



## Manx Ornithological Society: publisher of the *Peregrine* journal of Manx natural history

### Summary of bird sightings in the Isle of Man, December 2024

**Pink-footed Goose** – A flock of 238 were at Cranstal on 26<sup>th</sup>; a similar sized flock over Bride on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Whooper Swan** – The only records relate to the herd near the Cronk - most counts being 23.

**Pintail** – A female was present at POANR on 26<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>. A male and female were together at Langness on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Ring-necked Duck\*** – A female was identified at Clypse Reservoir on 16<sup>th</sup> and remained until the end of the month in the company of a male Tufted Duck

**Common Scoter** - A single was in Port Erin Bay on 13<sup>th</sup>; two there on 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>. Past Peel; four on 3<sup>rd</sup>, singles on 11<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> three on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Goldeneye** – At POANR the peak count was 17 on 29<sup>th</sup>. Only one record elsewhere, a drake on the sea at Dog Mills on 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Goosander** – A redhead frequented the Mooragh Park Lake in Ramsey; reported on 9<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>. Four were on Eairy dam on 10<sup>th</sup> and at Kionslieu a peak of six on 12<sup>th</sup>. A single redhead was noted at Baldwin Reservoir on 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Slavonian Grebe\*** - A bird was reported off POA on 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Avocet\*** – The bird first seen in November remained through the month though was only reported from Langness & Derbyhaven.

**Greenshank** – The single bird between Langness and Derbyhaven remained through the month.

**Purple Sandpiper** – Both regular sites saw high counts; Peel Castle rocks had 23 on 17<sup>th</sup>, and Port St Mary 47 on 18<sup>th</sup>. A single bird was among Turnstone at Langness on 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Mediterranean Gull** - Single birds noted from Castletown Bay on 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> and from Douglas Bay on 10<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Black-throated Diver** - A high count of 20 off Peel on 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Red Kite\*** - A report from Blackberry Lane, Onchan on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Kingfisher** – Continued reports from Ramsey, Peel and Castletown; also a bird in Port St Mary on 23<sup>rd</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Chiffchaff** – Singles in Castletown on 11<sup>th</sup>; Peel and Port Soderick on 25<sup>th</sup> and Ballachurry on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Blackcap** - Single birds in gardens in Foxdale on 19<sup>th</sup>, Port St Mary on 28<sup>th</sup> and Ramsey on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Black Redstart** – A female type in Castletown was the only bird reported on 21<sup>st</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Brambling** – Stubble fields near Santon saw single birds reported on 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Twite** – A flock of 33 were at POANR on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Snow Bunting** – Three were together at Langness on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellowhammer\*** - A bird was among mixed finches on stubble at Santon on 31<sup>st</sup>.



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**Manx BirdLife Christmas Bird race** – The 2024 race from 25<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> once again had a record tally of 125 species - Avocet, Ring-necked Duck, Mediterranean Gull, Red Kite and Slavonian Grebe all being firsts for the race. Many thanks to everyone who contributed!



Ring-necked Duck, Clypse Reservoir 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024. © David Kelly

Compiled by David Kelly

Sourced from Manx Birdlife website and Twitter feed, and some eBird contributors; with thanks.

POA- Point of Ayre POANR- Manx Birdlife Point of Ayre National Reserve

Species marked with \* are yet to be considered by Manx Bird Records Committee.

**For Manx Birdlife Recent Sightings visit:** <http://manxbirdlife.im/sightings/>

**For more information on the Manx Ornithological Society visit:** <http://manxbirdlife.im/manx-ornithological-society/>

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