



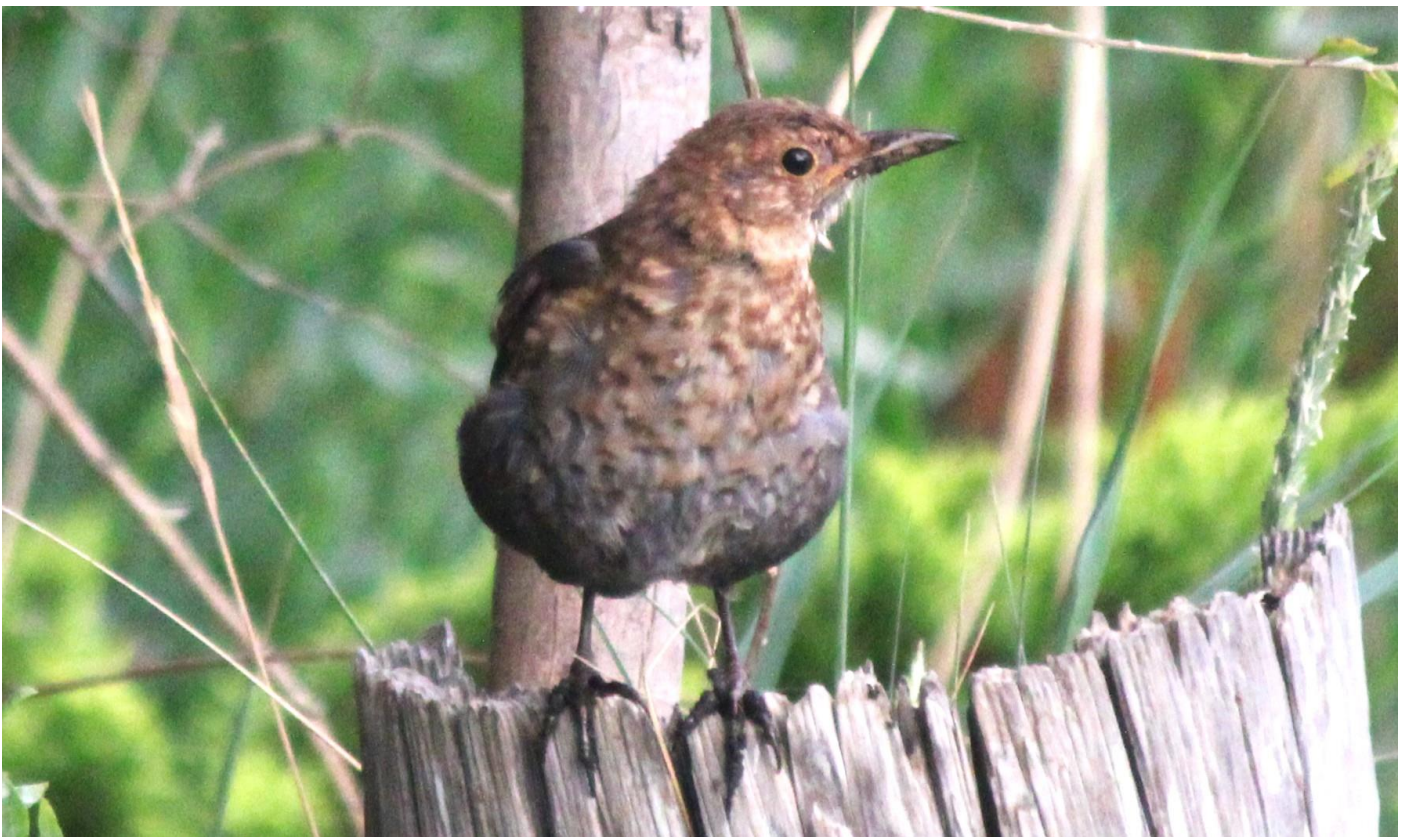
Milford Conservation Volunteers



www.milfordconservation.org

August 2022 Observatory Report. From 1st August to 31st August.

Blackbird: Present most days.



Blackbird.

Black Headed Gull: Present every day. Over 200 recorded on the 20th August.

Black Tailed Godwit: Present in good numbers most days. Over 240 on the 21st August.

