chiffchaff
245. Iberian chiffchaff
246. Willow warbler
247. Blackcap
248. Garden warbler
249. Barred warbler
250. Lesser whitethroat
251. Moltoni's subalpine warbler
252. Whitethroat
253. Dartford warbler
254. Grasshopper warbler

255. Booted warbler
256. Icterine warbler
257. Melodious warbler
258. Sedge warbler
259. Marsh warbler
260. Reed warbler
261. Arctic warbler
262. Great reed warbler
263. Waxwing
264. Nuthatch
265. Treecreeper
266. Wren
267. Starling
268. Rose-coloured starling
269. Dipper
270. Swainson's thrush
271. Ring ouzel
272. Blackbird
273. Black-throated thrush
274. Fieldfare
275. Song thrush
276. Redwing
277. Mistle thrush
278. American robin
279. Spotted flycatcher
280. Robin
281. Nightingale
282. Bluethroat
283. Red-flanked bluetail
284. Red-breasted flycatcher
285. Pied flycatcher
286. Black redstart
287. Redstart
288. Whinchat
289. Siberian stonechat
290. Stonechat
291. Wheatear
292. Isabelline wheatear
293. Dunnock
294. Alpine accentor
295. House sparrow
296. Tree sparrow
297. Yellow wagtail
298. Eastern yellow wagtail
299. Grey wagtail
300. Pied wagtail
301. Richard's pipit
302. Olive-backed pipit
303. Tree pipit
304. Meadow pipit

305. Rock pipit
306. Water pipit
307. Buff-bellied pipit
308. Brambling
309. Chaffinch
310. Hawfinch
311. Common rosefinch
312. Bullfinch
313. Greenfinch
314. Linnet
315. Twite
316. Lesser redpoll
317. Common redpoll
318. Common crossbill
319. Goldfinch
320. Serin
321. Siskin
322. Snow bunting
323. Lapland bunting
324. White-throated sparrow
325. Corn bunting
326. Yellowhammer
327. Reed bunting
328. Ortolan
329. Little bunting
330. Rustic bunting
331. Northern waterthrush
332. Blackburnian warbler

United Kingdom list in sightings order

1. Buff-breasted sandpiper
2. Redwing
3. Spotted flycatcher
4. Lesser yellowlegs
5. Sabine's gull
6. White-winged black tern
7. Purple heron
8. Waxwing
9. Woodchat shrike
10. Black-winged stilt
11. Booted warbler
12. Glossy ibis
- 13= Black-throated diver
- 13= Slavonian grebe
- 13= Mute swan
- 13= Bewick's swan
- 13= Canada goose
- 13= White-fronted goose
- 13= Egyptian goose
- 13= Brent

13= Shelduck
13= Wigeon
13= Gadwall
13= Mandarin
13= Teal
13= Mallard
13= Pintail
13= Shoveler
13= Pochard
13= Garganey
13= Tufted duck
13= Greater scaup
13= Eider
13= Common scoter
13= Goldeneye
13= Smew
13= Red-breasted merganser
13= Goosander
13= Ruddy duck
13= Red-legged partridge
13= Red grouse
13= Grey partridge
13= Pheasant
13= Fulmar
13= Gannet
13= Cormorant
13= Bittern
13= Grey heron
13= Little grebe
13= Great crested grebe
13= Red-necked grebe
13= Red kite
13= Marsh harrier
13= Hen harrier
13= Sparrowhawk
13= Buzzard
13= Moorhen
13= Coot
13= Avocet
13= Oystercatcher
13= Grey plover
13= Golden plover
13= Ringed plover
13= Little ringed plover
13= Lapwing
13= Whimbrel
13= Curlew
13= Black-tailed godwit
13= Bar-tailed godwit
13= Turnstone

13= Knot
13= Ruff
13= Curlew sandpiper
13= Sanderling
13= Dunlin
13= Purple sandpiper
13= Little stint
13= Grey phalarope
13= Common sandpiper
13= Green sandpiper
13= Wood sandpiper
13= Spotted redshank
13= Greenshank
13= Redshank
13= Jack snipe
13= Woodcock
13= Snipe
13= Arctic skua
13= Guillemot
13= Little tern
13= Black tern
13= Sandwich tern
13= Common tern
13= Arctic tern
13= Black-headed gull
13= Little gull
13= Common gull
13= Lesser black-backed gull
13= Herring gull
13= Great black-backed gull
13= Rock dove/Feral pigeon
13= Stock dove
13= Woodpigeon
13= Collared dove
13= Turtle dove
13= Cuckoo
13= Barn owl
13= Little owl
13= Tawny owl
13= Short-eared owl
13= Nightjar
13= Swift
13= Kingfisher
13= Green woodpecker
13= Great spotted woodpecker
13= Lesser spotted woodpecker
13= Kestrel
13= Merlin
13= Hobby
13= Peregrine

13= Ring-necked parakeet
13= Red-backed shrike
13= Great grey shrike
13= Magpie
13= Jay
13= Jackdaw
13= Rook
13= Carrion crow
13= Hooded crow
13= Raven
13= Goldcrest
13= Blue tit
13= Great tit
13= Coal tit
13= Marsh tit
13= Bearded tit
13= Skylark
13= Sand martin
13= Swallow
13= House martin
13= Long-tailed tit
13= Chiffchaff
13= Willow warbler
13= Blackcap
13= Garden warbler
13= Lesser whitethroat
13= Whitethroat
13= Grasshopper warbler
13= Sedge warbler
13= Reed warbler
13= Nuthatch
13= Treecreeper
13= Wren
13= Starling
13= Dipper
13= Blackbird
13= Fieldfare
13= Song thrush
13= Mistle thrush
13= Robin
13= Nightingale
13= Black redstart
13= Redstart
13= Whinchat
13= Stonechat
13= Wheatear
13= Dunnock
13= House sparrow
13= Tree sparrow
13= Yellow wagtail

- 13= Grey wagtail
- 13= Pied wagtail
- 13= Tree pipit
- 13= Meadow pipit
- 13= Rock pipit
- 13= Brambling
- 13= Chaffinch
- 13= Bullfinch
- 13= Greenfinch
- 13= Linnet
- 13= Twite
- 13= Redpoll
- 13= Lesser redpoll
- 13= Goldfinch
- 13= Siskin
- 13= Corn bunting
- 13= Yellowhammer
- 13= Reed bunting
- 190. Red kite
- 191. Barnacle goose
- 192. Corncrake
- 193. Little egret
- 194. Chough
- 195. Osprey
- 196. Pied flycatcher
- 197. Stone curlew
- 198. Crane
- 199. Red-footed falcon
- 200. Cetti's warbler
- 201. Long-tailed duck
- 202. Pink-footed goose
- 203. Firecrest
- 204. Red-flanked bluetail
- 205. White-tailed eagle
- 206. Golden eagle
- 207. Red-throated diver
- 208. Black guillemot
- 209. Razorbill
- 210. Shag
- 211. Kittiwake
- 212. Common crossbill
- 213. Wryneck
- 214. Rough-legged buzzard
- 215. Great egret
- 216. Water pipit
- 217. Yellow-legged gull
- 218. Ring ouzel
- 219. Yellow-browed warbler
- 220. Rufous turtle dove
- 221. Wood warbler

222. Iberian chiffchaff
223. Woodlark
224. Spotted sandpiper
225. Black-necked grebe
226. Water rail
227. Mediterranean gull
228. Dartford warbler
229. Spoonbill
230. Ferruginous duck
231. Cattle egret
232. Rose-coloured starling
233. Caspian gull
234. Ring-necked duck
235. Long-eared owl
236. Iceland gull
237. Glaucous gull
238. Puffin
239. Roseate tern
240. Marsh sandpiper
241. Bee-eater
242. Pectoral sandpiper
243. Bonaparte's gull
244. Spotted sandpiper
245. Wilson's phalarope
246. Barred warbler
247. Hawfinch
248. Tundra bean goose
249. Temminck's stint
250. Little bunting
251. Shore lark
252. American bittern
253. Red-rumped swallow
254. Kentish plover
255. Hoopoe
256. Manx shearwater
257. Sooty shearwater
258. Cory's shearwater
259. Storm petrel
260. Great shearwater
261. Wilson's storm petrel
262. Great skua
263. Honey buzzard
264. Pallid harrier
265. Whooper swan
266. American golden plover
267. Snow bunting
268. Great northern diver
269. Penduline tit
270. Great reed warbler
271. Serin

272. Goshawk
273. Bluethroat
274. Black-throated thrush
275. Velvet scoter
276. Marsh warbler
277. Gull-billed tern
278. Dotterel
279. Masked shrike
280. Dusky warbler
281. Lapland bunting
282. Crag martin
283. Rustic bunting
284. Eastern yellow wagtail
285. Red-crested pochard
286. Richard's pipit
287. White-throated sparrow
288. White-rumped sandpiper
289. Pacific golden plover
290. Black stork
291. Balearic shearwater
292. Buff-bellied pipit
293. Red-breasted flycatcher
294. Western sandpiper
295. White-tailed lapwing
296. Willow tit
297. American wigeon
298. Hume's leaf warbler
299. Red-breasted goose
300. American robin
301. Green-winged teal
302. Blue-winged teal
303. Lesser scaup
304. Moltoni's subalpine warbler
305. Icterine warbler
306. Eleonora's falcon
307. Black-browed albatross
308. Caspian tern
309. Squacco heron
310. Roller
311. Red-necked phalarope
312. Pomarine skua
313. Swainson's thrush
314. Radde's warbler
315. Common rosefinch
316. Melodious warbler
317. Blackburnian warbler
318. Olive-backed pipit
319. Wilson's snipe
320. Alpine accentor
321. Siberian stonechat

322. Isabelline wheatear
323. Pallas's warbler
324. White stork
325. Alpine swift
326. Black-crowned night heron
327. Long-tailed skua
328. Red-footed booby
329. Ortolan
330. Arctic warbler
331. Canvasback
332. Northern waterthrush

United States list

1. Red-throated diver
2. Pacific diver
3. Great northern diver
4. Red-necked grebe
5. Slavonian grebe
6. Pied-billed grebe
7. Western grebe
8. Black-footed albatross
9. Fulmar
10. Buller's shearwater
11. Pink-footed shearwater
12. Sooty shearwater
13. Leach's storm-petrel
14. Ashy storm-petrel
15. American white pelican
16. Brown pelican
17. Magnificent frigatebird
18. Great cormorant
19. Double-crested cormorant
20. Red-faced cormorant
21. Pelagic cormorant
22. Brandt's cormorant
23. Anhinga
24. Gannet
25. Red-footed booby
26. Brown booby
27. American bittern
28. Least bittern
29. Great blue heron (also, Würdemann's heron (subspecies); also, Great-white heron)
30. Great egret
31. Snowy egret
32. Reddish egret
33. Tricoloured heron
34. Little blue heron
35. Cattle egret
36. Green heron
37. Black-crowned night heron

38. Yellow-crowned night heron
39. White ibis
40. Glossy ibis
41. Roseate spoonbill
42. Wood stork
43. Mute swan
44. Trumpeter swan
45. Canada goose
46. Cackling goose
47. Hawaiian goose
48. Brent (Brant)
49. Greater white-fronted goose
50. Snow goose
51. Fulvous whistling-duck
52. Wood duck
53. Mallard
54. Hawaiian duck
55. Mottled duck
56. American black duck
57. Gadwall
58. Pintail
59. American wigeon
60. Shoveler
61. Cinnamon teal
62. Blue-winged teal
63. Green-winged teal
64. Canvasback
65. Ring-necked duck
66. Scaup
67. Lesser scaup
68. Eider
69. King eider
70. Harlequin duck
71. Long-tailed duck
72. Surf scoter
73. Goldeneye
74. Bufflehead
75. Hooded merganser
76. Goosander
77. Red-breasted merganser
78. Ruddy duck
79. Turkey vulture
80. Black vulture
81. Northern harrier
82. Snail kite
83. Mississippi kite
84. Swallow-tailed kite
85. Sharp-shinned hawk
86. Copper's hawk
87. Northern goshawk

88. Common black hawk
89. Harris's hawk
90. Red-shouldered hawk
91. Broad-winged hawk
92. Swainson's hawk
93. Red-tailed hawk
94. Rough-legged buzzard
95. Golden eagle
96. Bald eagle
97. Osprey
98. Merlin
99. American kestrel
100. Peregrine
101. California quail
102. Gambel's quail
103. Pheasant
104. Red grouse
105. Sharp-tailed grouse
106. Wild turkey
107. Purple gallinule
108. Moorhen
109. American coot
110. Hawaiian coot
111. Clapper rail
112. King rail
113. Virginia rail
114. Limpkin
115. Sandhill crane
116. Grey plover
117. American golden plover
118. Pacific golden plover
119. Semipalmated plover
120. Killdeer
121. Black oystercatcher
122. American oystercatcher
123. American avocet
124. Black-necked stilt
125. Greater yellowlegs
126. Lesser yellowlegs
127. Solitary sandpiper
128. Willet
129. Spotted sandpiper
130. Upland sandpiper
131. Whimbrel
132. Hudsonian godwit
133. Turnstone
134. Black turnstone
135. Wandering tattler
136. Knot
137. Sanderling

138. Dunlin
139. Pectoral sandpiper
140. White-rumped sandpiper
141. Western sandpiper
142. Semipalmated sandpiper
143. Least sandpiper
144. Long-billed dowitcher
145. Short-billed dowitcher
146. American woodcock
147. Snipe
148. Wilson's snipe
149. Grey phalarope
150. Red-necked phalarope
151. Long-tailed skua
152. Arctic skua
153. Pomarine skua
154. Bonaparte's gull
155. Black-headed gull
156. Grey-hooded gull
157. Franklin's gull
158. Laughing gull
159. Common gull
160. Ring-billed gull
161. California gull
162. American herring gull
163. Iceland gull
164. Glaucous gull
165. Glaucous-winged gull
166. Western gull
167. Lesser black-backed gull
168. Greater black-backed gull
169. Heermann's gull
170. Sabine's gull
171. Kittiwake
172. Caspian tern
173. Royal tern
174. Elegant tern
175. Common tern
176. Arctic tern
177. Forster's tern
178. Least tern
179. Gull-billed tern
180. Brown noddy
181. Black skimmer
182. Guillemot
183. Brunnich's guillemot
184. Pigeon guillemot
185. Ancient murrelet
186. Kittlitz's murrelet
187. Marbled murrelet

188. Cassin's auklet
189. Rhinoceros auklet
190. Tufted puffin
191. Horned puffin
192. Mourning dove
193. White-winged dove
194. Collared dove
195. Spotted dove
196. Zebra dove
197. Common ground dove
198. Rock dove/Feral pigeon
199. Band-tailed pigeon
200. White-crowned pigeon
201. Red-masked parakeet
202. Monk parakeet
203. White-winged parakeet
204. Mangrove cuckoo
205. Yellow-billed cuckoo
206. Greater roadrunner
207. Barn owl
208. Long-eared owl
209. Great horned owl
210. Snowy owl
211. Barred owl
212. Tengmalm's owl
213. Burrowing owl
214. Eastern screech owl
215. Common poorwill
216. Common nighthawk
217. Lesser nighthawk
218. Chimney swift
219. Black swift
220. White-fronted swift
221. Broad-tailed hummingbird
222. Anna's hummingbird
223. Black-chinned hummingbird
224. Ruby-throated hummingbird
225. Calliope hummingbird
226. Rufous hummingbird
227. Belted kingfisher
228. Acorn woodpecker
229. Red-headed sapsucker
230. Red-bellied woodpecker
231. Williamson's sapsucker
232. Yellow-bellied sapsucker
233. Downy woodpecker
234. Hairy woodpecker
235. Three-toed woodpecker
236. Nuttall's woodpecker
237. White-headed woodpecker

238. Northern flicker
239. Pileated woodpecker
240. Olive-sided flycatcher
241. Western wood-pewee
242. Eastern wood-pewee
243. Pacific-slope flycatcher
244. Arcadian flycatcher
245. Yellow-bellied flycatcher
246. Willow flycatcher
247. Alder flycatcher
248. Least flycatcher
249. Hammond's flycatcher
250. Dusky flycatcher
251. Black phoebe
252. Eastern phoebe
253. Say's phoebe
254. Vermilion flycatcher
255. Ash-throated flycatcher
256. Great-crested flycatcher
257. Grey kingbird
258. Eastern kingbird
259. Western kingbird
260. Loggerhead shrike
261. Grey vireo
262. Red-eyed vireo
263. Black-whiskered vireo
264. Warbling vireo
265. Hutton's vireo
266. White-eyed vireo
267. Yellow-throated vireo
268. Cassin's vireo
269. Blue-headed vireo
270. Steller's jay
271. Blue jay
272. Woodhouse's scrub-jay
273. California scrub-jay
274. Grey jay
275. Piñon jay
276. Clark's nutcracker
277. American magpie
278. Raven
279. American crow
280. Northwestern crow
281. Fish crow
282. Northern rough-winged swallow
283. Sand martin
284. Violet-green swallow
285. Tree swallow
286. Cliff swallow
287. Swallow

288. Juniper titmouse
289. Tufted titmouse
290. Black-capped chickadee
291. Carolina chickadee
292. Mountain chickadee
293. Chestnut-backed chickadee
294. Verdin
295. Bushtit
296. Red-breasted nuthatch
297. White-breasted nuthatch
298. Pygmy nuthatch
299. Brown creeper
300. Carolina wren
301. House wren
302. Wren
303. Marsh wren
304. Cactus wren
305. Canyon wren
306. American dipper
307. Red-whiskered bulbul
308. Red-vented bulbul
309. Wrentit
310. Warbling white-eye
311. Golden-crowned kinglet
312. Ruby-crowned kinglet
313. Blue-grey gnatcatcher
314. Townsend's solitaire
315. Mountain bluebird
316. Western bluebird
317. Eastern bluebird
318. Varied thrush
319. American robin
320. White-rumped shama
321. Java sparrow
322. Chestnut munia
323. Scaly-breasted munia
324. Wood thrush
325. Veery
326. Swainson's thrush
327. Grey-cheeked thrush
328. Hermit thrush
329. Grey catbird
330. Northern mockingbird
331. Brown thrasher
332. Starling
333. Common myna
334. American pipit
335. Phainopepla
336. Waxwing
337. Cedar waxwing

338. Northern parula
339. Orange-crowned warbler
340. Tennessee warbler
341. Blue-winged warbler
342. Golden-winged warbler
343. Nashville warbler
344. Lucy's warbler
345. Yellow warbler
346. Chestnut-sided warbler
347. Magnolia warbler
348. Cape May warbler
349. Black-throated blue warbler
350. Cerulean warbler
351. Blackburnian warbler
352. Yellow-rumped warbler
353. Black-throated grey warbler
354. Townsend's warbler
355. Black-throated green warbler
356. Prairie warbler
357. Palm warbler
358. Pine warbler
359. Bay-breasted warbler
360. Blackpoll warbler
361. Yellow-throated warbler
362. Grace's warbler
363. Worm-eating warbler
364. Prothonotary warbler
365. Black-and-white warbler
366. American redstart
367. Swainson's warbler
368. Ovenbird
369. Northern waterthrush
370. Louisiana waterthrush
371. Kentucky warbler
372. Connecticut warbler
373. Mourning warbler
374. MacGillivray's warbler
375. Common yellowthroat
376. Wilson's warbler
377. Canada warbler
378. Hooded warbler
379. Yellow-breasted chat
380. Summer tanager
381. Western tanager
382. Scarlet tanager
383. Northern cardinal
384. Black-headed grosbeak
385. Rose-breasted grosbeak
386. Blue grosbeak
387. Lazuli bunting

388. Indigo bunting
389. Red-crested cardinal
390. Spotted towhee
391. Eastern towhee
392. California towhee
393. Rufous-crowned sparrow
394. Sage sparrow
395. Black-throated sparrow
396. American tree sparrow
397. Brewer's sparrow
398. Clay-coloured sparrow
399. Chipping sparrow
400. Henslow's sparrow
401. Seaside sparrow
402. Savannah sparrow
403. Golden-crowned sparrow
404. White-throated sparrow
405. White-crowned sparrow
406. Fox sparrow
407. Song sparrow
408. Lincoln's sparrow
409. Swamp sparrow
410. Dark-eyed junco
411. Lapland bunting
412. Western meadowlark
413. Eastern meadowlark
414. Bobolink
415. Brown-headed cowbird
416. Yellow-headed blackbird
417. Tricoloured blackbird
418. Red-winged blackbird
419. Brewer's blackbird
420. Rusty blackbird
421. Common grackle
422. Boat-tailed grackle
423. Great-tailed grackle
424. Bullock's oriole
425. Baltimore oriole
426. Hooded oriole
427. Orchard oriole
428. Scott's oriole
429. Brambling
430. Evening grosbeak
431. Apapane
432. Grey-crowned rosy finch
433. Purple finch
434. House finch
435. Common redpoll
436. Arctic redpoll
437. Pine siskin

438. Lesser goldfinch
439. American goldfinch
440. House sparrow

U.K. butterfly species list

1. Adonis blue
2. Black hairstreak
3. Black-veined white
4. Brimstone
5. Brown argus
6. Brown hairstreak
7. Chalkhill blue
8. Clouded yellow
9. Comma
10. Common blue
11. Dark-green fritillary
12. Dingy skipper
13. Duke of Burgundy
14. Essex skipper
15. Gatekeeper
16. Glanville fritillary
17. Grayling
18. Green hairstreak
19. Green-veined white
20. Grizzled skipper
21. Heath fritillary
22. Holly blue
23. Large blue
24. Large skipper
25. Large white
26. Long-tailed blue
27. Marbled white
28. Meadow brown
29. Mountain ringlet
30. Orange tip
31. Painted lady
32. Peacock
33. Purple emperor
34. Purple hairstreak
35. Queen of Spain fritillary
36. Red admiral
37. Ringlet
38. Silver-spotted skipper
39. Silver-studded blue
40. Silver-washed fritillary
41. Small blue
42. Small copper
43. Small heath
44. Small pearl-bordered fritillary
45. Small skipper

46. Small tortoiseshell
47. Small white
48. Speckled wood
49. Swallowtail
50. Wall
51. White admiral
52. White-letter hairstreak
53. Wood white

U.K. orchid species list

1. Autumn lady's-tresses
2. Bee orchid
3. Broad-leaved helleborine
4. Chalk fragrant orchid
5. Common spotted orchid
6. Common twayblade
7. Early purple orchid
8. Early spider orchid
9. Fly orchid
10. Frog orchid
11. Greater butterfly orchid
12. Green-winged orchid
13. Heath spotted orchid
14. Lady orchid
15. Lizard orchid
16. Man orchid
17. Marsh helleborine
18. Military orchid
19. Monkey orchid
20. (Monkey-Lady hybrid orchid)
21. Musk orchid
22. Northern marsh orchid
23. Pyramidal orchid
24. Small-flowered tongue orchid
25. Southern marsh orchid
26. Violet helleborine
27. White helleborine

Isle of Grain, Kent: 16 September, 1984 As per Alex Carlisle's notes, "took Jo and Terry to the Isle of Grain. Saw an **ARCTIC SKUA** at sea and (a) Buff-breasted sandpiper on a small pool."

Beddington Sewage Farm, Hackbridge, Surrey: September 24-30, 1984 On one evening of these dates, **LESSER YELLOWLEGS** (new species for the U.K.)

Argeles Plage, France: July 1985 Bee-eater; Hoopoe, and Cirl bunting

Spain: December 2001 Purple swamphen (in Córdoba) and White stork (in Zafra)

Melbourne, Australia, and Tasmania: January 2002 Masked lapwing; Cormorant; Australasian pelican; Pacific black duck; Common bronzewing; Sulphur-crested cockatoo; Yellowtailed black cockatoo; Galah; Crimson rosella; Rainbow lorikeet; Black currawong; Wedge-tailed eagle; Black swan; Superb fairywren; Field wren; Scrub tit; Australasian pipit; Brown scrubwren; Silveryeye; Flame robin; Dusky robin; New Holland honeyeater; Yellow-throated honeyeater; Crescent honeyeater; Strong-billed honeyeater; Grey shrike-thrush, and Yellow wattlebird

El Salvador, Guatemala, Costa Rica and Nicaragua: June 2002

Cartago—Mealy parrot

Monteverde—American swallow-tailed kite (flying beneath me during a zipline tour); Azure-headed jay; Black-and-yellow silky flycatcher; Black-bellied whistling duck; Elegant euphonia; Eye-ringed flatbill; Flame-coloured tanager; Flame-throated warbler; Golden-bellied flycatcher; Green hermit; Green-crowned brilliant; Grey hawk; Groove-billed ani; Hoffman's woodpecker; Little hermit; Masked tityra; Orange-bellied nightingale thrush; Orange-bellied trogon; Prong-billed barbet; Purple-throated mountain gem; Scale-crested pygmy-tyrant; Short-billed pigeon; Striped-tailed hummingbird; Three-striped warbler; Violet sabrewing; White-shouldered tanager; White-throated magpie-jay; White-winged dove; Wood stork; Yellow-naped amazon; Yellow-tailed warbler, and Yellow-throated euphonia

Selva Verde—Chestnut-mandibled toucan; Fascinated tiger heron; Grey-necked wood-rail; Green kingfisher, and Keel-billed toucan

Volcán del Viejo—Blue-crowned motmot

On the road to Liberia—Jabiru stork

Other locations— American dipper; Anhinga; Band-tailed pigeon; Black-headed tody flycatcher; Black vulture; Blue-grey tanager; Bronzed cowbird; Bronzy hermit; Brown booby; Brown-chested martin; Brown jay; Cattle egret; Chestnut-coloured woodpecker; Chestnut-headed oropendula; Clay-coloured robin; Common bush tanager; Common ground dove; Crested caracara; Crimson-fronted parakeet; Dusky-capped flycatcher; Eastern meadowlark; Emerald toucanet; Great-blue heron; Great kiskadee; Great-tailed grackle; Great egret; Green-backed heron; Green violet-ear; Grey-breasted wood wren; Magnificent frigatebird; Montezuma's oropendula; Nicaraguan grackle; Northern jacana; Olivaceous cormorant; Osprey; Red-lore amazon; Ringed kingfisher; Royal tern; Ruddy quail-dove; Rufous-collared sparrow; Rufous-naped wren; Snowy egret; Sooty robin; Tropical kingbird; Turquoise-browed motmot; Turkey vulture; White-tailed emerald; White-winged dove; Yellow-eared toucanet; Yellow-faced grassquit, and Yellow flycatcher

Panama: April 2003 Berylline hummingbird; Black phoebe; Black-cowled oriole; Black-striped sparrow; Blue-black grassquit; Blue-grey tanager; Collared aracari; Common ground-dove; Crested oropendula; Crimson-backed tanager; Golden-fronted woodpecker; Great kiskadee; Great tailed grackle; Green parakeet; Grey-headed chacalaca; Hoffman's woodpecker; Keel-billed toucan; Lesser kiskadee; Lesser seed-finch; Orange-billed sparrow; Red-billed pigeon; Red-billed tropicbird; Red-breasted blackbird; Red-capped manakin; Red-crowned woodpecker; Ringed kingfisher; Ruddy ground-dove; Rufous-and-white wren; Rufous-capped warbler; Saffron finch; Sharpbill; White-bellied antbird; Yellow-billed siskin; Yellow-faced grassquit; Yellowish pipit, and Yellow-naped amazon

Hawaii: December 2004

(Note: in late 2016, the American Birding Association voted to add certain Hawaiian birds to the official ABA list; the final Hawaiian list of birds able to be added to the ABA list is supposed to be finalised by the end of 2017)

Chinaman's Hat, O'ahu—Pacific golden plover

Diamondhead, O'ahu—Common waxbill; Scaly-breasted munia

Hanalei, Kauai—Hawaiian stilt (endangered subspecies in Hawaii; also, seen in Poi'pu, Kauai); Hawaiian goose, and Red-whiskered bulbul

James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge, O'ahu—Black-crowned night heron; Cattle egret; Common moorhen (endangered in Hawaii); Hawaiian coot, and Hawaiian duck

Manoa Falls, O'ahu—White-rumped shama

Waimea Beach, O'ahu—Japanese white-eye; Red-footed booby

Other locations—Apapane; Common myna; Java sparrow; Red-crested cardinal; Chestnut munia; Red-vented bulbul; Pacific golden plover; Spotted dove, and Zebra dove

Chile: December 2004

Bahia de Última Esperanza—Brown skua; Brown-hooded gull; Dolphin gull, and South American tern

Cerro Castillo en route to Torres del Paine—Andean condor and Andean flamingo

Cueva del Milodón—Canary-winged finch; Chimango caracara; Grey-breasted seedsnipe; Grey-hooded sierra-finch; Patagonian sierra-finch; Sedge wren, and Yellow-winged blackbird

Glacier Serrano—Green-backed firecrown

Hacienda Los Lingues—Chilean giant hummingbird

Patagonia, near Rubens Hotel—Coscoroba swan; Crested duck, and Lesser rhea

Puerto Natales—Austral blackbird; Baird's sandpiper; Black-necked swan; Magellanic oystercatcher, and Red-backed hawk on a large rock by the shore

Punta Arenas—Imperial cormorant; Kelp gull; Southern lapwing, and Upland goose

Rio Serrano—Ashy-headed goose; Bar-winged cinclodes; Black-faced ibis (also called Buff-necked ibis), and Chilean flicker

Puritana River, en route to El Tatio—Puna rhea

Salar de Atacama—Andean avocet; Chilean flamingo; James flamingo Puna plover, and Wilson's phalarope

Sendero Ascendio—Cinnamon-bellied ground-tyrant, and Fire-eyed diucón

Torres del Paine—Black-chested buzzard-eagle; Black-chinned siskin; Chiloé wigeon; Long-tailed meadowlark; Olivaceous cormorant; Pectoral sandpiper; Red shoveler; Red-gartered coot; White-tufted grebe; White-winged coot; Yellow-billed pintail, and Yellow-rumped siskin

various locations—American kestrel; Austral blackbird; Austral negrito; Austral thrush; Cattle egret; Chilean mockingbird; Chilean swallow; Crested caracara; Eared dove; House sparrow, and Rufous-collared sparrow

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: Dec. 26, 2004 On Cherry Hill, just off of the 72nd St. Transverse, was a **TENGMALM'S OWL** (new species for US; in US, named Boreal owl), adult sitting in tree and widely seen by park birder. First sighting ever in New York City

Shinnecock Inlet, Southampton, Long Island, New York, USA: Jan. 30, 2005 On the tip of the water break next to the coastguard's station, with narrow inlet breaching two spits and bay behind. Immediate sighting of **BRUNNICH'S GUILLEMOT** (new species for US), in near-to-breeding plumage; second example, winter plumage, flew in wake of boat towards

the sea and dropped down to give good sightings, but then was lost. **SURF SCOTER** (new species for US), close to shore, as were **RED-THROATED DIVER** (new species for US); Red-necked grebe, **LONG-TAILED DUCK** (new species for US), five Brant; (also, four Harbour seals). Greater black-backed Gull; Herring Gull; and Song sparrow, all seen on land Baldwin County Park, Baldwin, Long Island, New York, USA: Jan. 30, 2005 No sign of the Harris sparrow seen here in weeks previous. Numerous White-throated sparrow, Downy woodpecker, Brown thrasher and Merlin perched in tree

Atlantic City, New Jersey, USA: Feb. 16, 2005 Marshes by Chelsea Heights Great blue heron; Goosander; Red-breasted merganser; Bufflehead; Brant; Swamp sparrow

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: Feb. 22, 2005 Red-tailed hawk; Red-bellied woodpecker; Downy woodpecker; Black-capped chickadee; Tufted titmouse; White-breasted nuthatch; Fox sparrow; White-throated sparrow; Song sparrow; Dark-eyed junco; Northern cardinal; Red-winged blackbird (two); American black duck, and Shoveler

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: March 7, 2005 White-breasted nuthatch; Red-bellied woodpecker; Downy woodpecker; Black-capped chickadee; **WOOD DUCK** (new species for US, and Shoveler

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: March 12, 2005 White-breasted nuthatch; Downy woodpecker; Black-capped chickadee; **AMERICAN WOODCOCK** (new species for US), four examples (Tanner's Spring, The Over, Indian Cave (two)); Shoveler; Brown creeper, Dark-eyed junco; **RUSTY BLACKBIRD** (new species for US, Upper Lobe); **PURPLE FINCH** (new species for US); Red-tailed hawk; House finch; Tufted titmouse; Fox sparrow (near Warbler Rock); Red-winged blackbird

Fort Myers/Sanibel Island, Florida, USA: March 22-24, 2005 Some birds seen on other days apart from when they are first listed.

Punta Rassa; March 22—Yellow-rumped warbler; Palm warbler; Osprey (two on nest, plus two young; c. 10 Osprey seen during the three days); Anhinga; Magnificent frigatebird; Red-bellied woodpecker; **MOTTLED DUCK** (new species for US); House Sparrow; Cardinal; American crow; **WOOD STORK** (new species for US; two individuals); Glossy Ibis; White Ibis; Tricoloured heron; Little blue heron; Brown pelican; Mockingbird; Starling; Boat-tailed grackle; Common grackle; Great egret, and Snowy egret; **SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER** (new species for US); Laughing gull; Ring-billed gull; **EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE** (new species for US); Common moorhen

Punta Rassa; March 23—Great blue heron; White pelican (c. 70 birds); **BLACK VULTURE** (new species for US; confirmed sightings, seen on same days as sightings of Turkey vulture); Yellow-crowned night heron; **SPOTTED SANDPIPER** (new species for US, wading along beach); Double-crested cormorant; Belted kingfisher; **CASPIAN TERN** (new species for US, in Fort Myers Harbour), and Grey catbird

J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, Sanibel Island; March 24—**REDDISH EGRET** (new species for US, just the one, dancing madly); **ROSEATE SPOONBILL** (new species for US, c. 12 birds, some flying in to roost in mangrove trees); Killdeer; Dunlin, Sanderling; Turnstone; Willet; Cattle egret; **ROYAL TERN** (new species for US); Forster's tern; Knot; Least sandpiper; Greater yellowlegs; **BLUE-WINGED TEAL** (new species for US; c. 50 birds); Pied-billed grebe. Also, one alligator

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: March 29, 2005 During a run, saw two birders at the grassy patch on the northwest side of where the 102nd St. Transverse joins the Loop. In one evergreen tree, of two, were three Eastern screech owl, one adult, with two young

Forest Park, Queens, New York, USA: March 31, 2005 At the Water Hole at the northwest side of the park, in early evening, was a male **PROTHONOTARY WARBLER** (new species for US) in full breeding plumage. Flew into vision, sat on a bush for five seconds and then deeper in a bush for five minutes of excellent views. Disappeared for 10 minutes before being relocated bathing in the swampy water. Also, Carolina wren and Hairy woodpecker. Warbler first seen at 5:20 p.m. on a windless, cloudy day, then again at 5:35

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: April 6, 2005 At the north end of the park. Four Eastern screech owl in evergreens; along loch, wonderful sights of **LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH** (new species for US), with eye stripe very white; also, Song sparrow. On Great Hill, two Golden-crowned kinglet and flock of Dark-eye juncos; on the way home in Morningside Park, first Eastern phoebe of the year. Also, wonderful view of perched Red-tailed hawk

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: April 8, 2005 First warblers of Central Park this year, Palm warblers and very drab Pine warblers; also, the reported **YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER** (new species for US) At 6 p.m. on north side of Great Lawn. Amazing views of very Nuthatch-like behaviour scaling up tree trunks and Flycatcher-like behaviour hunting insects in sorties. Peregrine seen swooping over said birds; small flock of Chipping sparrow, and first Red-breasted nuthatch of year

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: April 9, 2005 I and another birder rediscovered the yellow-throated warbler, seen this time at east side of Turtle Pond. Also, Cedar waxwing. At the Azalea Pond, immature **COOPER'S HAWK** (new species for US). Much discussion as to whether it might have been an immature Sharp-shinned hawk, but consensus was that streaking and large head and neck pointed to Cooper's

Forest Park, Queens, New York, USA: April 14, 2005 At the Water Hole again, quite the spot this year. The male Prothonotary warbler remains, probably the same one as was seen on April 6, although two others have been sighted. Only one present today, but the views were much better than previous. It seems quite used to birdwatchers as it searched for insects no more than 10 feet away. Brilliant yellow. Also, present, was **SWAINSON'S WARBLER** (new species for US), for which most birdwatchers were present. Views were amazingly close, the bird sometimes no more than five feet away searching the underside of leaves for insects. Occasionally, remained stock still for two or three minutes. Flew, but was relocated on east side of waterhole, but it was never in the company of the Prothonotary warbler, as it preferred drier material away from water hole. Also, Downy woodpecker

Mill Creek Marsh, Secaucus, New Jersey: April 13, 2005 Palm warbler; Red-winged blackbird; Eastern phoebe; Tree Swallow on this relatively recently restored area of marshland by the New Jersey Turnpike

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: April 16, 2005 Another male Prothonotary warbler turned up in the west side of the Lake, close to the Upper Lobe. Also, at

the same spot a Blue-grey gnatcatcher. A little further around, in the Cave, was an Orange-crowned warbler. Up by the Loch was a White-eyed vireo

South Florida, USA: April 17-20, 2005

On Dania Beach—three **GULL-BILLED TERN** (new species for US), many Royal tern and Brown pelican; in the grounds of the Doral Resort, Spa & Golf Course in Doral, Miami, was a Loggerhead shrike

In late afternoon, at **Bill Baggs State Park, Cape Florida, Key Biscayne**—Black-throated blue warbler; Blackpoll warbler; Ovenbird; Prairie warbler. Many Red-bellied woodpecker, and several White ibis

On route to the Everglades—Cattle egrets, Great egret, Great-blue heron, Black vulture, Turkey vulture. Near the Miccosukkee Indian Restaurant, at well-known site, flying **SNAIL KITE** (new species for US). On Loop Road, **BARRED OWL** (new species for US, great views); **LIMP KIN** (new species for US; perched in tree) and **RED-SHOULDERED HAWK** (new species for US; really close). Peregrine and several alligators, including young. (Also, two otters) On drive home, two Swallow-tailed kite, and Black-crowned night heron

On route to Key West—at Wild Bird Center, in Tavernier, White Ibis; Brown pelican, Great white heron (new sub-species for US), Great egret, Royal tern and 14 **BLACK-NECKED STILT** (new species for US)

At Fort Zachery State Park in Key West—on beach: Sanderling and Turnstone; in scrub land by fort and near car park: Black-and-white warbler; Prairie warbler; Grey catbird; Grey kingbird (new species for US); Indigo bunting. Two Osprey on nest platform in far corner, and in tatty bush cover **BOBOLINK** (new species for US; hard to pin down but eventually a great view; I believe a female was in male's company, but that was even harder to confirm). Also, Common yellowthroat

On Little Sugarloaf Key—in well-documented site, two **MANGROVE CUCKOO** (new species for US; good view of one, which then dropped down and out of sight. Other was a bird rushing through the mangrove as I was being bitten to death by mosquitoes)

In Fairchild Botanical Garden, Coral Gables, Miami—Red-shouldered hawk; Common moorhen; Anhinga; Green heron

In Tree Tops State Park, Davie, near Fort Lauderdale—Tricoloured heron; Green heron; **PURPLE GALLINULE** (new species for US; good sight but deep in reeds) and **SNIBE** (new species for US; deep in reeds but visible)

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: April 22-24, 2005 Overcast, seasonably cool weekend with some rain, heavy on Saturday night. Also, the wind was in the wrong direction for migration to this spot: Northern rough-winged swallow; Barn swallow; several Northern flicker, one Blue-grey gnatcatcher; Black-crowned night-heron; Palm warbler; lots of Yellow-rumped warbler, half a dozen or so Black-and-white warbler; Hermit thrush; Eastern towhee; Blue-headed vireo; White-throated sparrow, Eastern kingbird; still around in late April, Dark-eyed junco, Ruddy duck and Bufflehead Mill Creek Marsh, Secaucus, New Jersey: April 26, 2005 Warmer than weekend but still windy. Several Brown-headed cowbird; two Spotted sandpiper, and Savannah sparrow

