

Hertfordshire Website Sightings Archive 2000

DECEMBER 2000

31ST DEC: Ruff at Amwell briefly before flying south, also pr Smew, 5 Goldeneye, c30 Siskin, 2 Redpoll, Chiffchaff and Bullfinch....prob Merlin over Oughtonhead, Hitchin....Chiffchaff calling nr Kings Meads....Ferruginous Duck (unknown origin) still on R Lea in Ware

30TH DEC: At Amwell - 2 Bittern, 2 Smew, drake Goosander through, 3 Ruddy Duck, 3 Goldeneye, 10 Siskin & 2 Redpoll....2 Snipe at East Hyde....400+ Black-headed Gull, 42 Teal & 21 Gadwall at Chadwell Meads....c50 Lapwing around Pirton....male Blackcap at Blackmore End....9 RL Partridge at Wickham Hall Farm....around Shafford Farm, Ver Valley - 30+ Snipe, 7 Teal, 6 Gadwall, 50+ Yellowhammer, 3 Reed Bunting, 25+ Meadow Pipit, 15+ Skylark, Kingfisher, 4 Little Grebe, C Buzzard & Nuthatch....RH Smew at Wilstone Res and escaped White Pelican at Tringford....12 Snipe at Munden

29TH DEC: At Chadwell Meads: 2 Stonechat, 75 Wigeon, 171 Lapwing, 6 Shoveler, 97 Coot, 8 Moorhen, Meadow Pipit....Chiffchaff at Puckeridge

28TH DEC: Male Black Redstart in Apsley in car park of Wickes DIY....red-head Smew at Wilstone Reservoir and 1st-winter Mediterranean Gull in roost....Greenshank, 104 Lapwing, 6 Snipe & Green Sandpiper in flooded fields by River Colne, nr Munden House, Watford, ref138005....C Buzzard over Hexton Woods and 50+ Golden Plover over....at Amwell - Bittern, Chiffchaff & 2 red-head Smew....2 C Buzzards over Watton-at-Stone, nr entrance to Woodhall Park....4 male Goosander at Stockers Lake

26TH DEC: 3 Goosander and Smew at Stockers Lake

25TH DEC: Female Ferruginous Duck on R Lea in Ware still...at Amwell - Bittern and 3 Smew

24TH DEC: Brent Geese reported from Amwell in front of hide (no number given), also 2 Water Rails and Bittern from public hide

23RD DEC: Black-tailed Godwit at Wilstone Reservoir briefly, 5 Goldeneye also....Woodcock flushed off wasteground on Great Ashby Way, Stevenage....escaped White Pelican at Tringford Reservoir still...at Chadwell Mead - 53 Wigeon, 16 Shoveler, 16 Gadwall & 14 Teal....35 Golden Plover at Wickham Hall Farm, Bishops Stortford....Ruddy Duck, Water Rail, Goldeneye, Snipe, Wigeon, Redpoll and Siskin at Amwell....Green Sandpiper, Grey Wagtail and Water Rail at Rye Meads

22ND DEC: Chiffchaff at Puckeridge

20TH DEC: Chiffchaff calling at Glaxo Wellcome site, Ware

19TH DEC: 86 Redwing on Rothamsted Estate, Harpenden

17TH DEC: Male Lesser Spotted Woodpecker in Northaw Great Wood nr scout camp enclosure with tit flock inc 2-3 Marsh, also Nuthatch and Treecreeper....3 female/imm Common Scoters at Hilfield Park Reservoir to 1035 at least....Ferruginous Duck in Ware....2 C Buzzards over Lilley Hoo at TL123281....female Blackcap in a Ware garden....2 male Goosander at Amwell, also Water Rail, Wigeon and many Shoveler

16TH DEC: Male Blackcap along R. Lea, Harpenden

15TH DEC: Dead Woodcock found nr pond in High Street, Watford....2 C Buzzards roosted at

Whempstead at 1530....30+ Fieldfares at Tewin, also 4 RL Partridge

5TH DEC: Ferruginous Duck in Ware (the bird is unringed, although does have a damaged left eye)....70 Skylark in stubble field east of Essendon, also Redpoll and Little Owl

3RD DEC: 6 Lesser Redpoll at Shafford Mill, also Chiffchaff, C Buzzard, 2 Reed Buntings and 60 Skylarks

2ND DEC: "Hundreds" of Golden Plover in fields off Coursers Road, Colney Heath....at Friday Lake - female Ruddy Duck, c12 Wigeon

1ST DEC: Bittern at North end of North Met Pit, Lea Valley, from Pochard Hide...also one Bittern from Watchpoint Hide

NOVEMBER 2000

30TH NOV: Ferruginous Duck in Ware....c400 Golden Plover and 100 Lapwing around Symonshyde

27TH NOV: 2 Marsh Tits in private garden in Sherrardswood...Bittern from Lea Valley watchpoint....male Stonechat and 26 Fieldfare on 5th fairway at Bridgedown Golf Club, nr Barnet

