

Northumberland & the Farne Islands

Naturetrek Tour Report

9th – 14th June 2026



Fulmar



American Black Tern



Puffin



Razorbill

Tour report by Tim Dean
Photos by Tim Dean, Debra Cocking and Allan Winkworth



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Tour participants: Tim Dean and Steve Gater (leaders) with 13 Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Tuesday 9th June

The 2.00pm pick up at Newcastle station went off without any problems, and we were soon travelling north for a fifty-minute journey to Druridge Pools for our first birding. Here we met up with Val, who had travelled up in her own car. This Northumberland Wildlife Trust reserve has recently seen some management work which has opened up the site, to the benefit of both wildfowl and waders. We split up into two groups as the hides are quite small. Tim's group located another tour client at the south-facing hide; David had also travelled up in his own vehicle, and was eager to show us a Wood Sandpiper he had just found. This is a scarce bird in the county, and it gave scope views for Tim's group. Unfortunately, it then decided to move off into the rushes, and eluded Steve's group when he later tried from the same hide. Also on view were a couple of Black-tailed Godwits, plus three Avocets, which were attempting breeding here.

Wildfowl were well-represented: up to sixty Gadwalls were lounging about, mainly males. It was unusual to see a summering group, since normally only odd breeding pairs are present. Two male Wigeons were probably also summering, along with a few Teals and a single Pochard. Another screen revealed a female Shoveler with five young. This species is a scarce breeder here, and is normally hard to locate with young.

We swapped hides with Steve having shown his group the famous Budge screen, which thankfully has just had its metal floor repaired: the previous one had suffered from rust and used to have a few holes to be navigated! A Shelduck and its rather cute ducklings were admired, and a Little Egret flew over.

Northumberland is well known for changeable weather, and we were lucky that both groups were able to shelter in the hides while we waited for a torrential hail storm to subside. We returned to the minibuses and made the fifty-minute journey up to Bamburgh and the Victoria Hotel. We had a 7.15pm dinner slot booked, so we ran through the checklist and plans for the next day after dinner. It had been a long travelling day, so people were keen to retire quite early.

Day 2

Wednesday 10th June

An early morning walk was organised for those wishing to partake, departing at 6.30am. Tim and Steve soon realised that this was going to be a keen group, as nine out of thirteen were happy to join them. Sometimes these early morning sessions have only a few participants, but not this year! We took a short drive to Spindlestone Woods and a quiet walk along the path by a stream. It was a fine day, and we enjoyed a peaceful walk, picking up mostly common woodland species that would not be encountered elsewhere on the tour. A Barn Owl was seen by a few, and a Goldcrest gave its distinctive song. It was a good chance for everyone to brush up on bird song as each species gave forth. A Blackcap in full throttle was particularly admired: its fluty notes were very distinctive.

Tim and Steve walked back to the minibuses while everyone else walked out to the viewpoint at Budle Bay, where we could pick them up. Eider broods were much in evidence: it is always hard to imagine those small feet paddling away all the way from the Farne Islands to Budle Bay. Eiders only very rarely breed on the mainland, with virtually all pairs nesting on The Farnes or Coquet Island. Low tide meant everything was spread out across the bay, so we soon went for breakfast, at 8.00am.

We departed at 9.00am for the Long Nanny Estuary, just north of Newton-by-the-Sea. It was a treat to witness the flower-filled dunes: we found a large group of Northern Marsh Orchids, and other specialities such as Burnet Rose and Bloody Cranesbill. Purple Milk Vetch is a local species here, and was much admired. We walked up onto the coastal path along the dune edge, where we had our first views of the tern colony, the only mainland one in Northumberland. Several hundred Arctic Terns were on view, but Tim was keen to make sure everyone had scope views of the Little Terns, as this was likely to be the only opportunity. Thankfully, there were several pairs in the fenced compound, and scope views revealed their small size and yellow bills. It was a better year for this species than recently, with the wardens reporting ninety individuals present, plus eight hundred pairs of Arctic Terns.

