



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service

Milford Conservation Volunteers

www.milfordconservation.org



August 2024 Observatory Report.

Blackcap: A male was seen on the 28th August. Photo below.



Black Tailed Godwit: Recorded every day of the month. The highest number recorded was 161 on 2nd August. Photo below shows one in flight.



Blue Tit: Seen on 16 days during the month.

Buzzard: Have been seen flying over the Pans on 7 occasions during the month.

Common Sandpiper: Recorded on 14 days during the month.



The photo above shows a Common Sandpiper.

Coot: Present every day. The highest number recorded was 20 on the 25th.

Cormorant: Recorded every day with 9 being the highest number on 25th.

Egyptian Goose: Three flew over the Pans on the 25th.



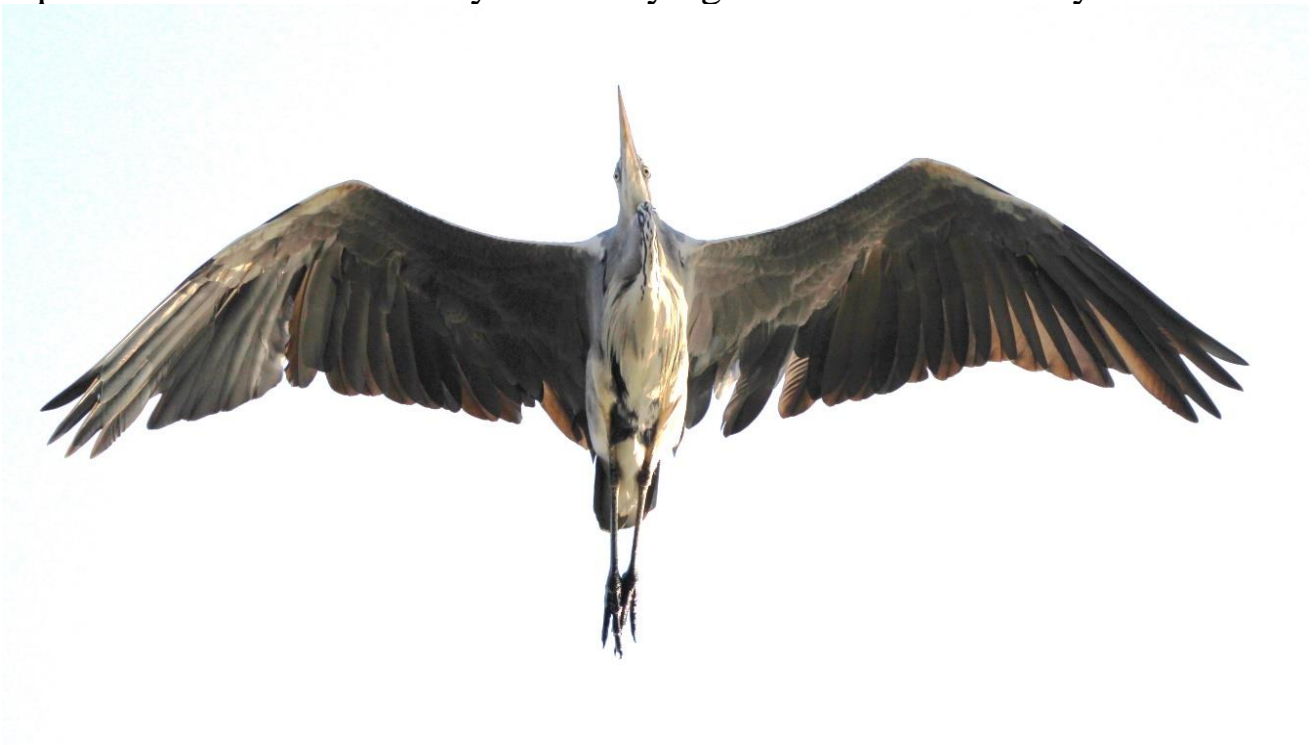
The photo above shows the Egyptian Geese flying over the Pans.

Great Spotted Woodpecker: Recorded twice during the month.



The Woodpeckers are often seen sitting in trees opposite the Observatory.

Grey Heron: Present every day of the month with 5 seen on the 13th and 20th. The photo below shows a Grey Heron flying over the Observatory.



Jay: Seen flying over the Pans on 17 days during August.

