



Milford Conservation Volunteers



www.milfordconservation.org

October 2024 Observatory Report.

Bearded Tit: 7 seen over the Avon Water reedbed on the 17th October.

Blackbird: Recorded every day of the month, 5 was the highest number on the 19th, 28th and the 29th.

Blue Tit: Have been recorded all month.

Canada Goose: Seen nearly every day. Over 223 were present on the 2nd October.



A Canada Goose near the Observatory.

Carrion Crow: Seen every day, with large flocks seen flying over the Pans.

Coal Tit: Recorded on three days during the month. Photo below.



Egyptian Goose: Seven were seen flying over on the 29th September.



The photo above shows three of the seven seen flying the Pans.

Gadwall: Recorded on 9 days during the month. 24 were recorded on the 3rd.

Gold Crest: Recorded on 8 days. 3 were seen on the 26th October.



The photos above show a Gold Crest in a fir tree behind the Observatory.

Great Spotted Woodpecker: Recorded on 7 days during the month.

Great Tit: Seen on 14 days during the month. Two were seen on 5 of those days. The photo below shows a Great Tit on the feeder.



Green Woodpecker: Recorded on two days during October.

Grey Wagtail: Seen on 12 days during the month. Photos below.



Jay: Seen flying over the Pans every day of the month.

Kingfisher: Seen nearly every day. Usually 2 birds recorded but on the 29th October Douglas Marcuse reported seeing 3. One on the Pans side and two on the Avon Water side.

Long Tailed Tit: Recorded on 14 days during the month. 11 were seen on the 18th and 24th. Photo below.



Magpie: Recorded nearly every day. Up to 5 were recorded on 3 occasions.



A Magpie near the Observatory.

Marsh harrier: Recorded most days.

Mistle Thrush: seen on 9 days during the month.

Pintail: Present on 22 days during the month.



This pair of Pintail were photographed by Keith Partridge from the Observatory on the 2nd October. As you can see it was taken when the water levels were very high. Since then the water levels at the Pans have slowly reduced as the new tidal flap began to work.

Redshank.



Spotted Redshank.



The Redshank have been present for 21 days during the month with over 32 birds seen on some days. The Spotted Redshank were first seen on the 28th of October and two have been present since then.

Sand Martin / Swallow and House Martin: Large numbers were recorded until the 13th October when numbers started to decrease. Over 500 were seen on the 4th October. 3 Swallows were seen on the 29th and one on the 30th.

Teal: Recorded on 21 days during the month, the highest number seen was 142 on the 13th.

Tufted Duck: Seen on only 3 days during the month.



Water Rail: Recorded on 21 days during the month but only actually seen on three days during the month. The photo below was taken on 30th when one of the birds moved across the Kingfisher Pool.



Wren: Seen on 24 days during October.

Birds Recorded but not mentioned in this report.

Black Headed Gull, Brent Goose, Buzzard, Chaffinch, Chiffchaff, Coot, Cormorant, Great White Egret, Jackdaw, Lesser Black Backed Gull, Gadwall, Goldfinch, Great Black Backed Gull. Greenfinch, Greenshank, Grey Heron, Greylag Goose, Herring Gull, Kestrel, Linnet, Mistle Thrush, Mute Swan, Raven, Rook, Shoveler, Sparrowhawk, Starling, Song Thrush, Stock Dove, Wigeon and Woodpigeon.

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

Open Morning.

Highlights were the large numbers of Swallows and House Martins seen, plus 2 Kingfishers, 2 Marsh Harriers, 4 Mistle Thrushes and a Gt Spotted Woodpecker.

Trail Cameras.

Birds Recorded: Canada Goose, Coot, Great Tit, Little Egret, Little Grebe, Mallard, Pheasant and Woodpigeon.



A Little Grebe at night.

Animals Recorded: Fox, Otter and Rat.

A Fox was recorded on 6 occasions.

An Otter was recorded on 12 occasions. Two of the photos showed an Otter and a Fox watching each other. Photo below.





And finally, a photo of a Mute Swan narrowly missing the overhead powerlines over the Pans.



Chris Barrass. 2nd November 2024.