Canada Goose: Recorded most days. Well over 150 birds flying over the Pans on three occasions. 20th, 21st and 22nd August.

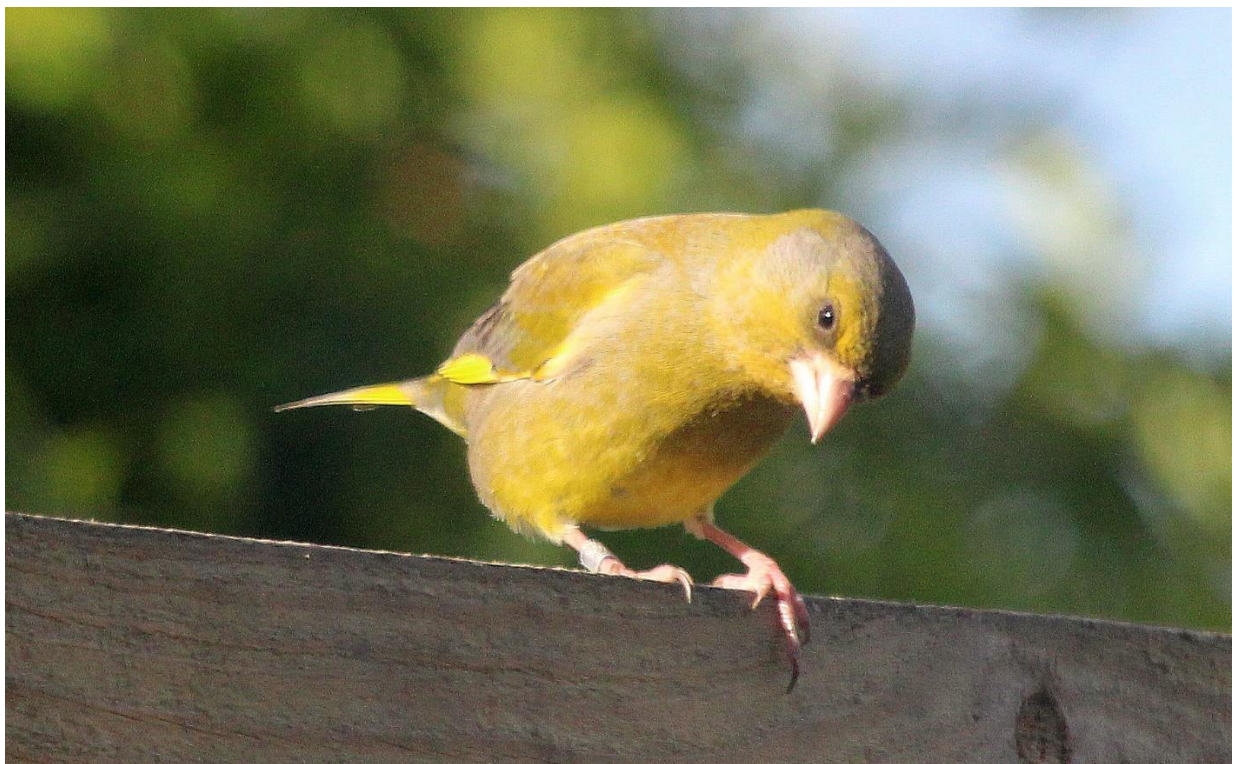
Collared Dove: Can usually be seen in one of the trees to the right of the houses opposite the Observatory. 12 present on the 31st August.

Coot: Present every day. 21 recorded on the 8thAugust.



Coot in the Kingfisher Pool.

Greenfinch: Recorded most days. 19 present on the 4thAugust.



Greenfinch.

Green Woodpecker: Heard most days but only seen on four occasions during August.

Grey Heron: Present every day. 8 recorded on the 24thAugust.



Grey Heron

Herring Gull: Recorded most days. 9 flying over on the 6thAugust.

House Sparrow: Present every day.

Jay: Often seen flying over the Pans.

Kingfisher: Seen flying over the Pans most days. 3 have been the highest number recorded. (19thAugust).

1 Juvenile male, not ringed.

1 Juvenile female, not ringed.

Plus 1 other Kingfisher.

Lapwing: Present every day. Over 155 were present on the 28th August.

