



# Milford Conservation Volunteers



[www.milfordconservation.org](http://www.milfordconservation.org)

## December 2025 Observatory Report.

**Blackbird:** Recorded on everyday of the month.



The photo above shows a Blackbird on the hedge on the 16<sup>th</sup> December.

**Blue Tit:** Seen every day of the month. 9 were seen on the 15<sup>th</sup>.



**Brent Goose:** Recorded every day with large numbers on the Pans and flying overhead. Over 1000 were recorded on some days.

**Collared dove:** Seen on 10 days during the month. A photo below.



**Coot:** Seen on 19 days during December. Photo below.



**Cormorant:** Recorded on 23 days during the month with 4 being seen on 2 days during the month.



**Gadwall:** Recorded on 27 days during December with 92 being seen on the 13<sup>th</sup> December.



Two male Gadwalls with a female at the Observatory end of the Pans.

**Goldcrest:** Recorded on 14 days during the month. They were seen all over the site.

**Goldfinch:** Seen on 16 days during the month. The highest number recorded was 6 on the 10<sup>th</sup> December. On some days they were seen on the bird feeders.

**Great Crested Grebe:** An unusual bird to see on the Pans. This juvenile was seen near the Observatory on the 6<sup>th</sup> December. Photo below.



**Great Tit:** Seen on nearly every day of the month.



As can be seen this bird has been ringed but unfortunately I have been unable to record the ring number.

**Green Woodpecker:** Seen on only 2 days during the month, the 6<sup>th</sup> and the 11<sup>th</sup>. The photo below shows one on the telegraph pole to the right of the Observatory.



**Greylag Goose:** Recorded on 21 days during the month. The highest number recorded was 7 on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> December.

**Grey Heron:** Seen on 24 days during the month. It is often seen on the far bank of Avon Water and at the far end of the Pans.

**Herring Gull:** Recorded on every day of the month. 6 were seen on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. The photo below shows one near the Observatory.



**Lapwing:** Recorded every day in quite high numbers. Over 450 were seen over the Pans on the 29<sup>th</sup> December.



**Little Grebe:** Recorded every day with 17 being the highest number seen on the 5<sup>th</sup> December.



**Marsh Harrier:** Seen on 20 days of the month with 4 being the highest number. The photo below shows a Marsh Harrier flying over Avon Water.



**Redshank:** Seen on 24 days.



The photo above shows a Redshank landing near to the Observatory.

**Robin:** One or two were seen every day of the month.



**Song Thrush:** One or two were seen on 13 days over the month.



**Teal:** Seen every day. 203 were recorded on the 4<sup>th</sup> December.

**Water Rail:** Seen on eight days during December.



A Water Rail below the feeders.

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

Black Headed Gull, Buzzard, Canada Goose, Chiffchaff, Dunlin, Greenfinch, Golden Plover, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Great White Egret, Jackdaw, Jay, Lesser Black Backed Gull, Linnet, Meadow Pipit, Merlin, Moorhen, Oystercatcher, Pied Wagtail, Shelduck, Shoveler, Sparrowhawk, Stock Dove, Stonechat, Tufted Duck, White Tailed Eagle, Wigeon, Wigeon x Pintail hybrid,

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

### **Other wildlife at the Pans:**

Brown Rat and Roe Deer.

**Wishing everyone a very happy New Year.**

Chris Barrass. 3/1/2026