



# Milford Conservation Volunteers

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## June 2024 Observatory Report.

**Avocet:** Present every day of the month, with 14 birds present on the 28<sup>th</sup> June.

**Black Headed Gull:** These are recorded every day of the month and the numbers can vary from just a few birds to over 250 birds.

**Black Tailed Godwit:** Present every day of the month. 118 were recorded on the 29<sup>th</sup> June.



Black Tailed Godwit near the Observatory on the 15<sup>th</sup> June.

**Blue Tit:** Recorded most days of the month, usually the birds that hatched in the bird box closest to the Observatory.

**Canada Goose:** Recorded on 12 days during June. 46 were seen flying over the site on 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Carrion Crow:** These are recorded every day.



The photos above show a Carrion Crow attacking what I first thought was a Feral Pigeon but on closer inspection the bird had numbered coloured rings making it a Racing Pigeon.

**Coot:** Often seen on the Pans and Avon Water. 7 were recorded on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June.

**Cormorant:** Recorded on 17 days the month.



A Cormorant with an early morning snack.



**Dunnock:** Has been seen on 18 days during June carrying a beak full of flies to its nesting site. The nest is situated in one of the bushes to the left of the Observatory.



**Goldfinch:** Common for the site, often seen on the central hedge. Photo below.



**Great Black Backed Gull:** A fairly common bird for the site.

**Great Spotted Woodpecker:** Seen on 4 days during the month.



A Great Spotted woodpecker on one of the trees on the far bank of the Pans.

**Great White Egret:** Would seem to be a resident of the Pans, while not always visible it is often seen flying around the site (including the harbour).



The bird seems to favour the far end of the Pans on the right-hand side.

**Grey Heron:** Seen on nearly every day during the month. 7 birds were present on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.



**Kingfisher:** There have been two different Kingfishers recorded during the month, a juvenile female and a juvenile male.



The photo above shows a Juvenile female.

The photo above shows a juvenile male.

**Little Egret:** Seen every day. The highest number recorded was 30 on the 4<sup>th</sup> June.

**Little Ringed Plover:** 2 birds have been seen on 12 occasions and 3 birds on 2 occasions during the month.



Two of the three Little Ringed Plovers seen at the Pans this month.

**Marsh Harrier:** Recorded on 21 days during the month.



Marsh Harrier.



**Mute Swan:** Recorded most days. The pair usually seen on the Pans side were present until the 19<sup>th</sup> June. The pair on Avon Water had 5 cygnets. They are now usually seen in the harbour. Photo below. (minus the other adult who is just out of shot).



**Oystercatcher:** Seen and heard nearly every day. 6 were recorded on the 14<sup>th</sup>.



Oystercatcher.



**Pied Wagtail:** Recorded every day. At least two pairs nested at the site.



A young Pied Wagtail.



An adult with a beak full of insects.

**Sand Martin:** Seen flying around the Pans on 8 days during the month. Luckily one landed on the wire close to the Observatory.



Sand Martin on the wire near the Observatory.

**Spoonbill:** Two birds landed on the Pans on the 16<sup>th</sup> June (they didn't stay long) and one bird on the 17<sup>th</sup>.



The two spoonbill on the 16<sup>th</sup> June. As you can see one of the birds has been tagged, unfortunately the bird was too far away to read the number or see the coloured rings.

**Swallow:** Recorded every day, with over 40 birds seen on the 26<sup>th</sup>.



A Swallow on the wire near the Observatory on the 11<sup>th</sup> June.

**Swift:** Recorded on 7 days during the month. Over 50 were seen on June the 1<sup>st</sup>.



**Water rail:** Were seen at the far end of the Pans on three occasions during the month.

**Wren:** A pair bred on the Pans and were very busy collecting insects for their young during the month.



An adult wren searching for insects.

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

Bearded Reedling, Blackbird, Black Headed Gull, Blue Tit, Buzzard, Cetti's Warbler, Chaffinch, Chiffchaff, Common Tern, Cuckoo, Curlew, Dunlin, Egyptian Goose, Gadwall, Goldfinch, Great Tit, Greenfinch, Greenshank, Greylag Goose, Grey Wagtail, Herring Gull, Jackdaw, Jay, Lapwing, Linnet, Little Tern, Long Tailed Tit, Magpie, Mallard, Mediterranean Gull, Pheasant, Raven, Redshank, Reed Bunting, Reed Warbler, Ringed Plover, Robin, Rook, Sedge Warbler, Shoveler, Skylark, Sparrowhawk, Starling, Teal, Tufted Duck, Whitethroat and Wood Pigeon.

**Thanks to:** David Horne, Douglas Marcuse and Keith Metcalf for their help with the bird records.



## Trail Cameras.

**Birds recorded:** Blackbird, Black Headed Gull, Carrion Crow, Chaffinch, Little Egret, Magpie, Mallard, Pheasant and Woodpigeon.



Mute Swan family.

**Animals recorded.** Fox and Otter. Photo below.





The photo below shows how dry the Pans have become.



A Carrion Crow photo – bombing the Pans trail camera photo.

A misty sunrise at the Pans.



Chris Barrass.

30<sup>th</sup> June 2024.