Little Egret: Present every day. 47 present on the 23rdAugust. They seem to congregate in and around the Kingfisher Pool as the water level goes down and fish are trapped in the Kingfisher Pool.

Little Grebe: Another bird that is seen every day. 33 recorded on the 27thAugust.

Mallard: Present every day. The highest number recorded was 174+ on the 19thAugust.

Marsh Harrier: Has only been recorded once this month and as luck would have it the bird arrived soon after the first Spoonbill to land on the Pans this year. Everything was put up, including the Spoonbill, which flew over to Sturt Pond.

Moorhen: One or two adults seen around the Kingfisher Pool with three but usually only two chicks.



One Moorhen chick with one of the adults.

Mute swan: Two adults and three cygnets were seen until the 5thAugust. Since then, only one adult has been seen with the three cygnets.

Pheasant: Regularly heard but so far have not been seen this month.

Pied Wagtail: Recorded on 15 days during the month, usually just one or two birds are present but 5 birds were present on the 11thAugust.

Redshank: Present most days. Over 60 were recorded on the 28th August.

Reed Warbler: One or two birds recorded every day until the 10th August. Since then, only seen on 4 other occasions.

Ruff: A juvenile bird was seen on the 12th and 14th August.

Sedge Warbler: Only seen on 3 occasions.



As can be seen this Sedge Warbler has been ringed. (Ring on its right leg).

Spoonbill: Two birds seen flying over on the 3rd, three flying over on the 6th and four on the 23rd. One bird landed on the 27th but flew to Sturt Pond when a Marsh Harrier put up most of the birds on the Pans.



The Spoonbill was ringed. It was ringed in Holland this year, so a young bird. The ringer has been contacted by Graham Giddens for more details.

Snipe: Recorded on six occasions. Mostly a single bird but two were present on the 14th and 26th August.

Starling: Seen most days. Over 200 birds seen on the 2nd August.

Stock Dove: Recorded most days. 13 on the 2nd August.

Swallow: Seen flying over nearly every day during August.

Teal: 14th August was the first sighting of Teal at the Pans since the 5th May 2022. Over 128 birds were present on the 30th August.

Water Rail: Present nearly every day. Three birds seen on the 6th August.



Water Rail in the Kingfisher Pool.

Wren: Seen on 11 occasions.

Birds recorded during August but not mentioned in this report.

Blue Tit, Buzzard, Carrion Crow, Cetti's Warbler, Chaffinch, Chiffchaff, Common Sandpiper, Common Tern, Curlew, Dunnock, Gadwall, Glossy Ibis, Goldfinch, Great Black Backed Gull, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Great Tit, Greenshank, Herring Gull, Jackdaw, Kestrel, Lesser Black Backed Gull, Little Tern, Long Tailed Tit, Magpie, Oystercatcher, Raven, Robin, Sand Martin, Shelduck, Swift and Wigeon.

Thanks to Peter Barnes, David Horne and Keith Metcalf for their contribution to the bird records.

Trail Cams.

Birds photographed: Blackbird, Coot, Grey Heron, Kingfisher, Little Egret, Mallard, Moorhen, Mute Swan and Wood Pigeon.



Coot.



Mute Swan with one of the Cygnets.

Animals photographed: Badger, Brown Rat, Cat, Fox and Otter.



Badger



Brown Rat



Fox.



Otter. (27th August).

Birding for Beginners.

This took place on Saturday the 6th August at the Observatory. It was run by Chris Barrass and David Horne. A relatively quiet morning with ten visitors.

A new Higher decking area has been added at the Observatory which will allow a greater number of visitors a better view of the Pans, Avon Water and Keyhaven harbour. The work was carried out by Keith Metcalf, Don Waite and Miles Jordan.



The new raised decking.



Keith Metcalf, Don Waite and Miles Jordan.

A new tidal flap will be fitted to replace the current leaking one.



At the moment the Kingfisher Pool becomes filled with Blanket weed as the tide goes out. This clears as the tide comes back in.



Kingfisher Pool with the tide going out. Kingfisher Pool with the tide coming in.

Discussions will be taking place with the Environment Agency and landowner about the new tidal flap that will be fitted so that future water levels can be maintained at optimum levels to benefit nature.

Chris Barrass. 31stAugust 2022.