Near the warden's hut, we came across a few Bee Orchids which just had to be photographed. We were then treated to glorious views of the returning American Black Tern as it made very close fly-bys. This subspecies of Black Tern is extremely rare in the UK. The appreciative 'oohs' and 'aahs' were evidence of something well out of the ordinary. This individual has now returned for its seventh year in the colony: last year it paired up with an Arctic Tern, but the eggs proved infertile. However, it transpired after the tour that this year an egg hatched from this hybrid pair! It will be interesting to see what plumage will result. Where it moves off to once it leaves the tern colony in early August no-one knows, but it seems highly unlikely that it will return to North America.

It was hard to leave the area, but we needed to make progress up to Holy Island. The high tide earlier in the morning had meant an afternoon visit here was necessary: the island is completely cut off twice a day. We stopped at the Barn at Beal restaurant, which allowed panoramic views of Holy Island. It was typically busy, but pre-booking paid off: we were allocated a separate room and Tim had a chance to sample a fishfinger sandwich, which took him back to his childhood. Everyone was suitably fortified, and we were soon ready to move on to Holy Island.

We stopped at the causeway for a scan, which definitely paid off as when Osprey was located perched on a distant pole. This was a definite highlight for Tim, as he had never found one on while leading a Northumberland tour in ten years of trying! We moved on to the main car park, and walked to Holy Island Lough. Once away from the village, we had the island to ourselves, as most visitors just walk to the castle and back. The hide at the lough gave everyone a chance to relax and admire the summer-plumaged Little Grebes, together with brief views of a Reed Warbler. We then made our way up to Lindisfarne Castle, enjoying extensive views all around. A lone adult Gannet seemed a bit lost, flying around the south of the island! A Fulmar gave close views (they nest on the castle walls) and a close Rock Pipit was appreciated.

At the harbour, six Bar-tailed Godwits were still in winter plumage, and obviously not intent on making it to their Arctic breeding grounds. A final highlight was included with a walk out to the heugh, where a summering Black Guillemot was viewed distantly. Normally only a winter visitor and a scarce passage migrant to Northumberland, this individual was the first to summer since 2005. It had been a long but highly productive day: we were back at the hotel before 6.00pm, and had another excellent dinner at 7.15pm. Afterwards, we went through the checklist for the day and outlined the plans for tomorrow, notably our boat trip to Coquet Island.

Day 3

Thursday 11th June

An early morning stroll was organised along the Wynding, a narrow lane leading down to the golf clubhouse on the higher cliffs at Bamburgh. The site is known locally as Stag Rocks: there is a local tale that one was chased into the sea here, long ago. David picked up a Grasshopper Warbler singing, and we were treated to an adult Sedge

Warbler feeding two chicks out in the open. A Red-throated Diver was scoped flying north offshore by Tim, but only picked up by Jeremy. Also, a Barn Owl flew alongside the group, but was only seen by Steve and a few accompanying him. After breakfast at 7.45am, we were off again at 8.45am, to travel south. The slightly earlier departure was needed as we were booked on a 10.00am boat to Coquet Island. On the journey down, Tim's group heard a Lesser Whitethroat giving its distinctive 'machine gun' song.

Having arrived at Amble, we were soon onto our Puffin Cruises boat, and made the fifteen-minute trip out to the island. From a distance, all looked quiet, but close to it was a mass of bird life, with 25,000 pairs of breeding Puffins breeding, plus many Common and Arctic Terns. The prize species, though, was Roseate Tern, at their only English breeding site. A few adults gave very close views on the coastal rocks, and everyone could appreciate these special terns. They always glow white next to the greyer Arctic Terns, and have almost entirely black bills at this time of year, with just a hint of red at the base on some. We were particularly lucky this year to experience very calm conditions, allowing us to get close without disturbing them. Hopefully, numbers will continue to recover this year after bird flu over the last two years took a heavy toll, halving the population from one-hundred-and-fifty pairs down to seventy-five. It was an ideal, sunny and calm day for the trip, and we were soon back at Amble Harbour.