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: May 1, 2005 Started at 8:30 a.m. with steady rain, which stopped at 8:50. Continued overcast and very cold for the time of year, so much so that the hands were a little numb at 11; following a cup of coffee, returned to birding and, soon after, to a sunny, beautiful day with temperatures in the mid-60s. Four Cedar waxwing along Reservoir. At Turtle Pond, Tree swallow; Barn swallow; Northern rough-winged swallow; Eastern towhee; Yellow warbler; while on path towards Belvedere Castle,

Magnolia warbler; Northern flicker. In the Rambles, Chimney swift; Brown thrasher (very high); Wood thrush; several Veery; Grey catbird; Eastern towhee; Baltimore oriole; Hermit thrush, Song sparrow; Field sparrow; White-throated sparrow; Black-throated blue warbler; Black-Throated green warbler; Black-and-white warbler; Ovenbird; Northern waterthrush, as well as a second Yellow warbler by the Boathouse. Along lower lobe of the Lake, nesting Green heron; two Eastern screech owl. Palm warbler and Red-Bellied Woodpecker along Delacourt Oval, and five Ruddy duck, one male, four females, on Reservoir. On the Pool, another Northern waterthrush, while along and above the Loch, Blue-grey gnatcatcher; American redstart; House wren; second Baltimore oriole, this one at head height, singing; right at the end of the day a wonderful male Rose-breasted grosbeak on the Great Hill. In total, 52 species

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: May 6-8, 2005 Dull weekend, with bad light. Went running on Saturday instead of birding, a good move as reports for this day were low. Friday was dull, too, but there was some brightening up by Sunday. On Friday, highlights were Solitary sandpiper and Black-throated blue warbler, while on Sunday at the Maintenance Field saw a male **BLUE-WINGED WARBLER** (new species for US) singing and displaying with excellent views and, my own discovery, a male Orchard oriole, very low down and out in the opening. Both the warbler and oriole often disappeared into the thick but re-emerged several times. Also present in the Ramble were Northern flicker, Black-and-white warbler, Wood thrush, and Green heron, hunting at the Azalea Pond, while at Tanner's Spring were Eastern towhee and Northern parula

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: May 10, 2005 A bright early evening in which I had no more than an hour to bird watch before a running class. In the Rambles, an American redstart; first Scarlet tanager of the year. Then a report came in of a species that was first seen in the Rambles at midday, which led to me running two miles in 15 minutes to see **KENTUCKY WARBLER** (new species for US) in the North Woods, off a path that led off right from the Loch. I think it was a male, but it did not show as much black marking to the head as perhaps a male might have but more than perhaps a female would do. The bird was jumping up continually on both sides of the path and gave great views

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: May 13, 2005 A dull evening (one of many this year), in which the only notables were Red-eyed vireo, male and female Black-throated blue warbler, Cedar waxwing, Ovenbird, Black-throated green warbler, Magnolia warbler and Spotted sandpiper in the Turtle Pond

Forest Park, Queens, New York, USA: May 14, 2005 Arrived at 11:30 a.m. following the Queens half-marathon (1:29:12; 6:47 pace), but the day was productive. The waterhole in the park is a great deal smaller than when I came here in late March and mid-April, but an artificial bathing pool brought in many species, including Indigo bunting; Nashville warbler; Blackburnian warbler. Also around were Northern Parula; Lincoln's sparrow; female Downy woodpecker, American redstart, Scarlet tanager and first-year **SUMMER TANAGER** (new species for US). Additional species included Northern waterthrush; Blackpoll warbler, and Chestnut-sided warbler

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: May 15, 2005 Just an hour in the North Woods, but I did see my first Canada warbler of the year, as well as Black-throated green warbler; Magnolia warbler; Least flycatcher; Red-eyed vireo; female Scarlet tanager. Later on in **Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson (on the Hudson River)**—I saw 10-plus

Yellow warbler (probably breeding here); Baltimore oriole; pair of Brown thrasher; Blackpoll warbler; American goldfinch; Chipping sparrow; Savannah sparrow; Song sparrow; Eastern wood-pewee, and Eastern phoebe

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: May 22, 2005 The sun tried to break through but never quite made it. In the North Woods were two Baltimore oriole; Wood thrush; Magnolia warbler; Canada warbler; Chestnut-sided warbler, but the highlights today were a Wilson's warbler; adult **MARSH WREN** (new species for US). It was hard to locate, but I finally had some excellent views of its curved beak, dark cap and white eye-stripe

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: May 28-30, 2005 The weather was beautiful all weekend, but the season is gearing to a close, with an American redstart the only warbler seen during an hour's walk on Sunday. Friday was good, the highlights being a late Yellow-throated warbler; Nashville warbler. Other warblers seen were female Black-throated blue warbler; female Blackpoll warbler; Common yellowthroat; Black-and-white warbler; four Wilson's warbler, and Canada warbler. Also seen were White-breasted nuthatch; female Scarlet tanager; Tufted titmouse; Ovenbird; Red-eyed vireo; Warbling vireo; three **OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER** (new species for US), one in Strawberry Fields, the second in the Rambles, the third along the Loch. Also present in large numbers was Swainson's thrush

Westminster West, Vermont, USA: June 4-5, 2005 Most birds stayed way up in the tops of the trees in this very wooded area. Family of Eastern phoebe nesting in the garden of Francesca's cousin Magdi; Ruby-throated hummingbird regularly came to the feeder, as did Black-capped chickadee. Also, Hermit thrush; American goldfinch; Song sparrow; Chipping sparrow, and Hairy woodpecker

Hong Kong/China/Macao: June 2005 Barn swallow; Black kite; Magpie; Black-crowned night-heron; Red-billed blue magpie; Chinese bulbul; Chinese pond-heron; Common kingfisher; Daurian redstart; Fan-tailed warbler; Fork-tailed sunbird; Greater coucal; Intermediate egret; Japanese white-eye; Large-billed crow; Little grebe; Magpie robin; Masked laughingthrush; Pallid swift; Red-whiskered bulbul; Rose-ringed parakeet; Spot-billed duck; Eastern spotted dove; Sulphur-crested cockatoo; Tree sparrow, and White wagtail

Spain, August 2006 Around Cuéllar and Sepulveda, north Spain—Griffon vulture; Eurasian bee-eater; Roller

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: Sept. 6, 2005 On the East Side, just east of the Wildflower Meadow, on the path that leads off from the 102nd Street Transverse, a **CONNECTICUT WARBLER** (new species for US). Several of this warbler, rare for New York City, have been recorded this year

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: Sept. 23, 2005 At Wagner Cove, Magnolia warbler; Black-and-white warbler; Black-throated blue warbler; Wilson's warbler; American redstart; also, Ruby-crowned kinglet; Rufous-sided towhee. At the Oven, three House wren; two Marsh wren; Brown thrasher, and Ruby-throated hummingbird

England, Dec. 2005 Off M4 on the road to Lambourne in Oxfordshire—**RED KITE** (new species for U.K.), three individuals seen flying around solitary house and adjacent fields Aldington, Kent—Bullfinch, male and female

Arizona, USA: Jan. 2006 Chloride—GREATER ROADRUNNER (new species for US), seen as it avoided my car in Chloride, Ariz, stretching its neck out in typical style Agua Fria River, just south of Wickenburg—**HARRIS'S HAWK** (new species for US), chestnut wings and legs and white and black tail clearly visible; scuttling in sage bush **SHORE LARK** (new species for US), and north of Wickenburg, five or six **CACTUS WREN** (new species for US), one seemingly acting as a sentinel on top of a road sign

Panama: March 29-April 9 Great tinamou; Pied-billed grebe; Brown pelican; Neotropic cormorant; Anhinga; Magnificent frigatebird; Great blue heron; Great egret; Snowy egret; Little blue heron; Cattle egret; White ibis; Green heron; Green-backed heron (subspecies of Green heron); Black vulture; Turkey vulture; Osprey; Snail kite; Grey hawk; Mallard; Crested caracara; Yellow-headed caracara; Grey-headed chachalaca; Crested guan; Purple gallinule; Wilson's plover; Southern lapwing; American oystercatcher; Wattled jacana; Lesser yellowlegs; Sanderling; Laughing gull; Royal tern; Pale-vented pigeon; White-tipped dove; Ruddy ground-dove; Orange-chinned parakeet; Red-lored amazon; Squirrel cuckoo; Grove-billed ani; Little hermit; Violet-bellied hummingbird; White-necked jacobin; Black-throated mango; Rufous-tailed hummingbird; Bronze-tailed plumeleteer; Snowy-bellied hummingbird; White-tailed trogon; Violaceous trogon; Black-throated trogon; Slaty-tailed trogon; Blue-crowned motmot; Rufous motmot; Ringed kingfisher; Belted kingfisher; Green kingfisher; American pygmy kingfisher; Black-cheeked woodpecker; Red-crowned woodpecker; Lineated woodpecker; Crimson-crested woodpecker; Plain xenops; Plain-brown woodcreeper; Northern barred-woodcreeper; Fasciated antshrike; Western slaty-antshrike; Dot-winged antwren; Dusky antbird; Spotted antbird; Ocellated antbird; Stub-tailed spadebill; Yellow-green tyrannulet; Yellow-bellied elaenia; Sepia-capped flycatcher; Common tody-flycatcher; Black-headed tody-flycatcher; Ruddy-tailed flycatcher; Long-tailed tyrant; Bright-rumped attila; Panama flycatcher; Great kiskadee; Lesser kiskadee; Tropical kingbird; Grey kingbird; Fork-tailed flycatcher; Purple-throated fruitcrow; Golden-collared manakin; Lance-tailed manakin; Red-capped manakin; Grey-breasted martin; Mangrove swallow; Black-chested jay; Brown jay; Bay wren; House wren; Tropical mockingbird; Yellow warbler; Yellow "mangrove" warbler (subspecies of above); Chestnut-sided warbler; Black-and-white warbler; Northern waterthrush; Plain-colored tanager; Crimson-backed tanager; Blue-grey tanager; White-shouldered tanager; Golden-hooded tanager; Green honeycreeper; Red-legged honeycreeper; Fulvous-vented euphonia; Scarlet tanager; Red-throated ant-tanager; Streaked saltator; Blue-black grosbeak; Black-striped sparrow; Variable seedeater; Yellow-bellied seedeater; Great-tailed grackle; Northern oriole; Yellow-backed oriole; Scarlet-rumped cacique; Yellow-rumped cacique; Crested oropendola, and House sparrow

Montauk and area, Long Island, New York: USA, April 2006 Seen off tip of Montauk, with probably 30 to 40 Lesser scaup, along with four Surf Scoter, was pair of **EIDER** (new species for US). Lincoln sparrow seen acting furtively in brambles 200 metres or so back from the lighthouse car park. In the town of North Sea, saw Osprey on nest, mating

Central Park, New York, New York, USA: Apr. 25, 2006 First visit to Central Park this year. Palm warbler and Yellow-rumped warbler present, also, female Ruby-crowned kinglet and both Northern waterthrush and Louisiana waterthrush in same area, the Oven. Also, Swamp sparrow and Hermit thrush

Central Park, New York, New York, USA: Apr. 28, 2006 Winds were not in a favourable direction all weekend. Did see a Rufous-sided towhee at Tanner's Spring and several Hermit thrush. Also, one Eastern Phoebe

Central Park, New York, New York, USA: Apr. 30, 2006 In the North Woods. Red-breasted nuthatch in same tree as Black-and-white warbler. Also, Red-bellied woodpecker, Red-tailed hawk

Central Park, New York, New York, USA: May 6, 2006 Excellent day, with more than seven hours of birding. Almost two hours were spent at the same spot in Strawberry Field, where I spotted Red-eyed vireo; Blue-headed vireo; White-eyed vireo; Warbling vireo, two Ruby-throated hummingbird; male Tennessee warbler; Nashville warbler; Magnolia warbler; Prairie warbler; Northern parula; three Blackburnian warbler. Elsewhere, notable sights included Baltimore oriole; Wilson's warbler; Eastern screech owl; White-crowned sparrow; Blue-winged warbler; Chestnut-sided warbler; Black-and-white warbler; American redstart; Canada warbler; a bathing Scarlet tanager and, on the Reservoir, a Slavonian grebe. Also, the first of the year's Grey catbird; Ovenbird; Swainson's thrush and Common yellowthroat, and, along the Great Lawn, a Rose-breasted grosbeak

Central Park, New York, New York, USA: May 11, 2006 Overcast. Birds were there, but between 5:30 and 8 one needed to search. Sparrows in abundance, including Chipping sparrow; Swamp sparrow and White-crowned sparrow. Eastern phoebe; several Baltimore oriole; one Rufous-sided towhee; Wilson's warbler; Black-throated blue warbler; Magnolia warbler, and Chestnut-sided warbler

Central Park, New York, New York, USA: May 12, 2006 I spent 105 minutes yesterday looking for a particular bird in a Tulip tree in the Shakespeare Garden, to no avail. Spent 45 minutes today doing the same at the same tree, which contained Scarlet tanager; six Baltimore oriole; Rose-breasted grosbeak; male Black-throated blue warbler and a dozen Yellow-rumped warbler, before I saw the yellow and black chest of a male Cape May warbler, only my second ever. The bird then displayed prominently for five minutes before disappearing, which echoes its performance in this tree of the last two days, according to other witnesses

Central Park, New York, N.Y., USA: May 12-14, 2006 Sunny afternoon on Friday, the 12th. Yellow-crowned night-heron a nice find in the extreme south of the park and the first Worm-eating warbler found in the Rambles. On the Sunday, a duller, quieter day, I saw my first Yellow warbler of the year, as well as a second Cape May warbler and Hooded warbler, my first for several years. The highlight was a **YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO** (new species for US) in the Rambles, at the Captain's Bench. A female Rose-breasted grosbeak was present at Tanner's Spring, as was a Grey-cheeked thrush

Florida Keys, Fla., USA: May 15-19, 2006

Fort Zachary State Park, Key West—Cattle egret; Grey kingbird; juvenile Blackpoll warbler

Key West Botanical Garden, Stock Island—**WHITE-CROWNED PIGEON** (new species) in two flocks of three birds. Quite shy, but on this rainy day there was no one else present besides me, and the staff at the reception said it was the first time this species has returned since last year's hurricane. Also, Great-crested flycatcher, and, so quickly, my second-ever Yellow-billed cuckoo

Long Key State Park—American redstart; Black-and-white warbler; single examples of American golden plover and Wilson's plover. Deeper in the mangrove, I saw Northern waterthrush and **BLACK-WHISKERED VIREO** (new species for US)

Hawk's Cay—I saw, incredibly, my third-ever Yellow-billed cuckoo, not much higher than head-height in hotel grounds. Key Colony Golf Course—two **BURROWING OWL** (new species for US), which were easily approachable

Dagny Johnson Key Largo Hammock Botanical State Park—my second-ever Black-whiskered vireo. In both occurrences, the black whisker was very evident, and in the second case so were plagues of mosquitoes

Central Park, New York, New York, USA: May 20, 2006 What seemed like a quiet day produced numerous warblers, many of them female, including Blackburnian warbler; Blackpoll warbler; Black-throated green warbler; Also spotted was a male Prairie warbler and male and female American redstart (very numerous); Canada warbler; and Wilson's warbler. In the north end of the park was a Northern flicker and a Veery

Central Park, New York, USA: May 27, 2006 The migration season seems pretty much over. Very little around, but I did see a beautiful Magnolia warbler; female American Redstart; and Red-eyed vireo

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, New York, USA: May 28, 2006 A twitch for three **FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK** (new species for US) reported earlier that morning. Very easy to find, a small crowd watching them between benches six and seven on the West Pond. Other species included Willet; Greater black-backed gull; Herring gull; Least Sandpiper; Snowy egret; Osprey (on nest); Glossy ibis, and a beautiful Little blue heron, the light shining perfectly on it. Also, two other great finds, a **WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER** (new species for US) and an **ALDER FLYCATCHER** (new species for the US)

Wave Hill, The Bronx, New York, USA: May 29, 2006 Two Cedar waxwing in a tree of this botanical garden

Cold Spring, New York, USA: across August 2006 House- and pet-sitting on and off for three weeks. Great blue heron; Blue-grey gnatcatcher; Blackpoll warbler (many); Black-capped chickadee; male Rose-breasted grosbeak; two Ruby-throated hummingbird; Scarlet tanager (singing wildly, bobbing in each direction); Willow flycatcher; Hairy woodpecker; Downy woodpecker; Peregrine mobbing Blue Jay; American goldfinch; American redstart; male Indigo bunting at Cargill Reservoir; Cooper's Hawk sitting on wire; (pet Helmeted guineafowl) **Trip to Doodletown**—spectacular Indigo bunting; lots of Willow flycatcher; Louisiana waterthrush; White-breasted nuthatch. Northern flicker, and Baltimore oriole **Manitoga Reserve**—Downy woodpecker, Hairy woodpecker and one **PILEATED WOODPECKER** (new species for US) at top of dead tree

Cabo San Lucas area, Baja California Sur, Mexico: August 21-24, 2006 Hooded oriole; Pyrrhuloxia (evidently not similar in coloration to the Cardinal); Vermilion flycatcher (extraordinary; I saw just the one male, and briefly at that); Grey thrasher (this caused me some confusion, as all the Sibley guide distribution maps had no thrasher in southern Baja. That it was a thrasher was not of concern, and then this morning I saw that one of Baja's endemics was this species, which goes no farther north, hence no inclusion in Sibley); Belted kingfisher (this was odd. Again, there was no mistaking what this was. One online guide said that a few do summer in its winter range, where they can find water, which might mean that

the two aforementioned ponds were permanent); Greater yellowlegs (Sibley has very few waders present in summer, but this and the following I definitely ID'ed); Pectoral sandpiper; Wilson's plover (the only plover present in Baja in summer); Killdeer (several); Brown pelican (hundreds, even though Sibley suggests none should be in Baja in August); Osprey; Mexican mallard (subspecies; they look like Mallard, but with no striking drakes; California quail (a family close to the hotel. I thought, oh, Gambel's, as I have seen that species in Arizona and Nevada, but a reading of Sibley says that the two species, ranges do not overlap); Caspian tern; Heermann's gull (ID'ed by range; there are very few gulls in Baja in August. Actually, Sibley says there is only one); Greater roadrunner; White-winged dove; Cactus wren; California gnatcatcher; Verdin (this is a wonderful bird; I saw five or six); Western scrub-jay (my first Blue jay variation, in a palm tree right in front of the hotel lobby); Gila woodpecker (many woodpeckers, almost everywhere. with lots of holes in cacti); Ladder-backed woodpecker, and Gilded flicker

Argentina: September 3-24, 2006 Greater rhea; Spotted nothura; Elegant crested-tinamou; Great grebe ;Anhinga; Neotropical cormorant; Cocoi heron; Rufescent tiger-heron; Great egret; Cattle egret; Black-crowned night-heron; Maguari stork; Jabiru; Plumbeous ibis; Buff-necked ibis; Bare-faced ibis; White-faced ibis; Southern screamer; White-faced whistling-duck; Brazilian teal; Andean condor; Lesser yellow-headed vulture; Black vulture; Snail kite; Long-winged harrier; Black-collared hawk; Roadside hawk; Savanna hawk; White-tailed hawk; Red-backed hawk; Puna hawk; Mountain caracara; Crested caracara; Chimango caracara; Yellow-headed caracara; Peregrine; Aplomado falcon; American kestrel; Black-fronted piping-guan; Rusty-margined guan; Limpkin; Giant wood-rail; Grey-necked wood-rail; White-winged coot; Moorhen; Purple gallinule; Spot-flanked gallinule; Wattled jacana; South American stilt; Southern lapwing; South American snipe; Andean gull; Yellow-billed tern; Spot-winged pigeon; Eared dove; Ruddy ground-dove; Golden-spotted ground-dove; White-tipped dove; Blue ground-dove; Blue-winged macaw; White-eyed parakeet; Monk parakeet; Mountain parakeet; Scaly-headed parrot; Burrowing parrot; Guira cuckoo; Squirrel cuckoo; Burrowing owl; White-collared swift; Andean swift; White-throated hummingbird; Red-tailed comet; Glittering-bellied emerald; Ringed kingfisher; Amazon kingfisher; Green kingfisher; Toco toucan; Field flicker; Golden-breasted woodpecker; White-barred piculet; Robust woodpecker; Pale-crested woodpecker; White-bearded manakin; Swallow-tailed manakin; Temminck's seedeater; White-winged becard; Black-and-white monjita; White monjita; Andean negrito; D'Orbigny's chat-tyrant; Strange-tailed tyrant; Streamer-tailed tyrant; White-headed marsh-tyrant; Sooty tyrannulet; Cattle tyrant; Spectacled tyrant; Piratic flycatcher; Great kiskadee; Boat-billed flycatcher; Vermilion flycatcher; Variable antshrike; Rufous hornero; Stripe-crowned spinetail; Sooty-fronted spinetail; Firewood-gatherer; Chotoy spinetail; Planalto woodcreeper; Red-billed scythebill; Plush-crested jay; Grey-breasted martin; White-rumped swallow; House Wren; Mountain wren; Black-capped donacobious; Brown-backed mockingbird; White-banded mockingbird; Chalk-browed mockingbird; Creamy-bellied thrush; Rufous-bellied thrush; Chiguanco thrush; Greater thornbird; House sparrow; Lark-like bushrunner; Masked gnatcatcher; Black-chinned siskin; Two-banded warbler; Tropical parula; Masked yellowthroat; Golden-winged cacique; Red-rumped cacique; Solitary black cacique; Giant cowbird; Unicolored blackbird; Scarlet-headed blackbird; Brown-and-yellow marshbird; Rufous-collared sparrow; Black-hooded sierra-finch; Rufous-sided warbling-finch; Saffron finch; Puna yellow-finch; Red-crested finch; Double-collared seedeater; Rusty-collared seedeater; Saffron-billed sparrow; Red-crested cardinal; Yellow-billed cardinal; Magpie tanager; Sayaca tanager; Swallow-tanager; Green-headed tanager; Blue-and-yellow tanager; Red-crowned ant-tanager; Rusty flower-piercer; Purple-throated euphonia; Violaceous euphonia; Greyish saltator, and Green-winged saltator

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: October 5, 2006 Cape May warbler; immature White-crowned sparrow; Field Sparrow, and Dark-eyed Junco

Bear Mountain area, New York, USA: October 8, 2006 A bright, sunny day in the Tompkins Cove area. Blackpoll warbler; Yellow-rumped warbler; also, Willow flycatcher; Hairy woodpecker, and, of most interest, two Eastern bluebird, only the second time I have ever seen them

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: October 10, 2006 In the Wildflower Meadow at the north end of the park, I saw Blue grosbeak, only my second time—again—that I have seen this species. This was a first-winter bird so contained absolutely no blue. Also, Black-capped chickadee; Rufous-sided towhee, and Song sparrow

Central Park, New York, New York, USA: October 31, 2006 Excellent sighting of the uncommon **HENSLOW'S SPARROW** (new species for US) in the Pinetum. Luckily, I was running in the area when I saw two excited birdwatchers, otherwise I would have missed this

Riverside Park, New York, New York, USA: January 7, 2007 At 92nd Street, two immature Red-headed woodpeckers. Good views, at 115th Street, of immature Cape May warbler (really should not be here at all this time of year). Flying at eye-height in the trees of the park when viewed from the drive; also present Yellow-bellied sapsucker; Downy woodpecker, and Red-tailed hawk

Mill Creek Marsh, Secaucus, New Jersey, USA: February 22, 2007 Mostly iced-over water courses. Five or six Fox sparrow; 16 or so Goosander; six or so Hooded merganser; two Gadwall, and one Hairy woodpecker

North England: April 18-23, 2007 Chaffinch; Greenfinch; Goldfinch; Redwing (Bamburgh Castle, Northumberland); **BARNACLE GOOSE** (new species for U.K.); Mallard; Shoveler; Sky lark; Reed bunting (Bamburgh Castle, Northumberland); Wheatear (Bamburgh Castle, Northumberland); Dipper (River Aln, Alnwick, Northumberland); Canada goose; Eider (Lindisfarne, Northumberland); Kittiwake (Bamburgh Castle, Northumberland); Greater black-backed gull; Lesser black-backed gull; Herring gull; Black-headed gull; Robin; Blackbird; House sparrow; Swallow; House martin; Spotted flycatcher; Blue tit; Great tit; Coal tit; Long-tailed tit; Pied wagtail; Grey wagtail (River Aln, Alnwick, Northumberland); Carrion crow; Jackdaw; Green woodpecker; Grey heron; Sparrowhawk; Common buzzard; Oystercatcher; Pheasant (hundreds of them), and Lapwing

Forest Park, Queens, New York, USA: April 26, 2007 Steady drizzle; first birding of the season. Black-and-white warbler; Yellow-rumped warbler; Northern waterthrush; Pine warbler; Eastern towhee, and Black-capped chickadee

Forest Park, Queens, New York, USA: April 27, 2007 Clear. Louisiana waterthrush

Central Park, New York, USA: April 29, 2007 (cloudy, bad light, turning to intermittent sunshine) Yellow-billed cuckoo (North Woods); Worm-eating warbler (The Loch); Nashville warbler (The Oven); Solitary sandpiper (The Loch); Great northern diver (amazingly close views, this time); Black-and-white warbler; Palm warbler; Pine warbler; Northern

waterthrush; Yellow-bellied sapsucker; Northern flicker; Ovenbird; Veery; Wood thrush; Hermit thrush; Swamp sparrow; Baltimore oriole; Red-winged blackbird, and Eastern towhee

Central Park, New York, USA: April 30, 2007 (sunny evening) Hairy woodpecker; Green heron

Central Park, New York, USA: May 5, 2007 (early morning) Yellow-billed cuckoo (Azalea Pond); Worm-eating warbler (Azalea Pond); Tennessee warbler (Captain's Bench); American redstart; Common yellowthroat; Blue-headed vireo (Azalea Pond; Strawberry Field); Yellow-throated warbler (Azalea Pond; Strawberry Field); Prairie warbler (Azalea Pond; Strawberry Field); Veery; Hermit thrush; Magnolia warbler (Cherry Hill); Black-throated blue warbler (Strawberry Field); Black-capped night-heron; Downy woodpecker, and Savannah sparrow (Strawberry Field)

Central Park, New York, USA: May 7, 2007 (sunny evening) An incredibly social and cooperative Kentucky warbler, all the way out in the open in Strawberry Field. It was very actively feeding on flies, bouncing up and down as is its nature and at one point bouncing over my shoe

Garden City Golf Club, Garden City, New York, USA: May 9, 2007 (lunch break) Swainson's thrush

Central Park, New York, USA: May 9, 2007 (half an hour in park only; sunny evening) Warbling vireo

Riverside Park, New York, USA: May 12, 2007 Baltimore Oriole; Red-bellied woodpecker; Downy woodpecker; Crested titmouse; Swainson's thrush, three male and one female; Scarlet tanager, and 19 species of warbler—Yellow-rumped warbler; Yellow warbler; Blue-winged warbler; Blackburnian warbler; Black-and-white warbler; Black-throated blue warbler; Black-throated green warbler; Worm-eating warbler; Common yellowthroat; American redstart; Ovenbird; Wilson's warbler; Pine warbler; Northern parula; Northern waterthrush; Magnolia warbler; Black-and-white warbler; Chestnut-sided warbler, and Blackpoll warbler

Central Park, New York, USA: May 19, 2007 (overcast) Male Cape May warbler; Canada Warbler, and Bay-breasted warbler, my first for several years

Antigua & Barbuda, Caribbean: June 9-13, 2007 Black-winged stilt; White-crowned pigeon; Red-necked pigeon; Lesser Antillean bullfinch; Antillean crested hummingbird; Green-throated carib; Bananaquit; Black-faced grassquit; White-cheeked pintail; Magnificent frigatebird; Roseate tern; Royal tern; Caribbean elaenia; Caribbean grackle; Caribbean martin; Antillean Euphonia; Purple-throated carib; Barbuda warbler; Broad-winged hawk; Lesser Antillean Flycatcher (*berlepschii*); Zenaida Dove; Common Ground Dove; American kestrel; Yellow warbler; Lesser yellowlegs; Tricoloured heron; Yellow-crowned night heron, and Black-crowned night heron

Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, Oceanville, New Jersey, USA: July 1, 2007 Osprey, **SEASIDE SPARROW** (new species for US); Gull-billed tern; **LEAST FLYCATCHER** (new species for the US), and **KING RAIL** (new species for US)

Greenland (Ilulissat and Nuuk): July 12-16, 2007 I was under the impression this would be a birding Mecca, but many Web sites disabused me of that idea. With all that space, birds can truly be a long way from any one of the 60,000 residents, so why be near people? But here are some new species seen, plus one other bird, having never really birded before in north England or north—Black guillemot; Little auk; Glaucous gull; Iceland gull; Raven; Snow bunting; Lapland bunting; Pomarine skua; Long-tailed skua, and Shore lark

Smith Island, Md., and Tangier Island, Va., and points between. USA: August 3-5, 2007 Seen on three-day kayaking trip with stops in Smith and Tangier islands: Osprey (many, if not hundreds); Black skimmer; White-rumped sandpiper; Pectoral sandpiper; Sanderling; Turnstone; American oystercatcher; Seaside sparrow (many); Green heron; Tricoloured heron; Great blue heron; Yellow-crowned night heron; Black-crowned night heron; Snowy egret; Common egret; **CLAPPER RAIL** (new species for US); Royal tern; Arctic tern; Greater black-backed gull; Peregrine; Brown pelican (hundreds), and Glossy ibis

Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland; Saturday-Wednesday, June, 2007 Grey heron; Gannet; Northern fulmar; Stonechat; Rock pipit; Kittiwake, and **CORNCRAKE** (new species for U.K.), quite the sighting in this country, in Glenarriff, Glens of Antrim, the first seen in the area for quite some time, although reintroduction efforts are under way and thorough

Jamaica Bay, New York, NY USA: September 9, 2007 Two Pied-billed grebe; Hudsonian godwit; Wilson's phalarope, and Red-necked phalarope; both phalaropes in winter plumage and often passing across one another to provide contrast in identification. Western form of Willet and three Ruddy duck

China (Beijing, Beijing area and Gobi Desert near to Dunhuang): September 2007 Azure-winged magpie; Bar-headed goose; Magpie; Black-browed reed-warbler; Black-faced bunting; Chinese pond-heron; Forest wagtail; Hen harrier; Large-billed crow; Manchurian reed-warbler; Olive-backed pipit; Pallas's grasshopper warbler; Red-billed blue magpie; Eastern spotted dove; Tree sparrow; Vinous-throated parrotbill; White wagtail; Willow tit, and Yellow-throated warbler (three individuals)

Bahamas: January 2008 Yellow-throated warbler; Bahama mockingbird; Bahama yellowthroat; Loggerhead kingbird; White-crowned pigeon; Bahama woodstar; Cuban emerald; Red-legged thrush, and Red-breasted merganser

Prospect Park, New York, USA: February 3, 2008 Pintail (female) and Sharp-shinned hawk

Jamaica: March 2008

Mandeville area—Cattle egret; White-crowned pigeon; Black-throated blue warbler; Yellow-faced grassquit; Black-faced grassquit; Jamaican mango; Bananaquit; Greater Antillean grackle; Jamaican euphonia; Bahama mockingbird; Northern mockingbird; Jamaican elaenia; Jamaican crow; Smooth-billed ani; Turkey vulture, and American kestrel
Marshall's Pen, Mandeville—Green-backed heron; Red-billed streamertail; Jamaican today; White-winged dove; Caribbean dove; Olive-throated parakeet; Jamaican woodpecker; American redstart; Sad flycatcher; White-chinned thrush; Rufous-tailed solitaire; Arrow-headed warbler; Orangequit, and Jamaican oriole

Black Morass River—Osprey; Great egret; Snowy egret; Little blue heron; Saffron warbler; West Indian whistling-duck, and Black-crowned night heron
YS Falls—Red-billed streamertail and Vervain hummingbird
Port Kaiser road—Antillean nighthawk

Central Park, New York City, NY, USA: March 25, 2008 Eastern screech-owl (in hollow of tree at the junction of the 102nd St. Transverse and the Loop. on the inner side of the loop)

Central Park, New York City, NY, USA: March 29, 2008 Immature Western tanager, a rarity for the park. It is considered that the bird is a male. It had the distinctive wing barring, but there was no red on the head at all. Also, a House finch and very attractive male Yellow-bellied sapsucker

Tompkins Square Park, New York City, NY, USA: April 1, 2008 In a most unlikely spot, a male **SCOTT'S ORIOLE** (new species for US), which is the same bird that was in January and February often seen in nearby Union Square Park. It is decidedly more adult in plumage now (compared with photos posted of the Union Square Park bird), but as this is the first recorded incidence of this bird in New York State, it is certainly the same one. The head is black, but there is some mottling of black and brown on the nape that sometimes looks green. Two white wing bars are evident. It now has bugs to fit on but flew to yards from me as it tapped at sap scratchings that it had made in a small viburnum bush. Also, Eastern phoebe, a definite harbinger of Spring

Honduras: April 2008

West Bay/Lighthouse Point—White-crowned pigeon; Canivet's emerald; Yellow-bellied elaenia; Olive-sided flycatcher; Brown-crested flycatcher, and Grey hawk

Carambola Gardens—Yellow warbler; Summer tanager; Yucatán vireo; Yucatán woodpecker; Black-and-white warbler, and Green-breasted mango

Oak Ridge—Belted kingfisher; Magnificent frigatebird; Caspian tern, and Brown pelican

Pollytilly Bight—Ovenbird

Pico Bonito—Hooded warbler; Chestnut-sided warbler; Magnolia warbler; American redstart; Black-throated green warbler; Honduran emerald; Yellow-tailed oriole; Mealy parrot; White-crowned parrot; Brown jay; Lovely cotinga; White-collared manakin; Melodious blackbird; Wedge-billed woodcreeper; Violaceous trogon; Piratic flycatcher; Masked tityra; Striped cuckoo; Clay-coloured robin; Blue-headed vireo; Yellow-throated euphonia, and Black-cowled oriole

Río Cangregal—Green kingfisher; Keel-billed toucan; Montezuma's oropendola; Black phoebe, and Grey-breasted martin

Cuero y Salado—Ringed kingfisher; Black-throated trogon; Great blue heron; Little blue heron; Boat-billed heron; Green heron; Bat falcon; Common black hawk; Buff-throated foliage-gleaner; Prothonotary warbler; Golden-fronted woodpecker; White-whiskered puffbird; White-necked puffbird; Sandwich tern; Red-throated ant-tanager; Variable seedeater; American pygmy kingfisher; Rufescent tiger-heron; Northern jacana, and Muscovy duck

Útila—Indigo bunting; Smooth-billed ani, and Townsend's warbler; (also, Spinner dolphins)

Central Park, New York City, NY, USA: April 19, 2008 Prairie warbler; Yellow-rumped warbler; Blue-headed vireo, and Ruby-crowned kinglet (one flashed ruby crown)

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: April 20, 2008 Wood duck; Brown creeper; Blue-headed vireo; Pine warbler; Black-capped chickadee; Downy woodpecker; Northern flicker; 10 flyover Glossy ibis, and Palm warbler

New England, USA: April 25-28, 2008 Eastern phoebe; Song sparrow; Black-capped chickadee; Goldfinch; Eider (Biddeford Pool and Popham Beach, Me.); Surf scoter (Biddeford Pool); Yellow-bellied sapsucker (Stockbridge, Mass.); Pileated woodpecker (Stockbridge, Mass.), and Osprey; also, (Atlantic grey seal: 30, Popham Beach); (American black bear: Hancock Shaker Village, Hancock, Mass.)

Garden City, Long Island, NY, USA: May 6, 2008 (lunchtime) Great-crested flycatcher; Baltimore oriole; Bronzed cowbird; Scarlet tanager; Northern parula, and Black-and-white warbler

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: May 11, 2008 CERULEAN WARBLER (new species for US) was the highlight, seen in the Lookout, with excellent views; also seen were Black-and-white warbler; Northern parula; Black-throated green warbler (several); Black-throated blue warbler; Yellow-rumped warbler; American redstart; Ovenbird (several); Magnolia warbler; Chestnut-sided warbler, and Yellow warbler. Other species included Red-tailed hawk; Spotted sandpiper; Rose-breasted grosbeak; Downy woodpecker; Least flycatcher; White-eyed vireo; Grey-cheeked thrush; Monk parakeet, and Osprey

Garden City, Long Island, NY, USA: May 13, 2008 (lunchtime) Great-crested flycatcher; Baltimore oriole (male and female); Scarlet tanager; Northern parula; Eastern phoebe; Least flycatcher, and Chimney swift

Garden City, Long Island, NY, USA: May 14, 2008 (lunchtime) Great-crested flycatcher; Baltimore oriole (male and female); Eastern phoebe; Least flycatcher (at nest); Eastern kingbird; Canada warbler, Blackpoll warbler, Magnolia warbler, Warbling vireo; Ovenbird; Wood thrush; Brown-headed cowbird, and Black-throated blue warbler

Central Park, New York, NY, USA: May 15, 2008 (afternoon) Baltimore oriole; Scarlet tanager; Northern parula; Black-and-white warbler; Black-throated blue warbler, Yellow-rumped warbler, American redstart; Ovenbird; Magnolia warbler; Chestnut-sided warbler; Red-tailed hawk; Rose-breasted grosbeak, Blackpoll warbler, Blue-headed vireo; Wood thrush; Veery; Swainson's thrush; White-breasted nuthatch; Ruby-throated hummingbird; Swamp sparrow; Chipping sparrow, and Northern waterthrush

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: May 17, 2008 Black-and-white warbler; Black-throated blue warbler; Yellow-rumped warbler; Ovenbird (several); Magnolia warbler; Rose-breasted grosbeak; Baltimore oriole; Scarlet tanager; Chimney swift; Canada warbler; Wood thrush; Veery; Swainson's thrush, and Eastern kingbird

Garden City, Long Island, NY, USA: May 19, 2008 (overcast and windy) Great-crested flycatcher; American redstart; Red-tailed hawk; Downy woodpecker, and Canada warbler

Garden City, Long Island, NY, USA: May 20, 2008 (rain) Two Scarlet tanager

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: May 25, 2008 Blackburnian warbler; Chestnut-sided warbler; Tennessee warbler; Magnolia warbler; Canada warbler; American redstart; Black-

throated green warbler; Orchard oriole (male and female); Black-capped chickadee; House finch; Cedar waxwing; Veery; Ovenbird, and Swainson's thrush

Garden City, Long Island, NY, USA: May 27, 2008 Alder flycatcher

Die Biesbosch, The Netherlands: June 30, 2008 Common spoonbill and Water rail, neither species I have seen in the U.K.

