

# Carsington Bird Club



## March 2024 BIRD NOTES

### **HIGHLIGHTS: Great Northern Diver, Common Scoter, Smew, Black-tailed Godwit, Mediterranean Gull, Kittiwake and Hawfinch.**

Water bird maxima were from the WeBS count on 9<sup>th</sup> unless dated otherwise. 1 Great Northern Diver present all month, 10 Little Grebe, 55 Great Crested Grebe 9<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 27 Cormorant 8<sup>th</sup>, 1 Little Egret 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 4 Grey Heron, 2 Mute Swan 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 5 Whooper Swan 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 28 Greylag Goose 17<sup>th</sup>, 84 Canada Goose, 37 Barnacle Goose 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 1 Egyptian Goose 15<sup>th</sup>, 2 Shelduck 13<sup>th</sup>, 2 Mandarin 8<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, 16 Wigeon 15<sup>th</sup>, 17 Gadwall 15<sup>th</sup>, 4 Teal reported on 6 dates this month, 102 Mallard, 2 Pintail 24<sup>th</sup>, 6 Shoveler 31<sup>st</sup>, 1 Red-crested Pochard reported on 9 dates, 176 Pochard 15<sup>th</sup>, 79 Tufted Duck, 1 Common Scoter 16<sup>th</sup>, 25 Goldeneye 6<sup>th</sup>, 1 Smew 7<sup>th</sup>, 4 Goosander 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2 Water Rail 7<sup>th</sup>, 10 Moorhen, 185 Coot, 1 Kingfisher 11<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.

Raptor sightings included 3 Red Kite 4<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 4 Sparrowhawk 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, 44 Buzzards 16<sup>th</sup>, 1 Osprey 26<sup>th</sup>, 2 Peregrine 26<sup>th</sup>.

Eleven species of waders through this month with 15 Oystercatcher 15<sup>th</sup>, 3 Little Ringed Plover 26<sup>th</sup>, 11 Golden Plover 1<sup>st</sup>, 1 Lapwing 8<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, 1 Dunlin 12<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, 1 Jack Snipe 15<sup>th</sup>, 1 Snipe on 7 dates this month, 1 Woodcock 8<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 10 Black-tailed Godwit 27<sup>th</sup>, 29 Curlew 4<sup>th</sup>, 8 Redshank 27<sup>th</sup>.

Maximum Gull numbers were 1 Mediterranean Gull 4<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 3 Little Gull 31<sup>st</sup>, 2000 Black-headed Gull 13<sup>th</sup>, 2650 Common Gull 5<sup>th</sup>, 504 Lesser Black-backed Gull 5<sup>th</sup>, 2 Herring Gull 1<sup>st</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 3 Caspian Gull 5<sup>th</sup>, 1 Great Black-backed Gull reported on 8 occasions this month, 2 Kittiwake 24<sup>th</sup>.

Along with the other species were 1 Barn Owl 13<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 4 Tawny Owl 8<sup>th</sup>, 1 Green Woodpecker 8<sup>th</sup>, 4 Great Spotted Woodpecker 15<sup>th</sup>, 8 Skylark 4<sup>th</sup>, 24 Sand Martin 21<sup>st</sup>, 3 Swallow 31<sup>st</sup>, 21 Meadow Pipit 4<sup>th</sup>, 4 Grey Wagtail 31<sup>st</sup>, 1 Wheatear 16<sup>th</sup>, 144 Robin 31<sup>st</sup>, 172 Fieldfare 18<sup>th</sup>, 155 Redwing 1<sup>st</sup>, 18 Blackcap 31<sup>st</sup>, 185 Chiffchaff 31<sup>st</sup>, 2 Willow Warbler 30<sup>th</sup>, 6 Willow Tit 4<sup>th</sup>, 5 Jay 28<sup>th</sup>, 4 Raven 18<sup>th</sup>, 150 Starling 13<sup>th</sup>, 2 Tree Sparrow 29<sup>th</sup>, 28 Siskin 4<sup>th</sup>, 6 Linnet 31<sup>st</sup>, 7 Bullfinch 31<sup>st</sup>, 1 Hawfinch 31<sup>st</sup>, 1 Yellowhammer 6<sup>th</sup>, 8 Reed Bunting 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The total 110 species noted compares to 102 in 2023, 106 in 2022, 102 in 2021, 95 in 2020, 100 in 2019. This months total is a record for March with 2016 being the next largest total of 108 since the records started back in 1993.

Recorder: Robert Chadwick