

COUNTY RARITIES (FOR WHICH A DESCRIPTION IS ESSENTIAL)

This list follows an update of the Rarities List first published in the 1980 *Cheshire Bird Report* (CBR). It includes most of the original species, the main changes being the inclusion of the species removed from those considered by the *British Birds* Rarities Committee (BBRC), the exclusion of species now being considered by the BBRC, plus a few others deemed to warrant inclusion. Most have occurred in our recording area less than 10 times per year over the last five years.

Bean Goose
American Wigeon
Green-winged Teal
Red-crested Pochard (*fem/imms*)
Ring-necked Duck
Ferruginous Duck
Velvet Scoter
Quail (*non-calling birds*)
Black Grouse
Red-throated Diver (*inland only*)
Black-throated Diver
Great Northern Diver
Fulmar (*blue phase*)
Sooty Shearwater
Balearic Shearwater
Storm Petrel (*except Jun to Sep*)
Shag (*inland only*)
Night-Heron
Cattle Egret
Great White Egret (*except for singles from the Dee between Burton and Heswall and the Mersey between Fiddler's Ferry to Eastham, including Frodsham, outside the period May-Sep*).
White Stork
Glossy Ibis
Red-necked Grebe
Slavonian Grebe (*winter plumage only*)
Black-necked Grebe (*winter coastal records*)
Honey-buzzard
Black Kite
White-tailed Eagle
Montagu's Harrier
Goshawk
Rough-legged Buzzard
Red-footed Falcon
Spotted Crake
Corncrake
Common Crane
Stone Curlew
American Golden Plover
Dotterel
Temminck's Stint
White-rumped Sandpiper
Buff-breasted Sandpiper
Pectoral Sandpiper
Red-necked Phalarope
Grey Phalarope
Pomarine Skua (*other than adult with spoons*)
Long-tailed Skua
Puffin
Black Guillemot
Little Auk
White-winged Black Tern
Roseate Tern
Sabine's Gull
Ring-billed Gull

Caspian Gull
 Turtle Dove
 Long-eared Owl (*flight only*)
 Nightjar
 Alpine Swift
 Bee-eater
 Hoopoe
 Wryneck
 Golden Oriole
 Red-backed Shrike
 Great Grey Shrike
 Chough
 Hooded Crow
 Willow Tit (*away from proven breeding sites*)
 Marsh Tit (*away from proven breeding sites*)
 Bearded Tit
 Woodlark
 Shore Lark
 Red-rumped Swallow
 Cetti's Warbler (*non-singing birds that are not trapped*)
 Greenish Warbler
 Pallas's Warbler
 Yellow-browed Warbler
 Radde's Warbler
 Wood Warbler
 Chiffchaff (*all races except collybita*)
 Barred Warbler
 Dartford Warbler
 Subalpine Warbler
 Icterine Warbler
 Aquatic Warbler
 Marsh Warbler
 Rose-coloured Starling
 Nightingale
 Bluethroat
 Red-breasted Flycatcher
 Black Redstart (*inland only*)
 Yellow Wagtail (*non-flavissima races*)
 Richard's Pipit
 Tawny Pipit
 Red-throated Pipit
 Rock Pipit (*petrosus away from rocky coasts and littoralis away from estuaries*)
 Water Pipit
 Serin
 Common Redpoll
 Arctic Redpoll
 Common Rosefinch
 Hawfinch
 Snow Bunting (*inland records only*)
 Lapland Bunting
 Cirl Bunting
 Ortolan Bunting
 Rustic Bunting
 Little Bunting

We also require descriptions for any species new for the county. Lesser Canada Goose, Snow Goose and Ruddy Shelduck are mostly recorded as feral or escaped individuals. Genuine vagrants are rare nationally. If you really suspect that you have a vagrant, a description will be required to be forwarded to the BBRC. Otherwise, descriptions for these species are not required.

Descriptions may also be required for migrants occurring out of season (March Lesser Whitethroats and November Willow Warblers are about as frequent as Pallas's Warblers!) or of birds otherwise out of context (e.g. Red Grouse in Birkenhead Docks!).

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