

SVALBARD JULY 27-AUGUST 12 2015

By John van der Dol

SANDWICH BIRD TOURS

Participants:

Alastair Henderson, Brian Pain, Allan Orme, Peter Dean, Peter Pilbeam, Christine Newell, Alan Lindell (Sandwich Bird Tours), Finn Anderson (Danish from Spain), Sally Ann Edlin (UK), Joanna Moss (UK and USA), Michiel Camping, Wilhelmina van Boxel (Netherlands), Lars Rouven Schudel (Switzerland), Hans-Jürgen Fritz, Maria Beuting (Germany), Sulevi and Sirpa Kaipainen (Finland)

Guide: Jean Baptiste Strobel (France)

Crew: Ted (captain), Dicky and Lukas (1st and 2nd mate) and Durk (chef) (Netherlands)



Captain Ted

Alastair and myself left Canterbury bus station at about 09.15 to be told by the driver that there was gridlock on the M2 near Dartford. He was not wrong, and at one stage I had my

doubts whether we would even get to the airport in time to board our flight to Oslo. Eventually we did arrive with a little time to spare and met up with Brian and Allan.

The flight to Oslo was uneventful and after a couple of hours lay-over we boarded our flight to Longyearbyen. As soon as we arrived and stepped off the plane we could tell we were in the Arctic. We got the bus to the Hotel Spitsbergen, checked in and went straight to bed and although it was well past mid night by now it was still perfectly light.



July 28

After breakfast we went for a walk down town. It was so windy and cold that we abandoned our plans to photograph Arctic Terns on the road out of town. We spent the morning wandering round town, photographing some juvenile Snow Buntings and we made a visit to the museum. We had some lunch and returned to the hotel.

Eventually at 16.30 we caught our taxi which took us to the ship, the Noorderlicht, our Dutch schooner and home for the next 15 nights. Not long after our arrival the rest of our group from Cambridge arrived who came in on a different plane. The two Peters,

Christine and another Alan. The group was complete and we met up with the other passengers and almost immediately set sail towards Trygghamna which is situated near the end of the fiord. The usual stuff was seen en route, namely Little Auks, Brunnich's and Black Guillemots, Puffins, Blue-phase and a few normal Fulmars, Arctic Terns and a number of Glaucous Gulls.

We anchored off for the night.

July 29

After breakfast and a short briefing we joined our zodiacs and set off for a walk up towards the seabird cliffs. The usual birds were seen but Common Eider was noted and Arctic Skua and Long-tailed Duck were new. Six Svalbard Reindeer were seen and I had a brief and very distant view of an Arctic Fox.

The afternoon was overcast and we set sail for Poolepynten which is situated on the east coast of Prins Karls Forland where there is a Walrus colony. A group of six was spotted hauled out on the beach and two more were swimming around close by sometimes lifting themselves out of the water to have a good look at us and therefore affording us with good photo opportunities.

Some phalaropes were found on a pool and these turned out to be an adult male

with two young Grey Phalaropes. Excellent close views of Purple Sandpiper too and an out of plumage King Eider did a fly-past. It had been a lovely evening and we were ready for a good meal which was duly provided by our cook, Durk. More Walrus were seen en route.

We sailed through most of the night and anchoring off Ny London about 3am.



July 30

By now there was much more ice in the water and the scenery was just spectacular with glaciers in all directions and large patches of snow on the dark mountainsides. Immediately we stepped out on to the deck Red-throated Divers were noted and a Long-tailed Skua flew over the ship. A Great Skua was noted too and the odd Arctic Skua was seen in the general area.

We made a landing after breakfast and had a walk round for a couple of hours, noting a family group of Barnacle Geese, a single Snow Bunting and everybody had great views of a pair of Long-tailed Skuas harassing the local Arctic Terns. Three more Reindeer were found too.

It was great to wander round the remains of Mansfield Camp again and the coffee pot was still standing on the stove just as it had been two years ago on my last visit.

After lunch most of the guests did what looked like quite an arduous climb on the cliffs at Ossian Sarsfjellet. I stayed behind with some of the others.

Late afternoon we sailed to Ny Alesund by making our way through an area of loose ice and growlers. A few unidentified seals were noted but bird wise it was much the same. On arrival we set off to the town and had a wander around, some did some shopping while others checked out local Arctic Terns. A scientist told us most nests have been lost to cold wet weather last week but already two new nests had been started. The Barnacles had had eight attacks by foxes in one afternoon. It's a tough life up here in the Arctic although today has been really warm and sunny and extremely pleasant.

