



**12th January, 2008**  
**(North Norfolk)**

Today was the first opportunity that I had to go for the reported **White-crowned Sparrow** since the first report at the beginning of the week.

Set off at 4am and arrived at 8.20am to find approximately 100 birders all trying to look up a small lane to the feeding area where the bird was visiting. Many more arrived before the **White-crowned Sparrow** showed itself.

A good selection of birds were seen whilst waiting for the bird to appear including **Sparrowhawk** (1 over), **Greenfinch** (5+), **Chaffinch** (10+), **Robin** (2), **Dunnock** (1), **Blue Tit** (4), **Great Tit** (1), **Collared Dove** (10+), **Woodpigeon** (10+), **Stock Dove** (2 over), **Black-headed Gull** (2 over), **Herring Gull** (2 over), **Jackdaw** (10+), **Starling** (5+) and a **Barn Owl** (hunting the field behind us).



The **White-crowned Sparrow** showed itself off and on but unfortunately, not in a position for decent photographs (at least not whilst I was there).

Two **Lapland Buntings** were amongst at least fifty **Snow Buntings** at Salhouse, before mysteriously disappearing. Five **Egyptian Geese** and the first of today's **Brent Geese** (30+) were close-by. **Little Egret** (1), **Wigeon** (100+), **Mallard** (10+), **Shoveller** (10+), **Shelduck** (2), **Marsh Harrier** (2), **Barn Owl** (1), **Turnstone** (10+) and **Dunlin** (15+) were also in the area.



Upto a thousand **Pink-footed Geese** were seen close to Egmere. **Brambling** (1) and **Red-legged Partridge** (6) were also seen in the area.

Two **Black Brants** (including one that was not so convincing) were seen amongst approximately 100 **Brent Geese** at the Wells Pitch & Put Green. Several **Curlew** were also here. **Ross's Goose** (1), **Pink-footed Goose** (500c), **White-fronted Goose** (200c), **Greylag Goose** (3), **Marsh Harrier** (1) and **Barn Owl** (1) were the pick of the birds at nearby Holkham.

Three **Hen Harriers** (1 male and 2 ringtails) were seen going to roost at Roydon Common before setting off home at approximately 5pm.