Kingfisher: One or two Kingfishers have been recorded during the Month.



Little Ringed Plover: Recorded three times during the month.



Marsh Harrier: Recorded at the Pans on 12 occasions.



Marsh Harrier

Moorhen: Recorded on 15 occasions. They can be seen on Avon Water as well as the Pans.

Mute Swan: The Pair of Mute swans on Avon Water with their three remaining cygnets had some visitors. The photo below shows one of the parents of the juvenile cygnets starting to chase off one of the ‘ visitors ‘.



The Mute Swans that bred on Avon Water are usually seen in Keyhaven harbour and don't often return to the Pans.

Raven: Recorded 9 times during the month.



A Raven flying over the Pans.

Redshank: Recorded every day. Over 110 were seen on the 29th August. Due to the current situation at the Pans the waders are usually towards the far end of the Pans, but some do venture towards the Observatory. photo below.

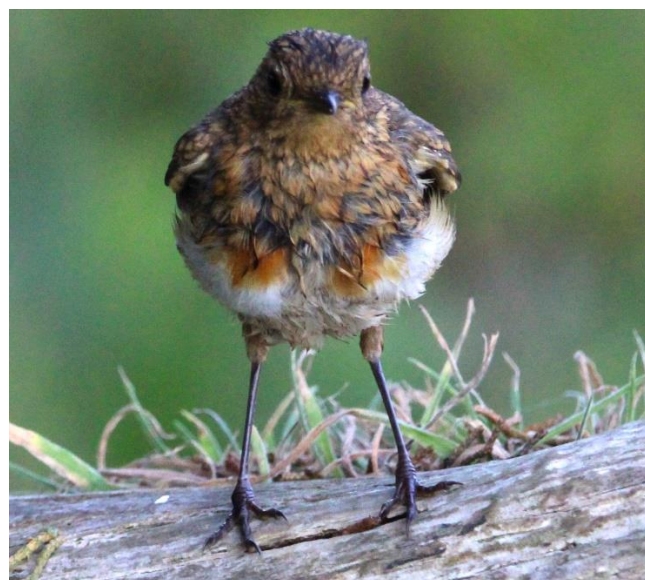


Ringed Plover: These were recorded on four days during the month.



A Ringed Plover near the Observatory.

Robin: Recorded on 25 days during the month.



The two photos above show the juvenile Robin sitting on the branch over the Kingfisher pool.

Shelduck: Have been seen every day of the month. The highest number recorded was 14 on the 8th August. There have been up to 10 juveniles with 4 adult birds.



A juvenile Shelduck close to the Observatory.

Teal: Recorded every day. The highest number was 64 on the 31st.

Turnstone: Three were present on the 28th August. One of them had a very dark neck, a melanistic variant. photo below.



Wheatear: One was seen sitting on a wire on the 20th August.



Distant photo of the Wheatear on the wire.

Birds Recorded but not mentioned in this report.

Avocet, Black Headed Gull, Canada Goose, Carrion Crow, Cetti's, Chaffinch, Chiffchaff, Coal Tit, Collared Dove, Curlew, Dunlin, Dunnock, Feral Pigeon, Gadwall, Great Tit, Greenfinch, Goldfinch, Great Black Backed Gull, Great White Egret, Greenfinch, Greenshank, Green Woodpecker, Herring Gull, House Sparrow, Jackdaw, Jay, Kestrel, Lapwing, Lesser Black Backed Gull, Linnet, Little Egret, Little Grebe, Magpie, Mallard, Oystercatcher, Pheasant, Pied Wagtail, Reed Warbler, Rook. Sand Martin, Shoveler, Sparrowhawk, Starling, Stock Dove, Swallow, Swift, Teal, Water Rail, Whimbrel, Woodpigeon and Wren.

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

Other Wildlife at the Pans.



A Grey Squirrel running across the Pans

Birds Recorded: Carrion Crow, Grey Heron, Little Egret, Mallard, and Wood Pigeon.

Animals Recorded: **Badger:** once 23rd August.

Fox: 9 occasions. 2nd, 9th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st and 25th.

Otter: 6 occasions. 2nd, 3rd, 10th, 18th, 23rd and 29th.

And now for something completely different.



A Shore crab in one of the holes in the bank of the Kingfisher Pool.

Chris Barrass. 1st September 2024