After dinner most people had another walk round the town and visited the Amundsen mast, something I did last time so I declined to join the party on this occasion.

Ivory Gull was seen by one or two lucky people giving great views in the harbour.

At 10pm we set off on our way further north.

At about 10.30 pm and still in full sunshine and quite warm the bell sounded and we were alerted to a mother and cub Polar Bear. They were swimming along the shore and although quite distant from a photo point of view, they were well visible through bins or scopes. We watched them for nearly an hour as they wandered up the beach and eventually up the cliff face quite close to a camera man on the shore. At one point the latter made a hasty retreat into his cabin. Puffins too were very common here. It was a great end to the day.

July 31

We sailed all night and eventually anchored off the NW corner of Spitsbergen off an island called Fuglesongen (Bird song) where there is a large colony of Little Auks. Most of the guys went for a walk up to the bottom of the cliffs while four of us took the easy route and approached in the zodiac. Amazing views of four Walruses were had and affording great photo opportunities whilst the group probably got closer to the auks. Impressive sight wherever one approached from.

Before lunch we did a small detour up the Fluglefjorden to check out a rather nice glacier. There were lots of small pieces of ice floating about and it was not long before our guide spotted a bear swimming amongst the ice. Unfortunately it never came close but it was nice to see nevertheless.

The usual bird suspects were present. After about an hour we returned north and after lunch most of the group did the hardest walk of the trip on Ytre Norskøya. They all returned knackered, hot and thirsty but very satisfied at having survived the ordeal. Not a huge amount was seen apart from the wonderful scenery in weather perhaps more appropriate to the Mediterranean.

We set off again and made our way in a easterly direction and as we crossed the 80 degree North line we celebrated with a glass of the strong stuff. A group photo was taken at this point. Most of the afternoon was occupied by whale watching but without success. A few Bearded Seals were noted though.

It was about 11pm before we reached Moffen Island where good numbers of Walrus were seen hauled out on to the beach and several were sighted swimming. This sandy island hosts large numbers of Arctic Terns, a few pairs of Sabines Gulls, one of which gave a magnificent display as it fed in the swell. A fully summer-plumaged bird was spectacular and much appreciated by the birders amongst us. We left there about midnight at which time we all retired leaving the crew to steer the ship through the Arctic seas.



August 1

After a rather lumpy night we eventually arrived in the Sorgfjord at about 06.30 and as the skipper dropped anchor we were all awoken. It is a rather noisy affair. Gradually people surfaced for breakfast after which we did another zodiac landing for a "flat" beach walk which including a rock climbing exercise. It was now becoming clear that our guide's idea of a flat walk includes a mountain scramble. It was a lovely morning with wall to wall sunshine albeit rather windy at one stage. We had a look at a broken down hut or two which were built to house some guys who were charting maps over 100 years ago. Some lovely geology to admire and flowers to photograph.

After lunch we set sail for the Hinlopenstretet and down to the cliffs at Alkefjellet which house some 60,000 pairs of Brunnich's Guillemots plus young. A pair of Glaucous Gulls were watched fighting over a chick Guillemot against a dark background giving great photo opportunities. A spectacular sight indeed.

We eventually turned back the way we came and anchored in the shelter of Lomfjorden for the night where a dozen Pink Feet were seen just before retiring. The temperature had now risen to 12 degrees C as the wind had completely dropped making it almost a barmy evening.

August 2

This morning's excursion was a long hike up a steep mountain which was enjoyed by all (I think) while a few of us just did a beach walk enjoying the incredible weather conditions and photographing flowers. The Pink Feet had increased to about 40 birds while Purple Sandpipers and a pair of Ringed Plovers frequented the foreshore. Up on the mountain the group found a female Ptarmigan with four chicks and some downy Purple Sandpipers which apart from anything else made the effort worthwhile.

After lunch we returned to the Guillemot cliff and on to the ice sheet which blocked off the Hinlopenstretet.



The temperature at midday was about 15 degrees C.

We arrived at the ice sheet before dinner. There was a lot of ice coming up the straits. About half a dozen Ivory Gulls were noted, and at last some whales in the form of about 5 adult Beluga and two calves were seen. What surprised us all was that the calves are actually black.

