

Carsington Bird Club



December 2025 BIRD NOTES

HIGHLIGHTS:

Great Northern Diver, Great White Egret, Red-crested Pochard, Golden Plover, Common Sandpiper, Little Owl and Swallow.

Water bird maxima were from the WeBS count on 6th unless dated otherwise. 1 Great Northern Diver from 23rd till end of the month, 4 Little Grebe 8th, 26 Great Crested Grebe 8th, 21 Cormorant 10th and 30th, 1 Great White Egret reported on 9 occasions this month, 2 Grey Heron 31st, 4 Mute Swan 4th, 5th, 6th and 8th, 11 Greylag Goose 8th and 10th, 300 Canada Goose 26th, 36 Barnacle Goose 10th, 24th, 28th and 29th, 2 Mandarin 2nd, 78 Wigeon, 96 Gadwall 10th, 771 Teal 10th, 357 Mallard 19th, 1 Pintail 1st, 4 Shoveler 1st, 1 Red-crested Pochard 26th, 135 Pochard 8th, 35 Tufted Duck 5th, 1 Common Scoter 30th, 11 Goldeneye 4th, 4 Goosander 23rd, 1 Water Rail 7th, 3 Moorhen 5th, 17th, 22nd and 27th, 104 Coot 17th and 22nd.

Raptor sightings included 5 Red Kite 2nd and 16th, 2 Sparrowhawk 29th, 5 Buzzard 10th and 19th, 1 Kestrel reported 11 dates this month, 2 Peregrine 30th.

Eight species of waders through this month with 1 Golden Plover 10th, 60 Lapwing 29th, 1 Dunlin 4th, 5 Snipe 7th and 8th, 3 Woodcock 10th, 1 Curlew 2nd, 1 Redshank reported 10 occasions this month, 1 Common Sandpiper also reported 5 occasions.

Maximum Gull numbers were Black-headed Gull reported as present most days this month, 200 Common Gull 8th, Lesser Black-backed Gull also reported most days, 6 Herring Gull 4th, 1 Yellow-legged Gull 6th and 10th, 1 Caspian Gull 16th and 19th, 2 Great Black-backed Gull 24th.

Other species noted were 1400 Wood Pigeon 31st, 1 Ring-necked Parakeet 30th (This is a first for Carsington but the species is well established in other area's of Derbyshire), 1 Barn Owl 28th, 1 Little Owl 30th, 2 Tawny Owl 12th and 30th, 1 Great Spotted Woodpecker reported on 8 dates, 4 Skylark 2nd, 1 Swallow 11th (A very unusual sighting for this time of year), 20 Meadow Pipit 16th, 2 Grey Wagtail 7th, 8th, 19th and 22nd, 15 Pied Wagtail 15th, 192 Fieldfare 31st, 1680 Redwing 10th, 1 Chiffchaff 6th and 7th, 20 Long-tailed Tit 24th, 3 Willow Tit 8th and 28th, 4 Nuthatch 8th and 27th, 2 Treecreepers 8th, 24th, 26th and 27th, 4 Jay 22nd, 450 Jackdaw 27th, 80 Rook 1st, 20 Raven 27th, 250 Starling 31st, 33 Chaffinch 30th, 15 Greenfinch 11th, 30 Goldfinch 29th, 70 Siskin 11th, 100 Linnet 10th, 12 Redpoll 10th, 10 Crossbill 19th, 6 Bullfinch 2nd and 18th, 5 Reed Bunting 17th.

The total 95 species noted compares to 99 in 2024, 93 in 2023, 99 in 2022, 97 in 2021, 94 in 2020.