

Bempton Cliffs – 19 May 2024

Our field trip in May was to Bempton Cliffs and 37 people were on the coach. The weather was cold but it remained dry throughout the day with an occasional glimpse of the sun. When we arrived at the parking area a Lesser Whitethroat was heard and it was seen in an adjacent area of bushes and trees. Other birds in this same area were Blackbirds, Goldfinches, Chaffinches and Woodpigeons. Also, there were excellent views of a Barn Owl in a nearby field.

We then headed for the cliffs and the feeders at Reception were attracting Tree Sparrows, House Sparrows, Great Tits and Blue Tits. As we walked along the footpath to the cliff viewing areas Swallows, House Martins and Sand Martins were flying around. There were a large number of Herring Gulls and we also spotted a Reed Warbler, Dunnock, Skylark, Linnet, Pheasant, Meadow Pipits, Magpies, Jackdaws, Carrion Crows and Starlings.

When we arrived at the cliffs the noise from the thousands of seabirds clinging to the cliffs, flying above them and on the sea was amazing. There were Kittiwakes, Guillemots, Razorbills, Puffins, Gannets and Fulmars, a wonderful sight. After a couple of hours watching these birds, we returned to the coach and went further along the coast to North Landing. This is a distance of approximately four miles and the six people who decided to walk added Shag and Stonechat to our list. The only new bird we saw at North Landing was a Short-eared Owl, which was an amazing find by one of our group, flying over a stone wall in the far distance.

We had an excellent day and our total birds species seen was 34.



Stonechat

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