Then suddenly the cry went up from our guide JB, "bear!" On one of the small islands were a mother with cub which were watched for about half an hour. We approached very slowly in order to get some better views and a load of photos were taken, although too far really. Still these were bears numbers four and five.

A Bearded Seal was seen floating by on an ice flow and allowed some pictures to be taken.

All in all an amazing day which got all of us excited.

We continued south but the ice got thicker and thicker and this ship is not an ice-breaker although it has been strengthened at the bow. The captain decided to do an about-turn and on the way back the ice did seem to have increased substantially. We made it to the west coast of Wahlberghøya sometime during the night and anchored off.

August 3

It was 03.30 when the bell rang and it turned out to be a swimming bear. It was warm and sunny and perfectly still. The bear made for a Bearded Seal but right at the last moment the latter managed to escape a certain death. Apparently only 10% of attempts end in success.

The ice was now floating by in quite large chunks and the captain decided to get out of there and so started the engine and proceeded to sail north.

We spent the morning sailing and after an early lunch made a landing at Murchison Bay for a beach walk which proved quite interesting, again with some nice plants and an abandoned Polar Institute conference centre consisting of a few huts and one large accommodation block. The only bird of note round here were the nesting Arctic Terns. It was windy and by the time we left the wind was really quite strong which made the return zodiac trips a rather interesting and somewhat wet adventure.

We continued a little further north and then made for a westerly direction which meant we were able to hoist the sails and cut the engine. Sailing in the Arctic Ocean, a real adventure! Well actually for about two or three hours it was force six from the south and the sea was quite rough. The ship really rolled under sail but everybody survived. Then as soon as it had arrived it abated and we ended with a sea like glass again. This was great for whale spotting and it was not long before the first Minke Whales were found. Soon after a couple of very distant Humpbacks were noted followed by a Fin and two Sei Whales. A fantastic end to the day complimented with a lovely steak, red cabbage and spuds for dinner.

August 4

Today started with a walk to a small glacier and along a beach. Great for flowers but apart from Arctic Skuas and Terns and about four Purple Sandpipers there was not a huge amount there. But the geology was really interesting and between JB and our Swiss friend Lars we had some really good lessons in geology and glaciology.

Great lunch as usual and a slow cruise to the Monaco Glacier at the end of the Liefdefjorden which was really nice with glacier calving on a regular basis and thousands of Kittiwakes taking advantage of the disturbed water and the resultant upwelling of food. Apparently the mixture of salt and fresh water causes the demise of crustaceans which provides easy pickings for the birds and the whales also. Glaucous Gulls, two Ivory Gulls and a few Arctic Skuas were present too. The glacier fronts and shining blue ice were a great sight.

Two or three Beluga Whales were there also taking advantage of the disturbed water and another three or so were arriving as we were leaving, and possibly another fifteen were seen on the way back north. Three, may be five Long-tailed Ducks were seen as well as a few Eider.

We anchored off Reinsdyrflya and did a walk on what can only be described as moist beautiful tundra covered in amazing flowers and mosses, everyone of which had to be photographed. Birds included a lovely pair of Arctic Skuas, a couple of flocks of Pink Feet, three adult in breeding plumage Red-throated Divers on a small lake, three Purple Sandpipers and the usual "friendly" Arctic Terns. A couple of Minke Whales were seen in the far distance.

The area was strewn with bones likely belonging to Reindeer and Seals and a small hut named "Villa Oxford" was visited. Clearly a trappers hut as the bear trap was still laying around, and although at least 100 years old was still in good condition. Wood does not deteriorate in this climate. The weather was amazing and at 10.30pm the temperature was still 15 degrees C.



August 5

The morning was spent walking a beach towards a trappers/hunters hut which is still used by trappers although I can't see there is much left to trap. It was a nice walk and we added Brent Goose to the list, ten of which were seen. A small lake again held three Red-throated Divers and a couple of Walrus were seen in the distance too. Although we saw a few Eider, it does appear that most have already left for places further south.

It was overcast today, but still it was reasonably mild.

After lunch we set sail again to the north and then west until we arrived in Raudfjorden where there was another huge bird cliff festooned in Guillemots and Kittiwakes and it was there we saw two Blue Foxes, a rare colour morph of the Arctic Fox. They were a bit distant for photography. Some more distant whales were seen, probably Minkes again.