26TH NOV: c250 Golden Plover + 100 Lapwings in field opposite Bowmans Farm, Coursers Lane, nr Colney Heath....Merlin at Upwick, nr Bishops Stortford....at Verulamium Park, St Albans - 10 Shoveler, 12 Pochard, 2 GC Grebes and 3 Grey Heron....60 Wigeon & 19 Shoveler at Chadwell Meads....34 Snipe at Amwell

25TH NOV: Female Ferruginous Duck on R Lea in Ware town between Saracen's Head pub and the Priory, with Tufted Ducks

24TH NOV: Female FERRUGINOUS DUCK on River Lea in Ware town....Marsh Tit, Sparrowhawk and Gadwall at Pond Wood, Potters Bar

21ST NOV: c40 Golden Plover over Rye Meads....Green Sandpiper and Snipe at Amwell

20TH NOV: 550+ Golden Plover and 80 Lapwing at Coursers Farm next to M25....Little Owl and Marsh Tit in North Mymms Park....male Blackcap in a Bushey garden

19TH NOV: 3 red-head Smew at Stockers Lake....Herts/Essex border - Bittern still at 70 Acres Lake watchpoint

18TH NOV: 4 Lesser Redpoll at Brookmans Park

17TH NOV: 48 Great Crested Grebe on Wilstone Reservoir...White Pelican still at Tringford Reservoir....flock of 10 large swans (possible Whooper) over a Ware garden

16TH NOV: Escaped White Pelican at Tringford Reservoir then Startops at 11am....at Little Berkhamsted - Woodcock, 25+ Siskin, 4 male Bullfinch and Little Owl

15TH NOV: At Beech Farm - 5 Grey Partridge (BT Site), 5 Fieldfare, Jay and 11 Golden Plover over

14TH NOV: C Buzzard over Tingley Plantation, nr Pegsdon

13TH NOV: Escaped White Pelican at Wilstone Reservoir...Water Rail at Amwell GPs in front of hide at dusk

12TH NOV: 12 Fieldfare over Watton-at-Stone....Kingfisher at Brookmans Park....male Blackcap in a Tring garden....at Chadwell Meads - 40 Lapwing, 11 Gadwall, 10 Wigeon, 6 Teal, 4 Tufted....Grey Wagtail at Kings Mead

11TH NOV: Firecrest in a Sherrardswood garden, also Sparrowhawk, Treecreeper, Goldcrest, Great Spotted Woodpecker

10TH NOV: Roost of c2000 corvids at Beech Farm, mostly Jackdaws....Kingfisher, Grey Wagtail and 14 Siskins at Lemsford Springs

5TH NOV: Pr Bullfinch at Croxley Common Moor

4TH NOV: 2 C Buzzards over a Kimpton garden....one pale C Buzzard over St Pauls Warden.... (Essex/Herts border) Bittern at 70 Acres Lake watchpoint

3RD NOV: 8 Shoveler, 7 Cormorants and Mandarin Duck at Verulamium Lake, St Albans

1ST NOV: At Coopers Green Lane - 16 Lapwing, 100s Starling, 9 Pied Wagtail but no Golden Plover yet....C Buzzard west over Telegraph Hill....16 Shoveler on Verulamium Lake, St Albans

OCTOBER 2000

30TH OCT: Swallow at Amwell GPs

29TH OCT: C Buzzard over Watton-at-Stone....at Chadwell Meads - 34 Wigeon, 4 Shoveler, 10 Teal, 7 Gadwall, Kingfisher

22ND OCT: at Rye Meads - 2 Water Pipits, 125 Teal, 27 Snipe & 1 Chiffchaff....at Amwell - Bittern, 5 Swallows, 45 Redwing, 4 Redpoll & 35 Snipe....Merlin over Stonebury Farm, Buntingford....Short-eared Owl at Beech Farm/Hatfield Aerodrome, viewable from behind Notcutts Gdn Centre, Smallford

21ST OCT: 4 House Martins over Woodhall Farm, H Hempstead

20TH OCT: 4 Little Owls at Takeley, Hope End....(Herts/Essex border) Bittern and 2 Water Rails at Bittern Watchpoint, Lee Valley - open daily from 1000-1600 (free entry). Details 01992 702200

18TH OCT: Great Northern Diver at Hilfield Reservoir - access to the site is only via a permit (key) obtainable from the Wildlife Trust (01727 858901) or warden, Gary Elton, or viewable from M1 bridge

17TH OCT: C Buzzard over Easney Woods, Amwell at 1045....2 Egyptian Geese at Amwell GPs

15TH OCT: 2 Stonechat and female Reed Bunting at Croxley Common Moor....99 Lapwing, 8 Teal, 4 Wigeon, 2 Gadwall and Reed Bunting at Chadwell Mead....Buzzard sp (reported to soar with flat wings) drifting up Lea Valley from Ware to Hertford....2 Little Grebe on R Lea nr Ware Lock....9 Redpoll, Swallow, 4 C Buzzard, 3+ Chiffchaff and 5+ Reed Bunting at Shafford Mill....c20 Golden Plover at Wilstone Reservoir