The threatened continuous rain never materialised today, thankfully, with just showers to contend with. It was time for a coffee at Amble at our recommended café, Lillie's Landing. We left at noon, and moved a little south to East Chevington. This is another major reserve run by the Northumberland Wildlife Trust, but it is little-known as it is not signposted off the coast road. This may be down to the much-repaired track, but it was easily navigable, and we were soon in the hide facing the North Pool. Here, we were treated to some new species for the trip, with Cetti's Warblers singing and Marsh Harriers hunting.

Next came a stop at Hauxley, where the NWT has its headquarters. The café overlooks the main pool, and is therefore popular: it has quick service and well-presented meals, and proved an ideal lunch stop. We had time to walk around to the Tern Hide where Common Terns could be watched bathing at close quarters. Steve was kept busy identifying the many flowers along the path, including a variety of orchids. A short stop was made at Amble Braid to view the Coquet estuary: waders were distant, though still identifiable with scope views. We found Knots and Sanderlings, which again should really have migrated north to their breeding grounds by now.

Our final stop of the day was at the picturesque village of Newton-by-the-Sea. This time, we concentrated on the southern side, where an important coastal scrape has been created through the efforts of a keen and dedicated local birder, Gary Woodburn. He realised that by creating a sluice and stopping the natural stream from entering the sea, a wetland scrape could be created from what had been just a dry field. This site is now something of a cause célèbre, as the site has produced multiple rarities, as well as being an important local wetland for all sorts of common species. Tim has had much success over the years here, finding Baird's Sandpiper and Lesser Yellowlegs, while Gary found the UK's first Grey-headed Lapwing, which should have been wintering in south-east Asia! Our visit could not quite match those rarities, but the breeding Avocets were much admired. Three chicks were doing their best to hide themselves in the grassy edge of the scrape. These used to be the most northerly breeding Avocets in the UK, but they have recently colonised southern Scotland. Two moulting male Mandarins were found by Val on the small island: this was a new species for Tim at Newton, and he was as pleased as anyone. Walking out to the dunes viewpoint, we had to be careful not to tread on the many Northern Marsh Orchids and Common Twayblades.

We made the final drive north back to Bamburgh. It had been a long day, but a highly enjoyable one. We met up again after dinner and ran through the checklist and plans for tomorrow's all-important trip out to the Farne Islands. Tim found it difficult to keep his emotions in check telling the tale of one of Naturetrek's administrative directors, David Phillips, telling him that a day on the Farnes was up there in his top five global birding experiences! Thankfully, the weather looked fine for the next day.

Day 4

Friday 12th June

Tim had arranged an early morning visit to the nearby village of Shoreston, and again a large contingent turned out early on this optional walk. Eve was particularly entranced by a Barn Owl which flew over the road just before we arrived at Monk's House Pool. We were all able to watch it hunting around the marsh: it had been well worth getting up! The pool seemed quiet compared to previous years, with water levels high. We soon drove on to Shoreston Hall and took a walk around this small hamlet and adjoining farmland. Richard's keen eyes located a distant Fox making its way around an open field, together with a number of Hares, and a Grey Partridge were also found. The latter is scarce species in Northumberland, with the remaining population now nearly all coastal. A showy pair of Yellowhammers performed well, and Tim's efforts finally paid off when he located a Tree Sparrow. Northumberland still hangs on to its population, mainly due to two successful nestbox schemes, at Hauxley and Big Waters.



Spoonbills



'Bridled' Guillemot



Eiders



Guillemots

After breakfast, we were off again at 9.00am for the short journey down to Seahouses. At the car park, David found a duck he could not identify. Tim had seen this individual over previous years, and was able to pronounce it as a Mallard x Eider hybrid. It was later seen at close range in the harbour. We quickly checked in for the 10.00am boat trip, and we all gathered on the quay for our departure. The National Trust is still taking a cautious approach

regarding bird flu, and landings are still not allowed on Staple Island. Hopefully, access will be allowed again next year: the island has been closed to visitors since 2020, first over Covid issues, and now bird flu.