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: Sept. 14, 2008 Blue-winged warbler; Grey catbird; Blue-grey gnatcatcher; Yellow-bellied sapsucker; Downy woodpecker; American redstart; Black-and-white warbler, and Canada warbler Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: Oct. 4, 2008 Northern waterthrush; Magnolia warbler; Ruby-crowned kinglet, and Red-tailed hawk

Cherry Apartments, Garden City, NY, USA: Oct. 7, 2008 Sitting proud as day on the top of a small bush in the middle of a lawn in the middle of a planned community sat a **CLAYCOLOURED SPARROW** (new species for US)

Northern Portugal: Oct. 11-14, 2008 Chiffchaff; Siskin; Green woodpecker; Great-spotted woodpecker; Black redstart; Robin; Bonelli's eagle; Red kite; Great tit, and Stonechat

Garden City, NY, USA: Oct. 20, 2008 First Dark-eyed junco (three in total) of the season

Somerset (Shapwick Marsh, Ham Wall, Chew Valley Lake, etc.): Dec. 4-7, 2008 Chiffchaff; Merlin; Marsh harrier; Sparrowhawk; Peregrine (near Lambourn, Wiltshire); Chaffinch; Bullfinch; Siskin; Goldcrest; Common Redpoll; Mute swan; Great-crested grebe; Little grebe; Tufted duck; Pochard; Mallard; Common coot; Moorhen; Grey heron; Kingfisher; House sparrow; Dunnock; Starling—2 million in roosting; Black-headed sparrow; Herring gull; Rook; Common crow; Jackdaw; Pheasant; Blackbird; Blue tit; Long-tailed tit; Goosander; Robin; Magpie, and Lapwing

Kisenna Pond, Flushing, Queens, New York, USA: January 2, 2009 In a triangle of grass between a main road and an exit ramp was a **CAKCLING GOOSE** (new species for US) and **PINK-FOOTED GOOSE** (3rd record for New York State; first record for New York City; new species for US)

Dominican Republic: February 2009

Parque Nacional de los Haïteses and Parque Nacional del Este—Grey kingbird; Loggerhead kingbird; Red-footed booby; American kestrel; Hispaniolan woodpecker; Hispaniolan lizard-cuckoo; Palmchat; White-cheeked pintail; Cattle egret; Common egret; Little blue heron; Bananaquit; Yellow-faced grassquit; Ridgway's hawk; Antillean mango; Vervain hummingbird; Village weaver; Antillean palm-swift; Caribbean martin; Broad-billed tody; Black-crowned palm-tanager; Grey-crowned palm-tanager; Limpkin; Magnificent frigatebird; Cave swallow; Osprey; Black-crowned night heron; Solitary sandpiper; Black-whiskered vireo; Prairie warbler; Black-throated blue warbler; Brown pelican; Turkey vulture; Smooth-billed ani; Greater Antillean grackle; Northern parula; American redstart, and Scaly-breasted munia (aka Nutmeg manakin)

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: April 5, 2009 Black-capped chickadee; Palm warbler; Pine warbler; Northern flicker; American kestrel, and Wood duck

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: April 12, 2009 Northern flicker; Palm warbler; Pine warbler; Hermit thrush; Blue-grey gnatcatcher; Osprey (with fish); Belted kingfisher, and Brown creeper

Garden City Golf Club, Garden City, NY, USA: April 16, 2009 (lunch break) Red-bellied woodpecker; Northern flicker; Eastern phoebe, and Red-tailed hawk

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: April 16, 2009 Yellow-throated warbler at the Boat Pond, off 72nd St.; it's been here for six days now; my second U.S. record of this species

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: April 18-19, 2009 43 species seen. Red-bellied woodpecker; Pine warbler; Palm warbler; Black-and-white warbler; Magnolia warbler (very, very early); Louisiana waterthrush; Eastern phoebe; **AMERICAN BITTERN** (new species for US), high in tree over The Ravine; Dark-eye junco; Savannah sparrow; Swamp sparrow; White-throated sparrow, and Hermit thrush

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: April 25-26, 2009 A fantastic weekend, with 53 species seen. Reported Townsend's warbler, but not seen by me. Eastern towhee; Yellow-throated warbler (my 3rd US record); Prairie warbler; Hooded warbler; Prothonotary warbler; Orchard oriole; Baltimore oriole; Hairy woodpecker; Ruby-throated hummingbird; House wren; Golden-crowned kinglet; Black-throated green warbler; Yellow warbler; Pine warbler; Palm warbler; Black-and-white warbler; Bronzed cowbird; Merlin; Tufted duck; Grey catbird, and Blue-grey gnatcatcher

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: April 27, 2009 Evening birding, and a little disappointing, except for the Lookout area. Blue-headed vireo and Yellow-throated warbler, both at eye level; Eastern Towhee and many of those seen on my last outing, except for the three underlined A-listers

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: April 29, 2009 Evening birding and on a chillier day than the previous three of heatwave. Again, a little disappointing, except for Blue-headed vireo and Blue-grey gnatcatcher, until right at the end when I saw two Brown thrasher and two male Indigo bunting low in a bush

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: May 2, 2009 A grey, drizzly morning, but the birding was good. Veery; Indigo Bunting (only one and in the same spot as on April 29, 2009); Northern waterthrush; Common yellowthroat; two Scarlet tanager; Chestnut-sided warbler; Blackburnian warbler; Black-throated green warbler; Black-throated blue warbler; Wood Thrush; Hermit thrush; Ovenbird, and Red-eyed vireo

Riverside Park, New York City, NY, USA: May 4, 2009 The dire weather continues, but a report came in of an increasingly rare species, so I twitched it after work. In an oak tree opposite 115th St. and Riverside Drive was a **GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER** (new species for US). It flew to an adjacent tree and for five minutes was frantically tugging at seeds. It gave two decent views that allowed for identification before flying off and not returning

Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands: May 2009 Pied-billed grebe; Red-footed booby; Magnificent frigatebird; Green heron; Great blue heron; Great egret; Tricolored heron; West

Indian whistling-duck; Purple gallinule; American coot; Black-necked stilt; Spotted sandpiper; Turnstone; Royal tern; Cayman parrot (subspecies of Cuban parrot); White-crowned pigeon; Zenaida dove; White-winged dove; Common ground-dove; Caribbean dove; Rose-throated parrot; Smooth-billed ani; West Indian woodpecker (*Melanerpes supercilialis caymanensis* subspecies); Loggerhead kingbird; Eastern wood-pewee; Purple martin; Barn swallow; Northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos orpheus* subspecies); Bananaquit; Vitelline warbler (endemic); Greater Antillean grackle, and Western spindalis

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: May 23-25, 2009 **ARCADIAN FLYCATCHER** (new species for US); Northern waterthrush; Magnolia warbler; Red-tailed hawk; Green heron; Blackpoll warbler; American redstart; Yellow-rumped warbler; Baltimore oriole; Orchard oriole; Indigo bunting; Tennessee warbler; six Tricoloured heron flying over; Scarlet tanager, and Yellow-breasted flycatcher

California: June 4-13, 2009 **WESTERN GREBE** (new species for US); **AMERICAN AVOCET** (new species for US); Brown pelican; Double-crested cormorant; **PELAGIC CORMORANT** (new species for US); Green heron; Canada goose; **CINNAMON TEAL** (new species for US); Mallard; Turkey vulture; Red-tailed hawk; Killdeer; Black-necked stilt; Spotted sandpiper; **WESTERN GULL** (new species for US); **CALIFORNIA GULL** (new species for US); Caspian tern; Mourning dove; Eurasian collared dove; **BAND-TAILED PIGEON** (new species for US); **LESSER NIGHTHAWK** (new species for US); **COMMON POORWILL** (new species for US); **BLACK SWIFT** (new species for US); **WHITE-FRONTED SWIFT** (new species for US); **CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD** (new species for US); Hairy woodpecker; **ACORN WOODPECKER** (new species for US); **NUTTALL'S WOODPECKER** (new species for US); **WHITE-HEADED WOODPECKER** (new species for US); **WILLIAMSON'S SAPSUCKER** (new species for US); **RED-HEADED SAPSUCKER** (new species for US); **CALIFORNIA QUAIL** (new species for US); **WOODHOUSE'S SCRUB-JAY** (new species for US); Steller's jay; Common raven; Common crow; Violet-green swallow; Barn swallow; **WESTERN WOOD-PEEWEE** (new species for US); Brown creeper; **PYGMY NUTHATCH** (new species for US); **PACIFIC SLOPE FLYCATCHER** (new species for US); **BLACK PHEOBE** (new species for US); **SAY'S PHEOBE** (new species for US); **CHESTNUT-BACKED CHICKADEE** (new species for US); **WRENTIT** (new species for US); **MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD** (new species for US); **WESTERN BLUEBIRD** (new species for US); **AMERICAN PIPIT** (new species for US); House wren; American robin; Northern mockingbird; Nashville warbler; **McGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER** (new species for US); Western tanager; **BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK** (new species for US); **SPOTTED TOWHEE** (new species for US); **SAGE SPARROW** (new species for US); **BREWER'S SPARROW** (new species for US); Rufous-headed sparrow; Dark-eyed junco; Bullock's oriole; **WESTERN MEADOWLARK** (new species for US); **TRICOLOURED BLACKBIRD** (new species for US); Red-winged blackbird; Brewer's blackbird; Great-tailed grackle, and House sparrow

Svalbard/Spitsbergen, Norway: August 21-28, 2009 Eider; Little auk; Brunnich's guillemot; Rock ptarmigan; Puffin; Great skua; Long-tailed skua; Arctic skua; Glaucous gull; Sabine's gull; Northern fulmar; Kittiwake; Snow bunting; Pink-footed goose and Barnacle goose

Belize: October 17-23, 2009 Brown pelican; Neotropic cormorant; Anhinga; Magnificent frigatebird; Bare-throated tiger-heron; Great blue heron; Great egret; Snowy egret; Little blue

heron; Tricoloured heron; Cattle egret; Agami heron; Yellow-crowned night-heron; White ibis; Roseate spoonbill; Black vulture; Turkey vulture; Black-bellied whistling-duck; Osprey; Snail kite; Black-collared hawk; Roadside hawk; Bat falcon; Plain chachalaca; Limpkin; Black-necked stilt; Northern jacana; Laughing gull; Pale-vented pigeon; Ruddy ground-dove; Olive-throated parakeet; Brown-hooded parrot; White-crowned parrot; White-fronted parrot; Red-lore amazon; Mottled owl; Common parakeet; Long-tailed hermit; Stripe-throated hermit; Canivet's emerald; Rufous-tailed hummingbird; Black-headed trogon; Slaty-tailed trogon; Blue-crowned motmot; Belted kingfisher; American pygmy kingfisher; Keel-billed toucan; Golden-fronted woodpecker; Lineated woodpecker; Pale-billed woodpecker; Streak-headed woodcreeper; Black-faced antthrush; Tropical peewee; Vermillion flycatcher; Bright-rumped Attila; Dusky-capped flycatcher; Great crested flycatcher; Great kiskadee; Boat-billed flycatcher; Social flycatcher; Tropical kingbird; Fork-tailed flycatcher; White-eyed vireo; Yellow-throated vireo; Red-eyed vireo; Lesser greenlet; Green jay; Brown jay; Mangrove swallow; Plain wren; Wood thrush; Clay-coloured robin; Grey catbird; Tropical mockingbird; Tennessee warbler; Nashville warbler; Magnolia warbler; Black-throated blue warbler; Black-throated green warbler; Yellow-rumped warbler; Yellow-throated warbler; Black-and-white warbler; Prothonotary warbler; Ovenbird; Northern waterthrush; Louisiana waterthrush; Common yellowthroat; Hooded warbler; Red-throated ant-tanager; Summer tanager; Blue-grey tanager; Yellow-winged tanager; Yellow-throated euphonia; Slate-coloured seedeater; White-collared seedeater; Variable seedeater; Green-backed sparrow; Black-headed saltator; Rose-breasted grosbeak; Red-winged blackbird; Great-tailed grackle; Melodious blackbird, and Montezuma oropendola

Central Park, New York, New York, USA: November 21, 2009 GREAT HORNED OWL (new species in US) in the Ramble near the Rustic Shelter

Caribbean (St. Lucia/Barbados/Martinique/U.S. Virgin Islands/Bahamas): March 19-24, 2010 Brown booby; Magnificent frigatebird; Bananaquit; Bahama mockingbird; Bahama mockingbird; Western spindalis; American kestrel; Osprey; Turkey vulture; Brown pelican; Great blue heron; Cattle egret; White-cheeked pintail; American oystercatcher; Black-necked stilt; Sanderling; Laughing gull; Zenaida dove; Key West quail-dove; Burrowing owl; Green-breasted mango; Grey kingbird; Cuban pewee; Caribbean martin; Pearly-eyed thrasher; Palm warbler, and Grey trembler

Turkey: April 2-11, 2010 Common buzzard; Marsh harrier; Levant sparrowhawk; Lesser kestrel; Peregrine; White stork; Ring-necked parakeet; Grey heron; Little owl; Common hoopoe; Common magpie; Great tit; Goldfinch; Chiffchaff; Coal tit; Sombre tit; Desert lark; Crested lark; Whinchat; Northern wheatear; Willow sparrow; Reed bunting, and White-winged snow finch

Garden City Golf Club: May 4, 2010 (lunch break) Common yellowthroat; Ovenbird; Pine warbler; Grey catbird; Hairy woodpecker; Eastern kingbird; Rose-breasted grosbeak, and Hermit thrush

Garden City Golf Club, Wednesday, May 5, 2010 (lunch break) Yellow-rumped warbler; Black-throated blue warbler; Ovenbird; Blackpoll warbler, and Black-and-white warbler

Garden City Golf Club: May 7, 2010 (lunch break) Northern parula; American redstart, and Red-bellied woodpecker

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: May 9, 2010 Windy evening with a chill and mostly grey light. Two Carolina wren; House wren; Magnolia warbler; Eastern kingbird; American redstart; Black-capped chickadee; Hermit thrush; Ovenbird, and Eastern towhee

Central Park, Wednesday: May 12, 2010 Cloudy, bad light, grey, drizzle. Hermit thrush; Ovenbird; Louisiana waterthrush; Northern waterthrush; Common yellowthroat; American redstart; Hooded warbler (female); Nashville warbler; Blue-winged warbler; Canada warbler; Black-and-white warbler;, and Blue jay

Garden City Golf Club: May 13, 2010 (lunch break) Northern parula; Magnolia warbler; Yellow-rumped warbler; Black-and-white warbler; Chipping sparrow; Baltimore oriole, and Hermit thrush

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: May 14, 2010 (late afternoon) Black-throated green warbler; Dark-eyed junco; Cedar waxwing; Chimney swift, and Veery

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA; May 15, 2010 (7 a.m.-1 p.m.) Glorious day, 59 species in total. Blackburnian warbler; Cape May warbler; Least flycatcher; Northern flicker; Red-bellied woodpecker; Eastern wood-peewee; Bay-breasted warbler; Mourning warbler; Green heron; Red-tailed hawk; Ruby-throated hummingbird; Nashville warbler; Tennessee warbler; Chestnut-sided warbler; Black-and-white warbler; Northern parula; Yellow-rumped warbler; Black-throated blue warbler; Ovenbird; Swainson's thrush; Grey-cheeked thrush; Canada warbler; White-eyed vireo; Red-eyed vireo; Scarlet tanager; Baltimore oriole; Yellow-breasted flycatcher; Great-crested flycatcher; Magnolia warbler; Blackpoll warbler; Wilson's warbler; American redstart; Common yellowthroat; Louisiana waterthrush; Northern waterthrush; Brown-headed cowbird; Indigo bunting; Yellow-bellied flycatcher; White-throated sparrow; White-breasted nuthatch, and Yellow-throated vireo

Central Park, New York: May 15, 2010 (8 a.m.–1 p.m.) Canada warbler; Bay-breasted warbler; Cape May warbler; Black-and-white warbler; Black-throated blue warbler; Ruby-throated hummingbird; Magnolia warbler; Yellow-rumped warbler; Canada warbler; Black-crowned night heron; American redstart; Northern parula; Northern waterthrush; Ovenbird; Common Yellowthroat; Red-eyed vireo; Blackburnian warbler; Baltimore oriole; Great northern diver; Rose-breasted grosbeak; Scarlet tanager; Eastern wood-pewee; Swainson's thrush, and Solitary sandpiper

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: May 22, 2010 (early afternoon) Olive-sided flycatcher; Canada warbler; Semipalmated sandpiper; Red-winged blackbird; Swainson's thrush; Blackpoll warbler; Common yellowthroat, and Magnolia warbler

Wilton and Branchville, Conn, and Doodletown, New York: May 27, 2010 Swamp sparrow; Song sparrow; Black-crowned night-heron; White-breasted nuthatch; Wild turkey; Common raven; Louisiana waterthrush; Blue-grey gnatcatcher; Eastern phoebe, and Eastern wood-peewee

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, Broad Channel, Queens, New York: May 30, 2010 Osprey; Great egret; Snowy egret ; Yellow-crowned night heron; Glossy ibis; Black duck; Forster's tern; Laughing gull; Willet; Dunlin; Sanderling; Semipalmated plover; Grey catbird; Yellow warbler; Great crested flycatcher; Song sparrow; Tree swallow; Cedar waxwing;

Black-throated blue warbler; Eastern towhee; Wood thrush; Oystercatcher; Great blue heron, and Short-billed dowitcher

Curaçao: June 2-6, 2010 American kestrel; Bananaquit; Bare-eyed pigeon; Black-faced grassquit; Blue-tailed emerald; Brown-crested flycatcher; Brown pelican; Brown-throated parakeet; Crested bobwhite; Crested caracara; Common ground-dove; Eared dove; Green heron; Groove-billed ani; Magnificent frigatebird; Neotropical cormorant; Northern scrub-flycatcher; Osprey; Red-necked pigeon Ruby-topaz hummingbird; Rufous-collared sparrow; Saffron finch; Scaly-naped pigeon; Small-billed elaenia; Tropical mockingbird; Troupial; White-tipped dove; Yellow oriole, and Yellow warbler

Northern coast and Tayrona National Park, Colombia: August 2010 Bicoloured wren; Brown-throated parakeet; Little blue heron; Russet-throated puffbird; Southern nightingale-wren; White-tailed starfrontlet; Long-tailed hermit; Mouse-colored tyrannulet; Zone-tailed hawk; Chestnut piculet; Southern lapwing, and Crimson-crested woodpecker

Aruba: August 2010 American kestrel; Bananaquit; Bare-eyed pigeon; Black-faced grassquit; Black-necked stilt; Brown-throated parakeet; Burrowing owl; Green heron; Groove-billed ani; Magnificent frigatebird; Neotropical cormorant; Rufous-collared sparrow; Tropical mockingbird; Troupial; White-tipped dove; Yellow oriole, and Whimbrel
Grenada: September 2010 Antillean crested hummingbird; Grenada flycatcher; Cocoa thrush, and Broad-winged hawk

Ebber Gorge and Cheddar Reservoir, Somerset: Nov. 26, 2010 Wigeon; Mute swan; Tufted duck; Coot; Moorhen; Great-crested grebe; Little grebe; Pochard; Nuthatch; Goldcrest; Bullfinch; Treecreeper; Common raven; Common buzzard; Kestrel; Red kite; Carrion crow; Rook; Goldcrest; Great-spotted woodpecker; Greenfinch; Chaffinch; Blue tit; Great tit; Long-tailed tit; Pheasant, and Fieldfare

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: Dec. 11, 2010 In the Maintenance Yard area of central Park, a Varied thrush, second for me and certainly the first on the East Coast. This bird has been here for a week, and it stayed for approximately two weeks afterwards. Great views in good sunshine

Martha's Vineyard, Mass., USA: March 24-27, 2011 Northern cardinal; Common grackle; Starling; House sparrow; Mallard; White-winged scoter; Shore lark (50+); Savannah sparrow (six); Eider; American black duck; Goldeneye (four); **NORTHERN HARRIER** (new species for US); Osprey (four, and the first week they came back, apparently); Great egret; Red-tailed hawk; Merlin; Double-crested cormorant; Bufflehead; Song sparrow; White-breasted nuthatch; Blue jay; American goldfinch; Great northern diver; Hooded merganser; Red-breasted merganser (many); Greater black-backed gull; Ring-billed gull; Herring gull; Oystercatcher; Sanderling; Grey plover; Dunlin; Scaup; Black-capped chickadee; Northern flicker; Red-bellied woodpecker; American crow; Mute swan; Carolina wren (three); House wren, and Mourning dove

Columbia Bottom Conservation Area, St. Louis County, Mo., USA; April 6, 2011 Peregrine; Red-tailed hawk; Cooper's hawk; **WILSON'S SNIPE** (new species for US); Killdeer; American goldfinch; Lesser yellowlegs; Greater yellowlegs; Brown thrasher; Blue-winged teal; Grey heron, and Shoveler

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: April 17, 2011 A little windy, but sunny. First day of birding, in the late afternoon, in new spring-migration year. Hermit thrush; Brown creeper; Pine warbler; Palm warbler; Common yellowthroat; Northern parula. Also, Peregrine flying over edge of Green Wood Cemetery

Havana, Viñales, and Trinidad, Cuba: April 21-May 1, 2011 Cuban trogon; Cuban tody; West Indian woodpecker; Cuban pewee; Cuban bullfinch; Cuban emerald; Cuban green woodpecker; Northern mockingbird; Giant kingbird; Loggerhead kingbird; Killdeer; Cuban martin; Turkey vulture; Black vulture; Red-tailed hawk; Red-shouldered blackbird; Cuban grassquit; Red-winged blackbird; Tawny-shouldered blackbird; American kestrel; Western spindalis; Red-legged thrush; Common black hawk; Grey kingbird; Yellow warbler; White-collared swift; Cuban blackbird; Cattle egret; Great egret; Green heron; Tricoloured heron; Great blue heron; Black-necked stilt; Least grebe; Brown pelican; Neotropic cormorant; Magnificent frigatebird; Little blue heron; Snowy egret; Helmeted guineafowl; Purple gallinule; Laughing gull; Cuban crow; Yellow-throated vireo, and Great Antillean grackle

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: May 8, 2011 66 species total, including 21 warblers. American redstart (male and female); Bay-breasted warbler (on Lookout Hill, two paths above Wellhouse); Black-and-white warbler; Black-throated blue warbler (male and female); Black-throated green warbler (male and female); Blue-winged warbler (near Lullwater Bridge); Cape May warbler (saw four; one birder saw five and heard eight); Chestnut-sided warbler; Common yellowthroat; Hooded warbler (west of Wellhouse; for 15 minutes or so in full view on path); Louisiana waterthrush (Lower Pool); Magnolia warbler; Nashville warbler; Northern parula (male and female); Northern waterthrush (five); Ovenbird; Pine warbler (Quaker Cemetery); Tennessee warbler (Quaker Cemetery); Worm-eating warbler (immediately south of Quaker Cemetery and, later, west side of Lookout Hill; probably same bird); Yellow warbler, and Yellow-rumped warbler. Other species were Black-capped chickadee; Blue-grey gnatcatcher; Eastern kingbird; Great-crested flycatcher; Green heron; Hermit thrush. House wren; Indigo bunting (male); Northern flicker; Northern oriole; Northern rough-winged swallow; Peregrine; Pine siskin; White-breasted nuthatch; Red-eyed vireo; Red-tailed hawk; Rose-breasted grosbeak; Scarlet tanager; Spotted sandpiper; Veery, and Wood thrush

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA; May 14, 2011 50 species total; harder birding today, leaden light. Northern parula; Yellow warbler; Chestnut-sided warbler; Magnolia warbler; Black-throated blue warbler; Black-throated green warbler; Yellow-rumped warbler; Cape May warbler; Blackpoll warbler; Black-and-white warbler; American redstart; Ovenbird; Common yellowthroat; Yellow-breasted chat (second one ever; first in well over 10 years); Red-eyed vireo; Warbling vireo; Blue-headed vireo; Yellow-throated vireo; Orchard oriole (male and female); Baltimore oriole; Scarlet tanager; Peregrine; Red-tailed hawk; Chimney swift; Veery; Rose-breasted grosbeak (male and female); Hairy woodpecker, and Downy woodpecker

Grand Canyon, Ariz., USA: May 21-23, 2011 Before, during and after my rim-to-rim-to-rum run across and back across the Grand Canyon with my friend Alex Mittnacht—American crow; American dipper; Black phoebe; **BLACK-THROATED SPARROW** (new species for US); Black vulture; Broad-tailed hummingbird. **CANYON WREN** (new species for US); **CASSIN'S VIREO** (new species for US); **CLARK'S NUTCRACKER** (new species for US); Common raven; **GRACE'S WARBLER** (new species for US); **LUCY'S WARBLER** (new species for US); **PIÑON JAY** (new species for US); Pygmy nuthatch; Say's phoebe;

Spotted towhee; Steller's jay; Vermilion flycatcher; Western bluebird; Western sandpiper; Western scrub-jay; Western tanager; **WHITE-THROATED SWIFT** (new species for US); **YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD** (new species for US), and Yellow-rumped warbler

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: May 28, 2011 Very quiet, marking the end of the season. Cedar waxwing (four); male Orchard oriole; Northern waterthrush, and Red-eyed vireo

Rockefeller State Park, Sleepy Hollow, NY, USA: June 9, 2011 Wonderful views of perched, singing Kentucky warbler; also, Blue-winged warbler and several Rufous-sided towhee

St. Kitts and Nevis: July 13-July 16, 2011 Magnificent frigatebird; Brown pelican; Little tern; Kentish (Snowy) plover; American kestrel; Red-winged hawk; Green-throated carib; Bridled quail-dove; Grey kingbird; Yellow-crowned night-heron; Great-blue heron; Black-necked stilt; Purple gallinule; Cattle egret; Turnstone; Snowy egret; Semipalmated plover; Sanderling; Zenaida dove; Common ground-dove; Scaly-naped pigeon; Antillean crested hummingbird; Lesser Antillean flycatcher; Caribbean martin; Tropical mockingbird; Scaly-breasted thrasher; Palm warbler; Black-faced grassquit, and Lesser Antillean bullfinch

Coney Island, Brooklyn, NY, USA: July 31, 2011 An absolute star has come to American soil for only its second-ever recording, a **GREY-HOODED GULL** (new species for US), sitting on a lamppost or on the beach and occasionally squabbling with Laughing gull. Many birders—to the amusement of beachgoers—including one who had flown in from Chicago. Brilliant views

Manitou/Garrison, Hudson Valley, NY, USA: Sept. 4, 2011 Red-bellied woodpecker; Downy woodpecker; Hairy woodpecker; Pileated woodpecker; White-breasted nuthatch; Red-shouldered hawk; Tennessee warbler; Black-throated green warbler; Black-capped chickadee, and Red-eyed vireo

Providenciales and North Caicos, Turks & Caicos Islands: Oct. 7-12, 2011 Black-winged stilt; White-crowned pigeon; White-cheeked pintail; Royal tern; Caribbean elaenia; American kestrel; Tricoloured heron; Yellow-crowned night heron; Black-crowned night heron; Green heron; American flamingo; Yellow-billed cuckoo (probably at least 40 on North Caicos alone); West Indian whistling duck; Osprey; Kentish plover; Bahama woodstar (on North Caicos); Eastern wood peewee; Grey kingbird; Bahama mockingbird; Yellow-throated warbler (on my balcony), and Brown pelican

Central Park, New York City, NY, USA: Nov. 25, 2011 Went to see the reported Black-throated grey warbler, but to no avail; I did see an Orange-crowned warbler, though, low to the ground, flitting and feeding around a bush

Central Park, New York City, NY, USA: Dec. 28, 2011 Barred owl, only my second, with great views in the Pinetum area alongside the Great Lawn

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: Dec. 30, 2011 Sharp-shinned hawk and Great blue heron

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, USA: Jan. 2, 2012 Downy woodpecker; Hairy woodpecker; red-bellied woodpecker; White-breasted nuthatch; House finch; Pied grebe; Hooded merganser, and Red-tailed hawk

Central Japan: Feb. 11-19, 2012 American wigeon; Mallard; Eastern Spot-billed duck; Shoveler; Common pochard; Tufted duck; Goosander; Little grebe; Grey heron; Little egret; Temminck's cormorant; Cormorant; Merlin; Black-eared kite; Golden eagle; Turnstone (wintering). Japanese pygmy woodpecker; Great spotted woodpecker; Bull-headed shrike; Eurasian jay; Azure-winged magpie; Carrion crow; Large-billed crow; Eastern great tit; Coal tit; Varied tit; Long-tailed tit; Brown-eared bulbul; Red-billed leiothrix; Eurasian nuthatch; White-cheeked starling; Dusky thrush; Daurian redstart; Brown dipper; Eurasian tree sparrow; White wagtail, and Japanese wagtail

American Museum of Natural History, Manhattan, New York, USA: Feb. 28, 2012 Rufous hummingbird seen at feeder (the bird has miraculously wintered in New York City, in a mild winter; this being my first Eastern Seaboard sighting of this species) at 4:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.; fed at feeder, perched on nearby branches and sallied once into the air

High Weald Way, Kent/Sussex: April 15, 2012 One Yellowhammer near Groombridge, followed by five or six along a hedgerow near Frant

Palazzo, Marche, Italy: July 2012 Short-toed eagle

Shapwick March, Somerset: September 1, 2012 **LITTLE EGRET** (new species for the U.K.) and **OSPREY** (new species for U.K.). (Also, Slow worm and Adder)

Hyde Park, London: February 2, 2013 First for Central London, two Bearded tit; also, Fieldfare and Redwing

Ethiopia: March 23-April 6, 2013 (some birds seen in more than one location)

Addis Ababa—Wattled ibis; Black kite; Hooded vulture; Lappet-faced vulture; African paradise flycatcher; Speckled mousebird; Grey-headed batis; Olive sunbird; Tacazze sunbird; Brown-rumped seedeater, and Streaky seedeater

Lalibela and Lalibela Hudad—Lammergeyer; Brown snake-eagle; African hawk-eagle; African white-backed vulture; Rueppel's griffon; Fox-kestrel; Chestnut-naped francolin; Moorland francolin; Speckled pigeon; White-collared pigeon; Western turtle-dove; Ring-necked dove; African mourning dove; Black-winged lovebird; Mottled swift; Little bee-eater; Blue-breasted bee-eater; Blue-cheeked bee-eater; Cinnamon-chested bee-eater; Hemprich's hornbill; Abyssinian ground hornbill; Grey woodpecker; Red-capped lark; Rufous-naped lark; African pied wagtail; Rueppel's black chat; Sombre rock-chat; Mocking chat; Black cap (male and female); Lesser whitethroat; Groundscraper thrush; Winding cisticola; Brown parisoma; White-backed black tit; Variable sunbird; Red-chested sunbird; Marico sunbird; African black-headed oriole; Fan-tailed raven; Red-winged starling; White-billed starling; Greater blue-eared glossy starling; Rueppel's long-tailed starling; Grey-headed sparrow; Socotra sparrow; Black-headed weaver; Little weaver; Baglafaecht weaver; Red-cheeked cordon-bleu, and Ethiopian siskin

Great Rift Valley—Ostrich; Cormorant; Reed cormorant; Great white pelican; Pink-backed pelican; Black-headed heron; Hamerkop; Marabou; White-faced whistling-duck; Maccoa duck; Yellow-billed duck; African fish-eagle; Red-knobbed coot; Spur-winged lapwing; Grey go-away bird; Red-billed hornbill; African palm swift; Pied kingfisher; Woodland kingfisher;

Von der Decken's hornbill; Red-rumped swallow; Thrush-nightingale; Olive thrush; Long-tailed fiscal; Common fiscal; White-browed sparrow-weaver, and Red-eyed dove

Bale Mountains/Harena Forest—Sacred ibis; Egyptian goose; Spur-winged goose; Blue-winged goose; Ruddy shelduck; Augur buzzard; Tawny eagle; Steppe eagle; Rouget's rail; Spot-breasted plover; Grey-headed gull; Olive pigeon; Blue-naped mousebird; Silvery-cheeked hornbill; Thekla lark; Abyssinian longclaw; Common bulbul; Common camaroptera; African paradise monarch; Tropical boubou; Thick-billed raven; African drongo, and Yellow-bellied waxbill

Awash National Park—African harrier-hawk; Crested francolin; Helmeted guineafowl; Arabian bustard; Kori bustard; Wood sandpiper; Laughing dove; White-rumped swift; Little swift; Olive bee-eater; White-winged cliff chat; African rook; White-headed buffalo-weaver, and Rosy-patched bush-shrike

Other areas—Little egret; White stork (near to Sof Omar Caves); White-cheeked turaco (near to Gelesso); Black-billed wood-hoopoe (on the road to Dinsho); Mosque swallow (village of Sheikh Hussein); Abyssinian white-eye (Harer); Bristle-crowned starling (Sof Omar Caves); Shelley's starling (on the road to Harer); Golden-breasted starling (near to the Wabe Shebele River); Chestnut sparrow (Harer); Yellow-throated petronia (Harer), and Red-billed firefinch (Harer)

(Also, Oryx; Boror's reedbuck; Warthog; Olive baboon; Geleda baboon; Bale monkey; Vervet monkey; Colobus monkey; Mountain nyala; Lesser kudu; Ethiopian wolf; Abyssinian hare; Giant mole rat; Black-backed jackal; Salt's dik dik; Camel, and Hippopotamus)

Dulwich Park, London: April 15, 2013 In the American Garden, numerous Willow warbler; Greenfinch; Long-tailed tit; Coal tit; Blue tit; Great tit; Ring-necked parakeet, and male **PIED FLYCATCHER** (new species for U.K.), I believe the first to be seen in London in 2013

Rome, Italy: April 25-May 3, 2013 Sardinian warbler

Hampshire: May 4-6, 2013 New Forest—Cuckoo; Stonechat, and Skylark

Buckler's Hard—Curlew

Ovington—Grey wagtail

Weeting Heath, Norfolk / Lakenheath Fen, Suffolk: May 26, 2013

Weeting Heath—**STONE CURLEW** (new species for U.K.) and Green woodpecker

Lakenheath Fen—**EURASIAN CRANE** (new species for UK); male **RED-FOOTED FALCON** (new species for U.K.); **CETTI'S WARBLER** (new species for U.K.); Cuckoo; Bittern; Reed bunting; Greater spotted woodpecker; Sedge warbler; Garden warbler; Lesser whitethroat; Whitethroat; Hobby (five or six); Great crested grebe; Linnet; Bearded tit; Common buzzard; Rook; Jackdaw

Brandon—Mandarin duck

Peckham Rye Park, London: June 3, 2013 Female **LONG-TAILED DUCK** (new species for UK) and about 10 feet away in the most unlikely spot, a very small pond in an ornamental garden in a suburban park

Chew Valley Lake, Somerset: December 7, 2013 **BLACK-THROATED DIVER** (new species for U.K.); two **PINK-FOOTED GOOSE** (new species for U.K.); another Long-tailed duck; Red-breasted merganser; Goosander; Common gull; Teal; Mistle thrush; Little

egret; Redwing; Grey wagtail; Little grebe; Great-crested grebe, and Cormorant with a fishing hook through its beak on which was hooked a fish

Sydenham Woods, London: December 19, 2013 FIRECREST (new species for U.K.), just up the hill from my home

Cleveland, Ohio: January 5-11, 2014 Bitterly cold, with two days being -33°C. **SNOWY OWL** (new species for US); **GLAUCOUS GULL** (new species for US); **ICELAND GULL** (new species for US); Thayer's gull, a new subspecies for me, of Iceland gull; possibly 3,000 Red-breasted merganser; several hundred Goosander, and Rough-legged buzzard

Broadmead Brook, near Marshfield, Gloucestershire: February 22, 2014 RED-FLANKED BLUETAIL (new species for U.K.), most likely, male, with blue seemingly increasing along rump and back; yellowhammer, and Common raven. (Also, at the Folly Farm Centre, Stowey, my first time seeing Badger, at dusk, one dominant male emerging from sett for one-minute merely to, seemingly, mark its territory before disappearing back underground

Pangbourne and Goring/Streatley, Berkshire and Oxfordshire: April 18-19, 2014 Red kite; Kestrel; Reed bunting, Lapwing; first Swallow of year; Cuckoo (heard, first of year); Treecreeper; Nuthatch; Red-legged partridge; Chiffchaff, and Blackcap. (Also, Hare; Grass snake; and Slow worm)

Skye, Inner Hebrides, and Fortingall area, mainland Scotland: July 5-19, 2014
Skye—Common greenshank; Common sandpiper; Common raven; **WHITE-TAILED EAGLE** (new species for U.K.); **GOLDEN EAGLE** (new species for U.K.); Gannet; Northern fulmar; **RED-THROATED DIVER** (new species for U.K.); **BLACK GUILLEMOT** (new species for U.K.); Guillemot; **RAZORBILL** (new species for U.K.); Cormorant; **SHAG** (new species for U.K.); Grey wagtail; Pied wagtail; female Cuckoo; Oystercatcher; Wheatear; House martin; Jackdaw; Hooded crow; Skylark; Grey heron; Greater black-backed gull; Lesser black-backed gull; Common gull; Common tern; Arctic tern; Chaffinch; Goldfinch; Rock pipit; Meadow pipit; Water pipit; Whinchat; Stonechat; Swallow; Common redpoll; Twite; **KITTIWAKE** (new species for U.K.); Corn bunting; Kestrel; Common buzzard; Wren, and Rock dove. (Also: flowers: Common spotted orchid; Northern marsh orchid; Bog asphodel, and Lesser heath orchid. Animals: Common seal; Grey seal; Red deer; Six-spotted burnet, and Common rustic)

Fortingall—Raven; Grey wagtail; Pied wagtail; Oystercatcher; Wheatear; House martin; Jackdaw; Hooded crow; Skylark; Meadow pipit; Whinchat; Stonechat; Swallow; Common buzzard; Wren; Pheasant; Common partridge; Treecreeper; Red-legged partridge; Goldcrest; Greater spotted woodpecker; Eurasian siskin, and **COMMON CROSSBILL** (new species for U.K.). (Also: animals: Red deer; Red squirrel; Pine marten (in woods at start of Glen Lyon)

Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, USA August 8-20, 2014

Kentucky and Tennessee—Eastern meadowlark; Indigo bunting, and Savannah sparrow. (Also, Bison and Elk)

Ohio—Cedar waxwing; Solitary sandpiper; Tricoloured heron, and Green heron

Alexandra Palace, London: August 31, 2014 WRYNECK (new species for U.K.); Redstart, Spotted flycatcher, Chiffchaff; Common whitethroat, and Whinchat

Dunbar to North Berwick, East Lothian, and Edinburgh, Scotland: December 6, 2014
ROUGH-LEGGED BUZZARD (new species for U.K.); Goldeneye; red-breasted merganser; Goosander; Teal; Eider; Stonechat; Wren; Yellowhammer; Goldcrest; Goldfinch; Chaffinch; Kittiwake; Purple sandpiper; Curlew; Lapwing; Redshank; Greenshank; Knot; Chiffchaff; Grey wagtail; Oystercatcher; Ringed plover; Rook; Kestrel; Pheasant, and Little grebe

Hydra, Greece: October 2015 Blue-rock thrush

Somerset: December 12-14, 2014 **GREAT EGRET** (new species for U.K.); Little egret (five at Chew Valley Lake); Kingfisher; Goosander; Red-breasted merganser; Bittern; Goldeneye; Sparrowhawk; Common buzzard, and Red-breasted goose, considered likely escape or from a feral population

Cleveland, Ohio: January, 2015 Bitterly cold, but not as bad as January 2014, in the low - 20s°C. **ARCTIC REDPOLL** (new species for US), at lighthouse at Wendy Park, Cleveland. Also, Snowy owl, with an excellent view on top of mast near Mentor-on-the-Lake by Lake Erie

Malta, Gozo and Camino, Malta: May 7-12, 2015 Blue rock thrush; Sardinian warbler; Spectacled warbler; Spanish sparrow; Spotted flycatcher, and Icterine warbler in mist netting station on Comino

Somerset Levels: May 15-16, 2015 Great egret (two, most likely nesting); Little egret; Marsh harrier; Hobby (at least 30); Sedge warbler; Reed warbler; Blackcap; Common whitethroat; Barn owl, and Dipper

Toledo and surroundings, Spain: November 7-8, 2015 Great bustard (30-35 individuals); Eurasian crane (250-300 individuals); Pallid harrier; Spoonbill (10); White stork (six); Fan-tailed warbler; Stonechat; Pochard; Marsh harrier; Red kite (three); Corn bunting; Red-legged partridge; Great crested grebe, and Little grebe

