

July 2023 Observatory Report.

Blackbird: Recorded nearly every day.

Black Headed Gull: Present every day. Lots of juveniles present.



Adult Black Headed Gull.



Juvenile Black Headed Gull.

Cetti's Warbler: Heard most days but only seen on 5 occasions.



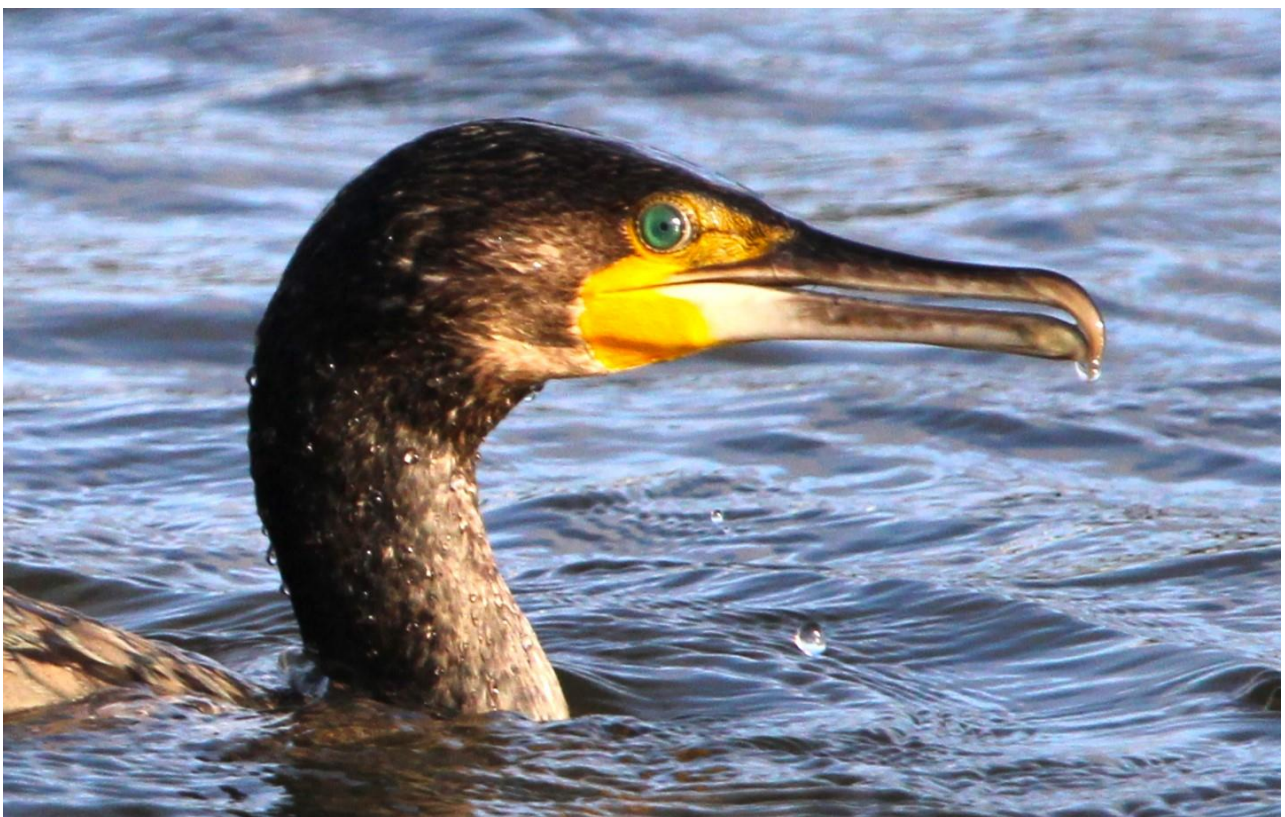
Cetti's Warbler by the Kingfisher Pool on the 7th July.

Coot: Small numbers recorded most days with 8 seen on the 25th.



Coot.

Cormorant: Common for the site, usually one or two birds present.



The Cormorants fishing tackle.

Common Sandpiper: Present on three occasions.

Duncock: Seen on 12 days during the month, usually one bird but sometimes two. At least one of them has been ringed.

Great Black Backed Gull: Often seen flying over the Pans.

Great Crested Grebe: A juvenile bird was present on Avon Water until the 5th July.