Our two-hour trip around the islands proved magical, given the multitudes of Guillemots, Puffins, Kittiwakes and other seabirds. The sheer smell, noise and the general melée of seabirds makes these islands very special. Some 25,000 pairs of Guillemots nest on the Farnes, and the 2023 census of Puffins showed an increase to 62,000 pairs! Colonies in southern Britain are suffering from rising sea temperatures affecting Sand Eels, but the sea is still cold here! Tim is often asked on tours whether Puffins will be seen, and he is careful in his reply, as conditions can sometimes cause boat trip cancellations, and they are very difficult to see from land. Also, many tourists miss them in the summer holidays, as most are gone by early August. It was interesting to see that few Grey Seals were present: a pod of Orcas in recent weeks had made them disperse. This happened last year as well: maybe one day we shall see these magnificent cetaceans on this tour!

The story of Grace Darling's rescue of shipwrecked sailors was told while we gazed out at the very rocks where the Forfarshire had foundered: we tried to take in the enormity of what she had achieved. It is sad that she died so young, of tuberculosis, but she is still fondly remembered in these parts. Tim attempted to control his Puffin photos this year, but one cannot help taking just one more! Gazing out at thousands of auks, both on the sea and on the islands, is a timeless joy and one to be treasured.

We were soon back to Seahouses harbour and went to Rosemary's café for a much-needed cuppa and cake. A walk around the headland was organised, though some chose to look around the village and the interesting RNLi visitor centre, plus the National Trust shop. A small group chose the walk walk, and we enjoyed close views of Kittiwakes and Fulmars, plus a group of Goosanders on the rocks.

All of us met up again on the Quay for our 3.00pm trip out to Inner Farne. Again, the full-on bird mayhem that is the Farnes was experienced. It has to be said that we were astonishingly lucky to be able to land on Inner Farne this year, as the National Trust had prevented any landings for the past three days. This was apparently down to rain and cold temperatures, which could have had an adverse effect on the Arctic Terns being disturbed off the nest by visitors. As we disembarked, we were right in the thick of it, and we were ready for the Arctic Terns to attack. It is always fun to watch fully-grown men acting like children in their efforts to fend off terns! It is important though to wear a hat, as sharp beaks can do surprising damage on bare crania, as one of our party found out to his cost!

We had exceptionally close encounters with Puffins, and we were all intrigued to watch a group of adults, all with beaks full of Sand Eels, waiting for the right time to go back to the nesting burrow and avoid the attentions of the marauding gulls. Shag numbers are also down, and only a relatively few were seen, though at close range. The decline is seemingly a result of winter storms, which decimated the population. It is fortunate that these seabirds are long-lived and able to get through trials such as bird flu, bad weather and feeding shortages, and to recover in numbers. The mass of Guillemots crowding together was a magical sight, together with lesser numbers of Razorbills.

It was unfortunately soon time to head back to the quay for our trip back to Seahouses. We returned at 5.45pm, and headed to the hotel for dinner at 7.15pm. After another spectacular meal at the Victoria Hotel, we met for another checklist update, and made plans for the upland day tomorrow.

Day 5

Saturday 13th June

A quiet walk was organised along the Wynding again, and we had time to make it out to the clubhouse perched on top of the cliffs. The winds were still westerly, so our chances of witnessing the Manx Shearwater passage was thwarted, as the birds would be too far out. Walking back, we detoured around the castle to let people experience what a challenge it must have been to storm this imposing edifice.

