

## WYVER LANE MONTHLY REPORT MARCH 2013

Highlights include 2 Bitterns, Little Egret, Red Kite and Barn Owl.

The extension of winter well into late March held back many of our spring migrants. March 2012 saw Sand Martins, Swallow, Blackcap and Chiffchaff. Roll on to 2013 and only Chiffchaff was recorded which could be the same bird seen throughout the winter. 2 Bitterns were recorded on the 1st of the month but one then probably left as only one bird was seen thereafter. It was last seen on 29th. 5 Cormorants on 14th, 19th and 29th, a Little Egret present for most of the morning on 20th, 2 Grey Herons on 11th and 14th, 2 Mute Swans on 13th, a Pink-footed Goose on 1st, 120 Greylag Geese on 7th and 15th, 82 Canada Geese on 7th, 4 Shelduck on 20th, 10 Mandarin on 4th, 53 Wigeon on 8th, 8 Gadwall on 7th, 55 Teal on 14th, 33 Mallards on 7th, 2 Shoveler on 19th and 30th, 6 Pochard on 17th, 11 Tufted Ducks on 13th, 14 Goosander on 13th, 20 Coots on 19th, 15 Moorhens on 15th and 21st and a Water Rail on 8th.

A Red Kite drifted over to the east on 14th, 2 Sparrowhawks on 13th and 14th, 6 Buzzards on 30th, 2 Kestrels on 15th and 19th and a Peregrine on 14th, 29th and 31st. 3 Oystercatchers on 4th, 11th, 13th and 30th, 40 Lapwings on 1st and 14th, 7 Snipe on 4th and 7th, a Woodcock on 31st, Curlews through include singles on 4th, 6th and 16th. 225 Black-headed Gulls on 1st, a site record 78 Common Gulls on 11th at a time when many were moving through the country, also 76 on 29th, 2 Lesser Black-backed Gulls on 11th and 2 Herring Gulls on 6th. 4 Stock Doves on 21st, a Barn Owl hunting around the old tip field in daylight hours on 30th is indicative of the weather and their desperate struggle to find food, a Little Owl on 17th, a Tawny Owl on 17th, a Kingfisher on 29th, 3 Great Spotted Woodpeckers on 14th, a Skylark over on 29th, 6 Meadow Pipits on 25th and 30+ on 29th could be as a result of birds being pushed off their breeding territories due to the snow, 2 Grey Wagtails on 21st and 27th, 10 Blackbirds on 15th, 5 Fieldfares on 4th and 19th, 2 Song Thrush on 13th and 15th, c50 Redwing on 15th, 2 Mistle Thrush on 6th, 8th and 15th, a Chiffchaff on 29th and 31st, 4 Jays on 14th, 3 Ravens on 13th, 9 Starlings on 19th, 4 Greenfinch on 15th, 9 Goldfinch on 14th, 15 Siskins on 21st, a Lesser Redpoll on 29th and 3 Reed Buntings on 16th, 19th, 27th and 29th.

Dave Newcombe