

## SIGHTINGS APRIL 2011

### BIRDS

Great Crested Grebe	2 at Branton Ponds (11th)
Canada Goose	2 at Mindrum (13th)
Shelduck	24 at Doddington (20th)
Shoveler	2 at Branton Ponds (11th)
Long-tailed Duck	12 off Stag Rocks (10th)
Goosander	70 at West Ord (26th)
Garganey	1 at Druridge Pools (12th)
Pintail	2 at Druridge Pools (12th)
Black Scoter	1 off Stag Rocks mid month (an extreme rarity from N America)
Sparrowhawk	1 at Alnwick (14th and 16th)
Buzzard	5 at Langleeford (17th) and 4 at Smeafield (16th)
Merlin	1 at Elwick (7th)
Peregrine	1 on Holy Island (24th), 1 at Smeafields(16th) and 3 at Harehope (2nd)
Osprey	1 at Brandon (7th) and 1 on the River Till (20th)
Goshawk	1 near Wooler (20th)
Grey Partridge	2 at Low Newton(7th)
Black Grouse	2 Grey Hens near Ingram (26th)
Ringed Plovers	4 at Branton Ponds (10th)
Golden Plovers	2 on Hedgehope (9th) and 42 on Alnwick Moor (19th)
Lapwing	26 at Doddington (20th)
Snipe	5 at East Lilburn (13th)
Water Rail	1 at Cresswell (2nd)
Common Sandpiper	4 at Branton Ponds 10th, 2 at Langlee (17th) and 1 River Breamish (21st)
Avocet	8 at Cresswell (12 <sup>th</sup> ); a pair are now breeding there
Sanderling	40 at Seaton Point (25th)
Black-tailed Godwit	2 at Branton Ponds (22nd)
Kittiwake	100 at Dunstanburgh Castle (3rd)
Sandwich Tern	1 at Cresswell (3rd), 30 off Stag Rocks 10th and 10 at Newton Haven (7th)
Razorbill	60 at Dunstanburgh Castle (3rd)
Stock Dove	4 at Cresswell (5th)
Cuckoo	1 at Ingram on the 20th, 1 at Kettleburn (6 <sup>th</sup> ), 1 at Harehope Hillend (19 <sup>th</sup> ), 1 at Titlington Mount 20th
Kingfisher	1 at Branton Ponds (17th)
Green Woodpecker	1 at West Newton o (13th ) and 1 at Harehope Hillend (18th) and (22nd)
Sand Martin	Max. 350 all month Branton Ponds and 30 at Stag Rocks (10th)
Swallow	Birds were seen at Powburn (2nd), Branton (9th), Swarland (10th), Ingram (14th), Titlington Mount (20th) and 240 at West Fenton (20th)
House Martin	1 at Druridge (5th) and 4 at Glanton (17th )
Tree Pipit	2 at West Newton (13th)
Whinchat	1 at the Hawsen Burn (22nd)
Wheatear	2 at Druridge (9th), 2 at Brough Law (3rd), 3 at Smeafield (6th), 26 at Fenham le Moor (17 <sup>th</sup> ), 2 at Dunstanburgh (3rd) and 18 at Horncliffe (16th )
Shore Lark	1 at Druridge (5th)
Yellow Wagtail	1 at Cresswell (3rd) and (12th )
Black Redstart	1 at Druridge Pools (12th)

Ring Ouzel	2 at the Hawsen Burn (17th) and 22nd , 1 on Alnwick Moor (19th)
Redwing	3 at Horncliffe (16th)
Sedge Warbler	1 at Branton Ponds (20th) and 5 at Lesbury (30th)
Whitethroat	1 at Branton Ponds ( 26th)
Garden Warbler	1 on Holy Island (24th)
Blackcap	4 at West Newton (13th) and 2 at Swarland (17th)
Willow Warbler	1 at Branton Ponds (7th) and 1 at Smeafield on the (20th)
Wood Warbler	2 at Hepburn Woods (19th)
Subalpine Warbler	1 at Holy Island (10th)
Great Grey Shrike	1 at Shilbottle (14th)
Raven	2 in the Upper Breamish ( 9th)
Hooded Crow	1 at Holy Island (24th)
Grasshopper Warbler	1 at Druridge Pools (12th), 4 at Budle Point (17 <sup>th</sup> ), 3 at Lesbury (28th) and 1 at Fenham le Moor (24th )
Tree Sparrow	2 at Glanton (13th) and 3 at Swarland (25th)
Twite	Several at Druridge (5th)
Lesser Redpoll	2 at Branton Ponds (11th) and 8 at Old Bewick Hill (9th)
Corn Bunting	1 at Seaton Point (25th)

#### **MAMMALS**

Brown Hare	7 at Fenham le Moor (17th) and 1 at Swarland (24th)
Feral Goat	12 at West Newton (13th)
Stoat	1 at Swarland (5th)
Porpoise	1 off Stag Rocks (15th)
Red Squirrel	Singles seen at Hepburn Woods (19th), Smeafield (21st),Titlington Mount (10th) and Ingram all month

#### **PLANTS**

Cowslips	Budle (2nd)
Slender St John's Wort	West Newton (13th)

#### **INVERTEBRATES**

Orange Tip	Seen at Branton Ponds (14th), Harehope Hillend (17th), Smeafields (17th), Elwick Burn 17 <sup>th</sup> and Harehope 17th
Green Hairstreak	2 at Titlington Mount (28th)
Painted Lady	4 at Smeafield (21st)
Mountain Bumblebee	West Newton (13th)
Buff Tailed Bumblebee	West Newton (13th)
Early Bumblebee	West Newton (13th)
Red Tailed Bumblebee	Longframlington (date unknown)
Bee Fly	5 at Titlington Mount (8th)

#### **REPTILES**

Adder	1 at Branton Ponds (21st), also 1 baby Adder at Chevington (29th)
Slow Worm	1 at Harehope (25th) and 1 at Ingram (30th)
Viviparous Lizard	4 at Titlington Mount (21st)

#### **AMPHIBIANS**

Smooth Newt	Pair in garden pond Branton (27th)
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#### **RAINFALL**

The rainfall at Smeafield in April was 6.4 mm. In the last 21 years only June 1996 was drier.

**OBSERVERS:**W .Banks, J Brown ,D Clark, J Clark, I & K Davison, G Dodds, A Keeble, R Manning, R & J Poppleton, S Reay, M & B Rolley, S Sexton, S Wilson.

Please send May records, using sightings cards, by June 6<sup>th</sup> to Ian & Keith Davison, The Bungalow, Branton NE66 4LW or Tel:01665 578 357 or by hand at next meeting or email to redsquirrel@alnwickwildlifegroup.co.uk