A gentle morning turned into a scrambling climb up the mountainside

An evening walk along the beach up to a Cairn was interesting as we were able to see examples of different stages of glaciers entering the fjord. A lesson on glaciology and geology was had in the field and was very interesting indeed, at least for those who like that sort of thing or who did physical geography many moons ago.

August 6

A gentle morning walk turned into a scrambling climb up the mountainside. We experienced slippery scree slopes, tipping rocks, snowy slopes etc but reluctantly I have to admit that getting to the top was not only an achievement for us car drivers but a great experience. The view of two close glaciers, one with a cave reminded me of Antarctica. The mist lay just below the tops of some of the mountain peaks and leaving a visible strip of mountain side between the sky and its perfect reflection in the water.

Plenty of evidence of Ptarmigan presence but sadly no birds. Some lovely flowers were again photographed.

We got back to the ship at about 12.30 in time for another scrumptious lunch. We set sail for Smeerenburg and the last remains of the Dutch whaling station.

It was great making a landing there and seeing the remains of the blubber ovens which were constructed in the 17th Century. It's amazing to think that the pioneers were coming up this far in those early days without the mod cons we have today. It must have been a tough life living up here for maybe a couple of years at the time.

About a dozen or so Walruses were hauled out up the beach and yet more photos had to be taken. The Arctic Terns were not particularly happy by our presence and some attacks were very close to successful strikes. A pair of Red-throated Divers were breeding on a small lake and one of the birds was incubating on a platform made of Kelp. An Arctic Tern nest with two eggs was found.

It had been an interesting walk. We returned to the ship for a late dinner, some scotches for some of us and a rather late night.

By now we were well underway sailing south to Krossfjorden and the 14 Julibreen (July 14 Glacier) for a visit tomorrow morning.



Arctic Skua

August 7

Two parties went ashore, one to climb the moraine of the above mentioned glacier and the other to walk the beach. Nothing new to report other than two downy Arctic Skua chicks. At lunchtime we set sail for Bellsund, a 20 hour journey. A Minke Whale was seen by some. A very interesting lecture about wintering on the Antarctic was enjoyed by all.

August 8

We awoke this morning as the engines turned off and the anchor was dropped at about 05.45. We had arrived at the Recherche Glacier in Bellsund. I got up at 06.45 and turned on the shower only to be alerted by the ding-a-ling of the ship's bell. It had to be a bear and so it proved to be. #7 in fact. It was still a bit too far to photograph but reasonable views were had before it disappeared behind the ridge of the moraine. We hang around for a while, had breakfast but it did not reappear. However three further Belugas showed well and eventually another bear came into view. Probably the same one but this one too decided to sleep. There appears not much to do for bears at this time of year with little food to be had.

A little later there was another sighting but again it was considered to be the same animal. Quite skinny and in need of a seal or two.

We made a landing for a beach walk and were rewarded with a Harbour Seal and a pod of five Belugas no more than 30m from the beach. At one point we actually saw the eye of this beast which rarely appears to break the surface with its

head. On this occasion, no camera.

A dark phase Arctic Skua was being harassed by a Kittiwake which managed to get it to drop its Polar Cod which neither appear to retrieve. Some Pink Feet and Barnacle Geese were seen too and Eider seem to be a little more common down here with small groups being seen from time to time.

After lunch we sailed a little further up the fjord for another beach walk which was really amazing. It was the site of an old Beluga Whaling station and huge piles of bones were strewn on the beach. Old whaling boats were abandoned here too. Possibly the highlights, for the birders anyway, were a Ptarmigan with three downy chicks at close range and an adult Ivory Gull flew passed us along the beach giving the best views yet of this enigmatic species. Peter finally found his Bog Saxifrage which once found was everywhere. A lovely plant.

We returned to the ship and anchored off on the other side of the fjord for the night at about 18.30.

After dinner we had another briefing and recap by JB and watched part 5 of the Frozen Planet. Great to see the real thing. A discussion on the fate of the planet and speciation then followed before we all retired a little later than normal. A great day in all.