Today, we had a change in habitat, with a chance to see the contrasts in Northumberland's landscapes, with a drive into the uplands. Often visitors to the county just see the area around the A1 and never discover the coast or the hills. Soon after leaving Belford, Tim stopped abruptly, as Jeremy called out 'Barn Owl'. Perched on a nearby post, it gave extremely close views, before flying around and allowing the other minibus to witness it too. This was our fourth Barn Owl of the trip: normally we are lucky to see one! The journey headed west through Chatton and into Wooler, where we drove up to Middleton and the start of the uphill stretch to the Harthope valley. Once over the crest of the hill, the valley opened out, and this prime stretch of upland could be appreciated. We parked at Langleeford, and on disembarking, Jane called out 'Cuckoo', and we started our walk being serenaded continuously. Unfortunately, the westerly winds were again strong, which tended to suppress bird song. This meant species such as Tree Pipit, Whinchat and Redstart were impossible to locate.

A stop at Langleeford Bridge gave everyone views of a pair of Grey Wagtails. We managed to get almost to Langleeford Hope, with views up the valley and below The Cheviot itself. At 800m, this is the highest point of the county! A Green Hairstreak was found in the ditch next to the main path, at one of their known localities. On the walk back, a scarce Mountain Bumblebee was found feeding on Thyme. Eve and Debra had opted to walk back earlier and concentrate on the Langleeford Bridge. Their efforts were rewarded with a fine Dipper, which came quite close for photos.

Regretfully having to leave this upland valley, we drove down to Ingram for lunch at the Ingram Cafe. Its old name of 'The Café in the Woods' sums up its location, and we had a chance to enjoy the garden while eating some excellent home-baked food. Tim never gives up birding, even while eating, and he spied a Spotted Flycatcher perching on gravestones in the adjacent churchyard. It proved very obliging, and the whole group were able to watch it move from one gravestone to another.

Our next birding stop was at Branton gravel pits, where two broods of Goldeneye were admired. These are the only breeding Goldeneyes in England: the overwhelming majority of the UK population is in Scotland. We also managed to fit in another gravel pit site nearby, at Hedgeley. Here came a real surprise, when David found a male Ruff in fine black-and-white breeding plumage, adorned with plumes. This is Tim's local gravel pit site, and this was the first time he had ever seen a breeding-plumaged Ruff here. Accompanying it were two Little Ringed Plovers, another species new for the Northumberland tours he has led. This picturesque site is a fine example of a local landowner landscaping an area to benefit wildlife.

We took a scenic route back, with views of the Cheviots, via Chillingham and Chatton. We were back at 6.00pm, and had dinner at 7.15pm. It is always pleasing for the leaders of a tour to hear all the clients enjoying themselves, with excellent food and much conversation. We had a final get together after dinner at the useful alcove behind reception, where Tim and Steve had a chance to thank everyone for their contributions. Tours are always better when many pairs of eyes are at work!

Day 6

Sunday 14th June

Another optional early morning trip to Spindleston Woods was organised, and was again well-attended: Tim and Steve were pleased that they had not worn everyone out with too much birding! Rowan enjoyed her first ever Treecreeper. Another look at Budle Bay again proved quiet, and sadly did not show what the bay can be like on a rising or falling tide. After breakfast, we said farewell to the Victoria Hotel after an excellent stay.

There was time to fit in a couple of birding stops on the way back to Newcastle, and we made another visit to Druridge Pools. Tim had been alerted via his county Whatsapp group that another visit needed to be made! A party of four Spoonbills was much appreciated, and they even treated us to a circuit of the pool. Groups of Spoonbills are uncommon this far north in the UK, and there has only ever been a maximum of nine together in Northumberland. A Little Gull was seen by some, and a male Mandarin was another surprise. Previously only found in upland river valleys, they are now spreading out, even to the coast. Most of the species seen on our previous visit were still present, so there was a lot of variety on offer.

There was also time for another look at East Chevington, and we drove down to the coastal footpath this time. The orchids and other flora kept Steve and the botanists busy. Steve needed to take his clients to Newcastle a little earlier than Tim, so goodbyes were said. Tim managed to fit in another twenty minutes with his party, and turned up a group of Lesser Butterfly Orchids. Previously, these have been almost guaranteed, but numbers have declined in recent years. There was a final highlight for Tim when a Sedge Warbler deviated from its normal song, and undertook much mimicry. To see what the Merlin app made of it, he turned it on: Bluethroat! AI still has a long way to go to match what the human eye and ear can determine. The fact that we were watching the only bird in song rather backed our case. Interestingly, such mimicry it is apparently well-established, and is thought to be a chance for male Sedge Warblers to show off to females with their 'upgraded' song.

