

Carsington Bird Club



February 2024 BIRD NOTES

HIGHLIGHTS: Great Northern Diver, Common Scoter, Cattle Egret, Red-crested Pochard, Mediterranean Gull, Willow Tit, Tree Sparrow.

Water bird maxima were from the WeBS count on 11th, unless dated otherwise. 1 Great Northern Diver present all month, 18 Little Grebe 1st, 62 Great Crested Grebe 29th, 28 Cormorant 25th, 1 Cattle Egret reported on 9 occasions within the month, 1 Little Egret 19th, 20th and 26th, 4 Grey Heron 20th and 22nd, 20 Greylag Goose 11th, 200 Canada Goose 26th, 37 Barnacle Goose on 6 occasions this month, 3 Shelduck 20th, 1 Mandarin 1st, 12 Wigeon 1st, 16 Gadwall 24th, 19 Teal, 110 Mallard, 2 Pintail 16th, 1 Shoveler 28th, 1 Red-crested Pochard reported on 13 dates, 552 Pochard 1st, 86 Tufted Duck, 1 Common Scoter 28th, 22 Goldeneye, 3 Goosander 1st and 2nd, 1 Water Rail 1st and 24th, 6 Moorhen, 436 Coot, 1 Kingfisher 4th and 17th.

Raptor sightings included 3 Red Kite 4th, 1 Marsh Harrier 16th, 2 Sparrowhawk 25th, 6 Buzzards 2, 22nd and 26th, 1 Kestrel reported on 7 dates this month, 1 Peregrine 11th, 18th and 21st.

Six species of waders through this month with 13 Oystercatcher 19th, 39 Lapwing 1st, 4th and 18th, 2 Snipe 7th, 1 Woodcock 4th, 5th, 12th and 20th, 26 Curlew 24th, 2 Redshank 18th.

Maximum Gull numbers were 1 Mediterranean Gull 27th, 2500 Black-headed Gull 23rd, 2000 Common Gull 7th, 505 Lesser Black-backed Gull 7th, 2 Herring Gull 7th and 27th, 1 Yellow-legged Gull 7th and 27th, 2 Caspian Gull 7th, 1 Great Black-backed Gull 16 dates this month.

Along with the other species were 1 Barn Owl 7th, 12th, 23rd and 29th, 3 Tawny Owl 20th, 2 Great Spotted Woodpecker 11th and 26th, 14 Skylark 10th, 20 Meadow Pipit 24th, 2 Grey Wagtail on 5 occasions, 1 Stonechat 17th, 60 Song Thrush 24th, 100 Redwing 2nd, 1 Chiffchaff 1st, 4th, 21st and 29th, 1 Marsh Tit 10th, 6 Willow Tit 24th, 144 Blue Tit 24th, 700 Jackdaw 29th, 43 Rook 6th, 4 Raven 2nd, 4th and 20th, 170 Starling 1st, 4 Tree Sparrow 8th, 5 Greenfinch 11th, 20 Siskin 21st, 1 Linnet 2nd, 1 Lesser Redpoll 29th, 6 Bullfinch 11th, 1 Yellowhammer 25th and 27th, 15 Reed Bunting 4th.

The total 98 species noted compares to 93 in 2023, 92 in 2022, 90 in 2021, 93 in 2020, 92 in 2019.

This is a new total for the month of February the next highest was 96 in 2002