Rainham Marshes RSPB Reserve, Purfleet, Essex: November 15, 2015 **WATER PIPIT** (new species for U.K.); Meadow pipit; Stonechat; Pintail; Teal; Gadwall, and Snipe

Albufera Marshes, Valencia, Spain: January 2, 2016 Crag martin, 40 or so, and one Swallow well out of season. Also, Glossy ibis; Kingfisher; Black redstart (three); Redstart; Chiffchaff; Red-legged partridge; Black-necked stilt; Cattle egret; Little egret; Great egret; Grey heron; Marsh harrier; Shoveler; Shelduck, and Meadow pipit

Cleveland and area, Ohio: January 9, 2016 Unseasonably warm. **BRAMBLING** (new species for US; 2nd state record for Ohio), Remsen Road, near Allardale Park, at bird feeder of a house standing alone in Granger Township near to Medina; female **KING EIDER** (new species for US) on Lake Erie off Euclid; also, there a Slavonian grebe); **BLACK-HEADED GULL** (new species for US; amusing, considering how many million probably seen in Europe, with U.S. birders understandably very excited, at Wendy Park, Cleveland. Lastly, off-season sighting of Ovenbird in downtown Cleveland at Chester Avenue and 12th Street

Al Ain, United Arab Emirates: February 6-7, 2016 Bank myna; Bimaculated lark; Black-winged kite; Blue rock thrush; Roller; Graceful prinia; Arabian green bee-eater; Grey francolin; Hoopoe; Hume's wheatear; Indian silverbill; Masked wagtail; Pale martin; Purple sunbird; Redstart; Red-tailed wheatear; Red-vented bulbul; Red-wattled lapwing, and White-eared bulbul

Beddington Sewage Farm, Hackbridge, Surrey: February 14, 2016 Slightly overcast with sunny intervals; not too chilly. **YELLOW-LEGGED GULL** (new species for U.K.), and Redpoll

Iceland (Reykjavik area): February 29-March 2, 2016 Redpoll; Redwing; Eider; Long-tailed duck (first time seeing males of the species); Whooper swan; Pink-footed goose; Glaucous gull; Great skua; Iceland gull; Northern fulmar, and Eider subspecies (*Somateria mollissima borealis*)

Germany (from train on way from Berlin to Prague): March 5, 2016 Approximately 50 Eurasian crane

Saint-Saphorin to Lutry, Switzerland: March 13, 2016 Dipper

Southwark Park, Surrey Docks, London: April 3, 2016 Shoveler; female Common scoter; two Grey wagtail, and two Little grebe

Crossness Nature Reserve, Belvedere, Kent: April 10, 2016 **RING OUZEL** (new species for U.K.); Kestrel; Teal, and Shelduck

Brent Reservoir, Hendon, London: April 17, 2016 **YELLOW-BROWED WARBLER** (new species for U.K.), seen at 11 a.m. after 90-minute wait. The bird was seen in this location for almost two weeks, but this was the last time it was seen; it is believed to be the same individual that turned up for a week in December

Puglia, Italy: April 30-May 3, 2016 Punta Prosciutto—Pied flycatcher; Spotted flycatcher; Wood sandpiper, in our rented house's very small pond; Willow warbler; Squacco heron; Whinchat; Stonechat, and Yellowhammer—15 Kestrel all hovering above the same field

Otford, Kent: May 10, 2016 **RUFOUS TURTLE DOVE** (new species for U.K.) at the corner of The Butts and The Old Walk; 12th recorded sighting for the U.K.; Nightingale in wooded area to the back of houses

Hodder's Combe, Quantocks, Somerset: May 20, 2016 **WOOD WARBLER** (new species for U.K.). three or four seen, excellent views from above the bird on two occasions; male singing heartily); Pied flycatcher, male and female around nest boxes; male Redstart; Cuckoo (one seen, three or four heard); Garden warbler; Treecreeper; Greater spotted woodpecker; Green woodpecker; Spotted flycatcher, and Kestrel

Beverley Brook, Barnes, London: May 22, 2016 **IBERIAN CHIFFCHAFF** (new species for U.K.; seen well; called only once, sort of a half call); also, Wren; nesting Blackcap

London Wetland Centre, Barnes, London: May 28, 2016 Little ringed plover; Sand martin; House martin, and Lapwing. (Also, Bee orchid)

Thursley Common, Surrey: May 29, 2016 WOODLARK (new species for U.K.; pair of Linnet (pair), and Stonechat. The intention was to find Dartford warbler, which are present here, but no luck

London Wetland Centre, Barnes, London: June 4, 2016 Sand martin; Lapwing; Cetti's warbler; Reed warbler; Whitethroat; Reed bunting; Green woodpecker, and Common tern, but no sign all day of Little bittern, which had been present for six days (it was not seen since)

River Colne, Wivenhoe, and adjacent woodland, Essex: June 5, 2016 Shelduck; Common tern; Whitethroat; Reed bunting; Linnet; Yellowhammer; Greenfinch, and Chaffinch

Brent Reservoir, Hendon, London: June 11, 2016 SPOTTED SANDPIPER (new species for U.K.) seen from hide after about 15 minutes' wait. Was seen all day after first being reported early in the morning, but it was not seen on the 12 June or thereafter. Also, Little-ringed plover; pair of Stock dove, and Green sandpiper

Timsbury, Greylake and Collard Hill (The Poldens), Somerset Levels: June 25, 2016 Great egret; Little egret; Glossy ibis (x2); Marsh harrier; Cuckoo; Redshank; Garden warbler (brief views); Reed warbler; Cetti's warbler; Kestrel, and Buzzard. (Also, Shrew; Grass snake; Large blue (butterfly); Marbled white; Small magpie ... also in moth trap: Eared hawkmoth; Elephant hawkmoth; Privet hawkmoth; Burnished brass; Heart and dart; Buff ermine; Buff arches; Silver Y, and Mottled beauty)

Staines Reservoir, Middlesex: July 16, 2016 BLACK-NECKED GREBE (new species for U.K.), in summer plumage; four Linnet, and Common tern

Mendip Hills, Somerset, and other local sites: July 30-31, 2016 Mostly sunny, warm but not hot; searching for butterflies, with 23 species seen, seven of which were new to me. Red kite; female Redstart; two pairs of Bullfinch, one male sallying from and to branch; Raven; Buzzard; Kestrel; Coal tit; Blackcap, and Long-tailed tit

Suffolk and Norfolk: August 6-7, 2016

Minsmere RSPB Reserve—No sign of the Purple swamphen, which is the first for U.K. and had been seen the evening before, but **WATER RAIL** (new species for U.K.);

MEDITERRANEAN GULL (new species for UK), and two Lesser whitethroat

Dunwich Heath—**DARTFORD WARBLER** (new species for U.K.)

Titchwell RSPB Reserve—**SPOONBILL** (new species for U.K.); juvenile Bearded tit; Ruff, and Black-tailed godwit

Ohio, USA: September 9-11, 2016

McGee Marsh, Port Clinton—Black-throated blue warbler; American redstart; Blackpoll warbler; Sandhill crane; Great blue heron; Tricoloured heron; Black-capped chickadee; Bald eagle; Ruby-throated hummingbird; American goldfinch; House finch, and Red-winged blackbird

Wendy Park, Cleveland—Yellow warbler; Magnolia warbler; Bay-breasted warbler; Blackpoll warbler; Black-and-white warbler; American redstart; Tennessee warbler; Cape May warbler; Blackburnian warbler; Yellow-bellied flycatcher; Willow flycatcher; Swainson's thrush; Northern flicker; Warbling vireo, and Caspian tern

Lakefront Reserve, Cleveland—Common yellowthroat; Wilson's warbler; Connecticut warbler; Cape May warbler; Blackburnian warbler; Magnolia warbler; Bay-breasted warbler; Blackpoll warbler; Canada warbler; Red-eyed vireo; Swainson's thrush; Northern flicker; Warbling vireo; Black-crowned night-heron, and Ruby-throated hummingbird

Prospect Park, Brooklyn, New York, USA: September 20, 2016 Virginia rail seen after three attempts, in phragmites reeds close to the Wheelhouse. Good views for perhaps two minutes only

Brent Reservoir, Hendon, London: October 1, 2016 FERRUGINOUS DUCK (new species for U.K.), a drake; Pintail; Shoveler; Pochard, and Chiffchaff

Rainham RSPB Reserve, Purfleet, Essex: October 8, 2016 Jack snipe; Snipe; Little egret; Lapwing; Wigeon; Teal; Shelduck; Shoveler; Little grebe; Stonechat, and Reed bunting. (Also. weasel and a very accommodating Water vole)

Rainham RSPB Reserve, Purfleet, Essex: October 23, 2016 CATTLE EGRET (new species for U.K.), took some searching for but, first, a distance view, and, then, quite close views; Kingfisher; Raven; Little egret; Barn owl; Reed bunting, and Stonechat and Whinchat in the same binoculars' frame

Cam Valley, Somerset, and other local sites: November 5-7, 2016 Dipper (near Combe Hay); Redwing (30 or 40); possible Waxwing (Timsbury; saw bird of right size and movement, with a pale, yellowish band at base of tail, but not possible to confirm); Lesser yellowlegs (Cheddar Reservoir; 2nd ever for me in U.K.); first time seeing trilogy of egrets, Cattle (Westhay Moor), Great white (ditto) and Little egret; Water rail (Westhay Moor), and Marsh harrier

Rome, Italy: Christmas to New Year's 2017 Treecreeper and several Black redstart

Broadfield, near Crawley, West Sussex: January 7, 2017 On Beachy Road, a suburban street, **ROSE-COLOURED STARLING** (new species for U.K.), a first-year bird, but one that appears to be moulting fast, with pinkish tones emerging and speckled, black throat

Poulter Park, Mitcham, and Beddington Sewage Farm, Hackbridge, Surrey: January 14, 2017 Siberian chiffchaff (new sub-species for U.K.), two examples along River Wandle; also, Chiffchaff; Grey wagtail; Pied wagtail, and **CASPIAN GULL** (new species for U.K.)

Canonbury, London: January 15, 2017 22 Waxwing (I went to see them on 14 January, but dipped); miserable weather, but very regular sightings on the same two berry trees on Poet's Road. (First Waxwing sighting for me for more than 30 years)

Liwa, Western Regions and Abu Dhabi, Yas Island golf course, United Arab Emirates: February 2017 Alexandrine parakeet; Hoopoe; Bluethroat; Golden plover; Whimbrel; Curlew; Greenshank; Bar-tailed godwit; Black-winged stilt; Bimaculated lark; Black-eared wheatear; Chestnut-bellied sandgrouse; Desert warbler; Desert wheatear; Graceful prinia; Greater flamingo; Greater sand plover; Green sandpiper; Grey francolin; Grey hypocolius; Isabelline wheatear; Laughing dove; Lesser grey shrike; Oriental skylark; Red-vented bulbul; Red-wattled lapwing; Rufous-tailed shrike; Tree pipit; Western reef-egret; Honey buzzard, and Eastern black redstart

London Wetland Centre, Barnes, London: February 11, 2017 Green woodpecker; two Bittern, one flying after losing a squabble, and Pintail

Rainham RSPB Reserve, Purfleet, Essex: February 12, 2017 Avocet (14); two Short-eared owl; four Snipe, and Black-tailed godwit

Brent Reservoir, Hendon, London: March 16, 2017 RING-NECKED DUCK (new species for U.K.), a drake; Scaup; Pintail; Shoveler; Teal, and Gadwall

Dungeness RSPB Reserve, Lydd, Kent: March 19, 2017 Very blustery. Ring-necked duck (yes, a second); **LONG-EARED OWL** (new species for U.K.); **ICELAND GULL** (new species for U.K.); Tree sparrow

London Wetland Centre, Barnes, London: April 2, 2017 GLAUCOUS GULL (new species for U.K.); Snipe, 2 x Ruddy duck; Little ringed plover, and Redshank. (Also, Peacock butterfly)

Rainham RSPB Reserve, Purfleet, Essex: April 8, 2017 Warm, 22°, calm day. One male Bearded tit (photographed); Jack snipe; Snipe; possibly 30 Redshank; Yellow wagtail; Marsh harrier, and best views I've had of Cetti's warbler. (Also, Orange tip)

Reykjavik, North Iceland, Lake Mývatn, Iceland: April 13-23, 2017 Barrow's goldeneye (Laxá River); Snow bunting (Borgarvirki and Ólafsfjörður); Harlequin duck (Blöndóus); Slavonian grebe (Reykjahlíð and Varmahlíð); Goosander (hard to see in Iceland; Vesturhópshólar); Red-breasted merganser; Mallard; Wigeon; Tufted duck; Long-tailed duck; Eider; Whooper swan; Barnacle goose; Pink-footed goose; Greylag goose; Gannet; Oystercatcher; Redshank; Dunlin; Curlew; Ptarmigan; Redwing; Blackbird (unusual in Iceland); Purple sandpiper; Golden plover; European starling; Feral pigeon/Rock dove; Raven; Merlin; White-tailed eagle (Snaefellsnes); Cormorant; Black guillemot; Guillemot; Greater black-backed gull; Lesser black-backed gull; Herring gull; Black-headed gull; Iceland gull; Glaucous gull; Redpoll; Snipe; Red-throated diver, and Great northern diver

Ras al-Khor, Dubai, United Arab Emirates: April 25, 2017 Socotra cormorant; female Purple sunbird; Straited heron; Greenshank; Kentish plover; Little ringed plover; Dunlin; Whimbrel; Greater flamingo; Common myna; Hoopoe; Black-winged stilt; Western reef-egret; Grey heron; Eurasian collared dove; Great egret; Green sandpiper, and Sociable plover

Epping Forest, Essex: May 14, 2017 Two pairs of Mandarin duck on Blackweir Hill Pond

The Thames, Belvedere/Abbey Wood, London: April 20, 2017 Did not see the Bonaparte's gull I came to see, but Common gull; Hobby, and Kestrel. (Also, Common seal, a first for me in London)

London Wetland Centre, Barnes, London: April 21, 2017 Snipe (very close from Peacock Hide); House martin, and Sand martin

London Wetland Centre, Barnes, London: April 28, 2017 Redshank; two Little ringed plover, and Reed warbler. (Also, Green hairstreak)

Strumpshaw Fen and Buckenham Marsh, Norfolk: May 27, 2017 Kingfisher; Cetti's warbler; Sedge warbler; Marsh harrier; Common tern; Whitethroat; 10 Avocet; Rook, and four Redshank. (Also, Swallowtail and Orange tip). There might have been a chance I saw a Montagu's harrier. It was a harrier, and it was not a Marsh harrier, but I cannot be certain it was a Montagu's and not a male Hen harrier. Did I see the black wing stripes of a Montagu's? I cannot be sure

Arne RSPB Reserve, Arne and area, Dorset: June 10-11, 2017 Curlew; Black-tailed godwit; **PUFFIN** (new species for U.K.) at Dancing Ledge; Green woodpecker; Rock pipit, and Linnet. (Also, Lime hawkmoth; Poplar hawkmoth, and Sika deer)

Minsmere RSPB Reserve, Saxmundham, Suffolk: June 24-25, 2017

Minsmere—50+ Mediterranean gull; two Spotted redshank; four Kittiwake; three Barnacle goose; Sandwich tern; Common tern; three Bittern; Marsh harrier; Hobby; numerous Avocet; 20+ Knot; 50+ Black-tailed godwit; Little egret; Yellowhammer; Sparrowhawk, and Tawny owl, almost driving into the windscreen at night. (Also, Stoat)

Hazlewood Marshes—Great egret; Avocet; two Red kite (Also, Purple emperor, Theberton Wood, and Essex skipper, Snape Warren RSPB Reserve)

Staines Reservoir, Middlesex: July 1, 2017 ROSEATE TERN (new species for U.K.), 1st-summer (?), all black bill, black cap, pale wings; seven or eight Little-ringed plovers out of a reported 19); Common tern, and two Black-necked grebe in full summer plumage

Slimbridge, Gloucestershire: July 15, 2017 Ruff, including one male with partial collar; Eurasian crane (there is a breeding program here); Black-tailed godwit; two Little ringed plover, including one juvenile; Redshank; Green sandpiper; distant Peregrine; Common buzzard; Blackcap, and Reed warbler

Cliffe Marshes, Kent: July 22, 2017 MARSH SANDPIPER (new species for U.K.); Black-winged stilt, an adult with four chicks (according to BBC, 22 nesting attempts between 1983 and 2016 have only resulting in fledglings from three nests), the presence of nesting birds at Cliffe only made common knowledge when the Marsh sandpiper was discovered; Spoonbill (one of two reported); Black-tailed godwit; Ruff; Common sandpiper; Redshank; Green sandpiper, and Avocet. At one point, Grey heron, Avocet and Spoonbill all in the same spot

East Leake Cemex Quarry, East Leake, Nottinghamshire: July 29, 2017 EUROPEAN BEE-EATER (new species for U.K.). Saw five of reported seven that had built three nests, but the news in the mid part of a very rainy, cool August resulted, reportedly, in no fledglings; also, Common buzzard; Hobby, and Kestrel

Rainham RSPB Reserve, Purfleet, Essex: July 30, 2017 PECTORAL SANDPIPER (new species for U.K.); Green sandpiper; Greenshank, and juvenile Bearded tit

Tennessee/Ohio: August 5 and 13-14, 2017

Enterprise State Park, Chattanooga—CAROLINA CHICKADEE (new species for US)
Wilderness Road, near Funk, Ohio—Indigo bunting; Pileated woodpecker; seven White-rumped sandpiper, and 20 Sandhill crane

Beaver Marsh, Peninsula, Ohio—LEAST BITTERN (new species for US), really good views and at 2:30 p.m., the bird staying still and visible or skulking and half-visible for 15 minutes; also, Wood duck; Red-winged blackbird, and Willow flycatcher. (Also, Otter;

Groundhog; Snapping turtle; Monarch butterfly; Grey hairstreak; Pipeline swallowtail; Silver-spotted skipper (US-named species (*Epargyreus clarus*), not the same as the European one)); Eastern tiger swallowtail, and Fiery skipper

Oare Marshes Nature Reserve, Oare, Faversham, Kent: August 26, 2017 LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER (new species for U.K.); **BONAPARTE'S GULL** (new species for U.K.), the same bird I failed to see on April 20, 2017; Little stint (first for many years); Spotted redshank; Redshank; Bar-tailed godwit (three); Black-tailed godwit (hundreds); Yellow-wagtail; Ringed plover; Dunlin; Knot; Ruff, and 100 to 200 Golden plover

Rainham RSPB Reserve, Purfleet, Essex: September 16, 2017 Whinchat; Wheatear; Hobby; Black tern; juvenile Cuckoo; Green sandpiper; Kestrel; Scaup; Green woodpecker; Chiffchaff, and Stonechat

Ingrebourne Valley, Hornchurch, Essex: September 23, 2017 SPOTTED CRAKE (new species for U.K.), seen immediately and for 10 minutes, before it disappeared into reeds. Also, three Snipe flying overhead

Estanque del Pujol, El Saler, Valencia, Spain: October 1, 2017 Greater flamingo (10 or so); Black-capped night-heron; Black-winged stilt, and Woodchat shrike. Also, numerous Swallow, and a few House martin

Oare Marshes Nature Reserve, Oare, Faversham, Kent: October 7, 2017 WILSON'S PHALAROPE (new species for U.K.), spinning and very evident among the larger Lapwing; Little stint and Long-billed dowitcher still there, and maybe 100 Avocet. Out on Faversham Creek was a Black-necked grebe

London Wetland Centre, Barnes, London: October 30, 2017 Female brambling above but not on feeders; also, Bittern

London Wetland Centre, Barnes, London: November 12, 2017 I re-discovered the female Ring ouzel seen the day before, for seconds on a grassy area along the Sheltered Lagoon trail and then in thicket behind. The rediscovered bird was seen by one other birder. Also, Bittern; two female Goldeneye; three Common gull

Sri Lanka: 18 November-3 December, 2017

Dickoya/Castlereigh—Hill swallow; Barn swallow; Blue-tailed bee-eater; Coppersmith barbet; Forest wagtail; Sri Lanka red-backed woodpecker (endemic); White-bellied drongo; Thick-billed crow; Common tailorbird; Plain prinia; Red-vented bulbul; Yellow-billed babbler; Oriental magpie-robin; Sri Lanka white-eye (endemic); Cinerous tit

Sinharaja Rainforest—Sri Lanka spurfowl (endemic); Sri Lanka junglefowl (endemic); Black eagle; Legge's hawk-eagle; Sri Lanka wood pigeon (endemic); Grey-capped emerald dove; Orange-breasted green-pigeon; Sri Lanka green-pigeon (endemic); Green imperial-pigeon; Sri Lanka hanging-parrot (endemic); Rose-ringed parakeet; Red-faced malkoha (endemic); Green-billed coucal (endemic); Greater coucal; Serendib scops-owl (endemic); Ceylon frogmouth; Crested treeswift; Little green bee-eater; Grey hornbill (endemic); Brown-headed barbet; Yellow-fronted barbet (endemic); Sri Lanka barbet (endemic); Indian pygmy woodpecker; Lesser yellownape woodpecker; Common iora; Scarlet minivet; Small minivet; Crested drongo (endemic); Black-headed oriole; Blue magpie (endemic); Grey-breasted prinia; Black-crested bulbul; Asian black bulbul; Yellow-browed bulbul; Large-billed leaf

warbler; Sri Lanka scimitar-babbler (endemic); Dark-fronted babbler; Orange-billed babbler (endemic); Ashy-headed laughing thrush (endemic); Brown-capped babbler (endemic); Hill myna; Sri Lanka myna (endemic); Sri Lanka thrush (endemic); Spot-winged thrush (endemic); Black-naped monarch; Asian paradise flycatcher; Brown-breasted flycatcher; Pale-billed flowerpecker; Legge's flowerpecker (endemic); Grey wagtail; Ceylon rufous babbler (endemic), and Layard's parakeet (endemic)

Udawalawe/Weli-oya—Barred buttonquail; Intermediate egret; Asian openbill; Cattle egret; Asian woolly-neck stork; Indian cormorant; Black-headed ibis; Oriental darter; Indian pond heron; Grey-headed fish-eagle; Slaty-legged crake; Lesser whistling-duck; Purple swamphen; Black-winged stilt; Pheasant-tailed jacana; Indian roller; Common kingfisher; Malabar pied hornbill; Velvet-fronted nuthatch; Indian robin; Tri-coloured munia, and Jerdon's bushlark

Ahaspokuna—Indian peafowl; Blue-faced malkoha; Little swift; Asian palm-swift; Brown shrike; Indian pitta; Jerdon's leafbird, and Paddyfield pipit

Unakuruwa/Tangalle—Greater flameback; Purple-rumped sunbird; Ceylon woodshrike (endemic); White-browed fantail; White-browed bulbul; Gull-billed tern; White-breasted waterhen; Little tern, and Common tern

Galle—Curlew and common sandpiper

Other sites—Purple heron; Little egret; Spot-billed pelican; Little cormorant; Great cormorant; Shikra; Brahminy kite; Crested serpent-eagle; Red-wattled lapwing; Rock dove/Feral pigeon; Eastern spotted dove; Indian swiftlet; White-throated kingfisher; House crow; Common myna, and Purple sunbird

Titchfield Haven, Stubbington, Hampshire: December 12, 2017 BARRED WARBLER (new species for U.K.); a first-year bird seen just behind the visitor centre. Also, Kingfisher; Buzzard; Redwing; Redshank; Turnstone; Sanderling; Ringed plover; Eider and Oystercatcher

London Wetland Centre, Barnes, London: December 13, 2017 Mostly miserable weather, but during a sunny window of 10 minutes the best views of a Bittern I have ever had.

Dungeness RSPB Reserve, Lydd, Kent: December 17, 2017 A pleasant, sunny day, turning rainy in afternoon. Dartford warbler, near to Britannia pub; Tree sparrow; Long-eared owl; Goosander; Goldeneye; Great egret; Marsh harrier; male Brambling

St Andrew's Churchyard, Bramfield, Hertfordshire: January 7, 2018 HAWFINCH (new species for U.K.); 26 were reported. No idea how many I saw, but striking males, as well as females, in this irruption in several parts of the U.K.; also, Goldcrest; Fieldfare; Chaffinch; Greenfinch; Long-tailed tit, and Red kite

Pulborough Brooks RSPB, Pulborough, Sussex; January 14, 2018 My first visit to this RSPB reserve, and a great day. **TUNDRA BEAN GOOSE** (new species for U.K.) and **TEMMINCK'S STINT** (new species for U.K.), the latter seen through a fellow birder's scope. Grey and dumpy appearance, with a clear differentiation between head and breast. Active, and then it flew first left, showing white tail feathers, and then right and into deep cover. Also, Goldcrest; Bewick's swan, and two **RUDDY SHELDUCK** (new species for U.K.), but one I will regard as an escapee unless told otherwise—no record of this species as been accepted on the British list since the mid-20th Century. NOTE: Bean goose, as of the first day of 2018, has been split into two separate species, Tundra bean goose and Taiga bean goose, which I have not seen

Walthamstow Wetlands Reserve, London; January 21, 2018 Very cold, with a mixture of quick thick snow and incessant rain, but during a break from either, a 90-minute wait resulted in **LITTLE BUNTING** (new species for U.K. and my 250th U.K. species). Saw the bird for no more than 10 seconds, but approximately 10 birders were there. Conditions meant birds, including Reed bunting and Dunnock, were sheltering in scrub and hardly venturing out. Also seen were Kingfisher; Peregrine falcon, and Common redshank

Staines Reservoir, Surrey; January 26, 2018 SHORE LARK (new species for U.K.) seen on the banks of the south reservoir. This bird has been seen at the reservoir on and off for several months and is in fact the American sub-species American horned lark, so if one day the birding eggheads decide to separate all or some of the many subspecies of "Horned lark," notably in this case *Eremophila alpestris* or *Eremophila alpestris hoyti* (the Staines bird is likely to be one of those two sub-species) I will just have to see a British shore lark and get to add an armchair tick of the bird I saw today

Al-Wathba Nature Reserve, Al-Wathba, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, January 27, 2018 My first time here, and what transpired as one of the most memorable days ever at this reserve. The 19th-ever Moustached warbler for the UAE and the 31st-ever Baillon's crake, with both these birds new for me anywhere.

Rainham RSPB Reserve, Purfleet, Essex: February 3, 2018 Pintail; Snipe; Little egret; Cetti's warbler; Redwing

Puertomingalvo, Spain: February 17-19, 2018 Cirl bunting; Common crossbill; Griffon vulture

Millwall Outer Dock, Canary Wharf, London: March 18, 2018 Shag (juvenile, but a great sighting in London); Mediterranean gull

Musandam Peninsula, Oman: April 14-15 Rose-ringed parakeet; Indian roller; Common redstart; Red-tailed shrike; Woodchat shrike; Desert wheatear; Common tern

Al Hamra Resort, Ras al Khaimah, United Arab Emirates: April 16-19 Hoopoe; Indian roller; Graceful prinia; Red-vented bulbul; White-eared bulbul; Green sandpiper; Red-wattled plover; Purple sunbird

Carlton Marshes, Oulton Broad South, Suffolk: April 28, 2018 A slightly chilly day, unseasonal. **AMERICAN BITTERN** (new species for U.K.), a wait of five hours or so. It has been reported for most of April, but in the last few days appearing only in the hour before dusk. I missed its first flight as I walking along the River Waveney so as to feel a little warmer, but it reappeared for three flights, during which I could identify it properly and for a view of 30 seconds performed the classic next-stretched-up pose. Also, two Yellow wagtail, including one very bright male; 10 or so Avocet; Short-eared owl, and ever-present Marsh harrier

Nazeling Mead, Broxbourne, Hertfordshire: April 29, 2018 Weather still unseasonably chilly, a couple of degrees cooler than the day before (American bittern not see today either, hunkered down to keep warm, no doubt. **RED-RUMPED SWALLOW** (new species for U.K.), two views of the bird). Many swallow, House martin and Sand martin

London Wetland Centre, Barnes, London: April 29, 2018 One Wheatear; three Whinchat, including a very bright male; one Dunlin; one Little ringed plover and one Ringed plover, all these last three on the same tiny shingle island

Ham Wall RSPB Reserve, Glastonbury, Somerset: May 5, 2018 Glorious sunny weather. Cuckoo; Marsh harrier; three or four Hobby; Great egret; Cetti's warbler; Sedge warbler; Reed warbler; Willow warbler; Chiffchaff, and Bittern. (Also, numerous Orange tip butterflies)

Denge Wood, Canterbury, Kent: May 7, 2018 Bullfinch singing; Green woodpecker; Great spotted woodpecker. (Also, and the reason I went to these woods, my first sighting of (two) Duke of Burgundy butterflies)

Dungeness RSPB Reserve, Dungeness, Kent: May 7, 2018 Numerous Whitethroat and Reed bunting; several Sedge warbler; two Great egret; Greenshank; Whimbrel; three Little gull, including one adult but without solidly black head; two Bar-tailed godwit, including one adult; Oystercatcher, and Linnet. Cuckoo heard

Botany Bay/Oaken Wood, Chiddingfold, Surrey: May 19, 2018 (Visit especially to see Wood white butterfly, which is confined to here as far as South East England is concerned and a species I had not seen before)

Dungeness, Kent, and other Kentish spots: May 20, 2018 A very chilly start, but things became warm and sunny at around 11 a.m. A productive day with an adult male **KENTISH PLOVER** (new species for U.K.) and **HOPOE** (new species for U.K.). The Kentish plover was on a spit all day viewable from the main building of RSPB Dungeness, while the distant but identifiable sightings of the Hoopoe were off Dengemarsh Road on the military training area. Also, Grasshopper warbler; Greenshank; Dunlin; 3 x Sanderling; 3 x Common scoter (two males and a female); Sedge warbler; Whitethroat; Linnet; Marsh harrier, and Hobby. Also seen and heard at Yocklett's Bank, on the chalk escarpments in the centre of Kent, one Nightingale. (Other wildlife sightings: Small copper at Dungeness; Monkey orchid and Green-veined orchid at Park Gate Down, and Lady orchid and Fly orchid at Yocklett's Bank)

Rainham RSPB Reserve, Purfleet, Essex: May 26, 2018 Whinchat; Kestrel; Marsh harrier; Hobby; Redshank; Sedge warbler, and Cetti's warbler. (Also, Harbour porpoise in River Thames)

Denbies Ridge, Dorking, Surrey: May 27, 2018 Yellowhammer. (Also, my reason for coming here, Adonis blue butterfly, a new species for me and my 44th U.K. butterfly; also, Brown argus; Common blue, Small copper; Brimstone, and Dingy skipper)

Isles of Scilly, Cornwall: July 27-August 3, 2018 **WILSON'S STORM PETREL** x 5 (new species for U.K.); **EUROPEAN STORM PETREL** x 50 (new species for U.K.); **GREAT SKUA** (new species for U.K.); **MANX SHEARWATER** x 500 (new species for U.K.); **SOOTY SHEARWATER** x 3 (new species for U.K.); **GREAT SHEARWATER** x 10 (new species for U.K.); **CORY'S SHEARWATER** x 2 (new species for U.K.). Pelagic on July 30 choppy water (1.8-metre waves) but more birds; pelagic on 3 August much calmer and fewer birds, but a Wilson's storm petrel on both sailings and also on last sailing—(Blue shark and Porbeagle Shark. Also, Common dolphin on both sailings, and Harbour porpoise coming out of Penzance)

Bath Nature Reserve, Bath, Ohio, USA: August 18, 2018 WESTERN KINGBIRD (new species for US); Henslow's sparrow; Cedar waxwing; Northern oriole; Osprey

Wanstead Flats, Manor Park, London: September 1, 2018 Not many birds, but a first-winter Red-backed shrike, my first of this species for many years, and a Whinchat; also, a Blackcap. The shrike I saw quickly upon arrival and then numerous times after that, but it was active and effortlessly disappeared

Wanstead Flats, Manor Park, London: September 2, 2018 Returned for the Red-backed shrike and a second afternoon of excellent views

Streat/Plumpton, Sussex: September 9, 2018 HONEY BUZZARD (new species for U.K.) seen over fields and moving towards South Downs

Royston, Hertfordshire: September 23, 2018 PALLID HARRIER (new species for U.K.) seen over fields along Icknield Way. Saw it almost immediately, and some very close-up views of a juvenile bird. Also, Yellow wagtail; Peregrine falcon

Gravesend, Kent: September 29, 2018 (Startling discovery on 25 September and still there on the Saturday of the weekend, a Beluga whale, the southernmost sighting ever of this Arctic mammal. Perhaps along with a specimen seen in 1913, and some 3,100 kilometres south of its usual range. It has been swimming in the River Thames quite happily, and the authorities are happy to allow it to make its own mind as to where to go—at least for the moment.) Also seen, Black-tailed godwit; Dunlin and Common ringed plover

Welney Wetland Centre, Welney, Norfolk: October 6, 2018 A pretty grim day weather-wise, although the heavier rain seen later on kept away. **WHOOPER SWAN** (new species for U.K.) seen, with probably 50 individuals newly arrived as I sat there. Also, 32 x Eurasian crane, 5 x Arctic tern; Snipe; Sparrowhawk; several Tree sparrows; Greylag goose, and Black-tailed godwit

Rainham RSPB Reserve, Purfleet, Essex: October 7, 2018 As beautiful, sunny and calm a day as the day before was grim, chilly and wet. Cattle egret out in front of a hide for 60 minutes; also, Greylag goose; Lapwing; Pochard, and Teal. Out on the Thames were Curlew; Redshank, and Avocet

Chew Valley Lake, Somerset: October 14, 2018 Very windy, with a little rain. Adult male Yellow-legged gull, one Little Egret, two Great egret and, just down the road, five Cattle egret

Oare Marshes Nature Reserve, Oare, Faversham, Kent: October 27, 2018 AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER (new species for U.K.), dark-grey cap sitting on very bold white supercilium, and with dark splotches on breast. Lost soon after sighting amidst mass of Golden plover, Lapwing, Black-tailed godwit and some number of Grey plover. Also, Jack snipe bobbing up and down; Little owl; Linnet; Brant; Grey wagtail; Avocet; Kestrel; Sparrowhawk, and Marsh harrier. (Three Velvet scoter seen, but not by me, and this would have been a new species for U.K., too)

Beddington Sewage Farm, Hackbridge, Surrey: November 4, 2018 The first time I have walked around this closed birding area since 1984 (see above, September of that year), that first time sneaking in to see a rare wader, but this time as part of an organized walk. Warm for the time of year. Water pipit; Tree sparrow (my first in Greater London); Snipe x 15; Green sandpiper x 3; male and female Stonechat; Common gull x 5

Margate, Kent, England: November 8, 2018 A failed attempt to see the White-billed diver that had been seen for several days and was seen later this day (the bird a week or so later was found dead on a beach in Suffolk). I did see Purple sandpiper x 4; several Curlew; flock of Sanderling; Rock pipit, and Hen harrier

Central Park and Riverside Drive, New York City, NY: November 18 and 24, 2018 Red-headed woodpecker; Wood duck; Red-tailed hawk; Cooper's hawk; also, a Peregrine falcon mobbing another Red-tailed hawk; House finch; Hooded merganser, and Cardinal. Also, a Mandarin duck, very celebrated in the New York City media, but evidently an escapee

Gallatin, NY: November 24, 2018 Pileated woodpecker; Black-capped chickadee

Shoeburyness, Essex, England: December 1, 2018 Black-throated diver in Gunners Pool, a small lake, hence excellent views; also, 10x Red-throated diver; 50x Common scoter; Purple sandpiper; Little egret; 30x Brant; Rock pipit, and Stonechat

Margate to Broadstairs, and Deal, Kent, England: December 7, 2018: Red-throated diver; Black-throated diver; Rock pipit; Purple sandpiper; Oystercatcher; Little egret. At Deal was a flock of 20 or so Common scoter, but three reported Velvet scoter not seen

Herne Bay to Reculver, Kent, England: December 21, 2018: SNOW BUNTING (new species for U.K.); Sanderling; Curlew; Redshank; Oystercatcher; Turnstone

Staines Reservoir, Surrey; December 22, 2018 My bogie bird defeated, a **GREAT NORTHERN DIVER** (new species for U.K.), distant but identifiable. Also, Goldeneye; Wigeon; Pochard, and Linnet

London Wetland Centre, Barnes, London: December 23, 2018 Yellow-legged gull; good views of Bittern that then flew

Albufera Marshes, Valencia, Spain: December 29, 2018 Highlights were Booted eagle drying on a tree after a failed catch of Black-winged stilt (there were approximately 100) and a juvenile Bluethroat. Also, Crag martin; Kingfisher; Black redstart; Redstart; Chiffchaff; Cattle egret; Little egret; Great egret; Grey heron; Teal x 300, Red-crested pochard (x 5); Shoveler; Shelduck, Stonechat; Whinchat; Crested lark, and Meadow pipit

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates: February 2-3, 2019

Al-Wathba Nature Reserve—Tawny pipit; Desert wheatear; 16 x Black-necked grebe; Clamorous reed warbler; Black-winged stilt; Greater flamingo; Kentish plover; Greater spotted eagle; Marsh harrier; Marsh sandpiper; Common sandpiper; Spur-winged plover; Little grebe; Graceful prinia, and Grey-headed swamphen (the "Purple swamphen" has recently been split six ways, the original Purple swamphen now named Western swamphen)

Jebel Hafeet, Al Ain—Egyptian vulture; Red-tailed wheatear; Hume's wheatear; Blue rock thrush; Hoopoe; Indian roller; Red-wattled lapwing; Sacred ibis; Cattle egret, and Crag martin

Zakher Pools, Al Ain—Crested lark; White-rumped sandpiper; Curlew; Ferruginous duck; Pochard, and Socotra cormorant

Cassiobury Park, Watford, Herts.: February 17, 2019 One view of Lesser-spotted woodpecker close to the Flamingo enclosure of the Carpdell Fish Farm. Also, Red kite and Great spotted woodpecker

Crossness Nature Reserve, Belvedere, Kent: February 20, 2019 A 20-kilometre run from my home at 6:15 a.m. and a 30-minute window to see **PENDULINE TIT** (new species for U.K.), which another birder heard and I located. The view lasted 10 seconds, but the mask and red to the top of the back were evident. Then I needed to run to catch the train up to London to go to work. The bird was seen on another four occasions, but always fleetingly, during the day. It was found on February 18.

