



## Milford Conservation Volunteers



[www.milfordconservation.org](http://www.milfordconservation.org)

### September 2022 Observatory Report.

**Bearded Reedling:** 12 present on September 7<sup>th</sup>. The photo below shows an adult male. The birds were on the Avon Water side.



photo by Peter Barnes.

**Blackbird:** Up to 4 are present most days.

**Black Headed Gull:** Recorded every day. Over 142 birds present on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September.

**Black Tailed Godwit:** High numbers present most days, over 197 were recorded on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

**Canada Goose:** Seen every day either on the Pans or flying over. 230 recorded on the 16<sup>th</sup> September.

**Carrion Crow:** Recorded every day.

**Cetti's:** Recorded most days. Two were seen on the 10<sup>th</sup> September.

**Chiffchaff:** Recorded on four occasions. Three seen on the 29<sup>th</sup>September.



Chiffchaff.

**Collared dove:** Common for the site. 18 were recorded on the 12<sup>th</sup>September.

**Egyptian Goose:** 15 seen flying over the Pans on 12<sup>th</sup> September.

**Gadwall:** Present every day. Have recently been seen around the Kingfisher Pool.



Gadwall near the Kingfisher Pool.



**Grey Heron:** Present every day. 6 recorded on the 3<sup>rd</sup>September.



Grey Heron.

**Herring gull:** Common for the site. Recorded most days.

**House Martin:** Many have been seen flying around the site since the 16<sup>th</sup>September.



House Martin flying above the Observatory.

**Kingfisher:** Recorded most days. 3 seen on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

**Lapwing:** Often present in high numbers. Over 160 recorded on the 7<sup>th</sup> September.

**Little Egret:** Present every day. 28 recorded on the 6<sup>th</sup> September.

**Little Grebe:** Another bird recorded every day. 38 present on the 11<sup>th</sup> September.



Little Grebe in the Kingfisher Pool.

**Magpie:** Regularly seen and heard around the Pans.

**Mallard:** Recorded every day in high numbers. On the 14<sup>th</sup> September it is estimated there were over 500 Mallards present.



Mallard (male).



Mallard (female).



**Marsh Harrier:** Regularly seen. 3 were present on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September.

**Moorhen:** Common for the site. 5 recorded on the 15<sup>th</sup> September.

**Mute Swan:** A pair are often seen, either on the Pans or on Avon Water.



A Mute Swan passing through the Carpet weed covered Kingfisher Pool.

**Pheasant:** Often seen at the far end of the Pans near the farm buildings. 23 were recorded on the 29<sup>th</sup> September.

**Pintail:** Present at the far end of the Pans on 20 occasions during September. 5 is the highest number recorded at any one time.

**Redshank:** Common for the site. Over 102 were present on the 1<sup>st</sup> September.

**Robin:** Regularly seen. 2 have been present on 3 occasions. One of the two has been ringed.

**Shoveler:** Have been seen at the far end of the Pans on 13 Occasions. 8 has been the highest number recorded. (6<sup>th</sup> September).

**Stock Dove:** Seen most days. 14 were recorded on the 25<sup>th</sup> September.

**Swallow:** Recorded most days. At 11.15 on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September Keith Betton reported between 1500 – 2000 Swallow, 100 House Martin and about 10 Sand Martin flying around the pans. These birds were all gone by 11.20.

**Teal:** Present all month. Over 200 were present on the 26<sup>th</sup>September.



Teal (female).

**Water Rail:** Recorded most days. 2 seen on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> September.

**Wigeon:** Present in high numbers. Over 350 recorded on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

**Willow Warbler:** Recorded on 6 occasions. 3 present on the 17<sup>th</sup> September.

**Woodpigeon:** Recorded every day.

### **Birds recorded but not mentioned in this report.**

Blue Tit, Buzzard, Chaffinch, Coal Tit, Coot, Cormorant, Dunlin, Dunnock, Goldfinch, Great Black Backed Gull, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Great Tit, Green Sandpiper, Greenshank, Green Woodpecker, House Sparrow, Jackdaw, Jay, Kestrel, Lesser Black Backed Gull, Long Tailed Tit, Oystercatcher, Pied Wagtail, Ruff, Sedge Warbler, Song Thrush, Sparrowhawk, Spotted Redshank, Starling, Yellow Wagtail and Wren.

**Thanks to:** Peter Barnes, Keith Betton, David Horne and Keith Metcalf for their additions to the bird records.

### **Birding for Beginners.**

This took place on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September and was run by David Horne and Chris Barrass. It coincided with a visit from new members of HOS. The Observatory was quite busy so the new decking came in very useful.



## Trail Cameras.

**Birds Recorded:** Blackbird, Coot, Kingfisher, Little Egret, Little Grebe, Mallard, Moorhen, Mute Swan, Pheasant and Woodpigeon.

**Animals Recorded:** Badger. Only once, on the 9<sup>th</sup>September.



**Fox:** Recorded on 21 days during the month.



This trail cam photo above, was taken at 14.11 on the 28<sup>th</sup>September.

**Otter:** Only recorded once during the month on the 29<sup>th</sup> September at 03.22.



Belport had given MCV permission to carry out a trial mothing session at the Pans. This took place during the evening of Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September and was run by Mary Macmillan with Julie Hallows and Chris Barrass present. The equipment was set up on the new decking area at about 19.30. In all 28 individual moths were identified from 13 species. The list below shows the vernacular names of the Moths identified at the Pans.

<b>Vernacular</b>	<b>Number and status.</b>		<b>Vernacular</b>	<b>Number and status.</b>	
Rusty-dot Pearl	1	Migrant	Double-striped Pug	2	Common
Rush Veneer	1	Migrant	Brimstone Moth	4	Common
Box-tree Moth	1	Adventive	Angle Shades	1	Common
Small Dusty Wave	1	Common	Flounced Rustic	2	Common
Clay Triple-lines	1	Local	Sallow	4	Common
Common Marbled Carpet	1	Common	Square-Spot Rustic	8	Common
			Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	1	Common

A second mothing session will be carried out next year.

Chris Barrass 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022.