Juvenile Great Crested Grebe.

Greenfinch: Seen most days, with 11 birds present on the 11th July.

Greylag Goose: 3 birds present on the 10th July.



One of the Greylag geese near the Observatory.

Grey Heron: One or two birds present every day of the month.

Herring Gull: Recorded most days with 4 birds present on the 11th July.

House Sparrow: Seen most days of the month.

Jackdaw: Recorded on 4 days during July.

Kingfisher: A juvenile female has been recorded on 22 days during July. Two birds have been seen flying over on 3 occasions.



A juvenile female Kingfisher.

Lapwing: A single bird was seen on the far bank near the farm buildings on 12 occasions. Once the water levels had dropped slightly 3 were seen on the 28th, then 26 were present on the 30th July.

Little Egret: These have been present every day of the month. Numbers have slowly increased during the month, 16 were present on the 28th July.

Little Grebe: Present nearly every day during July with 28 recorded on the 27th. They are often seen in or near the Kingfisher Pool. Both adults and juveniles have been seen.

Little Tern: Only seen on the first three days of the month. Two were seen flying over the Pans on the 3rd.

Long Tailed Tit: A juvenile was seen in the Fir tree by the Kingfisher Pool on the 20th July.



Long Tailed Tit.

Magpie: Recorded most days.

Mallard: Present every day. 154 has been the highest number recorded (on the Pans and Avon Water combined). One female has 6 ducklings.



One of the six ducklings.

Marsh Harrier: Observed on 10 occasions. On the 25th July 4, (possibly) 5 were seen at the far end of the Pans.

Moorhen: One seen most days. Two were seen on the 19th, 24th and 25th July.



A Moorhen climbing over the central hedge.

Mute Swan: At the start of the month the 2 adults had 4 cygnets but by the 23rd no cygnets were seen.

Redshank: Recorded on 20 days during July. 33 were present on the 30th.

Reed Warbler: Seen and heard every day of the month.



Reed Warbler (on Avon Water).



Sedge Warbler (on the central hedge).

Sedge warbler: Seen on 6 days during the month.

Shelduck: At the beginning of the month one pair had 8 ducklings, the ducklings have been slowly lost during the month so by the 31st there were only three remaining.



Shelduck ducklings on the 26th July.

Starling: At the beginning of the month there were over 150 Starlings around the Pans but over the month the numbers have slowly decreased to around 16 birds.

Stock Dove: Recorded every day, with 22 being the highest number on the 16th July.

Swift: Recorded on 7 days during July, with over 6 birds seen on the 2nd.

Tufted Duck: 1 present on five days during the month.

Water Rail: Heard on the far side of Avon Water once during July.

Birds Recorded but not mentioned in this report.

Avocet, Bearded Tit, Black Tailed Godwit, Blue Tit, Buzzard, Carrion Crow, Chaffinch, Collared Dove, Curlew, Great Tit, Goldfinch, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Green Woodpecker, House Martin, Jay, Kestrel, Oystercatcher, Peregrine, Pheasant, Pied Wagtail, Raven, Reed Bunting, Robin, Sand Martin, Sandwich Tern, Skylark, Song Thrush, Sparrowhawk, Swallow and Wren.

Thanks to: David Horne, Keith Metcalf and the Turner family for their additions to the bird records.

Open Morning: This took place on the first Saturday of the month at the Observatory between 10.00 to 12.00am. It was run by David Horne and Chris Barrass. There were 5 visitors and some of the birds seen were: Mallard, 2 adult Shelduck with 8 ducklings, Mute Swan and cygnets, Redshank, Oystercatcher, Great Crested Grebe (juvenile), Greenfinch and a Marsh Harrier.

Trail Cameras.

Birds recorded: Blackbird, Black Headed Gull, Common Sandpiper, Coot, Grey Heron, Kingfisher, Little Egret, Mallard, Moorhen, Pheasant, Tawny Owl and Wood Pigeon.



Tawny Owl.



Little Egret with food.

Animals Recorded.

Fox, Otter and Rat.



Fox.



Otter.

The Otter was photographed on three occasions during the month, the 1st, 10th and the 15th July.

Roe deer were seen on several occasions during the month, sometimes near the Observatory.



Roe buck on the Pans.

And finally.



Canada Geese flying over Avon Water.

Chris Barrass. 31/7/2023