Lübbenau, Spreewald, Germany: March 2-3, 2019

60 x Eurasian crane flying on thermals, plus two seen flying and fortunately see again in a field for the closest views I have had of this species; also, Red kite; 100 x Tree sparrow; 4 x Black woodpecker, three flying overhead, one on a tree; Great spotted woodpecker; Green woodpecker; Treecreeper; Nuthatch

Ashdown Forest, Sussex, England: March 23, 2019

Unsuccessful search for the Great grey shrike that has been present, but mobile, all winter. Singing chiffchaff; Dartford warbler; Raven

London Wetland Centre, Barnes, London: March 24, 2019

Great views of Bittern, which has not been seen since March 24 and probably has left for its breeding grounds. Also, female Goldeneye; Water pipit; two Sand martin; Snipe; Peregrine falcon. Wigeon still here; also, Pochard, Lapwing; one Gadwall on the River Thames

Ingrebourne Valley, Hornchurch, Essex: March 30, 2019 No luck finding the Green-winged teal reported the previous day. There were a sizable number of Eurasian teal. Also, 5 x Green sandpiper; Stock dove; Gadwall; Little egret, and one solitary Lapwing

Vange March, Pitsea, Essex: March 30, 2019 Distant, bad views of one Garganey. Also, Avocet; 3 x Spotted redshank; Redshank, and Great egret

Wanstead Flats, Manor Park, London: April 1, 2019 Very happy bobbing around on the small, innocuous Jubilee Pond a male Garganey, providing the best views I have had of this duck. Other birders reported it as having been skittish in the morning, hassled by other birds and flying away on at least one occasion, but for me, arriving at midday, it was very calm. On walk across the heathland, also, Kestrel; Greenfinch singing, and Skylark displaying. The Garganey was present for only this one day

Albufera, Mallorca, Balearic Islands, and other sites: April 6-7, 2019

Albufera—Fan-tailed warbler; Red-knobbed coot (with large identity collars; Europe-based number for the species purported to be fewer than 100); Red-crested pochard; Squacco heron; Black-crowned night-heron; Cattle egret; Little egret; Grey heron; Spotted redshank;

Common ringed plover; Little ringed plover; Kentish plover; Common redshank; Common sandpiper; Yellow wagtail; Chiffchaff; Siskin, and Black-winged stilt

Albuferita—Swift; White-rumped swift; Swallow; House martin; Sand martin; Booted eagle, and Stonechat

Boquer Valley—Balearic warbler; Cirl bunting, and Blue rock thrush

Banyalbufar—Red kite (diminishing numbers on the Balearics) and Blackcap

South Downs, near Fulking and Ditchling, Sussex, England: April 21, 2019 Two Rook, a species I never see within London, at Clayton, and at Ditchling two Lesser whitethroat

Sydenham, London, England: April 21, 2019 In the parking area behind my flat a Grey wagtail, a quite unusual “garden” tick some distance away from water

Mount Athos. Halkidiki, Greece: May 5-10, 2019

Whinchat; Stonechat; Garden warbler; 3 x Nightingale; Little bittern (at Iviron Monastery); Woodchat shrike; Red-backed shrike; Chiffchaff; Sardinian warbler; Spotted flycatcher; Subalpine warbler; Raven; Hooded crow; Cory’s shearwater; Swallow; Swift; Alpine swift; House martin; Sand martin, and Tree pipit

Crossness Nature Reserve, Belvedere, Kent: May 18, 2019 My second new species for the U.K. in 2019, and both have been in this somewhat innocuous site that when I was a child was not birded but is increasingly being so and this bringing up exciting finds. Today it was a **GREAT REED WARBLER** (new species for U.K.), which is the first for the London birding area. I saw it very soon after arriving, and heard its fairly loud croaking call. Somewhat a challenge to see and photograph as the view was from behind a metal fence with reeds in between me and the reeds in which it was flitting. Also, reed warbler, Sedge warbler, and two Whitethroat feeding young

Dungeness, Kent, and other Kentish spots: May 26, 2019 Essentially a day out with my parents to show my Mum orchids, and we went to Park Gate Down and Yocklett’s Bank. At the first we saw Monkey orchid; one or two Early purple orchid still in near enough good shape and Common twayblade. At the latter we saw Lady orchid, two Fly orchid and one, my first ever, Greater butterfly orchid, and in bloom, perhaps early for this species.

A quick trip down to Littlestone, near Old Romney, failed to produce the Serin that has been reported most of the week, mostly because for the first time in that week the wind picked up. A quick visit to Dungeness to get a cup of coffee produced Common gull on nest box right by the visitor centre; Oystercatcher; Common tern; Pochard; Great crested grebe, and Little stint.

London Wetland Centre, Barnes, London: May 27, 2019

Quite quiet. Redshank; Ringed plover; Little ringed plover on eggs (a wire cage has been placed around the pair); two Common tern; Sand martin; Swift; Blackcap, and two Stock dove. (Disappointing in butterflies, too, with only a Red admiral, Brimstone and Large white seen.)

Dungeness, Kent, and other Kentish spots: June 1, 2019

I caught up with the **SERIN** (new species for U.K.) on a very much calmer day, the bird still in the conifer tree by a house and singing. In total, 51 species, including Lesser whitethroat; Whitethroat; Sedge warbler; Reed warbler; Cuckoo; Hobby; Whimbrel; Linnet, and one Mediterranean gull

Rainham RSPB Reserve, Purfleet, Essex: June 2, 2019 Warm and still. Barn owl; Redshank (three perched on posts, two of them on consecutive perches); Curlew; Cetti's warbler; Cuckoo, and 3 x Avocet

Lea Valley, Seventy Acres Lake/Fishers Green, Essex: June 2, 2019 drake Ring-necked duck. It took a while to find, hidden behind an island, after a search around the whole lake. Good views, and far better than the one other time I have seen it

Ditchling Common Country Park, near Burgess Hill, East Sussex: June 22, 2019 Garden warbler, Chiffchaff; Lesser whitethroat and male Bullfinch. (Also, my reason for coming here, Black hairstreak, a new species for me and my 45th U.K. butterfly, in a recently discovered colony for this rare butterfly; also, Common blue, Ringlet; Red admiral; Meadow brown, Speckled wood and Painted lady. It took a while to see the Black hairstreak, but one was quite docile at ground level, another paused for some while in the branches maybe two metres above head height)

East Blean Woods, near Hoath, Kent: June 23, 2019 (And another rare species, my 46th U.K. butterfly, Heath fritillary. Quite easy to see once in the right black, the species seeming to be jittery in flight and more than happy to alight on bracken at about one metre above the ground. I might have seen 15 individuals in 30 minutes; also, Painted lady (quite numerous on my walk to the woods from Herne Bay), Red admiral and Ringlet)

Hutchinson's Bank/Chapel Bank, New Addington, Surrey: July 6, 2019 (Butterflies along the chalk escarpments—one Small blue; Common blue; Ringlet; hundreds of Marbled white, and a dozen Dark-green fritillary)

Fairmile Common, Cobham, Surrey: July 13, 2019 (Within the M25 London orbital road but on heathland with bell heather, my 47th U.K. butterfly species, both male and female Silver-studded blue; also, my first Gatekeeper of the year)

Oare Marshes Nature Reserve, Oare, Faversham, Kent: July 14, 2019 My third-ever Lesser yellowlegs and second-ever Bonaparte's gull, very likely the same adult that has been wrongly migrating here for seven or eight years and also likely remains somewhere in the U.K. all year and comes to Oare to moult. In mid-July, though, it is in full summer plumage; also. Spotted redshank; Common redshank; Black-tailed godwit (500); one very early Golden plover; Bearded tit; Peregrine, and three male Ruff in close to summer plumage

Headley Heath, Tadworth, Surrey: July 20, 2019 (Butterflies on heath and chalkside, including a new species, my 48th U.K. butterfly species, one single White-letter hairstreak, and on a white flower on a chalk hillside, not near elm or bramble; also, Brown argus; White admiral; Dark-green fritillary; Silver-washed fritillary; Large skipper; Small skipper; Gatekeeper; Painted lady, and Grayling on stony soil among the gorse. No luck with the Silver-spotted skipper, of which a few reports have come in.) Juvenile green woodpecker

Rainham RSPB Reserve, Purfleet, Essex: July 28, 2019 Water dredged from some of the marsh area. Wood sandpiper; 3 x Ruff; Avocet; 200 x Black-tailed godwit; Lapwing; 10 x Little egret, and Curlew. (Grey seal basking on the river shore)

Oare, Uplees and Conyer marshes, Faversham, Kent: August 5, 2019 More of a wonderful walk with Francesca, my wife, than a birding excursion, but the Bonaparte's gull

remains, although now heavily moulted. Also, Curlew; Whimbrel; 10 x Common sandpiper; 5 x Oystercatcher; Marsh harrier, and 3 x Kestrel, but not much on the East Flood due to maintenance. (Also, Clouded yellow butterfly and several Painted lady)

Hutchinson's Bank, New Addington, Croydon; 25 August, 2019 A visit to see if I could spot a Glanville fritillary butterfly (I did not), which for the first time in this introduction site reputedly started by person or persons unknown in 2011 had a second brood, albeit probably lesser in number than the first brood in April/May. But as I and another birder-turned-summer-butterfly-watcher searched a steep-sided paddock I spotted a **GOSHAWK** (new species for U.K.) that floated over the tree line scattering pigeons. A juvenile, it showed large broad wings, pear-drop shape splotches running from neck to belly, pale belly and correct banding on the tail. It was also large, with all the ID marks together ruling out Common buzzard and/or female Sparrowhawk. (Also, Chalkhill blue, Brown argus; Small copper; Dark-green fritillary, and Silver-washed fritillary butterflies; and a Common shrew, a species I do not remember seeing before.)

Oare Marshes Nature Reserve, Oare, Faversham, Kent: August 31, 2019 A Peregrine spent much of the day pestering the pigeons and waders. Also, a Kestrel; 2 x Curlew sandpiper, with one adult retaining some summer plumage; Knot; Golden plover; Grey plover; a juvenile Wood sandpiper; 300 x Black-tailed godwit; Water rail; 30 x Dunlin, also some retaining summer plumage, and the Bonaparte's gull remains, although I was lucky to pick it out in its autumn plumage as I was searching for Curlew sandpiper

Titchfield Haven, Stubbington, Hampshire: September 21, 2019 **BLUETHROAT** (new species for U.K.), seen from the Meon Hide, with two good views of a minute or so each out in the open, and some more half-hidden views within the reeds. Also, Turnstone by the harbour

Somerset (West Hay; Chew Valley Lake): Oct. 5-6, 2019 Little egret, Great egret and Cattle egret all in the same telescope view. All told, 13 x Great egret; 6 x Little egret, and 3 x Cattle egret, two of which showed yellow blush to head. Also, 2 x Yellow-legged gull; Pintail; Little grebe, and numerous Gadwall

Mai Po Reserve and Tai Po Kau, New Territories; Pokfulam, Hong Kong Island, Hong Kong: 20-21 October, 2019

Spoonbill; Eastern spot-billed duck; Gadwall; Little egret; Great egret; Greenshank; Black-winged stilt; Azure-winged magpie; White-throated kingfisher; Collared crow; Little grebe; Great-crested grebe; Kingfisher; Plain prinia; Common sandpiper; Green sandpiper; Chinese pond-heron; Grey heron; Purple heron; Greater coucal; White-breasted waterhen; Rufous-capped babbler; Great cormorant; Marsh harrier (female); Black kite; Eastern spotted dove; Long-tailed shrike; Oriental reed warbler; Black-collared starling; Daurian redstart (female); Oriental magpie robin; Pied kingfisher; Grey treepie; Black-throated laughingthrush; Chestnut bulbul

Mai Chau, Pu Luong and Van Long, Vietnam: 30 October-8 November, 2019

(Birding not impressive, with the sense that conservation is not a priority and the cognisance of birds being things to sing from cages)

Blue rock thrush; Eyebrowed thrush; Red-vented bulbul; Black-whiskered bulbul; Black-crested bulbul; Little egret; White-throated kingfisher; Kingfisher; Siberian stonechat; Grey-

backed shrike; Yellow-billed blue magpie; Japanese white-eye; White wagtail; Grey wagtail; Little grebe; Grey-headed swamphen; Crow-billed drongo; Asian palm swift; White-browed crane; Cinnamon bittern; Bronze-winged jacana; Chinese pond heron; Short-billed minivet; Black-naped oriole; Asian brown flycatcher; Collared treepie; Little pied flycatcher; Oriental magpie robin; White-capped water redstart; Common myna; Green-backed tit; Crested finchbill; Golden parrotbill; White-headed munia; Black-throated laughingthrush; Dark-necked tailorbird

Oare Marshes, Faversham, Kent: 17 November, 2019

Gadwall; Little egret; Great-crested grebe; Kingfisher; Grey heron; Marsh harrier; Black-tailed godwit; Redshank (100+); Dunlin (1,000+); Avocet (50+); Pintail (three drakes, one duck); Shoveler; Snipe; 6 x Bearded tit (but all juveniles); 2 x Curlew, and 2 x Bewick's swan

London Wetland Centre, Barnes, London: December 7, 2019

Birds mostly difficult to see. Jack snipe; Snipe; Goldeneye (female); Caspian gull (my second ever); Bittern, and Pintail (three drake, one duck)

Whipsnade Zoo, Whipsnade, Bedfordshire: December 14, 2019

First visit to this zoo (I did not see much of it) for a **BLACK-THROATED THRUSH** (new species for U.K. and my 275th) amid a flock of Redwing. Great views of it flying across open space pretty much as soon as the gates opened at 10, but fresh wind following heavy rain saw all birds staying a little distant. Good views later, on berry bushes. Also, Red kite

Slimbridge, Gloucestershire: December 16, 2019 2 x Water rail, right in front of the Willow Hide, and the best views I have had of this species, and two of them; 24 x Bewick's swan; 10 x Pintail; numerous Ruff; Redshank; Dunlin; Black-tailed godwit, and Lapwing; Rook; Stonechat; Greylag goose; two Eurasian crane flyovers (but, again, there is a reintroduction scheme here)

Portland (various sites), Dorset: December 17, 2019 Very productive day, with 2 or 3 Great northern diver; 2 to 3 Black-throated diver; 20 x Great crested grebe; 2 x Little grebe; 6 to 8 Black-necked grebe; **VELVET SCOTER** (a new species for U.K.; female, and one I found by scanning large geese flocks); 200+ Brent goose, both dark- and light-bellied forms; 4 x Eider; 30 Red-breasted merganser; 2 x Razorbill; 3 x Common guillemot; Black guillemot; Gannet; 30 x Mediterranean gull; 5 x Cormorant, and 30 x Shag. (A Bottlenose dolphin—we had a grandstand view of a harbour-patrol boat's staff untangling a dolphin from fishing netting, after which the dolphin seemed to raise a tail out of the water as a thank-you gesture, spin around the small boat a couple of times and then swim towards the harbour mouth)

Rainham RSPB Reserve, Purfleet, Essex: December 20, 2019 Sparrowhawk (female); Barn owl; 7 x Snipe; Curlew; 2 x Avocet; Dunlin; Skylark, and Blackcap (female); the water levels were very high following a great deal of rain over the last couple of weeks

Walthamstow Wetlands Reserve, London; 26 January, 2020 Firecrest, maybe two, as I saw one twice amid a flock of 12 or so Long-tailed titmice; also on the reservoir, female Goldeneye and two Peregrine falcons bathing and then flying to a nearby pylon

Valentines Park, Gants Hill, London; 26 January, 2020 Amazingly, someone on a RSPB walk in a place I suspect is not birded often, a Turtle dove, a species seen here in the summer overwintering and likely remaining from last summer. Amid a flock of 20 or so Collared dove. It is my first Turtle dove for probably 30 years; when I was a teenager, I would see 50 on any summer's day, but that is a thing of the past

Perrymead Lake, East Horsely, Surrey; 22 February, 2020 One drake Goosander and two drake Mandarin duck, on a pond that was filled fairly high with flood water

Frensham Common, Frensham, Surrey: 22 February, 2020 Great grey shrike, the best view I have ever had, and only my second example. Excellent views of a bird constantly making a circle around one part of the common. Also, Treecreeper

Poulter Park, Mitcham, Surrey: March 1, 2020 2 x Siberian chiffchaff (sub-species) in pretty much the same spot I saw one, my first, three years ago in January 2017 on the River Wandle. Also, my second-ever Yellow-browed warbler, always moving and largely hidden, but seemingly chasing Chiffchaff and other species from one bushy trees. Grey wagtail, male Blackcap

Sydenham Woods, London: March 29, 2020 The world is in the grip of COVID-19 coronavirus, and everyone is remaining at home, only going out close to their home once a day for exercise, shopping or emergencies, and the death toll—mainly the old and those with existing health conditions—is numbering in 10s of 1,000s around the world. Any birding is local, that is very local. I did see 2 x Stock dove, drinking in a pond, and 6 or 7 x Redwing, which is pretty late in the season for this species. Also, a Wren singing like crazy

From the window of my home, Sydenham, London: March 31, 2020 Marsh harrier floating over the houses. I wonder if the very noticeable absence of people on the streets, cars on the road and noise in the air might be beneficial to nature, certainly as now we are in the breeding season?

Hutchinson's Bank, New Addington, Surrey: May 2, 2020 (I saw the first sighting anywhere in the U.K. of a new species for me (my 49th for the U.K.), Glanville fritillary after several years of trying to find one on this site, which is not recognised by Butterfly Conservation, despite the population being self-sustaining. I saw two examples, one showing the underwings, one showing the outer-wings, and also six or so caterpillars of the species. Also, Dingy skipper)

... also, Glanville fritillary on 20 May and 7 June

South Benfleet, Essex: June 13, 2020

The COVID-19 lockdown has eased slightly. **MARSH WARBLER** (a new species for U.K.), difficult to see, but on the two occasions I got a good view, sufficient to ID this species, its long primaries being the main feature. Also, Common tern; Little egret; Goldfinch. (Also, first Small skipper and Marbled white butterflies of the year)

Sandwich Estate, Kent: June 22, 2020

Skylark; Linnet; Reed bunting; Spotted flycatcher; Common ringed plover; Stonechat; Whitethroat. (Also, my first Lizard orchid)

Dungeness, Kent: June 26, 2020

After some searching after an almost immediate flyover, a **GULL-BILLED TERN** (a new species for U.K.) that was flying and fishing actively but always fairly distantly over the site's ARC Pit. Also, my third U.K. Black-winged stilt and on Dungeness beach a Black redstart

Oare Marshes Nature Reserve, Oare, Faversham, Kent: July 11, 2020 Bonaparte's gull again, the rare American gull that comes from somewhere to moult every year here; also, Spotted redshank; Common redshank (30); Skylark; Linnet; Yellow wagtail; Black-tailed godwit (30); Curlew (four), and an escaped falcon mix with two tags.

Oare Marshes Nature Reserve, Oare, Faversham, Kent: July 18, 2020 Lesser yellowlegs, almost exactly a year after one came last year; also, two Yellow wagtail; Little gull; a very close Curlew; one Knot; Dunlin; Avocet; Skylark; 30 Redshank

Hutchinson's Bank, New Addington, Surrey: July 19 and 20, 2020 On first day, overcast, juvenile Goldfinch and adult and juvenile Green woodpecker; on second day, 2 x Marsh titmouse (I saw one here last year). (Also, several Marbled white; second-brood individuals of Common blue and Small blue; Gatekeeper; Ringlet; Meadow brown, and one Dark-green fritillary)

Cuckmere Haven, Sussex: July 26, 2020 Greta views of an adult male Little stint and a juvenile Wood sandpiper. Also, Little ringed plover; Rock pipit; Dunlin; Shelduck; Linnet; Skylark; Buzzard; Kestrel; Peregrine, and Oystercatcher

Dungeness, Kent, England: 1 August, 2020: Great white egret; 100 x Gadwall; 20 x Pochard; Ruff; 10 x Gannet; Common tern; Yellow wagtail; Meadow pipit; Stonechat; Whitethroat; female Wheatear and two young; Oystercatcher; Little egret, and juvenile Mediterranean gull

Headley Heath, Tadworth, Surrey: August 9, 2020 First-ever sighting of a Silver-spotted skipper, my 50th U.K. butterfly species

Beckenham Place Park, Beckenham, Kent: 11 August, 2020: Word has got out that there are now fledged 2 x juvenile Hobby, perched on tree branches, of a rare example of this species nesting in a London park. Juveniles were not very confident yet of flying; another juvenile was flying, though, as were two adults that kept pretty much out of the picture save for a hawking expedition or three

Shapwick March, Somerset: September 4, 2020: Osprey; Marsh harrier; Hobby; Little egret, and Great egret. Also in Somerset, Raven

Nuthurst, Sussex: September 5-11, 2020 Spotted flycatcher; Marsh titmouse; Wren; Great spotted woodpecker; Coal tit. Also, elsewhere in Sussex, Wheatear; Marsh harrier; Common sandpiper, and Red kite

Ditchling Beacon, Sussex: September 5-6, 2020 On arrival to Sussex from Somerset, set off to see a **DOTTEREL** (a new species for U.K.). I had no luck on the Saturday evening, when three were present, but I did see Wheatear and Grey partridge, but I saw one, and one only, on the Monday morning

East Head, Sussex: September 10, 2020 Bar-tailed godwit; Curlew; Whimbrel; 200 x Oystercatcher; Dunlin; Redshank, and Greenshank

Pagham Harbour RSPB Reserve, Sussex: September 5-6, 2020 40 x Cattle egret, certainly the most I have ever seen and possibly the most anywhere collectively in the U.K. (the reserve in 2020 recorded the first breeding success for the country); Whinchat; Stonechat; male and female Redstart; one Spoonbill; Spotted redshank; Redshank; Snipe; Yellow wagtail; Curlew; Black-tailed godwit; Great black-backed gull, and Kingfisher

Whitehawk, Brighton, Sussex: September 19, 2020 Following a 25-mile run from Hassocks to and along the South Downs Way to Southease and back across a separate section of the Downs to Telscombe and above Rottingdean, my first-ever sighting of a Long-tailed blue, my 51st U.K. butterfly species. Also, butterfly species Clouded yellow and Wall

Sandwich Estate, Kent: September 20, 2020
Juvenile Skylark; Wheatear; Stonechat; Common buzzard; Kestrel; Linnet

Shuart Marshes, Kent: October 18, 2020 Quick trip down the Thames past Faversham to see a **MASKED SHRIKE** (a new species for the U.K.), the fourth ever to come to the United Kingdom and the first for Kent. Also, Goldcrest; Swallow; House martin, and Kingfisher. (The shrike disappeared sometime in the night of 18-19 October)

Chew Valley Lake, Somerset: October 28, 2020 Tried to find the Lesser scaup that has been seen distantly from the Moreton hide but with no success. Great egret and Grey heron both catching perch; also, Little egret; Little grebe; Lesser yellowlegs (my fifth in the U.K.); Goosander, and Goldeneye

Somerset Levels, Somerset: October 29, 2020 143 Cattle egret (hardly a rarity any more, especially in this area) in three groups. Also, my third Glossy ibis; Great egret; Little egret; Fieldfare; Redwing; one male Bearded titmouse, and 2 x eclipse Wigeon

Willsbridge Mill, Avon: October 30, 2020 Grey wagtail

Bewbush Brook, Crawley, Sussex: October 31, 2020 On the way home from Somerset a stop-off to see **DUSKY WARBLER** (a new species for the U.K.). I enjoyed a couple of somewhat brief looks as it, firstly, came in ahead of a group of Long-tailed titmouse, which could have been a coincidence, and then, secondly, for a little more time to better see its brown-russet back, eye-stripe and large Wren-like stature. (Also found out today that the Bottlenose dolphin, seen almost a year ago on December 17, 2019, in Weymouth Harbour being freed from netting, died. It was the only dolphin to live almost exclusively in and around the harbour and unfortunately had a collision with a boat.)

Worth Marshes and Kingsdown, Kent: November 21, 2020

Failed to see the Eastern yellow wagtail, which has been seen that day, but I did see two, maybe three, of the five reported **LAPLAND BUNTING** (a new species for the U.K.) as I left the area they had last been seen in and walked along footpaths to the right of the village of Worth. Also, three Jack snipe and several Stonechat.

As I was leaving to go home, news came in of a real find at Kingsdown, a 15-minute drive away, and I got to see **CRAG MARTIN** (a new species for the U.K.) with about 10 minutes

left of good light. Great views as it started to roost against the white cliff side. It was seen briefly the next day as it flew south, but it returned on Monday, 23 November, too. It had been found, so I was told, by a “non-birder” who thought what he thought was a Sand martin did not quite look right, so he called a birding friend who came down to see it, confirmed its identity and spread the word. That does not sound like a “non-birder” to me

Rainham RSPB Reserve, Purfleet, Essex: November 26, 2020 5 x Pintail; one Water pipit that I found and managed to show several other people, for most of whom it constituted a new species, so that was satisfying, as it is usually someone else who shows me a bird, or I hear of one being seen somewhere. Several Marsh harrier, Buzzard sitting on a post and two Redshank on the River Thames. Wigeon back in high number. I bumped into an old friend, Joel Williams and his daughter

Sonning, Oxfordshire: November 29, 2020 My first Redwing of the winter

Thursley Common, Surrey: December 4, 2020 Arrived at first light to try and find two species that have been seen the previous six days but not the day before I went, which was a day of horrendous rain. I found the **RUSTIC BUNTING** (new species for U.K.) and Little bunting, which comprised only my second sighting, and definitely the best. Both birds were elusive, often hiding in the grass among scrub and gorse, and several Reed bunting confused the identification. The light was best before 9:30 a.m., which was when I took my only photographs. The rest of the time did not produce good sightings, maybe because there was later on a dozen people there looking for the birds. Also, Red kite; one Dartford warbler; 2 x Fieldfare; Coal tit, and Goldcrest

Swale Estuary and Capel Fleet, Isle of Sheppey, Kent: December 7, 2020 A very murky, foggy day, a heavy mist that did not lift. Beautifully atmospheric, and I met one other birder all day. Along the Swale I saw Curlew, also calling; Redshank and 100 x White-fronted goose in two groups. At Capel Fleet a scan in the gloom revealed a Barn owl, at 2:15 p.m., and, my first for decades, Hen harrier, a female. All photos were certainly not show-stoppers. Also, Turnstone, Redshank, and Oystercatcher on the shore at Leysdown-on-Sea, by the Shellness Estate

Letcombe Regis, Oxfordshire: December 11, 2020 GREAT BUSTARD (new species for U.K.), but one I will regard as an escapee unless told otherwise—even though the population is self-sustaining, all birds do come from a reintroduction programme on Salisbury Plain. A magnificent bird, the heaviest flying bird on the planet. Also, a Fieldfare sitting on a fence, and a male Pheasant who might have walked across the field in which the bustard was if the bustard was not five times as large

Stearth Marshes, Cheddar Reservoir and Barrow Gurney Reservoir, Somerset: December 12, 2020 A sunny day among several of gloom, and an **EASTERN YELLOW WAGTAIL** (new species for the U.K.), a relatively recent split from the Yellow wagtail, at Stearth. After not seeing one on November 21, 2020, it was good to catch up with one here, but it was hard work to find. It also is notable in that it is the first “lifer” Alex Carlisle and I have seen together for more than 30 years, his U.K. list being far larger and mine and I having lived in the USA for 20 years. Some birders had arrived at dawn, 7:30, and it was seen only once all day, at 2 p.m. We did hear it a couple of hours before we saw it, and it was lucky we managed to see it at all. We had turned the car around while eating lunch to view a compost heap that the bird occasionally favoured, and it was only because we were now

facing the marsh wall that we saw some birders show signs of anxiousness. We were out of the car in a flash and run up and along the wall to where we had been earlier to view the birds for perhaps no more than 40 seconds before it flew up, around in a circle above our heads and disappeared. Other birders scattered along the wall would have missed it for sure. Also, good views of Hen harrier low over the marshes and a Merlin that shot though and took out a Redshank. We also saw Nature Watch's Iolo Williams and Mya-Rose Craig filming for an upcoming series, possibly the Penduline tit that would only be able to be seen well with a very high-powered TV camera.

Last stop was Cheddar Reservoir for a **RED-CRESTED POCHARD** (new species for the U.K.), a species that is not reported but does not have huge numbers in the U.K. outside of one park in the Cotswolds, a species that I simply had not got around to seeing before.

Our first stop of the day was Barrow Gurney Reservoir for a very confident Great northern diver, definitely my best views, and my first U.K. male Long-tailed duck, a super thing, as is the diver. Also, a Common sandpiper

Cooling Marshes and Salt Fleet, Cooling, Kent: December 20, 2020 A long, muddy walk from Cooling Castle across the marshes to Salt Fleet, the scene of a hurried swim across Egypt Bay creek 35 years ago or so with Alex Carlisle and Clive Gilby. This time around I did not walk around the Thames shore path so far but saw a **RICHARD'S PIPIT** (new species for the U.K.) that flew out of cover and landed 50 or so metres from me. Evident supercilium that went over the eye to the bill, long legs and upright stance. It was skittish. Also, two Peregrine falcon; Marsh harrier; Kestrel; 200 x Shelduck; 50 x Skylark, a flock of Redwing and Fieldfare. Also saw two dead foxes laid neatly side by side off Rye Street in Cooling, which I reported, although I have no idea if a crime was perpetrated

Reculver and Oare Marshes Nature Reserve, Faversham, Kent: January 3, 2021 At Reculver, 3 x Snow bunting, my best views of this wonderful species, although flitty and sometimes difficult to see amid the shingle. Also, Sanderling; Curlew; Redshank; Oystercatcher; 40 x Corn bunting; 20 x Reed bunting; 50 x Meadow pipit; Stonechat; 100 x Brent goose; Common buzzard

At Oare, 4 x Bearded tit (I had expected stronger winds today, but no), including two males, one of which was confident for at least one close-up photo; 20 x Pintail; Gadwall; Teal; Kingfisher hovering over Oare Creek; one Turnstone; 3 x Curlew; 100 x Avocet; several Shelduck; Dunlin; 3 x Grey plover. In addition, a Slow-worm (I reported this to the relevant herpetology website), which I thought initially was dead and which when I realised it was not moved gently with gloves off the sea-wall path and into an area of denser vegetation, and a Common seal in Oare Creek

Rivers Pool and Ravensbourne, London; February 27, 2021 So very little birding as we mope around in the midst of a 3.5-month lockdown to at least 12 April, but two Grey wagtail; Kingfisher zipping up and down; Sparrowhawk, and Goldcrest

Crossness Nature Reserve, Belvedere, Kent: March 12, 2021 2 x Fieldfare; 3 x Grey wagtail; Teal; Pochard; Wigeon; Shelduck; Gadwall; 5 x Redshank, and 3 x Barnacle goose (I heard of a birder who has 195 species for this site but not a Barnacle goose, well, until March 13, 2021. The resident southern population of this goose I believe is to get or has got recognition as a self-sustaining population, but I have seen many of the Solway Firth between England and Scotland so definitely know I have an accepted example

Peckham Rye Park, London; March 14,15, 16 and 17, 2021 Four visits on four consecutive days to see a Little owl roosting in a pine tree just outside the perimeter of Sexby Gardens. The best views I have had of this species; also, on 14 March, a Great-spotted woodpecker

Crossness Nature Reserve, Belvedere, Kent: March 20, 2021 Great view of a Cetti's warbler flying over reeds. Also, Curlew; 4 x Black-tailed godwit; 3 x Oystercatcher, and a Peregrine falcon

Crossness Nature Reserve, Belvedere, Kent: March 27, 2021 2 x Peregrine falcon; one male and one female Wheatear (first for the year); several Chiffchaff; 2 x Stock dove, and Oystercatcher

Hutchinson's Bank, New Addington, Surrey: March 28, 2021 Two Red kites and 2 x Skylark on Farleigh Golf Course

Moors Nature Reserve, Redhill, Surrey: April 1, 2021 Female Ring-necked duck quite close to the bank that gave excellent views. This is only third I have seen, and the first female. Also, Coal tit; Little grebe, and nesting Great crested grebe

Staines Moors and Staines Reservoir, Staines, Surrey: 1 April, 2021 My first visit to Staines Moors to try and see (I did not) reported Ring ouzel, but Linnet; 50 x Skylark; male Wheatear; Green woodpecker; Blackcap; Chiffchaff, and first Swallow of the year, while on the reservoir was a Little ringed plover and 50 x Pied wagtail

Barcombe Cross, Sussex: April 10, 2021 An early drive down to see **WHITE-THROATED SPARROW** (new species for the U.K.) that had been reported in the previous two days and could well be the same individual as was seen (and suppressed) in Kent in January. After a hour of searching it gave great views at approximately 8 a.m. on a chilly morning. On the way home stopped off at Weir Wood Reservoir and saw Nuthatch and year's first Whitethroat

Crossness Nature Reserve, Belvedere, Kent: April 16, 2021 My first walk to the Southern Marsh area of this reserve, where I found a female Ring ouzel and watched it for 45 minutes, with it being in the company of four Song thrush

Shrewsbury Park, Shooters Hill, Kent: April 20, 2021 Tawny owl. I had been told of it and its location, and it was quite easily found, although there was no sign of its chicks, which have been seen

Samphire Hoe and Dungeness, Kent: April 23, 2021 At Samphire Hoe, Black redstart; Meadow pipit; Stonechat; numerous Linnet; 3 x Raven; also, my first-ever Early spider orchid, the main reason for my visit. After searching for two hours, I found one flowering example with one flower, as well as several orchids not yet in bloom
At Dungeness, at sea, Gannet; Common tern, and 16 Whimbrel; on a low, flat roof of the nuclear power station, Iceland gull; and in the RSPB reserve, on the feeder, 2 x Brambling, one male, and Greenfinch, and out in the field 32 x Curlew, which was a very nice sight, as well as Sedge warbler

Nettlebed, Oxfordshire: April 24, 2021 On a walk with friends, an albino Pheasant being looked at carefully by a Red kite, of which I saw many, this being the epicentre of the English reintroduction of this species some 20 years ago or so. Having my first pint in a pub (outdoors being the only seating allowed at the moment) I saw that the town-sign mural of the village featured a Red kite

Hartslock, Oxfordshire, and Hambleden, Buckinghamshire: May 16, 2021 An orchid trip, essentially, but at Hartslock a Cuckoo calling and breaking cover, but also a few Lady orchid, a handful of Monkey orchid and numerous examples of Lady-Monkey orchid, the only place in the U.K. where these exist

In the Hambleden area, Military orchid (the first time I have seen them) in one of only three places in the U.K. they exist, and three Early purple orchid. The Military orchid were still in closed spikes, but I found one “soldier” who was out of barracks, so to speak. Also, maybe 40 Red kite, one Common buzzard and three or four Orange tip butterflies

Cumbria and County Durham: May 29-June 1, 2021 A short holiday. At Cross Keys, Cautley Spout, for all four days a Cuckoo calling, and I had good views on three occasions and once seeing it mobbed by a group of passerines. Also, Siskin; Coal tit; Meadow pipit; Stonechat; Skylark; Oystercatcher; Grey wagtail; Common sandpiper; Lapwing; Buzzard; Swallow; Sand martin; House martin, and Swift. At Langdon Beck, no sign of Black grouse, with the weather very warm, but lots of Curlew and Lapwing

Magpie Bottom, Shoreham, Kent: 6 June, 2021 Another orchid trip, with Man orchid; Common twayblade; Common spotted orchid (just starting to bloom), and Early purple orchid (one, and on its last legs). Also, 3 x Broad-leaved helleborine, but a few weeks from flowering. Nightingale heard and Mistle thrush seen

Nuthurst, Sussex, and other spots in Sussex: June 26-July 17, 2021 In the garden of the cottage we stayed in, Yellowhammer; Song thrush; Greater-spotted woodpecker; Red kite; Buzzard; Coal tit; Nuthatch

At Knepp, White stork (a new species for me in the U.K., but these are introduced birds); male Bullfinch (to go with the female Bullfinch I saw at Warnham Nature Reserve, Horsham) At Amberley Brooks, distant but credible view of a juvenile White-tailed eagle, also one from a reintroduction project, in its case on the Isle of Wight (local birders on line suggest it is searching for a breeding ground of its own); I had almost given up searching for it when I saw what seemed to me to be an unusual lump on a tree (Other wildlife sightings dominated by orchids: At Heyshott, my first-ever Musk orchid (12 spikes), after a long search and amazement at how tiny they are); also, Common twayblade and Bee orchid, and nearby hundreds and hundreds of Pyramidal orchid. At Firle Beacon, my first sighting of Frog orchid (nine spikes)

Dulwich, London: July 23, 2021 On a run, a Little owl

Minsmere RSPB Reserve, Saxmundham, Suffolk: August 1, 2021 WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER (new species for the U.K.), with great views, and once probing the mud very close to the East Hide; also, distant but ID-able Pectoral sandpiper; 3 x Spotted redshank; 3 x Kittiwake; Bittern and Great egret flyovers; Marsh harrier; Ruff; Ringed plover; Black-tailed godwit

Oare Marshes, Faversham, and Cliffe, Kent: August 14, 2021 At Oare, Bonaparte's gull (the same returning one, I imagine); 3 x Little tern; Greenshank. (Also, Grass snake and Marsh frog)

Rainham RSPB Reserve, Purfleet, Essex: August 15, 2021 All three species of egret, Cattle, Great and Little. Also, Marsh harrier; Yellow-legged gull, and Curlew. (Later on, went to near Vigo, Kent, and found my first Violet helleborine)

Frampton Marsh RSPB Reserve, Frampton, Lincolnshire: August 21, 2021 My first visit to this reserve, and a great day. **PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER** (new species for the U.K.), with so-so views followed later by good views to both sides of the sea wall, and **BLACK STORK** (new species for the U.K.), With again initially so-so views, but later on it flew right over my head, once being mobbed by an Avocet. Also, Spotted sandpiper; Ringed plover; Little ringed plover; 2 x Little stint; Greenshank; Redshank; Green sandpiper; Common sandpiper; numerous Ruff; 26 x Spoonbill; numerous Snipe; Dunlin; Little owl; Short-eared owl; Kestrel; Merlin; adult Cuckoo that flew in front of my car as I drove into the reserve; Wheatear; numerous Yellow wagtail; Greater scaup

Dubai, United Arab Emirates: September 18-22, 2021 Qudra Lakes and Ras al Khor: Greater flamingo; Grey Francolin; Stone curlew; Lesser grey shrike; White-tailed lapwing; Sociable plover; Grey plover; Ringed plover; Kentish plover; Ruff; Dunlin; Redshank; Greenshank; Red-vented bulbul; White-cheeked bulbul; Shikra; Marsh harrier; Grey heron; Western reef heron; Little egret; Great egret; Black-winged stilt; Common sandpiper; Green sandpiper; Sooty gull (Al Mamzar); Blue-cheeked bee-eater; Indian roller; Hoopoe; Fulvous whistling-duck. (Also, Arabian gazelle and Sand gazelle)

London Wetland Centre, Barnes, London: September 23, 2021 Pectoral sandpiper, my third one in the U.K. and the nearest, although not so very close

Isles of Scilly, Cornwall, England: October 2-9, 2021 100 species, exactly, seen from the moment Alex Carlisle and I left Timsbury to my return home, including two species seen on October 10

Hayle Estuary, Cornwall (October 1)—2 x Bar-tailed godwit; Black-tailed godwit; Oystercatcher; Redshank and Greenshank

Isles of Scilly

October 2—Scillonian III Crossing (Penzance to Hugh Town): Eider; **BALEARIC SHEARWATER** (new species for the U.K.); Sooty shearwater; Manx shearwater and Gannet

Lower Moors: Greenshank and Water rail

Porth Hellick—Water rail; Spotted crane; Glossy ibis; Pectoral sandpiper; Greenshank and Merlin

October 3—Hugh Town: Great crested grebe (rarity for the Isles of Scilly)

Bryher—Buff-breasted sandpiper (my second only; this is the species I believe I start my U.K. list with, having seen one in September or October 1977 in Cliffe, Kent); 2 x Pink-footed goose and Brent (Pale-bellied form)

Tresco—Dotterel

October 4—St. Agnes: **BUFF-BELLIED PIPIT** (new species for the U.K.), and 2 x Pied wagtail (White wagtail sub-species)

Lower Moors—Water rail

October 5—St. Mary's: Woodchat shrike (my second only, and one of the Balearic sub-species *Lanius senator badius*) and Snow bunting

St. Martin's—**RED-BREASTED FLYCATCHER** (new species for U.K.)

October 6—On a Pelagic from the Sapphire: Sandwich tern; Peregrine falcon; Great skua (my second only); Arctic skua (my second only); 2 x Puffin; Razorbill; Guillemot; Manx shearwater; Sooty shearwater and Arctic tern. (Also a Common dolphin breaching the water)

October 7—Porthmellon: Sanderling

Porth Hellick—Pectoral sandpiper snuggled up next to a Snipe; Bar-tailed godwit and Yellow-browed warbler. (Also a Hummingbird hawkmoth)

October 8—St. Agnes: Snow bunting; Whitethroat; Willow warbler and Whinchat

The Garrison—Pied flycatcher

October 9—Peninnis: male and female Black redstart

The Garrison—Pied flycatcher; Spotted flycatcher; Yellow wagtail; Black redstart and Whinchat

Normandy Marsh, Lymington, England: October 10, 2021 WESTERN

SANDPIPER (new species for U.K.), I believe the 13th for the U.K., and Little stint. The sandpiper smaller than surrounding Dunlin and possessed a characteristic bobbing movement as it moved and searched for food

Dulwich, London, England: October 17, 2021 On a walk with Francesca, a Little owl and, later, a Peregrine falcon

Rainham RSPB Reserve, Purfleet, Essex: October 24, 2021 A couple of decent but fleeting views of Dartford warbler, but the first time I have seen this species within view of Dartford itself, the town in which I was born. Also, 4 x Cattle egret

Thamesmead, Erith, Crayford, Kent: November 19, 2021

Searching with Alex and Mike for Caspian gull, with a few examples we thought were our quarry, but turned out not to be. Yellow-legged gull, though.