We made the final drive down to Newcastle station, where everyone safely disembarked shortly before 1.00pm. It had been a very successful tour, with a particularly keen and appreciative group. The weather definitely could have been better: we had temperatures of 11°C at times, meaning two fleeces, which is extreme even for Northumberland in mid-June! One has to be ready for all eventualities in this county. The whole gamut of habitats that Northumberland has to offer had been visited, and everyone had thoroughly enjoyed a fine six days in the county. They also appreciated why Tim has been happy to retire here!

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Species lists

Birds (H=heard only)

N=Near-endemic, I=Introduced		June 2026					
Common name	Scientific name	9	10	11	12	13	14
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Canada Goose - I	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	✓		✓			✓
Barnacle Goose	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>			6			
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	✓		✓		✓	✓
Mandarin Duck	<i>Aix galericulata</i>			2			M
Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>					✓	
Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>		F	5			
Goosander	<i>Mergus merganser</i>		3F	F	6F		
Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	M					
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	M,F	M			M,F	M
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	60		✓	2	✓	✓
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>	2M				M	2M
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	2M					2M
Red Grouse - N	<i>Lagopus scotica</i>					1	
Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>			1	1	H	
Pheasant - I	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Red-legged Partridge - I	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>					5	
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	2	2	1	1	1	
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>			1		2	
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>					H	
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Feral Pigeon - I	<i>Columba livia</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>						2
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	1	1	2	1	✓	✓
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	✓	3	✓	1	✓	✓
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	3		9			2
Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>		2	20	1		
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Thinornis dubius</i>						2
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	1	10	2	1	2	2
Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>		6			1	
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	2					1
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	1					
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	1					
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	2		2		1	1
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>				1		
Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>			3			
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>					1	
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>			2			
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>			15			
Atlantic Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	2		✓	✓		

N=Near-endemic, I=Introduced		June 2026					
Common name	Scientific name	9	10	11	12	13	14
Black Guillemot	<i>Cephus grylle</i>		1				
Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>			1	✓		
Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>	1	1	1	✓		
Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>		6		3		
American Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger surinamensis</i>		F				
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	5	4	✓	✓		1
Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>		300	40	✓		
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>			6			
Roseate Tern	<i>Sterna dougallii</i>			10			
Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>						1
Black-legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>			✓	✓		
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>					1	
European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	1	1	✓	✓		
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>		2	✓	✓	✓	
Red-throated Diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>			1			
Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>		2	✓	✓	✓	
Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>		6		20		
European Shag	<i>Gulosus aristotelis</i>				10		
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		1	✓	120	2	✓
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>						4
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	1	3			2	1
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	1		1		1	
Western Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>		1	1	1	1	
Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>		H				
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>		1				
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>			3			
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	1			1	
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		1			2	1
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	2	1	2		1	2
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>					1	
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>					H	
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		2	1	1	1	1
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		1	1	2		
Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>		2			1	1
Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		✓	H	✓	H	H
Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	H	H	3	H	1	1
Common Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	H	1				
Common Grasshopper Warbler	<i>Locustella naevia</i>			H			
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Western House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>					4	2
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>			H			H

N=Near-endemic, I=Introduced		June 2026					
Common name	Scientific name	9	10	11	12	13	14
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	H		1		H	H
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	H	H	1	2	1	H
Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>					H	
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	H	H	H		H	1
Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Curruca curruca</i>			H			
Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>		1	H	H	1	1
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>		1				
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>						2
Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>					1	2
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	H	H	H	H	H	H
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>					1	
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>					1	
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	2	H	3	✓	✓	✓
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>					2	
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	M,F	M	3		H	
Duncock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	1	1	2	1	1	
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>				1		
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>					2	
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	H	2	2	H	3	✓
European Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>		1	1	2		
Eurasian Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	H	✓	H	✓	✓	✓
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Redpoll	<i>Acanthis flammea</i>					H	
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	1	H	H	✓	✓	H
Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>					1	
Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	H	3	✓	1		
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	1		M	M,F	1	