14TH OCT: SHORT-TOED LARK reported west over Amwell GPs at 0905 - no further details....at Stonebury Farm, Buntingford - 2 Wheatear, 3 Swallows & C Buzzard

12TH OCT: 5 House Martins south over Rothamsted Exp Stn

11TH OCT: "99% probable" 1st winter Caspian Gull at Amwell Pits....6+ House Martins over North Mymms Home Farm

10TH OCT: Buzzard sp. south of Langley on B656 London Rd, Swallow nearby

8TH OCT: At Rye Meads - 2 Jack Snipe, 32 Common Snipe and 1 Garganey....Common Buzzard over Brookmans Park, also Redwing and Chiffchaff, 4 House Martins west....5 Swallows and Common Buzzard over Shafford Mill, St Albans....Hobby & House Martin over Stockers Lake....2 C Buzzards over Watton-at-Stone

6TH OCT: 4 Swallows south at Puckeridge at 1430

5TH OCT: Female Stonechat at Amwell GPs, opposite obs point ay 1100

4TH OCT: Lesser Spotted Woodpecker at Verulamium Park, St Albans

3RD OCT: C Buzzard over Sacombe, also 3 Swallows over Dane End

2ND OCT: Hobby over Easney Woods, Amwell at 1600

1ST OCT: Honey Buzzard low S over road betw Marsworth and Wilstone Reservoir, Tring at 1605....Short-eared Owl at Hatfield Aerodrome 1445 hunting, from footpath behind Notcutts....juv Honey Buzzard over South Oxhey....2 Honey Buzzards flew from Herts into Beds over Luton Airport, 1 at 0925, 1 at 0950....Kingfisher at Water End....130 Linnets nr Coursers Farm....4 C Buzzards over Watton-at-Stone....C Buzzard, Hobby and Greenshank at Amwell Pits

SEPTEMBER 2000

30TH SEP: Red Kite over Lilley Park Wood (Herts/Beds border) also 50+ House Martins....female Wheatear, 3 Little Owls and a Common Buzzard around Essendon....2 Common Buzzards over "Bardolph's", east of Watton-at-Stone....Common Buzzard over Croxley Common Moor

28TH SEP: Honey Buzzard over Amwell

27TH SEP: Honey Buzzard over Wilstone Reservoir, mobbed by crow before heading SE....Honey Buzzard over Ivinghoe Beacon at 1640....Hobby over Brookmans Park station

26TH SEP: At Amwell - Honey Buzzard and Common Buzzard over, Osprey circled pits at 1150 before heading SE, also many Swallows south

25TH SEP: More Honey Buzzards! 2 over Tyttenhanger GPs at 1330, one landing in Coppice Wood (8 Hobbies there)...1 over A414 towards Bridgens Hotel...1 east over Patmore Heath at 1120...

24TH SEP: 5 Honey Buzzards east over A120 at Puckeridge at 1055....Common Buzzard SE over East Hyde, also many Swallows, House Martins, Skylarks, Starlings and Meadow Pipits through, also 2 Turtle Dove, Green Sandpiper and a Whitethroat

23RD SEP: 2 Common Buzzards, Ruff and Hobby at Kingsmead....Honey Buzzards: 1 circled Hilfield Reservoir for 10 minutes at 1450 then headed high south...1 over Ware town centre at 1515...1 over wood 1 mile south of Sandon at 1430...two 6 miles east of Baldock high over Sandon at c1215...1 south just south of Watford at 1310...2 over Wilstone...1 over Startops End Reservoir at 1215...Wheatear at Miswell Farm, next to Wilstone...30 House Martins over Sherrardswood

22ND SEP: at Telegraph Hill - 1 Honey Buzzard south at 1610, 1 southwest at 1740, also 2 Common Buzzards, 450 Swallows and 35 Meadow Pipits over in 2 hours....3 Honey Buzzards from Pitstone Hill appeared to roost in Ashridge Woods....Herts/Beds/Bucks border, 7 Honey and 1 Common Buzzard E of Tring, flew SE between Pitstone Hill & Ivinghoe Beacon at 1715....6-8 Whinchats at north end of Croxley Common Moor in bushes

21ST SEP: Honey Buzzard circled Amwell GPs at 1230 before flying west at 1240

20TH SEP: 12 Yellow Wagtails in St Nicholas' Park, Stevenage....Common Buzzard soaring over Hexton

18TH SEP: Probable ringtail Montagu's Harrier over Ashwell am

17TH SEP: Water Rail, 3 Snipe, 2 Greenshank & 100 Lapwing at Amwell....Crowned Crane on private land near Thundridge....female Garganey on smaller pit at Tyttenhanger, also 3-4 Hobbies, Willow Warbler, 50+ Lapwing and 2 Snipe....Hobby and movement of Swallows at Redbournbury

10TH SEP: 2 Black Terns and a Hobby at Wilstone Reservoir....at Amwell - 6 Greenshank, Ruff and Common Sandpiper....10 Grey Partridge in Great Braitch Lane, Hatfield Gdn Village....Whinchat just south of derelict church in Thundridge, Ware