August 9

This morning we landed on the rocky island that straddles the entrance to Van Mijenfjorden which proved to be very interesting. A geologists paradise I imagine. On the bird front there were Arctic Terns with chicks nearly ready to fly, twenty Purple Sandpipers or so and a small flock of Snow Buntings. Amazingly the local pair of Great Skuas has not cleaned the place out. One or two Reindeer were present and the fjord itself held a number of family parties of Eider and Barnacle Geese. Yet another, actually quite nice, hut was visited which apparently is privately owned. Luckily nobody was at home as a bunch of tourists wandered all over the property.

The afternoon and early evening was spent sailing round to Barentsburg where we arrived about 10.30. Some people went ashore to visit the local hostelry while others made use of our private bar. Yet another Ivory Gull was seen by some.

August 10



Spitsbergen 2015
Oceanwide / Noorderlicht

- 1 - Jul. 28th. Longyearbyen
- 2 - Jul. 29th. Trygghamna / Alkhornet
- 3 - Jul. 29th. Poolepynten
- 4 - Jul. 30th. Kongsfjorden / Ny London
- 5 - Jul. 30th. Kongsfjorden / Ossian Saestjellet
- 6 - Jul. 30th. Kongsfjorden / Ny Ålesund
- 7 - Jul. 31th. Fuglesangen + Ytre Norskøya
- 8 - Jul. 31th. Fuglefjorden
- 9 - Jul. 31th. Mofen Island
- 10 - Aug. 1st. Sorgfjorden / Crozierpynten
- 11 - Aug. 1st. Alkefjellet
- 12 - Aug. 2st. Lomfjorden / Faksevågen
- 13 - Aug. 3rd. Murchinson Bay
- 14 - Aug. 4th. Liefdefjorden / Erik Glacier
- 15 - Aug. 4th. Liefdefjorden / Monaco Glacier
- 16 - Aug. 4th. Reinsdyrfløya / Worsleyneest
- 17 - Aug. 5th. Woodfjorden / Mushamna
- 18 - Aug. 5th. Raudfjorden / Alicehamna
- 19 - Aug. 6th. Raudfjorden / Buchananhalvøya
- 20 - Aug. 6th. Amsterdamøya / Smeerenburg
- 21 - Aug. 7th. Krossfjorden / July 1st. Glacier
- 22 - Aug. 8th. Bellsund / Recherchefjorden
- 23 - Aug. 8th. Bellsund / Ahlstrandhalvøya
- 24 - Aug. 9th. Bellsund / Akseøya
- 25 - Aug. 10th. Gronfjorden / Barentsburg
- 26 - Aug. 10th. Isfjorden / Colesbukta
- 27 - Aug. 11th. Billefjorden / Skansbukta

● Bears

A morning visit to the town was enjoyed by all. Just Glaucous Gulls this time but a pod of at least 15 Beluga Whales were seen just offshore. A Snow Bunting was present in the town. **2015 SVALBARD VOYAGE, LANDINGS AND BEAR SIGHTINGS**

We set off at 1100 towards Colesbukta. The mist we woke up to has still not lifted by lunchtime which makes us realise how lucky we have been with the weather.

The afternoon landing was fun with interestingly some 1st winter Glaucous Gulls being noted. We have only seen a couple before so I guess most have already moved south. There were a few Purple Sandpipers on the beach accompanied by two or three Dunlin.

The place itself is rather a mess being an abandoned Russian coal mining community who appeared to have left all their rubbish behind strewn across the beach and foreshore.

Some nice flowers were added to the list such as Oysterplant, Polar Cress and Jacob's Ladder.

Three Reindeer were seen grazing right high up on the ridge.

We set sail again at about 1700 towards Longyearbyen and further up the fjord to Skansbukta where we anchored up for the night.

August 11

This morning we did another beach walk to a gypsum mine which was abandoned in the 1930's. An old broken down boat on the shore was quite interesting and some fossils found in a large rock were great to see. Bird wise there was not much to see but as usual the scenery was spectacular. However there was a raft of 124 Pink Feet and the Puffins were perhaps more common here than at any other place we have visited.

We returned back to the ship at about 11.30 and set sail for our final leg back to Longyearbyen where the voyage will conclude tomorrow morning.

The evening meal provided by Durk was a magnificent Indonesian Rijs Tafel (Rice Table) which is basically a number of different dishes including Satee with peanut sauce. It was a great way to finish the trip.

It has been another adventurous and beautiful journey full of things of interest with a great ship's company and crew and surely to be repeated sometime in the future.