Mammals

I=Introduced	
Common name	Scientific name
European Rabbit - I	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>
European Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>
Eurasian Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>
Common Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>
Western Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>
Grey Seal	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>

Butterflies

Common name	Scientific name
Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>
Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>
Common Orange-tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>
Dark Green Fritillary	<i>Speyeria aglaja</i>
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>
Peacock Butterfly	<i>Aglais io</i>
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>

Moths

Common name	Scientific name
Drinker (caterpillar)	<i>Euthrix potatoria</i>
Silver-ground Carpet	<i>Xanthorhoe montanata</i>
Mother Shipton	<i>Euclidia mi</i>

Damselflies & dragonflies

Common name	Scientific name
Common Bluetail	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>
Common Bluet	<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>
Azure Bluet	<i>Coenagrion puella</i>
Large Red Damsel	<i>Pyrrhosoma nymphula</i>

Other invertebrates

Common name	Scientific name
Hairy Shieldbug	<i>Dolycoris baccarum</i>
Woodland Dor Beetle	<i>Anoplotrupes stercorosus</i>
Green Tiger Beetle	<i>Cicindela campestris</i>
Seven-spot Ladybird	<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>
Ten-spot Ladybird	<i>Adalia decempunctata</i>
Red-headed Cardinal Beetle	<i>Pyrochroa serraticornis</i>
Migrant Broadtail	<i>Eupeodes corollae</i>
Mountain Bumblebee	<i>Bombus monticola</i>
White-tailed Bumblebee	<i>Bombus lucorum</i>
Common Carder Bee	<i>Bombus pascuorum</i>
Buff-tailed Bumblebee	<i>Bombus terrestris</i>

Plants

Common Name	Scientific Name	Location
Broad Buckler-fern	<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>	Harthope Valley
Polypody	<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	Bamburgh, on walls
Maidenhair Spleenwort	<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Bamburgh, on walls
Hart's-tongue	<i>Asplenium scolopendrium</i>	Druridge
Wall-rue	<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i>	Bamburgh, on walls
Hard Fern	<i>Blechnum spicant</i>	Harthope Valley
Common Poppy	<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Bamburgh
Scrambling Corydalis	<i>Ceratocarpus claviculata</i>	Harthope Valley
Lesser Meadow-rue	<i>Thalictrum minus</i>	Long Nanny
Marsh-marigold	<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Low Newton
Pellitory-of-the-wall	<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Bamburgh, on walls
Alder	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Harthope Valley
Aspen	<i>Populus tremula</i>	Harthope Valley
Biting Stonecrop	<i>Sedum acre</i>	Inner Farne
Tree Lupin	<i>Lupinus arboreus</i>	Bamburgh
Yellow Vetchling	<i>Lathyrus aphaca</i>	Druridge, occasional
Bush Vetch	<i>Vicia sepium</i>	Druridge, occasional
Common Vetch	<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Druridge, occasional
Purple Milkvetch	<i>Astragalus danicus</i>	Long Nanny
Bird's-foot Trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Druridge, occasional
Kidney Vetch	<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Druridge
Common Restharrow	<i>Ononis repens</i>	Long Nanny
Dyer's Greenweed	<i>Genista tinctoria</i>	Low Hawksley
Burnet Rose	<i>Rosa spinosissima</i>	Long Nanny, occasional
Silverweed	<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	verges, common
Piri-piri Burr	<i>Acaena novae-zelandiae</i>	Long Nanny
Sea Buckthorn	<i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i>	Long Nanny
Bloody Crane's-bill	<i>Geranium sanguineum</i>	Druridge, occasional
Common Stork's-bill	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Lindisfarne
Pignut	<i>Conopodium majus</i>	Harthope Valley
Hemlock Water-dropwort	<i>Oenanthe crocata</i>	Druridge
Wild Carrot	<i>Daucus carota</i>	Lindisfarne
Common Sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Harthope Valley
Sheep's Sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	Harthope Valley
Amphibious Bistort	<i>Persicaria amphibia</i>	Lindisfarne
Common Orache	<i>Atriplex patula</i>	Inner Farne
Sea Thrift	<i>Armeria maritima</i>	Lindisfarne, occasional
Sea Campion	<i>Silene uniflora</i>	Lindisfarne
White Campion	<i>Silene latifolia</i>	Druridge, common
Red Campion	<i>Silene dioica</i>	Druridge, common
Ragged-Robin	<i>Silene flos-cuculi</i>	Low Newton
Greater Stitchwort	<i>Rabularia holostea</i>	Low Newton, occasional
Sea Milkwort	<i>Lysimachia maritima</i>	Amble
Scarlet Pimpernel	<i>Lysimachia arvensis</i>	Long Nanny
Scurvygrass	<i>Cochlearia officinalis</i>	Lindisfarne, road curbs
Sea Stock	<i>Matthiola sinuata</i>	Lindisfarne
Mignonette	<i>Reseda lutea</i>	Long Nanny, occasional
Heather	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Harthope Valley
Bilberry	<i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i>	Harthope Valley
Yellow-wort	<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Low Hawksley

