

## SIGHTINGS OCTOBER 2019

BIRDS	
Red-throated Diver	17 at Cullernose on 1 <sup>st</sup> 3 at Longhoughton Steel on 28 <sup>th</sup> 20 at Cullernose on 29 <sup>th</sup>
Black-throated Diver	5 at Longhoughton Steel on 28 <sup>th</sup>
Great-northern Diver	1 juvenile at Stag Rock on 30 <sup>th</sup>
Red-necked Grebe	2 at Cullernose on 29 <sup>th</sup>
Manx Shearwater	13 at Cullernose on 1 <sup>st</sup>
Leach's Petrel	1 at Cullernose on 29 <sup>th</sup>
Little Egret	1 at Boulmer on 28 <sup>th</sup> 3 near Beal Point on 30 <sup>th</sup>
Whooper Swan	16 over Howick on 12 <sup>th</sup> 8 over Branton Ponds on 21 <sup>st</sup> 8 at Newton Scrape on 31 <sup>st</sup>
Brent Goose	66 at Cullernose on 29 <sup>th</sup>
Barnacle Goose	65 at Cullernose on 1 <sup>st</sup>
Pink-footed Goose	24 over Branton Ponds on 11 <sup>th</sup>
Wigeon	319 at Cullernose on 29 <sup>th</sup>
Teal	76 at Hedgeley Lakes on 24 <sup>th</sup>
Pochard	1 at Branton Ponds on 11 <sup>th</sup> and 2 on 13 <sup>th</sup>
Pintail	2 at Cullernose on 29 <sup>th</sup>
Goldeneye	21 at Cullernose on 29 <sup>th</sup>
Scaup	3 at Cullernose on 29 <sup>th</sup>
Goosander	3 at Powburn on 14 <sup>th</sup>
Red-breasted Merganser	3 at Cullernose on 29 <sup>th</sup>
Velvet Scoter	6 at Cullernose on 29 <sup>th</sup>
Common Scoter	26 at Cullernose on 1 <sup>st</sup> and 292 on 29 <sup>th</sup>
Long-tailed Duck	1 at Cullernose on 1 <sup>st</sup> 7 at Longhoughton Steel on 28 <sup>th</sup> 8 at Cullernose on 29 <sup>th</sup> 2 at Cresswell Pond on 29 <sup>th</sup> 1 at Newton Scrape on 31 <sup>st</sup>
Merlin	1 at Branton on 12 <sup>th</sup>
Peregrine	1 at Cullernose on 1 <sup>st</sup> 1 at Branton on 11 <sup>th</sup> 1 at Holy Island causeway on 16 <sup>th</sup>
Long-billed Dowitcher	1 at Cresswell Pond on 29 <sup>th</sup>
Golden Plover	250 at Boulmer on 28 <sup>th</sup>
Greenshank	1 at Hedgeley Lakes on 14 <sup>th</sup>
Lesser Black-backed Gull	31 at Branton Ponds on 12 <sup>th</sup>
Arctic Skua	13 at Cullernose on 1 <sup>st</sup>
Great Skua	11 at Cullernose on 1 <sup>st</sup>
Pomarine Skua	1 at Cullernose on 29 <sup>th</sup>
Sabines Gull	1 at Cullernose on 1 <sup>st</sup>
Arctic Tern	4 at Cullernose on 1 <sup>st</sup> 1 at Snab Point on 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Little Auk	1 at Cullernose on 1 <sup>st</sup> and 44 on 29 <sup>th</sup>
Tawny Owl	1 at Hedgeley Lakes on 24 <sup>th</sup>
Kingfisher	2 at Hedgeley Lakes on 21 <sup>st</sup>
Green Woodpecker	1 at Pauperhaugh on 5 <sup>th</sup>
Swallow	3 at Branton on 10 <sup>th</sup>
Sand Martin	1 at Branton Ponds on 10 <sup>th</sup>
Pied Wagtail	24 at Branton Ponds on 11 <sup>th</sup>
Redwing	15 over Branton on 5 <sup>th</sup> with 10 on 11 <sup>th</sup>
Ring Ouzel	1 on Holy Island on 19 <sup>th</sup>
Blackcap	2 on Holy Island on 19 <sup>th</sup>
Yellow-browed Warbler	1 at Howick on 12 <sup>th</sup> and 1 on 19 <sup>th</sup> 1 on Holy Island on 19 <sup>th</sup>
Chiffchaff	6+ in Branton on 1 <sup>st</sup> and again on 11 <sup>th</sup>
Goldcrest	3 in Branton on 16 <sup>th</sup>
Raven	2 at Beanley Woods on 13 <sup>th</sup>
Jay	4 at Branton Ponds on 21 <sup>st</sup>
Yellowhammer	8 at Smeafield on 3 <sup>rd</sup>

Lapland Bunting	1 near Beal Point on 30 <sup>th</sup>
Twite	35 near Beal Point on 30 <sup>th</sup>
Hawfinch	1 at Smeafield on 12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>FUNGI</b>	
Crimson Waxcap	At Shepherds Law on 13 <sup>th</sup>
Meadow Waxcap	At Shepherds Law on 13 <sup>th</sup>
Heath Waxcap	At Shepherds Law on 13 <sup>th</sup>
Snowy Waxcap	At Shepherds Law on 13 <sup>th</sup>
Blackening Waxcap	At Branton Ponds on 16 <sup>th</sup>
Earth tongue fungi	On Holy Island on 19 <sup>th</sup>
<b>INVERTEBRATES</b>	
Common Darter	5 at Branton Ponds on 12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>MAMMALS</b>	
Otter	1 near Brandon Whitehouse on 4 <sup>th</sup>
Red Squirrel	1 at Branton Ponds on 26 <sup>th</sup>
Mole	2 at Branton Ponds on 28 <sup>th</sup> above ground following on another.
<b>RAINFALL</b>	96mm
<b>OBSERVERS</b>	E Bone, I&K Davison, G Dodds, A Keeble, S Reay, J Rutter, S Sexton.



## WINTER WALKS



We have only two more walks planned for this winter. George's excursion is on the Saturday following our November meeting and Richard's is in early January. It would be good if we could generate a couple more in the January to April period. Could **YOU** suggest and/or lead one?

**SATURDAY 30<sup>th</sup> November** Warkworth Dunes and the Gut - George

Meet at 10:30am in the free car park off the road to Warkworth Golf Club at NU 255 064 for a 1 ½ hr walk along the edge of the saltmarsh and back via the beach. Sturdy boots / wellingtons are advisable.

**SATURDAY 4<sup>th</sup> January** Alnmouth New Year Plant Hunt - Richard

This New Year we'll try doing a group Plant Hunt. Meet at 10.30 in the beach carpark at Alnmouth (may be a charge if the pay booth is staffed in January!) We will follow roughly the same route as we did with the summer walk this year, so total distance will be about 3 miles and will involve tracks, riverside, minor roads etc. Almost bound to be mud unless everything is frozen. By all means do some birding, but please aim to add to the search for plants in flower. Time about 2½ hours.

OS Landranger 81; OS Explorer 332; Grid Ref NU 250 106