Oare Marshes, Faversham, and Cliffe, Kent: November 28, 2021 Hoping for a day of strong northerly or easterly winds, with alcids and tubenoses, but it was a gorgeous if chilly day, with the winds not moving the way I wanted. Grey plover; Curlew; 60 x Avocet; Golden plover; several murmuration of Knot in the distance; Marsh harrier hovering over the Thames, and Brent

At Cliffe, Black-throated diver; Kingfisher, and Red-breasted merganser

Blacktoft Sands RSPB, Goole, Yorkshire: December 16, 2021 Visit to see the long-staying **WHITE-TAILED LAPWING** (new species for U.K.), which, although I assumed it was still there, I found for myself, waiting for five minutes before it popped out from behind a small muddy islet. Also, quite a number of Snipe

Carr Vale Nature Reserve, Chesterfield, Derbyshire: December 16, 2021 Stopped off on the way home to see **AMERICAN WIGEON** (new species for U.K.), among numerous (Eurasian) wigeon and Teal; also, much to my surprise, **WILLOW TIT** (new species for U.K.), which I called out (the other birders there were looking at right angles to the flat-tray bird feeder at the American wigeon) as Marsh tit, but was delightfully corrected. I saw one on

another occasion, too. Also, 3 x Pink-footed goose and 2 x Pintail, both species flying overhead

Pulborough Brooks RSPB, Pulborough, Sussex: December 19-31, 2021 A few birding visits among two weeks near Horsham for Christmas. For dearest little White, one of our cats, I dedicate a wonderful sighting of a Lesser-spotted woodpecker on two visits; also, Goshawk; Marsh harrier; White-fronted goose; Bullfinch
At Warnham Nature Reserve, Horsham, a Bullfinch and five titmouse species—Blue, Coal, Great, Long-tailed and Marsh
At Southwick Shore Canal, Shoreham-on-Sea, a Long-tailed duck, apart from two Cormorant, the only bird on the canal

Western Parade, Eastbourne, Sussex: January 16, 2022

HUME'S LEAF-WARBLER (new species for U.K.). Seen within a minute. I heard it zip over, and had good views of a flitty bird. Two birders standing next to me said they had waited 45 minutes before they saw it the same moment

Isles of Grain and Sheppey, Kent: January 22, 2022

At Yantlet Creek, Isle of Grain, no luck with a reported Glossy ibis but several Sanderling and Turnstone, while at Leysdown on the Isle of Sheppey, probably 100 Brambling, while on the beach by Little Groves Leisure Park, seven Shore lark. This is the first time I have seen the European *Eremophila alpestris flava* Shore lark, but I did see an American horned lark in the U.K. at Staines Reservoir, Surrey on 26 January, 2018, which could be referred to as the principal Shore or Horned lark prototype. There are 42 subspecies globally.
At Capel Fleet, probably 200 Golden plover and 1,000 Brent. Also, a small flock of White-fronted goose and a Red kite

Marsh Farm Country Park. South Woodham Ferrers, Essex: January 23, 2022

My 300th U.K. species, **RED-BREASTED GOOSE** (new species for U.K.). I arrived at the site at approximately 9 a.m. just as another birder, Daniel Field, a Canadian ornithologist teaching and researching at Cambridge University, arrived, too, so we introduced ourselves and decided to find the goose together. It was not in the flock of Brent goose present, and we walked all the way around the country park to where Clementsgreen Creek meets the River Crouch, where we saw the Red-breasted goose fly in all on its own. We searched for it along the river bank, but then heard word that it was within the original flock. After that, we had great views, and it, and the flock, came somewhat close. Also, Grey plover; Golden plover; Dunlin; Rock pipit, and a "Black" brent, or Brant, subspecies (*Branta bernicla nigricans*)

Oslo, Norway: January 24-27, 2022

A work trip, and I did not leave Central Oslo, but the crow here is only the Hooded crow, and in the harbour was a pair of resplendent Goldeneye

Eastbourne, Sussex: February 12, 2022

AMERICAN ROBIN (new species for U.K.), seen not so far from the sighting of the Hume's leaf warbler less than a calendar month before. Glorious sunshine, and I arrived at 7 a.m. Seen immediately, and it flew and perched within 15 feet for fantastic views. (I am aware that I never gave a second glance of the 500,000 of this species I saw when I lived in the US, apart from enjoying its habit of walking fast forward three steps, coming to a halt, then repeating.) I went to see if I could see the Hume's leaf warbler again, but the surf was making a lot of noise, it was chilly and the wind blew, so I did not give it long. On the way

home, right on the outskirts of Eastbourne at Polegate, there was a Hooded crow. A local said it had been there for three weeks, and I rather suspect the same is true of the American robin, even though it came to birders' attention only on February 8

Priory Country Park, Bedford, Bedfordshire: February 26, 2022

GREEN-WINGED TEAL (new species for U.K.). A gorgeous sunny day, mild for the time of year, and this new species that took some while to find. There were not so many teal, at least even half-visible, but a slow scan through lots of reeds finally revealed one with the tell-tale white bands going down through the breast. Also there, one Greater white-fronted goose; Marsh harrier; 3 x Snipe; 2 x Oystercatcher, and a flock of 40 feral Barnacle geese. A stop off at RSPB Sandy, the organisation's HQ and a place I have never been to, showed Siskin; Coal tit; 3 x Red kite, 2 x Greenfinch, and a Nuthatch

Crossness Nature Reserve, Belvedere, Kent: February 27, 2022

Common sandpiper; 20 x Redshank; 20 x Black-tailed godwit; Wigeon; Pochard; Gadwall; 100s of Teal; Linnet; Peregrine

Epping Forest, Essex: March 20, 2022

On a walk with friends, a Firecrest in really good light

Mayow Park, Sydenham, London: March 29, 2022

Francesca took a photo of a "strange bird" she saw while out on a run, and it was the escaped Crested caracara from London Zoo, which has been roaming around south and southeast London (and last heard at Kemsing, Kent) for three weeks. A team came from the zoo to see if they could recapture it, but they failed, obviously. (It was finally recaptured.)

Lower Pond Lane Ponds, Marlow, Buckinghamshire: April 3, 2022

BLUE-WINGED TEAL (new species for U.K.). So, two American teal U.K. lifers for me in a row, this one being a female; also, a Red kite landed in a tree very close to me, and I got a couple of good photos before it saw me and dashed off

Abberton Reservoir, Peldon, Essex: April 9, 2022

LESSER SCAUP (new species for U.K.), which took some finding. There were only two flocks of tufted duck on the reservoir, a small flock of six and a large flock of maybe 200. It was not in the smaller flock, and in the larger flock it took a lot of searching, but finally I saw the grey back, upright head and small bobble to the back of the head. It was not windy today, but all the ducks were diving, and it was very easy to lose. Also, a pair of Goldeneye and my first Swallow of the year

Mucking Marshes, East Tilbury, Essex: April 9, 2022

My second-ever Temminck's stint, which I believe is the same bird that has been seen in Cliffe, Kent, and was found by a friend of mine, Paul Dietrich. Really tidy individual, with the pale brown head and breast band showing nicely. Also, a Ringed plover and a Little ringed plover, my first for the year

Ham Wall RSPB Reserve, Somerset: April 23, 2022

A very unpromising day that turned into a very warm one, albeit with some gusts of strong breeze. The highlights were six Glossy ibis all in a group (five of which later took to the air, scared off by an overenthusiastic photographer) and five Garganey, including four males.

Also, Great egret; Willow warbler; Blackcap, and a Bittern, although also we heard three or four booming, one very close but still unseen

Grunwald, Berlin, Germany: May 2, 2022

The first train stop—albeit a fairly long one from the Zoo area of Berlin—to a very large deciduous wood area dropping down to the Havelsee lake. Incredible birding so close to the city centre, with Hawfinch; Redstart; Nightingale; Wood warbler; Black woodpecker; Treecreeper; Nuthatch, and a pair of Crane on the small Platsee

Richmond, London, to Oxford, 100-mile Centurion Running race: May 7-8, 2022

I ran 100 miles—actually, 102 due to a bridge being closed by the Environmental Agency the evening before the race's start—from London to Oxford along the Thames Path. Forty-two species recorded, including Green woodpecker, Marsh tit and four calling Cuckoo

Regents Park, London: May 14, 2022

Heard numerous times before seen, an Iberian chiffchaff. The second time I have seen this species, but the first time I have heard and seen it singing repeatedly

Skokholm Island, Pembrokeshire, Wales: May 29, 2022

Quite extraordinary how I got here. On a trip to celebrate Francesca's birthday, and a trip modelled on her pace and interests, we had a planned trip to Skomer Island, essentially to see Puffin, but due to northerly winds it is impossible or dangerous for boats to land there, even if the sea looks like a millpond. I was told it has everything to do the swell. For a few days I had seen that on the normally inaccessible island next to Skomer, Skokholm, there had been a **MOLTONI'S SUBALPINE WARBLER** (new species for U.K.) present, so when I got an email saying the Skomer trip was cancelled, I called the number for the special birding boat organised, especially to see that species. Apparently, it is only the third time this century a boat has been organised to land at the bird reserve, which is always off limits (the other two boat trips were organised to see a Swainson's thrush and a Yellow-rumped warbler). Twenty-nine birders were met at the jetty and literally frogmarched to where the warbler had been seen. It was very elusive, but I saw it well twice, but never long enough to photograph. Also, spotted an **ICTERINE WARBLER** (new species for U.K.), among the few birders who were far enough along the trail to get back to the boat, so I got two new species, even though it, too, was very flitty. Also, Puffin; Razorbill, and Guillemot, my best views of these three birds I have ever had. Raven, too. It was a real privilege to come to this island. A memorable day. The Moltoni's warbler is, I believe, the 12th record for the U.K., and all of them have been in fringe, usually very isolated destinations, with the exception of two at Blakeney Point, Norfolk. It also is the first for Wales. The Icterine warbler was the 30th for Skokholm but the first since September 2014, just the third this century and the second to be seen in May



(Moltoni's warbler twitch, Skokholm Island, Wales; May 30, 2022)



(I am the last in line up the hill from the jetty, Skokholm Island, Wales)

Worth Marshes and Stodmarsh, Kent: June 2, 2022

Capping off what has been a very remarkable week of birding an **ELEONORA'S FALCON** (new species for U.K.), the first-ever twitchable example of the species for the country, with its previous appearances always being for one day only. This one has been here for since May 26, the day before I was happily ensconced in Wales. I was there at 0645, and I waited until 0712 before it dropped from its roost in the Great Wood to start patrolling the marsh in front of it. Very good views, including one of its hunting and devouring a dragonfly. Also, my second-ever Red-footed falcon, this one a juvenile with a white face and belly; also, a Hobby. There were at least six Hobby in Stodmarsh, as well as several Marsh harrier. Also, at Worth were several Avocet with chicks and two Little ringed plover

City of London: June 11, 2022

A non-birding day to a series of "secret" gardens opened up once a year as part of the Open Gardens event. At the Nomura Insurance Co. headquarters on Angel Lane, I was very privileged to be invited to the rooftop garden, usually out of bounds, and not open during this event, to see Small-flowered tongue orchid, which were discovered at the site in 2021 and which were the first of its species to be discovered in the United Kingdom since 1989. There are almost 30 spikes, but already this year they were fading, but there was one with some flowers. Obviously, a new species for me

Old Lodge, Ashdown Forest, Nutley, Sussex: June 12, 2022

12 x Redstart, males and females; 12 x Dartford warbler, with the first time I have managed to photograph one; 2 x Tree pipit; Wood lark; Red kit; Buzzard, and Hobby. (Also, Heath-spotted orchid)

Bempton Cliffs RSPB, Yorkshire, and Idle Washlands, Nottinghamshire: June 26, 2022

At long last, a chance to catch up with the famed **BLACK-BROWED ALBATROSS** (new species for U.K.) that erroneously arrived here in summer 2021 and has returned for a second lost but wonderfully so year. I arrived at 9 a.m. and waited for 90 minutes before it decided to launch itself off some hidden rock crag, but the wait was well worth it, the huge bird circling three of four times right beneath me. It then disappeared, and it did not reveal itself for more than five hours. I had long gone, with the winds picking up noticeably. Also, Puffin; Razorbill; Guillemot; Fulmar, and Kittiwake. By the visitor centre were several Tree sparrow

On the way home, stopped off at Idle Washlands to see a **CASPIAN TERN** (new species for U.K.). This is the largest tern species, and it dwarfed a Black-headed gull standing next to it. Also, one Wood sandpiper

San Francisco, California: July 19-26, 2022

Fort Mason, Crissy Field and the Presidio — **HOODED ORIOLE** (new species for US); **RED-MASKED PARAKEET** (new species for US); **VESPER SPARROW** (new species for US); **HUTTON'S VIREO** (new species for US); **ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD** (new species for US); Black phoebe; Pygmy nuthatch; **BUSHTIT** (new species for US); **CALIFORNIA TOWHEE** (new species for US); Song sparrow; White-crowned sparrow; Lesser goldfinch; Nuttall's woodpecker; Surf scoter; Western grebe; **LAZULI BUNTING** (new species for US); **HEERMANN'S GULL** (new species for US); **CALIFORNIA SCRUB-JAY** (new species for US); Pacific wren; Cooper's hawk; Red-tailed hawk; Red-shouldered hawk; Peregrine; Killdeer; Pigeon guillemot; Brown pelican; American white pelican; Great blue heron; Brewer's blackbird; Pied grebe; Ruddy duck; American coot, and Collared dove

HALF MOON BAY PELAGIC, with Alvaro's Adventures — Pigeon guillemot; Brown pelican; **BLACK TURNSTONE** (new species for US); **WANDERING TATLER** (new species for US); **ASHY STORM-PETREL** (new species for US); **BLACK-FOOTED ALBATROSS** (new species for US); Black oystercatcher; Pelagic cormorant; **BULLER'S SHEARWATER** (new species for US); California gull; **CASSIN'S AUKLET** (new species for US); Double-crested cormorant; **ELEGANT TERN** (new species for US); **GREY PHALAROPE** (new species for US); Guillemot; Heermann's gull; Marbled murrelet; **BRANDT'S CORMORANT** (new species for US); **PINK-FOOTED SHEARWATER** (new species for US); Red-necked phalarope; Rhinoceros auklet; Sooty shearwater; Sabine's gull; Tufted puffin; Western gull; **LONG-TAILED SKUA** (new species for US); Arctic skua, **FULMAR** (new species for US), and **POMARINE SKUA** (new species for US)

Also, Killer whale (x 3); Humpback whale (x2); Harbour seal, and California sea lion

Pagham Harbour RSPB and Medmerry RSPB reserves, July 30, 2022 A trip to see **SQUACCO HERON** (new species for U.K.), which was seen with no fuss at all intermingling with 20 or so Cattle egret. Very little else at the reserve.

At Medmerry, on what remained a humid if not sunny day, Curlew sandpiper in mostly summer plumage; Yellow wagtail; Ringed plover, and a Wood sandpiper that I rediscovered deep in grass but which then took a long walk along and back along a stretch of mud. A great many Sand martin were flying around

Greenwich, London, July 31, 2022 Following seeing a wonderful photograph online of four Peregrine falcon on a church weathercock, a quick hop to see two of them. I waited for 40 minutes before I saw one fly by quickly, and then two play-fought acrobatically and settled on two protuberances of the Catholic Church of Our Lady Star of the Seas. The priest of the church, Father Kevin, happened to be on a stroll, and he invited me into his back garden to get a better look as the light in the afternoon was directly in front of me if I stood in front of the church. He and his wife, Frances, and daughter, Lisa, were very kind and hospitable, and I promised I would send some photos to them for their use, even if I did issue the caveat that the steel-grey light was not perfect for photography

Dungeness, Kent: August 6, 2021 5 x Glossy ibis and 5 x Great egret; also, Ringed plover; Little ringed plover; Common sandpiper; Sedge warbler; 4 x Lesser whitethroat; 2 x Black redstart; one male Pied flycatcher; one Wheatear and one Yellow-legged gull

Ohio: August 13-15, 2022

Cleveland Lakefront Nature Reserve—Blue grosbeak; Eastern wood peewee; Song sparrow; Pine warbler; Wilson's warbler; American goldfinch; Field sparrow; Chipping sparrow; Chimney swift; Red-breasted nuthatch; Ruby-throated hummingbird; and Downy woodpecker

Magee Marsh—Bald eagle, adult and immature; 2 or 3 Prothonotary warbler; Blue-grey gnatcatcher; Baltimore oriole; Ruby-throated hummingbird; Red-eyed vireo; Yellow warbler; Swamp sparrow; Green heron, and Ovenbird

Ottawa National Reserve—Sandhill crane; Long-billed dowitcher; Short-billed dowitcher; Semipalmated plover; Killdeer; Least sandpiper; Lesser yellowlegs; Pectoral sandpiper, and Greater yellowlegs

Huntingdon Beach—Indigo bunting; 2 x Belted kingfisher; Great-crested flycatcher; Great blue heron; Northern flicker; Willow flycatcher, and Red-headed woodpecker

Central Park, New York City, New York, USA: August 21, 2022 Blue-grey gnatcatcher; Great-crested flycatcher; Willow flycatcher; Ruby-throated hummingbird; American redstart; Northern waterthrush; Yellow-rumped warbler; Baltimore oriole, and Canada warbler

Timberland Fen, Timberland, Lincolnshire: August 27, 2021 ROLLER (new species for U.K.), a species I have dreamed of seeing since I received my first book on birds—"Bird spotting" by John Holland, illustrations by Rein Stuurman, published by Blandford Press, which contained a poor illustration of a Roller, but one that still caught my imagination—in the late 1970s. The bird was a juvenile, and it kept a little distant, but it flew off from its perch like a Spotted flycatcher quite often, which showed its blue wings to excellent effect. Also, Peregrine; Kestrel; Buzzard, and Red kite

Cliffe, Kent: August 29, 2022 Birding with Mike, in which he saw four lifers—Curlew sandpiper (approximately 15, including one with reddish splodges); Little stint; 2 x Stone curlew (only my second ever), which took some searching before being obvious and then just as suddenly disappearing after 10 minutes of watching them), and Pectoral sandpiper, which we saw on two occasions. Also, 100 x Avocet; Whitethroat, and Sanderling. Bumped into Barry Wright, a well-known Kent birder who I birded with in the 1980s but have not seen for 35+ years. We did not see the reported Glossy ibis, which was again reported after we left

Wanstead Flats, Manor Park, London: September 2, 2022 On a chase for a reported Wryneck that I managed to see disappointingly zipping out of cover and then lost to view. Also, 2 x Wheatear and a Whinchat in an area wonderfully sealed off from the feet of Londoners to help nesting Skylark and other birds

Pett Level, Sussex, and Dungeness, Kent: September 3, 2021 RED-NECKED PHALAROPE (new species for U.K.), a species I would have thought I would have seen before now, but some say it is not too easy to see, although 2022 seems to have reported a few individuals. Wonderful views in the front area of the middle of a pond, the juvenile bird zigzagging and constantly following a small group of Black-headed gulls. Also, Bearded tit; Yellow wagtail; 6 x Curlew; 2 x Spoonbill; Gannet; Common tern; Sedge warbler; Bearded tit; Whinchat, and Sedge warbler
At Dungeness, Pectoral sandpiper at Denge Marsh and, in wonderful light, at the ARC Pit, 2 x Glossy ibis; 2 x Snipe; Wood sandpiper; Curlew Sandpiper; Common sandpiper (these last four species very close to the hide); 200 x Golden plover

Anchor Bottom, Steyning, Sussex: September 4, 2022 A first visit here, in the South Downs National Park, to find 100, maybe 200, spikes of a new orchid species for me, Autumn lady's-tresses, the U.K. last flowering orchid of the year. Also, 2 x Kestrel and a Buzzard

West Peckham, Kent: September 10, 2022 Seem sitting on a wire, a Turtle dove, apart from the one I saw out of season in 2020 the first summer one I have seen in more than three decades

Walmer, Kent: September 25, 2022 I believe today is my first butterfly twitch, I saw maybe five, perhaps seven, Queen of Spain fritillary, a rarity in the U.K. and which created much excitement. Later at Kingsdown, three Wheatear, perhaps 40 Stonechat, several juvenile Mediterranean gull following a plough with hundreds of other gulls and a Wall brown butterfly

Isles of Scilly, Cornwall, England: October 7-16, 2022 108 species, seen from the moment Alex Carlisle, Mike Edwards and I left Timsbury to my return home

(((**Cheddar Reservoir, Somerset** (October 7)—no sign of the Glossy ibis, but a Whooper swan)))

(((**Hayle Estuary, Cornwall** (October 7)—2 x Lesser yellowlegs; Little stint; Grey plover, and 8 x Bar-tailed godwit)))

Isles of Scilly

Scillonian III Crossing (Penzance to Hugh Town): Eider; **POMARINE SHEARWATER** (new species for the U.K.); Manx shearwater; Razorbill; Guillemot, and Gannet; (also, Common dolphin); on the boat back to Penzance, Great shearwater and Kittiwake

Hugh Town—Great Northern diver, in summer plumage, the first example I have seen in the U.K.; also, 2 x **COMMON ROSEFINCH** (new species for the U.K.), one in Hugh Town, the other near Holy Vale, after failing to see even one in 2021 on the Isles of Scilly

St. Mary's—**RADDE'S WARBLER** (new species for the U.K.), seen on two occasions on the same day, the only day it was present, one on the wall of the church in Old Town, the other two field lengths farther away. On Porthhellick Pool, from the Stephen Sussex Hide, a Water rail; Greenshank, and **WILSON'S SNIPE** (new species for the U.K.), which after a wait was flushed out by a Moorhen but circled back around to show underwing barring and different head pattern. There was one pale-looking snipe present, too. At the road side of Higher Moor, **MELODIOUS WARBLER** (new species for the U.K.), which I saw very well just before all pandemonium broke loose (see Bryher section below), and at Trenoweth, on my third attempt, **OLIVE-BACKED PIPIT** (new species for the U.K.), which I saw after an organised, and gentle) flush of the bird from overgrown weeds and crops

Others on St. Mary's—Wryneck; Pied flycatcher; Spotted flycatcher; Goldcrest; 3 x Firecrest; Sandwich tern; Whitethroat; Blackcap; 3 x Sparrowhawk, Kestrel; Peregrine; Whimbrel; Wheatear; Mistle thrush (not common on the isles), and Redstart and Black redstart, the first time I have ever seen both on the same day

Bryher—**BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER** (new species for the U.K.). See the write-up below, but suffice to say, a mega-sensation in Scilly birding, the seventh ever for the Western Palearctic, the fourth ever for the U.K. and the first for England, and the only really twitchable individual of this species. One the way there, a Long-tailed duck

Tresco—**SWAINSON'S THRUSH** (new species for the U.K.), the first of three mega-species seen on the islands (I saw it on the Saturday of my arrival and again two days later); also, an initially confirmed Two-barred greenish warbler that was later determined an odd-looking Yellow-browed warbler missing the dark borders to its wing bars. A Yellow-browed warbler was seen on Tresco, as well as two on St. Mary's; also, Wryneck, a very approachable one in the middle of the village of New Grimsby; Cattle egret; Black-tailed godwit; Curlew sandpiper; Whinchat, and Lady Amherst's pheasant (I have never seen one before), although certainly an introduced one to the Abbey Gardens

Blackburnian warbler sightings, Western Palearctic

7. Bryher, Isles of Scilly, England—October 13, 2022
6. St. Kilda, Outer Hebrides, Scotland—September 12-14, 2009
5. Fair Isle, Shetland, Scotland—October 7, 1988
4. once in Greenland (date?)
3. once in The Azores (date?)
2. Iceland; found dead on a fishing trawler 75 kilometres NW of Horni, Westfjörds—September or November 1987 (the bird was taken to the Iceland Museum of Natural History where the body remains)

1. Skomer, Pembrokeshire, Wales—October 5, 1961

Aldeburgh, Suffolk: October 28, 2022 A very fortunate sighting of a bird that stayed only for a little more than a day, an **ALPINE ACCENTOR** (new species for the U.K.), which initially was a distant speck but gradually came closer for wonderful views. A birder standing next to me said he was on the same dinghy as I was to see the Blackburnian warbler (see above), which probably in the birding world is not a coincidence. He also said it was the first of this species he had seen in the U.K. for 44 years. Another birder said he had already dipped three times trying to see one.

At one point, a child—maybe three or four years old—ran out on the path right in front of the bird, which caused merriment and frustration in equal measure. This is the 38th registered sighting of this species in the U.K.; another one turned up two days later in Norfolk, and I suppose it could have been the same individual

Port Lympne and Dungeness, Kent: November 5, 2022 A windy, wet day that started in Port Lympne, Kent, right by the entrance of the zoo, with an extremely approachable Sabine's gull, a first-year but very nice patterned bird. This is only the second time I have seen one in the U.K. Then off to an even wetter Dungeness for a **SIBERIAN STONECHAT** (new species for the U.K.), which had been reported while I was watching the gull. Good views, but it was an active individual. At the ARC Pit, two Glossy ibis; Yellow-legged gull, and Caspian gull

Seaton Wetlands, Colyford, Devon: December 21, 2022 On the way down to see Alex in Somerset, I decided after visiting Stonehenge early in the day (the druids for the Winter Solstice were due on the 22nd, I was told) to see the **ISABELLINE WHEATEAR** (new species for the U.K.) that had been reported the afternoon before. I have never been to this very attractive reserve. The bird was on a boardwalk, hopping up onto its rails or feeding in a marsh of open and low vegetation. Alex and his son Jay had decided that morning to go and see it, too, as it is a bird Alex has never seen despite now having a British list of 425 species, and he thought about telling me, but it would have been impossible for me to have caught him up. When I arrived at his house, the first thing we said to one another is that we both had a lifer that day!

Chew Reservoir, Somerset: December 22, 2022 A day of grey cloud and some drizzle, but two hours of birding was managed before the bad weather set in. 31 x Goosander; 3 x Goldeneye, two being males, and 3 x Great egret. Also, a flock of Long-tailed tit right in front of a hide standing in reeds made golden yellow by a rare piece of sunshine, but my camera's autofocus button on the lens was on manual mode, and the moment was lost

2022 Wrap-up

The year 2022 has proved to be a phenomenal year for birding for me, mostly as I have put in the effort. In 2017 I saw 22 lifers in the U.K., and I did not have a car in that year, but the more bird species one sees, the fewer there are to see, so 2022 must count as a success, beating that score by one:

Terence Baker's Birding Year, 2022

My 12 months of birding in 2022 were notable, more so when good chunks of it were still under COVID-19 regulations, the Omicron variant of coronavirus giving the country much to think about and a death rate still ominously high.

Francesca Terenzi, my wife, also turned 50 years of age in May, and she took several trips to Italy, her home, during the year, to see family she had not seen for the 30 months of the pandemic, to be with her twin sister for a holiday in Ischia and, as a special treat, to a cooking school in Sicily. This gave me extra weekends to devote to birding, and there was not a month in which I did not see something new in the U.K., except for March.

My first outing birding in 2022 was to the isles of Grain and Sheppey, Kent, where I began my birding life in the late 1970s with Alex Carlisle. I was there this time with Mike Edwards, both of whom were with me for the most memorable bird of the year in October (see below). Mike wanted to see a Glossy ibis, and he failed to see one on several occasions in 2022, including this time around. We did see at Leysdown approximately 100 Brambling, several Sanderling and seven Shore lark, which was the first time I had seen the European subspecies *Eremophila alpestris flava*, what Europeans regard as the full species, rather than the Horned lark, what Americans regard as the full species (the scientists can argue this amongst themselves), which I saw at Staines Reservoir, Surrey on 26 January, 2018. I learnt since there are 42 *Eremophila alpestris* subspecies globally. The Shore lark we saw on this occasion we re-found, which was satisfying.

The first trip Francesca took to Italy was right in the middle of January, and after dropping her off at Gatwick Airport I continued straight down the M23 to the English Channel to see my first United Kingdom lifer of the year, **HUME'S LEAF-WARBLER**. It was off The Parade in Eastbourne in a layered mass of trees that drop down from the top of a bluff to the English Channel. After two minutes of waiting, I saw the warbler in question zip over my head and land on a branch. Its two wing bars, the one closest to the head being no more than a large dot, provided the necessary identification, and it also called. Bird calls are not a specialty of mine, but I had learnt this one. This was an excellent start to the year, certainly as the only other two birders there said they waited 90 minutes before they saw it the same moment as I did.

My second lifer of the year was just a few miles north of the River Thames in Marsh Farm Country Park, South Woodham Ferrers, Essex. On January 23, I saw what is my 300th U.K. species, **RED-BREASTED GOOSE**. I had arrived too early, something I am very apt to do. When I arrived, I was told the flock of Brent geese it was spending time together had arrived the day before at 11 a.m., so instead of waiting I decided to walk around the site, a very large marsh, and I was joined by a Canadian ornithologist, Daniel Field, who teaches and researches ornithology at Cambridge University. As we circled back around to a spot where Clementsgreen Creek meets the River Crouch, I saw the Red-breasted goose fly in all on its own. It was very evident and quite wonderful, but I could not relocate it along the river.

Looking a few minutes later at my phone, I saw that it was in the field everyone expected it to return to, the day before being its second day present, and there I had excellent views of it amid a sizable flock of Brent geese that included one Brant, the American subspecies *Branta bernicla nigricans*. The general principle is that if a Red-breasted goose arrives with and spends time with Brent, it is highly likely to be a wild bird; if it turns up and spends time with Greylag, probably that is not the case.

The first mega came in early February. There is agreement amongst birders the **AMERICAN ROBIN** might have been present for some days before it was known by the birding community to be spending time in a small corner of the extreme eastern end of the South Downs wedged behind an innocuous housing estate in an obscure part of Eastbourne. This was an odd species for me to twitch, living as I had for 20 years in New York City. I have probably with no exaggeration seen half a million of this species. I always enjoyed watching hundreds of them in February and March occupy lawns in Central Park in displays where they would walk forwards rapidly three steps and then come to a halt, wait a few seconds and then repeat the process. Initially, in Eastbourne, I had walked not through the housing estate

but to its far side, wanting to be away from what I knew would be a large crowd. A narrow path led uphill and around to the other side of the houses, but the view here was less than adequate, so I retraced my steps and saw the bird at around 7 in the morning and with five other people. The sun was shining, and the robin decided to fly remarkably close to us and land on a berry bush immediately in front of five flat-roofed houses. I saw no residents the whole time I was there. Perhaps they were scared by the sight of hundreds of telescopes? Soon, the expected crowds arrived, and it never again came so close. I went to see if I could see the Hume's leaf warbler again, but the surf was making a lot of noise, it was chilly and the wind was blowing, so I did not give it long. On the way home, right on the outskirts of Eastbourne at Polegate, there was a Hooded crow. A local said it had been there for three weeks.

Later in February I drove to Priory Country Park near Bedford to see **GREEN-WINGED TEAL**. It was another gloriously sunny day, and it needed to be because the lake the duck was supposed to be on was large, and the walk around it was long, the path hardly ever sticking to the edge of the water. In addition, there were hundreds and hundreds of Teal, and many were only half-visible in the reed beds. Searching Teal by Teal, finally I found the one with the identifying white lines down its breast. There also was present one solitary Greater white-fronted goose.

On the way home I stopped off at RSPB Sandy, the organisation's headquarters, a place I have never been to, but the only notable species was a Siskin.

In late March, Francesca called me while she was on a run to tell me a "strange" bird was walking around Mayow Park, a tiny park in Sydenham local to where we live. She had taken a photo on her phone, so I immediately saw it was a Crested caracara, a species I have seen in Latin America. When I arrived, it was tugging worms out of a flower bed, and then it hopped up into the low branches of a tree. Apparently, it had escaped from London Zoo in Regent's Park and had avoided capture by zoological staff for three weeks. It always preferred South London, and it had been seen in Putney and Streatham, too. It also flew to Kent, landing in Kemsing. Eventually, it was caught and returned.

In early April in Marlow, Buckinghamshire, I saw the other species of American teal that occasionally arrives in the U.K. the **BLUE-WINGED TEAL**. It was a female, and discussion since has raged as to its provenance. Some have staid it also showed signs of Cinnamon teal. No decision has been made thus far.

This duck was followed a week later by another, **LESSER SCAUP**, which took some finding on huge Abberton Reservoir, Essex. Finding it was made a little easier by there being only two flocks of duck, the first one a group of six Tufted duck, the second one, which took a long time to come into a view, comprising of maybe 200 Tufted duck. I was reminded why it might be a promising idea to purchase a telescope, and I was indebted to one birder who put me on the bird we were looking for, the one with the grey back, upright head and small bobble to the back of the head. It was not windy, but all the ducks were diving, and it was amazingly easy to lose sight of the scaup.

On the way home, I saw my second-ever Temminck's stint in East Tilbury, Essex.

A few weeks later, in late April, I visit Alex Carlisle and he and I, and his son Jay, went down to Ham Wall in Somerset to see six Glossy ibis, five Garganey, including four drakes, and a Bittern. We ate lunch to the sound of one booming Bittern.

On May 14 in Regents Park, I saw my second-ever Iberian chiffchaff, and this was notable as I heard it while I was looking at it, the only sure way identification can be assured.

In late May I took Francesca to Wales for a 50th birthday present, staying in wonderful Roch Castle, Pembrokeshire. The plan was that there would be no birding, as this was a trip for Francesca, not for me. The only exception—and Francesca did not know any of this and did

not know even to where we were going until we crossed the Severn Bridge—was a trip to the isle of Skomer to see Puffin, as my thought process was that everyone loves seeing Puffin. Indeed, she was excited when I told her of this part of the trip, but on the Saturday evening, the day before we were to go to the isle, as we were having dinner in St. David's, I received an email saying the trip might be cancelled due to northerly winds making it impossible to land there. Both the pier at the embarkation point at Martin's Haven and on Skomer are very rudimentary, and a northerly wind just creates too much chop for a safe landing. The email said if at 8 a.m. on the Sunday no additional emails are forthcoming, then the trip is on. On waking, the first thing I saw was the dreaded email. Thankfully, on the Saturday on BirdGuides, an app most birders subscribe to for sightings, there had been a notable sighting on the neighbouring island, the normally inaccessible Skokholm. The warden and his volunteer team had found a **MOLTONI'S SUBALPINE WARBLER**, and they announced that it was still present on the Sunday morning, then a special birders' boat trip would be organised on May 29 by the same boat crew as would have taken us to Skomer. I called them immediately, and I got the two of us on the passenger list of a boat that was not leaving from Martin's Haven but a village named Dale, no more than three or four miles away that was also where I had coincidentally booked dinner for that night. There were maybe 40 people on board, nearly all twitchers. Only one party of three had, as we had done, asked the organisers if there was another trip they could take now that the Skomer one was no more. Later that morning, I spoke to a few local birders who all said there were no Puffin on Skokholm. There were many, though, presumably recent colonists. As the boat neared the isle, we were greeted to hundreds of Puffin, Guillemot and Razorbill. The visit was regimented. It was only the third time in the 21st Century "normal" visitors had been allowed on the isle. Usually, it is only volunteer staff who are allowed on, so we felt very privileged. We were met at the small quay, literally marched to where the warbler had been seen and told to please not move very far at all. Francesca was allowed back down to see Puffin, and she very much enjoyed that. The rest of us waited and waited and waited, aware that the clock was ticking, but we all did get views of the bird, even though it was adept at skulking.

I was among the first people back down to the quay because I wanted to see if I could get some photos of Puffin before we started the journey back. I and three others were perhaps 50 feet ahead of the rest of the crowd, and it was only us who spotted an **ICTERINE WARBLER**, which also was very flitty and very soon disappeared. The Moltoni's subalpine warbler, a recent split, was, I believe, the 12th record for the U.K., all of which have been found in very isolated destinations on islands, except for two at Blakeney Point, Norfolk. It also was a first for Wales. The Icterine warbler was the 30th for Skokholm but the first since September 2014, just the third this century and the second to be seen in May.

For a day and a half before the Wales trip, the birding world in the U.K. has been made aware that a mega had been found near Deal in Kent, about as far as one could get in a straight line across the country from far-west Wales. The **ELEONORA'S FALCON** on Worth Marsh is considered to be the first-ever twitchable example of the species for the country, and it became the runner up in the "2002 U.K. Bird of the Year" poll. A young lad on the boat to Skokholm, there with his father, had made a journey from the Swindon area on the Saturday with a friend, slept in their car overnight and then saw the falcon in the morning before heading back to Swindon and then onto Pembrokeshire. I hoped I could do the same but in the other direction, albeit with a couple of days in the office in between, but thankfully it was still there on Thursday, June 2, the first day of the official holiday for the Queen's platinum jubilee. Very bright and early I drove through Kent and walked onto the marsh. There were five or six people already there, and we watched what is only my second Red-footed falcon, a juvenile to add to the adult male I saw in Lakenheath, Suffolk, in May 2013. Someone mentioned the Eleonora's falcon often came out of its roost at just after 7 a.m., and after

waiting 25 minutes or so, it did break cover to everyone's delight at 7:12 a.m. It drifted across a line of trees before landing on a post. After 40 minutes it started hawking for dragonflies, and with one in its mouth it flew to a small tree right in front of us and gave wonderful views. It flew off not to be seen again mid-morning on June 4.

The next notable bird I saw was also a mega, **BLACK-BROWED ALBATROSS** at Bempton Cliffs RSPB, Yorkshire. I had taken Francesca to Stanstead Airport and believing that the battle is all but won if one leaves early to get through London in one-quarter of the time it would take you in rush hour, I continued north. This albatross became a star in 2021 when it showed up at this site, and it obviously considered itself to be in the right place when it returned the following year. As are all its family, this species is long lived, so it might come back for years to come, but I thought I really wanted to see it and why not now? Bempton Cliffs is a dramatic and wonderful place, and until the albatross showed I enjoyed watching Gannet, Razorbill, Fulmar, Kittiwake, Puffin and Guillemot on the cliffs or over the sea. Without any warning, out soared the albatross for several loops of honour, and it was majestic, effortless in flight and dwarfing every other bird around it. After several pirouettes, it disappeared around the other side of the cliff stack I was standing on and thus completely lost to sight from anywhere along the cliff. It did not appear again, so said write-ups on BirdGuides, for another five hours. There were many Tree sparrow around the visitor centre. On the way home I broke up the journey with a stop at Idle Washlands, Nottinghamshire, to see **CASPIAN TERN**, which was easy to pick out, it being the largest of any tern species and one that dwarfed an adjacent Black-headed gull. There also was a Wood sandpiper present.

At the end of the month, I caught up with a species I had longed to see in the U.K., having only seen one once before in Puglia, Italy, **SQUACCO HERON**. Seeing this was just a matter of parking, walking up to a bridge and spying it among 20 or so Cattle egret. The only other birds of note were a Curlew sandpiper and another Wood sandpiper that I found deep in grass and alerted other birders to.

