

Carsington Bird Club



December 2024 BIRD NOTES

HIGHLIGHTS: Red-throated Diver, Great Northern Diver, Brent Goose, Scaup, Ring-necked Duck, Kittiwake.

Water bird maxima were from the WeBS count on 15th unless dated otherwise. 1 Red-throated Diver on 8 occasions this month, 1 Great Northern Diver reported on 13 occasions this month (first reported on the 15th), 29 Little Grebe, 50 Great Crested Grebe, 40 Cormorant 24th, 1 Little Egret 24th and 30th, 1 Great White Egret 6th, 7th, 19th, 23rd and 30th, 1 Grey Heron 3rd, 21st, 24th and 29th, 5 Mute Swan 5th, 4 Whooper Swan 20th, 112 Pink-footed Goose 14th, 76 Greylag Goose 17th, 300 Canada Goose 18th, 33 Barnacle Goose 31st, 1 Brent Goose 12th, 1 Egyptian Goose 1st, 2 Mandarin 5th, 32 Wigeon, 48 Gadwall, 60 Teal 7th, 139 Mallard, 5 Pintail 27th, 9 Shoveler 27th, 1032 Pochard 24th (believed to be a county record), 1 Ring-necked Duck 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 377 Tufted Duck, 2 Scaup 29th, 30th and 31st, 17 Goldeneye, 8 Goosander 16th, 1 Water Rail 2nd, 12th, 18th, 23rd and 25th, 14 Moorhen, 1377 Coot, 2 Kingfisher 23rd.

Raptor sightings included 6 Red Kite 25th, 4 Sparrowhawk 14th, 5 Buzzards 10th, 2 Kestrel 10th, 16th, 23rd and 31st, 2 Peregrine 18th and 20th.

Four species of waders through this month with 1 Golden Plover 25th and 27th, 91 Lapwing 11th, 25 Snipe 25th, 6 Woodcock 4th, 1 Redshank 14th, 15th and 31st.

Maximum Gull numbers were Black-headed Gull present all month, 4000+ Common Gull 25th, 191 Lesser Black-backed Gull 24th, 6 Herring Gull 18th, 1 Yellow-legged Gull 24th, 1 Caspian Gull 1st, 13th, 14th and 18th, 1 Great Black-backed Gull reported on 17 occasions this month, 1 Kittiwake 4th.

Other species noted were 2 Tawny Owl 4th, 2 Great Spotted Woodpecker 1st, 10 Skylark 6th, 5 Meadow Pipit 25th, 1 Grey Wagtail 1st, 3rd and 19th, 3 Fieldfare 31st, 225 Redwing 1st, 3 Mistle Thrush 24th, 1 Chiffchaff reported on 7 dates this month, 2 Willow Tit reported on 7 occasions this month, 500 Jackdaw 25th, 30 Rook 16th, 10 Raven 14th, 85 Starling 11th, 6 Greenfinch 6th, 60 Siskin 2nd, 4 Linnet 16th, 10 Lesser Redpoll 20th and 28th, 5 Bullfinch 10th, 3 Reed Bunting 2nd and 15th.

The total 98 species noted compares to 93 in 2023, 99 in 2022, 97 in 2021, 94 in 2020, 93 in 2019.

Recorder: Robert Chadwick

Restricted