



Milford Conservation Volunteers



www.milfordconservationvolunteers.org

May 2025 Observatory Report.

Avocet: Recorded on 21 days during the month.

Black Headed Gull: Present every day during the month.
A Black Headed Gull in the Kingfisher Pool.

Blue Tit: From the 10th until the 21st two adult Blue Tits were seen taking food into the nest box every day but after that date no adults were seen taking food to the nest box or any fledged birds.



Canada Geese: Up to 9 were seen on the site most days. On the 26th two adults were seen on Avon Water with 4 goslings. A photo below.



Cetti's Warbler: Heard every day but only seen on four occasions.

Chaffinch: A pair were recorded every day.



The photo above shows a male Chaffinch singing.

Chiffchaff: Heard on 9 days during May.

Collared Dove: Seen most days.

Coot: A single bird was seen on 16 days during the month.

Egyptian Goose: Recorded on 11 days during the month.



Egyptian Geese near the Observatory.

Goldfinch: Seen on 17 days during the month. 5 were recorded on the 27th.



A Goldfinch on the central hedge.

Grey Heron: Seen on 18 days during the month. photo below.



Herring Gull: Seen on the flats at Harwood Green and on the mudflats of Avon Water and the Pans.

House Sparrow: Present every day, with over 20 seen on the 17th



The house Sparrows have made the Owl nest box their home.

Jay: Has been seen flying over the Pans on 9 occasions.

Little Egret: Recorded on 18 days during the month.



The photo above shows a Little Egret with the remnants of a shore crab in its beak.

Little Ringed Plover: Recorded on at least 12 days during the month. Two were seen on the 20th.



The photo above shows a Little Ringed Plover near the Observatory. If you look carefully, you will see it has been ringed making it a *ringed Little Ringed Plover*. Unfortunately, the numbers/letters cannot be seen on the ring so it cannot be traced to a bird ringer, the area or year it was ringed.

Mallard: Present every day. Over 100 were seen on the 28th. At least three broods were recorded. One pair are left with only 2 ducklings remaining.



One of the three Mallard broods are shown above. On the left is the initial brood and on the right is the remaining ducklings from a brood seen on the Pans during May.

Marsh Harrier: Recorded most days. Up to three have been seen flying around the site.



Mute swan: Recorded on 25 days during the month. Usually, two Swans were seen on both Avon Water and the Pans side of the central hedge. No cygnets were observed this year.

Oystercatcher: Seen most days during the month with 5 being the highest number recorded on the 19th.

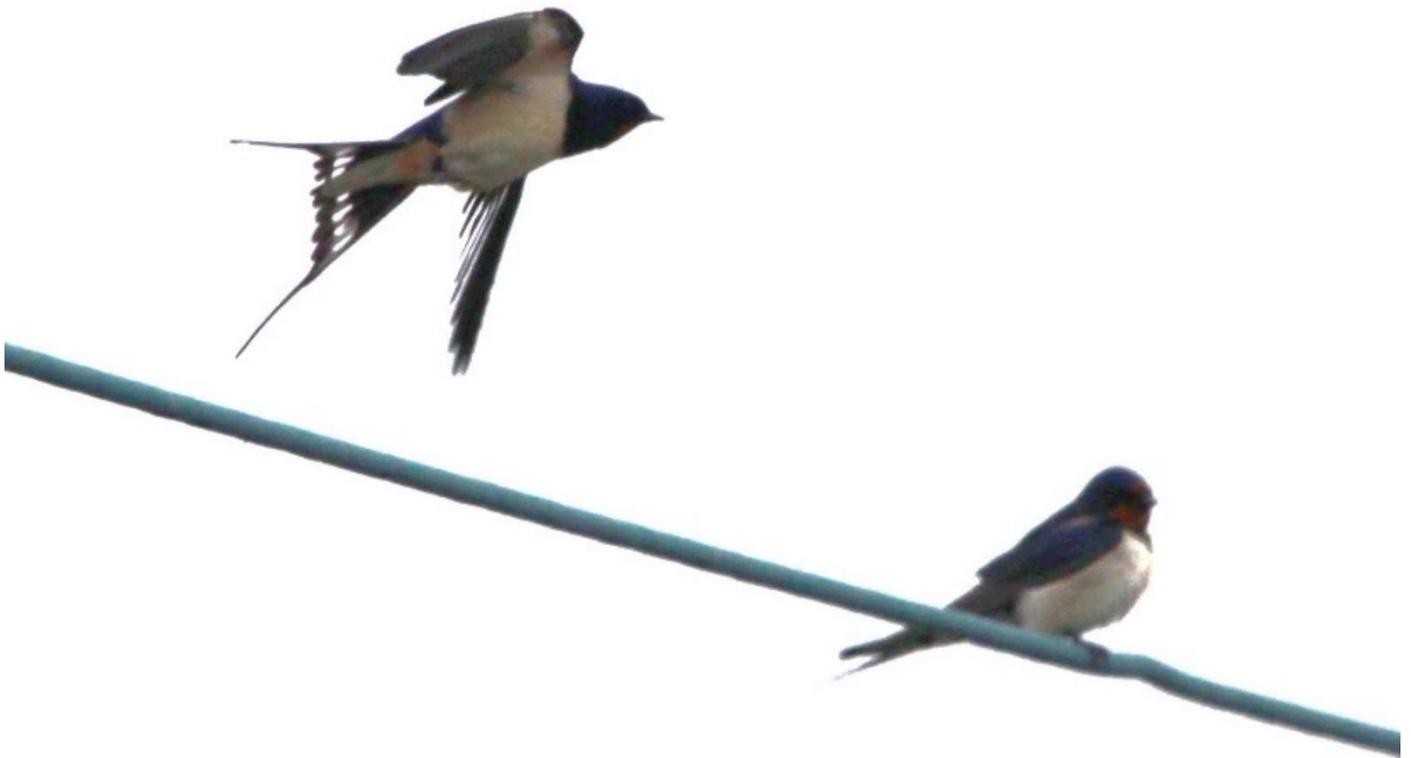
Redshank: Recorded on 13 days with 4 being the highest number.

Shelduck: Recorded on Avon Water and the Pans every day with 17 being the highest number seen.

Starling: Relatively small numbers have been seen during the month with 12 being the highest number recorded on the 3rd May. Since then, usually 1 to 4 have been seen.

Stock Dove: Are seen all over the Pans every day with 11 being the highest number recorded.

Swallow: Small numbers have been recorded on 17 days during May.



Two Swallows near the Observatory.

Wren: Recorded every day.

Birds recorded but not mentioned in this report.

Blackcap, Black Tailed Godwit, Buzzard, Carrion Crow, Coal Tit, Cormorant, Cuckoo, Curlew, Dunnock, Feral Pigeon, Gadwall, Goldcrest, Great Black Backed Gull, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Greenfinch, Greylag Goose, House Martin, Kingfisher, Lapwing, Linnet, Little Grebe, Magpie, Mediterranean Gull, Moorhen, Pheasant, Reed Bunting, Red Kite, Robin, Rook, Sedge Warbler, Skylark, Song Thrush, Spoonbill, Stonechat, Swift, Water Rail, Whimbrel, White Throat and Wood Pigeon.

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

Mammals seen on the Pans: Fox, Roe Deer and Grey Squirrel.



An adult Fox with two of its four cubs.



Roebuck.



Grey Squirrel.

Chris Barrass.

1/6/2025