At the end of August, I saw something in the U.K. I had dreamed off seeing since receiving my first book on birds in the late 1970s, the less-than-stellar "Bird spotting" by John Holland, illustrations by Rein Stuurman, published by Blandford Press. In it, there were perhaps 100 illustrations of birds common in the U.K., House sparrow, Robin, Dunnock and the like, but also—presumably, to give it some colour and exoticness—there also were illustrations of Golden oriole and Roller, and it was these two birds that naturally caught my eye. So, to Timberland Fen, Lincolnshire, and perched on a wire there it was, a **ROLLER**. The bird was a juvenile, and it kept a little distant at first. I drove to the other side of the field in which it was in. I relocated it, but my best views were back where I started viewing it from, and there it was a lot nearer although still not that close. It flew repeatedly off and back onto a low bush along a low hedge, and despite the heat haze it was a riot of blue and pink.

A week later, another new species, this time at Pett Level, Sussex, where a **RED-NECKED PHALAROPE** sat confidently on a small pond. Seemingly, it was happy staying a few feet behind a Black-headed gull, which gave me a wonderful side-by-side comparison. The phalarope zigzagged behind its friend and took all the attention away from a pair of Spoonbill that were half-hidden anyway.

Between October 8 and 15, I took a trip to the birding Mecca that is the Isles of Scilly, visiting with Alex Carlisle and Mike Edwards. What a trip it turned out to be, for the company, for the wonderful destination that this group of islands is and for an Autumn migration season of birding that will live long in the memory of those lucky enough to have been there.

The trip started along its usual trajectory, a Thursday evening drive to Alex's and an overnight stay, followed on the Friday by a drive to Hayle, Cornwall, where we spent the

night. There was time that day to stop off at Cheddar Reservoir, Somerset, to see a Whooper swan and at Hayle itself to see two Lesser yellowlegs, which Alex, essentially, found both of, as the reports of the first one had not trickled down to us and no one knew a second was there at all. There also were a Little stint, a Grey plover and eight Bar-tailed godwit, a species we saw there in 2021, too.

Another bird species that repeated itself was an Eider in Penzance Harbour, again an individual flying in as we lined up to board the Scillonian III ferry.

In 2021, I saw a new species on the crossing, a Balearic shearwater, and the 2022 trip gave me something new, too, a **POMARINE SHEARWATER**.

It was straight off the ferry and directly—thanks to Alex and Mike kindly taking my suitcase to the guest house—on the boat to Tresco, where relatively effortlessly I saw the first of the three mega-species I was to see that season, **SWAINSON’S THRUSH** (all three of us went back to see it on the Monday) on Racket Road that gave great views and was followed by a very obliging Wryneck right in the middle of the small village of New Grimsby, flitting around a fence and bin set into a sandy wall and feeding on ants. A walk around the island uncovered a Cattle egret on the main pool and a Lady Amherst’s pheasant, a species I have never seen before but is undoubtedly one of the plastic, introduced species made to bring colour to the island’s main tourism centre, Abbey Gardens.

The second day there, the Sunday, brought with it two new species for me, **RADDE’S WARBLER**, fairly elusive but seen along the Old Town Churchyard wall and, on our second visit that day, along a line of trees two fields farther back, and a species I had started to consider a bit of a nemesis, **COMMON ROSEFINCH**. I was guilty of beginning to chase sightings of this species, the first being one in the allotments in Hugh Town. I caught up with one, probably the same individual, near to the Dump in Hugh Town. It was perched high up a bank, although one birder only needed to open the window of his flat for a view of it at the very same level. I thought about knocking on his door but thought better of it. After lunch, Alex, Mike and I saw another one, near Rocky Mount, where we also saw Pied flycatcher and a couple of Stick insects, quite a speciality on the isles.

The next few days brought good birding, although nothing extraordinary. Species did include another Wryneck, Yellow-browed warbler, Firecrest and a summer-plumage Great northern diver right in the middle of Hugh Town. I had never seen this species in the U.K. in its summer colours. That day we also saw a Redstart at Porthhellick and a Black redstart at Porthlooe, the only time I have ever seen both U.K. redstart species on the same day.

The Wednesday brought some excitement when a Two-barred greenish warbler was confirmed, also on Tresco. Many birders went. I did see for a few seconds the bird of interest. The two bars on each wings showed absolutely no edging, which was the ID sign we all hastily learned distinguished it from Yellow-browed warbler, but in the end the experts determined it was indeed an odd-looking Yellow-browed warbler, so some disappointment and a lot of conversation ensued. (Another Two-barred greenish warbler was “demoted” to a Yellow-browed warbler in Cornwall in late November, which risks the notion other historical records should be looked at, perhaps.)

That “miss” was water off a duck’s back when the events of Thursday, October 13, unfurled, a saga in which a single bird elevated the Isles of Scilly Autumn 2022 Migration Season to legendary status and by a large majority was voted Bird of the Year 2022.

That morning Alex, Mike and I remarked that if one day brought an epic bird with it, it was this one, and Alex joked he needed to see a lifer for that trip, too, his list being notably larger than Mike’s and mine. The day started off slowly, birding to no success along The Garrison wall. Three Yellow-browed warbler were seen, but we decided upon an early lunch after finding some freshly sprouted Shaggy parasol mushrooms, which we ate with eggs.

Immediately after lunch, news came in of a **MELODIOUS WARBLER** on Porthhellick Road, so Alex suggested I hurry along to see it. I jogged to the site and immediately saw it perched on the very top of a tree. This was very fortuitous as in the 20 minutes I was there I only saw it again flitting out of and straight back into dense leaf cover, and because at 1:30 p.m. all pandemonium broke loose.

Alex and Mike were half a mile away watching a barred warbler, which I would have loved to have seen, too, having only ever seen one once before, but then the report came in of a **BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER** having been found on the neighbouring island of Bryher by a birder called John Judge, the sighting that has instantly become a mega, mega, mega-sensation in Scillonian and British birding.

“Blackburnian warbler found on Bryher! I repeat, Blackburnian warbler found on Bryher!” I heard crackle on someone’s radio walkie-talkie. Others found out about the bird on mobile phones, pagers and the Isles of Scilly Birders’ WhatsApp group. Normally present in North America during spring and summer and in Latin America in autumn and winter, this errant individual is the seventh ever for the Western Palearctic, including The Azores, the fourth ever for the United Kingdom and the first ever for England. Added to that, it really is the only “twitchable” individual of this species ever seen—that is, people could actually get to where it was to see it. A skewed sense of direction or extraordinarily strong winds blew the bird on a wrong trajectory and thousands of miles over the Atlantic Ocean.

Birders on all the four Scilly islands that are not Bryher started running to their respective quays to get a boat in any manner possible. The news came in that due to the extremely low tide, the first boat to leave St. Mary’s would be at 3 p.m., but even so I ran to catch up Alex and Mike and after putting back our dinner reservations, we immediately lined up on the quay, perhaps 40th or so back in the line, with the idea we’d have 75 minutes to wait. As I jogged to catch up Alex and Mike, I was told more than once not to hurry, but birders telling other birders not to hurry is really the same thing as telling them to sprint and being a marathon and ultramarathon runner, I can, and did.



Someone in the line piped up that he'd been told the first boat to make the journey to Bryher would now leave at 2 p.m., thanks to the quick organisation of the Scillonian Boat Owners. We managed to get on it and sit in a spot close to the exit steps of the boat, which proved fortuitous as it gave us good views of a Long-tailed duck and because when we left St. Mary's no one knew that the boat would have to stop 200 metres from the Bryher shore and then everyone would be ferried 12 at a time to Rushy Bay Beach by a motorised dinghy. Even then, the last 15 steps or so required wading through the water with boots and socks in hand, and birding equipment. We got on the second run of the dinghy, with those left on board (perhaps 10 more dinghy-loads) looking impatiently on for their turn. The first people on the main boat, all smiles no doubt then, suddenly looked less chirpy. The BBC write-up of the bird was a little dramatic, comparing the scene with the Normandy Landings (although no one was running up any beaches being strafed by enemy bullets) and depicting birders struggling waist deep in the sea, but it was gripping stuff and lent a definite excitement and idea of legend to the proceedings and the bird itself. On the first dinghy run, someone did fall into the water having lost their balance on the dinghy's rubber side, but I did not see if any equipment took a soak. On board our and other boats must have been hundreds of thousands of pounds sterling of telescopes, binoculars, tripods and 600mm cameras. There was a quick, bare-footed dash up the sandy lands of Bryher for 10 minutes to the spot where the bird had been seen, and we then waited—more birders coming every five minutes or so—for 45 minutes until the bird showed. It would disappear for a while, but excellent views were had by all day. In the U.K., it was previously seen only on three islands—remote Skomer, off Wales (one day only in October 1961); very remote Fair Isle, Scotland (two days in October 1988) and extremely remote St. Kilda, Scotland (two days in September 2009). Someone remarked that our particular individual is probably the only one of its type to have seen a British tree. No one looking at the Scilly bird had ever seen this bird before in the U.K., it goes without saying, as the three previous sightings, it is estimated, were only enjoyed by a total of less than 10 people. I have never seen so many birders smiling.

Report: John Judge, the bird's finder —

[https://www.rarebirdalert.co.uk/v2/Content/Finders in the Field Blackburnian Warbler Popplestone Fields Bryher Isles of Scilly.aspx?s_id=288922774](https://www.rarebirdalert.co.uk/v2/Content/Finders%20in%20the%20Field%20Blackburnian%20Warbler%20Popplestone%20Fields%20Bryher%20Isles%20of%20Scilly.aspx?s_id=288922774)

“Finders in the Field”: Blackburnian warbler, Popplestone Fields, Bryher, Isles of Scilly

This year was my 34th consecutive autumn break on the Isles of Scilly, where, until recently I have been basing myself on St Mary's. The last six years however I have spent at least one week staying on Bryher and this year I had booked two weeks there. I arrived on October 1st, but by the 12th birding was proving very hard work as there seemed to be very few common migrants on the island. The only saviour had been the passage of shearwaters that seemed to be endlessly going around all of the islands, and I managed to see five species in the course of three days. Cory's, exceptional in October here, plus Great, Sooty, Balearic and Manx, and I had some decent views of all of them.

Thursday 13th, however, will long live in my memory, and not for any seabirds! I started out checking the hedgerows and fields on the east of the island, near to where I was staying and there seemed to be a bit of movement on the bird front, with seemingly some Chiffchaff, Blackcap, Song thrush and Blackbird new-in. Next, I headed up north, onto Shipman Head Down but saw little there until I reached the western, Popplestone side, where a Woodlark

flew straight over my head, calling, as it headed back east. This is a rare bird for Bryher so I doubled back to see if I could relocate it for other keen “Bryher-listers” but to no avail.

I then headed back to the Popplestone area and decided to check the fields as this is usually a good sheltered spot and has held good birds in the past. Arriving at the first field just before 1pm I saw movement at the very far end, in the elms. The only bird I had seen at this spot in nearly two weeks was a Spotted Flycatcher and it was usually in that exact area. I didn’t even bother with my binoculars but set my scope up as I thought it would be just sitting partly obscured on one of the branches. As I scoped around slowly looking for it, I saw a bird with a bright and I mean yellow throat! It flicked slightly and I saw a dark back and two prominent white wing bars. At this point I would love to say I knew exactly what it was, but no. Instead, and despite being on my own, nine words came out of my mouth, all in rapid succession, all four-letter ones, and all starting with F! I knew immediately it was a North American wood warbler but which one? I have been to New York three times but only seen spring birds and my brain went into total meltdown.

I had seen a couple of birders in the next field as I arrived, so tried as quietly as possible to whistle/shout to them as they were walking away. I eventually got their attention and was joined by Chris Corrigan and Penny Darmody. I told them that I had just seen an American wood warbler but the look on Chris’s face was a picture when he clapped eyes on it – because he hadn’t heard the American bit! I had also just seen Will Wagstaff, the ex-Scilly Bird Recorder, leading a tour on Bryher in the morning. Fortunately, I was able to ring him - no mean feat due to the very poor phone signal. Luckily, he was just dropping his group off at Hell Bay Hotel for an hour for lunch. Needless to say, it didn’t take him very long to cover the few hundred yards to the fields. By the time he arrived the bird had moved across to the left of the field and was still showing occasionally. With some brief views the discussion settled on Blackburnian, and after managing to check a first winter shot online it was the perfect match, apart from the fact that ours was much, much brighter. Will saw me typing on my phone and asked if I was putting the news out. Oh, yes! Thence ensued, whenever the poor phone reception allowed, a deluge of calls and messages from friends across Scilly and the rest of the UK.

However, it was currently low tide and a very low one. There was no water to land boats at the quays on Bryher until after 3 p.m., indeed, not even enough water to get up the channel between Tresco and Bryher. With a mega to get to, two hours was going to seem like a lifetime to be stuck on the other Islands. So close and yet so far! I was aware that stress levels were going through the roof. All I was hearing, apart from “Congratulations,” was “I need to get to Bryher, now.” Well, as is pretty much always the case, St.Mary’s Boatmen stepped right up and did a sterling job – going for ‘Normandy-style’ low tide landings, with the first group soon dropped off by dinghy into the shallows on the beach on the southwest side of Bryher at Rushy Bay. Breathless and with soggy feet and trousers they arrived, but the bird was not on show.

From the time the first birder arrived, it was a long and agonising hour or so until it showed again. More and more people arrived, including birders who had been on Tresco, stranded the other side of Tresco channel, just a few hundred yards away from the bird. They told me that the channel neither had enough water for boats, not little enough for to paddle across. They walked and hitch-hiked to the south end of Tresco, to Carn Near, and boarded the Sapphire to head back toward St.Mary’s and to a mid-channel rendezvous with Joe Badcock’s Bryher-bound Guiding Star. Joe, with a boatload of very tense and eager birders, had been heading to join the queue to land by dinghy, but experience told him that it would be quicker for his passengers if he took them all the way up the west side of Bryher, around the top, past Shipman Head and back down the channel to Anneka Quay. He knew that by the time he got there, there would be just enough water for his shallow drafted wooden boat to

nose in just far enough in to disembark his eager load. Birders on that boat later told me that they did indeed make it to Popplestone ahead of the last of those who had landed by dinghy off the boat ahead of them.

They were followed by yet more birders from across Scilly. A boatload arrived from St. Agnes, including St. Agnes resident birder Doug Page, whom I was told hadn't left the island in three years! Yes, this was truly a "biggie." Fortunately, the bird and the birders all behaved very well. The crowd was so quiet at times as they waited for the bird to reappear that you could hear a pin drop – it was amazing. Once it started showing, the not-so-tall birders were invited to the front in order that they too could get views. The atmosphere was joyous, friendly, good natured and the bird seemed not to notice at all. It just carried on feeding in front of everyone, showing down to within a few feet of the closest birders at times as camera shutters whirred and grown adults whimpered out-loud in delight. According to the boatmen, over 350 people made it on that first day, coming from every island on Scilly, and to say that all went away very happy would be the understatement of the decade. Two birders even made it from the mainland, but arrived just after it last showed. Fortunately, they saw it shortly after dawn the next day.

I never stopped smiling all day (and in fact still am now) and have never had so many handshakes, man hugs and kisses. The enormity of how rare it was only hit me when I returned to my guest house that evening and could Google it, and then even more when I looked into the previous records. Certainly, a bird of a lifetime and as I have said to friends, I have set the bar slightly high for next year! Hopefully this will encourage more birders to go to off islands (or indeed come to Scilly) and search for themselves, as I know if I had been staying on St Mary's I would most likely have been playing catch-up with birds that other people had found, and not have as much time actually birding myself. Will I be back next year? You bet, and to stay and bird again on one of the best islands, Bryher. Meanwhile, the St. Mary's Boatmen's Association have very kindly thanked me with the promise of some free boat tickets, for which I am very grateful.

Report: Rare Bird Alert weekly —

https://www.rarebirdalert.co.uk/v2/Content/WeeklyRoundup2022_42.aspx?s_id=288922774

Weekly Birding Round-up: October 11-17, 2022

Even by October standards, the week just gone was a bit special. Those persistent westerlies worked their magic, and how... with first records for England and Wales alike, and a fine supporting cast of lesser Nearctic vagrants for good measure. But really, the week was all about just one bird, a bird destined to make national newspaper coverage and, above all, many birders very happy indeed. One of the great, perennial blockers was about to fall.

There are no words. Except, of course, there must always be words. In the wake of events on Scilly in the past week, they ought to be as glowing as the bird itself.

One of the ultimate blockers finally fell in recent days. Britain's first **Blackburnian Warbler** was a one-day bird on Skomer (Pembrokeshire), back in the relative mists of birding time on 5th October, 1961... Our second record came nearly 30 years later, another one day bird near the Observatory on Fair Isle (Shetland) on 7th October, 1988... and our last record, while it hung around for a little longer on 12th-14th September, 2009, was about as difficult to twitch as they come, being out on St Kilda (Western Isles).

A bit of a theme developing there, then. All on islands, and all enjoyed by the merest handful of fortunate observers. For that alone, we'd have been yearning another bite at the cherry, an obligingly settled bird somewhere more accessible.

But just *LOOK* at first-winter male **Blackburnian Warblers**... is there a prettier young American wood warbler at this time of year? Arguably not. So yeah, this was a blocker that

we craved a chance to connect with. And, on precedent at least, probably didn't hold out a great deal of hope we'd ever really get a fair go at.

Step forward, this week, Scilly and, in particular, the man of the moment, John Judge. Given the supply of rapid transatlantic weather systems that had been dropping choice Nearctic birds into Western Europe lately, hopes of finding something decent would have been elevated even before John found himself face to face with a luminous first-winter male **Blackburnian Warbler** on Bryher in the early afternoon of 13th. But all the same, just imagine how that must have felt...

Cue absolute scenes on Scilly as the news broke and resident and visiting birders scrambled for the inter-island boats. Unhelpfully low tides made for some dramatic landings, embellishing many a successful twitcher's account with an element of mild daring that went beyond the usual risk associated with the last sweaty sausage roll in a petrol station's hot cabinet in the small hours of an overnight drive to god-knows-where.

As the news reverberated further afield, those who could drop everything did just that, and headed west. And, joyously, the bird stayed put on Bryher into the weekend, showing at times outrageously well, and still present as the week drew to a close on 17th.

Quite frankly, with the first English record of **Blackburnian Warbler** under its belt, and a twitchable example at that, Scilly could remain resolutely birdless for the rest of the autumn and we'd consider the Scilly season of 2022 a resounding success. But that's not what's gonna happen... there will surely be more birds to come.

Report: Lucy McRobert, Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust, report —

<https://www.birdguides.com/articles/comment/lucy-mcrobert-bird-of-a-lifetime>

Bird of a Lifetime

"Don't worry, I won't be twitching today," I said as I slid into my office chair at 9.05 a.m. I meant it. My twitching buzz had been killed the previous day by a futile dash to Tresco to dip a now-dubious Two-barred warbler in horizontal rain. Consequently, it didn't register when I saw the fateful WhatsApp message: "Blackburnian Warbler Bryher."

And that was it. No capitals, no emojis, not even an exclamation mark to show for this mind-bendingly cataclysmic moment. Birders across Scilly experienced 30 seconds of bewildered calm, before chaos erupted.

Think fast. I'd played my twitching card at work too soon. So, I would have to take the office with me. Three colleagues plus a volunteer were immediately cajoled into action (although it didn't take much effort with the CEO). This was team building.

Next, Bryher. Seriously low tides meant that we couldn't land on the quay until 3.30 p.m. Five minutes of enforced concentration, before: "Argh! The child!" An apologetic call to nursery followed by another to the husband: "Get the child, NOW. I'll meet you on the quay."

Meanwhile, across the islands, every birder was experiencing a micro-drama of their own. A tour group was unpacking sandwiches on St Agnes when news broke. One couple were 10 minutes into an online mortgage meeting they had waited weeks for; they simply slid down the screen and disappeared. Pasties were abandoned mid-bite. My favourite moment came from Liam (usually very down-to-earth) who messaged the entire Scilly Bird News WhatsApp group: "What do I do?" He claims he meant to send it to a friend, but it was very relatable.

When I checked in with husband, I was bemused-then-horrified to discover he was aboard a boat already. But how was he getting to Bryher? Beach landing!

To clarify, a beach landing involves jumping from a tripper boat into an inflatable dinghy a few feet below, which then runs you ashore. Think Normandy, with less explosions. This is not something you want to do under pressure with a small child. I didn't see what followed

but have since been told that she behaved impeccably up until the point where she had to jump into the dinghy. “Daddy, I’m scared,” was heard by at least three witnesses as daddy tossed her to a birder below. She then clung to his neck the whole way to the beach and had to be peeled off. Daddy was in trouble later, and she still reminds him of it at least once a day.

Meanwhile, boats galore were converging on Bryher. There were several mid-channel swaps; birders from St Martin’s jumped aboard the boat from Tresco, whilst St Agnes had commandeered their own charter (it’s unclear whether Liam had just started swimming at this point). This was a triumph of logistics for St Mary’s Boatmen’s Association. Some went on an agonising hour-long circumnavigation of Bryher to approach from the north (rather than the closer but shallower south). One birder convinced a fisherman to run him across Tresco channel in his tiny punt.

Back on St Mary’s quay, 70 of us were piling aboard the next tripper. If you can imagine it, politely put, these were the birders who had been physically unable to get to the quay more quickly. As such, when you factor in optics and cameras, we were riding a bit low and temporarily ran aground on a sandbar.

We landed, and I set off at a run. A couple of us reached the site in four minutes, staggering into the crowd. The atmosphere was electric. The bird had been seen, but not by all. It was poetry in motion as ripples ran through the line that it was showing; we’d all sway one way, then another, by some great ornithological magnet. The clattering of cameras would alert you to a sighting in the next field, whilst a collective sigh told that it had just hopped over the hedge.

I finally got in position. A hush fell as everyone held their breath. Then suddenly out it popped: This glorious sunflower of a bird, bright and bold, strikingly beautiful. Swearing, hushing, gasps of admiration. A contingency of Dutch birders stood behind us (they celebrated with champagne that night) and shared a few native expletives.

Serenely surveying the scene was the finder. John Judge had stayed two weeks on Bryher with only a handful of flycatchers to show for it. When he clapped eyes on the bird for the first time he simply blithered. Bird of the year? Forget that; He had found the bird of the century. Resident birders from St Agnes shook hands with birders from St Martin’s (they hadn’t met in years). Everyone looked ecstatically happy. Even daughter seemed politely interested.

Calling the Bird Log that night was something else. I got to write “Blackburnian Warbler, Bryher” in the book, complete with the exclamation marks, smiley faces, stars and hearts it deserved. What a moment to be part of.

That evening’s restaurant dinner—one of only two we took on the isles—turned into a celebratory meal, and we followed it up with a visit to the Scillonian Bar for its famous Bird Log that evening, which was packed with birders. There was Tony Morris, someone Alex and I have known since we were children, so afterwards we popped in to where he was staying with a bottle of Highland Park whisky for more celebrations as he did not want to go to the Mermaid pub with his grandson Jack, who is the son of my school friend Peter, and his two friends. A grand day by any birders’ standards.

The week already was a momentous success, but I followed that up with finally catching up with **OLIVE-BACKED PIPIT**, which had been incredibly elusive. The Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust organized a gentle flush of the bird at Trenoweth, where it was utterly alone,

no other birds of any species in attendance with it. A donation was requested, and Dick Filby, who was conducting proceedings, gave me a nice compliment when he said I had been the only birder to stick a fiver in the pot before events, regardless of whether I saw the bird or not. See it we did, albeit just grabbing the identification marks as it flew in a circle around the scraggy field in which it was hidden quite happily on the other two occasions I tried to see it. On the Saturday, our last day there, I popped to Porthhellick Pool, where from the Stephen Sussex Hide, I saw **WILSON'S SNIPE**, my third mega of the trip and which after a wait was flushed out by a Moorhen. It circled back around to show its underwing barring and head pattern different to a Common snipe. I might have seen this mega-rare snipe on one morning in which I had the hide all to myself, as it was suspected that it had been here for a little while and most likely will spend the entire winter. There was one pale-looking Snipe present, too, which complicated matters up to the moment in which it fortunately took wing.

The megas did continue in 2022.

I was told at work I needed to take some days off work, so I decided to do just that at lunchtime on October 27. Minutes later, news came in that an **ALPINE ACCENTOR** had been seen in Suffolk, so the next morning, the bird still there, I went to see it.

Initially, it was a distant speck, but it gradually came closer in the sunshine for wonderful views of its string of white, pearl-like wing feathers and rosy-orange breast, a quite delightful thing. The birder standing next to me said he was on the same dinghy as I was on to see the Blackburnian warbler, which I did not consider to be a coincidence, and said it was the first of this species he had seen in the U.K. for 44 years. At one point, a child—maybe three or four years old—ran out on the path right in front of the bird, which caused merriment and frustration in equal measure. This is the 38th registered sighting of this species in the U.K; another one turned up two days later in Norfolk, and the consensus is that it is a different individual. The one I saw roosted overnight and then took off at first light, not to be seen again.

The penultimate new species of the year was a **SIBERIAN STONECHAT** at Dungeness on a windy, wet day in early November. I had started that day at Port Lympne, Kent, with an extremely approachable Sabine's gull, a first-year but very nicely patterned bird. The stonechat was flitty, and the light was quite terrible. It had gone by the next morning. After a memorable 11 months, it seemed as though December would be quiet. I spent 10 days in Rome and, when I returned, the weather was terrible, with an uncharacteristic icy spell of snow and cold.

I went to visit Alex in Somerset for a couple of days, and as he said he had a few chores to do during the day, I aimed to get to his house in the afternoon. At the last moment, I decided to drive across the border from Somerset to Devon—Seaton Wetlands Reserve, Colyford, to be exact—to see a reported **ISABELLINE WHEATEAR**. I could not resist rounding off 2022 with 25 lifers. The bird was easy to see, even though I made a couple of short errors in my route to it. It was hopping around a boardwalk that crossed a marsh of low, open grass, and the bird occasionally popped on it. Finally, it flew 100 metres away and then appeared to land in a tree.

When I reached Alex's, the first thing he said to me was, "I got a lifer today." He, like me, had seen the report of the wheatear late the evening before, and as he did not know what time I was driving down, or if I'd be awake when he left to see it with his son, Jason, he had decided to go down to it early in the morning. He said he thought about telling me that he was going, but he thought I could go down the next day very early if I really wanted to see it. I had thought, well, I know Alex has some chores to do, so I'll go down and see it myself. So, that all worked out well to everyone's advantage and meant we could spend the next day together birding around Chew Reservoir, where we saw three Goldeneye, including two males, three Great egret and 31 Goosander

2022 Wrap-up

The year 2022 has proved to be a phenomenal year for birding for me, mostly as I have put in the effort. In 2017 I saw 22 lifers in the U.K., and I did not have a car in that year, but the more bird species one sees, the fewer there are to see, so 2022 must count as a success, beating that score by three:

January — 16th: Hume's leaf warbler; 23rd: Red-breasted goose

February — 12th: American robin; 26th: Green-winged teal

March —

April — 3rd: Blue-winged teal; 9th: Lesser scaup

May — 29th: Moltoni's subalpine warbler, Icterine warbler

June — 2nd: Eleonora's falcon; 26th: Black-browed albatross, Caspian tern

July — 30th: Squacco heron

August — 27th: Roller

September — 3rd: Red-necked phalarope

October — 8th: Pomarine skua; Swainson's thrush; 9th: Radde's warbler, Common rosefinch; 13th: Melodious warbler, Blackburnian warbler; 14th: Olive-backed pipit; 15th: Wilson's snipe; 28th: Alpine accentor

November — 5th: Siberian stonechat

December — 21st: Isabelline wheatear

Swalecliffe, Kent: January 7, 2023 Another windy, wet, grey winter's day in Kent, but a **PALLAS's WARBLER** (new species for the U.K.), which I found in a comical way. I walked to where I thought the reported bird was, but I found myself on the other side of a small brook from a group of 10 birders. Etiquette demanded I could not walk in front of them, so I backtracked to the beginning of the path and saw the bird flick low into a tree right in front of me. Noticeably yellow. I had a brief but good look, maybe 10 seconds, and then it was gone. Also, on the Thames shore, 2 x Purple sandpiper; Ringed plover; Sanderling; one Great black-backed gull, and many Oystercatcher

Elmley, Kent: January 28, 2023 My first time to this reserve since, I think, the late 1980s when it was a RSPB reserve. It now is private. On the slow, two-to-three-kilometre drive to the car park, a stunning male Merlin on a post, but I did not have my camera set up, a mistake I hope not to repeat. When on foot, Dartford warbler; Water pipit, and a lot of Lapwing. On the creek, one solitary Avocet

Worth Marshes, Swalecliffe and Oare, Kent: January 29, 2023 A drive down to Worth Marshes, to the exact spot of 2022's Eleonora's falcon to see the reported **WHITE STORK** (new species for the U.K.), which was feeding in a marsh, had a staring contest with a Grey heron but did not come any closer. Good views. I watched it on my own for quite some time. There always is controversy with White stork due to the reintroduction project at Knepp, Sussex, but this bird is un-ringed and, obviously, free-flying. There is debate as to where it originated, with the principal line of thinking being that it was among five to have escaped a zoo in 2005 or 2006. A legitimate bird, or a plastic one? Such an argument could be used for many species, including the two Grey partridge I saw on my way to the White stork. Also, Great egret; Marsh harrier, and Kestrel
At Swalecliffe, I had my second view of the Pallas's warbler, which has been on site but always elusive for three weeks. I saw the head markings clearly, with a view a little better than the one I had on Jan. 7, 2023.

At Oare, where the water levels on the East Flood, are tremendously high (natural or controlled?), 2 x Turnstone on the river and, perhaps thanks to those high-water levels, 20 x Pintail, some very close to the viewing point on the road that leads to the river

Greenwich, London: February 18, 2023 With Mike Edwards, a search for the Firecrest that had been seen just inside the park walls at the Charlton Way entrance. We saw it several times, and more amazingly I heard it twice and then saw it, a testament to having my ears syringed for the first time following a slight inflammation and a partial loss of hearing in my right ear. I have never been able to hear before the high-pitch calls of Firecrest and Goldcrest. Also, a flock of Goldfinch and Long-tailed tit. Then a pint down the Hare & Billet

Pegwell Bay and Reculver, Kent, England: March 5, 2023: First off, to Pegwell Bay, where I had not been to for decades: Mediterranean gull in pretty much summer plumage (also two at a service station a few miles in land when I stopped to send a message to Francesca); Sanderling; Curlew; Redshank; Oystercatcher; Dunlin, and Buzzard. (Also, Grey seal). Then to Reculver, where the highlights were four Snow bunting and a Short-eared owl. Large flock of Brent on a field; four Common scoter in flyby, and a female Black redstart by the abbey

Kingsgate, Kent, England: March 23, 2023: To Margate to essentially visit the town and have lunch with Francesca at Bottega Caruso, an Italian restaurant, and after espresso, stopped off at Kingsgate, overlooking a golf course, and saw three reported **ALPINE SWIFT** (new species for the U.K.), part of an unprecedented irruption of this mainland European species around the British Isles and Ireland, an original seven being first spotted in southern Ireland

Hothfield Nature Reserve and Elmley, Kent, England: April 1, 2023: To Hothfield and a rare piece of Kentish heathland for Great grey shrike, with excellent views. Also. 12 x Yellowhammer. Then to Elmley, chilly with a noticeable wind, for the briefest views of 2 x Penduline tit; several Reed bunting; an immature White-tailed eagle flying over my head, one of the birds from the new release project from the Isle of Wight; Chiffchaff; 6 x Marsh harrier, four together, the other two on a field some distance away, and, in the short grass by the car park, Short-eared owl

Fan Bay, Dover, Kent, England: April 7, 2023: A dash down to the edge of Kent on a very pleasant day (not been many of them this year so far) but failed to see the Short-toed treecreeper, which appeared twice on this day and twice (at Bockhill, a mile farther up the coast) on April 8, the bird (two birds?) appearing at 9 to 10 a.m. and then disappearing. I did see a Black redstart; several Linnet; 3 x Skylark. The person who found the treecreeper was Jamie Partridge, who I know from his days living and birding in London, but who lives in Dover now. I last saw him on St Agnes, Isles of Scilly, in October 2021 as we both watched a Snow bunting

Wye Downs; Conningbrook Lakes Country Park, and Whetsted, Kent, England: April 15, 2023: Birding with Mike Edwards. Shocking rain on way down, which forced us to get breakfast at a very nice spot inside a farm called Perry Court. Went back to the Wye Downs, and it turned into a nice day. We found three Early purple orchid, one of which was more advanced than the others. Skylark; Red kite; and Meadow pipit

At Conningbrook, looking for a reported Black redstart, which we did not find, I saw the first Swallow of my year; Blackcap, and two courting Great crested grebe

The last stop, at Whetsted—all three places I have never been to before—was to search for a Hoopoe, but again no luck finding a reported individual. I did bump into Barry Wright. Also, male and female Goldeneye

Crossness Nature Reserve, Belvedere, Kent: April 16, 2023

10 x Redshank; 6 x Black-tailed godwit; Pochard; Gadwall; 2 x Cetti's warbler, both visible; Reed warbler; Peregrine; Blackcap, and excellent views of a Short-eared owl. I saw a birder, the only other one I saw there between 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. crouched down beside a bank, and I could not see what he was looking at. I was 100 metres away, and then I suddenly saw the owl rise from the ground and fly in circles towards a far line of trees. The other birder, it turned out, had binoculars but only his iPhone, so he was carefully trying to get a shot of it

Al-Ha'ir Lakes and Parks, Al-Ha'ir, Saudi Arabia: May 6, 2023 On the advice of an expat birder, Jem Babbington, who I corresponded with on line, I visited this area about 30 kilometres southwest of Riyadh, a warm (41°C), sandy, rocky area alongside a lake of recycled treatment water. With no phone signal, getting home turned into a wonderful day of Arabic hospitality, first with a truck driver called Adi who dropped me in the small town of Al-Ha'ir, six kilometres from the birding area, and then with a student called Zahid who introduced me to his family and the family of his friend Mubak.

Birds at the site included Black-crowned night-heron; Squacco heron; Black bush-robin; Red-backed shrike; Spotted flycatcher; Blackstart; Namaqua dove; Arabian green bee-eater; Reed warbler; Wood warbler; Hoopoe, and Pallid swift

Döberitzer Heide Nature Reserve, Elstel, Berlin, Germany: May 13, 2023 A few train stops east of Berlin, a sandy area of forest and heathland. A dozen Red-backed shrike, including both male and female on the same bushes; Wheatear; Tree pipit; Wood lark; 2 x Cuckoo; Hoopoe; 6 x Crane; Yellowhammer; Spotted flycatcher; Stonechat; Corn bunting; Skylark, and Red kite. I am pretty certain I heard a Golden oriole, but I am still yet to see this species

Yalding, Kent: May 28, 2023 While having a beer at the Boathouse pub, a Great-spotted woodpecker; Pied wagtail, and Grey wagtail entertained us along the Medway River

Stodmarsh, Centerbury, Kent: May 29, 2023 An adult or second-year, male Red-backed shrike. I cannot remember the last time I saw one in the United Kingdom, apart from the juvenile in London in September 2018. Great views for half an hour, which was lucky as it would disappear for 90-minute to two-hour periods. Also, the first Swift and House martin I have seen, and, in addition, Marsh harrier and Hobby

(Also, at Park Gate Down for orchids, and a new species, Chalk fragrant orchid, as well as a number of Monkey orchid (numbers seem down, and also the flowers were small, perhaps due to the rains we had in March and April); Common spotted orchid; Early purple orchid, and Common twayblade)

Minsmere, Suffolk: June 3, 2023 I stopped off at a site near Ipswich called Mill River trying to relocate a Golden oriole seen the day before, but I had no luck, even with hearing its call. The area is very nice, with good deciduous woodland, a small stream and boardwalks in some places. I did hear a Nightingale and saw Blackcap, Buzzard and 3 x Treecreeper. I did not know what Minsmere would hold, but as soon as I got there I saw a report of a Roseate tern on the South Scrape, and after five minutes it flew back to there. This is the first

time I have seen one settled on shingle. Also, a report of a Red-backed shrike (after not seeing one for years, the last few weeks in three countries have revealed to me more than 30), which was shown to be a female, so I also have the full sweep. Also, Whitethroat; a very orange Little stint; Marsh harrier; Hobby; Bar-tailed godwit; Black-tailed godwit, and Sanderling

Hutchinson's Bank, New Addington, Surrey: June 4, 2023 I decided to come to this local reserve just as the sun was shining and the spring had been late, so I thought there would be a good chance I'd see Glanville fritillary, and I did, some five or six, all in very good condition, but when I reached the small residential close where it is possible to park, it was completely full, and there were also 10 or so cars parked on the main road. I had no idea that several Black-veined white butterfly had been found there, quite the national story, and one that made the BBC news. I located a previously seen individual after it had disappeared for 90 minutes, and the chase was on. It flew around for a while before settling down once and for only about 15 seconds, but I managed to get a few good photos. Of course, the discussion is rampant as to whether they (maybe up to a dozen) were released or came from a female that laid eggs last year. Perhaps we will never know, but as this was the species Winston Churchill adored and tried to reintroduce into his Kentish home of Chartwell, it was sure to receive much media attention and people from all over the country trying to get a glimpse. Also, Dingy skipper; Painted lady; Peacock; Small Copper; Brimstone; many Small blue, and Common blue

Mount Caburn and Ashdown Forest, East Sussex, June 10, 2023 At Mount Caburn, a successful search for Chalk fragrant orchid in a full state of bloom, unlike the one I saw on May 29 of this same year; also, Round-headed rampion, Sussex's official flower, apparently. Numerous skylark
At Ashdown Forest, perhaps eight Redstart, as well as a Cuckoo; Tree pipit; Blackcap, and Chiffchaff

Slimbridge, Gloucestershire: June 24, 2023 On my way to Alex's for the weekend, stopped off at this World Wetland Trust reserve to see my second Bluethroat, as with the one at Titchfield Haven (September 2019), also with a white, not red, throat patch. Excellent views, but a tad distant for photos. It is the same bird that was here in 2022, perhaps also in 2021. Also, my fourth U.K. Black-winged stilt, and I took a photograph of it next to a Spotted redshank, of which I saw one of two present; Rook; Green sandpiper; Ringed plover; Sedge warbler, and Reed warbler

With Alex in **East Woodlands, Somerset**, a Marsh tit low on a tree branch that crossed a footpath. Also, seven to 10 pristine Silver-washed fritillary and new Large skipper and Ringlet butterflies

On the way home at Milk Hill, Wiltshire, Red kite; Kestrel; Buzzard, and Hobby, as well as Yellowhammer and Skylark; and Pyramidal orchid

RSPB Ouse Fen, Willingham, Cambridgeshire, and Welney Wetland Centre, Welney, Norfolk: July 8, 2023 I went to the former spot to tick one of my nemesis birds in the U.K., **BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON** (new species for the U.K.), a species I have dipped on at least four or five times in this country. I am very familiar with this species, and in the US it seems to me to be a species that just hangs out for all to see, on yacht cables, in the middle of ponds and other obvious places. Not so easy in the U.K., that is my experience. I waited a while before it suddenly appeared, and I watched it out in the open standing on a

rocy for 10 minutes before it flew to the edge of the river and stayed half-hidden, stock-still at the edge, pretty much invisible unless you saw to where it flew.

At Welney, two Spoonbill, one seemingly with a damaged wing, although I saw both fly in; also, Great egret; 2 x Ruff in remains of summer plumage; Black-tailed godwit; Avocet; Marsh harrier; Tree sparrow; Stock dove, and 2 x Garganey most likely to be preparing to migrate south

Stoney Cross, Hampshire, and London Wetland Centre, London: July 9, 2023 Went to see a Bog orchid but had no luck despite researching exactly where to see one, or more, and on the same weekend as were seen in the same spot last year. I must research how they disperse.