August 12

The bus picked most of us up from the quay and took us to town while the luggage was transported to the airport. Some wandered round the town and some of us went birding. A few more Dunlin mixed in with Purple Sandpiper and Arctic and Great Skuas being of note.

The plane arrived late which meant that those of us who were London bound ended up missing our connection in Oslo and were re-booked to London via Stockholm. We eventually arrived back in London very late and only just got the last bus home.

Plant species list
compiled by Christine Newell and Peter Dean

Alpine hair grass	<i>Deschampsia alpina</i>
Alpine saxifrage	<i>Saxifraga nivalis</i>
Arctic bell-heather	<i>Cassiope tetragona</i>
Arctic cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla hypartica</i>
Arctic cottongrass	<i>Eriophorum scheuchzeri</i>
Arctic mouse-ear	<i>Cerastium arcticum</i>
Black fleabane	<i>Erigeron humilis</i>
Bog saxifrage	<i>Saxifraga hirculus</i>
Boreal Jacob's ladder	<i>Polemonium boreale</i>
Drooping saxifrage	<i>Saxifraga cernua</i>
Fringed sandwort	<i>Arenaria pseudofrigida</i>
Hawkweed-leaved saxifrage	<i>Saxifraga hieracifolia</i>
Highland saxifrage	<i>Saxifraga rivularis</i>
Knotweed	<i>Bistorta vivipara</i>
Moss campion	<i>Silene acaulis</i>
Mountain avens	<i>Dryas octopetala</i>
Mountain sorrel	<i>Oxyria digyna</i>
Oyster plant	<i>Mertensia maritima</i>
Polar campion	<i>Silene wahlbergella</i>
Polar cress	<i>Cardamine nymanii</i>
Polar foxtail	<i>Alopecurus borealis</i>
Polar horsetail	<i>Equisetum arvense</i>
Polar willow	<i>Salix polaris</i>
Purple saxifrage	<i>Saxifraga oppositifolia</i>
Scurvy grass	<i>Cochlearia groenlandica</i>
Snow buttercup	<i>Ranunculus nivalis</i>
Spider plant	<i>Saxifraga flagellaris</i>
Svalbard poppy	<i>Papaver dahlianum</i>
Tufted saxifrage	<i>Saxifraga caespitosa</i>
Tundra chickweed	<i>Stellaria crassipes</i>
Viviparous fescue	<i>Festuca vivipara</i>
Whitlow grass	<i>Draba sp.</i>
Woolly lousewort	<i>Pedicularis lanata</i>
Yellow mountain saxifrage	<i>Saxifraga aizoides</i>

Systematic list of Birds

Red-throated Diver	Found breeding on several lakes
Northern Fulmar	Very common
Pink-footed Goose	Common
Barnacle Goose	Common
Brent Goose	About 10 birds in total
Common Eider	Fairly common particularly in the south
King Eider	Single eclipse drake
Long-tailed Duck	About half a dozen
Rock Ptarmigan	Two female with 3-4 downy chicks each
Ringed Plover	few
Purple Sandpiper	Common on most beaches, also with young
Dunlin	Few particularly in Longyearbyen
Ruddy Turnstone	Only on Longyearbyen
Grey Phalarope	Male with two fully grown young
Arctic Skua	Common
Long-tailed Skua	Pair at Ny London
Great Skua	Few seen
Sabines Gull	Single at Moffen Island in full sum plumage
Glaucous Gull	Common
Great Black Backed Gull	Single
Kittiwake	Very common
Ivory Gull	About a dozen sightings
Arctic Tern	Very common. Some with chicks. Also eggs
Brunnich's Guillemot	Extremely common. One colony 120K birds
Black Guillemot	Common and widespread
Little Auk	Common mostly in north and in open ocean
Puffin	Fairly common
Snow Bunting	Few small parties. Mostly departed

Mammals

Walrus	Excellent numbers and widespread
Bearded Seal	Few singles
Common/Harbour Seal	One single
Northern Minke Whale	A few spread around
Sei Whale	Two
Fin Whale	Single
Humpback whale	Two rather distant
Beluga	Several pods of up to maybe 25 animals
Polar Bear	Seven including two cubs
Arctic Fox	About 4 plus 2 Blue Foxes
Spitsbergen Reindeer	Ones and twos widespread



August 2015

John van der Dol

www.sandwichbirdtours.co.uk