Common Name	Scientific Name	Location
Bogbean	<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>	Holy Island
Lady's Bedstraw	<i>Galium verum</i>	Lindisfarne, occasional
Heath Bedstraw	<i>Galium saxatile</i>	Harthope Valley
Crosswort	<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	Druridge, occasional
Hound's-tongue	<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>	Long Nanny
Viper's Bugloss	<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Long Nanny, occasional
Green Alkanet	<i>Pentaglottis sempervirens</i>	Amble
Bugloss	<i>Anchusa arvensis</i>	Druridge
Fiddleneck	<i>Amsinckia menziesii</i>	Inner Farne
Wild Thyme	<i>Thymus polytrichus</i>	Harthope Valley
Stag's-horn Plantain	<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	Lindisfarne
Yellow Rattle	<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	Long Nanny, occasional
Lousewort	<i>Pedicularis sylvatica</i>	Harthope Valley
Eyebright (white flower)	<i>Euphrasia nemorosa</i>	Harthope Valley
Eyebright (blue flower)	<i>Euphrasia officinalis</i>	Harthope Valley
Teasel	<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	Druridge, occasional
Coltsfoot	<i>Tussilago farfara</i>	Druridge
Ox-eye Daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	verges
Sea Mayweed / Chamomile	<i>Tripleurospermum maritimum</i>	Lindisfarne
Fox-and-cubs	<i>Pilosella aurantiaca</i>	verges
Mouse-ear Hawkweed	<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	Harthope Valley, occasional
Goat's-beard	<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>	Long Nanny
Yellow Iris / Flag	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Branton GP
Common Twayblade	<i>Neottia ovata</i>	Long Nanny, occasional
Common Twayblade	<i>Neottia ovata</i>	Long Nanny, occasional
Bee Orchid	<i>Ophrys apifera</i>	Long Nanny
Northern Marsh-orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza purpurella</i>	Long Nanny, occasional
Common Spotted-orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>	Long Nanny, occasional
Heath Spotted-orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii x purpurella</i>	Low Newton
Pyramidal Orchid	<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Long Nanny
Lesser Butterfly-orchid	<i>Platanthera bifolia</i>	East Chevington
Bulrush	<i>Typha latifolia</i>	Druridge
Common Cottongrass	<i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i>	Harthope Valley
False Fox-sedge	<i>Carex otrubae</i>	Druridge
Mat-grass	<i>Nardus stricta</i>	Harthope Valley
Sweet Vernal-grass	<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Harthope Valley, occasional
Quaking-grass	<i>Briza media</i>	East Chevington
Crested Dog's-tail	<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	Harthope Valley