At the Wetland Centre, very quiet, as befits a warm day in July, save for a pair of Stock dove, but I bumped into someone I know, Martin, who was with a group of friends, and we saw a Lesser emperor dragonfly, which are rare but apparently having a boon year

Oare, Kent: July 15, 2023 Bonaparte's gull on East Flood, the 11th year this North American bird has returned to Oare, with the notion being that it disappears with thousands of Black-head gulls on Sheppey when it has moulted and thus far harder to pick out. Two Greenshank, Common tern and a few Little tern far out from the Sea Hide. Bumped into Barry Wright, who I have known since the early 1980s, and he showed me some interesting insects, including Fiery clearwing moth, known only in two spots in the country, both in Kent; also, Six-banded clearwing moth; also, a visit to the church at nearby Ospinge to see Wall lizard, which has colonised only recently.

Sandwich, Kent: July 16, 2023 Very few birds around, but there were many butterflies in sheltered rides away from the blustery wind, including Brown argus, Gatekeeper, Common blue, Small copper and Holly blue. Also, and my goal for the day, a new species of orchid, Marsh helleborine, which took more than 90 minutes of searching. Also, Lizard orchid, but on the way out; Southern marsh and one fine Pyramidal orchid all on its own, with many of its type almost gone for the year. For other insects, I was shown a site for Dainty damselfly, one of also only two spots for it in the country. I saw one on my return from looking for birds from two hides, neither of which produced anything

Rainham Marshes RSPB Reserve, Purfleet, Essex: September 16, 2023 Not much about, but there was a juvenile skua species on the Thames, which was confirmed from photos and video as **LONG-TAILED SKUA** (new species for the U.K.). First seen sitting on the river, it flew off in two circles before disappearing upstream towards London. Saw barring on a lighter-colour belly and underwings. Elsewhere, 5 x Curlew; 3 x Whinchat and individual Common sandpiper, Ruff and Cattle egret

London Wetland Centre, London: September 17, 2023 Not much here either but 2 Green sandpiper, a Snipe and a Garganey that was close enough to let me study it in its eclipse plumage

Ham Wall RSPB Reserve, Somerset: September 23, 2023

With Alex Carlisle and Paul Obey, the latter I have not been birding with for perhaps 40 years. Maybe 200 Cattle egret in fields on the Levels before we reached Ham Wall, while there we saw Great egret and a Little egret flyover that made the full set. Also, sighted were three or four Bearded tit, with one or two adult males standing up on the tops of reeds for a few seconds

Otmoor, Oxfordshire: September 30, 2023

I drove Francesca to a friend's home in Oxford, so I decided to visit Otmoor, a place that I have never been to. Seven Cattle egret, one Great egret, a pair of Goldeneye, numerous Red kit and one Crane that flew over

Oare, Kent: October 1, 2023 2 x Spoonbill, scared away from a loud noise from a shooting club somewhere. They flew to the next bay, where they were still visible, before circling back overhead and back down on the East Flood. Also, several Knot, 3 x Curlew sandpiper, a few Bearded tit, including one that stood up on the tip of a reed, and 3 x Sandwich tern. In addition, 2 x Swallow, always good to see in October

Isles of Scilly, Cornwall, England: October 7-14, 2022 100 species seen, a very good number considering this was the first trip in which drove directly from and back to Timsbury, Somerset, during the hours of darkness

Scillonian III Crossing (Penzance to Hugh Town): Eider; the sole Manx shearwater; 3 x Great shearwater; Kittiwake; Razorbill; Guillemot, and Gannet; (also, Common dolphin) and, one of the highlights of the entire trip, 100s of Cory's shearwater following their unprecedented year this year. On the boat back to Penzance, quieter, with Great skua, Kittiwake and high numbers of Cory's shearwater

On the first full day on the islands, Sun., Oct. 8, we took the "tourist" boat to the Western Isles and Bishop Rock lighthouse, via St. Agnes, and saw **RED-FOOTED BOOBY** (new species for the U.K.), which was first sighted on August 7 but had not been seen for the last two weeks due to bad weather and fewer boat excursions there.

St. Mary's: Pallid harrier, a juvenile, seen on Oct. 13 and 14; Snow bunting at Giant's Castle; Glossy ibis; Peregrine; Wheatear and Black redstart at Peninnis. Also, Peregrine; Pink-footed goose; Brent; 2 x Wryneck; 2 x Richard's pipit; 5 x Mediterranean gull; Great egret; Water rail; Red-throated diver; Hobby; 2 x Jack snipe; Redwing; Fieldfare; Swallow; several Pied "White" wagtail, which seems to be the predominant subspecies here, and, all week, a showy juvenile Rose-colored starling at Porthcressa

St. Agnes: An even showier, closer Buff-breasted sandpiper than the one we saw on Bryher in 2021, sometimes to within five feet and, with everyone else rushing to see the booby, enjoyed almost alone. Also, Pied flycatcher and 2 x Wheatear

Bryher: After some searching, juvenile **ORTOLAN** (new species for the U.K.), which I relocated following it going missing for an hour. Seen on the west side of Samson Hill; I managed to alert about 20 others to get to see it. Also, 2 x Whinchat and a Whimbrel. Two days before, a very obliging Dotterel on Shipman's Head, also even closer than the one seen on Tresco in 2021

St. Martin's: ARCTIC WARBLER (new species for the U.K.), seen by me alone on Oct. 13 but again by two other birders on Oct. 14, all sightings in another spot on the island from the one seen on Oct. 12. It could be a new bird? Also, 195 Sanderling

Pelagic boat trip: On Oct. 10, a quite wonderful pelagic to the Eastern Islands and beyond, with hundreds of Cory's shearwater, 3 x Sooty shearwater, 4 x Manx shearwater; 20 x Greater shearwater; Great skua; Pomarine skua; Sandwich tern 2 x Grey phalarope; Puffin; Sabine's gull, and the fifth-ever example of Caspian gull for the Isles of Scilly
Non-bird sightings included numerous Clouded yellow; 2 x Painted lady; Hummingbird hawkmoth; Common porpoise; Common dolphin; several Portuguese man o' war, and a Blue-fin tuna, a species that returned to British waters only in 2021; Stick insect, and Red-cage fungus

Isles of Scilly; October 7-14

(With Alex Carlisle)

Alex and I, and all birders, always have high hopes when setting off for an Isles of Scilly birding trip in the second week of October, traditionally the strongest week for rarities, and the year 2023 did not disappoint.

One of the highlights of this year is the influx of **Cory's shearwater**, not just in the expected period of late July and into August but right through to mid-October. Not long after we left Penzance Harbor on the **Saturday, October 7** *Scillonian III* ferry—the obligatory **Eider** was bobbing around, but unlike the last two years, a female, not a male—we started seeing this shearwater species in notable numbers. It really gave me ample opportunity to have the species become cemented in my brain, especially its flight pattern. Also present were good numbers of **Great shearwater**. In comparison, I saw only one **Manx shearwater** on that Cornwall-to-Scilly trip, and Alex missed it completely. The other wildlife viewing was of a pod of **Common dolphin**, before a thick fog fell 10 miles before we reached the islands. We could only just pick out St. Mary's Quay as we rounded the Garrison headland. The mist did evaporate quickly on our arrival.

There was a **Wryneck** at Maypole, St. Mary's, which gave me some half-decent views, but they were eclipsed by seeing another one the next morning on the Garrison in wonderful light.

As Alex and I were having breakfast, we read on the Isles of Scilly birders' WhatsApp group that there was a boat going to the Bishop Rock lighthouse, and we decided to take our chances on the possibility of seeing the **Red-footed booby** that has been resident there since early August. It does go missing, or fishing, though, and there had not been any reports of it having been seen for two weeks. Joe Pender, owner of the *Sapphire*, the principal birding-pelagic boat in St. Mary's, told us when we saw him on the quay that there had only been two boats passing the lighthouse in the last two weeks due to poor weather. The booby had not been seen from either.

There were only 10 birders on this **Sunday, October 8** 0930 boat of maybe 80 passengers, some of which were picked up on the isle of St. Agnes, and the tour essentially was to see some of the outer, uninhabited islands, the seals, other wildlife, notably several Portuguese man-o-war jellyfish, the numerous wreck sites, with all their history, and the lighthouse itself. We became more optimistic when we saw a group of "old hands" birders on the boat, and as we neared the lighthouse straight on, suddenly someone called that the bird was there.

It was a glorious moment. The nonbirders were thoroughly nonplussed at our excitement, and we explained the significance of the booby, the second-ever for the United Kingdom and the first living example. Our boat, *Osprey*, circled the lighthouse four times. Despite its name, what struck me was how bright and red the booby's feet were. It is now the rarest bird I have seen in the U.K.

Someone relayed word of our success, and panic duly ensued on all the five inhabited isles, birders calling for boats, and boatmen organising them. Our boat returned to St. Agnes, and we took the opportunity to, sort of, get an island trip for free and see the **Buff-breasted sandpiper** on Wingletang Down that had been given glorious views for the last few days.

As we walked off up the quay there were already two dozen birders waiting for the arrival of hastily arranged boats to go to see the booby, and we knew or recognised several of those nervously waiting. After 2022's madness surrounding the discovery of the Blackburnian warbler on Bryher—which we were very much part of—it was nice not to be involved in this particular circus.

On the way to the sandpiper, I saw a **Pied flycatcher**, my only one of this visit. We walked at a normal pace due to Alex's sore ankles, the result of a sprain caused during a football match and a pair of football boots that might have been half a size too small.

Buff-breasted sandpipers often are unphased by birders, and this one appeared very unperturbed, coming to within a few feet of us. At one point the five birders there—a reduced number as everyone else was heading booby-wards—put down their binoculars and cameras and just enjoyed the privilege of this wonderful bird flitting over the heath.

Two **Wheatear** also were present.

Before heading back to St. Mary's, we had a pint at the Turk's Head on St. Agnes, right by the island's quay, and luxuriated in the sun and a first great day of birding.

On the Monday and Tuesday, there were more specially arranged Bishop Rock boat trips, but the booby was not seen on either. Fortunately for birders, it was seen on the Wednesday, the last boat for several days due to more bad weather. I knew of one birder who had dipped on the bird on four different occasions, one of them being the day before a Brown booby was discovered just below the **Red-footed booby**, an unprecedented double-find. I hope he was on that Wednesday boat, or on the boat that went out on Sunday, October 15, billed as the very last boat to go to the lighthouse in 2023.

Bryher was the destination on **Monday, October 9**. Two **Whinchat** were showy, but a Melodious warbler reported in the days before continued its elusive behaviour.

A walk up on Shipman's Head, where in 2021 there was a very approachable Buff-breasted sandpiper, produced a **Dotterel**, which came to within 10 feet. We slowly shifted ourselves on our backsides to get the sun behind us and then patiently waited for it to near us, which it did. We enjoyed an hour with the bird, but it disappeared for good, so I was told, 20 minutes after we had left, just as the Buff-breasted sandpiper did 24 months before.

A presence at Porthcressa and in Hugh Town all week was a juvenile **Rose-coloured starling**, which on occasion showed very well.

On **Tuesday, October 10**—perhaps much to the discomfort of Alex's sore ankles—we elected to take part in a six-hour pelagic trip on the *Sapphire*. It was a fantastic trip, more evidence of a crazy October for seafaring species. Single examples of **Puffin** and an adult **Sabine's gull** did not stay around for long, as neither did a **Great skua**, but the sightings of very showy **Pomarine skua**, two **Grey phalarope**—which I had not seen for decades and that was fast becoming a bogie bird—and the fifth-ever **Caspian gull** for the Isles of Scilly made for a sense of palpable excitement. Also seen were hundreds of **Cory's shearwater** and **Great shearwater** and a few examples of **Manx shearwater** and **Sooty shearwater**, that last species never appearing to entertain the option of coming nearer vessels. Both the Pomarine skua and Caspian gull followed the boat for a considerable distance, which certainly allowed improved ID skills for the latter, although I have an inkling I would still need a lot of help if gazing at a sleeping example on a barge on a grey day on the River Thames, the stretch I grew up along around Erith being, seemingly, the centre of U.K. sightings of this increasingly familiar species.

A notable non-bird sighting was a **Blue-fin tuna**, which I initially assumed was a dolphin or porpoise. This species has been present in British waters only in the last two years. A **Red-throated diver** and three **Bar-tailed godwit** were spotted on the way home, the former tucked into Innisidgen Cove.

In the afternoon I walked to Porthloo on St. Mary's and saw a **Ruff**, before heading to near Carrig Dhu Gardens where a **Glossy ibis** had been present for a few days. It was walking up and down a small pool of water, one of many that had collected in a huge sheet of plastic laid over a ploughed field. The transparent-and-white plastic and the dark plumage of the ibis produced what resembled a lunar scene.

From there I conducted a somewhat frenetic dash across St. Mary's to see two **Richard's pipit**. Initially, the birds were in a field at Carn Vean, but when I reached that spot, I was told the birds had just the minute before taken off in the direction of the airport at Higher Moors. I walked along a footpath across Kittydown that I had not taken before and then climbed the

airport road, only for the two birds at that very moment to be above my head flying back up the island towards the golf course. I saw two larger pipits with long tails and more barrel-like chests, but the view was very disappointing.

I decided to see the two **Jack snipe** present at Lower Moors, from the Isles of Scilly Bird Group hide, and they performed admirably, the closest sightings I have ever had of the species. As I was walking back up through Old Town with the idea of heading to the north entrance of Higher Moors, I bumped into a birder who was dashing back up to the airport on a report that the **Richard's pipit** had returned, so around I turned, too. This time, the pipits remained on the ground, and an adjacent Meadow pipit provided a great size comparison.

Richard's pipit is twice as large, with longer legs and a very upright stance.

Back in Hugh Town there was a Great egret perched in a tree on the Garrison but visible from Porthcressa, which it flew across in a wide arc before disappearing.

On **Wednesday, October 11** I decided to go to Bryher to search for the **Ortolan** that had been discovered the day before just up from Church Quay. Despite a good search, it was not to be seen in that original place, and most of the rest of the day on this beautiful island proved disheartening in terms of bird sightings, with only a couple of quick views of a juvenile **Red-backed shrike**. A **Whimbrel** and the same pair of **Whinchat** added some colour.

The **Ortolan** was spotted at 1230 on the west side of Samson Hill, not too far from where I was, so I ran back, but it had already disappeared.

I almost had one foot on the 1430 boat back to St. Mary's when I saw Henry Wyn-Jones and Jonathan Farooqi get off the boat and hurry past without seeing me. They were staying in Hugh Town with two friends, Jack Morris and Dan, and Tony Morris, Jack's grandfather.

Alex and I have known the Morris family for more than 45 years. Jack is the son of Pete Morris, a birder friend who went to the same senior school as Alex and I did.

Behind the two was a small group of birders who like me had been searching on Bryher earlier that day, so we all walked back swiftly the long way around Samson Hill. Again, though, we were too late. It had flown, so we were told, deep into the foliage of a tree. Henry had a thermal camera, and he could pick out only one bird, which we assumed was our bird, but even with a telescope trained at it and perhaps two mylar stripes being discernible it mostly resembled a piece of soggy tissue. Fifteen minutes later, the bird in question moved an inch or two, and what revealed itself was a grey bill. No, it was not what we were looking for. Henry and Jonathan decided to walk around the adjacent beach to see if they could relocate it, others stayed put, and I decided—I cannot remember why—to walk along the narrow grass path to where the bunting had been seen on the first occasion that day.

As I rounded a curve, I saw a bird rooting in the grass. Remembering what Alex always tells me, that is, snap photos, confirm the ID and then tell others, I with some jubilation saw that it was indeed the **Ortolan**. I waved to the group of stationary birders and whistled loudly, so well, Henry and Jonathan were able to hear, turn full circle, run and see a bird species that for them also was a lifer. They said they heard a whistle, and wondered if it was a dog-walker but decided not to take the chance that it was not a bird alert. I managed to get eight or so birders onto the bunting, which showed very well for another three minutes, feeding and hopping along the grassy path before once more disappearing. I was thanked profusely as we all sauntered to get the last boat home at 1630.

At the Scillonian Club that evening our group was in celebratory mode as we played a round robin of games of pool.

I think the Thursday of every week birding on the Isles of Scilly is when the body tells me to slow down a little, so on **Thursday, October 12** I did not leave St. Mary's. Alex and I pottered around the island and saw a **Water rail** in Higher Moors but failed to see the **Glossy ibis** where I had seen it previously. We saw the two **Jack snipe** at Lower Moors, which were very much closer on this occasion, literally beneath the hide. There always was, though,

wherever they sauntered, an errant piece of grass in front of both birds that hindered photography. Elsewhere that day, we also saw a **Hobby**, not a common sighting on the isles, and a **Pink-footed goose** in flight.

A **Snow bunting** was feeding at Giant's Castle, and there also was a **Black redstart**. Viewed from the coastal path at the airport, there was a **Buff-breasted sandpiper**, which well could have been the same individual seen earlier in the week on Wingletang Down, St. Agnes. It was with 20 **Golden plover** and one **Dunlin**. The sandpiper had been seen earlier in the day by Alex and myself flying with a group of **Snipe**, its size notably smaller than its companions as it moved from the back of the group to the front. At one point two groups of airborne **Snipe** came together as one, numbering around 60.

On the last full day, **Friday, October 13**, Alex and I wandered down to Lower Moors again, but this time around there was very little to see, apart from a **Kingfisher** that flew up and perched in a distant tree and then over the pool in front of the hide.

I decided to visit Higher Moors, but there was not much there either, apart from the only **Coot** I saw in the entire week, but as I was starting to walk along the coastal trail back to Hugh Town, news sounded that a **Pallid harrier** was on the move, flying from the isle of St. Martin's where it had been seen the day before towards the main isle of St. Mary's. Several birders were looking up into the sky and following radio and WhatsApp messages, and the bird was pinned down to pretty much the same tree the **Kingfisher** had been in. I jogged back to the hide and got so-so views of it half-observed by branches, a view that showed you what it was, a juvenile, but which it was not worth pointing a camera at.

Later, Alex said he wanted to see if he could photograph the **Rose-coloured starling**, so I went with him but after 10 minutes or so I decided to head to St. Martin's on the last boat there of the day, the 1230, to see if I could see the **Arctic warbler** that had been found by Jack and Dan two days before.

The boat was almost empty. When it arrived at Lower Quay, there were five or six birders waiting to return to St. Mary's. There had been no reports of the warbler so far that day. Everyone leaving the boat went off in cars or into the very nice Karma St. Martin's hotel adjacent to the quay. I was left on my own. I had only walked 30 feet, to the spot where the narrow "main" road crosses the length of this thin isle, when I saw a warbler alight on a branch of a conifer tree.

I was sure it was the **Arctic warbler**, but as I raised my camera, I realised I had left its battery charging back on St. Mary's. Of course, I should have been carrying a spare. I called Alex and told him I had seen the bird, and I put out a "probable" sighting announcement on the WhatsApp group.

By this time, it had started to rain. Indeed, the day was forecasted to be potentially a washout, but it transpired just to be a day of mixed conditions with little in the way of precipitation. I popped into the Seven Stones pub, which is 100 metres from where I saw the warbler and named after the reef where the Tuesday pelagic boat had sailed to.

Apart from me and three employees it was empty, and it was to close for the season two days later. After a pint, I left to find myself in 10 minutes of sunshine, and I saw the **Arctic warbler** again in the same spot, and this time I saw all the features that identified it. I alerted the WhatsApp group. At the daily bird log at the Scillonian Club that evening (Tony, Jack and the crew had returned to the mainland that afternoon on what was a very choppy passage) there was a comment from the master of ceremonies that my warbler could well have been a different one to the previous example. On the Friday, the original **Arctic warbler** was not seen where it had been discovered on the Wednesday and relocated on the Thursday. That was a site in Higher Town. Perhaps the poor weather scared people off from looking. As I walked along St. Martin's from my site of discovery in Lower Town to Middle Town and

then on to Higher Town, I saw only four other birders, two of whom were resident and one of whom was staying on the isle and rarely leaving.

It is said that this species tends not to move much once it has discovered a food source, and as my one was seen approximately 1.5 miles away from the original, it could well be a different bird, in which case it would qualify as a self-found bird.

I probably will never know one way or the other.

I was very happy to read the next day that “my” warbler had been seen twice, once in exactly the same spot and once by the Seven Stones.

I saw a large flock of **Sanderling** on the St. Martin’s beach known as Lawrences, along with 30 or 40 **Oystercatcher** and four **Curlew**, but there was not much else venturing out.

I met the one birder who was staying on the island, Chris Townend, in Higher Town. He waited for me to reach him to ask if I was the one who had seen the warbler. He had seen it the day before and was off to the other end of the island to see if he could see my one. He said he knew several birder friends in common, namely Alex, Barry Wright and Pete Morris. On the boat back, there was only one other person, the fourth birder, Terry Doman, who said he had been coming to the Isles of Scilly every October for the last 38 years.

It was amusing to get a cheer at the Scillonian Club bird log when I mentioned the exact number of Sanderling I had seen, 195. Alex told me not to say I saw a rounded-up 200.

We had one last drink that evening at the Mermaid before going home half an hour or so, apparently, before a mini riot broke out there that spilled onto the street.

On our last day, **Saturday, October 14**, we did not venture far due to our passage on the Scillonian III leaving in the afternoon. Alex and I wandered up to Peninnis Head along King Edward Road and, after seeing phone alerts, saw the **Pallid harrier** fly over the airport. We watched it circle a few times before it headed with some urgency straight out to sea, never to come back. At that very moment the Isles of Scilly-bound Scillonian III was coming in, and the birders on board would have certainly read that the harrier was on the move, but if anyone on board had seen the bird it would not have been any more than a tiny, dark, unidentifiable dot. There was a **Black redstart** on Peninnis.

With 90 minutes left in which to bird, we enjoyed watching the **Rose-coloured starling** on Porthcressa, tucked around the edge of the base of the Garrison and completely on its own, with not a single regular starling in sight. It quite often popped onto the top of large rocks encrusted in yellow lichen.

We met up with Bernie Beck, another birder we have known for decades, at the Mermaid for a drink. He was on the incoming ferry and confirmed no one on his sailing would have possibly been able to spot the harrier. Then it was time to embark on the passage back, which provided a good number of **Cory’s shearwater**, a handful of **Great shearwater** and **Kittiwake**, along with one **Great skua**.

In total, 100 species from leaving Penzance to the point when we left Hugh Town for the sailing back to the mainland.

We saw during the week a number of Clouded yellow butterflies and two Painted lady butterflies, which we wished we had taken a closer look at because in the days after our departure there were sighted four or five American painted lady, a separate species and very much a rarity in the U.K. Also seen was a Hummingbird hawkmoth, while another curious sighting was of a fungi species called Red-cage fungus, which for want of a better description looks like underwater coral exploding out of meringue.

Crossness Nature Reserve, Belvedere, Kent: November 10, 2023 I went to the reserve for a very quick 45 minutes after I attended the demonstration—well, more a showing of numbers and a photo opportunity—to show opposition to energy company Cory’s development plans to extend its Belvedere site onto the nature reserve, which does have

scientific protection. One thorn is that the developers have said their plans will help the government carbon targets, and thus paperwork bypasses local administration and heads straight to the relevant national ministry. Two of the Save Crossness campaigner, Ralph Todd from RSPB Bexley and the indomitable Donna Zimmer, showed the Member of Parliament for Erith and Thamesmead, Labour Party member Abena Oppong-Asare, around the reserve, so I hope that helps. I saw them as left the Crossness hide, but I just said “good morning.” Donna and Ralph probably only had 15 minutes with her, and I did not want my conversation to waste any of that time.

I saw a handful of Stonechat and three raptors, a Kestrel, a Buzzard and a wonderful female Sparrowhawk sitting on a branch opposite the hide window.

Rainham RSPB Reserve, Purfleet, Essex: November 25, 2023 The first time I have taken Alex Carlisle to two of my local spots, even though he grew up in the area, too. The reserves back then did not exist. At Rainham, we saw distantly five juvenile Whooper swan fly, but fortunately there was an adult Whooper swan sitting on the Target Pool that gave great views. There was not a lot else, but Wigeon; 20 x Pintail; several Fieldfare and Redwing, the first of the year; 5 x Curlew; Marsh harrier, and Kestrel

Crossness Nature Reserve, Belvedere, Kent: November 25, 2023 The outflow on the Thames was the best spot, with maybe 200 x Black-headed gull; 12 x Dublin; Black-tailed godwit; Redshank, and a pair of Little egret. A Buzzard was in the unfenced part of the reserve

London Wetland Centre, London: December 10, 2023 Not much about on possibly the most dismal day of weather I have encountered at this reserve, although things brightened up significantly by the time I left. Two Black-headed gull showing almost completely black heads; a handful of Wigeon, Pochard, Gadwall and Shoveler; a slightly bedraggled Kestrel, and two Redwing

Pulborough Brooks RSPB, Pulborough, Sussex: December 11, 2023 A very nice sunny late-autumn day. Highlight were the two adult White-tailed eagle, one of which soared over the marsh, settling on a tree with its mate. Both sat there for some time before flying off. Huge wing spans. Also, a Peregrine in the tree across from another hide. Few waders, with four Dublin, scatterings of Lapwing and a great many Black-tailed godwit. Nuthatch and Coat tit a joy to watch at the two feeder stations, and there were one or two each of Fieldfare and Redwing. Also, three other raptors in Kestrel, Sparrowhawk and Marsh harrier

Abberton Reservoir, Layer de la Haye: December 12, 2023 The rain came down heavily on my way there and back, but the sun was out when I arrived at 8:30 a.m. The large flock of Pochard contained the one **CANVASBACK** (new species for the U.K.), which could be picked out for its darker, longer bill and more bulbous head. Birders now await to see if the BOU designates this a wild bird, or an escape, although it is free-flying, un-ringed and had an arrival with a storm front. I will be prepared to take this off my U.K. list if prompted. Also on the reservoir were a dozen Goosander, both male and female, and a pair of Goldeneye. Also, one Redshank. In the Essex Wildlife Trust Abberton reserve, there were perhaps 200 or 300 Fieldfare, quite a wonderful sight, along with just two Redwing. A pleasant surprise was the one Meadow pipit, but there was not a great deal around, and then it was clear the weather was going to change again, and for the worse

Kings Hill, East Malling, Kent and Elmley, Kent: December 23, 2023 My intent was to get to the Elmley reserve first thing in the morning, but news came in that three Waxwing were present at Kings Hill, a species I have not seen for almost seven years. 2023 has been a decent year for their presence in the south of the country, with the last good year being 2017. They were found effortlessly on Monarch Terrace, but then they flew. I relocated them on the one tree in the middle of a roundabout facing a Waitrose supermarket, and on occasion they flew to a much smaller rowan tree, which allowed me to photograph them if they dropped down even further to below the building line of the adjacent houses

At Elmley, there was a large number of Curlew, some of whom were calling. Also, a couple of quick flashes of Bearded tit, one Reed bunting, which felt a surprise much as the Meadow pipit did the day before, three Marsh harriers, a female Hen harrier over the marsh between the ticket entrance and the main facilities, and a Goldcrest skulking at the base of thicker vegetation. The stars, though, were the three owls present. The Long-eared owl was extremely well hidden in a thicket, and I needed to be shown where it was by one of the wardens, Fiona, and which I managed to see the body and, just once, an “ear” and half an eye. The two other owl species Barn owl and Short-eared owl, were far more obvious when they decided to pop up out of the grass and start hunting, quartering a field and both providing great views. The Short-eared owl perched on a fence post, but the Barn owl dropped into the long grass. A flock of Brent geese flew by. Over the four days, I saw 70 species

Oare and Pegwell Bay, Kent: December 20, 2023 Sunny day, but not a great deal at Oare. A Black-necked grebe floated down the Swale, which also had Curlew; Avocet; Shelduck; Oystercatcher, and Redshank. There were three Spoonbill on the East Flood, mostly viewed as they slept. A small flock of Fieldfare also was present, and there has been some reeds cleared or cut as I even birded from the East Flood Hide, something I have never done in more than 10 years. The Greater white-fronted /Greylag hybrid goose with a broken wing remains, and it has been months now. People I spoke to said it seems to be quite happy. At Pegwell Bay, I caught up with two Twite, a species I have not seen since before I moved to the US. I was fortunate. I talked to someone leaving the area it was reported in who said that no one had seen it properly that morning, although someone located it in the salt marsh with an infrared camera. I was there only for a few minutes when both flew to the branches of a tree and fed. They then dropped down to the salt marsh and displayed on the top of a piece of vegetation. I watched them for 10 minutes, and then they disappeared, not to be seen again by me. Also, Grey plover; Dunlin; Curlew; Redshank, and a male Eider

Rajasthan, India: December 27, 2023-January 10, 2024 My first time to India, a two-week visit with Francesca and two friends, Jessica and Oliver. We visited Delhi, Jaipur, Jodhpur and Udaipur, as well as two rural places, Chanod and the RAAS Chhatrasagar resort near Nimaj. It was not a birding trip, but I squeezed out as much as I good, especially in Chanod and Chhatrasagar. There also was a visit to the Jhalani reserve near Jaipur where we saw Leopard and two owl species, Eurasian scops owl and Boobook. Worryingly, not a single vulture species

Ashy drongo; Ashy prinia; Asian brown flycatcher; Asian koel; Asian palm swift; Asian pied starling; Bank myna; Bar-headed goose; Baya weaver; Bay-backed shrike; Black-bellied tern; Black-crowned night heron; Black drongo; Black-headed cuckooshrike; Black-headed ibis; Black kite; Black redstart; Black-rumped flameback; Black stork; Black-tailed godwit; Black-winged kite; Black-winged stilt; Boobook (Brown hawk owl); Booted warbler; Brahminy starling (*25th species*); Brown shrike; Buzzard; Cattle egret; Chestnut-bellied nuthatch; Chiffchaff; Citrine wagtail; Collared dove; Common iora; Common myna; Common

sandpiper; Coot; Coppersmith barbet; Crane; Oriental darter; Dusky crag martin; Eastern spot-billed duck; Eurasian scops owl; Fan-tailed warbler; Feral pigeon/Rock dove; Glossy ibis; Graceful prinia; Great cormorant; Great crested grebe; Great egret; Greater coucal (*50th species*); Greater flamingo; Greater racket-tailed drongo; Greater spotted eagle; Greater white pelican; Great grey shrike; Great tit; Greenish warbler; Greenshank; Grey-breasted prinia; Grey francolin; Grey heron; Greylag; Grey phalarope; Grey-throated martin (Asian plain martin); Grey wagtail; Hoopoe; House crow; House sparrow; Indian cormorant; Indian nightjar; Indian peafowl; Indian pond heron; Indian robin; Indian roller; Intermediate egret (*75th species*); Jungle babbler; Jungle prinia; Kestrel; Laggar; Large grey babbler; Laughing dove; Lesser whitethroat; Little cormorant; Little egret; Little grebe; Little green bee-eater; Little ringed plover; Long-tailed shrike; Mallard; Marsh harrier; Marsh sandpiper; Montagu's harrier; Moorhen; Oriental magpie-robin; Oriental white-eye; Osprey; Painted stork; Pallid harrier; Pied bushchat; Pied kingfisher (*100th species*); Pied wagtail; Pintail; Plain prinia; Plum-headed parakeet; Pochard; Purple heron; Purple sunbird; Red-naped ibis; Red-necked falcon; Red-rumped swallow; Redshank; Red-throated flycatcher; Red-vented bulbul; Red-wattled lapwing; Ringed plover; Ring-necked parakeet; River tern; Rose-coloured starling; Ruddy shelduck; Ruff; Rufous-tailed shrike; Rufous treepie; Sarus crane; Shikra; Short-eared owl (*125th species*); Short-toed lark; Shoveler; Small minivet; Snipe; Spoonbill; Spotted dove; Spotted owlet; Spotted treecreeper; Steppe eagle; Stonechat; Straited heron; Tailorbird; Teal; White-browed fantail; White-browed wagtail; White-eared bulbul; White-eyed buzzard; White-throated kingfisher; Wire-tailed swallow; Wood sandpiper; Woolly-necked stork; Yellow-eyed babbler, and Yellow wagtail. ... 148 species in total, and 39 new species. (Also, Blackbuck; Black-faced langur; Five-striped palm squirrel; Indian grey mongoose; Jungle cat; Leopard; Marwari (horse); Nilgai (Bluebuck); Rhesus macaque; Sambar, and Wild boar)

Heybridge, Essex: January 14, 2024 Early start to get to the site where for the last week there have been sightings of **NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH** (new species for the U.K.), my second US warbler species seen in the U.K. Maybe 30 birders already on site before first light, and one of them picked a likely candidate out with an infra-red torch. It turned out to be the bird in question. Excellent views, even in the dark, of it and its behaviour, and it was heard to call as it flew over the narrow dyke from side to side. It often popped onto small rocks. I saw it at 07:30, the exact time (due to the arrival of sunset at this time of the year) that it mostly has been seen, and then it returned at 08:17 for better views in better light. Maybe 100 birders on site for this American mega. A Cetti's warbler was displaying well, even if very few birders were giving it any time. At 10 a.m., I was back home. It is the eighth to be seen in the U.K., but only the third U.K. mainland record and the first British record since 2011. The first was found on St. Agnes, Isles of Scilly, in September 1958, with the isles seeing four more, the most recent in September 2011. All previous British records have been found in the autumn

Amwell Nature Reserve, Great Amwell, Hertfordshire: February 3, 2024 The first time to this reserve just north of London. I was not exactly sure as to what pond or lake to find the lone, drake Smew on, but I finally located it on the largest lake, and I had excellent views of a duck species I have not seen for decades. On the smaller pond on the road-side of the rail line, with only one small sightline possible, I saw a pair of Goldeneye

Dacres Wood and Mayow Park, Sydenham, London: February 4, 2024 A slow 90-minute amble to a couple of spots within walking distance of my home, and in Dacres Wood I saw three titmice species, Long-tailed tit, Great tit and Blue tit, Goldfinch and Goldcrest, while in Mayow Park I saw a Jay and a Nuthatch

Southwark, London: February 8, 2024

On the top of the Globe Theatre, the re-creation of the medieval playhouse supposedly frequented by William Shakespeare, a minute's walk from my office, a female Black redstart hopping across the mossy roof and occasionally popping up onto and sitting on a metal protuberance

River Lea, Hackney, London: February 18, 2024

A walk along a stretch of the River Lea close to the stadium of West Ham United, one Greenfinch, one Redwing and one Goldcrest among 20 species in total

Tice's Meadow, Runfold, Surrey, and Effingham Woods, Effingham, Surrey: February 25, 2024

Two new sites for me. At the first, Tice's Meadow, a pair of Black-necked grebe, 2 x Snipe, a displaying Cetti's warbler, a male Siskin, while at the second—with the light quite shockingly poor—Goshawk, with one flying through a wood, another briefly appearing over a canopy of fir trees; one Hawfinch perched on a fir; Treecreeper; 4 x Marsh tit, and a flock of Redpoll

Thameside Nature Discovery Reserve, Standford-le-Hope, Essex: March 2, 2024

Pretty gruesome morning's weather, with rain that never quite stopped, a strong breeze and even hail, but, before the large, good visitor centre opened, there is a hide for shelter, and from it there must have been 500 Avocet scattered over the spot where Mucking Creek joins the Thames. Also, 2 x Stonechat, numerous Shelduck, and 4 x Curlew. I left at 11:30

Effingham Woods, Effingham, Surrey, and Headley Heath, Surrey: February 25, 2024

A return here but this time with birder friend Paul Moss. Excellent view of Goshawk flying through the wood, and we had only seen that because we had got a little lost trying to find the viewpoint where most of the Goshawk sightings have been. When we did find it, we saw several appearances of the raptor again, occasionally two at the same time; on another occasion, a Buzzard with a Goshawk squaring off to one another but with no contact. Also, 2 x Treecreeper; Marsh tit; Coat tit, and a dozen Siskin. At Headley Heath, a very nice male Kestrel; 60 x Linnet, and 2 x Redpoll in two different spots

The Ridgeway, West Ilsley, Berkshire, and Didcot, Oxfordshire: March 9, 2024

On a failed search for the Giant orchid, which has been reported last year and this, blooming three weeks earlier in 2024. I did not know where it was, and I have not been able to get anyone to tell me, not that I tried so hard. If people wish to keep its location a secret, so be it. Nevertheless, on a sunny day, I found a pale-morph Buzzard, which, at first, I thought was a gull species and then an Osprey; also, several Yellowhammer; Stonechat; Corn bunting; Marsh harrier, and numerous Skylark and Red kite

Staines Reservoir, Berkshire, and London Wetland Centre, Barnes, London: March 10, 2024

Weather was largely miserable, but in the morning the rain mostly kept off. Slavonian grebe, the first one I have seen in the U.K. in decades, in winter plumage; 4 x Goldeneye; brief views of Water pipit; a Dunlin; distant view of Great northern diver (I failed to see the Black-throated diver, which was seen while I was there), and 3 x summer-plumage Black-necked grebe, which might well be the first time I have seen the species in summer colours. At the

London Wetland Centre, the rain caught up with me, but I re-found a Water pipit, with very good views; also, a Snipe and a bright Chiffchaff

Dungeness RSPB Reserve, Lydd, Kent: March 23, 2024 Quite chilly in the wind, but in sheltered spots the sun warmed things up a bit. First Wheatear of the year by the bird observatory, and a Peregrine. At the ARC pit, oddly, my second sighting of one Slavonian grebe and three Black-necked grebe on the same bit of water in the space of 13 days. Also, a Goldeneye. On Burrowes Pit at the RSPB centre, another Goldeneye, several Common gull and three Little gull, including one adult male

Albufera Marshes, Valencia, Spain: March 27 and 31, 2024 Two mornings at the Racó de l'Olla reserve, with the first day also spent birding the three kilometres between the reserve and the village of El Palmar. At the reserve were Greater flamingo; Black-winged stilt; Glossy ibis; Avocet; Grey heron; Common tern; Mediterranean gull; Ruff; Redshank; Shelduck; 2 x Pochard; Marsh harrier; Swift; Swallow; Little grebe; Sanderling; Common sandpiper; House martin, and a very distant bird that I could not ID but turned out to be a Water pipit in summer plumage. The walk to El Palmar proved largely fruitless, certainly compared with the same walk in Dec. 2018, but there were flocks of Serin and Cattle egret at the entrance to the village. On the second day, most of the birds seen at the reserve were repeated, with the addition of 30 x Sandwich tern and 5 x Slender-billed gull, a species I had not previously seen

Parc Municipal de Sant Vincent, Lliria, Comunitat Valenciana, Spain: April 1, 2024 A walk around this park full of Easter Monday families produced, a little to the side of where the masses were, a Sardinian warbler and a Hoopoe, which I could show my niece, Martina

Grunewald; Döberitzer Heide Nature Reserve, and Tiergarten, Berlin, Germany: April 13-17, 2023 A few bits of birding around the annual hotels conference I attend in Berlin. This event was a month earlier this year than it was in 2023, and that made all the difference, I suspect, in the migratory birds that I could not find during this trip. There were no Red-backed shrike; Wood lark; Cuckoo; Hoopoe, and Spotted flycatcher. In Grunewald, I saw a Garden warbler, 2 x Crane, and the best views I have had of Black woodpecker, two of them. At Döberitzer Heide, which since last year has opened a very nice visitor centre, I arrived via its Dallgow-Döberitz entrance, where I saw Redstart and Black redstart. Deeper into the reserve I also saw 2 x Wheatear; 2 x Crane; Red kite; Corn bunting, and Stonechat, as well as Bison, but it was not a patch on last year. I visited the central Tiergarten park that was right behind my hotel, and on my visit quick visit of three quick visits I saw a Goshawk land on a branch just above my head. It moved quickly away. That was at about midday. On the next morning, at around 6:15 to 7, I failed to see it, but on my last morning, at 6, I saw two fly in, one of which stayed on a branch as I slowly moved around to where the light was perfect for photos. Suffice to say, I have never seen this majestic bird so close, and it was a thrill